

No. H-11011/3/2009- DWS(Coordn.)

Government of India

Ministry of Rural Development

Department of Drinking Water Supply

9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan,

CGO Complex, Lodi Road,

New Delhi-110 003.

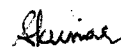
Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2009.

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

Subject:- Minutes of the meeting of the North-Eastern States held on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at New Delhi to review the implementation of Rural Water supply and Sanitation Programmes regarding.

The undersigned to directed to enclosed herewith minutes of the meeting of the North-Eastern States held on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at New Delhi to review the implementation of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation programmes, chaired by Secretary (DWS) in Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi.

Encl: as above.



(S.K. Verma)

Under Secretary (Coordn.)

Tel: 24364117

To

As per list.

**Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Drinking Water Supply  
Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Minutes of the meeting of the North-Eastern states held on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at New Delhi to review the implementation of rural water supply and sanitation programmes**

---

A review meeting of North-Eastern states was held on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at 10.30 a.m. at the Conference Hall of Department of Drinking Water Supply, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. It was chaired by Secretary (DWS), Dept. of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. The list of participants is enclosed (Annex-I).

- In her opening remarks Secretary (DWS) said that each district has to develop District Water Security Plans and submit to the Deptt. of Drinking Water Supply for release of 2<sup>nd</sup> installment. District Water Security Plans should plan for sustainability measures like recharge structures, roofwater harvesting for all drinking water sources by convergence with NREGA and Watershed Development Programmes. Sustainability measures should be taken up and the gaps be filled with 20 % sustainability component of NRDWP. She stressed that rainwater harvesting system has to be used extensively as it is the cheapest and also the cleanest source of water.
- Long-distance pipelines for water supply are costly and should be considered only where better alternatives are not available.
- WSSO's should have experts and staff on social aspects like IEC, community development, HRD, Gender, Micro-credit and not just engineering staff.
- Traditional toilets may be converted to ECOSAN toilets where feasible particularly for schools.
- She also said that the right kind of IEC tools should be used for conveying the social messages to local people and school going children.
- All states should ensure that construction of School and Anganwadi Toilets is completed by March 2010. It should also be ensured that there is provision for flushing the toilet /hand-washing with adequate water by providing overhead tanks in rural schools.
- Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) should be given greater responsibility to plan, monitor and maintain the rural water supply and sanitation programme in

those states where Panchayats exist. For others, the village committees should be involved.

- She also mentioned that Iron, Fluoride and Turbidity in water are the major quality problems in NE states; appropriate technologies should be used for addressing these parameters.
- Online data entry relating to coverage, water quality testing and training should be completed on priority basis.
- Jalmani programme should be implemented by end January in all states positively so that releases could be made for coverage of the next batch of schools.

The states made presentations on the various steps taken by them to provide villages with drinking water and sanitation and the progress made in implementing NRDWP and TSC. Thereafter, various issues were discussed State-wise as under:

#### **I. Water Supply & Quality issues**

##### **(i) Manipur:**

- The State representative informed that Water Security Plans (district-wise) are being prepared.
- Lab test reports have not been reported by the State so far.
- Secretary (DWS) mentioned that IEC has to be effective. Exposure visits should be undertaken to learn how states that had made good progress had implemented the programme. Also, awareness had to be generated about linkage between incidence of disease and impure water. Secretary (DWS) advised that 20% of the funds be utilized for local sustainability measures like rainwater harvesting, recharge structures etc to fill in gaps that remain even after accessing funds from NREGS, IWDP etc.

##### **(ii) Nagaland:**

- Water supply in all schools is expected to be provided by March 2010.
- Sheet tanks are being used for water storage.
- Approximately 90% villages are iron affected. Groundwater quality is also affected and in a few areas, use of groundwater has been abandoned as it is severely polluted.

- Secretary (DWS) informed that original target has to be covered as early as possible and money is not a problem for achieving the target. All the expenditure has to be reported soon so that next installment could be released.

**(iii) Tripura:**

- District-wise Water security plans have not been submitted. Secretary (DWS) instructed the state representative to furnish the water security plans and updated physical & financial data immediately for release of next installment.
- Implementation of Jalmani programme has been very poor. JS (DWS) wanted to know the reason behind poor implementation. It was apprised by the State representative that only a few companies had responded so far.
- The State representative also informed that MIS was not being used due to lack of trained staff. NIC was requested to organize a training programme in Tripura.

**(iv) Sikkim:**

- District and villages committees have been set-up. These committees are managing drinking water supply in the state.
- Physical target has been achieved but financial target hasn't been achieved.
- The state is proposing a study on water quality as the state doesn't have data pertaining to water quality. There seems to be bacteriological problem only at present and the state is distributing hypochlorite powder in every household.
- Secretary (DWS) wanted to know why the progress is slow, upon which she was apprised that frequent transfer of Government officials is a major factor for slow progress.

**(v) Meghalaya:**

- Village Committees are being reconstituted keeping in view new guidelines. Revenue system in Meghalaya is unique. Bank account had already been opened.
- There is a problem in setting-up new water testing labs at subdivisional level. Out of Rs 75.2 lakhs, Rs 59 lakhs have been spent on establishing state laboratory in Shillong. Sub-divisional labs have to be set-up.

- 107 habitations are affected with Iron in drinking water .West Garo Hills in Meghalaya is most affected. The state wants to purchase 500 more water testing kits.It was clarified that funds already released under NRDWQM should be utilised for the purpose of FTKs, training, IEC etc.
- Joint Secretary (DWS) suggested that sustainability structures be taken up in Cherapunji and Mawsynram as a model for sustainable water supply in hilly areas.
- Secretary (DWS) stressed upon the need to encourage rainwater harvesting with encased pipeline and using sintex/RCC/sheet tanks. Secretary (DWS) mentioned that water supply through long-distance pipeline in high rainfall hilly areas should be avoided as far as possible as these are costly and not sustainable. Individual or Community rainwater harvesting structure are a good option.

**(vi) Assam:**

- Involvement of Panchayats is very low. Secretary (DWS) desired that officials from the Department of Drinking Water Supply should visit the state and prepare a report on how the involvement of Panchayat may be encouraged.
- Water Security Plan as envisaged in the new guidelines has to be prepared.
- The State Secretary informed that erratic rainfall is preventing the shift from ground water sources to surface sources. Also, Arsenic and Fluoride contamination was there in groundwater.

**(vii) Arunachal Pradesh:**

- The State is ready to take up rainwater harvesting in public buildings.
- IEC campaign is done with the help of NGOs.
- There is a need to complete the online database entries and digitize the water sources. The State needs support from Central Ground Water Board and Government of India to generate data.
- Secretary (DWS) advised the State representative that the State should get the survey of water resources done by a competent hydro geologist. Secretary (DWS) also informed that hydro geomorphological maps of the state will be prepared by National Remote Sensing Agency.

- JS (DWS) appreciated the physical progress of the state but mentioned that implementation of Jalmani is a major concern. Also, UC for quality monitoring programme is pending.

**(viii) Mizoram:**

- JS (DWS) congratulated the state for full utilization of funds under Jalmani programme. IEC activities need to be expanded.
- The State representative informed that 7 water testing labs are to be set-up this year in the state.

**II. Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)**

**(i) Manipur :** The performance of the state is very poor. Huge annual opening balance exists in Manipur. Secretary(DWS) emphasised that school toilet coverage should be completed by 2010 on priority basis. Also expenditure under IEC is only 27%. Secretary suggested that effective IEC campaign should be done. Three out of nine districts did not report monthly progress report online which was to be ensured.

**(ii) Nagaland:** In Nagaland, the progress is slow. Achievement in school toilet construction is only 42%. Representative from Nagaland informed that now the pace is picking-up. A booklet will be released during NGP function highlighting achievements made. He requested that unit cost of school toilets need to be revised. He also requested to sanction the projects of two districts, which have been submitted to the department. JS(S & A) informed that NSSC meeting will be held shortly, in which these proposals will be put-up.

**(iii) Tripura:** TSC is progressing well in the state. Secretary (DWS) wanted to know what strategies have been adopted for IEC in Tripura. State representative informed that various mode of communication like interpersonal communication, door to door campaign etc have been adopted. Secretary also enquired about ensuring usage of toilets.

**(iv) Sikkim:** The state has already achieved status of Nirmal Rajya. In the state now, sustainability is the major issue. Shri Ganeriwala, Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim informed that now IEC is being done for sustainability and people are very much aware of this. Also for the school children, extensive campaigns are being organized on school sanitation and hygiene education. Secretary(DWS) suggested that usage of toilets should also be monitored. She also raised the issue of menstrual hygiene in schools. Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim informed that during training, girls students are told about this.

**(v) Meghalaya:** Progress of the state is very slow. Shri Prasad, state TSC coordinator informed that Village and Water Sanitation Committees have been

constituted. JS(S & A) informed that expenditure under Solid and Liquid Waste Management is zero. State TSC co-ordinator pointed out that a workshop on solid and liquid waste management is being organized from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2009. He also stated that pace of construction of school toilet would be increased. Secretary(DWS) suggested that Ecosan toilet in school can be constructed on pilot basis. One out of seven districts did not report monthly progress report online which was to be ensured.

**(vi) Assam:** Progress of school toilet construction was low (50%). Progress of construction of Anganwadi Toilet is only 13%. Secretary, Assam raised the issue of household toilets to tea garden workers, whose names are not in the BPL list. Secretary(DWS) suggested that Sanitary Complexes be constructed for them. She also asked about degree of involvement of PRIs in TSC. She suggested that PRIs should be actively involved in TSC. Five districts had not reported monthly progress online, which was to be ensured. 47% Panchayat-wise data entry had been completed. The State was requested to expedite Panchayat-wise MPR entry.

**(vii) Arunachal Pradesh:** Progress under IHHL BPL toilet construction is only 20%. State representative informed that IEC is being taken up through NGOs. SIRD is involved in capacity building. State has taken decision to implement TSC through PRIs. Secretary(DWS) said that monitoring should be done through department. State representative pointed out that 13 blocks of the state are border areas and it is difficult to send construction material there due to lack of road connectivity. Secretary(DWS) suggested that Ecosan toilets be adopted in these areas.

**(viii) Mizoram:** The State is doing well. The State had completed the target of school toilet construction. State representative informed that state level NGP function will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2009. He invited Secretary to attend the function. Joint Secretary(S&A) suggested that NGP function should be used for creating awareness of water and sanitation issues.

The meeting ended with thanks by and to the Chair.

\*\*\*\*\*

List of participants in the review meeting of North-Eastern states held on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 at Conference Room of Department of Drinking Water Supply, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Paryawaran Bhawan, New Delhi.

S. No.	Name	Designation
<b>Department of Drinking Water Supply</b>		
1.	Smt. Rajwant Sandhu	Secretary (DWS)
2.	Shri J.S.Mathur	Joint Secretary (S & A)
3.	Shri T.M.Vijaybhaskar	Joint Secretary (DWS)
4.	Shri Satya Prakash Tripathi	Director, MoDoNER, New Delhi
5.	Smt. Seemantinee Sengupta	Director(NIC)
6.	Shri K Majumdar	Deputy Adviser
7.	Shri Junaid Ahmed Usmani	Consultant (M&E)
8.	Dr. Brajesh K. Srivastava	Consultant (WQ)
<b>State Governments</b>		
9.	Shri Vanlallianzuala	CE(M & i), PHED, Mizoram
10.	Shri Lalrothanga	Director, CCDU, Mizoram
✓ 11.	Shri Torno Basar	SE, PHED, Govt. of Arunachal Pd.
12.	Shri Tomi Ele	Secy(PHE & WS), Govt. of Arunachal Pd
13.	Shri A.N.Singh	Director, CCDU, Govt. of Arunachal Pd
14.	Shri Abhijit Dutta	Secretary, PHE, Govt. of Assam - J + NCAV
15.	Shri Himanshu Prasad	Addl. CE PHE, Govt. of Meghalaya
16.	Shri Anil K. Ganeriwala	Secy(RM & DD), Govt. of Sikkim - haff to K
17.	Shri Cheong P. Tongden	Addl. CE, Govt. of Sikkim
18.	Shri W.L.Hangshing	Commissioner, PHED, Govt. of Manipur Imphal
19.	Shri L Ibomcha Singh	SE, PHED, Govt. of Manipur
20.	Shri L Swamikanta Singh	Director, CCDU, Govt. of Manipur
21.	Shri Somesh Ch. Das	CE, DWS, Govt. of Tripura - Agatola
22.	Shri Rajthmajumdar	EE, DWS, Govt. of Tripura
23.	Shri Kevisekho Kruse Ext Ggg	ED, CCDU, Govt. of Nagaland - Kohima
24.	Shri K.Khetovi Sumi	CE, PHED, Govt. of Nagaland