

No.W-11020/28/2010/NRDWP  
Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Drinking Water Supply

8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road  
New Delhi - 110 003.

Dated the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2010.

To

**Shri Saurabh Kumar Das**  
Secretary  
Public Health Engineering Department  
Government of West Bengal  
New Secretariat Building  
Kolkata - 700 001.

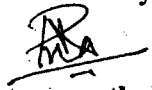
**Subject : Meeting to discuss Annual Action Plan 2010-11 of West Bengal on 22.3.2010 –  
Forwarding of Minutes – regarding.**

Sir,

Please refer to the meeting to discuss the Annual Action Plan 2010-11 of West Bengal held on 22.03.2010 in Room No. 247, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. A copy of the approved minutes is enclosed herewith for further necessary action.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

  
(P.N. Ashtamoorthy)  
Under Secretary (Water)

Copy with enclosures to :-

1. Secretary (DWS)
2. Joint Secretary (VB), Deptt. of DWS
3. Dir (RKS), Deptt. of DWS
4. Dir (BL), Deptt. of DWS
5. Dy. Adviser (KM), Deptt. of DWS
6. Dy. Dir (Stat.), Deptt. of DWS
7. Tech. Dir (NIC)

**Minutes of the Meeting held to discuss Annual Action Plan 2010-11 of West Bengal in New Delhi on 22nd March, 2010**

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1. A meeting was held on 22nd March, 2010 to discuss Annual Action Plan 2010-11 for NRDWP and Jalmani for West Bengal. The meeting was chaired by Secretary, Department of Drinking Water Supply. The list of participants is annexed.

2. The gist of discussions held with the representatives of the State Govt. is as under:

**A. Achievement during 2009-10**

**NRDWP:** Shri Saurabh K. Das, Pr. Secretary, PHED informed that about 86.15% SC dominated habitations, 93.25% ST dominated habitations and 87.09% of all habitations were fully covered with drinking water supply. Further, he stated that against the target of 3089 quality-affected habitations, 1376 habitations were covered till 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2010. All 1031 targeted slipped back habitations had been reported as covered. With regard to fund utilisation, he informed that about 52% of the released fund had been spent so far. He mentioned that reported utilisation was low as there was accounting problem due to change in accounting system. He assured that 60% of the funds would be utilised by March, 2010 as the issue had been resolved.

**Water Quality:** Pr. Secretary, PHED mentioned that 1376 habitations affected with fluoride, iron and salinity were covered during the period. He mentioned however, that several technologies were tried for mitigation of arsenic but none were fully successful.

**Jalmani:** Joint Secretary, DWS clarified that drinking water supply in schools was to be done under NRDWP whereas purification of water was to be ensured by installing standalone purification system under Jalmani. Pr. Secretary, PHED mentioned that standalone filter could not address arsenic contamination of water, found in most schools. In this regard, Secretary, DWS advised to first ensure piped water supply of drinking water and then for its purification through best available options.

**B. Action Plan for 2010-11**

**Physical target:** Pr. Secretary, PHED mentioned that under 20-point programme 6630 habitations (including 3575 SC/ST/Minority dominated habitations) were targeted to be covered during 2010-11. Joint Secretary, DWS stated that State should give higher priority to habitations with 0% population coverage than to the habitations with 75 – 100% population coverage.

**Fund allocation:** Pr. Secretary, PHED posed a plan for Rs. 438.93 crore for the year 2010-11, though actual Central allocation would be restricted to about Rs. 418.03 crore. Principal Secretary was advised to fix the physical target keeping in view the actual allocation and opening balance. Joint Secretary, DWS observed that component-wise break up was not as per the guidelines and advised that the proposal should be accordingly. Pr. Secretary, PHED sought additional funds for arsenic mitigation project. In response, Secretary DWS stated that as per the NRDWP guidelines there was no provision of funds for special projects.

Joint Secretary, DWS pointed out that the proposed expenditure of 30% of fund on coverage of SC/ST dominated habitations was low and advised that this should be raised to 35%.

**Sustainability:** Chief Engineer, PHED mentioned that work on check dams were taken up in collaboration with CGWB. He informed that one big project in Bankura district was being commissioned and its result would be reflected shortly. Pr. Secretary, PHED informed that 63 check dams, 100 percolation tanks, 100 point source recharging, 75 dugwells, 80 injection wells, 47 nalla bundhs and 40 contour bundhs would be constructed for artificial recharging of ground-water sources. He also mentioned that 85 roof-top harvesting structures and 50 village ponds would be taken under sustainability measures in 2010-11. He stated that convergence with MNREGA and collaboration with CGWB would be continued. Joint Secretary, DWS suggested that PHED, West Bengal should also plan for Waste water management schemes by converging with MNREGS & TSC. This work could be taken up through sustainability measures. Secretary, DWS appreciated the work done in West Bengal to ensure supply of atleast 10 lpcd water for drinking & cooking and to promote dual use of water.

**Water Quality:** Pr. Secretary, PHED mentioned that 6 new laboratories would be set up and 6 existing laboratories would be upgraded in 2010-11. He informed that testing of 12312 water samples in referral labs and 4.10 lakh samples for water quality was targeted.

**IEC Activity:** Secretary, DWS suggested that awareness campaigns needed to be taken up under IEC activity on not using arsenic contaminated water and this should be focused on arsenic & fluoride affected areas. She suggested that arsenic-affected hand pumps should be painted in different colour than that hand pumps with safe water and people in those villages should be made aware through banners, posters etc. not to use water from arsenic-affected hand pumps for drinking & cooking. Even in schools, one period in a term should be devoted on safe water, sanitation and nutrition related discussions. The DWSM should lead this campaign.

**Community Involvement:** Pr. Secretary, PHED stated that though many completed schemes were handed over to Panchayats, most of them could not carry out the maintenance work over the years and the Department received requests to take over the schemes once again for maintenance. In

this regard, Secretary, DWS pointed out that the State might lose funds meant for Panchayats if reversal takes place and suggested more training to the panchayats and local people to motivate them for O & M work.

**Action points:** The State was advised to revise the Annual Action Plan and submit the same by 6.04.2010 keeping in view the following points:

- 1) Central allocation would be restricted to about Rs. 418.03 crore plus opening balance.
- 2) Habitations with 0% and <50% population coverage to be addressed on priority.
- 3) Avoid planning for coverage of 100% population covered habitations under NRDWP considering the large number of habitations with less than 50% population coverage.
- 4) Utilisation of at least 35% of the plan funds to cover SC and ST dominated habitations.
- 5) Component-wise distribution as per guidelines especially ensuring 20% distribution for Sustainability, 5% for Support and 10% for O&M.
- 6) Physical targets keeping in view the actual allocation and opening balance.
- 7) Mark all targeted habitations on IMIS before submission of revised Plan.
- 8) Take up dual use water supply in severely quality-affected villages.
- 9) Take up a pilot project using new and renewable energy sources for water pumping in 100 villages under sustainability.
- 10) Plan sample testing of all water sources atleast once a year for chemical and twice a year for bacteriological contamination.
- 11) Set up Ward level VWSCs for involving the community in water & sanitation and maintenance of schemes.
- 12) Include SLWM plan in the AAP by convergence with TSC & MNREGS.
- 13) Organise TNA workshop.
- 14) Motivate and train Panchayats and local people especially women for taking over maintenance of schemes.
- 15) Focus on awareness campaign to educate people & school children to avoid using arsenic-affected hand pumps for drinking & cooking by painting these in different colour, IEC activities messages in school etc.
- 16) Update IMIS entering 2009-10 physical progress by 31.03.2010.
- 17) Cover all the remaining 2601 schools that appear to be without water supply as per SSA/DISE data (as on 30/8/2008).

3. The meeting ended with thanks to and from the Chair.

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**List of participants**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
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**Department of Drinking Water Supply**

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|----|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Smt. Rajwant Sandhu     | Secretary              |
| 2. | Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar | Joint Secretary (DWS)  |
| 3. | Shri Kamal Mazumdar     | Deputy Adviser         |
| 4. | Shri R. K. Sharma       | Deputy Director (Stat) |
| 5. | Shri Ved Prakash        | Sr. Consultant         |

**State Government of Uttar Pradesh**

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|----|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 6. | Shri Saurabh Kr. Das    | Pr. Secretary, PHED       |
| 7. | Shri Sandip Chatterjee  | Chief Engineer, PHED      |
| 8. | Smt. Indira Chakravorty | Chief Adviser, CCDU, PHED |