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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES**

**(2012-2013)**

**FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES**

**REPAIR, RENOVATION AND RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES**

**SIXTEENTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

November, 2012/Agrahayana, 1934 (Saka)

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MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

**REPAIR, RENOVATION AND RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES**

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 27.11.2012*

*Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 27.11.2012*



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

*November, 2012/Agrahayana, 1934 (Saka)*

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## COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2011-12)

Shri Dip Gogoi - Chairman

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31. Smt. Bimla Kashyap Sood

### SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Devender Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Rita Jaikhani - Additional Director
3. Shri Ginsuanlian Guite - Committee Officer

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\* Appointed w.e.f. 25.11.2011.

# Smt. Vandana Chavan, MP, RS was appointed w.e.f. 04.05.2012. Shri Ranjitsinh Vijaysinh Mohite-Patil, MP, RS retired w.e.f.02.04.2012.

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2012-13)**

Shri Dip Gogoi - Chairman

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30. Shri A.V. Swamy
31. Vacant

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Devender Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Rita Jaikhani - Additional Director
3. Shri Ginsuanlian Guite - Committee Officer

## ABBREVIATIONS

KBK	:	Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi (districts of Odisha)
CAAA	:	Controller, Aids, Accounts and Accounting
CCA	:	Culturable Command Area
CWC	:	Central Water Commission
CGWB	:	Central Ground Water Board
DEA	:	Department of Economic Affairs
DLIA	:	District Level Implementation Agency
DPAP	:	Drought Prone Area Programme
DPC	:	District Planning Committee
DPRs	:	Detailed Project Reports
Ha	:	Hectare
MoEF	:	Ministry of Environment & Forests
MoWR	:	Ministry of Water Resources
MNREGA	:	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment and Guarantee Scheme
NLCP	:	National Lake Conservation Plan
NWCP	:	National Wetland Conservation Programme
PRI	:	Panchayati Raj Institution
RRR	:	Repair, Renovation and Restoration (of water bodies)
RWAs	:	Residents Welfare Associations
SLNA	:	State Level Nodal Agency
TAC	:	Technical Advisory Committee
UTs	:	Union Territories
WAPCOS	:	Water and Power Consultancy Services Ltd.
WQRCs	:	Water Quality Review Committee
WUAs	:	Water Users' Associations



## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Water Resources (2012-2013) having been authorized by the Committee, do present on their behalf the Sixteenth Report to Parliament on 'Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies'.

2. The Committee (2011-2012) took up the subject "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies' for a detailed examination and Report. The Committee were briefed by the representatives of the Ministry of Water Resources on the subject at their sitting held on 14 October 2011. The Committee also took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Water Resources on various aspects of the subject at their sitting held on 28 November 2011.

3. The Committee at their sitting held on 30 August 2012 considered and adopted the Report subject to amendments/modifications made in the Report after incorporating the suggestions made by the Hon'ble Members and the corrections arising out of factual verification of the Report by the Ministry. Before the Report could be presented, the term of the last Committee expired and the Draft Report has been re-considered and re-adopted by the Standing Committee on Water Resources (2012-13) at their sitting held on 31.10.2012.

4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Water Resources who appeared before the Committee and placed their considered views. They also wish to thank the Ministry of Water Resources for furnishing the requisite material on the points raised by the Committee in connection with the examination of the subject.

5. The Committee would like to place on record their sense of deep appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officers of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

**NEW DELHI**  
**16 November, 2012**  
**25 Kartika, 1933(Saka)**

**DIP GOGOI,**  
***Chairman,***  
***Standing Committee on Water Resources***

**PART-I**  
**REPORT**  
**CHAPTER-I**  
**INTRODUCTORY**

The National Water Policy 2002 acknowledges that water is a prime natural resource, a basic human need and a precious national asset. Planning, development, conservation and management of water resources need to be governed by broad national perspective. Water is part of a larger ecological system. It is also a scarce and precious national resource to be planned, developed, conserved and managed as such, and on an integrated and environmentally sound basis, keeping in view the socio-economic national perspective and the needs of the States. It is one of the most crucial elements in developmental planning. As the country has entered the 21st century, efforts to develop, conserve, utilize and manage this important resource in a sustainable manner, have to be guided by the national perspective.

1.2 Water, as a resource is one and indivisible: rainfall, river waters, surface ponds and lakes and ground water and snow are all part of one system.

1.3 Through the ages Indian agriculture has been sustained by natural and man-made water bodies such as lakes, tanks, ponds and similar structures. A water body is a structure where rain water is accumulated or water is stored by diversion from a stream, *nala* or river. Water Bodies serve as storage reservoirs of water in the monsoon dependent areas of the economy where there exist a shorter period of rainfall and a long dry spell with very high deviation of annual rainfall. The small storage tanks are called ponds or bundhis which are mostly community owned. The large storage tanks whose command varies from 20 to 2000 hectares are generally constructed by government department or local bodies.

1.4 According to the Third Minor Irrigation Census (2000-2001), there are 5.56 lakh tanks and storages in the country under surface flow and surface lift Schemes as minor irrigation source creating 6.27 million hectare of irrigation potential. Out of 5.56 lakh tanks, 4.71 lakh are in use. Remaining 0.85 lakh tanks are not in use due to one reason or the other. Due to non-use of these 15% tanks, nearly one million hectare of irrigation potential is lost. A large numbers of these tanks suffer from sub-optimal irrigation related utilization due to deterioration of the tank structure and canal distribution system.

1.5 During the X Five Year Plan, the Government of India launched in January, 2005 a Pilot Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies as a state sector scheme. The pilot scheme envisaged a Plan outlay of Rs. 300 crore to be shared by Centre and State in the ratio of 3:1. The objective of the Pilot Scheme on water bodies was to restore and augment storage capacities of water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. The water bodies having original irrigation culturable command between 40 hectare to 2,000 hectare were eligible for funding under the Pilot Scheme. The Central share of Rs 197.30 crore was released upto March, 2008 under the scheme for taking up 1,098 water bodies in 26 districts of 15 states with a target to create 0.78 lakh hectares of additional irrigation potential. The Scheme is applicable in whole of the country.

1.5(A) Subsequently, Government had approved a State Sector Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies with two components (i) one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs.1,250 crore and (ii) another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs.1,500 crore for implementation during XI Five Year Plan. A sum of Rs.841.91 crore has since been released under the scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support till date for taking up 3,341 water bodies in 12 States. Out of 3,341 water bodies, works have been completed in 1,481 water bodies.

1.6 In brief the basic features of the Scheme are comprehensive improvement of selected tank systems including restoration; improvement of catchment areas of tanks; increase in storage capacity of water bodies; increased availability of drinking water; capacity building of communities; user groups standing committee for Panchayats and State Government; Ground Water recharge etc. The Scheme is implemented at village/block level; District level and State Level with the help of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which shall include representatives from Central Water Commission (CWC) and Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). The Ministry of Water Resources coordinates the programme under the Scheme at the central level. The Scheme will be dealt in detail in the subsequent chapters of the Report.

1.7 In the course of examination of the subject, the Committee took evidence of the following witnesses :

- (i) Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources on 14.10.2011.
- (ii) Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources and Member (WP&P), Central Water Commission on 28.11.2011.

Apart from oral testimony of the witnesses mentioned above, the Committee obtained background papers and documents from the Ministry. For questions which needed further clarifications after evidence, post-evidence replies/clarifications were obtained from the Ministry of Water Resources.

1.8 The Committee's examination of the subject "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies" *inter-alia* include review of the role of water bodies, status of development of water bodies in India, and measures taken by the Government for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies. Further, other related aspects, including the views of the Ministry have been dealt with in the succeeding chapters of this Report.



## CHAPTER-II

### WATER BODIES : ROLES AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS

A water body or 'body of surface water' has been defined as "a discrete and significant element of surface water such as a lake, a reservoir, a stream, a river or canal, part of a stream, a traditional water or a stretch of coastal water."

#### (a) Traditional water bodies and their upkeep

2.2 The Indian agriculture has been sustained through the ages by natural and man-made water bodies such as lakes, tanks, ponds and similar other structures. Water bodies under traditional systems include tanks, *bhandaras* (Maharashtra), *phad* irrigation (North-western Maharashtra), *Khadin* and *baolis* (Rajasthan), *Vav* or *Vavdi* (Gujarat), *Ahar Pynes* (Bihar), *dung* or *jumpois* (Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal) and *Zing* (Ladakh, J&K).

2.3 Water Bodies serve as storage reservoirs of water in the monsoon dependent areas of the country where there exist a shorter period of rainfall and a long dry spell with very high deviation of annual rainfall. The small storage tanks are called ponds or bundhis which are mostly community owned. The large storage tanks whose command varies from 20 to 2,000 hectares are generally constructed by government department or local bodies. Agriculture is the main occupation of rural population in India. Irrigation has played a pivotal role in India's agricultural production and growth. Both at national and regional levels, agricultural growth and overall development closely follow the growth pattern in irrigation. Investment in irrigation sector invariably holds the key to open up the rural economy and provides impulse for overall rural development. The role of water bodies in the development of rural economy is, therefore, potentially vital.

**(b) Status of development of water bodies in India**

2.4 According to the Third Minor Irrigation Census (2000-01), there were 5.56 lakh tanks and storages in the country under surface flow and surface lift schemes as minor irrigation source, creating 6.27 million ha. of irrigation potential. Out of 5.56 lakh tanks, 4.71 lakh tanks are in use, and the remaining 0.85 lakh tanks are not in use due to one reason or the other. Due to non-use of 15% tanks, one million ha. of irrigation potential is lost. The Committee desired to know the contributory factors responsible for non-utilisation of 0.85 lakh tanks in the country. To this query, the Ministry submitted as under:

"The main factors responsible for water bodies permanently not in use are due to salinity, dried up water bodies, destroyed beyond repair, due to sea water intrusion, due to industrial effluents etc."

2.5 The Committee enquired whether the Ministry had undertaken any studies to identify the water bodies located in different parts of the country and to state the results of such studies block-wise and State-wise/ UT-wise and also to provide details of the specific problems associated with water bodies in different regions which need special techniques for rejuvenating them. To this, the Ministry in their written post-evidence reply stated as follows :

"The Ministry of Water Resources does not undertake any study for identification of water bodies. It is the State Governments who identify the water bodies and give detailed information about water bodies viz existing CCA, CCA lost etc. in respect of each water body for its coverage under various schemes of the Ministry. The information of water bodies is available in the Third Census of Minor Irrigation schemes (2005). According to the Third Census of Minor Irrigation schemes (2005), there are 5.56 lakh water bodies in the country with irrigation potential of 62.71 lakh hectare."

The State-wise details of water bodies with irrigation potential created is given in

**Table 2.5** as provided by the Ministry. The Ministry also stated that traditional water bodies are used in rural areas which *inter alia* include various purposes, viz. domestic, drinking,

irrigation, horticulture etc. However, the status of these water bodies is not available with the Ministry.

**Table – 2.5**

**State-wise details of water bodies with irrigation potential created**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of State</b>	<b>Number of water bodies</b>	<b>Irrigation Potential created in h.a</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	75561	1640572
2	Arunachal Pradesh	299	8956
3	Assam	1020	29976
4	Bihar	14555	294800
5	Chhattisgarh	42717	203134
6	Goa	2877	5245
7	Gujarat	4150	260709
8	Haryana	561	2956
9	Himachal Pradesh	712	4963
10	Jammu & Kashmir	781	63064
11	Jharkhand	42210	139949
12	Karnataka	27610	402129
13	Kerala	11641	107965
14	Madhya Pradesh	39831	292898
15	Maharashtra	69631	502892
16	Manipur	2	210
17	Meghalaya	270	3368
18	Mizoram	610	1322
19	Nagaland	161	1523
20	Odisha	30651	563614
21	Punjab	449	2526
22	Rajasthan	2813	167511
23	Sikkim	428	12616
24	Tamil Nadu	38743	956078
25	Tripura	468	8576
26	Uttar Pradesh	3978	32517
27	Uttarakhand	9690	82572
28	West Bengal	118276	466335
29	Andaman & Nicobar	1052	3085



30	Chandigarh	0	0
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	44	236
32	Delhi	54	239
33	Pondicherry	14756	8644
	<b>Total :</b>	<b>556601</b>	<b>6271180</b>

2.6 When the Committee asked about the criteria for categorization of water bodies as small or large, the number of water bodies in the country State-wise/UT-wise and the expenditure incurred on the maintenance since the last five years, the Ministry in a post-evidence written reply explained as follows:

"The criteria for categorization of water bodies as large and small, information about expenditure incurred on the upkeep and maintenance of these water bodies are not available with the Ministry. However, water bodies with CCA of more than 40 hectare are considered to be the large water body for RRR scheme."

2.7 With regard to the decline in the number of water bodies noticed throughout the world, including those in India, the Committee enquired from the Ministry whether any survey has been made in this regard in India and also to furnish the details thereof and the position of India, vis-à-vis other countries. The Ministry of Water Resources in their post-evidence reply submitted that no information is available with them in this regard.

2.8 The Committee observed that there is poor maintenance of traditional water bodies resulting in reduced storage capacity and lower efficacy. When the Committee asked the reason for poor maintenance of traditional water bodies and the steps taken to improve their maintenance for more storage and higher efficacy and would a shift of management practices to local bodies like local Panchayats, WUAs, RWAs, etc. help in better maintenance of water bodies in the country and whether the Government initiated any action in this regard, the Ministry replied as under :

"The State Governments are responsible for management-related issues on various action programmes since undertaken in the water sector for bringing about water use efficiency. However, the Ministry is also having continuous interactions with the State Governments for making various programmes being run by the State Governments with the assistance of the Ministry. The Ministry of Water Resources is also contemplating a new scheme on Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies with more involvement of local panchayats, WUAs, RWAs, etc."

2.9 The Committee were also informed that there has been deterioration in the quality of water in water bodies. When asked to furnish the reasons for deterioration in the quality of water in water bodies, the Ministry of Water Resources in a post-evidence reply mentioned the following factors :

"(1) Indiscriminate disposal of sewage into the water bodies is one of the prime causes of deterioration of water quality. In most of the cases, domestic sewage is generally discharged as such in the untreated, treated or partially treated form into the nearby water bodies where it can cause severe sanitary and other water pollution problems.

(2) Agricultural waste usually originates in the form of runoff from the agricultural field and animal farms, which consists of large number of chemicals called agro-chemicals in the form of fertilizers, organic manure, pesticides, etc which ultimately enter into water bodies causing in deterioration of water quality. The agricultural runoff is considerably rich in nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorous, organic matter and pesticides which causes problem of nitrification toxicity to aquatic life.

(3) Industrial waste water has the greatest potentiality for polluting water bodies. The industrial waste has pollutants of almost all kinds ranging from simple nutrients and organic matter to complex toxic substances. The waste from industries like sugar factories, dairies, paper and pulp, tanneries, distilleries, metal plating industries which release substantial quantities of heavy metals and organic matter, causes heavy pollution.

(4) Mining activities lead to gradual damage to the surface as well as ground water resources. Mining industry discharges millions of liters of water every day to the adjacent water bodies and thereby causing water pollution in and around mining areas."

2.10 Regarding the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Ministry to prevent and arrest deterioration in the quality of water bodies, the Ministry in their written reply stated as under :

"Water Quality Assessment Authority (WQAA) has been constituted under Environment Protection Act, 1986; vide Gazette Notification S.O. 583(E) dated 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2001 by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, New Delhi. At present, the WQAA is a 16- Member inter-ministerial Authority. Secretary (Ministry of Environment & Forests) is the Chairman of WQAA and Joint Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Water Resources is its Member Secretary. The functions of WQAA are to direct the agencies (government/local-bodies/non-governmental) to standardize method(s) for water quality monitoring and to ensure quality of data generation for utilization thereof, to take measures so as to ensure proper treatment of waste water with a view to restoring the water quality of the river/water bodies to meet the designated-best-uses; to take up research and development activities in the area of water quality management; to promote recycling, re-use of treated sewage/trade effluent for irrigation in development of agriculture; to draw action plans for quality improvement in water bodies, and monitor and review/assess implementation of the schemes launched/to be launched to that effect; to draw scheme(s) for imposition of restriction in water abstraction and discharge of treated sewage/trade effluent on land, rivers and other water bodies with a view to mitigating crisis of water quality; to maintain minimum discharge for sustenance of aquatic life forms in riverine system; to utilize self-assimilation capacities at the critical river stretches to minimize cost of effluent treatment; to provide information to pollution control authorities to facilitate allocation of waste load; to review the status of quality of national water resources (both surface water & groundwater (except – that due to geogenic aspect) and identify "Hot Spots" for taking necessary actions for improvement in water quality; to interact with the authorities/committees constituted or to be constituted under the provisions of the said Act for matters relating to management of water resources; to constitute/set-up State-level Water Quality Review Committees (WQRC) to coordinate the work to be assigned to such committees; and to deal with environmental issues concerning surface and ground water quality (except – that due to geogenic aspect ) which may be referred to it by the Central Government or the State Government relating to the respective areas."

2.11 When asked to identify the areas / zones in different States where water bodies have deteriorated severely due to unauthorized dumping and discharge and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to curb the deteriorating trend, the Ministry in their written reply submitted that no information was available with them in this regard.

2.12 The Committee further observed that alleged encroachments being made on water bodies by local bodies like Municipalities and Panchayats. When asked whether the Ministry is aware of such encroachments on water bodies by local bodies like Municipalities and Panchayats, the Ministry in their written reply stated that they were not aware of any encroachments made on water bodies by local bodies.

2.13 When asked further if the Govt. has any interaction with State Governments with regard to deterrent or penalty provisions to tackle such encroachments, the Ministry replied as under :

"Removal of encroachments is the subject matter concerning the State Government/local body. As and when any such issue is brought to the notice of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, *i.e.*, the Nodal Ministry for the scheme on National Lake Conservation Plan(NLCP), it is referred to the respective State Governments for necessary action at their end."

2.14 During the evidence held on 14.10.2011, the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources further elaborated as under :

"..... (regarding encroachments) happening on water bodies, we have always been writing to State Governments to make the law. If the Central Government proposes any Central Law all the State Governments oppose saying that this is not your subject. They do not allow us to make any regulation for any control of any water body. The constitution does not allow it. So they are correct. So, we cannot have any Central Law as far as this is concerned."

Again he further added :

"I think this problem is in all States and in most towns. Encroachment slowly creeps upon the water bodies since they belong to no one. Very soon the water bodies dry up. People come and settle down there and after sometimes, they claim the title and with the help of unscrupulous bureaucrat and local politicians, they manage to sell this off. There has been steady decline especially in urban areas of the water bodies. We have been taking this up with the State Governments ..... But as far as law is concerned this is a very local phenomenon and it needs a lot of vigilance from the municipalities or from the small town committees or whatever local bodies which are there to control the administration."

2.15 The Committee also drew the attention to the fact that as a measure for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies, there is a need to care for maintenance of the existing water bodies in rural areas and also to turn water bodies in urban areas into aesthetic, decorative objects. In response to this suggestion, the Ministry informed in written reply that they are agreed with this idea.

2.16 It noted that in most of the States, the smaller water bodies are entrusted to the local Panchayats for maintenance and management while the bigger ones are vested with the Water Resources/Irrigation Departments. When Committee enquired about the methods employed by the local Communities across the country for the maintenance and management of their water bodies, the Ministry informed that water is a State subject and as such, the management of water bodies comes within the purview of the State Government.

2.17 During the evidence the Committee enquired about the monitoring of water bodies of the State. The Secretary responded as under :

"We have no power of direction to a State in a subject which is State subject. We cannot tell them to do anything. We can only advise them please do it."

2.18 When the Committee further enquired whether any study has been made to evaluate the efficacy of the methods/techniques presently employed for upkeep of water bodies and to furnish the findings of such efforts, the Ministry replied as follows :

"The Scheme envisages concurrent evaluation and impact assessment by an independent body which will look into the method of management of water bodies. The Ministry has already identified the agency."

2.19 When the Committee enquired about the standard of the methods/techniques presently employed in maintenance and management of water bodies in India *vis-a-vis* those employed abroad, the Ministry replied that a decision on the subject needs to be taken on the basis of evaluation results of existent schemes on water bodies.

2.20 The Committee observe that water is a prime natural resource, a basic human need and a precious national asset. Water as a resource is indivisible: rainfall, river waters, surface ponds and lakes and ground water are part of a single unit, which needs a holistic and efficient management to ensure their long-term quality and availability. Noting that traditional water bodies, known by their different names, such as *bhandaras* (Maharashtra), *phad* irrigation (North-western Maharashtra), *Khadin* and *baolis* (Rajasthan), *Vav* or *Vavdi* (Gujarat), *Ahar Pynes* (Bihar), *dung* or *jumpois* (Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal) and *Zing* (Ladakh, J&K), have through the ages been providing sustenance to Indian agriculture, the Committee hardly need to emphasize the importance of water bodies in the overall development and management of water resources in the country. Further, water bodies serve as storage reservoirs of water in monsoon dependent areas where there exist a shorter period of rainfall and a long dry spell with very high deviation of annual rainfall. Also, traditional water bodies are used in rural areas which, *inter-alia*, include various purposes, *viz.* domestic, drinking, irrigation, horticulture, etc. The Committee, are, therefore, of the considered view that there is an imperative need to ensure proper, efficient and sustainable management and development of water bodies all over the country through sustained inputs of efforts, funds and programme primarily by the Government (both Central and State) and secondarily by individuals, groups, institutions and local bodies. In order to put in place a comprehensive legislative framework, the Committee reiterate the need for inclusion of the subject 'water' in the Concurrent List.

2.21 The Committee note that according to the Third Minor Irrigation Census (2000-01) Report, there were 5.56 lakhs tanks and storages in the country under surface flow and surface lift schemes as minor irrigation, creating 6.27 million ha. of irrigation

potential. The Committee, however, note that out of 5.56 lakhs tanks and storages in the country, only 4.71 lakhs tanks are presently in use, and the remaining 0.85 lakhs (15%) tanks/storages are not in use for one reason or the other. Due to non-use of 15% tanks, one million ha. of irrigation potential is lost. The Committee are deeply concerned that due to salinity, dried up water bodies, water bodies destroyed beyond repair, sea water intrusion and industrial effluents, etc., an alarming number of water bodies are becoming permanently unusable. What the Committee find worrisome and unpleasant to note in this regard is that despite clearly identifying the causes for deterioration of the quality of water, the Government has not cared to compile precise figures on the number and status of water bodies. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government compile a comprehensive and up to date information about the exact number and the status of water bodies spread all over the country State-wise to initiate an all-out, and integrated efforts for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies. The Committee are shocked to know that the Ministry has not undertaken any study for identification of water bodies, giving the plea that water is a State subject and it is for State Governments to undertake such a task. The Committee are also distressed to know that the Union Water Resources Ministry has not evolved any criteria for categorization of water bodies as large or small and the expenditure incurred on their upkeep and maintenance. Obviously, due to non-availability of data regarding the number, size and status of all the water bodies across the country, no comprehensive and coordinated efforts can be made by the Centre and States for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Government in the first instance collect and compile such data and information at the earliest and place it on public

domain such as WRIS and website of the Ministry so as to serve as a useful tools for policy-makers, planners, bureaucrats, various water users and other stake-holders. They also desire the Government to launch a suitable scheme in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment & Forests for achieving the goal at the earliest and apprise the Committee in due course.

2.22 The Committee are distressed to note that apart from decline in the number of water bodies, there has been quality deterioration in water bodies. The factors attributed for such a deterioration include indiscriminate disposal of *sewage*, mostly untreated domestic sewage into the water bodies; discharge of *agricultural wastes* from agro-chemicals run-off in the form of fertilizers, organic manure, pesticides; *industrial wastes* etc. from industries like sugar factories, dairies, paper and pulp industries, tanneries, distilleries, metal plating industries – all of which release pollutants ranging from simple nutrients and organic matter to complex toxic substances; and *mining activities* which lead to gradual damage to the surface as well as ground water resources. Noting that pollution of surface water bodies like rivers, lakes, ponds, tanks etc. can affect the quality of ground water in aquifers hydraulically connected with them due to percolation, the Committee recommend that the Ministry of Water Resources may in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment and Forests issue appropriate advisories to the State Governments to institute an effective mechanism for monitoring the water quality in water bodies, so that pollution of water bodies is arrested and a lasting solution worked out for the long-term interests of the nation. The Committee also note that the Government of India in 2001, constituted Water Quality Assessment Authority (WQAA) under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 with Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests as Chairman and Joint



**Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Water Resources as its Member Secretary to direct the agencies (government/local bodies/non-governmental) to standardize method(s) for water quality monitoring and also for ensuring quality of data generation for utilisation of water and other related functions. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government keep tab on the efforts of WQAA on water quality monitoring by insisting on submission of periodic assessment reports on status of water quality in lakes, tanks, ponds etc. at least on biennial basis. Further, they also strongly recommend that these reports of WQAA be made available to various State Governments on annual basis, highlighting the specific cases where deterioration in quality of water has reached alarming levels and calls for prompt remedial action. The Committee also note reports of encroachments on water bodies allegedly made by local bodies like Municipalities and Panchayats, which is a worrisome development. Considering the vital importance of water bodies, the Government of India cannot be a helpless bystander on the ground that removal of encroachments on water bodies is a State matter. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Government of India need to take appropriate measures to heighten national awareness and to build a strong national programme for removal of encroachments on water bodies by local bodies, first by instituting a thorough study in the matter, and then enact deterrent or enhance penalty provisions effective enough to tackle such encroachments in consultation with the Ministry of Environment & Forests. The Committee further recommend that in order to encourage repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies, specially lakes, tanks and ponds, the Government need to institute novel measures in coordination with the Ministry of Environment & Forests and States/UTs and not only to save them from being lost, but also to turn these water**

bodies into aesthetically appealing scenic spots. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the status of the action taken up in this regard at the earliest.

2.23 The Committee observe that in most of the States, the smaller water bodies are entrusted to the local Panchayats for maintenance and management while the bigger ones are vested with the Water Resources/Irrigation Departments of the States/UTs. Given the fact that one million ha. of irrigation potential is lost in the country due to non-use of 15% of tanks out of a total of 5.56 lakhs tanks and storages available in India, the Committee asked the Government the methods presently employed by local communities all over India for the maintenance and management of water bodies, with a view to observe the efficacy of those methods. However, the stock reply of the Ministry was that the management of water bodies comes within the purview of the State Governments. Such an attitude of helplessness is not acceptable to the Committee when the Ministry has already identified an independent body/agency which will look into the method of management of water bodies. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the independent body identified may be asked to expeditiously complete its work of evaluation of the methods presently applied for management of water bodies in the country, so that shortcomings, if any, in this area may be rectified and necessary remedies explored and implemented. They would also like to be apprised of the outcome of such efforts in due course.

## CHAPTER-III

### GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES FOR REPAIR, RENOVATION AND RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES

During the X Five Year Plan, a Pilot Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies as a state sector scheme was launched by the Government of India. The scheme was launched in 2005. The Scheme envisaged a plan outlay of Rs.300 crore to be shared by the Centre and State in the ratio of 3:1. 1,098 water bodies spread over 15 States were selected under the Scheme. The works have been completed in 1085 water bodies, while the rest of water bodies were deleted from work list by the concerned States.

Subsequently, Government had approved a State Sector Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration(RRR) of water bodies with two components (i) one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs.1,250 crore and (ii) another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs.1,500 crore for implementation during XI Five Year Plan.

#### **A. BASIC FEATURES OF THE SCHEME**

##### **(a) Repair, Renovation & Restoration of water bodies with domestic support**

3.2 The Scheme of Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of water bodies has two components viz. RRR with domestic support and RRR with external assistance. The Government of India approved the Scheme of **Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of water bodies with domestic support** during the year 2009 at an outlay of Rs. 1,250 crore for implementation as a state sector scheme during the XI Plan period. The scheme provides for comprehensive improvement of water bodies, catchment area treatment, command area development and capacity building of stakeholders. Central assistance of 90% of the cost of the project cleared by the Technical Advisory Committee(TAC) of the State Government and released by the Ministry, is available in case of Special Category States, KBK (undivided)

districts of Odisha and projects located in drought prone, tribal and Naxal affected areas. Projects benefiting other areas of Non-Special Category States are eligible for 25% Central assistance, whereas the remaining 75% are to be raised by the concerned States. The guidelines for the Scheme have already been circulated to the State Government and can be accessed on the website ([www.mowr.gov.in](http://www.mowr.gov.in)) of the Ministry of Water Resources.

3.3 The Committee have also been informed that the objectives of the Scheme of Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of water bodies were to restore and augment storage capacities of water bodies, and also to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. When asked to furnish the basic features of the Scheme, the Ministry in their written reply stated as follows :

"The pilot Scheme on Repair, Renovation and Restoration(RRR) of water bodies envisages taking up of restoration of water bodies having original irrigation Command Area of 40-2,000 hectare, to revive, augment and utilize their storage and irrigation potential. The States were to take up repair of related structures like check dams, weirs, bunds, and water conveyance systems."

**(b) Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies with external assistance**

3.4 The Committee observed that during the year 2008, a Scheme of **Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies with external assistance** was approved by the Government of India (GoI) at a cost of Rs. 6,000 crore for about 23,000 water bodies. Under the Scheme, funding will be 100% loan from the World Bank. 25% of the total cost to the project as loan is taken as liability of Government of India and passed on as additional Central assistance (100%) grant to the States for the project and the balance 75% loan is taken by the Government of India from the World Bank and is passed on to the concerned States on back to back basis and is to be repaid by the States. The objectives of the Scheme cover improvement of catchment areas of water bodies, command area

development, increase in the capacity of the water body, ground water recharge, improvement in agriculture/horticulture productivity, development of tourism, cultural activities, increased availability of drinking water. Under this Scheme, the States may take up the repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies having a minimum of 20 hectare original irrigation culturable command area and up to 2,000 hectare. The approval/monitoring of the Scheme is carried out by the World Bank. The appraisal process is coordinated by the Department of Economic Affairs.

**(c) Criteria for Selection of States for RRR**

3.5 On being asked about the criteria adopted to select the States for RRR of water bodies for the Pilot Scheme, the Ministry in its post-evidence written reply stated as follows :

"The criteria for selection of States for the Pilot Scheme was on the basis of recommendations of the Central Water Commission(CWC), for which States submitted their DPRs to CWC regional office and subsequently, the CWC submitted their recommendations on DPRs to MoWR for release of funds. The final selection of DPRs were made in the Ministry on the basis of decision taken by an Empowered Committee."

3.6 The Committee were informed that under the Pilot Scheme, projects submitted by the State Governments were cleared by the State Technical Advisory Committee and subsequently the project proposals were examined by the Central Water Commission before recommendation to the Ministry of Water Resources for necessary funding. The DPRs were finally approved by an Empowered Committee under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (WR). The Empowered Committee included the representatives of Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Water Resources.

**(d) Implementation of the Scheme**

3.7 Regarding implementation of the RRR Scheme, the Committee further observed that arrangements are in place at village/block level, district level and State level. When asked

the mechanism put in place to ensure coordination of concerned bodies at these three levels of administration, the Ministry in their written submission stated as under:

"The State Governments prepared projects under the Scheme with the involvement of the community, Panchayati Raj Institution(PRI), Water Users' Associations. The DPR had specific plan for handing over the revived facility for operation, monitoring and maintenance to community organizations suggests WUA or PRI."

3.8 On being asked whether the present arrangement regarding implementation of the RRR Scheme is efficacious to ensure optimum result, the Ministry replied as follows :

"No complaints were received from the State Government about the implementation mechanism suggested in the guidelines of the Scheme."

3.9 On being asked whether the Government provides similar technical support to the State Governments for repair, renovation and restoration (RRR) of water bodies, the Ministry submitted in their written reply as under:

"Presently, the Scheme of RRR of water bodies do not have any provision to give technical support for the Scheme."

3.10 When asked if there is any proposal/plan to give such technical support to the State Governments for the RRR Scheme, the Ministry in their post-evidence reply stated that the new scheme on RRR of water bodies *for implementation during XII Plan* is at conceptualization stage.

**(e) Planning of the projects under the Scheme**

3.11 The Committee also observed that the States may take up planning and implementation of projects under RRR Scheme generally in the manner prescribed for it. According to it, a project may be prepared with an individual water body or for a group of water bodies with sub-basin approach. All water bodies included in the project will be given

a unique code number. States will accordingly undertake census of these water bodies and get complete list of water bodies along with unique code in the first stage.

3.12 When asked whether the States covered under RRR Scheme complied with the guidelines prescribed for planning and implementation of projects till date, the Ministry submitted in their written reply as under:

"During the XI Five Year Plan, a sum of *Rs. 811.85 crore* has been released for 3341 water bodies for the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh (Bundelkhand), Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh (Bundelkhand). All the proposals have been received in accordance with the guidelines for the Scheme of RRR of water bodies and water bodies, covered under the scheme have been allotted necessary unique code required for the Scheme of RRR of water bodies."

3.13 The Committee further observed that the DPR of a project has to include information on certain aspects including details of present status of the water bodies with reasons for deterioration in condition, rainfall data during the last 10 years, details of original CCA, etc.

When asked to give the numbers of DPRs prepared by States for RRR Scheme till date, the Ministry in their post-evidence written reply stated as under:

"A total of 3,341 water bodies have been funded under the Scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support which includes 1321 water bodies in Odisha, 427 water bodies in Karnataka, 1,029 water bodies in Andhra Pradesh, 15 water bodies in Bihar, 28 water bodies in Uttar Pradesh (Bundelkhand), 78 in Madhya Pradesh (Bundelkhand), 1 water body in Meghalaya (Uiam Lake), 258 water bodies in Maharashtra, 34 water bodies in Gujarat, 131 water bodies in Chhattisgarh, 16 water bodies in Rajasthan and 3 water bodies in Haryana."

The Ministry also informed that all DPRs prepared for above water bodies are in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry for the Scheme of RRR of water bodies.

**(f) Scope of work in the DPR**

3.14 Regarding the scope of work in DPR, it is stated that works such as de-silting in terms of quantum of silt to be removed, repair of conveyance system, strengthening of bund(s), repair of weirs and sluices, catchment treatment, command area development, soil erosion prevention works, quality control measures be included in it. On being further asked if necessary tools, equipments and also expertise have been employed in implementing RRR Scheme, the Ministry in its post-evidence reply stated as follows :

"As per the guidelines of the Scheme of RRR of water bodies, the Scheme is executed by the State Governments through their District Level Implementation Agency i.e. the district unit of the Nodal Department/Agency responsible for implementation of the scheme. Technical expertise etc. wherever required is provided by the State Government to improve the implementation mechanism. Besides, there are contractual arrangements made by the State Government for implementation of the scheme."

3.15 The Committee further observed that targeted benefits under RRR project will include creation of additional irrigation potential, increase in agriculture/horticulture/pisciculture production and productivity, increase in recharge of ground water, improvement in water use efficiency, increase in availability of drinking water, impact on water quality, and promotion of tourism and culture. On being asked how RRR Scheme will help to raise water use efficiency and increase in recharge of ground water, the Ministry in its post-evidence written reply stated as follows:

"The Scheme of RRR of water bodies *inter alia* include capacity building at the grassroot level for which State Governments take various steps to arrange workshops at State/WUA/grassroot levels to improve water use efficiency as well as to increase ground water recharge through various techniques of rainwater harvesting which *inter alia* includes desiltation of water bodies resulting in increase in rate of ground water percolation through the desilted bottom of water bodies having permeable geological formation underneath. Besides, the Scheme of RRR also



creates additional irrigation potential resulting in increased productivity, increase in availability of drinking water etc."

3.16 Regarding procedure for submission of proposals, the Committee was informed that in case of Panchayats, the Projects are to be prepared and forwarded to District Planning Committee (DPC) for inclusion in the District Plan. The Details Project Reports (DPRs) will then be forwarded to District Level Implementation Agency (DLIA) for onward transmission to the State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA). When asked about the number of DPRs prepared on the basis of project proposals made by Panchayats and received by the Ministry, the Ministry furnished the following reply :

"A total of 3,341 revised projects/DPRs have been received from 12 States as per the guidelines of the Scheme."

Table 3.16 contains the details of water bodies taken up and funds released under the scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support.

**Table 3.16**

**Funds released to States under the Scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support**

(Rupees in crores)

Name of State	No. of Water Bodies	Total Project cost	Committed Central Share	Fund released during 2009-10	Fund released during 2010-11	Fund released during 2011-12	Fund released During 2012-13	Total released funds
Odisha	1321	254.33	228.89	72.12	75.00	70.33		217.45
Karnataka	427	232.77	209.49	74.04	47.47	77.51		199.02
Andhra Pradesh	1029	339.69	305.72		189.00			189.00
Bihar	15	64.45	55.30		25.00		27.54	52.54
U.P.(Bundelkhand)	28	46.15	41.53		29.08			29.08
M.P.(Bundelkhand)	78	41.89	10.47		7.33	2.62		9.95
Meghalaya (Umiyam Lake)	1	44.57 (Irrigation related 2.83)	2.54		1.78	0.64		2.42
Maharashtra	258	135.08	119.34			80.53		80.53
Gujarat	34	17.47	15.72			10.61		10.61
Chhattisgarh	131	122.91	110.61			34.68		34.68
Rajasthan	16	11.35	7.45			7.07		7.07
Haryana	3	40.24	10.06			7.04	2.52	9.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>3341</b>	<b>1350.9</b>	<b>1117.12</b>	<b>146.16</b>	<b>374.66</b>	<b>291.03</b>	<b>30.06</b>	<b>841.91</b>

3.17 The Committee were also informed that on the basis of proposals received in accordance with the guidelines of the RRR Scheme, release of funds for 3,341 water bodies with the project cost of Rs.1,350 crore for the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh (Bundelkhand), Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have been processed. Funds to the tune of Rs.653.43 crore have been released to all these States except Rajasthan under the Scheme. When asked for the reason for non-release of funds to the State of Rajasthan under RRR Scheme, the Ministry in their post-evidence reply stated that the State Govt. of Rajasthan has been released Rs.7.07 crore during the year 2011-12 for RRR of water bodies for undertaking activities in 16 water bodies. A further sum of Rs. 2.05 crore will be released to Rajasthan on receipt of Utilisation Certificate in respect of Rs. 5.02 crore already released.

3.18 When the Committee asked about the norms applied by the Ministry for release of funds to the States under RRR Scheme and initiatives taken to induce other remaining States to submit duly approved DPRs for release of funds under RRR Scheme, the Ministry in a post-evidence reply stated as under :

"Funds have been released for those project proposals which are approved by State Technical Advisory Committee and are as per the guidelines of the Scheme of RRR of water bodies. The State Government have been requested to submit project proposals which they can undertake and complete within the Plan period."

3.19 In this regard, the Secretary during the evidence stated as under :

"..... It is very difficult to sanction without any proposal ..... whichever has applied to us from the State Government, we have tried to accommodate everyone of them even though there is limited fund."

3.20 The Committee were informed that the Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies does not cover provision of funds for private water bodies.

When the Committee enquired from the Ministry about the number of private water bodies in the country – State-wise/UT-wise and block-wise, the Ministry gave the following reply :

" As per the Third Census of Minor Irrigation(2005),there are total of 5.56 lakh water bodies, out of which 2.39 lakh are public water bodies, which implies that there are 3.17 lakh private water bodies."

3.21 When the Committee asked the Ministry to state the reasons for excluding private water bodies from the purview of this Pilot Scheme and also whether the Ministry has any proposal to include such water bodies under the Scheme in future, the Ministry in their post-evidence reply stated as under:

"The Ministry is to cover public water bodies in the first instance. Presently, there are no proposals for covering private water bodies under the Scheme of RRR of water bodies."

3.22 Regarding the types of works undertaken under this Scheme in 15 States, the Ministry informed as follows :

"The work undertaken under the Pilot Scheme *inter alia* includes desilting, repair sluice work, pitching, repair of canals attached to the water bodies."

3.23 Asked whether there is a proposal to extend this Pilot Scheme to the remaining States, the Ministry in their post-evidence reply submitted as follows :

"The Government of India has already approved a Scheme on Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies for its implementation in all States during XI Plan."

3.24 When the Committee asked the Ministry about the relevance of RRR scheme for water-starved areas of the country including Bundelkhand, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and eastern Maharashtra, the Ministry replied as under :

"Under the pilot Scheme of National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies directly linked to agriculture implemented from 2005 to 2008, funds to the tune of Rs 197.30 crore were released to 15 States. Evaluation of the scheme was taken up in 9 States of Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The evaluation work was undertaken by Directorate of Water Management (ICAR), Bhubaneswar, Water and Land Management & Training and Research Institute,

Hyderabad, Centre for Water Resources and Development & Management, Kozikhode, Kerala and National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad. The evaluation reports submitted by these organisations indicate positive outcomes like increase in storage capacity of water bodies, improved overall socio-economic condition in the project area due to increase in cropped area, crop productivity, total production, marketable surplus and cropping intensity."

3.25 As regard the prospects of RRR Scheme for hilly States such as Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and North-Eastern States including Assam and whether special provision/plan has been put in place or being proposed for above two categories of States, i.e. water-starved areas and hilly States under the Pilot Scheme, the Ministry also further stated as follows :

"The Ministry of Water Resources has the Scheme for RRR of Water Bodies with domestic support. Under the scheme funding pattern will be in the ratio of 25: 75 (Centre: State) for non-special category States and in the ratio of 90:10 for special category States (North Eastern States including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and undivided Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi (KBK) districts of Odisha) and also for drought prone/naxal affected/tribal areas."

## **B. NATIONAL LAKE CONSERVATION PLAN**

3.26 For conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes in urban and semi-urban areas of the country, the Ministry of Environment & Forests is implementing the Centrally sponsored scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) since June, 2001 on 70:30 cost sharing basis between the Central Government and the respective State Governments. The mandate of the NLCP Scheme is pollution prevention and conservation of perennial lakes. The Plan includes core components of interception, diversion and treatment of wastewaters before their entry into the lake, catchment area treatment, shoreline protection, in-lake treatment such as aeration, de-weeding, de-siltation, bio-remediation and bio-manipulation etc. Non core activities include lake front eco-development and public participation.

3.27 On being asked whether any evaluation has been undertaken by the Ministry to assess their performances, the Ministry replied as follows :

"For evaluation of NLCP scheme, six lakes have been identified. These include Vengainahkere lake, Nagavara lake and Jarganahalli lake in Bangalore (Karnataka), Powai lake in Mumbai (Maharashtra), Nainital lake in Uttrakhand and Mirik lake in Darjeeling (West Bengal). Presently, evaluation is under process by the consultants namely, M/s Wilbur Smith Associates Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore and M/s SMEC (India) Pvt. Ltd, Gurgaon."

3.28 The Ministry also informed the Committee in their post-evidence reply that total outlay under the XI Plan towards the NLCP Scheme is Rs.440 crore. Based on the proposals received from different States, the Ministry has so far sanctioned projects for conservation of 61 lakes in 14 States, at a total cost of Rs.1,028.19 crore. Out of Govt. of India share of Rs.812.63 crore, an amount of Rs.374.89 crore was released for implementation of these projects. Proposals for new lakes are considered for sanction subject to their admissibility as per NLCP guidelines, pollution status, prioritization and availability of funds under the Plan.

### **C. NATIONAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION PROGRAMME**

3.29 The National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP) was initiated by the Government of India in 1987, with the aim to conserve wetlands in the country, to prevent their degradation and ensure overall conservation of biodiversity. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has identified 115 wetlands in the country covering 24 States and 2 UTs, for their conservation and management under the programme. The activities under the management action plan include data collection, survey and demarcation, inventorization, catchment area treatment, protection measures, water management, biodiversity conservation, weed control, pollution control, education and awareness / community participation etc.

3.30 The Ministry informed the Committee that under NWCP, 100% financial assistance is provided for implementation of the Management Action Plans(MAPs) of identified wetlands and research projects for R&D activities in priority areas to supplement MAPs. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has notified the Wetlands (Conservation and Management Rules, 2010) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986).

3.31 In reply to a question of the Committee whether any evaluation has been undertaken by the Ministry to assess their performances and the findings thereof, the Ministry replied as follows :

"For evaluation of activities carried out under MAPs, five wetlands were identified where the scheme is in operation for more than 5 years. WII, Dehradun has carried out the evaluation studies. These include Pong Dam (Himachal Pradesh), Harike (Punjab), Deeper Beel (Assam), Chilka Lake (Odisha) and Tso Morari (Jammu & Kashmir)."

The main findings of the evaluation of National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP) by the Ministry are reproduced below :

(i) Deeper Beel (Assam):

- Effluent mitigation and intersection of domestic sewage also needs to be tackled immediately.
- Hard Engineering measures need to be developed for hydrological and ecological integrity.
- Adequate manpower/ expertise lacking
- Fisheries cooperatives have elevated socio-economic conditions of communities because of conservation interventions
- Development of R&D base to supplement MAPs in an effective manner.

(ii) Chilka (Odisha):

- Invasion of Phragmites karka after opening of mouth needs to be attended immediately
- Ecological intervention has helped raising socio-economic status of fishers.
- Due to salinity weeds have been controlled to some extent
- State has developed perfect institutional mechanism and linkages
- Effective monitoring mechanism
- Fisheries regulation passed through Assembly

- Comprehensive long-term MAP being prepared through small grant funds of Ramsar Convention

(iii) Tso Moriri (J&K):

- Impact of tourism and domestic wastes needs attention
- Incentives need to be given to local communities to stop bio-mass destruction.
- Consideration of various incentives like vehicles etc. because of extremities of climate.
- Hard engineering measures not required
- Communities need to be involved in decision- making processes
- R&D facilities to be provided to have adequate research data base to supplement MAP

(iv) Harike (Punjab)

:

- Lack of inter-sectoral co-ordination a major setback
- Control of water hyacinth needs to be tackled by stopping effluent / sewage entering into water body
- Need of STPs to stop effluents which are responsible for prolific growth of weeds
- Effective monitoring mechanism needed

(v) Pong Dam (HP) :

- Execution of MAP not effective and needs to be improvised to get best results
- Communities to be involved in decision making process
- Research data base inadequate
- Timely utilization of funds a main drawback
- Monitoring needs to be effective
- Needs constitution of authority to avoid conflicts between Forest and Environment Deptts at state level

3.32 Regarding the total funds sanctioned and incurred on National Wetland Conservation

Programme, the Ministry in its post-evidence reply stated as follows :-

"So far, an amount of Rs.109.14 crore has been released to the concerned State Governments for conservation activities in identified wetlands of the country. That included an expenditure of Rs.55.94 crore during last five years."

**3.33 The Committee observe that during the X Five Year Plan the Government of India launched a Pilot Scheme in 2005 for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies as a State sector scheme with a plan outlay of Rs.300 crore to be shared by the Centre and States in the ratio of 3:1. They also note that the selection of**

States for the pilot scheme is made out of the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)/proposals submitted by the States to the CWC, who then submit their recommendations on DPRs to the Ministry of Water Resources for release of funds. The final selections of DPRs is made in the Ministry by an Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (WR) with representatives of Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Developments as well. Noting that the Government had approved the scheme on RRR of water bodies for implementation in all States/UTs during the XI Plan, the Committee urge that the Ministry of Water Resources vigorously pursue the matter with the States so that the approved DPRs are implemented. The Committee further recommend that the Government of India highlight the multiple and huge benefits arising out of the RRR of water bodies through appropriate measures including organising frequent meetings, seminars and sustained public campaigns so that all the States implement the Scheme of RRR. The Committee would like to be apprised of the measures initiated in this regard.

3.34 The Committee note that the State Governments prepare projects under the Scheme with involvement of the Community, Panchayat Raj Institution (PRI) and Water Users' Associations(WUAs). The Committee also observe that DPR for RRR Scheme has specific provision for handing over the revived facility for operation, monitoring and maintenance to community organisations, WUAs or PRIs. Noting that the National Water Policy 2002 emphasizes management of water resources through participatory approach by involving not only the Government agencies but also all stakeholders in various aspects of planning, designing and management, and also given the fact that no complaints have so far been received from the State Governments about the implementation mechanism as suggested in the Guidelines of the Scheme, the



Committee hope that the Ministry would cause strict vigil to be maintained over the concerned bodies at three levels for implementation of RRR Scheme in order to derive optimum benefits and make the Scheme a great success.

3.35 The Committee note that under the Scheme of Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies (both with domestic support as well with external assistance), the Government of India has offered financial assistance to the States on generous terms for implementation of the Scheme by them. Under RRR Scheme with domestic support, for instance, the Central assistance for Special Category States and water bodies benefiting drought prone area/tribal area/Naxal affected areas has been fixed to the tune of 90% of total cost of projects, with the States needing to raise the balance share of only 10% from their own resources. Similarly, under the terms offered to the States in case of RRR Scheme with external assistance, as much as 25% of the total loan obtained from World Bank is being provided to the States as Central assistance(grant), with the States having to repay the remaining 75% of the total World Bank loan on back to back basis. The Committee trust that given firm will and determination to implement the RRR Scheme by the States and the financial assistance being made by the Union Government, the 5.56 lakh water bodies, which are presently in a State of neglect, decline and deterioration, would be restored and rejuvenated expeditiously. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take further necessary steps to incentivise the States by enhancing the domestic and external assistance to 50% to all the States to come up with proposals for implementation under the RRR Scheme of water bodies domestic support and with external assistance. The Committee would like to know the fresh initiatives taken by the Government in this regard.

**3.36 The Committee also note that there is no provision for giving technical support to State Governments under the Scheme of RRR of water bodies. Given the fact that the Government has been consistently increasing the outlays under programmes such as the AIBP since the beginning of the XI Plan to assist the States to complete the ongoing Major and Medium Irrigation projects, the Committee are strongly of the view that projects under implementation under RRR Scheme may also be included and given high priority under AIBP so that efforts made do not slacken due to fund constraints. Further, the Committee recommend that the Ministry may explore the feasibility of providing technical support to States/UTs where RRR Scheme is being implemented to recover and restore lost water bodies.**

**3.37 The Committee observe that under the RRR Scheme, a project may be prepared by the States with an individual water body or for a group of water bodies with sub-basin approach. Accordingly, all water bodies included in the project will be given a unique code number, and the States will accordingly undertake census of these water bodies and get complete list of water bodies along with unique code in the first stage. The Committee were also informed that during the XI Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs.811.85 crore has been released for 3,341 water bodies for 12 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh (Bundelkhand), Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh (Bundelkhand). All the proposals received have been in accordance with the stipulated guidelines and water bodies under the Scheme have been allotted necessary unique code. The Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry urge the States for completion of exercise of taking census of all water bodies within their respective jurisdiction without further delay. They would also recommend that the**

Ministry scrupulously insist on the States to allot unique code for all water bodies included under the proposal for RRR Scheme as required under the guidelines.

3.38 The Committee observe that the scheme of RRR of water bodies *inter-alia* include capacity building at the grass root level. To this end, State Governments are taking various steps to arrange workshops at State Level/WUA/grass root level to improve water use efficiency as well as to increase ground water recharge through various techniques of rainwater harvesting, which include desiltation of water bodies resulting in increase in rate of ground water percolation through the desilted bottom of water bodies having permeable geological formation underneath. In addition, the scheme of RRR also is expected to create additional irrigation potential resulting in increased productivity, increase in availability of drinking water, etc. Noting that the Government has been implementing various schemes for augmentation of ground water in the country, including the State sector scheme called "Artificial Recharge of ground water through dug wells" in 7 States at an estimated cost of Rs.1,536.75 crore, the Committee desire special initiative be taken by the Government while planning and implementing the RRR Scheme so that the goal of ground water augmentation is accorded top priority. The Committee believe that through mutual consultations, meetings, etc., a common approach can be worked out by the Government for recasting the programme of the Scheme of RRR of water bodies to provide impetus to their efforts to achieve increased recharge of ground water. This would also prevent duplication of works and wastages of precious funds in Water Resources sector. The Committee would like to be apprised of the endeavours made by the Government in this behalf.

3.39 The Committee note with concern that as per the Third Census of Minor Irrigation (2005), there are 5.50 lakh water bodies in the country, out of which 2.39 lakhs are public water bodies and remaining 3.17 lakhs are private water bodies. The Committee were informed that the Scheme for RRR of water bodies does not cover 3.17 lakhs water bodies spread across the country. The Committee deplore exclusion of private water bodies from the RRR Scheme of the Government, which dents a gaping loop-hole in the otherwise laudable scheme, particularly as it is a necessity to preserve the water bodies. Noting that the Ministry's proposal is to cover public water bodies as the first priority, the Committee urge the Government to explore the viability of extending State funding to private water bodies during the XII Plan, or to atleast explore the possibility of inducing States/UTs to take up with owners of such private water bodies and to incentivize them to take measures to revive, repair, renovate and develop water bodies by undertaking works such as desilting, repairing sluice work, pitching, repair of canals attached to the water bodies, etc.

3.40 The Committee further observe that under the Centrally sponsored National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) being implemented by the Ministry of Environment & Forests since June 2001 for conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes in urban and semi-urban areas of the country, a total of Rs.374.89 crore out of Government of India's share of Rs. 812.63 crore was released for implementation of projects sanctioned in respect of 61 lakes located in 14 States from among States from whom proposals were received. A total outlay of Rs.440 crore has been allocated under the XI Plan towards the Scheme. Besides, the Ministry has initiated the work of evaluation of the NLCP by identifying 6 lakes for the purpose, *viz.* Vengainahkere lake, Nagavara lake and Jarganahalli lake in Bangalore (Karnataka), Powai lake in Mumbai

(Maharashtra), Nainital lake in Uttarakhand and Mirik lake in Darjeeling (West Bengal).

The evaluation process is being carried out by two private firms based at Bangalore and Gurgaon. The Committee strongly desire to see the early completion of this evaluation works being undertaken on the performances of NLCP scheme. They would also like to be apprised of the findings of the evaluation reports on NLCP as and when received by MoEF from the two private consultancy firms.

3.41 The Committee note that under the National Wetland Conservation Programme (NWCP) initiated by the Government in 1987, the Ministry of Environment & Forests has identified 115 wetlands in 24 States and 2 UTs for conservation and management. Under it, 100% financial assistance is provided for implementation of Management Action Plans (MAPs) of identified wetlands and research projects for R&D activities in priority areas to supplement MAPs, and so far an amount of Rs.109.14 crore has been released to the concerned State Governments, including Rs.55.94 crore incurred during last 5 years. Noting that conservation and management of the wetlands could contribute to the goal of repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies being carried out by the Ministry in 15 States of the country, the Committee recommend that the suggestions made by WII, Dehradun under MAPs for evaluation of work in 5 identified wetlands, viz. Pong Dam (Himachal Pradesh), Harike (Punjab), Deeper Beel (Assam), Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Tso Morari (J&K) may be taken up by the concerned Ministry for early remedial action. Further, the Committee recommend that evaluation works on the performance of NWCP may be extended to other of 110 remaining wetlands and more thrust be given by enhancing fund allocation to the programme. They would like to be apprised of further action taken by Government in

**this regard. The Committee would also like to emphasise on the need for ensuring proper coordination amongst the Ministries concerned in executing the programme.**

## CHAPTER-IV

### FUNDING OF THE SCHEME ON REPAIR, RENOVATION AND RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES & ITS IMPLEMENTATION

#### (a) Release of funds

The Ministry have stated that a budget provision of Rs.399 crore was kept during 2009-10 for the Scheme of RRR of Water Bodies. During the year 2010-11, a budget provision of Rs. 600 crore was kept for meeting the Central component of the funding. An amount of Rs. 374.66 crore has been released during 2010-11. A budget provision of Rs. 684 crore has been kept for the scheme of RRR of water bodies during the year 2011-12. When asked the reason for release of only Rs. 374.66 crore as against a budget provision of Rs. 600.00 crore during 2010-11, the Ministry gave the following reply :

"The reason for less release of funds under the Scheme during 2010-11 was due to the stand taken by Department of Expenditure on an issue relating to committed liability under the Scheme for the States of Karnataka and Odisha. However, the impasse has since been resolved with the downsizing of the project proposals for the States of Odisha and Karnataka."

4.2 It is also stated that Rs.139 crore were proposed to be released for the States of Maharashtra (Rs. 83.52 crore), Gujarat (Rs. 11 crore), Chhattisgarh (Rs. 37.44 crore) and Haryana (Rs. 7.04 crore) as on 9.9.2011. Clarifications were sought from Government of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya. When asked whether the funds have been released to these States and whether any deadline has been set up for States' reply where clarifications were sought by the Ministry, the Ministry in written reply have stated as under:

"While funds have been released to Maharashtra, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and Haryana, funds are yet to be released to the States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya etc. Funds will be released to these States on receipt of

clarification and also on fulfilling the set norms as prescribed in the guidelines by the State Governments."

**(b) Funding of the Scheme**

4.3 Regarding the funding pattern for RRR Schemes with external assistance, it is stated that States may take up projects for funding under External Assistance, wherein 25% of the World Bank loan is taken by Central Government and passed to States as Central assistance and the remaining 75% of the loan is passed to the concerned States on back to back basis and repaid by the States. When asked if the Government of India would step in to repay World Bank in case of failure by States to repay, the Ministry in a post-evidence reply stated as under:

"As per the guidelines of the Scheme of RRR of water bodies with external assistance, the office of Controller, Aids, Accounts and Accounting (CAAA) of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, are required to keep track of claims of disbursement claims made by the State Governments and shortfall, if any, in the matter so as to take corrective steps in time for avoiding any fault in the payment schedule prescribed by the World Bank for the scheme. According to the information furnished by the Department of Economic Affairs, there is no report about the case of failure by any State Government to repay the World Bank loan."

4.4 The Ministry informed the Committee during evidence that the Government of Odisha had requested for release of Rs.81.78 crore during 2011-12 for implementation of schemes on RRR, in addition to Rs.72.12 crore and Rs.75 crore already released in 2009-10 and 2010-11. A total sum of Rs 217.45 crore has since been released to the State Government of Odisha so far under the scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support. The Committee was further informed that the Ministry agreed to undertake monitoring of progress including release of second instalment. When queried how monitoring work for the schemes of RRR in Odisha is proposed to be carried out, the Ministry submitted as under :

"The Scheme of RRR of water bodies envisages an inbuilt monitoring mechanism with the involvement of officials from the Ministry, CGWB as well as State officials. While the State level officials are to keep continuous liaison with the District Level



Implementing Agency for generating monthly information on financial and physical progress of the implementation of the Scheme, the Regional Directors in the field offices of CGWB are also required to visit 1-2 water bodies every month to keep track of progress of implementation of work undertaken under the scheme. The

State Government of Odisha has undertaken work in 1321 water bodies which includes 307 DPAP catetory water bodies and 1014 tribal category water bodies viz. Balasore (6), Bargarh (56), KBK(Balangir) (83), Deogarh (7), Dhenkenal (26), Gajapati (37), Ganjam (579), Jajpur (22), BK-Kalahandi (51), Kandhama (35), Keojjhar (50), KBK-Korapur (23), KBK-Malkanjir (13), Mayurbhanj (63), KBK-Nabrangpur (12), Nayagarh (79), KBK-Naupada (35), KBK-Rayagada (34), Sambalpur (47), Sonepur (18) and Sundargarh (45). The State Government of Odisha has already developed a detailed management information system in respect of water bodies taken up, water bodies completed, CCA revived, etc."

4.5 As per guidelines made by the Ministry, necessary budget provision for the total amount of the project for both Central and State shares are to be kept in the State Plan Budget for the relevant year. When asked if necessary guidelines have been issued to the States to comply with this provision and the feedback received from the States thereon, the Ministry gave the following reply:

"The guidelines of the Scheme are very specific for keeping explicit provision for the project (both state and central share for the scheme). The State Governments are keeping necessary provision in the State budget and funds are being released to only those states which comply with the requirement of keeping necessary budget provision in the State budget for the scheme.

4.6 When the Committee enquired about the process for obtaining the approval of the proposal under the RRR Scheme and the reasons for the delay thereof, the Secretary responded during the evidence as under :

"Sir, there is a fault in our system. Difficulties are in our processing also. Though our Ministry is responsible for this Scheme but its approval and sanction is being done by Ministry of Finance. We have given this suggestion, if it is our Scheme, then its approval and sanction should also be vested with us."

4.7 On being asked whether the Ministry has taken initiatives/propose to take any initiative for simplifying the process of sanctioning projects under the RRR Scheme, the Ministry in their post evidence written reply stated as below:

"A detailed Scheme on RRR of water bodies is at conceptualization stage."

4.8 The Committee further asked the Ministry during the evidence about duration of the Scheme of RRR on water bodies. To this query, the representative of the Ministry replied as under:

"It is only for the XI Five Year Plan.....All the schemes that we are sanctioning are supposed to be over by March, 2012, that is, within this financial year."

4.9 When asked further whether these projects/schemes would be completed within 2-3 years given for completion by the Ministry, the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources stated as under:

"This Scheme was approved by Planning Commission only for the XI Five Year Plan. They said that we should complete the Scheme by March, 2012. However, if some State Governments are not able to complete, we will request the Planning Commission to allow us to extend the Scheme further."

4.10 The Committee pointed out that the Ministry should formulate 'water budget' to aim at augmenting water collection in the country, and to assess water requirements of farmers per crop, present capacity for storing water and needed steps to storing water annually. When asked to comment on whether there is any proposal to formulate a water budget for water augmentation, conservation and better management of water, the Secretary deposed as follows:

" The RRR Scheme of water bodies does not have any such provision of 'water budget' to aim at augmenting water collection in the country, and to assess water requirements of farmers per crop, present capacity for storing water and needed steps to storing water annually. However, National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development in its report in 1999 has carried out 'Water Budget' by

assessing water availability & water demands and suggested steps required for optimum development of water resources. The National Water Mission, *inter-alia*, proposes 'water budget' to facilitates water augmentation, conservation and better management of water."

**4.11 The Committee observe that a provision of Rs.684 crore has been kept in the Budget 2011-12 for RRR Scheme. They also note that Rs.139 crore were proposed to be released for the States of Maharashtra (Rs.83.52 crore), Gujarat (Rs.11 crore), Chattisgarh (Rs.37.44 crore) and Haryana(Rs.7.04 crore) as on 09.09.2011. Funds have been released to Maharashtra, Gujarat, Chattisgarh and Haryana. Funds to be released to the States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya are awaiting receipt of clarifications with regard to the fulfillment of the guidelines by the State Governments. The Committee, in this connection note that works are in progress in a total of 10887 water bodies in the country, 3000 in Andhra Pradesh, 5763 in Tamil Nadu, 1224 in Karnataka, and 900 in Odisha under RRR Scheme with external assistance. Of these, 686 water bodies in Andhra Pradesh and 2407 water bodies in Tamil Nadu have been reported to be completed. No information is available regarding the progress of work in respect of the remaining two States, namely, Karnataka and Odisha under this category of the RRR Scheme. Further, out of the estimated cost of Rs.4444.28 envisaged for the 10887 water bodies, the Central share (i.e. 25% loan component) is Rs.733.05 crore, out of which only Rs.454.35 crore had been released till 19 December 2011. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Ministry to vigorously pursue with the State Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya to complete the stipulated formalities expeditiously so that**

funds are released to these States and they start the work of RRR of water bodies without further delay.

4.12 The Committee note that for the Scheme of RRR of water bodies with external assistance, the office of Controller, Aids, Accounts and Accounting (CAAA) of Department of Economic Affairs(DEA), Ministry of Finance is required under the guidelines of the RRR Scheme to keep track of disbursement claims made by State Governments. As per information furnished by the DEA, no report about default in repayment of World Bank loan by States had been received till 24.01.2012. The Committee would like the Ministry to continue its strict watch on the external funding of RRR Scheme as well as loan repayment.

4.13 The Committee were informed that a total of Rs. 217.45 crore had been released as on 24.01.2012 to the State of Odisha under the Scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support. They were also given to understand that the Ministry would undertake monitoring of progress, including release of the second instalment. When queried on how monitoring work for the schemes of RRR in Odisha is proposed to be carried out, it was informed to the Committee that the RRR Scheme envisages an inbuilt monitoring mechanism while the State level officials are to keep continuous liaison with the District Level Implementing Agency (DLIA) for generating monthly information on physical and financial progress of the implementation of the Scheme. The Regional Directors in the field offices of CGWB are also required to visit 1-2 water bodies every month to keep track of the progress of implementation of work undertaken under the Scheme, and that the State

Government of Odisha has undertaken work in 1,321 water bodies which includes 307 DPAP category water bodies and 1,014 tribal category water bodies of the State. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the implementation of the works be pursued vigorously so that these works are completed within the shortest possible time. The Committee would like to be apprised of the outcome in the matter within six months.

4.14 Taking note of the fact that the Ministry is responsible for the Scheme of RRR of water bodies, but the power of approval and sanction of a project under the Scheme is with Ministry of Finance and also that the Scheme of RRR of water bodies is only for XI Five Years Plan, and all the projects being sanctioned are supposed to be over by March 2012, i.e. within the current year, the Committee, therefore, recommend that (a) a comprehensive report be placed before the Committee showing the status of the projects sanctioned, completed and on going and the expenditure incurred and likely to be incurred, State-wise and year-wise since the inception of the Scheme; (b) the Scheme, given its huge benefits, be extended in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan; and (c) the entire responsibility for processing and sanctioning the projects under the Scheme be entrusted to the Ministry of Water Resources for its efficient implementation.

## CHAPTER-V

### MONITORING & EVALUATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND CONVERGENCE OF EFFORTS

#### (a) Monitoring & Evaluation

The Ministry informed the Committee that regular monitoring of the physical and financial progress and the outcome of the projects is to be carried out at each stage. Monitoring is done with the association of the standing committees of the Panchayats. When asked to furnish the number of frequencies monitoring of RRR scheme being carried out with the Panchayats and the outcome of such monitoring, the Ministry in its post-evidence reply stated as below :

" While the State Government is having its own monitoring mechanism with the involvement of Standing Committees of panchayats for progress of water bodies undertaken under the Scheme of RRR of water bodies and the State Nodal officer is required to keep continuous liaison with the District Level Implementation Agency for generating monthly information on physical and financial progress of the implementation of the Scheme, the Ministry has also initiated action for development of regular monitoring mechanism with the involvement of CGWB and Ministry officials. The information related to progress of work undertaken by various states are submitted to the Ministry on regular basis."

The information regarding completion of work on RRR Scheme as per reports received from CGWB/ State Governments is given at Table – 5.1.

**Table – 5.1**

**Work completed as per reports received from  
Central Ground Water Board/ State Governments**

Name of State	No. of water bodies	Total project cost in Crore	Committed Central Share	Fund released during 2009-10	Fund released during 2010-11	Fund released during 2011-12	Fund released during 2012-13	Number of water bodies completed	No. of water bodies in progress
Odisha	1321	254.33	228.89	72.12	75.00	70.33		1044	277
Karnataka	427	232.77	209.49	74.04	47.47	77.51		354	73
Andhra Pradesh	1029	339.69	305.72		189.00			N.A.	1029
Bihar	15	64.45	55.30		25.00		27.54	N.A.	15

U.P. (Bundelkhand)	28	46.15	41.53		29.08			N.A.	28
M.P. (Bundelkhand)	78	41.89	10.47		7.33	2.62		72.	6
Meghalaya (Umiam Lake)	1	44.57 (Irrigation related 2.38)	2.54		1.78	0.64		N.A	1
Chhattisgarh	131	122.91	110.61			34.68		N.A	131
Gujarat	34	17.47	15.72			10.61		N.A	34
Haryana	3	40.24	10.06			7.04	2.52	1	2
Maharashtra	258	135.08	119.34			80.53		N.A	258
Rajasthan	16	11.35	7.45			7.07		10	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>3341</b>	<b>1350.9</b>	<b>1117.12</b>	<b>146.16</b>	<b>374.66</b>	<b>291.03</b>	<b>30.06</b>	<b>1481</b>	<b>1860</b>

5.2 It is also stated that evaluation and impact assessment of the scheme is to be done by independent agencies to be identified by the Ministry of Water Resources. The Government has since identified Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) Ltd. for concurrent evaluation/impact assessment of the RRR scheme. The progress report is to be generated and copy of the said report is required to be sent to the Nodal Officer, i.e. Director (WB), MoWR by the end of every month. When the Committee asked to furnish the findings of the concurrent evaluations/impact assessments of the RRR scheme by WAPCOS Ltd. and whether the monitoring by the WAPCOS Ltd. is adequate enough and what remedial or corrective measures have been taken following the studies and monitoring by the WAPCOS Ltd., the Ministry in its post-evidence reply stated as under :

"The Scheme of Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies with domestic support which is being implemented during XI Five Year Plan Period, envisages concurrent evaluation and impact assessment by an independent agency to be identified by the Ministry of Water Resources. Accordingly, the Ministry of Water Resources has identified WAPCOS Ltd. for concurrent evaluation /impact assessment of the scheme. The work will commence after the mechanism for release of funds to WAPCOS Ltd. is vetted by the concerned State Governments."

5.3 During the evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources elaborated as under :

"The advice of the Hon'ble Members is right, that is why we are paying to public sector undertaking so that they send their man to get independent on the ground

evaluation done. We desire that when the work is in progress there then the evaluation should be done and along with it when the work is over, then submit to us complete evaluation Report because we are also apprehensive that this all is looking good on the paper but whether the work is being done there or not. But to whoever Parliamentarian we have talked, they are saying that the work is going on quite well..... This is why we have given the work for evaluation to WAPCOS."

5.4 The Ministry also stated that States will send Utilization Certificates to the Government of India for release of instalments in case of RRR Schemes having external assistance. On being asked how many States have furnished such Utilization Certificates as of now and whether the Ministry strictly adhered to this norm while releasing additional instalments of funds to the States till date, the Ministry submitted the following reply :

"As per the provision of the Scheme of RRR of water bodies with external assistance, disbursement claims are to be submitted by the State Governments to the Controller of Aid, Accounts and Auditing (CAAA) of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance with a copy to Ministry of Water Resources for further necessary action in relation to release of funds. Physical Progress Report is also to be sent to MoWR alongwith disbursement claim."

5.5 The Committee was informed that out of the Central Plan, outlay of Rs.1,250 crore available for the Scheme during the XI Plan, 5% of Central share shall be made for strengthening of implementation mechanism, concurrent evaluation and impact assessment to be carried out by the independent agencies identified by the Ministry of Water Resources and will be released on the recommendation of the Ministry. When the Committee enquired as to whether 5% of the Central share has been released as stipulated and the names of the independent agencies identified by the Ministry who are the recipients of this fund. To this query, the Ministry replied as follows :

"While as per the provision of the Scheme,5% of Central share are to be segregated for undertaking work relating to concurrent evaluation and impact assessment under the scheme by an independent agency to be identified by MoWR, it has been proposed to release 2.5% of the central share for undertaking concurrent evaluation and impact assessment under this scheme. The MoWR has since identified WAPCOS Ltd for the work related to evaluation; however, work will commence after



the mechanism for release of funds to WAPCOS Ltd. is vetted by the State Governments."

5.6 It is also stated that the approval / monitoring of the scheme of RRR of Water Bodies with external assistance is carried out by the World Bank. The appraisal process is coordinated by the Deptt. of Economic Affairs. Asked whether it has any proposal to carry out monitoring of the scheme on its own, the Ministry in its post-evidence reply stated as below :

"Yes, the Ministry also gets information about progress of work under World Bank assisted Scheme of RRR of water bodies."

5.7 The Committee pointed out whether any feedback is received from the World Bank as regards progress of the RRR scheme. To this, the Ministry furnished a written reply giving the details of progress of work on the Scheme of RRR of water bodies with external assistance, which are given at **Table – 5.7**. When asked further to give the outcome of the appraisal process being coordinated by Department of Economic Affairs, the Ministry stated as follows :

"The World Bank Mission appraises the project for taking decision about funding and suggestions made by the appraisal mission is incorporated in the project document through mutual consultation with the State Government/World Bank/Department of Economic Affairs. Besides, an elaborate mechanism is in place for effective implementation and proper utilization of the loans received from the external agencies, which involves disbursement monitoring as well as physical and financial monitoring of the project. A few of the steps taken by Multilateral Institutions Division, DEA for planned completion and fast disbursement of loans are (i) Close review of projects through Tripartite Portfolio Review Meetings; comprising the donor, DEA and the project authorities (including representatives of Central Ministry/State Government); State portfolio review meetings; special review meetings for problem projects; monitoring through correspondence; and field visits (ii) Capacity building of project authorities to ensure that the projects are implemented as per planned schedule."

**Table – 5.7**

**Details of progress of work on RRR Scheme with external assistance**

State	Project Cost	Loan Component	CCA	No. of Water Bodies	Central share release (Rs. In crore)					
					Central Share i.e. 25% loan component	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	till 19 Dec, 2011.	Total
Andhra Pradesh	1044.30	835.00	2.50	3000	208.85	8.59	3.09	18.27	32.54	62.49
Tamil Nadu	2547.00	2182.00	4.00	5763	337.50	18.78	85.66	170.40	89.44	364.27
Karnataka	306.98	268.78	0.52	1224	67.20	0.00	1.40	1.01	17.19	19.60
Odisha	546.00	448.00	1.20	900	119.50	0.00	5.03	0.63	2.33	7.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>4444.28</b>	<b>3733.78</b>	<b>8.22</b>	<b>10887</b>	<b>733.05</b>	<b>27.37</b>	<b>95.17</b>	<b>190.31</b>	<b>141.50</b>	<b>454.35</b>

Total 686 water bodies completed in Andhra Pradesh.

Total 2407 water bodies completed in Tamil Nadu.

5.8 The Committee have also been informed that the role of the Union Water Ministry will be to monitor the progress under the Scheme through periodic reports from the States and field visits. On being asked to give the details of such periodic reports from the States and field visits undertaken by the Ministry till date, the Ministry submitted as follows:

"While the CGWB Regional Directors are to visit at least two water bodies in the concerned states on monthly basis and submit report to the Ministry, the Monitoring report is made available also by the State Governments. The Ministry officials have also visited different States implementing the scheme of RRR of water bodies and submitted their report to the Ministry."

5.9 When asked further to furnish details of such reports and field visits undertaken by the Ministry till November, 2011, the Ministry in a post-evidence reply state as under :

"The tour reports by the Ministry officials are available in respect of States of Odisha, MP, Meghalaya, Bihar. However, CGWB/State reports are available for all States

where the Scheme is under implementation. The progress of work in most of the States are found to be satisfactory except in Andhra Pradesh."

5.10 Regarding the details about the post-implementation evaluation and impact assessment of projects done by the Ministry till date and the main findings of such studies thereof, the Ministry stated as under:

"The Ministry conducted evaluation for pilot schemes, and the past evaluation results submitted by various organizations indicate positive outcomes like increase in storage capacity of water bodies, improved overall socio economic condition in the project area due to increase in cropped area, crop productivity, total production, marketable surplus and cropping intensity."

**(b) Public Awareness**

5.11 It is stated that public participation and social awareness among the masses are essential for the upkeep of water bodies. Regarding the steps taken by the Government to ensure public participation and create mass social awareness in works relating to water bodies, the Ministry replied in its post evidence reply that the scheme of RRR of water bodies envisages capacity building, awareness programme at grass root level for which the State Governments are to organize workshops at grass root levels for creating awareness/capacity among stakeholders and the scheme has inbuilt funding mechanism for undertaking such activities.

5.12 The Ministry submitted that they have no power of direction to a State as water is a subject but they have circulated a model law on rain water harvesting, which many States have accepted. The Committee further enquired whether there is any proposal/plan to prepare a model law on RRR of water bodies in the country on the line of model law on rain water harvesting, the Ministry gave its reply as under :

"Presently, no such proposal is existent."

**(c) Convergence of efforts on RRR of water bodies**

5.13 The Ministry has stated that the Plan for convergence with efforts made under other programmes such as MNREGA, watershed development programme and scheme of rural drinking water supply has been made, and the joint guidelines for convergence between MNREGA and programmes of Ministry of Water Resources have already been issued in this regard. The joint convergence guidelines since issued to achieve convergence of efforts in respect of RRR of water bodies are reproduced at **Appendix - I**.

5.14 The Committee desired to know when this plan for convergence with efforts made under other programmes is proposed to be achieved , the details of mechanism to be made, the intended benefits to be achieved and plan to achieve similar convergence with other cognate Ministries like Environment & Forests, Rural Development and Agriculture is to be achieved. To this query, the Ministry in a post-evidence reply stated as below :

"MNREGA visualizes creation of durable community assets with the help of funds released under employment guarantee programme. Seven schemes of MoWR including rejuvenation and desilting of water bodies have been identified for dovetailing with MNREGA."

5.15 It is stated that a Task Force on Convergence with MNREGA Scheme was set up with representatives from different Ministries and Departments, implementing programmes having complementarities with MNREGA. It is also suggested that efforts be made to make use of MNREGA Scheme for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies at village level. Asked to comment on the viability of this option to revitalize the RRR scheme and whether the two schemes can be dovetailed for achieving optimum results, the Ministry replied as follows :

"For the projects for activities where convergence has been proposed under MNREGA, no funds have been released under the Scheme of RRR of water bodies for such activities."

5.16 The Committee was also informed that efforts are needed not to mix RRR Scheme with MNREGA Scheme but to make ponds under the RRR Scheme in States having scanty rains. Asked to comment on this suggestion, the Ministry in its post-evidence reply stated as under:

"The new scheme on RRR of water bodies is at conceptualization stage."

5.17 The Committee observe that regular monitoring of the physical and financial progress and the outcome of the projects is stipulated to be carried out at each stage. In this regard, the Committee also note the reply of the Ministry that the State Government is having its own monitoring mechanism with the involvement of Standing Committee on Panchayats for progress of RRR of water bodies under the Scheme and that the State nodal officer is required to keep continuous liaison with the District Level Implementation Agency (DLIA) for generating monthly information on the physical and principal progress of the implementation of the Scheme. Additionally, the Ministry's reply also states that it got the information related to progress of work undertaken by various States submitted to the Ministry on regular basis, although no details about the frequencies of submission of this information have been mentioned by the Ministry. The Committee note with displeasure that despite the efforts being made on the monitoring front by the Ministry and State Governments, little tangible progress has been made given the number of Schemes sanctioned. For example, while 1,761 projects have been taken up for implementation under RRR Scheme in Odisha, only 1,321 projects have been taken up at an expenditure of Rs. 14,929.71 lakhs so far. The number of projects completed are 142, out of 1,761 projects taken up in Odisha. Further, out of a total number of 3341 water bodies under RRR Scheme in the country, only 1481 had been shown to be completed

by 18 September, 2012 as per the information received from Central Ground Water Board/State Governments. Further the tardy pace of completion of works is evident from the fact that Rs.374.66 and Rs.291.03 crore released during 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively under the Scheme. The Committee, therefore, would like the Ministry to vigorously pursue with the States for eliciting the active participation of standing committee of Panchayats to actively implement RRR Scheme in all the States/UTs where it is being implemented. They also strongly recommend that specific, achievable targets be set up for achievements within a specified time-frame so that minimum time and cost overruns are encountered during the progress of the Scheme. The Committee also desire the Ministry to insist on submission of information relating to progress of work undertaken in various States/UTs with specific number of frequency.

5.18 The Committee observe that evaluation and impact assessment of the RRR Scheme is to be done by independent agencies, and that the Government has identified Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) Ltd. for this task. The progress report is to be generated and a copy of it is to be sent to the Nodal Officer, *i.e.* Director(WB), Ministry of Water Resources by the end of every month. The Committee are concerned to note that the work of WAPCOS Ltd. regarding concurrent evaluation and impact assessment of the RRR Scheme is to commence only after the mechanism for release of funds to WAPCOS Ltd. has been vetted by the concerned State Governments. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to pursue the matter with the State Governments so that the exercise on vetting the mechanism for release of funds to WAPCOs Ltd. is completed by State Governments without delay to ensure

smooth work of concurrent evaluation/impact evaluation by WAPCOS Ltd. The Committee would like to be apprised of the further action taken in the matter.

5.19 The Committee also note that States are mandatorily required to send utilization Certificate(UCs) to the Government of India for release of instalments in case of RRR Schemes having external assistance. Asked to comment how many States have furnished such UCs till date and whether the Ministry strictly adhered to this norm while releasing additional instalments of funds to the States, the Ministry have not furnished the information as desired by the Committee but merely narrated the procedure for submission of disbursement claims by the States to the Central Government. The Committee would like the Ministry to provide requisite information on the number of States/UTs which have furnished UCs to the Government of India for release of additional instalments to the States/UTs in case of RRR Schemes having external assistance. The Committee would also like to know the particulars of the cases in which the norms for releasing such funds to States/UTs under the Scheme were not adhered to or diluted.

5.20 The Committee note that apart from approval/monitoring of RRR Schemes with external assistance being carried out by the World Bank, the Ministry is presently monitoring the progress of the Scheme of RRR of water bodies through periodic reports from the States and through its own field visits. It is stated that while Regional Directors, CGWB are mandatorily required to visit at least two water bodies in the concerned States on monthly basis and submit report to the Ministry, the monitoring reports from the State Governments are also made available to the Ministry in addition to the field visit reports of the officials of the Ministry. The Committee, are, however, dissatisfied that while tour reports by officials of CGWB/States having ongoing RRR

Scheme under implementation are available for all States, the tour reports by officials of the Ministry are available only in respect of the States of Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya and Bihar out of 15 States/UTs having RRR programme. The Committee, therefore, desire the Ministry to extend its field visits to the other remaining States/UTs also covered under the RRR Scheme and apprise the Committee of the broad findings of the reports of such visits to all the 15 States/UTs. Further, noting the reply of the Ministry that the progress of work in the State of Andhra Pradesh has been found to be rather unsatisfactory, the Committee would like the Ministry to request the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to identify the problem hampering the progress of work in RRR Schemes in Andhra Pradesh and apprise the Committee of the remedial action taken/proposed to be taken by it at the earliest.

5.21 Acknowledging that public participation and social awareness among the masses is essential for the upkeep of water bodies, the Committee note the Government's reply that the Scheme of RRR of Water Bodies envisages capacity building, awareness programme at grass root level for which the State Governments are supposed to organize workshops at grass root levels for creating awareness/capacity among the stakeholders. The Committee would like the Ministry to assume a proactive role for capacity building and increasing awareness programme at grass root levels, instead of relegating this task to the State Governments' wholly. They sincerely believe that the Ministry and its subordinate/attached bodies located in different States/UTs need to mobilize efforts by sponsoring educational institutions/groups/societies/ associations/NGOs for organizing workshops, seminars and related activities for creating awareness among all the stakeholders and the general masses as regards the need for repair, conservation and restoration of water



bodies located across the country. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that care and preservation of water bodies should figure prominently in all public/mass campaign activities in print and electronic media undertaken by the Government in the water resources sector in order to draw the much needed public attention to this vital issue. They would also like to be briefed of any further developments in this regard. Further, the Committee strongly feel that comprehensive guidelines be formulated and circulated among the States/UTs for taking urgent and effective steps for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies. The Committee, therefore, urge the Government to explore the possibility of drafting comprehensive guidelines on water bodies. The Committee would like to be apprised of action taken by the Government in this regard.

5.22 The Committee note that the Government has made a plan for convergence of efforts made under other programmes such as MNREGA, Watershed Development Programme and scheme of Rural Drinking Water Supply. A Task Force on convergence with MNREGA Scheme was also set up with representative from different Ministries and Departments, implementing programmes having complementarities with MNREGA. In this regard, it is stated that while MNREGA visualises creation of durable community assets with the help of funds released under employment guarantee programme, seven schemes of MoWR including rejuvenation and desilting of water bodies have been identified. Moreover, convergence guidelines should have been prepared in consultation with the Ministry of Water Resources. The Committee were however informed that for the projects where convergence has been proposed under MNREGA, no funds have been released under the scheme of RRR of water bodies. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should identify

specific activities/works under MNREGA which could be dovetailed with the ongoing Scheme of RRR on water bodies in order to avoid duplication of works, fund wastage and also achieve the long-term objective of rejuvenation and revitalisation of water bodies all over the country. The Committee further desire to be informed of the composition, mandate, power, tenure etc. of the Task Force set up for convergence of efforts by the MoWR.

NEW DELHI;  
16 November, 2012  
25 Kartika, 1934 (Saka)

DIP GOGOI  
*Chairman,*  
*Standing Committee on Water Resources*

## **MINUTES – (i)**

### **MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2011-12) HELD ON FRIDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2011**

The Committee sat from 1130 hours to 1330 hours in Room No. 62, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

#### **PRESENT**

**Shri Dip Gogoi – Chairman**

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Ghanshyam Anuragi
3. Shri Pulin Bihari Baske
4. Shri Badri Ram Jakhar
5. Shri Haribhau Jawale
6. Shri Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan.
7. Shri Mangani Lal Mandal
8. Shri Nityananda Pradhan
9. Shri S.P.Y. Reddy
10. Shri Arjun Roy
11. Shri Jagadanand Singh
12. Shri Murarilal Singh
13. Shri N. Chaluvarya Swamy
14. Shri Bhisma Shankar alias Kushal Tiwari

##### **RAJYA SABHA**

15. Shri Balwinder Singh Bhunder
16. Shri Anil Madhav Dave
17. Shri Kumar Deepak Das
18. Shri B.S. Gnanadesikan
19. Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia
20. Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilonia

## **SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                     |   |                     |
|----|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri Devender Singh | - | Joint Secretary     |
| 2. | Shri B.S. Dahiya    | - | Director            |
| 3. | Smt. Rita Jaikhani  | - | Additional Director |

### **REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES**

1. Shri Dhruv Vijai Singh, Secretary
2. Shri Sudhir Garg, Joint Secretary (Admn.)
3. Smt. Ananya Ray, JS&FA

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Ministry of Water Resources, Environment & Forests, Agriculture, Finance and Rural Development to the sitting of the Committee convened for briefing the Members on "Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies"

2. After the introduction, the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources briefed the Committee on the subject. Thereafter, the Joint Secretary (Admn.), Ministry of Water Resources gave power point presentation on 'Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies'. The Members sought clarifications on various issues relating to the performance, functions as well as financial status of the pilot scheme on RRR of water bodies to which the representatives replied in part. The major concerns raised and discussed during the sitting of the Committee included the need :

- (i) to extend the period for implementation of pilot scheme RRR of Water Bodies beyond one year and carry forward in the 12th Five Year Plan;
- (ii) to restore water bodies and create new ones;
- (iii) to have the power of approval and sanction of the scheme with the implementing agency;
- (iv) for simplifying numerous formalities involved in the scheme;

- (v) to protect existing water bodies from encroachment and also to prepare a model law for sending to the States;
- (vi) to have regular physical verification of water bodies and check on encroachment;
- (vii) for Water Resources Department to make water budget for augmenting the water restoration in the country and involvement of public participation in the restoration of water bodies projects;
- (viii) for mainstreaming of education on water as a precious national resource;
- (ix) to tackle the silting of water bodies;
- (x) to give directions by the Ministry to the States for recharging of ground water; and
- (xi) for identification and notification of the disappearing water bodies.

3. The Committee asked the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources to furnish written replies to queries raised by Members during the meeting which could not be replied orally.

**The witnesses then withdrew.**

4. A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting was kept for record.

The Committee then adjourned.

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## **MINUTES – (ii)**

### **MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2011-12) HELD ON MONDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2011**

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1610 hours in Committee Room 'C', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### **PRESENT**

**Shri Dip Gogoi – Chairman**

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Ghanshyam Anuragi
3. Shri Badri Ram Jakhar
4. Shri Haribhau Jawale
5. Shri Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan.
6. Shri Mangani Lal Mandal
7. Shri Nityananda Pradhan
8. Shri K.R.G. Reddy
9. Shri S.P.Y. Reddy
10. Shri Murarilal Singh
11. Smt. Annu Tandon
12. Dr. P. Venugopal
13. Shri Sajjan Singh Verma

##### **RAJYA SABHA**

14. Shri Kumar Deepak Das
15. Shri Mangala Kisan
16. Shri Ranjitsinh Vijaysinh Mohite-Patil
17. Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilonia

#### **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Devender Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Shri B.S. Dahiya - Director
3. Smt. Rita Jaikhanani - Additional Director

## **REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES**

1. Shri Dhruv Vijai Singh, Secretary
2. Shri M.E. Haque, Member (WP&P), CWC
3. Shri N. Muruganandam, Joint Secretary, Deptt. of Rural Development

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Ministries of Water Resources, Rural Development and Environment & Forests to the sitting of the Committee convened for taking evidence on "Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies."

2. After the introduction, the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources initiated the deliberation on the subject. The Members then raised some queries to which the representatives replied. The major concerns raised during the sitting of the Committee included the following :

- (i) the need to redevelop, renovate and restore water bodies which have deteriorated due to unauthorized dumping and discharge;
- (ii) to sensitize the State Governments in view of the encroachments being made on water bodies by local bodies like municipalities and panchayats and others;
- (iii) to care for water bodies in rural areas so that they are not lost, as also to turn water bodies into aesthetic, decorative objects;
- (iv) to secure coordinated efforts among various Ministries for solution of problems associated with water bodies;
- (v) the need to focus on small irrigation projects than those of big dams;
- (vi) need to first propagate the importance of RRR scheme on irrigation Departments;

- (vii) to make use of MNREGA Scheme for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies at village level;
- (viii) the need for direct funding of RRR Scheme than through convergence with other schemes like MNREGA;
- (ix) not to mix RRR Scheme with MNREGA Scheme, but to dig ponds under the Scheme in States with scanty rains; and
- (x) MNREGA Scheme being labour-oriented and not flexible, should not be used beyond a point in RRR Scheme.

**The witnesses then withdrew.**

3. A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the sitting was kept for record.

The Committee then adjourned.

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## MINUTES – (iii)

### MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2011-12) HELD ON THURSDAY, 30 AUGUST 2012

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1545 hours in Room No. 62, First Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

#### PRESENT

Shri Dip Gogoi – Chairman

#### MEMBERS

##### LOK SABHA

2. Shri Pulin Bihari Baske
3. Shri Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan
4. Shri Haribhau Jawale
5. Shri S.P.Y. Reddy
6. Shri Arjun Roy
7. Shri Jagadanand Singh
8. Smt. Annu Tandon
9. Shri Sajjan Singh Verma

##### RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Anil Madhav Dave
11. Shri Kumar Deepak Das
12. Dr. Ashok S. Ganguly
13. Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilonia

#### SECRETARIAT

1. Shri T.G. Chandrasekhar - Director
2. Smt. Rita Jaikhanani - Additional Director
2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.
3. The Committee took up for consideration the draft Reports on

- (i) Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Eleventh Report (15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on "Review of Central Soil and Materials Research Station"; and
- (ii) Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies.

4. After deliberation, the Committee adopted the draft Report at Sl. No. (i) above without any modification. The Committee adopted the draft Report at Sl. No. (ii) above with the modifications/amendments shown in the Annexure.

5. The Committee then authorized the Chairman to finalize both the above mentioned Reports in the light of the amendments suggested and present the same to the Hon'ble Speaker/both the Houses of Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned

ANNEXURE

(MODIFICATIONS/AMENDMENTS MADE BY STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES IN THEIR DRAFT REPORT ON REPAIR, RENOVATION AND RESTORATION OF WATER BODIES AT THEIR SITTING HELD ON 30 AUGUST 2012)

Page 13,  
Para 2.21  
Line 7

For .....an alarming number of water bodies are becoming permanently unusable but the Government have no precise figures with them.

Read “....an alarming number of water bodies are becoming permanently unusable. What the Committee find worrisome and unpleasant to note in this regard is that despite clearly identifying the causes for deterioration of the quality of water, the Government has not cared to compile precise figures on the number and status of water bodies.”

Page 34,  
Para No. 3.39  
Line 5

For ....which dents a gaping loop-hole in the otherwise laudable scheme.

Read “....which dents a gaping loop-hole in the otherwise laudable scheme, particularly as it is a necessity to preserve the water bodies.”

Page 36  
Para No. 3.41

After They would like to be apprised of further action taken by Government in this regard.

Add The Committee would also like to emphasise on the need for ensuring proper coordination amongst the Ministries concerned in executing the programme.

Page 42  
Para No. 4.12  
Line 7

For .....and crucial loan repayment by the States to World Bank, so that no scope for default is left in this regard, which could adversely dent India's credit worthiness in the eyes of international financial institutions.

Read ....as well as loan repayment.

## **MINUTES – (iv)**

### **MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES (2012-13) HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2012**

The Committee sat from 1130 hours to 1200 hours in Committee Room 'D', Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

#### **PRESENT**

Shri Dip Gogoi – Chairman

#### **MEMBERS**

##### **LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Kamlesh Balmiki
3. Dr. Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan
4. Shri Badri Ram Jakhar
5. Shri Haribhau Jawale
6. Shri Mangani Lal Mandal
7. Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao
8. Dr. P. Venugopal

##### **RAJYA SABHA**

9. Shri Balwinder Singh Bhunder
10. Smt. Vandana Chavan
11. Shri Kumar Deepak Das
12. Shri Palvai Govardhan Reddy
13. Shri A.V. Swamy

#### **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri T.G. Chandrasekhar - Director
2. Smt. Rita Jailkhani - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the draft Reports on (i) Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Eleventh Report (15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on "Review of Central Soil and Materials Research Station"; and (ii) Repair,

Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies. After deliberation, the Committee adopted the above two draft Reports without any modification.

3. The Committee then authorized the Chairman to present the above two Reports to both the Houses of Parliament in the ensuing Session.

The Committee then adjourned

## Appendix – I



# Joint Convergence Guideline

**National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA)**

(Ministry of Rural Development)

**&**

**Programmes of Water Resources**

(Ministry of Water Resources)

## ACRONYMS

1. AWP	Annual Work Plan
2. AIBP	Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme
3. BPL	Below Poverty Line
4. BRG	Block Resource Group
5. CEO	Chief Executive Officer
6. CAD	Command Area development
7. CADWM	Command Area Development and Water Management
8. DLIC	District Level Implementation Committee
9. DPC	District Programme Coordinator
10. DRG	District Resource Group
11. ERM	Extension, Renovation & Modernization
12. GP	Gram Panchayat
13. IAY	Indira Awas Yojana
14. IEC	Information Education & Communication
15. IP	Intermediate Panchayat
16. LR	Land Reform
17. MIS	Management Information System
18. MORD	Ministry of Rural Development
19. MOWR	Ministry of Water Resources
20. NREGA	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
21. NREGS	National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
22. OFD	On- Farm Development
23. PRIs	Panchayati Raj Institutions
24. PMU	Project Management Unit
25. RD	Rural Development
26. RRR	Repair, Renovation and Restoration
27. SC	Scheduled Caste
28. ST	Scheduled Tribe
29. SGSY	Swaranjayanti Grameen Swarozgar Yojana
30. TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
31. WR	Water Resources
32. WUA	Water Users Association
33. ZP	Zila Parishad



## **1. NREGA: Introduction**

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), notified on September 7, 2005, marked a paradigm shift from the previous wage employment programmes with its rights-based approach that makes the Government legally accountable for providing employment to those who demand it. The Act aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

The primary objective of the Act is augmenting wage employment. Its auxiliary objective is strengthening natural resource management through works that address causes of chronic poverty like drought/ Degradation of land in command areas and so encourage sustainable development. Further, NREGA by encouraging works on water harvesting, soil conservation, Irrigation, flood protection, afforestation and plantation, helps to insulate local community from adverse effects of climate change the process outcomes include strengthening grass root processes of democracy and infusing transparency and accountability in governance.

Under NREGA large sums of public investments are made. Leveraging these investments towards sustainable livelihood requires inter-sectoral convergence. Since NREGA planning is decentralized and funds transferred are untied, works can be planned/ structured and executed as per local specific requirements. NREGA thus becomes a significant entry point for convergence with other development programmes.

Such inter sectoral convergence becomes instrumental towards

- ™ Establishing synergy among different government programmes in planning & implementation to optimize use of public investments
- ™ Enhancing economic Opportunities
- ™ Strengthening Democratic Processes
- ™ Mitigating the effects of Climate Change
- ™ Creating conditions for sustainable Development

## **2. Convergence:**

Convergence is an evolving process and while broad principles can be laid out at the Centre, the actual contours of convergence will be determined by the resources at the district and the field level. Also, to fully identify the possibilities of convergence, it may be necessary to make a beginning with select programmes, so that the experience of implementation may further deepen to refine strategies for convergence.

With this perspective, a Task Force on Convergence with NREGA was set up with representatives from different Ministries and Departments, implementing programmes with complementarities with NREGA. The Task Force recommended beginning with select



programmes of select Ministries. The Ministry of Water Resources which was represented on the Task Force was identified as an important partner to NREGA, as more than 50% of NREGA works relate to water conservation/ management. Possibilities of convergence between NREGA and the programmes of MoWR were discussed between the two Ministries and based on these discussions, convergence areas and modalities were identified and the following guidelines for convergence of water conservation/ irrigation works taken up under NREGA and under the programmes of the MoWR are being issued.

### **3. Convergence between NREGA and Programmes of MoWR.**

Convergence between NREGA and Programmes of MoWR is mutually beneficial. There is a gap between the irrigation potential created and that utilised. Many of the irrigation projects in the country have also been under operation below their potential due to inadequate maintenance, which is one of the important factor for reduced irrigation efficiency at project level. This has resulted in the problem of low efficiency of water usage and low productivity. Increasing trend of water logging, salinity and alkalinity is offsetting the advantages of irrigation by rendering the affected areas unproductive or under-productive. The process of reclamation is far exceeded by an additional area becoming water logged and saline/alkaline.

There are seven programme of MOWR being implemented in the country with works similar or complementary to NREGA works. Details may be seen in **Annexure 1**.

### **4. Parameters of Convergence:**

Works identified under NREGA for convergence will be planned and executed within the parameters of NREGA i.e.

- a) The cost of material component of projects including the wages of the skilled and semi-skilled workers taken up under the scheme shall not exceed forty percent of the total project cost.
- b) As far as practicable, a task funded under the scheme shall be performed by using manual labor and not machines.
- c) No Contractors will be engaged.

### **5. Modalities for Convergence**

In operational terms, convergence of activities under various schemes of Ministry of Water Resources with NREGS will require coordination between these programmes at the levels of

5.1 Management

5.2 Planning

5.3 Works

#### **5.1 Management**

5.1.1) The District Programme Coordinator, NREGA (Collector/CEO) will constitute a District Resource Group(DRG) at the district level with representatives from the Water Resources Department, Department of Rural Development( NREGA and SGSY) and Panchayati Raj and a similar resource group at the Block level (BRG) will also be constituted.

### 5.1.2) The groups will facilitate

- a. **Knowledge sharing.** Familiarization of all the members of the group on guidelines of Water Resources schemes and NREGS. This will clarify the programme parameters for convergence.
- b. **Planning.** Since under both programmes, there are ongoing activities as well as those that have to be planned afresh, the group will have to determine the nature of interventions in the ongoing works and lay down a planning process that conforms to the guidelines of both programmes for the activities that have to be planned anew.
- c. **Communication.** Since both programmes aim at participatory processes, effective IEC with the local community, user groups, workers will have to be planned and implemented. ..
- d. **Training:** Training of personnel/agencies responsible for NREGS and Programmes of Water Resources must be planned and implemented
- e. **Technical support:** Techno-feasible norms for works selection, technical designs and appropriate technologies for water bodies restoration/water harvesting/ ground water recharge/Irrigation projects, etc. will have to be formulated by technical experts available with Water Resources Department who would also provide technical support for supervision and evaluation of NREGA works so that they conform to appropriate designs and technologies.
- f. **Resource Pooling:**
  - i. **Human Resources:** Under NREGA dedicated personnel are to be deployed. NREGA also permits dedicated personnel for works. Such personnel should be appropriately trained by the professionals of the WR Dept in water management technologies.
  - ii. **Financial:** Information on financial resources available and expected to be made available in the ensuing years will be shared. This will determine the quantum of works/activities that can be taken up and indicate where activity convergence will enable gap-filling or augmentation in scale/value and list out activities to be funded under both the programmes separately.
  - iii. **Informational:** Data management could be converged through the use of MIS of NREGS which provides work wise/ beneficiary wise details. Any additional feature required by the WR Dept may be incorporated in the NREGS MIS, after discussion with the Ministry of RD. The GIS for ground water data developed by WR Dept may be made available for use for planning and executing NREGA water related works.
- g. **Monitoring and evaluation.** Joint monitoring and supervision of activities should be planned. Baseline assessment, Concurrent appraisal and documentation and evaluation of impact of WR schemes and NREGS on a set of indicators for creation of irrigation potential ground water recharge and efficient use of irrigation systems and their effectiveness in responding to the needs of the community could be initiated. Quantification of benefits of works undertaken could also be taken up.

### 5.2 Planning:

Guidelines of NREGA stipulate the formulation of perspective plan to facilitate advance planning and to provide a development perspective for the district. The aim is to identify the types of NREGA works that should be encouraged in the district and the potential linkages between these works and long term employment generation and sustained development. The NREGA perspective plan identifies the needs and gaps in the district in all sectors, not just related to works permissible under NREGA. Thus, the planning of water resources projects

is a necessary factor in the NREGA perspective plan. Multilayer planning of projects of WR Dept can be dovetailed in the NREGA perspective plan.

The Annual Work Plan (AWP) of NREGA lists the shelf of projects recommended by the Gram Sabha and finalized by the Gram Panchayat/IP/ZP. AWP will be broadly based on the perspective plan but must be endorsed by the Gram Sabha/PRI as per the Act. The NREGA plan will be based on the permissible works under Schedule I of the Act.

For this purpose, Block level resource persons may be trained on the methodology of convergence between WR schemes and NREGS. They will guide the Gram Sabha in preparing the Village Plan, so that the AWP of NREGS accommodates the requirements of the WR projects of WR department in a complementary manner and the selection of works, and their sequence is dovetailed into a well-linked programme.

The institutional platform for such dovetailing will be the Gram Sabha at the village level, and then the GP. The Programme Officer and the BRG at the Block level and the DPC and the DRG at the district level, will ensure that the selection of works under NREGS and WR programmes are in mutual coordination. The DRG will ensure that in converging the plans of both the programmes, technical quality of the plan is maintained as per the norms of water resources programmes. The Department of Water Resources will share its database of ground/surface water resources for that district with the group to enable the formulation of feasible water related projects as a result of NREGA planning process.

For integrated development of irrigated area, it is necessary that the **project of a village is prepared on Command Area Development approach, integrating all the activities into a project.** In this project, the activities allowed under NREGA and those to be covered under schemes of MoWR may be clearly indicated.

All the works/ activities required for the integrated development of the command area will be shown clearly in terms of the size of area/ work, estimated cost, and the programme under which these are to be covered, so as to ensure that all the required works/activities have been proposed and there is no duplicity. A typical exercise is given at **Annexure-2.**

The Command area proposed for development under NREGA and the area under ongoing programmes of MOWR have to be incorporated in **the projects separately.** However, **with every project report, a statement showing different works/activities proposed under different programmes be attached,** so that it is ensured that all the required works/activities have been proposed and also there is no duplicity.

Since the District Collector / CEO Zila Parishad are coordinators of programmes at district level related to Agriculture Development, therefore, they should converge all these programmes starting from planning to monitoring, for integrated development of the area.

### **5.3 Works:**

Works under NREGS may be of four categories: (i) Works approved in the current year but not yet started (ii) Ongoing works (iii) Works completed (iv) Works yet to be selected for the next financial year (as part of the annual planning process). Therefore, convergence would need to be planned, keeping in view of these varying stages of works.

The operation may be undertaken at three levels. In case of the first scenario, where works have been included in the shelf of projects, but not started yet, the Shelf of projects formulated under NREGS may be re-scrutinized to assess the feasibility of works selected. The Water Resources department may share their data base on ground/surface water resources in that area/district so that it may be assessed to appropriate selection of works. In case of the second and third scenarios, the expertise of the Water Resources department should be marshalled for quality supervision, and in planning the next set of activities. The List of works completed/ taken up will be shared with Dept. of Water Resources which will indicate appropriate activities/technologies for each work for value addition. In case of planning new works, the suggestions given above in Para 5.2 may be considered.

**6. Convergence** through works may be effected in any of the following ways:

- A. Gap filling through NREGS for similar work under Water Resources Schemes
- B. Dovetailing inputs into a Common Project
- C. Area Approach
- D. Value addition through NREGA works
- E. Technical support for ensuring quality in planning, selection and execution of NREGA works

#### **A) Gap Filling/ Enhancing scale**

Under this, permissible works may be converged for Gap Filling/ Enhancing scale resources for common needs and inputs.

#### **I) Artificial Recharge of Ground Water under the schemes of Dug well recharge and Ground Water Management and Regulation:**

Artificial recharge of ground water is one of the most efficient ground water management tools for ensuring sustainability of ground water resources. Many areas of the country having limited aquifer storage potential are facing acute problems of over exploitation and depletion of ground water resources. Presently two schemes viz. Dug well recharge scheme and Ground Water Management and Regulation are being implemented under Ministry of Water Resources. These programmes may be integrated with NREGA initiatives/projects.

#### **II) Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies:**

The Scheme of RRR of Water Bodies includes the comprehensive improvement of selected tank systems, catchment area treatment, command area development and capacity building of stakeholders. There is a provision of Rs. 2750 crore for these works during XI Plan. Under different programmes, the Govt. of India and the State Governments channelize

funds, which can easily meet the requirement of funding some of the components of projects relating to RRR of water bodies. However, in order to projectise this investment in a way that can facilitate comprehensive rehabilitation and subsequent management of the water bodies, it is necessary that these partial investments are dovetailed and integrated with investments under NREGS.

The convergence of this project with related activities under NREGA will maximise benefits. Accordingly, common projects may be prepared and implemented.

### **III) Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP):**

This programme is for Major, Medium and Minor Irrigation Projects and Extension, Renovation & Modernization of Irrigation projects which (a) having investment clearance of Planning Commission can be completed in the next four financial years (b) are not receiving any other form of financial assistance. This programme is being implemented throughout the country. Surface Minor Irrigation Schemes of the states of North East, Hilly states (HP, Sikkim, J&K and Uttaranchal) and drought prone and tribal districts are also eligible for assistance under the programme.

Central grant at the rate of 90% of the estimated cost for completion of the project is provided in the special category states, projects in KBK districts in Orissa and project benefitting the tribal areas, drought prone and flood prone areas. For major and medium projects in other areas central grant is provided at the rate of 25% of the estimated cost.

The earth works like embankment construction, desilting of canal etc., minor irrigation schemes can also be taken up under NREGA with close coordination and planning with the project implementing agencies.

### **IV) Flood Management Programme:**

Flood Management Works like construction/ raising and strengthening of embankments, anti-erosion works, drainage development, flood proofing works etc. are being funded by the Ministry of Water Resources under the Flood Management Programme. Smaller schemes costing up to Rs. one crore involving the labour oriented flood management works, and not covered under this programme can be taken up under NREGA.

### **B) Dovetailing inputs into a common Project:**

#### **I) Farmer's Participatory Action Research Programme (FPARP):**

Ministry of Water Resources is implementing this programme at 5,000 sites throughout the country. Under this programme new irrigation technologies developed by various agricultural universities, research institutes, etc. are being demonstrated to farmers as a measure of creating awareness amongst farmers to save water. There are number of technologies where involvement of manpower is of very high magnitude such as construction of Jal Kund, in situ moisture conservation, etc. These programmes can also be taken up under NREGA.

## **C) Area Approach**

### **I) Command Area Development & Water Management Programme (CADWM):**

Command area development and water management programme aims at efficient utilisation of irrigation water for optimising agricultural productivity and production from irrigated lands in a coordinated manner on a sustainable basis and increasing the pace of tackling the problem of waterlogging by bringing in newer technologies like sub- surface drainage and bio-drainage under the realm of this programme.

The works allowed under NREGA are such that they cover almost all the activities required for Command Area Development. Planning NREGA works with command area development from outlet of drain of a command area to Water source will yield benefits in terms of better utilisation of irrigation potential created, better efficiency of water use, increase in intensity of irrigation, increase in agriculture production and productivity, increase in farmer's income etc.

#### **Works/ activities required under CADWM are-**

- i) Renovation and de-silting of existing irrigation tanks and control structures within the irrigated Commands.
- ii) Correction of system deficiencies above outlet up to distributaries of 4.25 cumec (150 cusec) capacity.
- iii) Construction of field channels
- iv) Full package On- Farm Development (OFD) Works including Field channels, realignment of field boundaries, land levelling/ shaping.
- v) Construction of Field, intermediate and Link drains
- vi) Land levelling and shaping
- vii) Conjunctive use of surface water and ground water- It serves the dual purpose of increasing the area under irrigation on the one hand through supplementing canal water for irrigation and reduces water logging on the other.
- viii) Reclamation of water logged areas in irrigated commands of CAD Projects.

Out of these activities, three activities at Sl. No. i), vi) and vii) have now been deleted from CADWM, however, these activities are permitted under NREGA.

The work of Irrigation Canal is also permitted under NREGA. Therefore, under the activity, "Correction of system deficiencies above outlet up to distributaries of 150 cusec capacity", the complete work or the earthwork part can also be taken up under NREGA as a gap filling, wherever required.

Similarly, the work of Irrigation facility, Land Development, is covered under NREGA. Therefore, these works on the Individual land of SC/ST/BPL/ Beneficiary of Land Reform and IAY can be carried out under NREGA as a gap filling and on Individual land of other than SC/ST/BPL/ Beneficiary of Land Reform and IAY can be carried out under CADWM.

In view of above, for integrated development of Command area, the project of a Command area should be prepared by integrating all the activities into a whole project with convergence. Activities allowed under NREGA be planned / covered under NREGA and left over work be covered under programmes of the Ministry of Water Resources.

**The convergence has been elaborated in detail at Annexure-2.**

**D. Value Addition:**

The work of Canal plantation may be carried out in the Command area under NREGA as value addition. The work of Canal fair weather road can also be taken up under NREGA.

**E. Technical support:**

The technical norms i.e. required Survey, Planning, Design as per Technical Manual being used by the WR department, is to be followed, so that the works are sustainable, productive and economical. For illustration, in Command Area Development and water Management Programme, Planning, Designing and specification are to be followed as per the Guidelines / manual of Water Resource Department.

**7. Cost Norms:**

Under NREGA, there is neither cost norm for the area nor unit cost for work / Activity. However, the unit cost for works/ activity in Command areas to be carried out under NREGS will also be as per cost norms / unit cost under CADWM, AIBP and RRR of Water Bodies of Water Resource Department in the area/ local requirement.

**8. Execution:**

i) 50 % of Works under NREGA like Desilting of tanks and canals, Construction of Field Channel, Field Drains etc. which are labor intensive can be executed by the Panchayat with the guidance of District Level Implementation Committee of water resource programmes and concerned Technical staff of Water Resource Department.

ii) 50% work in the Command area under NREGA, like Correction of system deficiencies above outlet up to distributaries of 150 cusec and construction of intermediate and Link drains etc. be assigned to the concerned water user associations. In Water User's Associations, which are constituted in every Command area, one member from Panchayat should be co-opted in such areas.

In the areas, not covered under CADWM project, these Works/ activities should be assigned to the concerned line department i.e. Water Resource Department.

**9. Monitoring:**

The Ministries of Water Resources and Rural Development will jointly monitor the implementation of the scheme and ensure concurrent evaluation through quarterly physical and financial reports, inspection visits, meetings with senior officers of the State Governments, workshops for experience sharing, learning and dissemination and impact assessment studies, etc. The social audit of the project(s) should be carried out by the concerned Gram Sabha. The monitoring of the work(s) should be done with the association of

the Standing Committee of the Panchayat at the appropriate level. At the village level, the focal point for organization and implementation of project will be the WUA of command area farmers and other eligible tank users such as fisherman etc. The WUA will play an active role in the planning, implementation, supervision, maintenance of tank systems and other necessary activities. The WUA should report to the Gram Sabha in these matters from time to time. However, for the convergence of different programmes with NREGS the monitoring agency independent of the construction agency will be appropriate. District Collector who is District Programme Coordinator NREGA as well as head of DLIC will monitor all aspects of implementation and convergence and thereby bring about a qualitative improvement in the implementation of the programmes.

**10. Post Project Management:**

Post Project Management, particularly after completion of the project, for sustainability is very necessary. Therefore, all projects, depending on the nature of works involved in these projects, after completion should be handed over to Water Users' Associations/PRI/Departments concerned, as the case may be, for their use and related repair and maintenance etc.

**11. Non -Negotiable in work execution:**

- a. Only Job Card holders to be employed for NREGA component.
- b. Muster rolls to be maintained on work site, with copies in the Gram Panchayat and to be electronically maintained on nrega.nic.in
- c. Social Audits to be done through Gram Sabhas.
- d. Wage payments will be through no-frills accounts in Banks/Post Office

**12. Pilots for convergence of programmes:**

In selected districts representing a bio-geographic, pilot projects on convergence may be taken up. These will be operationalised in accordance with the processes suggested above. The pilots will be like action research and will be concurrently evaluated for identifying further possibilities and up scaling.

**13. Funding will be through NREGA and WR programmes:** Procedure for settlement of accounts, inclusion of projects, establishing coordination at different levels for effective implementation of converged project proposals, details of monitoring and evaluation etc. will be decided subsequently in consultation with concerned State Governments wherein the pilot projects are taken.



**Annexure-1: Objective, funding, subsidy, unit cost, norms, area coverage, institutional framework etc. under NREGS and the different programmes of water resource department are as follows--**

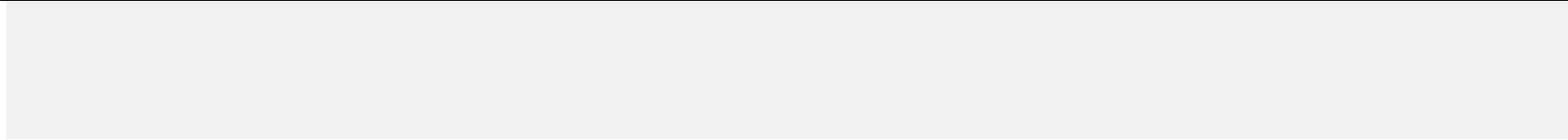
S.N O	Content	NREGS	Programmes under Water Resource Department						
			Command Area Development & Water Management (CADWM) (D)	Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies. (E)	Dug well Recharge Scheme (F)	Ground water management and Regulation Scheme. (G)	Flood Control and River management Works. (H)	Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) (I)	Farmer's participation Action Research Programme (FPARP). (J)
1.	<b>Objective</b>	i) To enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled	Efficient utilization of created irrigation potential.	To restore and augment storage capacities of water bodies., and also to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential	To recharge ground water	To demonstrate the efficacy of artificial recharge & rain water harvesting techniques.	To take up flood management works in an integrated manner.	Major, medium, and minor irrigation projects and Extension, Renovation & modernization of major and medium irrigation projects.	Field demonstration of technologies developed by the institutes which will enhance yield and income per drop of water.

		manual work. ii) Creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor.							
2.	<b>Funding/ Subsidy</b>	i) 100% on unskilled labour and ii) 75 % of the Cost of material and wages for skilled and semi-skilled workers.	Funding pattern of 50: 50 between centre and states, State share include 10 % contribution by the beneficiary. On software activities subsidy 100 to 75%.	Funding pattern of 25: 75 between centre and states for water bodies under domestic support for non-special category states and 90:10 for special category states as well as naxal affected/ drought prone/ tribal areas. For externally aided programmes (EAP), 75% is loan taken from the world bank and passed on to the concerned states on back to back basis and is to be repaid by the states. The balance 25% is taken as liability of GOI	100% subsidy to Marginal & Small farmers. 50% subsidy to other farmers.	100% funding from Central Government.	Special Category States- 90:10 between centre and states. Other States- 75:25 between centre and states. For restoration of damaged flood management works-90:10 between centre and states.	Central grant 90% to special category states (North-Eastern States, drought prone area, tribal area & flood prone area). 25% to Non-special category states.	100% funding from MoWR . Expenditure incurred above the approved cost will be borne by the Institutes themselves.

				which is also taken as loan from the World bank. Central funding in form of grant to the State.					
3.	<b>Unit Cost/ Cost norms</b>	Nil	i) Correction of system deficiencies above Outlet up to distributaries of 150cusec capacity – Rs. 4000 per ha. To Field Drains--- Rs. 5000 per ha.	Rs.40000-45000 per hectare.	Unit cost Rs. 3600 to Rs. 5700, varying from state to state	As per local requirement	As per local requirement	project cost based on design and B.S.R.	Rs. 50,000/- or the approved cost per demonstration whichever is less, limited to 100 demonstration per institute.
4.	<b>Area coverage</b>	Entire country.	Command areas of Major & Medium Irrigation Project in Plane areas and Minor irrigation Project also	Water bodies having original irrigation culturable command area of 20 ha. Up to 2000 hectare will be considered under externally aided programme. For scheme under domestic support, the	Hard rock areas in the states of A.P., Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.	Over- exploited/ Critical blocks, urban areas showing steep decline in GW, Drought prone & water scarcity area, Costal areas, Sub-mountainous/	Entire country	Projects on eligibility criteria from Entire country.	Command areas

			in Hilly areas.	proposals will be for irrigation as well as for non irrigation tanks. Private owned water bodies not covered.		hilly areas, Areas with geogenic contamination of GW.			
5.	<b>Institutional framework</b>	i) Central Employment Guarantee Council ii) State employment Guarantee Council iii) District Panchayat iv) Intermediate Panchayat v) Village Panchayat, gram sabha <b>District Collector is the District coordinator NREGA</b>	i) State Level Committee. ii) Water Users Association	i) State Technical Advisory committee. ii) District level Implementation Committee. <b>Chaired by District collector.</b> iii) Water Users Association.	i) State Level Steering Committee (SLSC) ii) District level Implementation Committee. <b>Chaired by District collector.</b>	i) State level Technical Coordination Committee (SLTCC) ii) Local Technical Coordination Committee (LTCC) <b>Chaired by District collector</b>	i) State TAC, State Flood control Board. ii) Water Resources Department	i) State Level Committee	

6.	<b>Convergence</b>	Convergence of NREGA funds with funds from other sources for the creation of durable assets is permissible	The drafted schemes henceforth should provide clear Linkages, Integration and convergence to such schemes for holistic development.	Issues on convergence of the project with related activities under other schemes should be achieved and this aspect should be brought out clearly.		The work would be implemented as per guidelines framed under NREGS by the MORD.		Earth works like Desilting of canal etc.	
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**Annexure-2:**A typical exercise on the identification of the works/ activities to be covered under NREGS, CADWM, AIBP, Dug Well Recharge and Ground Water Management and Regulation Scheme, Flood Management Programme, FPARP and RRR of water bodies of Water Resource Department, separately with the size of area/ work, estimated cost, programme under which proposed and the year in which proposed.

**Name of Command area: -----, Area of the Command ----- Name of Village: -----, Name of Panchayat/Block/District:**

S.No.	Work/Activity	Kind of Area	Size of area /work	Estimated Cost (lak h)	Programme Under which Proposed	Year in which Proposed			
						2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
<b>(i)</b>	<b><u>Renovation of traditional water bodies/ Desilting</u></b>								
	a) Renovation and de-silting of existing irrigation tanks.	Common land /Government land			NREGA				
	a) Renovation and de-silting of existing irrigation tanks and control structures within the irrigated Commands.	Common land /Government land			RRR of water bodies/ CADWM Programme				
<b>(ii)</b>	<b><u>Irrigation canals including minor irrigation</u></b>								
	a) Major, Medium, and Extension, Renovation & Modernization	land acquired by the Govt. for			AIBP				

	irrigation projects (other than earth work and desilting).	construction.							
	b)Major, Medium, and Extension, Renovation & Modernization irrigation projects (Earth work and desilting).				NREGA/AIBP				
	c)Minor Irrigation Schemes				NREGA/AIBP				
	d) Correction of system deficiencies above outlet up to distributaries of 4.25 cumec (150 cusec) capacity. (Earth work)	-----do----- --			NREGA				
	e) Correction of system deficiencies above outlet up to distributaries of 4.25 cumec (150 cusec) capacity. (other than earth work)	-----do-----			CADWM Programme				
<b>(iii)</b>	<b><u>Irrigation facility</u></b>								
	a)Survey, Planning and designing of OFD works	Complete Command Area			CADWM Programme				
	b)Construction of field channels	Individual land of SC/ST/BPL/ beneficiary of LR/IAY			NREGA				
	b)Construction of field channels	Individual land of other than SC/ST/BPL/benefy of LR/IAY			CADWM Programme				

<b>(iv)</b>	<b><u>Ground Water recharge</u></b> a)Artificial recharge through Dug well	All lands requiring recharge			NREGA/ Dug well Recharge/ G.W. mgt & Regulation				
<b>(v)</b>	<b><u>Land Development</u></b>								
	a) Full package On- Farm Development (OFD) Works including Field channels, realignment of field boundaries, land levelling/ shaping	Individual land of SC/ST/BPL/ beneficiary of LR/IAY			NREGA				
	a) Full package OFD Works including Field channels, realignment of field boundaries, land levelling/ shaping	Individual land of other than SC/ST/BPL/beneficiary of LR/IAY			CADWM programme				
	b)Land levelling and shaping	Individual land of SC/ST/BPL/ beneficiary of LR/IAY			NREGA				
	c) Land Development	Common land			NREGA				
<b>(vi)</b>	<b><u>Flood Control/ Drainage in water logged</u></b>								
	a) Flood Management Works like construction/ raising and strengthening of embankments, anti erosion works drainage development and flood proofing, etc.  (Costing up to 1 crore)	All land requiring works			Flood Management Programme/N REGA				
	b) Construction of drains.	-----do-----			NREGA				



	c) Reclamation of waterlogged areas/ drainage	-----do-----			NREGA/ CADWM programme				
	d)Bio-drainage	-----do-----			NREGA/ CADWM programme				
	d) Conjunctive use	Individual land of SC/ST/BPL/ beneficiary of LR/IAY			NREGA				
<b>(vii)</b>	<b>Plantation</b>								
	Canal Plantation	Common /Government land			NREGA				
<b>(viii)</b>	<b>Popularisation of New Technological for efficient use of water</b>				FPARP				
	a)Demonstration								
	b) In situ moisture conservation works	Command area			NREGA/FPA RP				
<b>(ix)</b>	<b>Rural connectivity</b>	-----do-----			NREGA				
		Common land/ forest land/Canal Road			NREGA				

**LIST OF DISTRICTS IDENTIFIED FOR CONVERGENCE BETWEEN NREGS AND SCHEMES OF MOWR**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>District names</b>
1	A. P.	Karimnagar, Kurnool, Nalgonda, Chittoor, Khammam, Mehboobnagar, Medak
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Pumpumpre, East Siang
3	Assam	Bongaigaon, Lakhimpur, Darrang, NC Hills
4	Bihar	Vaishali, Muzaffarpur, Goplaganj, Saran, Gaya, Jamui, Nawada
5	Chhattisgarh	Surguja, Bastar, Kabirdham, Rajnandgaon, Raipur
6	Gujarat	Dahod, Dang, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha
7	H. P	Kangra, Solan, Mandi, Sirmaur
8	Jharkhand	East Singhbhum, Chatra, Koderma, Gumla, Palamu, Deoghar, Jamtara
9	Karnataka	Gulbargh, Gadag, Hassan, Chikmagalur, Kolar, Shimoga
10	Kerala	Malappuram, Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram
11	M. P.	Mandla, Jhabua, Betul, Panna, Devas
12	Manipur	Thoubal, Churachandpur
13	Meghalaya	West Garo hills, Ribhoi
14	Maharashtra	Satara, Dhule, Amaravati, Nandubar, Akola, Pune
15	Orissa	Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Bolangir, Bargarh
16	Punjab	Hoshiarpur, Ropar
17	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Jalore, Dungarpur, Bikaner, Sikar, Kota, Tonk
18	Tamil Nadu	Dindigul, Villupuram, Kanyakumar, Pudukkottai, Sivaganga
19	Uttar Pradesh	Gonda, Banda, Lalitpur, Pratapgarh, Allahabad, Chitrakoot, Jalaun, Jhansi, Hardoi
20	Uttaranchal	Champawat, Nainital, Uttarkashi
21	West Bengal	Bankura, Bardwan, Birbhum, Purulia

## Appendix – II

No. 4-4/2011-WB  
Government of India  
Ministry of Water Resources  
Minor Irrigation Division

Room No. 3, B Wing, Ground Floor,  
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi, dated: 18.9.2012

**Subject: Standing Committee on Water Resources – Draft report on “Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies”**

**Reference: O.M. No. 16/5/WR/2011 dated 17.08.2012.**

I am directed to refer to your letter on the subject mentioned above. The draft report has been examined and found to be in order. However the comments/ suggestion of MoWR on the draft report are enclosed herewith for information and appropriate action. As desired a copy of the draft report (in original) is being returned herewith.

Encl: As above

Sd/-  
(S.L. Jain)  
Senior Joint Commissioner (MI)  
Telefax No. 23387834  
E.Mail: [sl.jain@nic.in](mailto:sl.jain@nic.in)

To

Ms. Rita Jaikhani,  
Additional Director,  
Lok Sabha Secretariat,  
Room No. 609, 6<sup>th</sup> floor,  
Parliament House Annexe,  
New Delhi-110001.

## **Comments / Observation on Draft Report on Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies**

The Draft Report on Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies has been thoroughly examined and following comments are made:

### **Chapter I: Para 1.6**

This para describes about the basic features of the scheme for RRR of water bodies with domestic component. Therefore, one para giving details of this scheme may be added before Para 1.6 as detailed below:

Subsequently, Government had approved a State Sector Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies with two components (i) one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs. 1250/- crore and (ii) another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs. 1500/- crore for implementation during XI Five Year Plan. A sum of Rs. 841.91 crore has since been released under the scheme of RRR of water bodies with domestic support till date for taking up 3341 water bodies in 12 states. Out of 3341 water bodies, works have been completed in 1481 water bodies.

### **Chapter 3: Section A: Basic features of the Scheme**

Para 3.2 describes the scheme for RRR of water bodies with domestic support. Just before Para 3.2 describes about the Pilot Scheme of RRR approved during X Plan. Therefore, to make more clarity, a paragraph about the scheme for RRR during XI Plan may be added as detailed below:

Subsequently, Government had approved a State Sector Scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies with two components (i) one with domestic support with an outlay of Rs. 1250/- crore and (ii) another with external assistance with an outlay of Rs. 1500/- crore for implementation during XI Five Year Plan.

#### **Para 3.10**

Following words may be inserted between water bodies and is  
For implementation during XII Plan

#### **Para 3.12**

Funds released during XI Plan were Rs. 811.85 crore not Rs. 731.40 crore mentioned in the Draft Report.

The table 3.16 mentioned in the Draft Report has been updated and is enclosed herewith as Annexure-1.

#### **Para 3.17**

The funds released to Govt. of Rajasthan has been updated as given below

The State Govt. of Rajasthan has been released Rs. 7.07 during the year 2011-12 for RRR of water bodies for undertaking activities in 16 water bodies.

The table 5.1 given on page 31-32 has been updated and enclosed herewith as Annexure-2

**Table 3.16**  
**Funds released to States under the Scheme of RRR of Water Bodies with domestic support**

(Rupees in crores)

Name of State	No. of Water Bodies	Total Project cost	Committed Central Share	Fund released during 2009-10	Fund released during 2010-11	Fund released during 2011-12	Fund released during 2012-13	Total released funds
Orissa	1321	254.33	228.89	72.12	75.00	70.33		217.45
Karnataka	427	232.77	209.49	74.04	47.47	77.51		199.02
Andhra Pradesh	1029	339.69	305.72		189.00			189.00
Bihar	15	64.45	55.30		25.00		27.54	52.54
U.P.(Budelkhand)	28	46.15	41.53		29.08			29.08
M.P.(Bundelkhand)	78	41.89	10.47		7.33	2.62		9.95
Meghalaya Umiam Lake	1	44.57 (Irrigation Related 2.83)	2.54		1.78	0.64		2.42
Maharashtra	258	135.08	119.34			80.53		80.53
Gujarat	34	17.47	15.72			10.61		10.61
Chattisgarh	131	122.91	110.61			34.68		34.68
Rajsthan	16	11.35	7.45			7.07		7.07
Haryana	3	40.24	10.06			7.04	2.52	9.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>3341</b>	<b>1350.9</b>	<b>1117.12</b>	<b>146.16</b>	<b>374.66</b>	<b>291.03</b>	<b>30.06</b>	<b>841.91</b>

**Table 5.1**  
**Work Completed as per reports received from**  
**Central Ground Water Board / State Governments.**

Name of State	No. of water bodies	Total project cost in crore	Committed Central Share	Fund released during 2009-10	Fund released during 2010-11	Fund released during 2011-12	Fund released during 2012-13	Number of water bodies completed	No. of water bodies in progress
Orissa	1321	254.33	228.89	72.12	75.00	70.33		1044	277
Karnataka	427	232.77	209.49	74.04	47.47	77.51		354	73
Andhra Pradesh	1029	339.69	305.72		189.00			N.A.	1029
Bihar	15	64.45	55.30		25.00	--	27.54	N.A.	15
U.P. (Bundelkhand)	28	46.15	41.53		29.08			N.A.	28
M.P. (Bundelkhand)	78	41.89	10.47		7.33	2.62		72	6
Meghalaya Umiam Lake	1	44.57 (Irrigation related 2.38)	2.54		1.78	0.64		N.A.	1
Chhattisgarh	131	122.91	110.61			34.68		N.A.	131
Gujarat	34	17.47	15.72			10.61		N.A.	34
Haryana	3	40.24	10.06			7.04	2.52	1	2
Maharashtra	258	135.08	119.34			80.53		N.A.	258
Rajasthan	16	11.35	7.45			7.07		10	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>3341</b>	<b>1350.9</b>	<b>1117.12</b>	<b>146.16</b>	<b>374.66</b>	<b>291.03</b>	<b>30.06</b>	<b>1481</b>	<b>1860</b>

**Appendix - III**

No. 4-4/2011-WB  
Government of India  
Ministry of Water Resources  
Minor Irrigation Division

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Room No. 3, B Wing, Ground Floor,  
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi, dated: 3.10.2012

Subject: Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources – Factual verification of the Draft Report on Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies

Reference: O.M. No. 16/5/WR/2011 dated 25.09.2012.

I am directed to refer to your letter on the above subject wherein Ministry of Water Resources were requested to indicate the reasons for variation in the data and also the reasons for delay in returning the factually verified report to the Committee Secretariat. It is to inform that Draft Report on scheme on RRR of water bodies is based on the information supplied by MoWR vide letter dated 19/24.1.2012. Since the Draft Report was received in the Ministry in the month of August, 2012, the information given in the Draft Report has been updated and some introductory information regarding scheme on RRR of water bodies to be implemented during XI Plan has been added before some para to bring out more clarity in the Report. The reason for delay in furnishing the comments on the above report is due to delay in receipt of information on latest physical progress report of works completed on number of water bodies taken up under the scheme of RRR of water bodies from State Government.

This issues with the approval of Commissioner (Projects).

(S.L. Jain)  
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To  
Shri T.G. Chandrasekhar,  
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Lok Sabha Secretariat,  
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