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Government of Rajasthan

Water Resources, PHED, SWRPD, GWD & IGNP Deptts

No: F(2) SPP-EC/SWRPD/SE(C&M)/NGO/642

Dated: 14/9/2011

CIRCULAR

Rajasthan is a water scarce State and per capita availability of water is decreasing day by day due to increasing population and climate change and in the future, the State may come in the category of absolute scarcity which would be a serious setback for its development. Therefore, it is necessary to take all necessary steps to conserve and efficiently use the available water resources to ensure their sustainability. In this context, the Government of Rajasthan has entered into an agreement with the European Union for implementing Water Sector Reforms in the State to address water management issues with the following objectives:

1. State-wide Water Sector Reforms towards sustainable and integrated water resources management;
2. In selected areas of Rajasthan, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are executing their responsibilities and achieving:
 - a. Equitable access to safe, adequate, affordable and sustainable water supply;
 - b. Conservation, stabilization and replenishment of surface and ground water.

The activities related to objective (1) are coordinated by the State Water Resources Planning Department (SWRPD) with participation of other water sector line departments.

For meeting objective (2), 26 agencies (NGO, Trust or Consortium) have been selected for 11 selected districts namely Barmer, Jalore, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Churu, Bikaner, Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Pali and Rajsamand. The tasks envisaged under the objective (2) in the project area of the selected districts include:

1. Build capacities of the VWHSC/ GP members through a 3-day training held in the gram panchayat itself; where necessary, the VWHSC will be strengthened;
2. Prepare GP IWRM plans through VWHSC involving gram sabha members, based on secondary data and primary data generated through PRA exercises.
3. Establish a Water Resource Centre in each block. Facilitate and monitor implementation of GP IWRM plans through WRC by convergence of schemes; provide continuous (handholding) support as necessary to the VWHSC during implementation; collect, compile, and collate all data generated at GP level and block level.
4. Ensure coordination between block level WRCs and District Level IWRM Teams and concerned district authorities for approval of IWRM plans, flow of funds and implementation.

Functions of block level Water Resource Centre established by the NGO's

- Social mobilization for water management on IWRM principles;
- Formation/strengthening of Water User Groups, now named as Village Water Health and Sanitation Committees (VWHSC) through a government order;
- Working with VWHSC to prepare GP-IWRM plan with the objective of approval by the gram sabha and the District IWRM Team;

P.T.O.

- Preparing proposals as necessary, based on GP-IWRM plan, for seeking funding support from existing schemes and projects such as MNREGA, TSC and Finance Commissions, MPLADS, MLALADS and from the EU SPP; keeping convergence of funds principle;
- Implementation of IWRM plans through GPs;
- Providing support such as IEC material and literature, and administrative handholding as necessary to the VWHSC/gram sabha members;
- Organising technical and social support as needed by the GPs/VWHSC/gram sabha, including from the line departments;
- Establish an internal system of coordination and monitoring of GP level activities within the block and reporting to the District IWRM team, block level nodal officer, and BDO;
- Taking immediate corrective measures where necessary to ensure smooth progress and achievement of targets etc.
- Organising data collected through IWRM plan activity in formats (to be provided by the Client) and submitting the same in electronic form to the District IWRM Team on quarterly basis.

To coordinate and activities in each district and to approve the funding of these activities, district IWRM teams have already been constituted by Pr. Secretary, PHED vide circular No. PS/WR, PHED/2009 dated 16.10.2009 comprising the following members: SE (WRD) Convenor, SE (PHED)/EE (PHED), EE (Water shed), Sr. Hydrologist/ Hydrologist, GWD with Assistant Engineer/Junior Engineer of WRD of the concerned block and also authorized by SWRPD for the above work with Executive Engineer, WRD of concerned district as officer in charge for the program.

For effective implementation of the program, following supportive role and responsibilities should be required from line departments and same will share information with the district collectors during the monthly review meetings.

District IWRM Teams

- Review and approve the IWRM plans within a month of receipt and recommend to the Client (SWRPD) for release of implementation funds directly to Gram Panchayat; objections/suggestions, if any, should be communicated to the Agency.
- Provide technical backstopping to GPs through Water Resource Centres at block level;
- Advise/Assist GPs in converging funds and schemes during IWRM Plan implementation;
- Ensure access to existing water resources data to WRCs and GPs/VWHSCs,
- Maintain data submitted by the WRC on a quarterly basis for easy retrieval and use,
- Monitoring of WRCs, GP IWRM activities through Block level nodal officer,
- Reporting to SWRPD on GP IWRM activities in their District.

Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers at Block level

- Liaise with the NGOs through the WRC established in their constituency and monitor their presence and effective action with the GP in capacity building, planning and implementing the plans;

P. T. O.

- Bring technical support to the GPs by ensuring the technical quality of the design of local projects proposed and establishing the necessary cost estimates;
- Reporting to DIWRMT on GP IWRM activities in their Block.

RD&PR Department:

- To direct concerned Block Development Officers & CEO, Zila Parishad to cooperate NGO's of concerned blocks of the district and to direct Gram Panchayat for conducting a special Gram Sabha as per requirement of program on the request of NGOs to approve IWRM Plan;
- To support in convergence of funds required for IWRM plans;
- Technical support to GPs in preparation of technical proposals as per norms of RD&PR Department as planned in GP IWRM plans;
- Inclusion of GP IWRM plans in GP planning;
- Nominate PRI staff/elected PRI representatives in Gram Sabha called for GP IWRM plan approval.

(Ram Lubhaya)
Additional Chief Secretary,
WRD-PHED-GWD-SWRPD-IGNP

No: F-9 SPP-EC/SWRPD/SE(C&M)/NGO/ 643-666

Dated: 14/9/2011

Copy to:

1. Secretary & Commissioner, Panchayati Raj & Rural Development Department
2. Commissioner Watershed
3. Chief Engineer (Hqs) PHED
4. Chief Engineer, WRD
5. Chief Engineer, GWD
6. Chief Engineer, SWRPD,
7. District Collector, Nagaur/Jaisalmer/Banmer/Bikaner/Jodhpur/Jalore/Raj/Rajasamand/
-Jhunjhunu/churu/Sikar
8. Superintending Engineer, WRD, Circle Udaipur/Jaipur/Raj/Mertacity/Jodhpur
with the request that
copies of this order may please be sent to all concerned officers of district
IWRM Team immediately.
9. Executive Engineer, WRD, Division, Sikar/Rajasamand/Jalore/Mertacity/Jodhpur.

(Ram Lubhaya)
Additional Chief Secretary,
WRD-PHED-GWD-SWRPD-IGNP