

**Minutes of the Video Conference held on 26.6.2014 at 2.30 pm in the Conference Room, DoLR,
Nirman Bhavan**

The VC was attended by all the CEO SLNA of the States except Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Odisha.

The VC was chaired by Smt Vandana Kumari Jena, Secretary LR. The VC was attended by Dr Sandeep Dave, Joint Secretary, Shri P K Jha, DIGF, Shri Amit Kumar, Director and Dr CP Reddy, DC. At the outset, Joint Secretary, welcomed the Chair and all the participants from the States. The agenda wise points of discussion was as follows:

1. Discussion on the construction and desilting of Water Harvesting Structures in preparation of Monsoon 2015.

The State wise progress of construction and desilting of check dams and water harvesting structures was reviewed. States were requested to confirm the report sent by them earlier in this regard. The general observation after review and discussions was that some States had send cumulative information while for other States, the information being provided during the VC was a revision of the information sent earlier. It was decided that DoLR will send a fresh format and the States were requested to send information afresh after verification at their end. States were also requested to send a separate note on the efforts undertaken on rejuvenation and renovation of traditional water harvesting structures taken up in the States.

2. Physical achievement, progress of expenditure and status of unspent balance under IWMP.

The pace of expenditure and the unspent balance was reviewed. The States were requested to speed up the pace of implementation and utilize the money their unspent balances.

3. Number of ^{IWMP}IMWP projects that will be completed during the current financial year and assessment of additional irrigation potential to be created.

1324 blocks have been identified under Intensive Participatory Planning Exercise (IPPE) by the Department of Rural Development which are to be taken up under priority for implementation of MNREGA. Under PMKSY, it has been proposed to give priority to the implementation of IWMP projects in these IPPE blocks with special focus on convergence with MNREGA. Discussions with DoRD have taken place and a joint VC with DoRD and DoLR was also organized in which representatives of RD and Watershed Management from the States had participated. Keeping in view the reduced allocation under Watershed Component of PMKSY, States were requested to share information about how many projects that are likely to be completed in the current financial year and the additional irrigation potential created. It is also proposed to focus implementation of IMWP in the projects that are in advance stages of implementation. States are to be informed of the background and

requested to do planning in coordination with the MNREGA and prepare DPRs etc. accordingly and monitor the initiative.

It was discussed in the VC that in the current financial year, it was expected that the projects which were sanctioned in the Batch I & II (2009-10 and 2010-11) would be nearing completion. The States were requested that efforts must be taken to complete those projects in the current year. In response some of the States responded that the funds required for completion of the Batch I&II projects are much higher than the expected availability in the current year. In some States, the fund required would be more than the State's ordinary capacity to spend. It was therefore decided that the States will focus on implementation on completion of the Batch I & II project so that these projects are definitely completed in the next financial year if not in the current year.

4. Involvement of State Agriculture Universities for evaluation and impact assessment of watershed programmes.

During the VC it was informed that the PMO has emphatically suggested that the SAUs must be engaged in evaluation and impact assessment of watershed programmes. This issue was taken up for discussion with few specific States during the VC. Some of the States stated that MEL assignment has already been given to third party agencies. However it was suggested by DoLR that SAUs must be given the work of evaluation of some of the Watershed Management Projects in the State.

5. Appointment of Third party Monitoring & Evaluation for IWMP in States

States were informed about the appointment of third party agencies for MEL of IWMP projects at the National Level. Most of the States have appointed agencies for third party concurrent monitoring of IWMP. However it was noted that no appointment has been done as yet by Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, J&K, Manipur and Sikkim. The States were requested to complete the exercise without further delay.

6. Implementation of PFMS in IWMP

It was informed to the States that there has been good progress in registration of agencies under PFMS. But the States have to pick up the speed in using PFMS for transferring funds to subordinate agencies and making payments. It was informed that trainings have been conducted at various levels. State wise trainings have been conducted for MP, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Trainings for rest of the States has been planned, however as covering all the States by coordinating at the level of DoLR is likely to take time, it was suggested that States that have sufficient capacity in using PFMS can train personnel from nearby States. West Bengal has agreed to train the staff of Tripura on such a request. It was suggested that other States can also follow this method to train their personnel by identifying training resources within the States by clubbing with other departments or from neighboring States.

7. Implementation of Srishti and Drishti

It was informed that most of the States have provided the watershed boundaries to NRSC. Most of the States have not started updating project information together with the thematic information which is

required to create the base platform in the portal. A state was review for done for the 10 States. All the States were informed that very soon the portal will have the facility of displaying satellite imageries of the watershed area so that there can be visualization of the works done on the ground. It was also informed that Srishti will play an important role in monitoring under IWMP. The States were requested to complete the uploading of data latest by the end of July 2015.

8. Implementation of Process Management Software

States were informed about the development and launching of the Process Management Software (PMS). The PMS will help the implementing agencies particularly PIAs to do work scheduling, resource allocation and monitoring of the implementation of the IWMP projects. All the States have been provided with user logins and User manuals. Training on the use of PMS is scheduled to be conducted from 26th June 2015 to 3rd July 2015. States were requested to send participants to the training which is being organized at Delhi and at Hyderabad. It was also requested that the PMS can be used to manage the implementation of projects. However the legacy data related to the current stage of the projects has to be filled in. The States were requested to coordinate with the PIAs and send the status of the projects in the excel format that was circulated by email earlier.

9. Use of DPR and Geo Hydrology Software for preparation of DPRs

The States was informed about the DPR and Geo Hydrology software which was launched sometime back. It was further informed that the software was prepared to improve the quality and standardization of the format and data that was used in preparation of DPR. States were requested to update the information in the software as the master data relevant for the whole of the State at the earliest. States were also requested to direct the PIAs to start using the software for preparing DPR for the new projects.

10. Any other issues raised by the States

Regarding the query of States about the sharing pattern and whether the guidelines of IWMP are applicable to the watershed component of PMKSY, it was clarified on behalf of DoLR that the sharing pattern can be intimated only after the Cabinet's approval of PMKSY. However, the guidelines of IMWP are applicable to the watershed component.

The issue of DPAP, DDP and IWMP came up for discussion. It has been observed by DoLR that the States are not furnishing the requisite documents such as Project Completion Reports (PCR), final Audited Statement of Accounts (ASA) and Utilization Certificate (UC) along with Progress Reports and unspent amounts if any, available with States in respect of DPAP, DDP and IWDP projects. In this regard, the Joint Secretary (WM) requested all the State officials to furnish the relevant documents immediately to the Department.

The VC ended with thanks on behalf the Department of Land Resources.
