

**Implementation of revised guidelines
for Rural Water Supply Programme
in the State.**

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Water Supply & Sanitation Department,
Government Resolution No. GPP-1099/CR 328/WS.07.
Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400 032.
Dated 27th July, 2000. (English version of the G.R.)**

PREAMBLE

Looking to the large number of "difficult" villages facing drinking water scarcity, the Central Government introduced the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) since 1972-73 to help State Governments solve this problem expeditiously. This programme is being implemented in the State of Maharashtra since then in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Government from the financial assistance provided by that Government. Similarly, the State Government also implements Rural Drinking Water Supply Programme (RWSP) under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). It is obligatory to provide under MNP the funds at least on matching basis with the Central allocation under ARWSP.

2. Taking into consideration the experience gained over the years in the implementation of ARWSP, the evaluation carried out and other studies undertaken, Central Government has issued modified guidelines in April 1999 and made them applicable from the year 1999-2000.

3. State Government carefully studied the guidelines issued by the Central Government and reviewed the implementation of the ARWSP in the State and formed a firm view that this programme cannot be successful on sustainable basis and cannot become people oriented unless the local community, in need of drinking water is actively involved and associated with the managerial and financial decision making, throughout the stages of project planning, implementation, operation & maintenance.

4. Even external aid agency like the World Bank has also expressed its inability to extend financial assistance unless Government takes decision to involve village community in planning, implementation and managerial process and provide them the option to make affordable and preferred selection from the informed choices.

5. In the light of the above background it is under consideration of Government to formulate a policy based on the premise that villagers should get their drinking water needs fulfilled through joint community action by treating drinking water as a "socio-economic" good as reflected in the guidelines issued by the Central Government and to make this policy applicable to all drinking water programmes implemented in the State including ARWSP, MNP and externally aided projects, or through any other source of funding.

RESOLUTION:

As mentioned in the preamble and considering all other aspects in this regard, Government is pleased to accord sanction to the implementation of Rural Drinking Water Supply Programmes under ARWSP and MNP in the State in accordance with the modified guidelines issued by the Central Government in April 1999 as specified hereinafter:-

1) **Norms for providing potable drinking water:** Forty Litres per capita per day (40 lpcd) should be the norm while preparing Rural Drinking Water Supply Scheme under ARWSP and MNP. In this quantity 3 litres is to be provided for drinking water purposes and norm for other domestic purpose will be cooking – 5 litres, bathing – 15 litres, washing utensils and house – 7 litres and ablution – 10 litres.

2) **Norms for selection of villages/habitations:** Selection of villages/habitations under ARWSP and MNP should be in accordance with the following norms:

(a) Drinking water source/point does not exist within 1.6 km of the habitation in plains and 100 metres elevation in hilly areas;

(b) Habitations, which have a water source, affected by quality problems such as excess salinity, iron, fluoride, arsenic or other toxic

elements or biologically contaminated sources.

- (c) A habitation where the quantum of availability of safe water from any source is less than the norms (less than 40 lpcd).

3) **Priority for coverage of villages/habitations:** The priority for the handling of the villages/habitations under ARWSP and MNP will be as follows:

(a) Villages/habitations exclusively inhabited by S.C./S.T or having larger S.C./S.T population as enumerated in the Status Report of 1994 (Survey) and resurveyed in 1996-97.

(b) Coverage of quality affected habitations with acute toxicity, first and rest later.

(c) Upgradation and source level of safe source habitation, which get less than 40 lpcd to the level of 40 lpcd.

(d) Coverage of schools/Anganwadis where the safe drinking water source is not yet provided under the outlays allocated by the 10th Finance Commission.

4) **Community Participation in Rural Water Supply Programme:**

(a) It has been established under various surveys undertaken that poorest of the poor is also ready to contribute part of the capital cost of Drinking Water Supply Scheme, provided he is assured that drinking water supply through the Scheme shall be pure, assured and sustainable. So also the sense of ownership and belonging is not created in the community unless there is a people's participation in it. Therefore, while planning and implementing Drinking Water Supply Schemes, the local community should be taken into confidence to devise a technically and managerially feasible scheme which is affordable and acceptable to them and to recover 10% capital cost from the beneficiaries by way of "people"/community" contribution. Similarly, 100% of the expenditure towards operation and maintenance of the scheme should also be borne by the beneficiaries.

- (b) While designing the scheme for the villages/habitations falling in category (a) to (c) in sub para (2) above, the Executive Engineer of the Agency likely to take up the Scheme or an Officer authorised by him should explain to the beneficiaries in Gram Sabha, regarding different alternatives for satisfying drinking water needs in that village/ habitation estimated capital cost for those different alternatives, and annual expenditure towards operation, maintenance and likely water charges required to be paid by them.
- (c) The implementing agency should provide all the information with summary as to site of the water source and its capacity, spot of the storage tank and its capacity, distribution system and other details regarding the scheme accepted by the beneficiaries through the Gram Sabha.
- (d) The Deputy Engineer of the implementing agency should certify in Annexure-1 appended to this Government Resolution, that obligatory procedure as specified in (b) and (c) above has been fulfilled before passing the Resolution for the acceptance of the Scheme by the Gram Panchayat and the said Certificate should be submitted by him to the competent authority alongwith plans and estimates.
- (e) After conducting Gram Sabha and after receipt of all the details of the Scheme mentioned at (c) above, the Gram Panchayat should resolve in the format appended as Annexure-2 to this Government Resolution regarding the acceptance of the Scheme as an informed choice, willingness to contribute 10% of the capital cost as community contribution and accepting the responsibility of 100% operation, maintenance and management of the Scheme by levy of appropriate water charges. Such Resolution should be submitted to implementing agency directly in case of single village or single habitation scheme or an habitation within that village to implementing agency and the Zilla

Parishad in case of Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme. Implementing agency should submit the said Resolution alongwith the Scheme. Competent Authority should not give administrative approval unless the said Resolution is received.

- (e-1) In respect of Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme, the Zilla Parishad after completion of the procedure laid down in (b) to (d) above and after receipt of the Resolution of the villages in (e) above should pass a Resolution regarding acceptance of the Scheme and to undertake the responsibility of levy of water charges for operation, maintenance and management of the Scheme in Annexure-3 appended, to this Government Resolution and should submit it to the implementing agency. The implementing agency should submit the said Resolution along with the proposal for approval of the Scheme to competent authority. The competent authority should not give administrative approval without receipt of such a Resolution.
- (f) The implementing agency, after according administrative approval, should give to all local-self-governing bodies involved in the scheme, information regarding the salient features and plans and estimates of the Scheme.
- (g) The concerned Engineer should apprise the local water and sanitation committee of the various parts of the Scheme when the work is in progress to avoid the scope for any subsequent complaint due to difference in the approved Scheme and its actual implementation. Junior Engineer of the implementing agency should hold a meeting of the Village Water and Sanitation Committee of all the villages included in the Scheme, every 3 months and explain to them the difficulties, the measures taken to solve the difficulties and the changes, if any, made in the approved Scheme and the progress of the Scheme.

(h) Village Water and Sanitation Committee of the concerned village should monitor the implementation of the Scheme.

5) **Involvement of Women:** The main burden of not getting pure drinking water on sustainable basis nearby the habitation falls on women. Therefore, with a view to make Rural Water Supply Programme successful and to make the concept of people's participation a reality, involvement of women in rural areas is of utmost importance. Women in rural areas are the real beneficiaries of the programme and hence active participation in selecting appropriate alternative is a must. This participation can be ensured in the following ways:-

(a) Women from all social and economic strata of the society from different villages/habitations should be included in Village Water and Sanitation Committee.

(b) Certificate about satisfactory completion of the Scheme, after considering their suggestions, may be obtained from women group/Mahila Mandal from the concerned village/habitation.

(c) Preference should be given to women caretakers for hand pump village/habitation.

(d) At least 30% of the hand pump trainees or Mistry under NHRDA/TRYSEM and other training schemes should be women from the local area/habitation as they can take better care of the operations and maintenance of the hand pump scheme than others.

6) **District Operation and Maintenance Fund:** 10% of the funds provided under ARWSP and MNP is presently kept aside for operation and maintenance and is disbursed to Zilla Parishad every year. However, looking to the larger need of funds by local-self Government bodies for operation and maintenance of the Rural Water Supply Schemes, 15% of the annual provision under ARWSP and MNP shall be reserved and the same will be distributed to Zilla Parishad for undertaking this work.

7) **Sub-Mission :** Sub Mission Projects should be undertaken for the Schemes for providing safe drinking water to rural habitations facing water quality problems like

fluorides, arsenic, brackishness and excess iron, etc. Sub Mission Projects should also be taken up for ensuring source sustainability through rainwater harvesting and artificial recharging. The powers to sanction the Projects under Sub Mission are delegated to the State Government by the Central Govt. The funding pattern of Sub Mission Project will be in the ratio of 75:25 by Central and State Governments.

8) **Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance:** Increasing pollution and depleting ground water level is sure to create critical situation in drinking water supply area in near future. Much needs to be done to strengthen water quality, monitoring and surveillance system. Starting water quality testing laboratories is only a part of this programme. Further to this, there is need to work at State, District and Village levels to implement this programme. Testing of water at primary level should be done at village level education institute. More complicated testing should be done at district level laboratories. State level laboratories should deal with severe and more complex issues. 100% funding as per approved norms shall be provided to the State level nodal agencies to be included in the programme.

9) **Hydraulic Rigs and Hydro-Fracturing Units:** The expenditure for purchase of rigs and hydro-fracturing units for bore wells/tube wells would be met by the Central Government and State Government on 50:50 basis. Purchase of sophisticated rigs for remote and difficult areas is to be financed from MNP funds. The expenditure will, however, be counted as matching provision for Central assistance under ARWSP.

10) **Human Resource Development:** Human resource development programme is aimed at providing training to village level employees, to create network of trained employees for operation, maintenance and repairs of water supply schemes of the functionaries of local-self governing institutions and to impart training to women. To train these grass-root trainees the State should establish State Level HRD Cell. The Central Government will provide 100% assistance under ARWSP for this purpose.

11) **Information, Education and Communication (IEC):** The main objective of IEC Programme is to generate awareness and felt need for increased demand for safe drinking water and sanitation facilities amongst people. Various publicity media

should be utilised to convince people of the need and importance of safe drinking water.

12) **Monitoring and Evaluation**: Central Government takes up Monitoring and Evaluation Studies through reputed organisations/institutions from time to time. The State Government may also take up similar monitoring and evaluation programmes for which 100% financial assistance will be provided by the Centre to the State Government, if done with the prior approval of the Central Government.

13) **Management Information System (MIS)**: For effective planning, monitoring and implementation of the various schemes under different programmes, information technology based MIS is essential. Following items shall be included in it:-

- (a) Planning and monitoring of data for local level water supply;
- (b) Computerisation, collection, analysis and dissemination of the information at different levels;
- (c) Assistance for conducting training programmes for the above. 100% assistance will be provided for all above MIS activities including training.

14) **Provision for drinking water in rural schools**: It is the avowed mission of the Government to provide safe drinking water facilities in all schools in rural areas by the end of 9th Five Year Plan. Therefore, all the schools not having drinking water facility should be included in the programme. Expenditure for this purpose shall be shared by Central and State Governments on 50:50 basis from the funds allocated for ARWSP.

2. These orders are issued with the concurrence of Planning Department and Finance Department vide the U.O.R. No. 665/Exp.3, dated 24.7.2000.

By order and in the name of Governor of Maharashtra.

V.P. Raja
27/7/2000

(V.P. Raja),
Secretary to Government of Maharashtra,
Water Supply & Sanitation Department

To,

1. Secretary to Hon. Governor of Maharashtra
2. Secretary to Hon. Chief Minister of Maharashtra
3. Secretary to Hon. Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra
4. Hon. personal Assistant to Minister (All)
5. Hon. personal Assistant to State Minister (All)
6. All Divisional commissioners
7. Member Secretary (Administration) Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran Mumbai
8. Member Secretary (Technical) Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran Mumbai
9. All District Collectors
10. All Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Parishadas
11. Accountant General, Maharashtra -1 Mumbai (Audit/Accounts & Entitlement)
12. All Chief Accounts & Finance officer, Zilla Parishad,
13. Accountant General, Maharashtra -2 Nagpur (Audit/Accounts & Entitlement)
14. Chief Auditor, Local Fund Account New Mumbai
15. All Deputy Chief Auditor, Local Fund Account
16. All District Treasury officer
17. All Regional Chief Engineers of Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran
18. All Superintending Engineers of Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran
19. All District Water Supply Officers of Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran
20. All Executive Engineers of Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran
21. All Executive Engineers, Water Supply Divisions of Zilla Parishad
22. Director, Ground Water Survey & Development Agency, Pune
23. All Regional Deputy Director, Ground Water Survey & Development Agency
24. All District Senior Geologists, Ground Water Survey & Development Agency
25. Planning Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai
26. Finance Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai
27. Rural Development Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai
28. All Departments in Mantralaya
29. All Controlling Officers of Water Supply & Sanitation Department & All Desks
30. Select File (W.S.-07), Water Supply & Sanitation Department

ANNEXURE - I

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that before finalising the plans and estimates of ----- Rural Water Supply Scheme for-----village,-----taluka,-----district on behalf of Zilla Parishad/Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran, a meeting of Gram Sabha is held on----- (date) at----- (time) and information and details about the various alternatives available, the estimated capital expenditure of all the alternative schemes, estimated annual expenditure on operation, maintenance and repairs and quantum of likely water charges have been explained to the people in the Gram Sabha. The queries raised by the local people have been satisfactorily replied. The plans and estimates of the scheme chosen by the villagers have been finalised in concurrence with the local-self governing institution.

2. The meeting of the Gram Panchayat held on ----- (date) discussed about the decision of the Gram Sabha of having accepted the Scheme and all the information regarding spot of the source and its capacity, site of the storage tank, distribution system, likely rate of water charges and other details have been provided to Gram Panchayat before passing of the resolution 1 of having accepted the scheme by it.

Deputy Engineer,

Water Supply Sub-Division,

Zilla Parishad/Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran.

ANNEXURE - II

FORMAT OF RESOLUTION TO BE PASSED BY GRAM PANCHAYAT FOR INDIVIDUAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME FOR ONE VILLAGE:

The meeting of the Gram Panchayat is held on -----(date) -----(time) under the Chairmanship of the Sarpanch, in the Office of the Gram Panchayat to discuss the following Agenda. The following members were present in the meeting.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Subject:- Agenda Subject No.----- to consider Government approval for drinking water Supply Scheme.

Resolution No.-----

- 1) The Gram Panchayat is ready to accept the Drinking Water Supply Scheme for the village prepared by the Zilla Parishad/Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran having estimated cost of Rs.------(net) and Rs.------(gross) and also undertakes to pay 10% of the capital expenditure of the Scheme as people's contribution and also to incur 100% expenditure towards operation, maintenance, repairs and management.
- 2) The Gram Panchayat is also ready to get the Scheme transferred and implemented within one month after the scheme is completed and its successful testing is given.
- 3) The Gram Panchayat is ready to levy or, if necessary, to increase the rate of water charges with a view to make the scheme self-sustaining.
- 4) The Gram Panchayat will not demand from Government or Zilla Parishad

3) The Gram Panchayat is ready to levy or, if necessary, to increase the rate of water charges with a view to make the scheme self-sustaining.

4) The Gram Panchayat will not demand from Government or Zilla Parishad any grants or expenditure towards temporary establishment, depreciation, machinery repairs, etc. Gram Panchayat shall bear this expenditure by levying appropriate water charges and taxes.

5) On failure of the Gram Panchayat to abide by the above Resolution on on deliberate delay to take over the Scheme, avoiding of the responsibility in implementing the Scheme, the expenditure incurred towards operation, maintenance and management by the Zilla Parishad may be directly appropriated by Zilla Parishad/Government from any grants payable to Gram Panchayat.

Proposer-----

Secunder-----

Resolution Passed.

Gramsevak/Gram Vikas Adhikari

Sarpanch.

ANNEXURE – III

FORMAT OF RESOLUTION TO BE PASSED BY THE ZILLA PARISHAD
FOR REGIONAL RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME.

The General Body Meeting of the Zilla Parishad has been held on-----
(date) at----- (time) under the Chairmanship of President, Zilla Parishad in the
Office of the Zilla Parishad to consider the following Agenda:

Subject:- To consider approval of Regional Water Supply Scheme.

Resolution No.-----

1. The Zilla Parishad is ready to accept a Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme prepared for -----villages by the Zilla Parishad/Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran having estimated cost of Rs.----- (net) and Rs.----- (Gross) . The Zilla Parishad is also ready to contribute 10% of the capital cost as people's contribution and to incur 100% expenditure towards operation, maintenance, repairs and management.
2. The Zilla Parishad is ready to take over the Scheme within one month from the date of completion of the Scheme and after its successful testing.
3. The Zilla Parishad is ready to levy appropriate and, if necessary, to increase water charges with a view to make the Scheme self-sustainable.

4. The Zilla Parishad is will not demand any grants while implementing the Scheme towards temporary establishment, depreciation, machinery repairs etc. and shall bear the expenditure by levying appropriate water charges and taxes.
5. If the Zilla Parishad does abide by the above Resolution and avoid responsibility of implementing the scheme, the expenditure incurred towards operation, maintenance, repairs and management by Government may be directly appropriated from the funds or grants payable by Government to the Zilla Parishad.
6. Zilla Parishad. ----- Approves

Proposer -----

Secunder -----

Resolution Passed.

President Zilla Parishad