

Government of West Bengal Irrigation & Waterways Department Jalasampad Bhavan, 1st Floor, Western Block Bidhannagar, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 700091,

Record of discussion of the Departmental Review Meeting 'Jalashree', held on 20.09,2019 in the 1st Floor Conference Hall of Jalasampad Bhavan, Salt Lake.

The meeting was presided over by the Additional Chief Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Department.

The following were present:-

- 1. Sri G. K. Chattopadhyay (Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Department)
- 2. Sri D. Sengupta (Joint Secretary (Works), Irrigation & Waterways Department)
- 3. Sri A. K. Basu (Chief Engineer, Design & Research, Irrigation & Waterways Department)
- 4. Sri D. Roy (Chief Engineer, South, I&W Dte.)
- 5. Sri A. Ghosh (Chief Engineer, South West, I&W Dte.)
- 6. Sri J. Das (Chief Engineer, West, I&W Dte.)
- 7. Sri P. Bhattacharya (Superintending Engineer, Western Circle-II, I&W Dte.)
- 8. Sri G. Patra (Superintending Engineer, Western Circle-1, 1&W Dte.)
- 9. Sri J. C. Bhaumik (O.S.D. & Superintending Engineer, Purulia, I&W Dte.)
- 10. Sri D. Parua (Superintending Engineer, Damodar Irrigation Circle, I&W Dte.)
- 11. Sri K. Basak (Superintending Engineer, North Irrigation Circle-I, I&W Dte.)
- 12. Sri S. Banerjee (Superintending Engineer, Mayurakshi Canal Circle, I&W Dte.)
- 13. Sri G. P. Ghosh (Superintending Engineer, Western Circle-III, I&W Dte.)
- 14. Sri A. Ganguly (Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, I&W Dte.)
- 15. Sri S. Sarkar (Superintending Engineer, Greater Calcutta Drainage Circle, I&W Dte.)
- 16. Sri K. J. Pal (Superintending Engineer, Kangsabati Circle-II, l&W Dte.)
- 17. Sri S.Misra (Superintending Engineer, Kangsabati Circle-I, I&W Dte.)
- 18. Sri S. Sarkar (Executive Engineer, Investigation & Planning Division (South), I&W Dte.)
- 19. Sri S.Saha, OSD & Ex-officio Deputy Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Department

The Meeting was chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Department. He briefly stated the objectives of the programme 'Jalashree' to harness water resources of rivers and channels for various purposes. He emphasized on schemes of (i) rejuvenation of defunct river channels, (ii) interventions in rivers/channels to increase storage water in convergence with potential RLI schemes of WRIDD and also in consultation with the

Agriculture Department, (iii) interventions to revive defunct RLI schemes by WRIDD. 'Jalashree' programme will involve various schemes for next 3-4 years and proposals shall be prepared and submitted accordingly.

- 2. Proposals of were invited from the concerned Chief Engineers of Irrigation &Waterways Department for identification of potential schemes for areas covering 17 Districts from the District of Uttar Dinajpur in north to District of South 24 Parganas in south. Initial proposals as received are broadly categorised as (i) De-siltation of rivers/ drainage channels, (ii) Restoration of natural regime of channels, (iii) rehabilitation of major barrage/weir ponds, (iv) construction of unregulated check dams, (v) construction of check dams with under sluices, (vi) construction of stand-alone regulators in tidal region to stop ingress of sea water.
- 3. Chief Engineer (North) has submitted proposals of ₹218.69 Crore for Districts of Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Malda and Birbhum (excluding Murshidabad and Nadia). Chief Engineer (West) has submitted proposals of ₹198.17 Crore for Districts of Howrah, Hooghly, Purba Bardhaman and a part of Bankura (pending District of Paschim Bardhaman). Chief Engineer (South West) has submitted proposals of ₹534.17 Crore for Districts of Jhargram, Bankura, Purba Medinipur and Paschim Medinipur (pending District of Purulia). Chief Engineer (South) has submitted proposals of ₹534.17 Crore for Districts of North and South 24 Parganas.
- 4. All submitted individual schemes were discussed in brief. After detailed deliberation the following decisions were taken:
 - i. Primary emphasis should be laid on harnessing of water resources of drainage channels and rivers and not on silt clearance or water hyacinth removal. The districts are Dakshin Dinajpur, Malda, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Nadia, Purba Bardhaman, Bankura. Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Purba Medinipur, Jhargram and Hooghly, alongwith selective channels for such harnessing of water resources in tidal stretches of Howrah & North 24 Parganas.
 - ii. Proposals relating to cleaning of Durgapur Barrage pond and Anicut weir pond and also for regular cleaning of river/ channels are not be included under 'Jalashree'. Those are to be taken up under the Annual Maintenance Plan to be implemented out of revenue budgetary provisions of this Department under "Administrative Expenditure".
 - iii. Selective de-siltation of rivers/ drainage channels would be allowed only in the upstream stretches of regulating structures like sluices, regulators or check dams for the purpose of harnessing of water resources in the upstream of such structures. Such schemes may be

taken up in consultation with field officials of WRIDD and Agriculture Department so as to ensure convergence with the programme / schemes of those Departments, relating to restoration of defunct RLI schemes or construction of new RLI schemes or micro watershed management.

- iv. Construction of low height check dams in series on a river or stream will be preferred against construction of single check dam. Constructions of check dam with under sluices may be required in the western Districts of Birbhum, Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Bankura and Jhargram to flush out the accumulated silt. However, such under sluices may not be required for check dams in Dakshin Dinajpur, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, Hooghly and Purba Bardhaman. Location of such schemes, as already stated, shall preferably be decided in consultation with field officials of WRI&D and Agriculture Departments.
- v. Construction of standalone regulators in major tidal stretches of major rivers e.g. Kaliaghai, Icchamati etc. needs to considered to ensure long term sustainability of the upstream channel stretches, subject to suitable field conditions, like presence of high embankments on both the sides for tagging.
- vi. Finalization of identification of schemes, in the light of above, should be completed by October'2019.

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

[NAVEEN PRAKASH]
Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

Memo No. 326/1(2) - II-4M-06/2019

Copy forwarded for kind information to the:

- 1. Sr. P.A. to Additional Chief Secretary Irrigation & Waterways Department Government of West Bengal 1st Floor, Jalasampad Bhavan Salt Lake 700 091
- 2. Sr. P.A. to Secretary
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(D. SenGupta)
Joint Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

Memo No. 326/2(5) - 1

Dated, 1st October, 2019

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 District: Purba Bardhaman, Pin 713 103
- Chief Engineer (South West)
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 Khusjungle, P.O Abas, Medinipur
 District: Paschim Medinipur, Pin 721 102
- 4. Chief Engineer (North)
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5. Chief Engineer (Design & Research) Irrigation & Waterways Directorate 1st Floor, Jalasampad Bhavan Salt Lake – 700 091

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Memo No. 326/3(11)-I

Dated, 1st October, 2019

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