

ACCELERATED URBAN WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT
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ACCELERATED URBAN WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME

Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census).

II . RATIONALE

Due to the low economic base and lower priority given by the State Governments to provide water supply to smaller towns, these are often neglected during normal times and are worst hit during the periods of drought as was observed in 1987. Therefore, there is a need to extend financial support to the State Governments/Local Bodies for providing water supply facilities in the towns having population less than 20,000 (1991 Census). With this in view a Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Scheme has been included in the VIII Five Year Plan and has been proposed to be initiated from the Annual Plan 1993-94.

III. OBJECTIVES

- (i) To provide safe and adequate water supply facilities to the entire population of the towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census) in the country within a fixed timeframe.
- (ii) To improve the environment and the quality of life
- (iii) For better socio-economic condition and more productivity to sustain the economy of the country.

IV.. FEATURES OF THE PROGRAMME

- (i) In general, the overall emphasis is being given on creating a better incentive environment in the sector. There is a need to emphasize on rationalisation of tariffs; separation of budget of water supply and sanitation from the municipal budget; subsidies being extended for well identified target groups; water conservation, operation and maintenance (O&M) and distribution being given priority over new capital works; emphasis on leak detection and preventive maintenance rehabilitation of existing system.
- (ii) The water supply sector has to be treated as public utility rather than a service and efforts have also to be made ,to bring about greater private sector participation and investment in this sector.
- (iii) The principle aim of the programme will be to improve the quality of life of the poor, specially the most vulnerable sections of the population such as women. children. and other deprived sections who do not have access to safe water.
- (iv) The Urban Local/Bodies will be suitably strengthened and closely associated in the implementation of Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) with a view to realising the objective of providing water supply to the underserved population.

(v) Community participation will be made the cardinal principle underlying the whole programme. Community participation implies organising local communities nurtured by field level staff of Urban Local Bodies and NGOs.

(vi) A Plan of Action will be formulated for each of the schemes comprising of town or towns depending upon the situation assessed by the concerned Department of the State Government responding directly to the felt needs of the population in these towns.

(vii) Special emphasis will be placed on privatisation of implementation, operation and maintenance and cost recovery so as to make the scheme self-sustaining.

(viii) The emphasis would be on whole town approach.

V. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

The programme should be operationally integrated with the State Public Health Engineering Department / Water Supply and Sewerage Board and Urban Local Bodies for the provision of water supply facilities if found feasible. Involvement of Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) should also be considered. In so far as the operation and maintenance of assets created under the programme are concerned efforts should be made, to operate and maintain such scheme by the community itself once they are properly trained to take up such a task. Till then these should be maintained by the agency responsible for its implementation/urban local body. Preferably however, the community while building up its own expertise and training during execution so that on completion of each project the local community could be ready and able to maintain it.

VI. CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATION AMONGST STATES

The following criteria would be applied to determine the share of each qualifying State for assistance under the scheme.

(a) 50% weightage being given to the population of such towns;

(b) 35% weightage being given to the incidence of poverty in a State/UTs;

(c) 5% weightage being given to the number of such towns in States/UTs.

(d) 10% weightage being given in terms of population of such towns to the 'special requirements of State /UTs covered under DPAP, DDP, HADP, and Special Category hilly States.

VII. COMMITTEE FOR SELECTION OF TOWNS/SCHEMES

For selection of towns/schemes under the programme, the State Governments/UT Administrations shall constitute a State level Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary to the State Government In charge of Urban Water Supply with the following Members:

(a) Chief Engineer PHED /Managing Director, Urban Water Supply Board;

(b) A representative of the State Irrigation Department;

(c) A representative of the State Finance Department ;

(d) A representative of the State Planning Department

(e) A representative from CPHEEO, MOUD;

(f) Director Municipal Administration/Urban Local Bodies Member Secretary.

VIII. GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION OF TOWNS/SCHEMES

The selection of towns/schemes shall be done only through the State-level Committee constituted for this purpose after considering the detailed project reports prepared in respect of the individual towns as per the guidelines of this scheme. Special attention should be given to ensure that the following stipulations are fulfilled in the detailed project report.

(i) The populations of the town should not be more than 20,000 as per 1991 Census. For this purpose, the documents published by the Registrar General of India or the Director of Census operations of the State concerned shall be the basis.

(ii) 95% dependability and reliability of the water source is established

(iii) Provision for separate maintenance of accounts is made.

(iv) Provisions for sustainable O&M mechanism is evolved and incorporated in the DPR.

(v) A sustainable tariff system is evolved and approved by the State Government is incorporated in the DPR.

(vi) Provision is made for 5% contribution from the urban local bodies towards the project cost.

(vii) The commitment of the urban local body for all the stipulations including improvement in institutional and tariff mechanism, their preparedness for maintenance through suitable arrangements should be obtained and be included in the DPR. If any of these stipulations are not fulfilled and incorporated in the DPR, the scheme will not be eligible for inclusion in the programme.

IX. PRIORITIES FOR TOWNS WITH SPECIAL PROBLEMS

Priority is to be given to towns with special problems like

(a) Very low per capita supply;

(b) Very distant or deep water source;

(c) Drought-prone areas;

(d) Excess salinity, fluoride, iron content in the water source;

(e) High incidence of water borne diseases. For this purpose, it is advised that the States may at the first instance prepare the list of towns having these special problems before preparation of the detailed project reports. Similarly, priority is to be given to rehabilitation and augmentation schemes rather than new schemes. On selection by the state level

commit tee the DPRs of the selected towns along with the information in the prescribed format may be sent to the Ministry of UD (THE -format will be separately prescribed).

Per capita unit cost

The per capita Unit Cost should normally be limited to Rs. 1,000/- However, this is not very rigid. In individual cases, the specific justification is required to be furnished in the DPR if the per capita cost is more.

X. PATTERN OF FINANCE

The Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme bring a Centrally sponsored scheme this will be funded on grant basis. by the Central Government 50% and State Government 50% including 5% beneficiary town contribution. In case of Union Territories, 100% financing is available from the Central Share.

XI. RELEASE OF FUNDS

The estimated cost of the selected scheme is to be borne on 50:50 basis between the Centre and the States. Accordingly 25% of the Central Share will be released to the State Government or the designated agency on selection of the scheme. The second instalment of the Central Share which will be 50% of the eligible Central Share for the scheme will be released on:-

- release of the first instalment of the State Share;
- completion of the ground work for execution of the scheme including award of contracts or placing of orders for supply of material etc. wherever required and
- utilisation of at least 50% of the amount released for the scheme (25% of the Central share plus 25% of the State share);
- Submission of Detailed project report and its approval in case the first instalment is released before receipt of DPR. The third and final instalment amounting to 25% of the Central share will be released on:

(a) release of second instalment of State share (50%)

(b) utilisation of 80% of the total funds released for the scheme.

XII. DETAILED PROJECT REPORT

The detailed project reports should include the following with the proper justification/supporting data:

i) Reliability of Water Source(s)

- 95% dependability and reliability of selected raw-water source(s) must be established by the concerned State department so as to ensure long term

sustainability of the scheme at the prescribed designed period of 20-25 years @ 70 1ped. Supporting evidence in this regard should be included in the DPR.

ii) Use of appropriate technology

- Efforts be made to adopt appropriate and cost effective technologies viz. Horizontal Roughing Filters (HRF). Slow Sand Filters (SSF) etc.; so as to have minimum expenditure on capital as well as operation and maintenance. However, spot sources such as hand-pumps are not permitted due to inadequate and short-term sustainability as compared to piped water supply schemes.
- To the extent possible, minimum electrical and mechanical equipments be used in the scheme.
- Wherever necessary, land acquisition process be initiated in advance to avoid delay in the implementation of the scheme.
- Wherever electrical power supply is required for O&M, action be initiated with the concerned State agency to ensure the same when the project is ready for commissioning.

iii) Detailed Estimate should contain the following:

- Detailed engineering design of all the components.
- Abstract estimates of each components be prepared based on the latest schedule of rates.
- The estimate may include establishment charges maximum up to 3% and contingency charges up to 5%. No other charges viz. T&P, cartage etc. be included, since implementing agencies have adequate infrastructure for taking up such water supply schemes. If there is still a need for such expenditure, the same shall have to be met from the State funds only.

iv) Counterpart funding

- As already stated, State Governments have to provide matching share as grant under the state plan and ensure timely release to implementing agencies for successful implementation of schemes

v) Tariff structure

- Realistic tariff structure has to be evolved and incorporated in the DPR. In addition, the State Govt. should ensure adequate cost recovery so as to meet the annual O&M expenditure of the proposed schemes as per the tariff structure evolved and indicated in the DPR, along with the commitment of the State Govt. for the proposed mechanism. The State Govt, should confirm imposition of suitable water tariff of various categories of beneficiaries based on present supply .

vi) Agencies responsible for implementation and O&M

- Agencies responsible for execution of the scheme and its subsequent O&M should have adequate infrastructure and institutional arrangements.
- To the extent possible, involvement of the community right from the -planning stage up to O&M should be ensured.
- Involvement of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and private agencies may be explored and given due weightage by the State Govt./local bodies.

vii) Action plan programme for Operation and Maintenance on sustainable basis

- The DPR may include a detailed action plan for proper O&M of the schemes, clearly indicating the Plan of Action for cost recovery, community involvement, quality control and human resources development.

XIII. SEPARATE ACCOUNTS TO BE MAINTAINED

The accounts for the funds released both by the Centre and the State under this scheme will be maintained separately by the Implementation agencies. Diversion of funds from this programme to any other programme is not permitted. Similarly diversion of funds released for a particular scheme/town to any other scheme/town without prior consent of the Central Government is also not permissible.

XIV. MONITORING OF THE SCHEMES

- The Ministry of Urban Development will monitor the physical and financial progress of implementation of each scheme on quarterly basis, for which suitable formats are being devised for circulation for the State/implementing agencies soon.
- To facilitate proper monitoring, separate scheme-wise accounts should be maintained.
- Physical and financial monitoring shall be done by the officers of the CPHEEO/Ministry by way of site visits and discussions with the Officials of the State Govt. and Urban Local Bodies.