

**GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ DEPARTMENT**

No: PS/RD&PR/2008

Jaipur, Dated: - 22.9.2008

To
All Collectors &
District Programme Co-ordinators NREGA
Rajasthan

Sub: Inventory of water bodies in the District – Renovation through NREGA.

Sir/ Madam,

You are aware, water conservation is a top priority of NREGA works as per Schedule I and Ministry of Rural Development has directed to strictly follow the order of priority of works in Schedule I while preparing Annual Action Plan.

While some districts had expressed difficulties in identifying water conservation works but looking to the importance of water conservation measures for our State where ground water levels have already reached a critical stage, it is necessary that all efforts are made to locate and renovate the traditional and other water bodies. An exercise was undertaken by the PHED and Water Resources Deptt. in the year 2002-2003 and later on to prepare inventory of all such water bodies and prepared Master Plans for their renovation. These lists may be obtained and all efforts be made to include as many works in the Annual Plan as can be accommodated.

This list could be further updated based on land records that include information on the area & location of these water bodies. There may cases where the entire water body may have been levelled over a period of time due to silting and illegal encroachments might have taken place or major area may be under encroachment. Collectors may identify such water bodies and try to retrieve them under due process of law. If we allow their extinction, this would adversely impact environment and also livelihoods of the people due to water scarcity. During my field visits, I found a number of such cases.

Another measure for Water & Soil Conservation is the watershed approach under which water & moisture is conserved through percolation tanks, check dams etc. Scientific data in the form of Distt Watershed Atlas is available which delineates the macro & micro watersheds. These works should also be included on priority and CEO [ZP] should be asked to submit projects for inclusion in the Annual Plan.

Roof Water Harvesting in Schools and Government Buildings should also be included for which instructions were issued earlier also. These works should also get your priority attention.

You are aware Government of India is not likely to allow other works until all the works in order of priority of Schedule I are completed.

Since the process of preparing Action Plan for 2009-10 is in progress please take necessary steps to have the above works included in AAP.

Yours faithfully,

(Ram Lubhaya)
Pr.Sec. RD&PR

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretary Water Resources and Principal Secretary PHED & GW with the request that necessary instructions may please be issued to the field officers to provide necessary information as well as projects for inclusion in AAP 2009-2010.
2. Commissioner WS & SC to issue necessary instructions to XEN [LR] for submitting projects to Collector as per the targets already decided.
3. All CEO's ZP Rajasthan for information and necessary action.
4. Director NREGA for follow up with Collectors & ensure compliance.
5. PS to CS
6. PS to ACS (Dev)


Pr.Sec. RD&PR