

D.O. F No 5-1/2017-TE(WM)

Dated, the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Subject "Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain" (JSA-CTR)

*Dear Colleague,*

As you are aware the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain" (JSA-CTR) campaign 2021 with the theme "Catch the Rain, where it falls, when it falls" has been launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2021 which will continue upto 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

2. The Hon'ble PM, while addressing the District Magistrates/Deputy Commissioners/Collectors and the Sarpanches of Gram Panchayats, except election-bound States through video conferencing, underscored the importance of harvesting of rain water during the ensuing monsoon season. He emphasized that MGNREGA funds be spent on rain water conservation activities.

3. A joint letter under the signature of Secretaries to the Government of India of nine Ministries/Departments addressed to Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs highlighting detailed action plan and activities has already been shared with you. (Copy enclosed)

4. I am happy to inform you that Department of Land Resources (DoLR) has also forged collaborative plan with D/o Rural Development (DoRD) for giving execution of MGNREGA works in the WDC-PMKSY areas by strictly observing "ridge to valley" approach (Minutes of the meeting enclosed)

5. As a matter of efficient collaboration, the activities undertaken from MGNREGA and WDC-PMKSY funds should be mapped on GIS platform. Secretary, Rural Development vide his D.O. letter dated 19 March, 2021 has emphasized that MGNREGA funds may be utilized for groundwater recharge / water conservation under the campaign. Gram Panchayats and SLNA officials, participating in the programme may be consulted for selection of activities and sites, etc. DoLR is in touch with NRSC to facilitate such mapping of activities.

6. It would be appropriate that SLNA's prepare the status report of WDC-PMKSY in the State (approx. 5-10 pages) so that the Central Team get a fair understanding of the water stressed areas in the District

7. The following activities have been identified by participating Ministries / Departments, which may be taken up with sustained focus during the campaign:

- (i) Identification of schemes to be taken up during the campaign through a bottom up consultative process;
- (ii) Removal of encroachments in the water bodies with and their renovation including de-silting, constructions/ strengthening of inlets/outlets, repairs etc. of these tanks and ponds;
- (iii) Taking up works for water conservation through watershed development projects and MGNREGA works and drawing up GIS based watershed development plan for all Gram Panchayats.
- (iv) Listing of all water related works included in shelf of projects from among the identified Schemes Completion of pending water related works;
- (v) Special Gram Sabha for approval of all unlisted works and approval by P.O.;
- (vi) Preparation of Estimates/Inclusion of unincluded works in JSA-CTR;
- (vii) Maintenance of water related works assets in dilapidated conditions;
- (viii) Preparation of GIS based watershed plans for all GPs;
- (ix) Training of the technical personnel of all Departments;
- (x) Convergence of all programmes as per the watershed plans.
- (xi) Utilizing Finance Commission's grants for Gram Panchayats for implementation of JSA activities, wherever required.

8. Hon'ble PM, while addressing the launch ceremony, also stressed upon ensuring mass mobilization towards achieving the objectives of the "JSA-CTR". Therefore, ample efforts should be made to involve SHGs, User Groups and public at large for the sake of awareness generation and ensuring their active participation for the purpose.

9. The progress / achievements under JSA-CTR will be monitored continuously so that the objectives of the campaign are achieved. Please ensure that the State Level Monitoring Cell is set up promptly.

10. Periodical progress and achievements by creating data, reports, paper clippings, photographs and videos may be communicated to DoLR regularly.

*With Warm*

*Regards,*

Yours sincerely,

*Ajay Tirkey*

(Ajay Tirkey)

Encl: as above

ACS / Principal Secretary / Secretary of Department (Implementing WDC-PMKSY).

All States / UTs





16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

D.O. No. M-93012/1/2021-NWM

Dear Chief Secretary,

We write to you regarding the 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan 2021' to make preparations for water conservation and recharge before the onset of monsoon so as to maximize utilization of rainfall during the monsoon.

2. You may recall that the Jal Shakti Abhiyan was taken up in 2019, covering 1,592 blocks, out of 2,836 blocks in 256 water-stressed districts of country. The Abhiyan achieved considerable success in creating mass awareness and eliciting peoples' participation for water conservation. A large number of works were undertaken and successfully implemented. In 2020, the Abhiyan, as such, could not be taken up due to situation caused by spread of Covid-19, but the States were requested to take up water conservation works under various schemes and programs (ref: DO No. J-11060/4/2019-RE-VI (e-366816) dated 24 April, 2020).

3. This year, the Jal Shakti Abhiyan will be taken up in the pre-monsoon and monsoon seasons, covering both urban and rural areas of **all districts** in the country, focusing on the saving and conservation of rainwater.

4. Hon'ble Prime Minister will launch the 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan' with the theme 'Catch the rain-Where it falls, when it falls' on 22 March 2021 (World Water Day). He will address District Magistrates/District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners of all districts and Sarpanchs of all Gram Panchayats, except in the election bound States, through video conferencing. It is requested that after the address by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, special Gram Sabhas may be organized in all Gram Panchayats of your State to exclusively discuss issues related to value of water and water conservation. In this regard, DO letter dated 11 March, 2021 from the Cabinet Secretary and DO letter from the Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj dated 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 may be referred to.

5. In the Jal Shakti Abhiyan, the Districts may take up following activities, in particular:

- (i) Removal of encroachments in the water bodies with and their renovation including de-silting, constructions/ strengthening of inlets/outlets, repairs etc of these tanks and ponds;

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- (ii) Rejuvenation of small rivers and rivulets through community driven river basin management practices.
- (iii) Catchment area treatment (afforestation etc.).
- (iv) GIS mapping of all the water bodies and an inventory of all water bodies in the country
- (v) Preparing scientific plans for water conservation based on the water availability, nature of soil strata etc.
- (vi) Setting up of Jai Shakti Kendras, a knowledge center on water, in the district headquarters.
- (vii) Taking up works for water conservation through watershed development projects MGNREGA works and drawing up GIS based watershed development plans for all Gram Panchayats
- (viii) Utilizing Finance Commission's grants for Gram Panchayats for implementation of JSA activities, wherever required
- (ix) Convergence of JSA 2021 activities with the celebration of 75 years of Independence
- (x) Taking up roof top rainwater harvesting in government buildings, particularly panchayat offices, aanganwadis schools and PHCs.

6 The 'JSA-II- Catch the rain awareness campaign', started in December 2020 by National Water Mission in collaboration with the Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sanghathan has been building up the tempo for the campaign by involving students and youth for the last 3 months. Their support may be taken for expanding the outreach of the campaign.

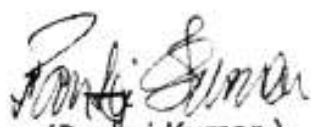
7 For effective implementation of water conservation activities, consultation/ collaboration with Departments of Irrigation/ Water Resources/ Drinking Water and Sanitation/ Forest/ Panchayati Raj Institutions/ Rural Development/ Youth Affairs of the respective States/ UTs is essential. A meeting of all concerned may be convened to firm up JSA activities ensuring convergence.

8 Regional offices of Central Ground Water Board and State Level Nodal Agencies (SLNA) of WDC-PMKSY programme will be able to provide technical support to select suitable locations for construction of suitable water harvesting/ ground water recharge structures.



9. Participation of people and involvement of community is critical in success of the Abhiyan. Steps may be taken to encourage people from different walks of life to participate in the Abhiyan, keeping in mind the constraints of social distancing norms and precautions associated with the Covid pandemic.

10. We sincerely hope and believe that with your personal efforts to lead and monitor these convergent efforts, there would be a significant positive impact in the area of water conservation and sustainable water management in the country.



(Pankaj Kumar)  
Secretary  
Ministry of Jal Shakti  
Government of India



(Nagendra Nath Sinha)  
Secretary  
Department of Rural  
Development  
Ministry of Rural  
Development  
Government of India



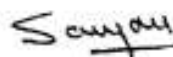
(Durga Shankar Mishra)  
Secretary  
Ministry of Housing &  
Urban Affairs  
Government of India



(Sunil Kumar)  
Secretary  
Ministry of  
Panchayati Raj  
Government of India



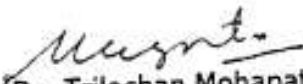
(Smt Usha Sharma)  
Secretary  
Ministry of Sports &  
Youth Affairs  
Government of India



(Sanjay Agarwal)  
Secretary  
Department of Agriculture,  
Cooperation & Farmers'  
Welfare,  
Ministry of Agriculture &  
Farmers' Welfare  
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(Shri Ajay Tirkey)  
Secretary  
Department of Land  
Resources  
Ministry of Rural  
Development  
Government of India



(Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra)  
Secretary  
Department of Agricultural  
Research & Education  
Ministry of Agriculture &  
Farmers' Welfare  
Government of India



(R.P. Gupta)  
Secretary  
Ministry of Environment,  
Forest & Climate Change  
Government of India

Minutes of the meeting regarding convergences of MGNREGS and WDC-PMKSY held on 02.02.2021 at 11.00 AM in the chamber of Joint Secretary (MGNREGS), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

A meeting to discuss issues related to convergence of MGNREGS and WDC-PMKSY was held on 02.02.2021 at 11.00 AM in the Chamber of Joint Secretary (MGNREGS), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. The following Officers were present in the meeting:

1. Shri Rohit Kumar, Joint Secretary (MGNREGS)
2. Shri Umakant, Joint Secretary (WM)
3. Shri Dharmvir Jha, Director (MGNREGS)
4. Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, Director (WM)
5. Dr. C.P Reddy, Sr. Addl. Comm.(WD)

2. In view of the fact that the Labour Budget of MGNREGS for FY 2021-22 has already been finalized, it appears appropriate to take advantage of the situation by taking up already available MGNREGS DPRs. After detailed deliberations on the issues facilitating convergence between MGNREGS and WDC-PMKSY, following course of action was agreed upon:

- (i) Under MGNREGS, Annual Action Plan for 2021-22 has been finalised for about 33,000 Gram Panchayats and GIS based DPRs have been prepared.
- (ii) Out of 33,000 DPRs, at least 2-3 sample DPRs of each State/UT got prepared by DoRD on GIS base in consultation with the Gram Panchayats may be shared with DoLR. The latter will look for suitability of these DPRs as per the new generation guidelines of WDC-PMKSY for execution and will come up with any modifications/ suggestions if any, for their improvement. The comments of states/UTs will be obtained in time-bound manner so that the suitable DPRs may be executed from April, 2021 onwards.

(iii) CEO, SLNA (WDC-PMKSY) of States/UTs will be made member of all State Level Committees related to MGNREGS. District level functionaries and down below will also be involved suitably by issuing necessary joint notifications by DoRD and DoLR.

(iv) DPRs under new generation watershed projects are required to be prepared on saturation basis and activities to be implemented with WDC-PMKSY funds. MGNREGS funds and other schemes' funds are to be mapped in the DPRs. The activities are required to be mapped in consultation with concerned project authorities to avoid any duplicity and to ensure that a particular activity is undertaken exclusively under one scheme.

(v) It was also agreed upon that the project activities involving costs over and above the approved cost of watershed project on saturation basis will be supported from MGNREGS funds. Preference will be given to material cost to be funded from the WDC-PMKSY and the labour component will be borne by MGNREGS funds.

(vi) To ensure the proper convergence at field level an MOU will be signed between CEO, SLNA and Commissioner, MGNREGS at State level. A joint advisory will be issued to all concerned stakeholders for ensuring proper convergence on the model followed in Rajasthan.

(vii) Both MGNREGS and WDC-PMKSY agreed to implement activities following ridge to valley approach strictly. Necessary guidelines and instructions will be issued to ensure implementation of project activities starting from Ridge area / Upper reaches then to follow middle reaches and then to reach lower reaches.

(viii) One model watershed on the lines of Hiware Bazaar, Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra and Piplantri, Rajasmand district, Rajasthan in each watershed district of States & UTs is to be developed by identifying and encouraging proactive Watershed Committee Chairmen with the help of PIAs and District authorities and by maximizing the convergence between WDC-PMKSY and MGNREGs funds. Convergence with other schemes may also be explored.



(ix) The SLNAs may be sensitised to bring awareness among the members of Watershed Committees for repairing and maintenance of assets created under completed Watershed projects by utilization of MGNREGs funds.

(x) DoLR may like to take advantage of conducting training and capacity building of State/UT officials for ensuring convergence. DoRD will support WDC-PMKSY by providing all assistance

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