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Summary records of First meeting of Inter Sectoral Advisory Group for the National Water Mission Goal III "Focused Attention to Vulnerable areas including over-exploited areas"

The first meeting of Inter Sectoral Advisory Group for the National Water Mission Goal III "Focused Attention to Vulnerable areas including over-exploited areas" held on 23rd Dec, 2011 under the chairmanship of Dr S.C.Dhiman, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board in committee room of office of Central Ground Water Board, Jamnagar House, New Delhi. List of members and officers who attended meeting are given in Annexure-1. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed members of the advisory group and other officers. He stated that the main objectives of the National Water Mission are conservation of water, its equitable distribution and management and Goal III is particularly important giving focused attention to vulnerable areas such as flood, drought prone, quality affected and over-exploited. He indicated Groundwater resources assessment as on 2009 and Revised Master Plan for Artificial Recharge prepared by the Board are ready for the approval of the Ministry. He stated that the Advisory Group is constituted to decide line of action in respect of Goal III of the Mission. He requested all the members to introduce themselves in the meeting.

Sh. Sushil Gupta, Member (SML), CGWB and Member Secretary of the Advisory Group stated that there are eight strategies identified in Goal III and responsibility of the concerned agency is indicated against each. He requested members to decide further course of action along with suitable timeframe.

A brief presentation on objectives of the National Water Mission and identified strategies under Goal III was given during the meeting.

Sh. M.E. Haque, Member (WP&P), Central Water Commission emphasised on certain points for consideration by the Group, as given below:

- i) There are few time bound monitorable targets under Goal III and to be highlighted to the Advisory Group.
- ii) Comprehensive Groundwater Aquifer Mapping scheme to be prioritised during XII Plan in groundwater vulnerable areas such as over-exploited
- iii) Representative from the Andhra Pradesh was requested to provide details about Andhra Pradesh Farmer Participatory Model and its replication in other areas.
- iv) Attention is required for expeditious completion of major, medium, minor & ERM projects particularly in vulnerable areas.
- v) Flood management should be taken up in such a manner so as to make it useful towards recharge of aquifers and soil fertility.

Sh. Rajesh Kumar, Chief Engineer (P&D), CWC stated that flood plains along with natural recharge and soil fertility also sustain biota. Hence, there is need to judge which parts of the floods are curse and which are beneficial.

Sh. B.Rath, DC, DAC, Ministry of Agriculture informed that water conservation and recharge activities are part of some of the watershed programs being implemented by the Ministry. Further, he mentioned that community participation is being emphasised through pani panchyats at community tank level. He stated that community tube wells are not successful as in many rural areas electricity is not available and tube wells generally run on diesel. The Chairman requested to share digitized soil & land use maps prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture for incorporation in aquifer mapping.

Sh. G.R.Goyat, Consultant, Govt. of Haryana stated that the State is implementing program on defunct lakes and recharge of tube wells in Karnal district, Haryana. The Chairman requested for sharing the information on successful recharge programs of the state with the Advisory Group in next meeting.

Sh. S.K.Jain, Jr.Hydrogeologist, Groundwater Dept., Govt of Rajasthan informed that the State has awarded consultancy for comprehensive database and initiated community awareness on groundwater recharge. Further, he mentioned that PHED is taking rejuvenation of defunct tube wells and public is being encouraged for roof top rain water harvesting in the state.

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Sh. G.C.Saini, Joint Director, Ministry of Panchayati Raj stated that Panchayats / Gram Sabhas need to be involved during planning irrigation project proposals and during repair work of the irrigation system. He emphasised for motivation campaign for water conservation in over exploited blocks. The Chairman requested to make available state-wise map of Gram Panchayats. Sh Sushil Gupta, Member SML, CGWB and member secretary of the Advisory Group requested Ministry of Panchayati Raj to indicate the mechanism through which CGWB can circulate literature on water conservation to panchayats with the help of the Ministry.

Sh. K.S.P.V.Pavan Kumar, IFS, Addl. Secretary, I&CAD, Andhra Pradesh mentioned about activities of implementation of community based tank management program, Suksham Jal program (micro-irrigation) and farmers schools being run by WALMI in the state.

Dr. Venu Gopal, Joint Director, Andhra Pradesh State Groundwater Dept. Govt. of Andhra Pradesh stated that in certain areas in the state, bedrock is at shallow depth and overlying strata has limited groundwater resources, so in such areas there is no groundwater development through tube wells & bore wells and areas are categorised under safe category. Similarly, he presented a sample case where due to surface irrigation system, groundwater levels have raised leading to water logging conditions and farmers are suffered. Sh M.E. Haque, Member (WP&P), CWC requested him to provide a brief note on it along-with groundwater scenario of adjoining areas to the Advisory Group to look into such cases.

Sh. A.K.Kharya, Director (CC), Central Water Commission informed about development of mathematical model for formulation of flood forecasts by CWC. He further mentioned that states are being encouraged for enforcement of flood plain zoning in flood prone rivers and presently Manipur & Rajasthan states have enacted legislations and Uttar Pradesh has also initiated action on draft legislation. He emphasised that primary action about mapping of the areas likely to experience floods need to be taken by States. Sh Kharya further suggested that base paper for each strategy shall be prepared including the monitorable targets and including relevant information from reports of working groups for the XII Plan.

Sh. Sudhindra Sharma, Consultant (WR), Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation informed that the Ministry is using sustainability funds under NRDWP for recharge and water conservation. He stated that the Ministry is concerned about weak groundwater legislation, groundwater quality issues, lack of awareness of local communities and promotion of traditional rainwater harvesting systems.

Sh Sushil Gupta, Member Secretary of the Advisory Group requested all the members to prepare base paper on strategy identified in Goal III against their agency / ministry name and provide for discussion in next meeting of the Advisory Group. All identified State and Central agencies / organisations in Goal III of National Water Mission are requested to furnish base paper on strategy marked against the agency as per the format attached as Annexure II. Sh M.E.Haque, Member (WP&P), CWC suggested to request States also to provide base paper along with monitorable targets for the XII Plan for the strategies identified under Goal III. The Chairman of the Advisory Group suggested circulating minutes of the meeting to Principal Secretary, Water Resources Dept. of states for information.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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**List of Members attended the 1st meeting of the Inter-Sectoral Advisory Group for Goal-III
Focused Attention to Vulnerable Areas including Over-Exploited Areas held on 23.12.2011**

Sl. No	Name/Designation/Address		
1	Dr. S.C. Dhiman, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board. New Delhi	Chairman	
2	Sh. M.E.Haque, Member (WP&P) Central Water Commission, New Delhi	Member	
3	Sh.Sushil Gupta, Member(SML), Central Ground Water Board. New Delhi	Member Secretary	
4	Sh. K.S.P.V.Pavan Kumar, IFS Addl. Secretary, I&CAD, Andhra Pradesh		Representative of State
5	Dr. Venu Gopal, Joint Director, Andhra Pradesh State Groundwater Dept. Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad		Representative of State
6	Sh. G.C.Saini, Joint Director, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, New Delhi		Representative
7	Sh. Rajesh Kumar, Chief Engineer(P&D) Central Water Commission, New Delhi	Co-opted member	
8	Sh. B.Rath, DC, DAC, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi		Representative
9	Sh. G.R.Goyat, Consultant, Haryana Irrigation Dept.		Representative of State
10	Sh. S.K.Jain, Jr.Hydrogeologist, Groundwater Dept. Govt. of Rajasthan.		Representative of State
11	Sh. Sudhindra Sharma, Consultant (WR), Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, New Delhi		Representative
12	Sh. A.K.Kharya, Director (CC), Central Water Commission, New Delhi.		Representative
Secretariat of Inter -Sectoral Advisory Group			
13	Dr. Poonam Sharma, Scientist-D, CGWB		
14	Dr. S.Subramanian, Scientist-C, CGWB		
15	Sh. Perika. Yadaiah, AHG, CGWB		

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Format for preparation of base paper on Identified Strategy of the Goal III of National Water Mission

1.	Strategy as identified in Goal III of NWM
2.	Agencies/ Organizations as indicated to initiate action in NWM
3.	Present Status of work on identified strategy as on _____
4.	Action plan for the 12 th Five Year Plan on identified strategy and recommendations proposed by the concerned Working Group constituted by the Planning commission for XII Plan
5.	Indicate Monitorable physical and financial Targets
6.	Remarks

Description / Recommended Strategies	XI Plan		XII Plan				Organisation / Agencies to initiate the process	Remarks
	5 th year		1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year	4 th year		
GENERAL								
Goal 3.- Focused attention to vulnerable areas including over-exploited areas								
III.1 Expeditious implementation of water resources projects particularly the multipurpose projects with carry over storages benefitting drought prone areas and rain deficient areas							State Governments	
a. Expeditious implementation of major and medium irrigation projects by States in areas / situations sensitive to climate change. [Creation of storage of 64 BCM is targeted through completion of on-going 205 major & medium irrigation projects during XI Plan. Creation of 9 Mha of irrigation potential is targeted through major & medium irrigation projects (including ERM projects)]							State Governments	
b. Expeditious implementation of ERM of irrigation projects by States in areas / situations sensitive to climate change							State Governments	
c. Expeditious implementation of minor irrigation schemes including schemes for ground water development by States in areas / situations sensitive to climate change.							State Governments	
d. Adequate allocations to be made for undertaking projects and their time bound completion							Planning Commission	
e. Review of policies related to financing of water							Planning	

resources projects	Commission	
<p>III.2 Promotion of traditional system of water conservation - expeditious implementation of programme for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies in areas / situations sensitive to climate change by (i) Increasing capacity of minor tanks, and (ii) Rehabilitating water bodies, with changed focus.</p>	<p>State Governments</p>	
<p>III.3 Physical sustainability of ground water resources</p>		
<p>a. Pursuing the enactment of bill for ground water regulation and management</p>	<p>MoWR</p>	
<p>b. Expeditious implementation of programme for conservation of water through recharge of ground water including rainwater harvesting in areas / situations sensitive to climate change</p>	<p>State Governments and CGWB</p>	
<p>c. Active community participation in ground water regulation & management</p>	<p>MoA, MoRD, MoWR, CGWB</p>	
<p>d. Promotion of a Panchayat /district level model for ground water regulation.</p>	<p>MoPR, State Government, MoWR, CGWB</p>	
<p>e. Exploration of ground water including ground water exploration to decipher deeper fresh water aquifers up to 1000/1500m</p>	<p>State Governments and CGWB</p>	
<p>III.4 Intensive program for ground water recharge in over-exploited, critical and semi-critical areas</p>		
<p>a. Rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water</p>	<p>State Governments and CGWB</p>	

<p>b. Expansion of program for recharge of ground water through dug wells</p>		<p>State Governments and CGWB</p>	
<p>III.5 Conservation and preservation of wetlands</p>		<p>MoEF, State Governments</p>	
<p>III.6 Intensive programme for addressing the quality aspects of drinking water particularly in rural area</p>		<p>DoDWS</p>	
<p>III.7 Promotion of water purification and desalination</p>			
<p>a. Research for development of cost effective water purification and desalination technologies</p>		<p>M/o Earth Sciences, DST</p>	
<p>b. Encourage PPP model for desalination- preparation of necessary guidelines etc.</p>		<p>M/o UD</p>	
<p>c. Provide incentives for desalination - preparation of necessary guidelines and initiation of necessary actions by the respective States and concerned central Ministries</p>		<p>M/o UD</p>	
<p>III.8 Systematic approach for coping with floods</p>			
<p>a. Mapping of areas likely to experience floods, establishing hydraulic and hydrological models and developing comprehensive schemes for flood management & reservoir sedimentation</p>		<p>MoWR CWC, CGWB, BB and State Governments</p>	
<p>b. Encourage and enforce flood plain zoning in flood prone rivers</p>		<p>MoWR CWC and State Governments</p>	