

Dated, Calcutta, the 23rd November, 1979.
27th

14124-MI(1)/38-2/79

From: Shri L. S. Pariyar,
Joint Secretary

To: The Chief Engineer (Agri.), West Bengal,
5, Mustaque Ahmed Street, Calcutta-10.

Subject: Constitution of Local Committees in the
matter of distribution of water from DTU
and RLI installations.

Sir,
In the prevailing acute shortage of irrigation water, during the current rabi season proper distribution and appropriate use of water supplied from minor irrigation installations has become indispensable in the public interest. This can be achieved if supply and distribution of water from all installations are closely regulated so as to ensure a minimum irrigation required by all farmers in the command area for rabi crop. With a view to achieve this, in supersession of the previous order no. 3592 dt. March 1, 1978, it has been decided by the Government that the local committee for distribution of irrigation water from Deep Tubewell and RLI should be reconstituted with immediate effect with the following members :-

1. 01 Local MLA or his authorized representative. ✓
1. 02 Sabhapati of the Panchayat Samity or any Panchayat Samity member authorized by him.
1. 03 The Pradhan of the Gram Panchayat or any Gram Panchayat member authorized by him.
1. 04 AEO of the block or the VLE on his behalf.
1. 05 Sub-Asstt. Engineer of the Diack or the Operator of the installation of this behalf.

2. In addition, the members as mentioned above will in their first meeting of the Committee select and co-opt five representatives of the sub-variety cultivating land ulman in the command area of the installation as members of this Committee in such manner that not more than one representative is taken from one spout. This select should be done also in such a manner that at least three representatives will be from the land falling in the command of the three farthest spouts and at least two representatives will be from the category of small and marginal farmers.

3. It is hereby further ordered that if the concerned MLA is present in the meeting he will be the Chairman of the committee and in his absence the Sabhapati or his representative will be the Chairman of the Committee. Otherwise the Pradhan of the Gram Panchayat or his representative member of the Gram Panchayat will act as the Chairman of the Committee. The meeting of the committee will be convened by the AEO/Asstt. AEO of VLE on his behalf. Presence of half of the members will be necessary to form a quorum of the meeting.

4. Formal orders reconstituting the committee in each case will be issued by the DDO within a week from the receipt of this order with the name and address of the MLA concerned and their authorized representative and also the name and address of the Sabhapati of the Panchayat Samity or this representative, and the Pradhan of the Gram Panchayat or his representative. Information as to reconstitution.

Of this committee should be sent by the DDO to this Department within 30th November 1979.

5. Each Committee should meet within a week of its constitution and settle the irrigation programme for the present rabi season so as to cover the entire command as far as possible. The coverage in acreage for each installation should be reported promptly to the Asstt. Engineer concerned who will compile a consolidated report stating the number of installations under him and the command area concerned and send the report to the Executive Engineer concerned Chief Engineer (Agri.) with a copy to Joint Secretary, Minor Irrigation of Agriculture Department. The committee should, therefore, meet as often as may be necessary.

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5. While regulating the distribution of water from such installations, the following guidelines should be adhered to by each committee.

6.01 The Primary objective of the Committee should be to cover a maximum command area during the pleanent rabi season. For this purpose all farmers within the possible command area should be informed about their entitlement of irrigation water and the system of distribution decided by the Committee.

6.02 In order to achieve a maximum command area it will be necessary to encourage supply of water for low-watering crops. However in low-lying and clay soil lands supply of water for bare crop also may be allowed. Subject to this crops consuming less water like wheat, pulses, vegetables etc. should be encouraged and given priority in the supply of water.

6.03 In all cases the normal and conventional irrigation schedules should be followed and in lieu only critical irrigation i.e. the minimum irrigation required for the crop, should be enforced. For example, where there is already some soil moisture, three instead of four irrigation may do for raising wheat crop this year. Enforcement of critical irrigation in lieu of normal or conventional irrigation schedules particularly for wheat will consequently bring larger areas under cultivation with the available irrigation potential. This measure, despite the risk of shrinkage in per acre yield rate will, it is hoped, result in overall increase in production.

6.04 In order to avoid wastage of water, water management practices through rotational irrigation system amongst the beneficiaries should be enforced wherever possible.

6.05 It would be ensured that all the OIUs/RLIs run for longer hours that the present schedule period. For this purpose all electrically operated installations should take full advantage of power supply as and when available and the farmers should be asked to adjust their cultivating time accordingly as far as practicable. For all diesel engine installations adequate supply of diesel should be ensured with the help of SEDs who will, if necessary, take up the question of supply with the district authorities.

6.06 The committee will ensure that the operator and the Assistant Operator of the Installations are regular in their attendance and remain present during the duty hours at the site and if necessary during critical period they may be requested to discharge duties beyond duty hours also.

6.07 The Committee will see that information of defects and request for any repairs are promptly conveyed to the concerned Assistant Engineer.

Yours faithfully,

sd/- L.S. Periyar.

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G.O 1914 dt 23.9.17

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