Subject:- Minutes of the First meeting of re-constituted Steering Committee for Conducting Vth Minor Irrigation (MI) Census-reg.

The minutes of first meeting of the re-constituted Steering Committee for Conducting Vth Minor Irrigation (MI) Census held on 3rd May, 2013 under the chairmanship of Secretary, Water Resources are enclosed for information and necessary action if any.

(Sudha Midha)
Additional Director General
& Member-Secretary

Encl.: as above

To

All Members as per list below

Copy for information to:
1. PPS to Secy (WR)
2. PPS to Spl. Secy.(WR)

( Dr. S.P. Sharma)
Director(Stats.)

1. Chairman, CWC, New Delhi
2. Chairman, CGWB, New Delhi
3. D.G. and CEO, NSSO, New Delhi
4. Adviser (WR), Planning Commission, New Delhi
5. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi
6. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi
7. Joint Secretary, Dept. of Animal Hus. Dairying, Fisheries, M/Agriculture
8. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj
9. DDG (Economic Census), CSO, New Delhi
10. Principal Secretary, Water Resources, M.P. State
11. Principal Secretary, Revenue Department Rajasthan State
12. Principal Secretary, Land Admin. Dept. Tamil Nadu State
14. Commissioner (MI), PR Wing, M/Water Resources
15. DDG, NIC, M/Water Resources, New Delhi
विशेष: लघु सिंचाई गणना आयोजित करने के लिए पुनर्गठित संचालन समिति की पहली बैठक का कार्यक्रम।

संचालन (जल संसाधन) की अध्यक्षता में दिनांक 03.05.2013 को आयोजित लघु सिंचाई गणना के आयोजन द्वारा पुनर्गठित संचालन समिति की प्रथम बैठक का कार्यक्रम सुचनार्थ एवं आयोजक कार्यावली द्वारा संलग्न किया जा रहा है।

(सुधा सिंधा)
अपर महानिदेशक (साधारण)
एवं सदस्य सिविल

संलग्नक: यथोपरि

सेवा में,

सभी सदस्यों को सूची के अनुसार

सूचनार्थ प्रतिलिपि:

1. सचिव (जल संसाधन) के प्रथम निजी सचिव
2. विशेष सचिव (जल संसाधन) के प्रथम निजी सचिव
3. अपर महानिदेशक (सा.) के प्रथम निजी सचिव

(डॉ एस. पी. शमा)
निदेशक (साधारण)

1. अध्यक्ष, सीडीएसपी, नई दिल्ली
2. अध्यक्ष, सीडीएसपी, नई दिल्ली
3. महानिदेशक एवं मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, एनएसएसओ, नई दिल्ली
4. सलाहकार, योजना आयोग, नई दिल्ली
5. संयुक्त सचिव, कृषि एवं सहहरिता विभाग, कृषि मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
6. संयुक्त सचिव, ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
7. संयुक्त सचिव, पशुपालन, दुधपालन एवं मत्स्य विभाग, कृषि मंत्रालय
8. संयुक्त सचिव, पंचायती राज मंत्रालय
9. उप महानिदेशक (आर्थिक जनगणना), सीएसओ, नई दिल्ली
10. प्रथम सचिव, जल संसाधन, मध्य प्रदेश राज्य
11. प्रथम सचिव, राजस्थान विभाग, राजस्थान राज्य
12. प्रथम सचिव, भरत प्रशा. विभाग, तमिलनाडू राज्य
13. संयुक्त सचिव एवं वित्तीय सलाहकार, जल संसाधन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
14. आयुक्त (एमआई) पीआर विभ, जल संसाधन मंत्रालय
15. उप महानिदेशक, जल संसाधन मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Minutes of the First Meeting of the Steering Committee

The first meeting of the reconstituted Steering Committee for conducting 5th Minor Irrigation (MI) census was held on 3rd May, 2013 at 5.00 p.m. in Committee Room, ShramShakti Bhavan, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Secretary (WR) and was attended by the members of the committee and officers of the Division as given in the annexure.

Spl. Secretary (WR) welcomed all the members and gave the background, importance of MI census and issues involved with respect to quality and timeliness in conducting MI census. He also informed the members that considering the problems with regard to the quality of data during the 4th MI census, use of new technology in conducting MI census is under consideration and as such views of the different departments in Govt. of India and State Govts. dealing with irrigation are important for consideration while deciding the process of conduct of MI census.

Members were also informed about the conduct of pilot census in the State of Rajasthan using mobile phones for data collection. The experience gained, problems faced in reporting of GPS coordinates of MI structures were also shared. DDG (MI Stat) made presentation on the proposed concept, methodology and schedules for 5th MI census. The proposed procedure involve use of mobile technology or paper schedule to be processed by ICR technique as per convenience of the state. Involvement of NIC as Technical Partner for software development and training was also discussed. The draft schedules for village and for MI schemes were presented to the members for consideration. Comments and suggestions were then invited by Secy. (WR).

Adviser, ISO, CWC stated since the pilot study using mobile phones conducted in the state of Rajasthan could not provide consistent data, there is need for some more pilot studies before the exercise can be taken up all over India. He further highlighted the importance of training with regard to concepts of Minor Irrigation to field enumerators and said that the schedules for collecting information need to be consistent with that of earlier census.
Dr. Sahu, Economic Adviser, M/Rural Development shared his experience of conducting Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) using tablet PC specially designed through BEL. He stated that many problems were faced with regard to the equipments and their use for data collection in villages and expressed need for detailed, repeated training to the operators for successfully using the equipments in the field. Further he submitted that at village level a meetings need to be organized to make public the information collected before the Panchayat for acceptability of information collected. He also stated that it is better to use one procedure for conducting census across the country to ensure comparability and consistency across the states. Sh. DC Mishra, DDG, NIC highlighted that the use of technology in data collection is not easy and it takes time to stabilize in the field and precious time and money are generally lost in the beginning. He emphasized importance of obtaining GPS coordinates of MI structures and mapping the same in GIS framework, which may help in future updating but the need and cost of such information be weighed in right perspective. As per representative of Rajasthan PR Dept., sometimes manipulations were also noticed and records were duplicated avoiding field work.

Sh. Mishra also submitted that for unique identification of MI schemes, Khasra Number may not help in geo-referencing MI structures since only in 50% of the villages, land records are geo-referenced. On this aspect, Spl. Secy. remarked that GPS for all the MI schemes may not be necessary and in the areas where high concentration of MI schemes is observed, GPS co-ordinates may be noted on the sample basis to cut costs as GPS logger is costly and there is limited budget available for MI Census.

DG, NSSO stated that only one methodology may be used for conducting MI Census in the whole country and sought clarification on the proposed phases of Census shown in the presentation. He desired that ‘fixed period’ for conduct of census in consultation with the concerned state may be decided and role of FOD officers in the states w.r.t. the training and other functions in MI Census need to be clarified in detail.

Secy.(WR) specifically asked about the views of officers from the states present in the meeting. The representative from Panchayati Raj Dept. of Rajasthan stated that in their state PR Dept. is responsible for MI below 300 Ha. and expressed the view that data on IPC, IPU at the farmer level as included in the schedules may not be possible to
correctly record. He states that in Rajasthan State PR Dept. can collect GPS co-ordinates for MI Census using their staff, if proper training is provided. The Prin. Resident Commissioner, Tamil Nadu stated that although Tamil Nadu has agreed to use mobile technology for MI Census, but desired, in view of discussions, that adequate and effective training to the enumerators has to be provided. Representative from Ministry of Agriculture suggested that a central control room may be established to effectively co-ordinate the operation of MI Census.

It was highlighted that in Vth MI Census, there is greater emphasis on detailed planning, and monitoring during the census operations and for ensuring that, constitution of State Steering committees, appointment of consultants, selection of enumerators, supervisors in time bound manner is crucial.

It was suggested by DDG, NIC that for conducting Vth MI Census, we can also consider utilizing Tablet PCs used in SECC by MoRD, MoUD, which are available in large number. Status regarding their availability, working condition, custodians and the inventory across the states/districts can be checked. In view of the above, it was decided that a technical group be constituted with officers from BEL, MoRD, NIC, MoWR for looking into different aspects of use of Tablet PCs and possibility of incorporating GPS feature in the existing Machines along with financial implications.

Considering the diverse views on use of technology, ways for ensuring quality of data, importance of GPS co-ordinates, financial requirements etc., Chairman desired that all suggestions be duly examined and placed in the next meeting of the committee to be held after about a month.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.