

GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION
WATERSHED MISSION, ORISSA

No.18175/Ag./ Bhubaneswar, Date 30.06.2000/
II DPAP (IWDP) - 16/2000

Whereas scientific management and utilisation of ground water, surface water and rainfall are necessary for soil and water conservation and prevention of conditions of scarcity and moisture stress;

Whereas about thirteen percentage (13%) of total geographical area of the State is classified as waste land which needs to be treated and restored on watershed basis;

Whereas there is a need to prevent ecological degradation and related problems arising from degradation of forests and the soil such as depletion of water table, scarcity of drinking water, shortage of fuel and fodder and a co-ordinated strategy needs to be evolved for planned intervention on the basis of watershed with active participation of the people for conservation of natural resources;

Whereas modern techniques of scientific management including use of satellite imagery need to be adopted for delineation of watersheds, resource management and upgradation, evolving appropriate cropping pattern, selection of appropriate plant species for wasteland development and other tasks related to development of the watersheds;

And

Whereas implementation of schemes such as the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme(DPAP), Employment Assurance Scheme(EAS), National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Areas(NWDPRA), River Valley Project (RVP) and other schemes including externally aided projects for Watershed Development needs to be co-ordinated for achieving optimum results.

Now therefore, Government of Orissa do hereby resolve to constitute the Orissa Watershed Development Mission which would function as the agency for planning and implementation of schemes and programmes for integrated soil and water conservation in the State and to carry out the objectives outlined herein.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

The main objectives of the Mission shall be the following:

- i) identification and prioritisation of blocks and Gram Panchayats in the State on the basis of scientific criteria such as moisture index, area under assured irrigation, topographical features and preponderance of wasteland where comprehensive treatment of watersheds is necessary for improvement of soil and water regime,
- ii) identification of specific watersheds, ordinarily of an area of 500 to 1000 hectares, in the above blocks and Gram Panchayats for treatment,
- iii) preparation of integrated watershed development programmes which shall interalia include schemes for conservation, augmentation and optimum utilisation of water resources, development of appropriate cropping pattern on the basis of assessed availability of moisture, to ensure ecological development and increasing production and productivity through development programmes and schemes in operation from time to time and participation of the community.

- iv) dissemination of information through appropriate extension activities regarding dangers of environmental degradation practices which result in fall in ground water levels and decline in soil quality, the need for water and soil conservation and application of appropriate technologies.
- v) conservation of run-off water, recharging and optimal utilisation of ground water, harvesting of rain water and formulation and implementation of other related programmes.
- vi) treatment of wastelands for restoration through appropriate intervention ,
- vii) adoption of modern techniques of scientific management for accelerated benefits from integrated development programmes in the watersheds,
- viii) improving opportunities for sustainable employment both during and after completion of the watershed development projects.
- ix) improvement of the ecology and availability of water in the watersheds,
- x) promotion of self help groups of land less persons for capacity building.
- xi) to implement the Mission's programmes as a people's movement and as a participatory development programme, with the field agency of line departments providing technical and specialist support.

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORISSA WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT MISSION

The relevant Departments of State Government shall collaborate with the Mission in performance of its tasks. The Agriculture Department shall be the Nodal Department of the State Government for the Mission.

Orissa Watershed Development Mission shall be registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and funds received and expenditure incurred by the Mission shall be operated through one or more accounts in one or more scheduled Banks. Subject to recommendation of the Empowered Committee and approval of the State Govt., the Mission may engage or appoint on deputation, such number of Officers and staff on such terms as may be decided and considered necessary for the performance of the duties and responsibilities of the Mission. The Mission may receive such grants as may be provided by or through the State Govt. and such assistance as the State Govt. may permit it to receive and all funds so received shall be credited into its accounts as aforesaid. The accounts of the Mission shall be audited in such manner and through such agency or agencies as may be decided by the Government.

4. DIRECTOR, WATERSHED MISSION

The Director, Watershed Mission, who shall be appointed by the State Govt., shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Mission. The headquarters of the Mission shall be at Bhubaneswar. The Director, Watershed Mission shall be the Ex-Officio, Deputy Secretary/ Joint Secretary/ Additional Secretary/Special Secretary, as the case may be, of the Agriculture Department. He shall also be a Head of Department (HoD). The Soil Conservation Directorate of the Agriculture Department including its field agencies shall function under the control and supervision of the Director, Watershed Mission.

There shall be a Multi Disciplinary Team which may consist of officers drawn from the Departments of Forest and Environment, Water Resources, Panchayati Raj, S C and S T Development, Fisheries and Animal Resources Development(F & ARD), Agriculture and Co-operation and such other Departments as may be necessary to assist and advise the Mission for effective and co-ordinated implementation of watershed projects and programmes undertaken by the Mission.

Subject to such directions as the State Govt. may issue from time to time, the duties and responsibilities of the Director, Watershed Mission shall be the following:-

- a) To issue guidelines, instructions and approvals in connection with all projects, programmes and proposals recommended by Empowered Committee to be constituted according to the provisions mentioned hereinafter ,
- b) To issue technical, administrative and financial guidelines for accelerated and effective implementation of all watershed projects/ schemes in the State.
- c) To prepare a mission document which shall state specific goals of the Mission, strategies to be adopted, programmes, projects and works to be taken up, and time frame for achieving predetermined specific targets for each watershed,
- d) To supervise and review the progress of all watershed projects and schemes in the State whether implemented under EAS/ IWDPI/ DPAP/ NWDPR/ RVP/ all Externally aided projects for watershed development or under any other scheme or programme. The State Government may entrust to the Mission any other programme which in their opinion should appropriately be implemented through the Mission.
- e) To exercise all the powers of the HoD in the State Government and to function as the Controlling Officer for the budget in respect of the Watershed Mission, and the Soil Conservation Directorate.
- f) All govt. officials working as Project Implementing Agencies(PIA)/ Watershed Development Team members(WDT) under various Watershed Projects shall, so far as functions relating to the duties and responsibilities of the Mission are concerned be treated as on deputation to the Mission and the Director shall exercise all powers of the borrowing authority in respect of such officers and staff.
- g) be the first countersigning authority of Confidential Character Rolls (CCRs) of all Govt. officials functioning as PIA under EAS/ IWDPI/ DPAP/NWDPR/RVP or any such scheme.

5. EMPOWERED COMMITTEE

The Mission shall have an Empowered Committee which shall be constituted as follows:

i)	Chief Secretary	Chairman
ii)	Agriculture Production Commissioner	Member
iii)	Development Commissioner/Additional Development Commissioner.	Member
iv)	Principal Secretary/Secretary, Agriculture Department	Member
v)	Principal Secretary/Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department	Member
vi)	Principal Secretary/Secretary, Forest & Environment Deptt.	Member
vii)	Principal Secretary/Secretary, F. & A.R.D. Deptt.	Member
viii)	Principal Secretary/Secretary, Water Resources Deptt.	Member
ix)	Principal Secretary/Secretary, Finance Deptt.	Member
x)	Principal Secretary/Secretary, S.T. & S.C. Development Deptt.	Member
xi)	Director, Watershed Mission	Member-Secretary

.Empowered Committee may invite any officer/person whose presence may be required in the deliberations of the Committee.

6. FUNCTIONS & POWERS OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE

The functions of the Empowered Committee shall be following:

- i) To advise the Government on amendment of the Rules and Regulations, wherever necessary, for effective implementation of the programmes of the Mission,
- ii) To select & appoint PIAs for Districts/ Blocks,
- iii) To approve specific projects and schemes and set quarterly and annual targets.
- iv) To review and monitor the progress of all Watershed Development Programmes.
- v) To recommend creation of posts of officers and supporting staff in the Mission, subject to the prior concurrence of the Government through the administrative Department.
- vi) To allocate resources among various Departments for implementation of projects and schemes in accordance with objectives identified for each watershed under the guidance of the Mission.
- vii) To accord financial and administrative approval to all the projects and programme. For such projects and programmes, it will not be necessary to consult any Department, but the Director, Watershed Mission shall have the powers to issue necessary instructions and approvals for implementation of all the decisions of the Empowered Committee. Such instructions shall be deemed to be that of the Administrative Department concerned with the subject.

- viii) To engage consultants for specific projects and programmes.
- ix) To constitute sub-committees to look into various aspects of functioning of the Mission and to delegate to the sub-committee such of the power & function as may be deemed appropriate.

7. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The State Govt. shall constitute an Advisory Committee consisting of experts of national repute in the field of Watershed Management, officials and other persons as may be deemed necessary.

8. FUNCTIONS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- i) To advise the Government on effective implementation of the programmes of the Mission.
- ii) To suggest changes, if any, that may be required in the Mission's implementation methodology.
- iii) To evaluate the progress of implementation of the Watershed Development Programme, particularly with reference to people's participation and use of appropriate technologies.
- iv) To advise the Mission for effective dissemination of information and extension messages, for generating mass awareness regarding the dangers of environmental degradation and need for water and soil conservation.
- v) To suggest strategies for management of projects and assets created in the Watersheds after the PIA withdraws.

9. EXTERNAL EVALUATION:

The State Govt./Advisory Committee may conduct external evaluation of the Watershed Mission as and when felt necessary through such Agency as deemed appropriate.

ORDER

It is ordered that this Resolution be published in the extraordinary Gazette of the Orissa Govt. for the information of public and copies thereof may be forwarded to all concerned for information and necessary action.

BY THE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR OF ORISSA.

Sd/ S.C. Hota
dt.30.06.2000

Principal Secretary to Govt.
Agriculture and Co-operation Department.

Memo No. 18176/Ag.

Dt. 30.06.2000.

Copy forwarded to Director, Printing Stationary and Publication, Orissa, Cuttack for

- (a) Publication in the next issue of the Orissa Gazette and
- (b) transmission of 100 (one hundred) copies to this Department for official use.

Director, Watershed Mission and Joint Secretary to Govt.

Memo No.18177/Ag.

Dt.30.06.2000

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development Department of Land Resources, G.Wing,N.B.O. Building, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110001/Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Co-operation, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001 for information and necessary action.

Director, Watershed Mission and Joint Secretary to Govt.

Memo No.18178/Ag.

Dt.30.06.2000

Copy forwarded to All Departments of Government/All Heads of Department/All Revenue Divisional Commissioners/All Collectors/All Project Directors, D.R.D.A./Accountant. General, Orissa, Bhubaneswar/ Secretary to Governor/ Secretary to Chief Minister, Orissa/ Secretary, Board of Revenue / Private Secretary to Minister(S), Agriculture, Orissa/ Private Secretary to All Ministers and Ministers(S)/ Private Secretary to Chief Secretary, Orissa/Private Secretary to Development Commissioner, Orissa/Private Secretary to Agriculture Production Commissioner, Orissa/ Private Secretary to Additional Chief Secretary/ Private Secretary to Chief Administrator, Special Area Development(KBK), Orissa/ Private Secretary to Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department, Orissa for information and necessary action.

Director, Watershed Mission and Joint Secretary to Govt.

20(Twenty) copies to Guard File for official use.

Director, Watershed Mission and Joint Secretary to Govt.