

Minutes of the State level Steering Committee Meeting held on 07.02.2019 for conducting 6<sup>th</sup> Minor Irrigation Census and 1<sup>st</sup> Census of Water Bodies

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- 1.1) 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of State level Steering Committee for conducting 6<sup>th</sup> Minor Irrigation Census and 1<sup>st</sup> Census of Water Bodies was held on 07.02.2019 under the chairmanship of Financial Commissioner (Revenue) in his office chamber at Rail Head Complex, Jammu. The list of participants is at annexure- "A".
- 1.2) In the beginning, Financial Commissioner (Revenue) welcomed the participants and apprised with regard to various activities performed and required to be performed for smooth conduct of the 6<sup>th</sup> Minor Irrigation Census and 1<sup>st</sup> Census of Water Bodies. Referring to the objective of the scheme "Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics, he informed that one of its main objectives is to conduct Census of Minor Irrigation Structures in the Country on quinquennial basis. These Censuses help in preparation of a sound database for Minor Irrigation Sector. The data will be used for estimating the availability of Ground Water and formulation of realistic plan for water Resources Development. The scope of Irrigation Census has now been expanded to include Census of water bodies also with 100% Central Assistance.
- 1.3) The Director (planning) gave a brief resume of the pre-field activities carried out in the direction of conducting the censuses. He informed that training to the field functionaries of Revenue Department viz Tehsildars/Naib-Tehsildars/Girdawars/Patwaris/OQs has been imparted at their respective District Headquarters in all Districts except Leh and Kargil and the census material was also distributed. Moreover, Deputy Commissioners have been authorized as per plan of activities approved by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India to procure Mobile Devices @ 2 for each Tehsil as required for capturing photographs of water bodies.
- 1.4) At the instance of Financial commissioner (revenue), the schedules prescribed for conducting the censuses were discussed threadbare and queries whatever raised by



the participants were clarified. Taking part in the discussions, the Director (Planning) apprised the participants that Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India in continuation to instruction manual has made available some information thereby clarifying some observations raised by different States and are being circulated to the field functionaries for taking care of it while filling-in the schedules.

2) Methodology and Supervision/Sample Check:

2.1) Deliberating upon the methodology and supervision for ensuring quality data collection under the censuses, Director General, Economics and statistics, J&K suggested that supervision at Tehsil/Block level shall also be entrusted to Block Development Officers of Rural Development department besides the proposal which has been placed before the committee.

2.2) After deliberating upon the methodology and supervision, the following decision was taken:-

The methodology as communicated by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India in the Instruction Manual shall be adopted. Regarding supervision, the following level of supervision was approved:-

2.2.1) Enumerators: - Patwaris of Revenue Department being the custodians of the revenue records in the state shall be the enumerators for the conduct of 6th Minor Irrigation Census and 1st Census of Water Bodies with reference year 2017-18. Presently, there are 1761 patwar halqas with strength of 4848 patwaris. The census as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, GOI shall be carried out at village level. In an average a patwari has to enumerate/ collect the data from 1.45 villages.

2.2.2) Enumerator's Supervisors:- Girdawars and Naib Tehsildars shall be the immediate supervisors to the basic workers i.e. Patwaris. There are 427 GQ circles and 566 Niabats in the State. On an average a supervisor has to supervise almost 05

enumerators. As per guidelines, a supervisor has to scrutinize 100% of village schedules and 25% of Minor Irrigation Scheme Schedules/ Water Body Schedules.

2.2.3) Tehsil level Officers:- Tehsildars and Block Level Officers shall be the Tehsil level officers for both the Censuses i.e, 6th Minor Irrigation Census and Census of Water Bodies. As per guidelines, a Tehsil level Officer shall visit at least 05 villages in his Tehsil and verify the schemes/ water body schedules covered and scrutinize at least 10% of water body schedules. Tehsil level officer shall fill up the supervisors report form and submit all the schedules to the District Officer concerned (with a copy to state nodal department).

2.2.4) District Level Officer: - Deputy Commissioner shall be the District Level Officer for both the censuses. As per guidelines, a district level officer needs to scrutinize 1% of total schedules or 100 schedules whichever is maximum. The District level officer needs to visit at least 05 villages in five different tehsils to physically verify the quality and coverage of Minor Irrigation Schemes and Water Bodies. The district level officer is required to fill the supervisor's report form and submit it to the state nodal office with a copy to the centre.

2.2.5) Filled-in-schedules of both the censuses shall be received by the statistical cell in the office of Financial Commissioner Revenue and after proper scrutiny, the data shall be fed in the online portal of the concerned ministry for generation of final reports.

3) Providing/Sharing of information by line Departments:

3.1) The participants were informed that as per guidelines, the primary enumerators, while canvassing the schedules, will visit the owner of the Minor Irrigation Schemes/water Bodies or its next neighbor and collect information on the basis of personal enquiry from him. The physical verification of the schemes / water bodies will also be done by the enumerators. The primary enumerator should take along with them the list of all schemes covered in the last census during 2013-14 while going for field work. He should visit and cover all these schemes again. He should



also find out from village officials/knowledgeable people/water use association, any new MI schemes which have started functioning after 2013-14. The issue was discussed threadbare in the meeting and accordingly, it was felt that the role of line departments like Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Agriculture Department, Rural Development Department etc is very crucial as they have to share the details of Minor Irrigation Schemes which have started functioning after 2013-14 to the concerned Tehsildars/field functionaries of the Revenue Department besides sharing the information with regard to water Bodies. The enumerators are also to be provided necessary co-operation/information by the field functionaries of line departments.

3.2) After discussions, it was decided that all HODs of Line Departments will issue circular instructions to the field functionaries at District/Tehsil/Village Levels to extend their full co-operation to the enumerators during conduct of the censuses. A draft circular in this context be provided to the HODs by Director (Planning) after getting it approved from the Financial Commissioner (Revenue).

#### 4) Honorarium:

4.1) The honorarium is to be provided as a token of appreciation of work entrusted to the various officials in addition to their normal duties. As per guidelines, the honorarium is flexible and to be fixed by the States keeping in view the number of Minor Irrigation Schemes, distance and terrain in their States. After discussing the issue, it has been observed that Districts with less number of schemes have difficult terrain and Districts with large number of schemes have soft terrain.

4.2) Taking in view all aspects of the discussions, it was decided to adopt uniform rates of honorarium for the whole State.

#### 5) Field Work:-

5.1) While discussing the issue with regard to commencement of field work, the chair was informed that in most of the Districts, snowfall has taken place and it is very difficult for the enumerators to move from one location to another location. Moreover,

the revenue staff at different levels is presently pre-occupied with the updation of the data required under the scheme "Pradhan Mantri Kissan Samman Nidhi".

5.2) Taking note of all the circumstances, it was decided to start the field work in the last week of February, 2019.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.



Director (planning)  
O/o Financial Commissioner (Rev.)  
J&K, Jammu

No:- FC/P&S/MI/540-82

Dated:- 12 .02.2019

Copy to the:-

- 1) Principal Secretary to Government, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department, Civil Secretariat, J&K, Jammu.
- 2) Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, , Civil Secretariat, J&K, Jammu.
- 3) Additional Director General, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India.
- 4) Director General, Rural Development Department, Jammu.
- 5) Director General, Economics and Statistics, J&K, Jammu.
- 6) Special Secretary to Chief Secretary, Civil Secretariat, J&K, Jammu.
- 7-28) All Deputy Commissioners.
- 29) Deputy Director General, State Head NSSO, Government of India, J&K, Jammu.
- 30) Director, Rural Development Department, Kashmir.
- 31-32) Director, Agriculture Production Department, Jammu/Kashmir.
- 33-34) Director, Command Area, Jammu/Kashmir.
- 35) Director, Central Water Commission, J&K.
- 37-38) Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control, Jammu/Kashmir.
- 39) Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India.
- 40-41) Superintending Engineer, Public Works (R&B) Department, Leh/Kargil.
- 42) Private Secretary to FCR for information of the FCR.
- 43) In-Charge, website of Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K . He will upload the Minutes on the website of Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K

(5/5)



## **Annexure-A**

### **List of Participants**

- 1) Director General, Rural Development Department, Jammu.
- 2) Director General, Economics and Statistics, J&K, Jammu.
- 3) Deputy Director General, State Head NSSO, Government of India, J&K, Jammu.
- 4) Director, Rural Development Department, Kashmir.
- 5) Director, Agriculture Production Department, Jammu/Kashmir.
- 6) Director, Command Area, Jammu/Kashmir.
- 7) Director (Statistics) with Financial Commissioner (Revenue), J&K.
- 8) Director, Central Water Commission, J&K.
- 9) Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control, Jammu/Kashmir.
- 10) Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India.
- 11) Superintending Engineer, Public Works (R&B) Department, Leh/Kargil.