

Water Resources Investigation & Development Department



The Water Resources Investigation & Development Department (WRID&D) recognizes the importance of water resource vital to economic growth. The Department has identified three challenges in the present, Impact of Climate Change on the Water Resources, Increasing dependence on the ground water resources and deterioration in the Quality of Water. In response to the emerging challenges of the time the Department has embarked upon large scale harvesting of rain water. .

a) Physical Achievements (Plan & other Fund)

Year	No. of Scheme Completed
2010-11	1670
2011-12	1803

b) Physical Achievements - Command Area Development

Year	Construction of Field Channels (In Hectare)
2010-11	2463
2011-12	3746

c) Physical Achievements - Jal Dharo & Jal Bharo (Mgnrega)

Year	No. of Mandays created
2009-10	0
2010-11	0
2011-12 (Anticipated)	5347

d) Physical Achievements - Artificial Recharge & Rain Water Harvesting Schemes

Year	No. of Artificial Recharge & Rain Water Harvesting Schemes completed
2009-10	7
2010-11	6
2011-12 (Completed/ In Progress)	32

e) Jal Dharo & Ja Bharo (MGNREGA) Started During 2011-12

As on 31.03.12

Sl. No.	Scheme Type	Scheme Proposed (No.)	Scheme in Progress (No.)	Estimated Cost (Rs. In Crore)	Expenditure incurred(Rs. In Lakh)	No. of Mandays to be created (in Lakh)	No. of Mandays created (approx)
1	Source to Field (STF)	3662		25.60		20	
2	TANK	138	6	11.54	6.95	8	5347
	TOTAL	3800	6	37.14	6.95	28	5347

Jal Dharo-Jal Bharo Programme has been initiated on multiple platforms.

WRI&DD has identified the following major milestones that will be pursued:-

- Improve governance in Water Management through Water User Associations.
- Command Area Development to reduce the gap between potential created (IPC) & potential utilized (IPU).
- Enhance water use efficiency in irrigation by suitable micro-irrigation schemes (Sprinkler & Drip).
- Increase area under Assured Irrigation under various schemes.
- Strict vigil on water quality, both ground and surface water, and evolve effective mitigation strategies.

- De-siltation and restitution of water bodies comprising of lakes, reservoirs and tanks etc.

- Expand the scope of Rainwater harvesting, Artificial recharge with the help of the local community.
- Priority to the Flagship programme (AIBP-90:10) of Govt. of India.
- Promoting conjunctive use of Surface and Ground water for Minor Irrigation

Achievement/Initiatives of WRI&DD during 2011-12.

1. **‘ Jal Dharo-Jal Bharo Programme ’**- The objective of the Jal Dharo-Jal Bharo Programme is to harvest rain water in all kinds of water bodies viz, ponds,tanks, reservoirs, canals and underground aquifers. The Programme also aims towards building citizen's awareness towards rain water conservation and efficient water-use in irrigation. On implementation of the

above schemes under this programme , a huge no of mandays may be created resulting in employment generation in rural areas. Under this programme, WRI&DD has proposed different schemes like, Excavation of existing Ponds, Ground Water Recharge of the aquifers, Source To Field Scheme (STFS) under MGNREGA, Excavation of Reservoirs etc. During 2011-12, 3800 Nos scheme have been proposed with an estimated cost 37.14 Crore against targeted Persondays 28 Lakh in the Districts like Hooghly, Burdwan , Coochbehar, South Dinajpur, Maldah , Howrah and Murshidabad. Some of the works are in progress.

Mass awareness campaign of the programme has already been launched in Kolkata areas and different districts of the State.

There was a target of excavation/re-excavation of 50,000 ponds in 5 years from 2011-12. With continuous monitoring and by all out efforts, the department succeeded to excavate/re-excavate 18,500 ponds in one year i.e. in 2011-12.

2. **Artificial Recharge & Rain Water Harvesting** - SWID takes up pilot schemes for Artificial recharge & Rain Water Harvesting particularly in drought prone districts of Purulia, Bankura and Paschim Medinipur as well as in some blocks where ground water assessment has indicated semi-critical stage of development. Two types of schemes were formulated – (i) Recharge through Roof top Rain Water Harvesting and (ii) Recharge through percolation tanks in laterite / hard rock terrain. During 2011-12, 6 Nos. of such scheme have been completed and 26 Nos. are in progress in different district.
3. **Externally funding assistance from World Bank** - West Bengal Accelerated Development of Minor Irrigation Project in West Bengal (WBADMIP), will be taken up during 2012-2013 under external funding assistance from World Bank. 4660 nos. of MI structures has been estimated to be taken up for creation of additional 138901 ha of CCA with an estimated cost of Rs. 1380.00 Crore within a span of six (6) year.
4. **Flagship programme of Govt. of India (AIBP-90:10)** (for Tribal villages and Drought prone blocks utilizing surface water potential more than 50 Hectare)- During 2011-12, about 1722 ha. Additional Minor Irrigation Potential was created. In AIBP during 2011-12, 94 nos. of Surface MI schemes have been proposed in the Districts of Bankura and Purulia with an estimated cost of Rs. 44.86 Crore

which may create 6840 ha. additional irrigation potential.

5. **Special drive at Jangle Mahal -**

- a) A project amounting to Rs. 24.40 Crore for rainwater harvesting & storing during monsoon has been approved in three districts of Jungle mahal (viz. West Medinipur, Bankura and Purulia) under of RKVY by Agriculture Department during the year 2011-12. It includes 83 Nos. scheme consists of construction of Rainwater Harvesting Tanks (RWHT), Check Dams, SFMIS, Re-excavation & Modernisation of Tanks etc. Most of the works are in progress.
- b) 24.68 Crore estimated cost for 93 Nos. Renovation of W.T.A, Conversion & Construction of Pump House of River Lift Irrigation Schemes in L.W.E Areas (Jungle Mahal) in the District of Bankura, Paschim Medinipur and Purulia and as 5.00 Crore estimated cost for Installation of Sprinkler Irrigation Kit for Drought Management Programme including Jungle Mahal for the year 2011-2012 have been approved. In both cases, rest 70% fund is to be released from State budget. Most of the works are in progress.
6. **13TH Finance Commission** - An amount of Rs. 32.96 Crore has been sanctioned & 16.47 Crore has been released during 2011-2012 in connection with different M.I. Schemes under Non-Plan Schemes. The works are in progress.
7. **State Drought Relief Fund (SDRF)**- Department of Disaster Management, GoWB has been released financial sanction amounting to Rs. 62.89 Lakhs for the flood affected districts to meet the expenditure for repair and restoration of damaged Minor Irrigation installations during August, 2011. Works are in progress.
8. **Minor Irrigation Census**- Apart from this the Water Resource and Drought Management Mission has been contributed and Minor Irrigation Census has also been done.
9. **Minor Irrigation Potential (Target & Achievements)**- Ultimate Minor Irrigation potential in the State has been assessed at 44.34 lakh hectares long back. Creation of Minor Irrigation. During 2011-12, tentatively 26479 Hectare MI Potential has been created by WRI&DD through Plan fund (Core

Sector, RIDF, AIBP etc.) & Other fund.

10. **State Water Policy- A High Level inter-Departmental Committee** has been constituted to finalize the 'State Water Policy' and making arrangement for allocation of water to various industries until formation of the State Water Regulatory Authority.
11. **Amendment of 'West Bengal Ground Water Resources (Management, Control & Regulation) Act, 2005'** – During 2011-12, this Act is amended, regarding 'Registration of Existing Wells' and 'Permit for new Wells'. Order has been issued which permits sinking of wells upto the discharge limit of 30 meter cube per hour using 5HP Pumps in safe blocks without obtaining permit from SWID.
12. **Estimation of Ground Water Resources of the State -During 2011-12**, this estimation is carried out by SWID jointly with Central Ground Water Board. As per this estimate updated as on August, 2011 subject to the approval of MOWR, GoI, the net ground water availability of the State has been

assessed to be 27.58 lakh ham. While the gross ground water draft for all uses comes to be 10.91 lakh ham. Thus, the stage of ground water development for the State as a whole is 39.54%.

13. **West Bengal Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. (WBAIC)**, under the Department, has forayed into newer areas like food processing, horticulture and cultivation of 'amlaki' and other medicinal plants on pilot basis, apart from its usual activities of water resources development.
14. **Sinking of wells made easy-** Government Order has been issued which permits sinking of wells up to the discharge limit of 30 meter cube per hour using 5 HP pumps in safe Blocks, without obtaining permit under the West Bengal Ground Water (Management, Control and Regulation) Act. 2005, popularly known as (State Water Investigation Directorate) SWID clearance. This has been done for the benefit of farmers. **This will enable to give power connection to large number of small and marginal farmers without insisting on SWID Clearance.**

