

Board Paper No. :
Subject : Fund Allocation for Rural Water Supply & Sanitation
Reference to previous Board Papers (if any) : S/70/2011-752 (Accelerated GW Development Programme)
Date Submitted : 13th May 2011

Background

The Government's development policy, 'Mahinda Chintana – The Emerging Wonder of Asia' has outlined the policies and strategies for enhancement of water supply coverage. Water supplies are categorised as (a) NWSDB schemes, (b) Rural water supplies and (c) Individual point sources, and expected provincial-wise growth for each category is indicated. It is observed that in most of the provinces 12 to 15% rural water supply growth is envisaged for the period 2010 to 2020. Even higher levels of growth are indicated in the Northern, North Central and Southern provinces.

In order to accomplish the water source development towards achieving these targets, the Board approved the policy paper on 'Accelerated Ground Water Development Programme' and also approved the setting up of the Ground Water Working Group (GWWG). This working group has already been established and strategies for planning, project identification, quality assurance, sustainability etc. are being worked out.

In order to implement these projects and programmes it is necessary to formulate a funding strategy.

Funding Strategy for project implementation

Rural Water Supply development proposals for certain districts have already been submitted to the National Planning Department for approval. However, it is felt that the funding available for this sector through donors is rather limited and would be inadequate to fulfil the set targets.

In several districts, NWSDB is implementing major water supplies in order to enhance the urban water supply coverage. These are multi billion rupee projects targeted to cover the urban and denser populations in the district. The sparsely populated rural populations do not benefit from these developments.

In order to accomplish a more equitable outcome, it would be appropriate and very practicable to allocate a small percentage of the project budget for rural water supply and sanitation in the sanitation in the respective district/province.

Such applications would be utilised to implement the following categories of work.

- A. Small scale piped rural water supplies
- B. New construction/rehabilitation of hand plumps.
- C. Protected dug wells.
- D. Rehabilitation/improvement of rural water supply systems.
- E. Rainwater harvesting/recharge systems.
- F. Special water supplies for drinking and cooking purposes in areas where the groundwater quality is not satisfactory.
- G. Provision of sanitations facilities.

Approval sought

Approval of the Board of Directors is sought,

1. To make it mandatory to allocate 5% of the project cost for 'Rural Water Supply and Sanitation' in all estimates for major projects.
2. A provisional item to be introduced in the project budget for this purpose.
3. To negotiate with the relevant parties to make possible allocation for rural water supply and sanitation in major projects that have been recently concluded or are being negotiated, so that certain urgent works could be implemented.

.....
AGM(RWS)

.....
Addl. GM (P&P)

.....
General Manager