

Report on Visit of Delegation of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra State in Gujarat State



Purpose: Experience Sharing and Study on Statewide Water Supply Grid and Interaction with Beneficiaries



Water and Sanitation Management Organization

3rd Floor, Jalsewa Bhawan, Sector 10-A, Gandhinagar - 382 010.

☎ (079) 2324 7170/71, 2323 7075 Fax: (079) 2324 7485;

Website: www.wasmo.org; E-mail: wasmo@wasmo.org

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Synopsis of Statewide Water Supply Grid in Gujarat:

Government of Gujarat has implemented an ambitious master plan for creation of State Wide Water Supply Grid as a long time sustainable solution towards drought proofing of the sector. The Grid aims at inter basin water transfer from sustainable surface water sources to water scarce and quality affected areas. It covers 75% population of the State through surface / sub-surface sources. The State with all its strength and resources created huge infrastructure, which includes 2684 km of bulk pipelines, 1.20 lakh km distribution pipelines, 23693 storage and hydraulic structures and network of 181 water treatment plants with a total installed capacity of 290 crore liters of water per day.



The initiative of the State has resulted into providing benefits to about 3.95 crore population spread across 11545 villages and 132 towns with assured safe water on a sustainable basis, mostly in water scarce regions. Water quality affected villages are also connected to the Grid, which has immense health significance. Women and children are now relieved from long waits and drudgery of fetching water by traveling long distances.

Mission mode approach and Efforts made by Gujarat State in achieving drinking water security through grid arrangements have got popularity all over the World. Government of India, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation insist to State Governments on all platforms of discussion to visit Gujarat to study the efforts made by them in drinking water sector.



Mr Pankaj Jain, IAS, the Secretary, Govt of India interested about Statewide Water Supply Grid

The grid arrangements have also remained the point of attraction by other States to replicate such approach for achieving drinking water security in their States.

Visit Programme Schedule

Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra States have expressed their interest to visit Gujarat for studying Statewide Water Supply Grid. A combined visit for these three States was proposed by Gujarat State. Accordingly, six member delegation of Andhra Pradesh headed by Dr K S Jawahar Reddy, IAS, the Secretary (Rural Water Supply), ten member delegation of Karnataka State headed by Mr B G Gurupadaswamy, the Secretary (Water Resources) and nine member delegation of Maharashtra State headed by Mr D C Landge, Superintending Engineer visited Gujarat State from August 11 – 13, 2014 for this purpose.

A. On August 11, 2014 (Monday)

1. Presentation and discussion on Statewide Water Supply Grid and Community Participation:

After welcome to all participants, a presentation was made by the Member Secretary Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Board (GWSSB) & CEO, Water and Sanitation Management Organisation (WASMO) covering status and development in drinking water sector, integrated efforts made by Gujarat Water Infrastructure Limited (GWIL) & GWSSB to make paradigm shift from ground water to surface water and drought proofing of water supply sector through Statewide Water Supply Grid, which provides benefits to 3.95 crore population spread across 11545 villages and 132 towns. The visiting teams took keen interest and asked questions to know on various important matters. Peace loving and progress minded people of



Gujarat State supported the Government including giving of their agricultural land with “Right to Use” for the grid development.

Second half of the session was focused on community participation. The drives taken by WASMO to motivate people and make them willing to join community-managed programme for improved in-village water supply systems and services. The participants asked about O&M, water tariff and support by the Government in ensuring sustainability of systems and services. CEO WASMO brought out that out of about 10,500 villages, which completed scheme works, more than 8,700 villages have fixed and are collecting water tariff for running the system.

The session remained quite interactive and participants shared their experience and sectoral development taken up in their own States.

2. Visit to Kudasan Headworks

Kudasan Headworks with 5 MLD capacity supply Narmada-based treated water to 12 villages. The visiting teams have visited the headworks and filtration and treatment processes adopted for safe water supply. The visiting teams also saw the work in progress for setting up of headworks with 35 MLD capacity for providing water supply services to Gandhinagar adjacent areas. The visiting teams were impressed with the management of water supply services.

3. Visit to Ishwarpura village

After making warm welcome by the community, Pani Samiti described their efforts right from planning of works, arranging community contribution and implementation of planned works. Pani Samiti was seen to be active to arrange O&M of the scheme in purposeful manner. Most of houses have soakpits to dispose-off waste water. The community also described dairy development success in the village. The visiting delegations appreciated efforts of the community.



B. On August 12, 2014 (Tuesday)

4. Visit to Navda Pumping Station in Botad District

The visiting teams have visited Navda pumping station, which is the largest drinking water pumping station in Asia. Mr J B Patel, CEO GWIL and Mr Ravi Solanki, Chief General Manager (Project) accompanied the visiting teams. The field officers have facilitated and have guided them to the entire complex. The visiting teams have asked about the pumping systems functioning, quality of pipes used and storage structures including laying of pipelines.



Andhra Pradesh delegation also visited Dhanki Pumping Station in Surendranagar district. The huge infrastructure has been created with lift arrangements at five different places and Dhanki lifts whole open canal water to about 10 metre height.

C. On August 13, 2014 (Wednesday)

5. Experience and information sharing

The Secretary of Andhra Pradesh with his team joined in the meeting. They asked many important issues with M S, GWSSB. The visiting team also described the status and development in drinking water sector in their State. The information, which were demanded by the team were also provided.

Team of Maharashtra State had a separate meeting. The team appreciated the efforts made by Gujarat in creating Statewide Water Supply Grid. Maharashtra, being neighbouring State would also think seriously to have some sort of similar arrangements. The visiting team also agreed with splendid community participation for bringing improvements in water supply services.



Meeting with Delegation of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra State



Discussion at Navda with Delegation of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra State