



**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**  
**BLOCK-B, SECOND FLOOR, JANATA BHAWAN, DISPUR, GUWAHATI-06**

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No.448103/23

**ORDER BY GOVERNOR OF ASSAM**

**NOTIFICATION**

**Sub: Handing over and Operation & Maintenance of Piped Water Supply Schemes (PWSS) under JJM falling under urban areas and utilisation of 15th Finance Commission tied Grants for Water and Sanitation.**

In view of the decision of the Council of Ministers in its Meeting held on 31/01/2024, the Governor of Assam is pleased to issue the following directives:

- i) The Piped Water Supply (PWS) Schemes falling under the Municipal/Urban Local Bodies (ULB) areas shall be handed over to the respective Municipalities/ULBs and upon handing over the PWS Schemes, those have to be maintained by the respective Municipalities/ULBs. The PWS Schemes falling partly in Municipality/ULB area and GP area has to be managed jointly. The expenses for the operation & maintenance of such schemes will be borne by the concerned Municipality/ULB and GP as per the proportion of households falling under the respective jurisdictions covered under the PWS Scheme.
- ii) It is observed that some of the PWS Schemes fall fully under Urban/Municipal areas and some Schemes fall under both Urban/Municipal and Rural areas. In such a scenario the Schemes falling under Urban/Municipal areas, Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and Department of Housing & Urban Affairs (DoHUA) will sign a MoU. To ensure seamless handing over of schemes, MoUs will be signed between PHED and the respective Municipality/Urban Local Body (ULB), followed by a MoU to be signed between the Municipality/ULB and the Water Users Committee (WUC). For schemes falling partly under GP and partly under Municipality/ULB, WUCs need to be formed or reconstituted with representation from both entities. For schemes entirely within Municipality/ULB areas, WUCs need to be formed/reconstituted with representation solely from the Municipality/ULB. For schemes already under in the GPs, MoUs have been signed between PHED, Gram Panchayat (GP), and WUC. The proposed MoUs will clearly define the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders (GP, WUC, and Municipality/ULB) for each scheme. After signing of MoU, both GPs and Municipalities/ULBs

shall share the responsibilities for O&M based on the proportion of households in their respective areas.

- iii) The urban area schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Assam shall be clubbed in a convenient Municipality/ULB-wise group. The WUC may be re-constructed, with representatives from the Ward Committees.
- iv) Once the scheme is owned by the Municipality/ULB, it shall be responsible for mobilizing the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission grant for the purpose of O&M including payment of monthly remuneration to the Scheme Operators and electricity charges.
- v) The 15th Finance Commission tied Grants to be utilised for the maintenance of Water assets by transferring the said amount to the Municipalities. The tied grant can be used to ensure the supply of safe drinking water, grey-water management, and rainwater harvesting.
- vi) The estimated cost of maintenance of a PWS Scheme for
  - (a) Small range PWSS-SVS with FHTC Nos. - upto 100 Nos. shall be Rs.13000/- pm (approx.) for ground based schemes and Rs.22000/- pm (approx.) for surface water based schemes.
  - (b) Medium range PWSS -SVS with FHTC Nos. - 100 to 200 Nos. shall be Rs.14000/- pm (Approx.) for ground based schemes and Rs.24000/- pm (approx.) for surface water based schemes.
  - (c) Large range PWSS -MVS with FHTC Nos. – 200 and above shall be Rs.28000/- pm (Approx.) for ground based schemes and Rs.40000/- pm (approx.) for surface water based schemes.
  - (d) The Operation & Maintenance cost includes monthly electricity bill, honorarium for caretaker, and purchase of chemicals, replacement/repairing, nominal upgradation, monthly scheme expenditure and other miscellaneous expenditures. In case of large MVS, the bulk water supply chain also involves the scope of financial resources at a suitable rate depending on the coverage pattern, with respect to one Elevated Service Reservoir to cater for the need of the command area. While evolving the rate of such bulk water supply, the cost of production of treated water will have to be evaluated considering the financial involvement in the respective MVS for this purpose.

- vii) The monthly operation and maintenance (O&M) expenses, as well as occasional upgrade costs of the scheme, will be addressed using funds from the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission (FFC) tied grants. These grants will be released by the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to the Water Users' Committee through the Gram Panchayat Water and Sanitation Committee (GPWSC) and Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC). To address financial shortfalls and ensure the continued functionality of the scheme, the Water Users' Committee will prepare proposals for additional funds. These proposals will then be submitted to the PRIs for necessary approval and sanctioning.
- viii) The 15th Finance Commission fund can also be utilized for the purchase of chemicals, regular maintenance, and emergency responses viz., breakdown of scheme infrastructures, replacement of major machinery parts, and remuneration of the Scheme Operators etc.
- ix) The Ward Committees of the Municipality/ULB and the GP member's representatives of the WUC shall collect the water tariff from the beneficiaries @Rs.100/- to Rs.150/- per household based on field requirement falling under their respective jurisdictions
- x) For the towns with existing schemes of Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board, existing man power i.e. work charged employees of Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board shall be employed in place of Jal Mitras who are the scheme operators engaged by WUCs.

**(SyedainAbbasi, IAS)**  
Special Chief Secretary, Assam  
Public Health Engineering Department

Memo No.448103/23-A

Copy forwarded for kind information and necessary action to:-

- 1) The P.P.S. to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam for kind appraisal of the Chief Minister, Assam.
- 2) The P.S. to the Hon'ble Ministers, Govt. of Assam for kind appraisal of the Ministers.
- 3) The Secretary, Coordination, O/o the Chief Secretary, Assam for kind appraisal of the Chief Secretary.
- 4) The Accountant General (A&E), Assam, Maidamgaon, Guwahati-29.
- 5) The O.S.D., Political (Cabinet Cell) Department, Assam.

- 6) The P.S. to the Spl. Chief Secretary, Assam, .....  
Department.
- 7) The P.S. to the Sr. Most Secretary, Finance Department, Assam.
- 8) The P.S. to the Sr. Most Secretary, Parliamentary Affairs Department, Assam.
- 9) The P.S. to the Sr. Most Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly, Assam.
- 10) The P.S. to the Sr. Most Secretary, Panchayat & Rural Development Department,  
Assam.
- 11) The P.S. to the Sr. Most Secretary, Department of Housing & Urban Affairs, Assam.
- 12) The P.S. to the Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Commissioner &  
Secretary/ Secretary.....Department.
- 13) The Director, Assam Govt. Press, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-21. He is requested to  
publish this notification in Assam Gazette in next publication.
- 14) The Principal Secretary of KAAC/DHAC/BTAD, Assam
- 15) The Mission Director, JalJeevan Mission, Assam.
- 16) The Mission Director, Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), Assam.
- 17) The Chief Engineer (PHE), Water, Assam.
- 18) The Chief Engineer (PHE), Sanitation, Assam.
- 19) The District Commissioner, ..... district.
- 20) The Addl. Chief Engineer, (PHE), All Zones, Assam.
- 21) The Superintending Engineers (PHE), All Circles, Assam.
- 22) The Executive Engineers (PHE), All Divisions, Assam.

By order etc.,

Under Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
Public Health Engineering Department