



Government of West Bengal
Irrigation & Waterways Department
Jalasampad Bhavan, 1st Floor, Salt Lake City, Kolkata 700091,
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Record of discussion of the Review Meeting taken by the Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge, Irrigation & Waterways Department on 22.06.2020 through video conference to review the flood preparedness in 6 districts of South Bengal (Kolkata, South-24 parganas, North-24 Parganas, Birbhum, Nadia and Murshidabad).

The meeting was chaired by the Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge, Irrigation & Waterways Department. The following were present:

List of attendees:-

A. Hon'ble Ministers

1. Sri Ashish Banerjee, Hon'ble MIC, Agriculture Department
2. Sri Jyoti Priya Mallick, Hon'ble MIC, Food & Supplies Department
3. Sri Ujjal Biswas, Hon'ble MIC, Department of Correctional Administration
4. Sri Manturam Pakhira, Hon'ble MOS, Sundarban Affairs Department

B. Hon'ble Sabhadhipatis

1. Sri Musaraf Hossain. Sabhadhipati, Murshidabad
2. Smt Rikta Kundu, Sabhadhipati, Nadia
3. Sri Abhijit Sinha, Mentor, Birbhum Zilla Parishad
4. Smt Bina Mandal, Sabhadhipati, North 24-Parganas

C. Hon'ble MPs, MLAs and other Public Representatives

1. Smt Mahua Maitra, MP
2. Sri Subrata Saha, MLA
3. Sri Bakim Hazra, MLA
4. Sri Samir Jana, MLA

D. Officials of Irrigation & Waterways Department and Directorate up to the rank of SE

1. Sri Naveen Prakash, Additional Chief Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Department
2. Sri Gautam Chattopadhyay, Secretary, Irrigation & Waterways Department
3. Sri Subir Laha, Chief Engineer (South), Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
4. Sri Shyam Banerjee, Chief Engineer (North), Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
5. Sri Debasish SenGupta, Joint Secretary (Works), Irrigation & Waterways Department
6. Sri Manash Chakraborty, Joint Secretary (Technical), Irrigation & Waterways Department
7. Sri Pradeep Chakraborty, Superintending Engineer, M.C.C and NIC-II, Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
8. Sri Sanjoy Kundu, Superintending Engineer, MDC, Irrigation & Waterways Directorate

9. Sri Subhomoy Sarkar, Superintending Engineer, GCDC, Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
10. Sri Abhijit Saha, Director, Advance Planning and in charge of Central Flood Control Cell, Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
11. Sri Biplab Mukhopadhyay, Deputy Secretary (Works-I), Irrigation & Waterways Department
12. Sri Amitava Ghosh, Deputy Secretary (Works-II), Irrigation & Waterways Department
13. Sri Sujay Saha, OSD & Deputy Secretary-III, Irrigation & Waterways Department.
14. Sri Biva basu Chakraborty, OSD & Deputy Secretary-IV, Irrigation & Waterways Department

E. District Magistrates/Commissioners

1. District Magistrate, Birbhum
2. District Magistrate, Murshidabad
3. District Magistrate, Nadia
4. District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas
5. District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas
6. Commissioner, Kolkata Municipal Corporation
7. Commissioner, Bidhan Nagar Municipal Corporation

2.0 At the outset, the Hon'ble MIC, I&WD welcomed everyone and asked the I&WD officials to apprise the meeting about the status of pre monsoon maintenance and repair works at damaged/vulnerable spots along embankments/river banks, structures etc and also preparedness for the ensuing rainy season. He emphasised on strict vigilance by the district administration on illegal and indiscriminate sand extraction from rivers endangering the nearby embankments, bridges and other structures. He also advised the I&WD officials and District Administration of Murshidabad to keep close liaison with the Farakka Barrage Project Authority (FBPA) to expedite taking up anti erosion works along river Ganga within FBPA's zone of activity and to avoid sudden releases from Farakka Barrage. The Hon'ble MIC, I&WD also instructed to complete the pre-monsoon maintenance works positively by 30.06.2020. The Chief Engineers and Superintending Engineers of I&WD briefed the Hon'ble MIC on the status of completion of pre-monsoon maintenance works in the 6 districts of South Bengal. The Additional Chief Secretary, I&WD informed that immediate restoration work of the AMPHAN affected embankments has been completed and also informed about the pre-monsoon maintenance works taken up/completed and important schemes completed by the Department during last two years which will have significant impact on flood mitigation. He requested the District Magistrates to inform the concerned Superintending Engineers about taking up any important maintenance work in their district in addition to works already taken up. The Additional Chief Secretary, I&WD also informed that consequent to the denial of IWAI to take up anti-erosion works at identified stretches along Bhagirathi-Hooghly, I&WD is taking up the said works on priority basis with the budget of the Department. He also informed that drainage channels, belonging to I&WD in Kolkata, North and South 24-Parganas, are being maintained through Annual Maintenance Contracts and temporary pumps have been installed at low lying areas in these three districts. Hon'ble MIC, Food & Supplies Department informed that renovation works of damaged embankments, structures and river banks affected during cyclone AMPHAN, have been completed successfully. He pointed out the problem of accumulation of huge water hyacinth and solid wastes in river Ichamati and its tributaries in Bangaon. Hon'ble MOS, Sundarban Affairs

Department requested to take up renovations of Akhynagar Sluice and Gobindarampur Sluice in kakdwip block of South 24-Parganas. Sri Samir Jana, Hon'ble MLA requested to implement embankment construction of permanent nature like AILA embankments. He also requested to take up restoration of recently washed out Sitarampur Jetty in Patharpratima block of South-24 Parganas. The ACS, I&WD informed that tenders for renovation of the said two sluices have already been floated. Sri Bankim Hazra, Hon'ble MLA, opined that middle portion of Daskona-Hatikona embankment in Namkhana block should be repaired immediately and renovation of some damaged sluices are required to be taken up. After detailed deliberations, following decisions were taken:-

- 2.1 All the pre monsoon maintenance works at 267 spots (reported by the Chief Engineer, South and Chief Engineer, North) in Kolkata (2 spots), North 24-parganas (38 spots), South 24-parganas (138 spots), Birbhum (31 spots), Nadia (19 spots) and Murshidabad (39 spots) are to be completed positively by 30.06.2020.
- 2.2 District Magistrates will conduct district level flood preparedness review meetings with the officials of I&WD, Panchayat and Public Representatives to ensure timely completion of maintenance works and smooth co-ordination during any emergency flood situation.
- 2.3 Special emphasis should be laid on attending to anti erosion works at Raghunathganj in Murshidabad, Shantipur-II of Nadia, Muraroi along Bansloi river in Birbhum and severely damaged spots of Ganga/Padma at Hossainpur in the jurisdiction of Farakka Barrage Project Authority in Murshidabad.
- 2.4 The District Magistrate, Malda will arrange a joint meeting with Farakka Barrage Project Authority, I&WD officials, Sri Subrata Saha, Hon'ble MLA and the Sabhadhipati, Malda to expedite taking up urgent anti erosion works along Ganga/Padma in the original jurisdiction of FBP.
- 2.5 All the Executive Engineers of I&WD will physically inspect the spots, proposed for sand extraction, before issuance of NOC from their side to the district level committee. The District Magistrates will take special drive to stop unauthorised sand mining from river beds.
- 2.6 The Executive Engineer, Kakdwip Irrigation division, I&W Dte will obtain a list of sluices to be repaired in Sagar block from Sri Bankim Hazra, Hon'ble MLA. Similarly, the Executive Engineer, Nadia Irrigation Division will obtain a list of sluices, requiring maintenance from Sri Ujjal Biswas, Hon'ble MLA. Both the lists will be sent to the Secretary, I&WD for further instruction.
- 2.7 Engagement of labours under MGNREGA, may be explored by the District Administration of North 24-Parganas for removal of water hyacinth from rivers and drainage channels in Bangaon and Gaighata.
- 2.8 The stability of the embankments in Sundarban areas against the upcoming high tides in 2020 are to be checked and appropriate measures to be taken to prevent any ingress of water at the adjacent lands.
- 2.9 DM, North 24-parganas will arrange a meeting with the municipalities like Kamarhati, Panihati, South Dum Dum, North Dum Dum and Rajarhat to ensure functioning of pump houses, dumping of solid wastes at designated vats/dumping yards only in the catchment of Bagjola khal and to impress upon the municipalities on proper solid waste disposal so as not to clog irrigation canals.

- 2.10 Commissioner, Kolkata Municipal Corporation will constitute a Task force with representatives from KMC, I&WD and other stakeholders to facilitate better inter departmental co ordination during critical periods of monsoon. SE/MDC, I&W Dte will be the representative of I&W D.
- 2.11 A campaign will be launched in TV channels to make the general public aware about the measures taken by the Department to combat flood like situation during the monsoon-2020.

3.0 Hon'ble MIC, I&WD desired that flood mitigation measures in the ensuing monsoon season should be taken up by the I&WD officials by maintaining close liaison with the District & Block Administrations and also with due consideration of the suggestions of the elected peoples' representatives.

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[Naveen Prakash]

Additional Chief Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

Memo No. 181 - IFC
IW/O/IFC-4M-01/19 (Pt. I)

Dated: 21.07.2020

Copy forwarded for information to the:

1. O.S.D to Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge,
Irrigation & Waterways Department
1st floor, Jalsampad Bhavan, Salt Lake- 700 091
2. Senior P.A to the Secretary,
Irrigation & Waterways Department
1st floor, Jalsampad Bhavan, Salt Lake- 700 091

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21/7/20

O.S.D & Ex-Officio Deputy Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

Memo No. 181/1(3)- IFC
IW/O/IFC-4M-01/19 (Pt. I)

Dated: 21.07.2020

Copy forwarded for necessary action to the:

1. Chief Engineer (South)
Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
2. Chief Engineer (North)
Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
3. Chief Engineer (Design & Research)
Irrigation & Waterways Directorate
1st floor, Jalsampad Bhavan
Salt Lake -700 091

B
21/7/20

O.S.D & Ex-Officio Deputy Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal