ORDER


Life and sustenance of about 87 lakh people in West Bengal are severely affected by Arsenic contamination in ground water. In order to address the problem, it has been decided to constitute a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.L. Chopra, Member, Planning Commission.

The Composition of the Task Force is as under:

1. Dr. V.L. Chopra, Member (E&F) Planning Commission Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110 001. Chairman

2. Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110 003. Member

3. Dr. V. Rajagopalan, Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Parivesh Bhavan, East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110 032. Member

4. Principal Secretary (Public Health & Engg.), Government of West Bengal, Writer's Building, Kolkata-700 001. Member

5. Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, 10-A, Block LA, Sector-Ill, Salt Lake City Kolkata - 700 098. Member

6. Dr. S.N. Prasad, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016. Member

.2/-
7. Prof. Dipankar Chakraborty,  
   Head, Department of Environmental Sciences,  
   Jadavpur University, Kolkata - 700 012.  
   Member

8. Dr. (Prof.) Varshney, Director, 88,  
   Vaishali, Pitampura, New Delhi-110 034.  
   Member

9. Dr. P.H. Ananthanarayanan, All India  
   Institute of Hygiene & Public Health,  
   Chittaranjan Avenue, Kolkata-700072.  
   Member

10. Mrs. Adarsh Misra  
    Pr. Adviser, Planning  
    Commission, New Delhi-110001.  
    Member

11. Shri Chandra Pal,  
    Adviser (State Plans - East)  
    Planning Commission, New Delhi-110001.  
    Member

12. Dr. Dilip Biswas, (Former Chairman, CPCB)  
    40/14, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110019.  
    Member

13. Dr. K.M. Paknikar  
    Agharkar Research Institute  
    Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Road,  
    Pune-411004 (Maharashtra)  
    Member

14. Dr. R. Mandal, Adviser (E & F),  
    Room No. 215, Planning Commission,  
    New Delhi-110 001.  
    Member-Secretary

3. **Terms of Reference of the Task Force are:**

   i) Formulation of an Action Plan for removing Arsenic contamination from the ground water of West Bengal,
   
   ii) Examine available technologies and recommend right methodology,
   
   iii) Recommend the time schedule and Road Map for implementation
   
   iv) Recommend measures for O & M of the assets,
   
   v) Recommend mechanism to monitor and evaluate the programme.
4. The Task Force may co-opt other Members and constitute Sub-Groups on specific themes.

5. The Task Force would submit its report **within six months from the date of this Order.** Payment of TA/DA for the non-official members of the Task Force would be borne by the Planning Commission as per rules.

(K.K. CHHABRA)
Under Secretary to the Govt, of India

To

Chairman, Members and Member-Secretary of the Task Force.

Copy to:

1. PS to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
2. PS to MOS (Planning)
3. PSs to Members, Planning Commission
4. PS to Member Secretary, Planning Commission
5. PS to Pr. Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission
6. PS to Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission

(K.K. CHHABRA)
Under Secretary to the Govt, of India

Note: 2 Members (Dr. A.K. Keshari, Associate Professor, Deptt. Of Civil Engineering, IIT Delhi and Dr. Atanu Sarkar, Scientist, Centre for Science & Environment, New Delhi) were co-opted later. Dr. S. Natesh, Sr. Adviser, Dept. of Biotechnology, GOI, New Delhi and Dr. Santanu Bhattacharjee, Scientist, National Metallurgical Laboratories, Jamshedpur were Special Invitees for the 1st Meeting of the Task Force held on 13.9.2005.
ORDER


With reference to Planning Commission Order of even No. dated 22nd August 2005, it has been decided to revive the said Task Force with tenure of 2 months. While the Terms of Reference will remain unchanged, the composition will be as under:

2. The Composition of the Task Force is as under:

1. Dr. V.L. Chopra, Member (E&F) Planning Commission Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110 001. Chairman

2. Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-3. Member

3. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Parivesh Bhavan, East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110 032. Member

4. Principal Secretary (Public Health & Engg.), Government of West Bengal, Writer's Building, Kolkata-700 001. Member

5. Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, 10-A, Block LA, Sector-Ill, Salt Lake City Kolkata - 700 098. Member

6. Dr. A.K. Keshari, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016. Member
7. Prof. Dipankar Chakraborty, Head, Department of Environmental Sciences, Jadavpur University, Kolkata - 700 012.

8. Director, All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health Chittaranjan Avenue Kolkata – 700 072

9. Dr. Santanu Bhattacharjee, Scientist, National Metallurgical Laboratories, Jamshedpur


11. Dr. Dilip Biswas, (Former Chairman, CPCB) 40/14, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110019.

12. Dr. K.M. Paknikar Agharkar Research Institute Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Road, Pune-411004 (Maharashtra)

13. Shri P.N. Asari, Adviser (E & F), Room No. 223, Planning Commission, New Delhi-110 001.

3. Terms of Reference of the Task Force are:

   i) Formulation of an Action Plan for removing Arsenic contamination from groundwater of West Bengal,
   vi) Examine available technologies and recommend right methodology,
   vii) Recommend the time schedule and Road Map for implementation
   viii) Recommend measures for O & M of the assets,
   ix) Recommend mechanism to monitor and evaluate the programme.
6. The Task Force would submit its report within 2 months from the date of issue of this Order. Payment of TA/DA for the non-official members of the Task Force would be borne by the Planning Commission as per rules.

(Anil Malhotra)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt, of India

To

Chairman, Members and Member-Secretary of the Task Force.

Copy to:

7. PS to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
8. PS to MOS (Planning)
9. PSs to Members, Planning Commission
10. PS to Member Secretary, Planning Commission
11. PS to Pr. Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission
12. PPS to Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission

(Anil Malhotra)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt, of India

Co-opted Members

1. Smt. Shanta Sheela Nair, Secretary, Shri R. M. Deshpande, Additional Adviser, and Shri Kamal Mazumdar, Deputy Adviser, Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development had kindly consented in September 2006 to join the Task Force as Special Invitees and had attended meetings of the Task Force and also visited Kolkata in March, 2007 with Planning Commission Officers for discussions with State Govt. Officials and field visits to affected areas.

2. Planning Commission Officers wish to place on record their gratitude to Smt. Nair and her colleagues for the valuable guidance, encouragement and support to the Commission without which the report could not have been finalised so expeditiously.