

F. No. S.21011/1/2009-DDP -
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Land Resources

Block 11, 6th Floor,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110 003

Dated 05th July, 2011

To

1. All members of Steering Committee for IWMP
2. Principal Secretary/ Secretary of Nodal Department for IWMP in all States
3. Chairman, CEO of SLNA in all States
(as per list attached)

Subject: Inclusion of forest areas under IWMP – reg.

Sir,

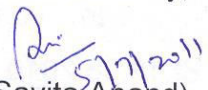
In continuation to this Department's letter No. Z-11011/18/2009-PPC dt.18.08.2010, it is informed that the Department, in consultation with National Rainfed Area Authority has effected modification in para IX of the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects, 2008 as below:

***Para 9. IX: Multi tier Approach:** There would be a multi tier ridge to valley sequenced approach, which should be adopted towards the implementation of the Watershed Development Projects. The higher reaches or the forests are actually where the water sources originate. The approach, therefore, will be to identify an area and first look at the forest and the hilly regions, in the upper water catchments wherever possible. When suitable treatment is undertaken in forest areas in upper catchments with the funding support from watershed development projects then the hardest part of the watershed is tackled. Forest department is managing structures such as check dams, contour-bunds etc. to arrest the erosion and degradation of the forests, which in turn, actually benefit the lower tiers. Thus, in the upper reaches, which are mostly hilly and forested, the onus of implementation would mainly lie with the Forest Departments and the Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs). Irrespective of the type of forests, the land forming*

integral part of the selected watershed project area having agriculture/wasteland and forest land use, the fringe-forest areas and the degraded areas needing treatment which have implications for the lower reaches of watershed in terms of runoff/ water yield, soil erosion & sedimentation, fodder, etc should be part of the holistic watershed treatment plan, with major focus on soil & moisture conservation. Works undertaken in such forest areas can be funded through IWMP scheme to derive full advantage of the investments made. All efforts should be made to converge MGNREGA, Afforestation Schemes, etc with IWMP for treatment of forest areas.

You are requested to give effect to the above modification, wherever necessary.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. Savita Ahand)
Joint Secretary (WM)
(Tel.: 011-2436 2396)

Copy to

1. PPS to Secretary (LR)/ PS to JS(WM), DoLR
2. PS to AS &FA/ PS to CCA, MoRD, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
3. The Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), NASC Complex, DPS Marg, PUSA, New Delhi
4. Director (WM)/ AIG (WM)/ DC (WM), DS (M&E), DoLR
5. IFD, DoLR
6. Sr. TD (Shri Vinay Thakur)/ PSA (Shri Naveen Agrawal), NIC-DoLR