

**GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

No. MI-MISC-15/2001 11003/WR Dated 22.03.2001

Notification

Demands are being expressed by people from all over the state for taking up various new projects and renovation of derelict Projects particularly in the Minor Irrigation Sector. These projects have a great advantage of being of short gestation, relatively of low cost, distributed all over the state. The Department of Water Resources however, had in the past very limited funds for taking up these new projects. It is now decided to accord due importance to this Sector through participation of the people.

The Pani Panchayat Scheme has aroused wide spread enthusiasm and requests are being received from different parts of the State to set up new Minor and Lift Irrigation Projects as well as to revive the derelict ones with the participation of the users. It is therefore, felt that new emphasis on Minor and Lift Irrigation Projects can be cast in the mould of Pani Panchayats which will provide increased momentum to the campaign.

With the above objectives in view, Government have been pleased to launch a new scheme name as “Biju Krushak Vikash Yojana” with an outlay of Rs.1000.00 crores to be spent during 2000-2005. This scheme is a happy marriage of participatory irrigation management with the promotion of minor and lift Irrigation Projects. The salient features of the Scheme are as follows:

1. There shall be an open invitation to the farmers to form themselves in to registered Pani Panchayats in order to derive the benefit of irrigation assistance from the Government. These Associations should be formed around potential irrigation Projects minor (flow) as well as lift. The application for such projects should be addressed to the Collector of the District under the title of “Biju Krushak Vikash Yojana”.
2. Proposals received by the Collector will be surveyed by the appropriate Departmental Engineers at the district level as follows:
 - (a) Lift Irrigation Projects above 4 ha

Executive Engineer / Asst. Engineers of OLIC.

(b) Minor (Flow) Irr. Projects with ayacut less than 40 ha

Engineers of Block / DRDA / ITDA / Soil Conservation Organisation.

(c) Minor (Flow) Irr. Projects with ayacut of 40 ha and above

Engineers of Minor Irrigation.

3. The estimate of feasible Projects will be technically sanctioned by the Engineers of appropriate Department listed above according to the delegation of powers of their respective Department. The cost of survey should be borne by the respective Departments.
4. The project found technically feasible shall be posed to different agencies by the Collector follows:
 - Lift Irr. Project above 4 ha.- DRDA / ITDA / OLIC
 - Minor (Flow) Irr. Projects below 40 ha. - DRDA / ITDA
 - Minor (Flow) Irr. Projects above 40 ha. - Chief Engineer, M.I.
5. The assistance will be limited to 80% of the estimated capital cost and Pani Panchayat shall be 20% of the cost. In case of tribal sub-plan areas and KBK Districts, the assistance may be raised to 90% of the capital cost. The Pani Panchayat may contribute its share either in cash or in terms of labour or in the form of land etc. The operation and maintenance of the Project shall be taken up by the Pani Panchayat which will be free to collect appropriate user charges from the beneficiaries. The Government will not collect any water rate from the farmers. The assistance to a Pani Panchayats towards the capital cost shall be given only after it is registered as Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 for which a model bye-law will be furnished by the DOWR.
6. Upon receipt of valid proposal in the Department of Water Resources in respect of L.I. point and Minor Irrigation (Flow) Projects, the Department shall proceed to formulate appropriate project reports and pose them to different funding agencies such as NABARD, a Government of India (AIBP in KBK districts) donor agencies etc. Preference will be given to areas having low irrigation coverage.

The concerned Collectors, who will receive the application from registered Pani Panchayats will examine the viability of the Project by appropriate Department engineers at the district level and send them to different quarters as per guidelines stipulated above for further action.

By order of Governor

Sd/-

(B. K. Patnaik)

Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government.