

Status of OCTMP (2008-09)

- The Society was registered on November 2006.
- Appointment process for engagement of fulltime staff in 5 units of the society has been completed.
- The project office under the leadership of Project Director-cum-Addl. Secy., Water Resources was established at Rajiv Bhawan. Necessary office furnishing and ICT facilities were created.
- Loan agreement has been signed during 2008-09.
- The background studies for social assessment, environmental assessment, hydrological assessment, Pani Panchayat assessment and TAGAP (Transparency, Accountability and Governance Action Plan) have been completed and the final reports have been received.
- The World Bank has sanctioned PHRD grant of US\$ 3,95,000 for the operationalization of the society to be paid as reimbursement of expenditure.
- The Govt. of Orissa has remitted Rs. 2 Crores for the expenditure to the society.
- District Project Units have been formed in districts and the Executive Engineers of districts concerned have been declared as District Project Directors. To facilitate in project implementation 10 Support organizations have been put in place.
- The process for hiring the consultancy services of a recruitment agency for staffing at the district and state level, a monitoring and evaluation agency and agency for coming up with the Management of Information System product is under progress.
- Disclosure of the Social Management Framework and Environment Management Framework of the project has been done at the State and District level.
- The project is being implemented on a pilot basis in Rayagada, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur and Mayurbhanj districts. Implementation of the project has been initiated in 50 tanks, which are in different stages of preparation of the Tank Improvement Management Plan (TIMP). Technical (civil works) related part of the TIMP has been completed for 16 tanks and 9 are under preparation at the district level. The livelihoods and institution/ social development part of the TIMPs has been completed for 10 tanks and are undergoing review and changes based on the feedback received from World Bank.

At policy level, proposed changes in the Orissa Pani Panchayat Act 2002 include- Inclusion of fisher folk, Increase in tenure of Pani Panchayat from 3 years to 6 years, tenure of Executive Committee member increased to six years, election of members from the *chakas* on a rotation basis and representing, head, middle and tail reach, inclusion of women by reservation of 1/3rd of the total number of seats in the Executive Committee for women. Specifically for OCTMP, orders have been received for collection of water taxes by the Pani Panchayats and retention of the same for future operation and maintenance, and operation and maintenance of head works to be taken up by the Pani Panchayats covered.