

I T E M – IV

NORMS SET BY THE BRAHMAPUTRA BOARD FOR THE DISCHARGE OF ITS FUNCTIONS

Broad norms set for discharge of important functions are as follows: -

4.1 SURVEYS AND INVESTIGATIONS

One of the important activities assigned to the Board by the Act is to carry out surveys and investigations pertaining to formulation of Detailed Project Report of multipurpose projects having flood control aspects and also other Jal Shakti and flood control projects assigned from time to time and its execution. For this purpose, field offices of Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineer headed by a Chief Engineer are setup at different locations based on assessment of work load spread over the entire NE Region including Sikkim and North Bengal Part covered under Brahmaputra basin. The field divisions collect data required for preparation of DPR, Master Plan and for other purposes required from time to time and send to the Chief Engineer office located at Guwahati. . The draft Master Plans are prepared after analyzing the data in consultation with different nodal agencies and submitted to Ministry of Jal Shakti for approval of Government of India. The draft DPRs are prepared after analyzing the data in consultation with different nodal agencies and with due recommendation of agencies like CWC. The DPRs thus prepared are submitted to the CWC for technical appraisal so that investment decisions could be taken by the Ministry Jal Shakti, Govt. of India.

4.2 PREPARATION OF MASTER PLANS

Preparation of Master Plans for the control of floods and bank erosion and improvement of drainage in the Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys giving due regard to the utilization of Jal Shakti for irrigation, hydropower, navigation and other beneficial purposes and as far as possible, indicate in such plan the works and other measures which may be undertaken for such development. For preparation of Master Plans the required data is collected through the field divisions and processed as mentioned above. The Master Plan thus prepared are circulated to all Board Members and placed in Board meeting for discussion and approval of the Board. Once it is approved by the Board, the same is submitted to the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India for acceptance. On acceptance by the Govt. of India, it is circulated to all concerned state Govt. for implementation.

4.3 DRAINAGE DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

The Board prepares schemes for drainage development in the drainage-congested areas identified in the Master Plan. The field offices collect the required data and the DPR of schemes are prepared in the Chief Engineer office. Then the DPR is submitted to the Central Water Commission for technical appraisal and forwarding the same to Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India for investment clearance. The schemes are taken for execution as soon as Ministry of Jal Shakti accorded investment clearance.

4.4 FLOOD MANAGEMENT/ANTI-EROSION / RIVER TRAINING SCHEMES

Brahmaputra Board takes up anti-erosion works and river training works on request from States as well as from VIPs. It carries out detailed survey and investigation through its field offices and after study and analysis of all information and data, DPR is prepared and submitted to Central Water Commission for technical appraisal and forwarding the same to Ministry of Jal Shakti for investment clearance. It takes up the schemes after investment clearance from the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India.

4.5 Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) for taking up Critical Flood Control & Anti-Erosion schemes in Brahmaputra and Barak Valley (In all the North Eastern States including Sikkim and North Bengal)

During X Plan the Ministry of Jal Shakti entrusted the Brahmaputra Board as a Nodal Agency to formulate the EFC for centrally sponsored schemes for taking up Critical Flood Control & Anti-Erosion Schemes in Brahmaputra and Barak Valley (In all the North Eastern States including Sikkim and Northern part of West Bengal) under State Sector. The EFC was approved during December, 2004 for Rs. 150.00 Cr. with the funding pattern of 90% Grant:10% Loan. While conveying the approval the MoWR stipulated that an Empowered Committee headed by the Chairman, Brahmaputra Board with the representative from Planning Commission, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Central Water Commission, Financial Adviser, Brahmaputra Board, Chief Engineers of participating states and the Chief Engineer, Brahmaputra Board as Member Secretary would determine inter-se-priority of the projects before taken up for execution. A Monitoring Committee headed by Chief Engineer (I&W), Brahmaputra Board with representative from CWC and participating states was also suggested to monitor and to recommend for subsequent release of fund for the schemes during approval of the EFC. Accordingly both the Committees carried out their functions during X Plan.

Recognizing the gravity of flood and erosion problem in the country after the devastation of 2004 flood, the Govt. of India constituted the Task Force 2004 for flood management and erosion control. The Task Force submitted its report during Dec 2004. For implementation of recommendations of the Task Force 2004, the EFC for Critical Flood Control and Anti Erosion Schemes in Brahmaputra and Barak Valley (including Sikkim & Northern part of West Bengal) under State Sector had been revised incorporating the schemes recommended under the categories of Immediate Measure and Short term I and was approved for Rs. 225.00 crore. Total 74 (seventy four) Nos. of schemes were taken up for execution in all the North Eastern States including Sikkim and Northern part of West Bengal under State Sector during X plan. During XI Plan also schemes recommended by the Task Force 2004 for flood management and erosion control have been proposed to be taken up under Flood

Management Programme for flood control and River Management works in the entire country (a State Sector Scheme)ö.

Four schemes (a) Critical Anti-erosion works in Ganga Basin States (a Centrally Sponsored Scheme), (b) Critical Flood Control and Anti Erosion Schemes in Brahmaputra and Barak Valley States (a State Sector Scheme), (c) Improvement of Drainage in critical areas in the country (a State Sector Scheme) and (d) Critical Anti-erosion Works in Coastal and other than Ganga Basin States (a State Sector Scheme) sanctioned to provide central assistance to the flood prone states to take up flood control and river management works in critical areas in X Plan were merged and restructured as öFlood management Programme (FMP) during XI Plan. Under this scheme, central assistance was provided to the State Governments for undertaking critical works related to river management, flood control, anti-erosion, drainage development, anti-sea erosion, flood proofing, flood prone area development programme in critical regions, restoration of damaged flood control/ management works and anti-sea erosion works. Funding pattern during XI Plan was 75(Centre): 25(State) for General/Non-Special Category States and 90(Centre): 10(State) for Special Category States. The Special Category States cover the North Eastern States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand. In view of the demand by States for completion of ongoing and new critical works of flood management, the XII Plan Working Group on Flood Management and Region Specific Issuesø set up by the Planning Commission recommended continuation of Flood Management Programme during XII Plan. Accordingly, the Ministry of Water Resources, in wider consultations with the States, Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, NDMA, M/o Environment & Forest and M/o Rural Development, formulated the proposal for continuation of Flood Management Programme during XII Plan accorded approval to the continuation of Flood Management Programme for providing central assistance to the extent of Rs. 10,000 crore to the State Governments during XII Plan by the Cabinet.