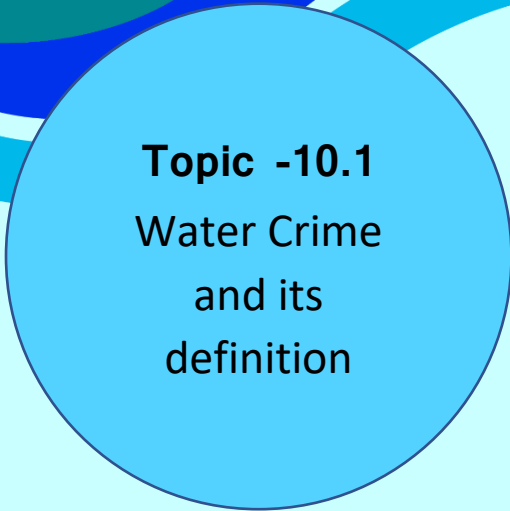
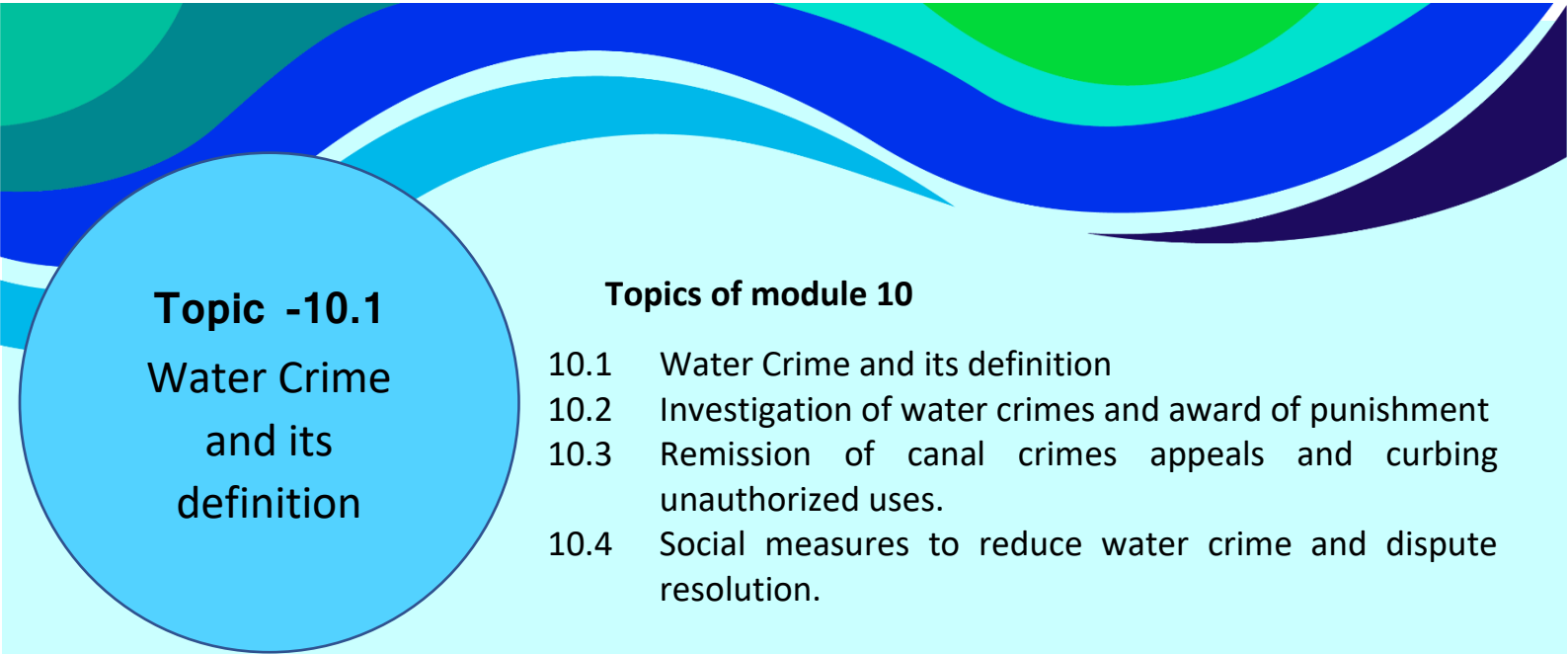


# **Certificate Course on Participatory Irrigation Management (CCPIM)**

## **Module 10- Control of water crimes by Water User Associations (WUAs)**

### **Topic 10.1- Water Crime and its definition**



#### **Topic -10.1 Water Crime and its definition**

#### **Topics of module 10**

- 10.1 Water Crime and its definition
- 10.2 Investigation of water crimes and award of punishment
- 10.3 Remission of canal crimes appeals and curbing unauthorized uses.
- 10.4 Social measures to reduce water crime and dispute resolution.

**The miscreants or some selfish farmers try to get water through unwanted and unauthorized activities encroaching upon the rights of the other farmers. It will be the responsibility of WUA to check such activities for which the WUA can use the social pressure, or the powers provided in the Act.**

## **1. Definition of Water offence:**

Before checking the water offences, it is important to know what a water offence is? If we take a broad definition, then the activity that hinders or damage the canal system or obstruct the equitable & justified water distribution is the unwanted or unrequired activity which can be described as water offence. Almost in all the PIM Acts of Indian states, following activities are categorized as Water Offences.

### **1.1 Main Water Offences:**

1. To damage, alter, increase, decrease, or obstruct by changing shape & size of a canal & drainage system,
2. To intercept with water discharge flowing in canal or drainage system meaning by placing bund across the canal or drain, cut the banks, use unauthorised outlet, using pumps to lift water direct from canal or drain, increase, or decrease the size of outlets etc
3. To be careless in taking precautions for checking water wastage, or intercept in authorised water distribution or use that water for unauthorised purpose.
4. To pollute water in such a manner that makes water less purposeful,
5. To damage or alter the gauges fixed in rivers or canals or intercept with their levels.
6. To move vehicles on the banks of the canal or across the canal section in unlawful manner.
7. To obstruct operation of canal according to authorise schedule such as roster or warabandi.
8. To encroach or damage on canal or its property.

Any one of the activities mentioned above shall be treated as offence and any person or company whosoever be liable to penalty. In case of company committing such an offence, its top-ranking officer shall be made responsible for such act;

*Figure-1 Unauthorised ways of taking water*



Test yourself:

Write down any four main offences memorising the above and test yourself by comparing from the list in para 1.1 above.