

Certificate Course on Participatory Irrigation Management (CCPIM)

Module 13- Maintenance works of canal by Water User Associations

Topic 13.1- Canal Walk-through, Measurements of Works, and Priority

Topic 13.1

Canal Walk-through,
Measurements of
Works, and Priority

Module 13 includes:

- 13.1 Canal Walkthrough, Measurements of Works, Priority
- 13.2 Preparation of Work Estimates
- 13.3 Administrative, technical approval of works and selection of agency for carrying out the works.
- 13.4 Quality control of works and their payments.

It is mentioned in our National Water Policy and in the water policies of all the states that there should be a definite participation of irrigation farmers in the equitable sharing of irrigation water and water

management works. To realize this vision, Water User Association are being formed all over the country for the participation of farmers.

In almost all the states, the Water User Association have been entrusted with the responsibility of water distribution system and maintenance of the canals, so that to prevent the illegal cuttings and water wastage of the canals. Farmers will look after maintain the canal and inculcate a spirit of treating the canals as their own property.

Following are the procedures to be followed for maintenance of canals and repairing of broken and pucca works on them, etc.



1- Canal Walkthrough:

The Water Users' Association has to maintain the canal itself. For this, before the sowing of every crop, the chairman, officials and members of the Water Users' Association should walk alongside the whole canal and get information about the works which will be required to run the canal smoothly. This process is called the ***walk through of the canal.***

Walkthrough Objective

- User participation in canal maintenance
- Use of local intelligence
- Dissemination of program information to all
- Opportunity to include suggestions from deprived members
- Developing a sense of ownership in the community

Measurement of works:

In the walk through, it has to be seen that where the canal has broken down, where the grass has grown, where the canal has been tied up, and where necessary repair work should be done on pucca work such as bridge, gate etc. The list of possible works of canal maintenance is given on Form-1 of the Annex.

All the villagers and officers / employees of Water Resources Department should be called in this by deciding the time of the walk-through by the committee in advance. At the time of walk through, description of all the repair works with chainage should be written in

a diary. The list of attendees in the walk-through should be made on Form-2 given in the Annex.

Determination of priority of tasks

After a walk-through, by doing a meeting with the Water User Association and the farmers and officials of the canal department, they should decide which of the works to be done on that canal is most important. A list should be made of these essential works which are required to be done.

The availability of funds and time availability are taken care of while prioritizing the works. Normally, the availability of funds is limited. is determined on the basis of availability of funds. Maintenance works are carried out during the period of canal closure which is extremely limited. These are some of the critical reasons to determine the work that needs attention on a priority basis.

For example, the priority list of works can be as follows:

1. Khandi repair
2. Canal silt cleaning work
3. Cleaning of weeds grown in the canal
4. Repair of canal banks
5. Gate repair

Annexure

Form-1: List of possible works in canal maintenance

(1) Annual operating and maintenance work (before each harvest)

- (A) Silt cleaning.
- (B) Weed removal.
- (C) Repair of banks, doulas, service road.
- (D) Repair of gate and gauge.
- (E) Repair of the outlets.
- (F) Removal of barriers.
- (G) To repair the rupture of the canal.
- (H) Removal of unauthorized outlets.
- (I) Repair of pucca works etc.
- (J) Other work related to development of command area.

(2) Special repair works:

- A. Restoration work
- B. Measuring equipment reconstruction
- C. Reconstruction of head and cross regulator and concrete / masonry works
- D. Strengthening of canals (Doula / Service Road etc.)
- E. Other work related to development of Command Area

(3) Contingency work:

- A. Repair of canal cutting (khandi) and removal of unauthorized bandhas / obstructions while running the canal.
- B. Removal of unauthorized outlets and corresponding repairs while the canal is in operation.
- C. Gate and incidental repair related thereto.

Form-2: Members Present in Walk-Through

SI No.	Name	Designation / Address	Mobile number	Signature