

Certificate Course in Participatory Irrigation Management (CCPIM)

Module 9 – Irrigation Recording by WUAs

Topic 9.4: Process of Collection of Water Fees

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Process of Collection of Water Fees

Topics of Module 9:

- 9.1 Area based Irrigation Recording.
- 9.2 Volume based Irrigation Recording.
- 9.3 Role of WUA and the Department in Irrigation Recording
- 9.4 Process of Collection of Water Fees

Process of recovery of irrigation charges

Different states in India had adopted different ways of recovering irrigation charges. In Gujarat the WUA itself recover the charges and in some projects, it takes the charges in advance. In Rajasthan the WUA recover the charges through an employee on its role. The WUA could recover the arrears also through the employee. In Madhya Pradesh the government recover the irrigation charges. In Bihar the WUA get the charges recovered through some person, may be member. In U.P. the government does not recover the dues from farmers but

subsidized by providing budget for maintenance to the WUAs where these are in existence. However, where the WUA recover the dues following procedure may be adopted.

Following procedure shall be adopted for recovering irrigation dues.

a. Recovery by WUA

- i. The executive engineer will provide the demand book to Minor level WUA.
- ii. Error if any shall be got corrected according to the correction format.
- iii. The minor level WUA recover the irrigation charges. The receipt book duly authenticated by WRD shall be provided to WUA.
- iv. The irrigation official will keep a record of issuance of receipt books. The receipt book will consist of three foils. One of the foils will be given to farmer as acknowledgement of payment he had made, the second one shall be given to concern canal officer who will collect the money from treasurer of the WUA and the third one will be with the book. The book may contain 50 pages marked in ascending order. For example, the first page will be numbered 1/1 and the last will have 1/50. The first page of second receipt book may be marked as 2/50 and the last page as 2/50. The other receipt books may also be marked in the same fashion.
- v. The minor level WUA may appoint /authorize any individual for recovering the irrigation charges. The WUA shall inform such appointment/ authorization to concerned canal officer with in 15 days who will accord permission if find in order. The Rajasthan state has appointed recovery man salary of which is payable by WUA and it depicts good result.
- vi. Any person/ committee member from outlet or minor may be authorized for dues recovery.
- vii. The WUA at minor level may provide some honorarium to the authorized person.
- viii. The authorized person will deposit the collected money with the treasurer along with the second foil daily.
- ix. The treasurer will keep a record of money deposited.
- x. The authorized person will issue a receipt as acknowledgement of recovery from the person concern.

Farmers may any time deposit their dues with the authorized person.

- xi. The treasurer will display the list of persons who had not deposited the dues at panchayat bhawan and WUA office. The WUA shall resolve any complaint regarding irrigation charges.

b. Recovery of dues collected by concerned canal officer: -

- i. The canal officer will collect the money deposited with treasurer and issue a separate receipt. The copy of receipt will keep safe by treasurer and canal officer both.
- ii. The canal officer shall deposit the collected money with executive engineer along with the list of farmers. The executive engineer will arrange to deposit the money as soon he receives in treasury or bank.
- iii. The executive engineer will display the list of farmers who had paid the dues at division office, panchayat bhawans and office of WUAs. Any complaint shall immediately be resolved.
- iv. The executive engineer shall submit list of such farmers who had not paid their dues to district collector for recovery after each crop season.
- v. The district collector will recover the irrigation charges, penalty of offences and penalty on unauthorized water uses and deposit the same in government treasury and made its record available to executive engineer.

c. Fixation of dates for recovery

- i. The executive engineer will provide demand register for kharif by 1st December and of rabi by 1st May.
- ii. The WUA shall recover it by last of February and provide all related information in March 1st week to executive engineer.
- iii. The executive will provide all related details to district collector within a week.

d. Action on irregularities in recovery of dues.

- i. The WUA shall pressurize socially the farmers for paying dues in time through persuasion.
- ii. Any irregularity made either by authorized person / treasurer and canal officer shall be dealt with the provisions of Indian Penal Code.