



AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE

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and Agriculture

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## Policy Note 2015-2016

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## **7. Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA)**

### **1. Introduction**

Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency was established in 2002 with objectives to conserve water resources and promote efficient use of water for increasing productivity of the crops.

Following watershed development programmes are implemented by Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency.

- Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP)
- Watershed Development Fund (WDF)
- Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP)

In addition, TAWDEVA acts as the Nodal Agency for channelizing funds for the following schemes funded by the Government of India.

- National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP)
- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)

- National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
- Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms Schemes (SSEPERS - ATMA)
- Agriculture Resource Information Systems and Networking (AGRISNET)

### 1. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)

Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) has been subscribed as one of the scheme under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) (Watershed Development) and is proposed to be implemented under PMKSY in amalgamation with the existing irrigation development programmes.

The components of the programme is to be implemented on watershed basis with the objectives of optimum utilization of land and water resources for maximizing benefits to the farmers.

The earlier IWMP is being implemented in 26 districts covering 2763 watersheds for the past 6 years. The scheme expenditure is shared by the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 90:10.

Under the earlier scheme of IWMP, the following development activities are carried out.

Activity	Components
Land Development	Land leveling, Contour Bunding, Stone Bunding, Retaining Wall, Summer Ploughing, Vegetative Bunding and Continuous Trenching
Water Resources Development	Formation of New Tank / Oorani, Farm Pond, Percolation Pond, Desilting of Existing Tanks and Supply Channels
Plantation	Plantation relating to Horticulture, Socio-Agro Forestry, Fodder Development, Crop Demonstration and Homestead Garden
Common Property Development	Construction of Check dams, Cattle ponds, Supply channels, Desilting of Ooranis, Desilting of tanks and ponds.
Farm Production System and Micro Enterprises	A grant of maximum of Rs.24,000 is provided to carry out farm based activities and non-farm activities.
SHG and Livelihood Interventions for Landless Farmers	Interest free revolving funds is provided to farmers, Self Help Group and grant to Landless Farmers and User Groups Watershed.

During the year 2014-15, Government of India have sanctioned Rs.191.62 crore for watershed projects to cover an area of 1.596 lakh hectares spread over 19 districts over a period of 5 years. So far, an amount of Rs.166.17 crore has been received from Government of India and an amount of Rs.31.39 crore from the State Government was released under this scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) will implemented from 2015-16.

## 2. Watershed Development Fund (WDF) assisted by NABARD :

These watershed development projects are implemented under loan assistance from NABARD. It has given full grant for 12 watersheds and extended loan for another 142 watersheds. Out of 142 watersheds, works are in progress in 56 watersheds.

Construction of Farm Pond, Field Bund, Drainage line treatment, Sunken Pond, Agro Forestry, Horticulture etc. along with Renovation of Traditional Water Harvesting Structures are taken up under Area treatment component. Under livelihood support for women and landless farmers, construction of grocery shops, setting up of mini flour mills, Flower sales,

running provision shops etc. are given importance.

## 3. Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP)

Western Ghats Development Programme is also implemented on watershed approach from the year 2009-10 onwards in Dindigul, Madurai and Theni districts. From the year 2012-13 onwards it is also implemented in Virudhunagar and Tirunelveli districts. The scheme has also been extended to Coimbatore, Tiruppur & Kanyakumari districts from the year 2013-2014.

At the State level, funds are received from the State Planning, Development and Special Initiative Department. At the district level, the scheme is implemented through District Watershed Development Agency (DWDA), with the District Collector as the Chairman. Rs.22.84 Crore was sanctioned during the year 2014-15.

The Program is implemented on participatory mode involving all the Line Departments like Environment & Forest, Agricultural Engineering, Agriculture, Horticulture, Tribal and Adi Dravidar Welfare Department, Animal Husbandry, DRDA, Fisheries, Tourism, Town Panchayat and Khadi & Village Industries.

## **State Level Data Centre**

A State Level Data Centre (SLDC) with GIS facilities has been established for scientific planning and efficient management of watersheds. All the works are monitored using GIS by which overlapping of watershed area is avoided.

In the SLDC, so far an area of 13.69 Lakh Ha covering 2763 watersheds is fully digitized and Cadastral Maps are incorporated in the watershed boundary using GIS. All developmental works carried out in watersheds are Geo tagged and verified with available satellite imagery. All the Geo tagged details are uploaded at [www.bhuvan.nrsc.gov.in](http://www.bhuvan.nrsc.gov.in).

## **Best Practices Innovative Award in IWMP**

Tamil Nadu received the **Best Practices Innovative Award** under the scheme IWMP for formulating parallel online MIS. The award was presented by Minister of Rural Development, GOI in a function held at New Delhi on 19.02.2015.