

No. 12074/1-2(4)/2005-E&F
Government of India
Planning Commission
(Environment & Forests Division)

Yojana Bhavan, Sansad Marg, New
Delhi, the 22nd August, 2005.

ORDER

Subject: - Constitution of a Task Force for formulating Action Plan for removal of Arsenic contamination in West Bengal.

Life and sustenance of about 87 lakh people in West Bengal are severely affected by Arsenic contamination in ground water. In order to address the problem, it has been decided to constitute a Task Force under the Chairmanship of **Dr. V.L. Chopra, Member, Planning Commission.**

The Composition of the Task Force is as under:

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| 1. Dr. V.L. Chopra, Member (E&F)
Planning Commission
Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110 001. | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of
Environment and Forests, Paryavaran
Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110
003. | Member |
| 3. Dr. V. Rajagopalan, Chairman, Central Pollution
Control Board (CPCB), Parivesh Bhavan,
East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110 032. | Member |
| 4. Principal Secretary (Public Health & Engg.),
Government of West Bengal,
Writer's Building, Kolkata-700 001. | Member |
| 5. Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board,
10-A, Block LA, Sector-III, Salt Lake City
Kolkata - 700 098. | Member |
| 6. Dr. S.N. Prasad, Associate Professor,
Department of Civil Engineering,
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT),
Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016. | Member |

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| 7. | Prof. Dipankar Chakraborty,
Head, Department of Environmental Sciences,
Jadavpur University, Kolkata - 700 012. | Member |
| 8. | Dr. (Prof.) Varshney, Director, 88,
Vaishali, Pitampura, New Delhi-
110 034. | Member |
| 9. | Dr. P.H. Ananthanarayanan, All India
Institute of Hygiene & Public Health,
Chittaranjan Avenue, Kolkata-700072. | Member |
| 10. | Mrs. Adarsh Misra
Pr.Adviser, Planning
Commission, New
Delhi-110001. | Member |
| 11. | Shri Chandra Pal,
Adviser (State Plans - East)
Planning Commission, New Delhi-110001. | Member |
| 12. | Dr. Dilip Biswas, (Former Chairman, CPCB)
40/14, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110019. | Member |
| 13. | Dr. K.M. Paknikar
Agharkar Research Institute
Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Road,
Pune-411004 (Maharashtra) | Member |
| 14. | Dr. R. Mandal, Adviser (E & F),
Room No. 215, Planning Commission,
New Delhi-110 001. | Member-Secretary |
3. **Terms of Reference of the Task Force are:**
- i) Formulation of an Action Plan for removing Arsenic contamination from the ground water of West Bengal,
 - ii) Examine available technologies and recommend right methodology,
 - iii) Recommend the time schedule and Road Map for implementation
 - iv) Recommend measures for O & M of the assets,
 - v) Recommend mechanism to monitor and evaluate the programme.

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4. The Task Force may co-opt other Members and constitute Sub-Groups on specific themes.

5. The Task Force would submit its report **within six months from the date of this Order**. Payment of TA/DA for the non-official members of the Task Force would be borne by the Planning Commission as per rules.

(K.K. CHHABRA)

Under Secretary to the Govt, of India

To

Chairman, Members and Member-Secretary of the Task Force.

Copy to:

1. PS to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
2. PS to MOS (Planning)
3. PSs to Members, Planning Commission
4. PS to Member Secretary, Planning Commission
5. PS to Pr. Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission
6. PS to Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission

(K.K. CHHABRA)

Under Secretary to the Govt, of India

Note: 2 Members (Dr. A.K. Keshari, Associate Professor, Deptt. Of Civil Engineering, IIT Delhi and Dr. Atanu Sarkar , Scientist, Centre for Science & Environment, New Delhi) were co-opted later. Dr. S. Natesh, Sr. Adviser, Dept. of Biotechnology, GOI, New Delhi and Dr. Santanu Bhattacharjee, Scientist, National Metallurgical Laboratories, Jamshedpur were Special Invitees for the 1st Meeting of the Task Force held on 13.9.2005.

Annexure I (A)

No. 12074/1-2(4)/2005-E&F
Government of India
Planning Commission
(Environment & Forests Division)

Yojana Bhavan, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi, 30th March 2007.

ORDER

Subject: - Revival of the Task Force for formulating Action Plan for removal of Arsenic contamination in West Bengal.

With reference to Planning Commission Order of even No. dated 22nd August 2005, it has been decided to revive the said Task Force with tenure of **2 months**. While the Terms of Reference will remain unchanged, the composition will be as under:

2. The Composition of the Task Force is as under:

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| 1. Dr. V.L. Chopra, Member (E&F)
Planning Commission
Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110 001. | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of
Environment and Forests, Paryavaran
Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-3. | Member |
| 3. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board
(CPCB), Parivesh Bhavan,
East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110 032. | Member |
| 4. Principal Secretary (Public Health & Engg.),
Government of West Bengal,
Writer's Building, Kolkata-700 001. | Member |
| 5. Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board,
10-A, Block LA, Sector-III, Salt Lake City
Kolkata - 700 098. | Member |
| 6. Dr. A.K. Keshari, Associate Professor,
Department of Civil Engineering,
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT),
Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016. | Member |

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| 7. | Prof. Dipankar Chakraborty,
Head, Department of Environmental Sciences,
Jadavpur University, Kolkata - 700 012. | Member |
| 8. | Director,
All India Institute of Hygiene and Public
Health
Chittaranjan Avenue
Kolkata – 700 072 | Member |
| 9. | Dr. Santanu Bhattacharjee, Scientist,
National Metallurgical Laboratories,
Jamshedpur | |
| 10. | Shri Ajay Shankar.
Pr.Adviser (E & F),
Planning Commission,
New Delhi-110001. | |
| 11. | Dr. Dilip Biswas, (Former Chairman, CPCB)
40/14, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110019. | Member |
| 12. | Dr. K.M. Paknikar
Agharkar Research Institute
Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Road,
Pune-411004 (Maharashtra) | Member |
| 13. | Shri P.N. Asari, Adviser (E & F),
Room No. 223, Planning Commission,
New Delhi-110 001. | Member-Secretary |

3. **Terms of Reference of the Task Force are:**

- i) Formulation of an Action Plan for removing Arsenic contamination from groundwater of West Bengal,
- vi) Examine available technologies and recommend right methodology,
- vii) Recommend the time schedule and Road Map for implementation
- viii) Recommend measures for O & M of the assets,
- ix) Recommend mechanism to monitor and evaluate the programme.

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6. The Task Force would submit its report **within 2 months from the date of issue of this Order.** Payment of TA/DA for the non-official members of the Task Force would be borne by the Planning Commission as per rules.

(Anil Malhotra)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt, of India

To

Chairman, Members and Member-Secretary of the Task Force.

Copy to:

7. PS to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
8. PS to MOS (Planning)
9. PSs to Members, Planning Commission
10. PS to Member Secretary, Planning Commission
11. PS to Pr. Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission
12. PPS to Adviser (E & F), Planning Commission

(Anil Malhotra)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt, of India

Co-opted Members

1. Smt. Shanta Sheela Nair, Secretary, Shri R. M. Deshpande, Additional Adviser, and Shri Kamal Mazumdar, Deputy Adviser, Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development had kindly consented in September 2006 to join the Task Force as Special Invitees and had attended meetings of the Task Force and also visited Kolkata in March, 2007 with Planning Commission Officers for discussions with State Govt. Officials and field visits to affected areas.
2. Planning Commission Officers wish to place on record their gratitude to Smt. Nair and her colleagues for the valuable guidance, encouragement and support to the Commission without which the report could not have been finalised so expeditiously.