

November 12, 2012 – November 18, 2012

Policy

■ The **Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM)** in **Maharashtra** has **decided** to **frame a comprehensive water policy** with the **objective of bridging the gap** between **demand and supply** and **reducing wastage of water**. In this regard, the standing committee of the corporation has directed the civic administration to prepare a policy with technical guidance from experts by May 2013. Currently, the city gets about 3,430 million litre per day (mld) of water supply, against this the demand for water stands at 4,200 mld (creating a gap of 770 mld). Further, leakages in the distribution network are estimated at about 700 mld. MCGM plans to frame a policy to address these issues besides ensuring smooth functioning of the water supply system. The corporation also aims to improve the per capita water supply from the current level of 90 litre per capita per day (lpcd) to 135 lpcd.

■ The **Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB)** in **Andhra Pradesh** plans to **constitute a water regulatory authority** to **review tariff** and **monitor functions** related to **water supply**. Currently, the board is unable to meet monthly expenditures such as salaries, maintenance cost and debt servicing owing to various financial constraints. The tariff charged by HMWSSB for water supply services was last revised in 2011 after a period of nine years; however, it could not manage to achieve the revenue targets set for the year. To address these issues, HMWSSB has entrusted the task of preparing a proposal to constitute an independent water regulatory authority to the Administrative Staff College of India. Once the proposal is prepared, it will be submitted to the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department, Andhra Pradesh government for approval.

Service Providers

■ The **Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board** in **Karnataka** is **planning to start the supply of Cauvery water** to the **residents of Yelahanka Old Town and nearby areas**. Recently, the board commissioned the feeder lines of the Cauvery Stage IV Phase II project in these areas. The project is expected to augment the city's water supply by about 500 mld. Initially, water supply will be provided to Yelahanka Old Town, Attur Layout, Sanjeevinagar under the wards-1, 2, 3 and 7 of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The residents have been asked to apply for water connections through simplified application forms. The application forms along with the relevant document have to be submitted at the water supply sub-division office at Yelahanka. In addition, the work on feeder mains and sub-feeder lines in other old City Municipal Council areas of BBMP is in progress and likely to be completed by the end-November 2012.

Projects

■ The **Sewerage and Infrastructural Development Corporation (SIDC)**, **Goa government** is **planning to complete the sewerage scheme for Margao town by May 2013**. Under the scheme, about 46 km of sewerage network is being set up at a cost of Rs 2.1 billion. The scheme will cover different areas in the town including Sirvodem, Khareband, Pedda, Malbhat, Aquem, Costa ground, Vidya Nagar, etc. It will provide about 3,000 connections in the Margao town. So far, work on about six km of the sewerage network in Sirvodem has been completed.

■ The **Central Pollution Control Board** is **setting up 10 monitoring stations** to **measure the level of pollution** in the **Ganga and Yamuna rivers**. About eight monitoring stations will be set up along the Ganga river from Haridwar to Kolkata and two in Wazirabad and Okhla to monitor the Yamuna. Currently, pollution level at the two rivers is measured through the indicative data collected by the board. Under the new method, the stations will provide real-time information on the level of pollution in the two rivers. Also, these stations will be equipped with instruments to measure pH level, nitrate, chloride and ammonia concentrations, biochemical oxygen density, chemical oxygen density levels, etc., in the two rivers. The stations are expected to be operationalised by January 2013.

■ The **Delhi Development Authority (DDA)** is **planning to set up wastewater recycling plants** at some **areas** (built by it) in **Vasant Kunj and Dwarka**, which are **facing acute water scarcity**. To begin with, it is planning to set up a recycling plant at its headquarters in Vikas Sadan on a pilot basis. The plant will have a capacity to treat about 0.4 mld of wastewater. After the successful implementation of the pilot project, DDA plans to replicate the same at its other housing societies and offices.

Urban Water & Sanitation

News

■ The **Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (CWRDM)** in **Kerala** is **planning to operationalise a mobile water quality testing laboratory for monitoring the quality of water in different parts of the state by December 2012**. Currently, CWRDM is installing equipment such as pH meter, incubator, mini fridge and water quality photometer at the laboratory. The project, involving an investment of Rs 3 million, is being financed by the Kerala Water Resources Department. Initially, the laboratory will analyse water samples in 65 identified locations prone to water pollution in the districts of Palakkad, Thiruvananthapuram and Alappuzha. CWRDM will issue a water card with analytical reports on the water samples collected, to take remedial measures to minimise contamination. All the standard parameters of substances like sulphate, nitrate, fluoride, turbidity, PH value, hardness, iron content, dissolved solids, bacteria content, etc., will be tested in the laboratory.

■ The **Andhra Pradesh Forest Department** has **agreed in-principle to transfer about 50 acre of land in Ghanpur village in Ranga Reddy district to HMWSSB for Godavari Drinking Water Project**. HMWSSB will give an equal quantity of land at Murmur village in Karimnagar district in lieu of the forest area to the state forest department. The 50-acre land in Ranga Reddy district will be used for the construction of a master balancing reservoir (MBR) at Ghanpur for the Godavari Drinking Water Project. MBR will have a capacity to store about 150 million gallons per day (mgd) of water. HMWSSB will source water from the Yellampalli barrage for the project. The raw water will be conveyed to the Ghanpur reservoir from the main source at Kodandapur by pumping thorough intermediate pumping stations at Bommakal, Mallaram and Kondapaka.

■ The **Drinking Water and Sanitation Department** of the **Jharkhand government** is **undertaking a project to improve water supply to urban areas of Ranchi**. A detailed project report for the same has been prepared by a private consultancy company. The project scope involves setting up of three underground reservoirs at Kanke ring road, Lagutwa and Rampur; nine elevated storage reservoir at including Harmu, Kusai, Dibdih, Pundag, Tupudana Ranibagan, Kanke Road and Uppar Bazar; and a water treatment plant at Rukka. Recently, the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee of the union government approved a sum of Rs 2.88 billion for the project. The Drinking Water and Sanitation Department has entrusted the task of executing the project to Hyderabad-based IVRCL Limited. Work on the project is expected to commence in December 2012.

■ The **Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB)** in **Tamil Nadu** is **planning to set up a sewage treatment plant (STP) at Sriperumbudur town panchayat in Kancheepuram district to provide an efficient sewerage network for disposing domestic sewage**. The STP with a capacity of 8.5 mld will be installed with the sequential batch reactor technology. The funds for the project will be contributed by the union government, state government and urban local bodies in the ratio of 80:10:10. The treated water from the plant will be used for various non-potable purposes like gardening and cultivation.

Corporate

■ **Veolia Water India** has been **awarded a contract** by the **Delhi Jal Board (DJB)** to **manage drinking water production and distribution infrastructure**, as well as the **water department for Nangloi area in the city**. Under the contract, which is expected to be signed by the end-2012, a joint venture will be set up by Veolia Water India and Swach Environment to supply drinking water round-the-clock to the residents of Nangloi. The contract has been signed for a period of 15 years. The capital outlay for rehabilitating the network, water treatment plant and installing household connections and meters is estimated at about Euro 65.6 million, of which 70 per cent will be financed by DJB and the remaining by the joint venture. The construction work on the project is expected to be completed in four years from the date of commencement.

■ **India-based SPML Infra Limited** and **France-based Suez Environment** have **bagged a \$95 million (Euro 75 million) contract** from the **DJB** to **improve water supply, extend pipeline network, and reduce losses in the distribution network of the Malviya Nagar district in the city**. The project aims to provide 24x7 water supply to the district compared to the current supply of 3-8 hours a day. Currently, the water supply network of the district serves a population of about 400,000. The two companies have been awarded the contract for a period of 12 years. The construction work on the project is expected to commence in December 2012. As part of the project, the companies have to renovate about 100 km of pipeline network and lay about 26 km of additional pipelines.

[Note: Rs 1 crore = Rs 0.01 billion; Rs 1 lakh = Rs 0.1 million; Rs 1,000 million = Rs 1 billion]