

Subject:- Draft Policy for Rice Shoots for Kharif-2010.

DEFINITION

Temporary rice shoot is an outlet in Irrigation Channel with the aim of delivering discharge over and above the normal water allowance of the area exclusively of rice cultivation.

It is emphasized that no rice shoots are to be permitted on any Main Line, Branch Line or Feeder Channel as Government have decided that no outlets of any kind shall be provided on these channels.

These rice shoots are further termed as Contract temporary rice shoots and the same are sanctioned subject to the execution of a contract agreement between the Government and the consumers according to which the later are bound to use the water of temporary rice shoots exclusively for rice cultivation. According to this agreement, the whole area as stipulated therein is assessed on rice water rates, even if it is not cultivated.

The water allowance for rice shoots on Bhakra Canal System and W.J.C. System are as under:-

- 1) Bhakra Canal including Sirsa Branch area 7.5 Cs. per thousand acres. WJC Channels are 10.00 Cs. per thousand acres.
- 2) In Haryana State, there are two main canal systems and the temporary rice shoots will be further governed by the following rules.

a) **BHAKRA CANAL SYSTEM**

The supply from Bhakra Reservoir is fixed and the State cannot arrange more water for sanction of new temporary rice shoots. Therefore, no new temporary rice shoots will be given on Bhakra Canals except on the following channels which are alternatively fed from, WJC (Sirsa Branch area) and Ghaggar River during flood season:-

- i) Sirsa Branch area alternative fed from River Yamuna.
- ii) Southern and Northern Ghaggar Canals alternatively fed from River Ghaggar.
- iii) Temporary rice shoots upto 20 Cs. discharge on the channels off taking from Narwana Branch.

- iv) Traditional temporary rice shoots being allowed in erstwhile Tohana Division (Now Tohana W/S Division and Fatehabad W/S Division of Bhakra W/S Circle No-II, Hisar.)

However areas which are experiencing increased water logging and salinity should not be given rice shoots.

b) **W.J.C. SYSTEM**

The main rice growing area of Haryana State falls under W.J.C. System and large number of temporary rice shoots are being allowed every year. At present temporary rice shoots are being allowed on the basis of the instructions issued vide Chief Engineer, I.B. Punjab letter No. 10026/G-II-5/Sub dated 30.3.62. The above instructions are also modified in Haryana State with certain additional provision vide Chief Engineer/Running Canals letter No. 3477/R.C./II/1709/65 dated 8.6.67 and No. 2124-27/R/1417/65 dated 13.6.68. Latest instruction of Kharif 1977 were issued vide Chief Engineer, Irrigation Works, Haryana letter No. 3532-82/RC/3/1417-65-VIII dated 16.5.77. When the above mentioned instructions were issued, there was adequate surplus water available in River Yamuna during the flood season but the position changed with the construction of new lift non perennial channels and bringing new CCA of 6,54,520 acres under Irrigation envisaged in WJC remodeling project. Areas which are experiencing increased water logging and salinity should be given rice shoots.

3. Temporary rice shoots sanctioned on both the Canal System will be governed under the following rules:-
 - i) There should be no shortage at the tail when the temporary rice shoots are sanctioned. This is the most important criteria and should be rigidly followed. No relaxation be made.
 - ii) Rice shoots should not be given on those channels where tails did not get proper and authorized irrigation during the last two years.
 - iii) The supply to the rice shoot outlets should be made after ensuring authorized full supply to other farmers on regular outlets.

- iv) No temporary rice shoots will be sanctioned to the persons found guilty of un-authorized irrigation during the previous year. In case, however, it is not proved that cut has been made by particular persons (s) temporary rice shoots will not be sanctioned to all the cultivators of such area.
- v) Minimum area command for a temporary rice shoot will be 20 acres.
- vi) Traditional rice shoots should have priority over new temporary rice shoots. However while allowing traditional rice shoots, no fresh application is required and only processing fee may be got deposited at the time of agreement after full satisfaction of the concerned Executive Engineer, if there was no violation of approved policy during previous year.
- vii) The last date for receipt of application under this scheme for considering sanction of rice shoots will be upto 20th June, 2009.
 - (a) No application for sanction of rice shoots will be entertained without deposit of application.
- (b) & (c) Application fee for old/traditional/new rice shoots will be Rs. 150/- per acre subject to a minimum of Rs. 3000/- as the minimum area fixed for a rice shoot is 20 acres. Deposit of application fee does not imply sanction of the rice shoots.
- (d) In case where Rice shoots are not sanctioned, 50% of the applications fee would be refunded to the applications.
- ix) Temporary rice shoots will be opened with effect from 15-07-2010 with prior approval of Chief Engineer.
- x) Temporary rice shoots will be allowed to run normally upto 30th September, 2010.
- xi) Where the cultivators have sown rice crop in less than 50% of the area for *which the temporary rice shoots were sanctioned such cultivators should* not be given a temporary rice shoot in the subsequent year.
- xii) No rice shoot should be sanctioned after 15-07-2010 unless minimum of 10 acres has already been sown in the area, for which a rice shoot has been asked for, provided the discharge of rice shoot of a channel does not exceed 10% of its discharge at head and there is authorized water available at the tails.

- xiii) No rice shoot should be given on the channels upto the capacity of 10 Cs. unless provision for extra discharge during Kharif has been made in the capacity of the channel.
- xiv) The rice shoots on a Distributory channel should not normally exceed 10% of the discharge at its head. For example, if the discharge at the head of Distributory is 150Cs. the total discharge of the rice shoots should not normally exceed 15 Cs. However, this limit can be relaxed in case of channels to be specified, if the Superintending Engineer is satisfied that tail will not suffer on this account and that the channel is capable of taking extra discharge. The names of such channel will be got approved/specified earlier from the Govt. It would be the responsibility of the Superintending Engineer and Chief Engineer to seek the approval of Govt. in such cases before 15th of June and they should not allow any rice shoot (outlet) in excess of 10% of its discharge at its head without prior approval of the Govt.
- xv) As far as possible the area covered under temporary rice shoots should be spread all over, from head to tail, so that there is no heavy withdraw of canal supplies due to concentration in a particular reach.
- xvi) The preference in the sanction of a temporary rice shoot (outlet) should be given to an applicant who has no tubewell in the chak area of the rice shoots.
- xvii) In case the irrigators have sown crops other than the rice in an earmarked block under the temporary rice shoot then the rates for water charges for sown crops would also be levied in addition to the normal levy of water rates for rice crop under the agreement. This is liable to bar them from future sanction.
- xviii) In case of joint application from more than one applicant, the rice shoot will be sanctioned in the name of all the applicants. However, if some applicants withdraw voluntarily, the rice shoot for remaining applicants shall be sanctioned provided areas left is minimum 20 acres and fulfill all other conditions of rice shoots policy, but no new applicant should be included.
- xix) Superintending Engineers are competent to sanction temporary rice shoots (new) in the manner as detailed under clauses xxi to xxv.

- xx) The concerned Divisional Canal Officer will scrutinize and decide the application of the eligible persons in accordance with the policy approved by the Govt. in particular year. He will send all the cases alongwith the cases which are not considered eligible by him to the Superintending Canal Officer for sanction of a temporary rice shoot. He will also send report specifying reasons why these cases are not eligible.
- xxi) Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Superintending Canal Officer can challenge the same by filing the representation within one week of the decision before the C.C.O. who will dispose off the same expeditiously.
- xxii) After receipt of the recommendations of the Divisional Canal Officer the Superintending Canal Officer will take decision about the number of temporary rice shoots which can sanctioned by him on the channel in accordance with the policy approved by the Govt. In case the number of the permissible outlets is exceeded then he will arrange to decide the cases on the basis of a draw of lots to be held on a day and time be decided at least 10 days in advance.
- xxiii) The list of eligible applicants will be notified and given wide publicity. The draw should be held in the presence of at least three gazetted officers to be appointed by the Superintending Engineer under whose Chairmanship the draw will be held. At least one officer out of these should not be connected, with the operation and maintenance of the concerned channel. The applicants should also be allowed to be present during draw time, if they so desire. On the basis of draw, the temporary rice shoots should be sanctioned by the Superintending Canal Officer and intimation sent to the Chief Canal Officer.
- xxiv) If some of the applicants are not satisfied with the decision of the Divisional Canal Officer about the eligibility of his application, then he will have a right to approach the Superintending Canal Officer atleast two days before the actual date of draw and the Superintending Canal Officer.

4. It will also be noted that:-
 - a) Rice shoots would be installed judiciously so that their running does not cause any flooding in the area.
 - b) Rice shoots should not be allowed on any channel where the total availability of water is less than the normal requirement of the system.
 - c) Rice shoots may not be given on minors and canals where there is a problem of water reaching the tail.
 - d) Before processing the case for sanction of rice shoots the S.Es of Water Services Unit, Irrigation Department, Haryana should obtain the latest list of defaulters from Revenue Department and only those beneficiaries be asked to submit clearance certificate from Revenue Department whose names figure in latest list of defaulters.
 - e) Rice shoots running continuously for last three years will be treated as Traditional Rice Shoots.
 - f) Rice shoots should not be allowed on Main Canals, Branch Canals and Feeder Channels etc.
- 5) No field officer of department will allow or recommend rice shoot i.e. Traditional/Temporary/New where Satthi Paddy (60 days crop) is sown by the Cultivators in the Canal Irrigation area and such type of Rice Shoot be cancelled as Govt. of Haryana has already banned the Satthi Paddy (60 days Crop).