

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DELHI JAL BOARD
VARUNALAYA-II, KAROL BAGH,
NEW DELHI-110005**

No. DJB/CEO/2010/3876

Dated: 21.06.2010

Sub: Guidelines regarding installation of tube-wells/DBHP

A meeting in the chamber of the CEO was held on 11.06.2010 to discuss and formulate guidelines regarding installation of Deep Bore Wells, keeping in view the fast depleting ground water table in the city. The meeting was attended by Member (WS) along with Chief Engineers of maintenance wing. Following discussions were held and decisions taken:

1. Apart from existence of lacs of private bore-wells (owned by the individuals), DJB has also installed approx 4000 ground water extraction structures all over Delhi. Majority of these bore-wells exist in those colonies which are either water deficient or are unplanned. Over the years, it has been observed that rate of replenishment of ground water is much less than the rate of drawal. Continued exploitation of ground water is causing severe environmental problems. The situation has become alarming, resulting in drastic depletion of water table.

DJB tubewells are installed for the communities, and when any tubewell becomes dry, reborings is done. Reborings infact is a new tubewell, which is installed in place of the old one. Addition of more ground water extraction structures in the near vicinity makes the existing bore-wells go dry at a faster rate. DJB being the nodal agency and being the water facility provider, has to take timely initiatives more than any other entity to protect the ground water table. For the same, more emphasis must thus be laid on rationalized distribution of supply, disconnection of illegal tapplings, and implementation of technically sound proposals to reduce NRW, so that dependency on ground water is reduced.

Considering the prevalent critical situation, it was decided that DJB will not take up future proposals of new tubewells till December, 2010. The position will be reviewed for further decision in January, 2011. In future, proposals of reborings of tubewells will be considered only with the approval of Member (WS) or CEO.

2. Attention was drawn towards the Hon'ble Supreme Court orders in Writ Petition (C) No.36 of 209, which have been circulated in the department for compliance. The order gives clear directions to be followed to ensure

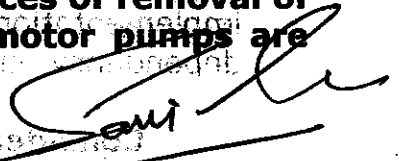
safety measures to be adopted at the sites of drilling, to prevent accidents. There have been instances of litigation, accidents on account of improper selection of site for the tubewells. These sites are, however, chosen in larger public interest. For avoiding such complex situations, it has become necessary for the Board to ensure that the location of the proposed bore is carefully selected and permission from the land owner/agency is obtained; because, in case of any mishappening, questions are raised on these issues, if they are not addressed in advance. A strict supervision will have to be exercised by the field units to ensure that safety precautions are taken and specifications are adhered to.

It was brought to the notice that tubewells in unplanned/illegal settlements are being proposed in the open, along the road sides, since public/common spaces have been encroached upon and no land is left for providing water facilities. Whenever tubewells are installed in the open, their electric panels are tampered with by unsocial elements of the public, who tend to take over the control of operation of the borewells, as such locations are always vulnerable.

It was decided that proposals of tubewells at such vulnerable locations will not be considered in future. Efforts must be made to identify a place where it is feasible to construct a tubewell room, and lock and key arrangements can be made to avoid public interference in running of the tubewell.

3. As the water table has gone down very low and it is not feasible to extract water through manual operation of Deep Bore Handpumps at most of the locations of DBHPs, instances have been reported where immediately after installation of a new DBHP, handle of the same is removed and motor is installed to extract ground water. Maximum benefit out of such activities is availed by individuals who operate commercial activities by selling water through these DBHPs turned into pump-operated borewells.

Such cases bring criticism for the department. Therefore, proposals for DBHPs will not be initiated by the divisions in those areas where water table has gone down; and instances of removal of handles and extraction of ground water through motor pumps are rampant.



(Sanjay Gupta)
Secy. to CEO

Member (WS)
All CEs(Maintenance)

Copy to:

CEO – for kind information please.