

programme as priority agenda for development of dry areas and for drought proofing. The programme is being implemented in accordance with the guidelines of Government of India issued from time to time. The Government of Andhra Pradesh considers watershed development programme as a platform for overall development of the village on community participation basis. Therefore empowerment of community based institutions and their capacity building for Natural Resource Management are critical issues for sustainability of the watershed development programme and for it to act as a platform for overall and sustainable development of villages.

2. Access to water in rainfed areas is a major equity issue. Therefore focus on resource less poor in watershed is essential to address water based inequality. The theme of community participation in Government programme shall give way to Government facilitating community action. Technology demystification, improvement in delivery system of various Government programmes, institution and capacity building (at village level specifically), human resource development transparency of processes and social audit are some crucial enabling issues to implement watershed programme for village development.

3. Emphasis on process is an effort for ensuring sustainability. It is therefore necessary that the processes involved in implementation of various components of watershed development programme are strengthened and monitored systematically. The Government of Andhra Pradesh therefore issues these comprehensive guidelines, in tune with the revised guidelines issued by Government of India in the year 2001 for processes to be followed in watershed development as annexed to this order for guidance and compliance of all involved for effective implementation of watershed development programme. These guidelines also include detailed guidelines for selection of Non-Governmental Organizations as Project Implementing Agencies.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

S. RAY,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVT.

