

PHYSICAL VERIFICATION REPORT

(Conducted by Dy. Director, Planning on 13-11-2010)

1. **Name of Project:** Modernization of New Partap Canal, Akhnoor.
2. **Funding Agency:** GOI (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme) & State Plan (Irrigation Department)
3. **Executing Agency:** Irrigation & Flood Control Department.
4. **Year/Date of Start:** 2001-02 (Original Project)
2007-08 (Revised Project)
5. **Year/ Date of Completion:** 2003-04 (Original Project, 3 years)
2009-10 (Revised Project, 3 years)
6. **Financial Status of Work:**

(Rs. in Crores)

Sanctioned Cost	21.68	Original
Funds Released	47.60	Revised
Expenditure Incurred (up to 10/2010)	23.47	

7. Physical Status of Work:

S. No.	Particulars	Area in Hectares
1	Ultimate Irrigation Potential	13309
2	Potential Created up to 03/2010	12859
3	Potential Utilized up to 03/2010	11824
4	Balance Potential to be Created	450

8. Necessity:-

Old Partap Canal took off from the right bank of main R. Chenab near village Devipur about 9 ½ km downstream of the present Head Works at Akhnoor. This canal was constructed in 1906 for CCA of about 8097 Hectares of land falling right from Akhnoor town to Manawar Tawi in Chhamb Sector. It had been constructed on conventional designs and

methods, so with passage of time and especially due to floods, it became defunct. The re-modelling of head works was completed in 1962, although the canal network remained in dilapidated condition to cater the irrigation demand.

Work of modernization of NPC and its main distributions was taken up in 1981-82 under State Plan which subsequently was taken under the ambit of central loan assistance in 2001-02 with cost of Rs 21.687 crores envisaging modernization of main canal and main distributaries/minors comprising a length of 90.57 km against the total length of 156.82 km.

The need to modernize the balance length of distributary network which was also in bad shape was felt to provide the benefits of modernization to the full extent. Thus the project was revised to Rs 47.60 crores. The initial project which envisaged creation of irrigation potential of 12042 Ha has gone up to 13390 Ha in the revised project.

9. Field Observations:

a. Main Canal: -Out of the total main canal length of about 34 km, the initial stretch of 18 km of the main canal from Akhnoor to Jourian was tracked at different locations where the canal was flowing parallel and close to the road and where there were approach roads. The main canal seemed to be in good shape. This stretch of the canal has 2 aqueducts, 6 siphons, 2 silt-ejectors/ escape channels, distributaries D3, D4, D5, D6, D6A, bridges, bathing ghats, cattle ramps, etc. Some of the works executed along this stretch that were observed are mentioned below: -

- (i) Trash rack and two gates (one for summer and another for winter) at head work at Akhnoor.
- (ii) Underground barrel/ tunnel of 400 meters length at head of the canal.
- (iii) Silt ejector/ escape channel with three gates at RD 14000 feet at Kot Garhi
- (iv) Aqueduct at RD 27000 feet at Nud.
- (v) Aqueduct at RD 29000 feet at Nud.
- (vi) Gates of Distributary number 3 (D3) at RD 10500 meters.
- (vii) Scupper for catchment of water at RD 35000 feet at Batla.
- (viii) Escape channel with cross gates at RD 40000 feet at Dabra.
- (ix) Gates of Distributary number 5 (D5) at RD 17500 meters.
- (x) Abutment of bridge slab yet to be laid at RD 17600 meters at Potha
- (xi) Bridge and new bathing ghats near head of D6 at RD 18000 meters.

- b. Distribution system/ minors:- The distributaries of the main canal were found to be in poor condition at most of the places. Silt had accumulated and there was grass and plants growing within the distributaries. Following was inspected in the distribution system: -
- (i) The Distributary No 6 (D6) was tracked from 18th km of the canal upto Jourian.
 - (ii) A siphon was to be constructed on D6A at Jourian during next closure.

10. Suggestions:

- a. Neither the original modernization work could be completed in time nor the revised modernization work of the NPC and its distribution network has been completed in time. Assistant Executive Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Akhnoor intimated that the working season is hardly 3 months (Mid-December to Mid-March) due to which the work has got delayed. People press hard for opening of the canal in early March and delay the closure in December.

The Irrigation Department be asked to find ways to extend the working season. One way could be to divide the entire distribution network/ irrigated area into blocks and prepare working time-schedules for each block which may also be publicized to the farmers so that they can carry out their activity of watering the fields/ crops in between the working days when some of the distributaries of their block will be closed for execution of work.

- b. **The Irrigation Department needs to concentrate on improving the distribution network. This work can be taken up during non-working season as well and without blocking the flow of water. For this, water flowing through a stretch of the distributary/ minor that is to be repaired/ remodelled/ de-silted may be diverted in to a narrow trenches which could be dug parallel to that particular stretch until these are repaired/ remodelled, as an temporary arrangement.**

11. Additional Suggestions:-

- a. It was reported by the Assistant Executive Engineer, I&FC, Akhnoor that funds were provided each year for de-silting of NPC. However, after observing the silt accumulation in the distribution network, it seems that emphasis is laid mainly on de-silting of the main canal.

Irrigation Department may be asked to keep provision of funds for de-silting of the main canal and the distribution network separately, for instance, in the ration of 60:40, so that de-silting of the distribution network is not neglected.

- b. The Assistant Executive Engineer, I&FC Akhnoor also reported that they were facing shortage of below mentioned field/ revenue staff: -
- (i) Baildar – functions in cutting weeds in the canal section and on banks.
 - (ii) Ziladar – function is to collect abiyana (water tax).
 - (iii) Pansalia – function is to ensure equitable distribution of water among farmers.

Irrigation Department may be asked to fill all the vacant posts of Baildars, Ziladars, Pansalias and may also consider cleaning/ maintenance of the distribution network under NAREGA through BDOs (Rural Development Department) and in consultation with Panchayats which would be functional after the elections are over.

12. Conclusion:-

Irrigation Department needs to emphasize on completion of the modernization work without further delay and find alternatives to extend the working season as well.

Physical Verification Conducted by :	Madan Gopal Sharma, Deputy Director Planning, Monitoring Cell, Chief Minister's Secretariat.
Officers of Executing Agency who accompanied	F.R.Bhagat, Assistant Executive Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Akhnoor.