

# **Training Report**

International Training Programme on  
**“TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS ON INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT: THE  
INDIAN EXPERIENCES”**

(under the exchange of experience Programme of Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) plan)  
**at North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management, Tezpur, Assam,  
India**

**during 20th November – 10th December, 2023**

Organized by North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management, DoWR, RD  
& GR, MoJS, GoI  
&

Sponsored by Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India

## **Introduction:**

A twenty-one day international training programme titled "Technical Innovations on Integrated Water Management: The Indian Experiences" organized by North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management in Tezpur, Assam, India. The programme was conducted as part of the exchange of experience initiative of the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) plan, spanning from 20th November to 10th December 2023. Sponsored by the Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, the programme brought together nineteen (19) participants from Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam (list enclosed as Annexure: 1). The primary objective of the training programme was to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and experiences related to water management in the context of India. The comprehensive training module included 33 classroom lectures held at NERIWALM, Tezpur; Indian Institute of Technology - Guwahati, Central Ground Water Board – NER, Guwahati and North East Space Applications Centre, Umiam. In addition to this, participants were taken for exposure visits to six field sites in Assam and Meghalaya.

## **Inauguration:**

The training programme commenced with an Inauguration ceremony on November 20th, 2023. Dr. Pradip Kr. Bora, Director of NERIWALM, delivered the welcome address. The participants engaged in a Jal Kalash Welcome ceremony, during which all nineteen international participants actively participated. Subsequently, Shri Gora Lal Bansal, Chief Engineer, Brahmaputra Basin Organisation, Central Water Commission, the Chief Guest, addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of knowledge, consultation, and experience sharing in the context of water management for both India and the Mekong basin countries. Shri Harsh Chirania, Under Secretary of the Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs (MoEA) in his remarks acknowledged and applauded NERIWALM's efforts in organizing the training programme. He extended best wishes to all participants. This was followed by the vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Amulya Chandra Debnath, Professor (Water Resource Engineering) & Course Coordinator, NERIWALM. After the inauguration ceremony, one representative from each country presented and shared their experiences and best practices in water resource management in their respective countries.

## **Technical Sessions:**

The three-week training programme included thirty-three classroom lectures and field demonstrations. In the first week, topics covered, overview of water issues in India, strategic issues in the water and land sector, guidelines for preparing Detailed Project Reports in multi-purpose water resource projects, hydrologic data acquisition and analysis, database management systems in India, spring management for hill ecosystems, Atal Bhujal Yojana for participatory groundwater management, and NAQUIM formulation for sustainable groundwater management. Resource persons from the Ministry of Jal Shakti, NERIWALM, Central Water Commission (CWC), and the National Institute of Hydrology delivered these lectures.

In the second week, lectures focused on climate change impacts on India's water resource sector, consequences and management of extreme events, bioengineering measures for erosion control, flood forecasting and control, development of Integrated Water Management Project (Umiam River) using Remote Sensing and GIS, and demonstrations on the use of Remote Sensing and GIS in water resource, agricultural development, and geophysical analysis. Resource persons from Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Central Water Commission, Inland Waterways Authority of India, Central Ground Water Board, and North East Space Applications Centre delivered these lectures.

The third week covered topics such as reservoir control, live storage, and drought management, Dam Safety Act, PMKSY irrigation water management project overview, Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE) experience and roadmap, CWC guidelines for irrigation water planning, major and medium irrigation projects from surface and groundwater resources, command area development in irrigation projects, best practices and traditional water management in NE India, water use efficiency, participatory irrigation management (PIM), micro-irrigation implementation, automation of irrigation, IoT and smart irrigation systems, and rotational irrigation in canal command areas. Resource persons from NERIWALM, National Water Mission, Assam Agriculture University, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd. delivered these lectures. The detailed Programme schedule is enclosed as Annexure: 2

## **Field Exposure:**

The field demonstrations included visits to several significant locations for practical exposure and hands-on learning. These demonstrations took place at the Central Water Commission (CWC) Gauging site in Kalia Bhomora, where participants had the opportunity to observe and understand the functioning of the gauging site for monitoring. Additionally, participants visited the Jamuna major irrigation project site in Hojai, gaining insights into the complexities and operations of a large-scale irrigation project and interacted with the farmers/ irrigation beneficiaries.

Another notable field visit was to the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) in Guwahati, where participants could learn about the development and management of inland water transport infrastructure. This visit provided a first-hand look at the functioning and significance of inland waterways in the region.

Furthermore, participants visited the water quality testing laboratory at the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Guwahati. This visit allowed them to witness the processes and methodologies employed in assessing and maintaining water quality, a crucial aspect of water resource management.

The field demonstrations also included a visit to a hydropower generation plant at Umiam Meghalaya. This visit provided participants with insights into the generation of hydropower and the associated infrastructure, contributing to their understanding of sustainable energy practices in the context of water resources.

As part of their training experience, the trainees had the opportunity to explore the picturesque tourist sites in Meghalaya. The group also visited Cherapunjee, one of the world's highest rainfall areas. Cherapunjee, officially known as Sohra, which is famous for its abundant rainfall, stunning landscapes, and vibrant flora. The trainees experienced the climatic conditions and geographical features that contribute to this region's distinction as one of the wettest places on Earth.

Moreover, during their visit, the trainees were taken to witness the famous one-horned rhinoceros at Kaziranga National Park, Assam. This visit was particularly timely, as it coincided with the season for the National Park, providing the trainees with the chance to observe and appreciate the rich biodiversity of the region. The one-horned rhinoceros, an iconic species, was a highlight of the visit, allowing the trainees to witness wildlife in its natural habitat.

### **Key takeaways and feedback from participants:**

On the concluding day of the training programme, i.e., December 8th, 2023, representatives from each participating country shared their key takeaways. Some of the important take aways as presented by them included the Dam Safety Act, reservoir operation, data maintenance, storage and sharing related to water resources, Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation for irrigation projects, the application of GIS and Remote Sensing in water resource management, participatory irrigation management, bioengineering measures for bank erosion, springshed water management, and Water Use Efficiency (WUE).

Feedback from participants was analyzed and it was found that all of them had strongly agreed that the training provided a valuable educational experience with highly interactive sessions. Many participants commended the programme content, major infrastructure, and overall as excellent. The majority expressed satisfaction that their expectations for the training programme were met. The score given by the participants in regard to the overall learning experience of the training programme was 8.5 out of 10. The participants suggested to include topics such as drilling methods for groundwater surveys, the use of solar energy for pumping irrigation systems, hydrological modelling, groundwater sampling, riverbank erosion related to rehabilitation and construction technology, water economics, water reuse and recycling, water resource management through Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), river morphology, and its impact on irrigation system etc., in the future training programmes.

### **Valedictory:**

Following the successful completion of the training programme, certificates were distributed to the participants by Dr. Pradip Kr. Bora, Director of NERIWALM. A brief report of the training was also presented by Dr. Ch. Victoria Devi, Deputy i/c Training, NERIWALM. The programme was graced by Shri Harsh Chirania, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs (MoEA), Government of India. Shri Chirania conveyed that the training aimed to share knowledge in the field of water and land while providing exposure to the rich cultural and tourism aspects of the country. He emphasized that the feedback and comments received would serve as valuable inputs for planning future training programmes. The Director of NERIWALM extended gratitude to the Mekong basin countries for nominating their participants and acknowledged the contributions of other organizations during the training programme. Further, the Director acknowledged the Ministry of External Affairs for entrusting NERIWALM in organizing and sponsoring the international programme. The valedictory programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Luna Moni Das, Assistant Professor ( Social Science), NERIWALM.

Photographs from the International Training Programme on “**TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS ON INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT: THE INDIAN EXPERIENCES**” (under the exchange of experience Programme of Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) plan at North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management, Tezpur, Assam, India.





**Annexure 1**

**List of the participants:**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Mobile number</b>	<b>E-mail ID</b>	<b>Country</b>
1	<b>Mr. MAISAO BOUNSENGTHA</b>	Technical Staff, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	(+856) 2099914520	bounsengtha@gmail.com	<b>Laos PDR</b>
2	<b>Mr. Monekham Chanthasing</b>	Technical Staff, Thangone Irrigation College, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.	(+856) 2056538519	monekhamch@gmail.com	<b>Laos PDR</b>
3	<b>Mr. Sengsavanh Sitaphone</b>	Desk Officer, Economic Diplomacy promotion Division, Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	(+856) 2077778828	stp.mir21@gmail.com	<b>Laos PDR</b>
4	<b>Mr. Souksamlane Songkham</b>	Technical Staff, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	(+856) 208889801	touit785@gmail.com	<b>Laos PDR</b>
5	<b>Mrs. TRAN THI DIEU HANG</b>	Head of Science, Training and International Cooperation Department	(+849) 88091372	hangtd1001@gmail.com	<b>Vietnam</b>
6	<b>Mr. LE TRUNG KIEN</b>	Researcher, Water Resources Planning and Forecasting Department	(+849) 75184997	letrungkien180997@gmail.com	<b>Vietnam</b>
7	<b>Ms. BUI HUYEN LINH</b>	Researcher, Water Resources Engineering and Technology Department	(+326) 730802	linhb.dctv@gmail.com	<b>Vietnam</b>
8	<b>Mr. Nguyen Hoang Bach</b>	Researcher, Water Resources Engineering and Technology Department	(+843) 43950893	nbach996@gmail.com	<b>Vietnam</b>
9	<b>Mr. Som Kungsamreth</b>	Official at the Department of Hydrology and River Works, MOWRAM	(+855 ) 77818158	som.lumhsomreth@gmail.com	<b>Cambodia</b>

10	<b>Mr. Sun Chamnap</b>	Official at the Department of Hydrology and River Works, MOWRAM	(+855 ) 78451945	sunchamnap8015@gmail.com	<b>Cambodia</b>
11	<b>Mr. Monn Samoun</b>	Official at the Department of Hydrology and River Works, MOWRAM	(+855 ) 11289936	monn.saman@gmail.com	<b>Cambodia</b>
12	<b>Mr. Khean Ratharet</b>	Official at the Department of Irrigated Agroculture, MOWRAM	(+855 ) 17789840	rattharet46@gmail.com	<b>Cambodia</b>
13	<b>Mr. Aung Myo Myint</b>	Asstt. Engineer, Development of Water Resources & Improvement of Rlver Systems, Ministry of Transport & Communication	(+95) - 9 - 5185053	aungagmm@gmail.com	<b>Myanmar</b>
14	<b>Mr. Zaw Win Hlaing</b>	Staff Officer, Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Irrigation	(+95) - 9 - 964166157	zawwinhlaing2980@gmail.com	<b>Myanmar</b>
15	<b>Mr. Aung Nyi Win</b>	Staff Officer, Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Irrigation	(+95) - 9 - 43188344	aungnyiwins88@gmail.com	<b>Myanmar</b>
16	<b>Ms. May Phoo Kyaw</b>	Executive Engineer (Water b& Sanitation), Department of Urban & Housing Development, Ministry of Construction	(+95) - 9 - 971377464	mayphookyawg3@gmail.com	<b>Myanmar</b>
17	<b>Mr. Peerapong Rattanaburi</b>	Irrigation Engineer, Senior Professional Level, Royal Irrigation Department,, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives	(+66) - 0 - 92 665 6328	popirre60@gmail.com	<b>Thailand</b>
18	<b>Ms. Sirinuch Chaipitak</b>	Civil Engineer, Practitioner Level, Office of the National Water Resources (ONWR)	(+66) - 0 - 94 484 3865	sirinuch.chaipitak@gmail.com	<b>Thailand</b>
19	<b>Mr. Naruwat Tongmang</b>	Irrigation Engineer, Practitioner level, Office of the National Water Resources (ONWR)	(+66) - 0 - 80 015 2506	nawat1992@gmail.com	<b>Thailand</b>

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 EXPERIENCES”**

(under the exchange of experience programme of Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) plan)  
**at North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management, Tezpur, Assam, India  
 during 20<sup>th</sup> November – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Organized by North Eastern Regional Institute of Water and Land Management, DoWR, RD & GR,  
 MoJS, GoI  
 &

Sponsored by Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India  
**Course Coordinator: Dr. A. C. Debnath, Professor (Water Resource Engineering),  
 NERIWALM**

Sessions	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
Timing	0930-1100	1130-1215	1215-1315	1430-1515	1515-1600	1630-1730	1730-1800
	1100-1130 : Morning tea break		1315-1430 : Lunch break		1600-1630 : Evening tea break		

Date	Session	Agenda	
20 Nov 2023 (Monday)	I	Welcome address and briefing on the International training programme	Dr. Pradip Kumar Bora, Director, NERIWALM
		Jal Kalash - Welcome Ceremony	Representative from each MGC country
		Felicitation & Introduction of Participants	NERIWALM Staff & Participants from MGC countries
		Address by the Guest of Honour	Shri Gora Lal Bansal, C.E., BBO, CWC, Guwahati
		Address by the Special Guest	Shri Deba Kumar Mishra, ACS, District Commissioner, Sonitpur, Assam
		Inaugural address by the Chief Guest (in Virtual mode)	Ms. Paramita Tripathi, Joint Secretary, Indo Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India
		Vote of thanks	Dr. Amulya Chandra Debnath, Professor & Course Coordinator, NERIWALM
		High tea	
	II	Exchange experiences and best practices in farming community and water resource management in Cambodia	Representative from Cambodia
	III	Exchange experiences and best practices in farming community and water resource management in Lao PDR	Representative from Lao PDR
	IV	Exchange experiences and best practices in farming community and water resource management in Myanmar	Representative from Myanmar
	V	Exchange experiences and best practices in farming community and water resource management in Thailand	Representative from Thailand
	VI	Exchange experiences and best practices in farming community and water resource management in Vietnam	Representative from Vietnam
VII	Interaction with state department officials	Participants and State Department Representatives	
Assisting personnel from NERIWALM: Shri Chandan Bhuyan, Research Associate (Social Science)			



**WEEK 1**  
**Day 2 onwards**

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Date	Session	Topics	Resource Person
<b>21 Nov 2023 (Tuesday)</b>	I	National Water Policy	PKB
	II	Issues and opportunities in water and land sector in NE states of India	ACD
	III	Overview of water resources in India	AK
	IV	Strategic issues in water resource sector	AK
	Summing up of day's activities		
<b>22 Nov 2023 (Wednesday)</b>	I	<b>Visit to CWC Gauging site (Accompanying persons from NERIWALM: SP, BM &amp; RJB)</b>	KN & ARD
	II		
	III	Guidelines of preparation of DPR of Multipurpose water resource projects - I	AK
	IV	Guidelines of preparation of DPR of Multipurpose water resource projects - II	AK
	Summing up of day's activities		
<b>23 Nov 2023 (Thursday)</b>	I	Hydrologic data acquisition, data processing & big data analysis, DBMS in India	SKS
	II	Spring management for hill ecosystem – Case study	VK
	III	Atal Bhujal Yojana – participatory groundwater management	SY
	IV	NAQUIM formulation lid for sustainable groundwater management	
	Summing up of day's activities		
<b>24 Nov 2023 (Friday)</b>		<b>Visit to Jamuna major irrigation project site (Accompanying persons from NERIWALM: CVD, BM &amp; RB)</b>	State irrigation dept. officials
<b>25 Nov 2023</b>		<b>Saturday</b>	-
<b>26 Nov 2023</b>		<b>Sunday</b>	-

Assisting personnel from NERIWALM: Shri Chandan Bhuyan, Research Associate (Social Science)

<b>Resource persons:</b>	
PKB	Dr Pradip Kumar Bora, Director, NERIWALM
ACD	Dr Amulya Chandra Debnath, Professor (WRE), NERIWALM
AK	Shri Abhijeet Kasliwal, EE, Upper Brahmaputra Division, CWC, Guwahati
KN	Shri Karyom Nyorak, SDE, D(S) & K, Nagaon
ARD	Shri Anurodh, JE, Bhomaguri, D(S) & K, Nagaon
SP	Dr Sagarika Patowary, Assistant Professor (WRE), NERIWALM
BM	Shri Bikramjit Mandal, Research Associate (Agriculture), NERIWALM
RJB	Shri Rommojyoti Bhattacharjee, Technical Assistant, NERIWALM
SKS	Dr Sanjay Kumar Sharma, Sci – D, NIH-NERC, Guwahati
VK	Dr S. V. Vijaya Kumar, Sci – G & Head, NIH-NERC, Guwahati
SY	Shri Subodh Yadav, Joint Secretary (Admin, IC and GW), DoWR, RD & GR, MoJS
CVD	Dr Chandam Victoria Devi, Assistant Professor (Social Science), NERIWALM
RB	Shri Rahul Biswas, Field Assistant, NERIWALM

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Date	Session	Topics	Resource Person
27 Nov 2023 (Monday) (Gazetted Holiday)		<i>Proceed towards IIT, Guwahati and stay at IIT, Guwahati guest house (Accompanying persons from NERIWALM: SH, NK &amp; SD) Classes will be held at IIT, Guwahati on 28.11.2023</i>	-
28 Nov 2023 (Tuesday)	I	Climate change impact on water resource sector in India	AKS
	II	Extreme events consequences, prediction and management	SP
	III	Bioengineering measures for erosion control	AKS
	IV	Flood forecasting and flood control measures- Indian perspective	CWC
		Summing up of day's activities	
29 Nov 2023 (Wednesday)		Visit to Inland waterways (IWAI)	GL
		Class at CGWB on groundwater quality analysis for irrigation and drinking purposes, NABL accreditation and standards along with lab visit	KRP
		<i>Proceed towards NEHU Guest House, Shillong (Accompanying persons from NERIWALM: CVD, SB &amp; NK)</i>	-
30 Nov 2023 (Thursday)	I	Development of Integrated Water Management Project (Umiam river) by using Remote Sensing and GIS	RD
	II	Demonstration on use of Remote Sensing and GIS in water resource sector	SK
	III	Demonstration on use of Remote Sensing and GIS in Agricultural Development	JG
	IV	Demonstration on use of Remote Sensing and GIS in Geophysical analysis	DJC
		Summing up of day's activities	
01 Dec 2023 (Friday)		<i>Proceed towards Cherrapunji and back to NEHU Guest House, Shillong (Accompanying persons from NERIWALM: CVD, SB &amp; NK )</i>	-
02 Dec 2023 (Saturday)		<i>Visit to hydropower generation plant at Barapani and proceed towards NERIWALM, Tezpur (Accompanying persons from NERIWALM: CVD, SB &amp; NK )</i>	Officials from MEECL
03 Dec 2023 (Sunday)		Sunday	-

Assisting personnel from NERIWALM: Shri Naveenkumar R, Research Associate

**Resource persons:**

SH	Dr Sanayanbi Hodam, Assistant Professor (WRE), NERIWALM
NK	Shri Naveenkumar R, Research Associate (Agriculture), NERIWALM
SD	Shri Shuvajit Das, Laboratory Assistant, NERIWALM (Engineering)
AKS	Dr Arup K. Sarma, Prof., Dept. of Civil Engg., IIT-Guwahati
SP	Dr Sreeja P, Associate Prof., Dept. of Civil Engg., IIT-Guwahati
CWC	Resource person from CWC
GL	Shri Gourav Laad, TA, IWAI, Pandu Port Complex, Guwahati
KRP	Dr Keisham Radhapyari, Sci-C (Chemical) & Quality Manager, Regional Chemical Lab, CGWB, NER, Guwahati
CVD	Dr Chandam Victoria Devi, Assistant Professor (Social Science), NERIWALM
SB	Shri Saurav Bhattacharjee, Research Associate (WRE), NERIWALM
RD	Shri Ranjit Das, Sci/Engr 'SF' WRD, NESAC, Shillong, Meghalaya
SK	Shri Shanbor Kurbah, Sci/Engr 'SD' WRD, NESAC, Shillong, Meghalaya
JG	Dr Jonali Goswami, Sci/Engr 'SF' ASD, NESAC, Shillong, Meghalaya
DJC	Dr D.J. Chutia, Head, GID, NESAC, Shillong, Meghalaya

**WEEK 3**

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Sessions	I	II	III	IV
Timing	0930-1100	1130-1300	1430-1600	1630-1800
1100-1130: Morning Tea Break		1300-1430: Lunch Break		1600-1630: Evening Tea Break
Date	Session	Topics	Resource Person	Assisting personnel from NERIWALM: Shri Saurav Bhattacharjee, Research Associate (WRE)
04 Dec 23 (Monday)	I	Reservoir control, live storage and drought management	AM	
	II	Dam safety act	NK	
	III	PMKSY – Overview of irrigation water management project	MJU	
	IV	Bureau of Water Use Efficiency (BWUE) experience and roadmap		
Summing up of day's activities				
05 Dec 2023 (Tuesday)	I	Irrigation water planning – CWC guidelines	MN	
	II	Major and medium irrigation projects from surface and groundwater resources – Indian experience	MN	
	III	Command area development in irrigation projects	UMH	
	IV	Best practice of water management and traditional water management in NE India	PKB	
Summing up of day's activities				
06 Dec 2023 (Wednesday)	I	Water use efficiency for enhancing water productivity	PB	
	II	Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM)	CVD	
	III	Micro irrigation implementation in India	HKB	
	IV	Automation of irrigation, IoT and smart irrigation system		
Summing up of day's activities				
07 Dec 2023 (Thursday)	<b>Visit to Kaziranga National Park (Accompanying persons from NERIWALM: LMD, CB &amp; SPH )</b>		-	
08 Dec 2023 (Friday)	I	Rotational irrigation in canal command area	ACD	
	II	Key takeaways from the training programme by participants	Cambodia	
		Key takeaways from the training programme by participants	Lao PDR	
	III	Key takeaways from the training programme by participants	Myanmar	
		Key takeaways from the training programme by participants	Thailand	
		Key takeaways from the training programme by participants	Vietnam	
IV	Feedback & Valedictory Session	Participants & NERIWALM		
09 Dec 2023	<b>Saturday</b>		-	
10 Dec 2023	<b>Sunday</b>		-	

**Resource persons:**

AM	Shri Amitabh Meena, Director (RO), CWC, New Delhi
NK	Shri Nitin Kumar, Deputy Director (DSM), CWC, New Delhi
MN	Shri Manish, Deputy Director (IP-N), CWC, New Delhi
MJU	Shri Mannu Ji Upadhyay, Director, BWUE, NWM
UMH	Dr Uzzal Mani Hazarika, Associate Professor (WRE), NERIWALM
PKB	Dr Pradip Kumar Bora, Director, NERIWALM
PB	Dr Pankaj Barua, Prof & Head, Dept of Agri Engg., College of Agriculture, AAU, Jorhat
CVD	Dr Chandam Victoria Devi, Assistant Professor (Social Science), NERIWALM
HKB	Er Harekrishana Baruah, Vice-president, Jain Irrigation systems Ltd, Guwahati
ACD	Dr Amulya Chandra Debnath, Professor (WRE), NERIWALM
LMD	Dr Luna Moni Das, Assistant Professor (Social Science), NERIWALM
CB	Shri Chandan Bhuyan, Research Associate (Social Science), NERIWALM
SPH	Miss Stutipriya Hazarika, Laboratory Assistant (Agriculture)