

encouraged to take up the work of development as Project Implementation Agency.

(f) A forest official should invariably be included as a member of the Watershed Development Team wherever forestland falls within the watershed.

Project Commencement

17. The date of sanction of the project shall be date of project commencement for all purposes. The project shall be implemented over a period of five years from the date of sanction.

State Watershed Development Committee

18. To ensure coordination among various Government Departments/ Institutions and Voluntary Agencies, a State Watershed Development Committee (SWDC) shall be constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary/ Agricultural Production Commissioner/ Development Commissioner. Secretaries & Heads of Departments of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Forest, Soil Conservation, Horticulture, Agriculture, State Remote Sensing Centre, Harijan and Tribal Welfare, two representatives of prominent NGOs working in the field of watershed development, two prominent Women representatives, one representative of State Training Institutions in related field will be the members of the Committee. A designated Department in the State Government shall be the nodal Department to service this Committee and to supervise the implementation of Watershed Development Programmes.

19. This Committee may meet twice a year to monitor, review and evaluate the progress of implementation of the Watershed Development Programmes. If there is adequate justification, the Committee may recommend relaxation of the cost norms for a specific project especially in difficult areas.