

24-hr water by August in three S Delhi colonies

Delhi Jal Board's PPP Project To Soon Deliver First Result Along With Improved Maintenance And Billing

Neha Lalchandani | TNN

New Delhi: West End Colony, Sheikh Sarai and Golf View Apartments in Saket may begin to get 24-hour water supply by July-August this year. Delhi Jal Board's public private partnership projects to streamline Delhi's water supply are well under way though these had faced some opposition initially. However, the other areas in the pilot projects will have to wait for two years.

In a first in the capital, DJB officials say, the pipelines will be monitored through a GPRS-based data logger which will send feeds to a centralized control room. "This will monitor water pressure in critical areas, and if it de-

fects a fall at some point, a message will be relayed to the control room which will check for reasons for the plunge. Connected to this will be the variable frequency drive, a device that will be installed at all pumps. This will be instrumental in regulating the pressure of water. Based on flows during the day - higher during peaks hours or leakages and low during night - it will regulate the pressure of water flow," said a DJB official.

The private companies will be responsible for the pipelines up to the consumer's meter, including the ferrule point that frequently springs leaks. Consumer service centres have been set up under DJB's supervision. All meters will also be replaced, a move

that had met with resistance.

In the Vasant Vihar project area (includes five colonies), work was officially handed over on December 12 last year to a combine of **SPML Infrastructure**, Tahal Consulting Engineers and Hagihon Jerusalem Water and Wastewater Works. The work for relaying old pipes has started in West End in the project area while operation and maintenance has been taken up in Anand Niketan, Shanti Niketan, Vasant Enclave, Vasant Vihar and West End. "The private company has to maintain the services and there can be no deterioration in supply. This project area has 38% non-revenue water at present, of which physical losses account for 20%. The infrastructure here



is relatively new and there are few cases of theft. The entire area has 6,700 connections. The plan is to connect all households to the DJB system, irrespective of whether they have connections right

now or not," said Debashree Mukherjee, CEO, DJB.

Mehrauli, the only project area where water cannot be supplied round the clock due to non-availability, work on re-designing the system and construction of infrastructure has been started by the same Vasant Vihar company. The project here has the limited aim of improving the supply and its quality.

Malviya Nagar was bagged by a joint venture of **SUEZ Environnement** and **SPLM**. The area has 35,000 connections. "This is a 12-year project. The first two years will be assigned to rehabilitation and development work in the distribution network under Malviya Nagar underground reservoir command

area and the remaining 10 years for operation and management of project site," said a SUEZ Environnement spokesperson. "In the first six months, we have initiated work to reorganize and renovate the network, detect and repair more than 300 leaks, change and lay new pipelines, etc. By July, we should be able

MONITORING PIPELINES

to launch 24X7 water supply in three areas."

He added that the company was in the process of connecting around 71,000 new consumers to the network from the colonies regularized recently. A service centre is being set up for complaint re-

dressal while the company is already involved in the billing process by conducting meter readings and printing bills and distributing them.

Work for Nangloi will be handed over in the next 20 days to Nangloi Water Services, a partnership between Veolia Water India and Swach Environment. Work here has been divided into two phases, of which the first will include surveying the area and identifying current status of infrastructure and deficiencies. Subsequently, around 1,204 km of pipelines will be replaced. Other work include rehabilitation of the water treatment plant, construction of a recycling plant and construction of two storage reservoirs at Najafgarh and Mundka.