**Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)**

In order to ensure the strength, safety and to improve the operational performance of the existing Dams in a sustainable manner, Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project is taken up for implementation by Government of India with World Bank Assistance, and is being supervised and coordinated by Central Water Commission (CWC) at the national level and the State Project Management Unit (SPMU) at the State level.

The Project with an implementation period of six years, has become effective on 18th April 2012, and is under implementation.

In Tamil Nadu, Water Resources Department (WRD) is one of the participating Department. The total number of dams taken under DRIP in Tamil Nadu is 105 dams of which 69 dams (i.e 64 dams + 4 drinking water reservoirs+ 1 Anicut) are WRD dams and 36 dams are TANGEDCO dams.

In addition, Catchment Area Treatment works are taken up by the AED (Agricultural Engineering Department) in two reservoirs, namely Krishnagiri and Kundah reservoirs.

**Mile Stones in DRIP:**

* The Project agreement has been signed with the World Bank on 21.12.2011.
* The Project is effective from 18.4.2012.
* State Project Management Unit has been formed with 50 nos. of staff strength.
* Formation of Empowered Committee for DRIP
* Two Dam Safety Review Panels have been formed for inspecting the ongoing projects then and there.
* The Rehabilitation works are taken up for the implementation, after getting the clearance of revised hydrological review study report, Dam Safety Review Panel inspection, approval of Project Screening Template and Bid document by the competent authorities.

**Department service to the Public:**

* To provide a supply of water for towns, cities and mining sites.
* To provide a supply of water for the irrigation of crop.
* To generate electricity in hydro-electric power stations.
* To help control or mitigate floods.

Many dams are multipurpose and most dams have at least some flood mitigation effect in addition to their primary purpose. Dams built specifically for flood control may have some of their storage capacity kept empty during normal river flow conditions so that space is available to store excess water inflow under flood conditions. The flood mitigation effect of a dam is such that the downstream river height at the peak of the flood is reduced but, after the peak has passed, the river levels usually remain high for a longer period than would have been the case if the dam had not been built. This is because excess flood water is only stored behind the dam temporarily and is slowly released from the dam in the days and weeks after the flood peak has passed.