## Office of the Accountant General (A&E) Uttar Pradesh, Prayagraj

## <u>Minutes of the Interactive Workshop held on 21st June</u> 2025 for DAOs/DAs and Executive Engineers of Irrigation <u>Department</u>

Keeping in view the need for regular interaction between stakeholders involved in the accounting and compilation process to streamline operations and resolve emerging issues, particularly within the Works Department and specifically the Irrigation Department, an interactive workshop was conducted on 21.06.2025. This workshop included officers from the AG office and the Irrigation Department, including Sr.AOs/AAOs of Works and DACC Sections, the Divisional Accountant Cadre, and Executive Engineers from the Irrigation Department. The workshop was chaired by the Accountant General, AG (A&E)-II.

The workshop was highly productive, addressing various critical issues such as account submission, disciplinary matters related to the DA cadre, disputes between Divisional Accountants and Executive Engineers, etc. The session aimed at enhancing the DA cadre's capabilities in fulfilling their roles effectively, mitigating conflicts, and fostering a conducive working environment in the Irrigation divisions.

## The following officers participated in the workshop:

- 1. Dr. Surendra Kumar (IA&AS), Accountant General (Chairperson)
- 2. Shri Rajendra Prasad, Sr. DAG/Works
- 3. Shri Abhishek Kumar, Sr. DAG/DACC
- 4. Executive Engineers, Irrigation and Water Resources Department
- 5. Shri P.K. Rawat, Sr. AO, DACC Coordination
- 6. Sr. AOs, Works Coordination
- 7. Shri Vinay Kumar Srivastava, Sr. DAO
- 8. Shri Sandeep Kumar Saxena, Sr. DAO
- 9. AAOs, Works and DACC Coordination
- 10. Sr. DAOs/DAOs/DAs posted in Irrigation Department divisions

The session featured engaging discussions and speeches. In the introductory remarks, **Shri P.K. Rawat (Sr.A.O)** highlighted the purpose and importance of the workshop, including root causes and remedies for disputes in the divisions. He noted that earlier complaints against DAOs were rare and based on solid evidence, but recent years have seen an increase in complaints driven by misunderstandings rather than merit.

Shri Ankur Prakash Mishra (AAO) explained the duties of DAO/DAs and emphasized that lack of communication and differing perspectives are major sources of conflict. He also advocated for adopting a 'middle path' approach in resolving such conflicts, ensuring that differences are settled amicably within the framework of rules and regulations. He stressed the DAO's role in ensuring financial regularity, advised adherence to rules, and advocated for a supportive environment and cooperation.

Shri Sandeep Kumar Saxena, Sr. DAO, noted that DAOs are responsible for the timely and accurate compilation of accounts and should ensure all documents are complete and audit-ready. He clarified that while the Divisional Officer holds final authority, DAOs must offer sound advice. He also stressed digitization, timely closing of records, practical resolution of minor issues, and a constructive attitude. He further emphasized that only serious matters should be recorded in Form 60 or the Objection Register. He remarked that the advice provided by DAO/DA should be well-founded, aligned with Government Orders (GOs), and backed by their professional expertise and experience. He stressed that DAOs should approach issues with a constructive, problem-solving mindset and also advocated for adopting a balanced 'middle path' in resolving conflicts within the framework of rules and responsibilities.

**Shri Vinay Kumar Srivastava**, Sr. DAO, emphasized the need for uniform working practices, reviewing old audit paras, reducing pendency, and proactively maintaining records. Objections should be factual and rule-based, and DAOs should take initiative where necessary.

Shri Mayank Pandey, Sr. DAO/General Secretary of the DAO Association, highlighted the mutual need for financial discipline between EEs and DAOs. Shri Dibyanshu Tripathi, DA, raised the issue of salary delays, while Ms. Neha Singh, DA, voiced concerns about inadequate facilities for women staff, like toilets.

Executive Engineers also shared their views:

- Shri Digvijay Shukla (Flood Control Division, Prayagraj) stressed collaboration and mutual support between DAOs and EEs.
- Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh (Warla Canal Division) advocated for practical decision-making within rules.
- Shri Manoj Kumar Singh (Tubewell Division I, Prayagraj) called for DAOs' support during high workload periods like March and agreed that serious objections should be duly addressed.

Concerns were raised about the discontinuation of the CCL Accounting System, with requests for clear procedures for suspense item adjustments and guidelines.

Shri Rajendra Prasad, Sr. DAG/Works, discussed irregularities in monthly accounts, including delays, fund diversions, misclassification, and missing documents. He emphasized adherence to codal provisions.

Shri Abhishek Kumar, Sr. DAG/DACC, addressed service matters like APARs, property returns, formal leave applications, and inter-departmental

coordination. He encouraged DAO cadre to use online learning platforms (iGOT, Swayam) and shared updates on linking the Manav Sampada portal with AG Office.

In his address, **Dr. Surendra Kumar, Accountant General**, referred to the book "Not Just an Accountant" underlining that the role of the DAO/DA is not merely data compilation but ensuring accountability in public interest. He emphasized regular dialogue, using the idiom "A lot can happen over a cup of tea."

## Highlights of AG's speech:

- Urged skill improvement, including listening and analytical abilities.
- Encouraged DAO/DA to act as friend, philosopher, and guide to EEs.
- Emphasized soft skills to ensure cooperation and respect.
- Directed use of iGOT/Swayam platforms for learning.
- Called for professional conduct, punctuality, and reporting of good/bad practices.
- Encouraged creative, rule-based accounting solutions.
- Suggested establishing a mentoring system for new DAs.

A query session followed, where administrative and accounting queries were discussed. Issues like reimbursement claims, inadequate seating, and suspense clearance were raised. Divisions were instructed to report infrastructure issues via official email.

**Concluding Remarks:** Shri Abhishek Kumar, Sr. DAG/DACC, reiterated the need for regular attendance, timely APAR submission, and proper conduct.

The session ended with thanks to the Chair and all participants by Shri P.K. Rawat, Sr. AO/DACC.

Sr.Deputy Accountant General /Works

No. Sr.DAG/works cell/workshop/DAOs/ Copy to the following for information and neccessary action:

1. Secretaty to the Accountant General (A&E) Uttar pradesh, Prayagraj.

- 2. Sr.DAG/Works cell
- 3. Sr.DAG/DACC
- 4. Sr.DAO/DAO/DAs through office website
- 5. Executive Engineers of Irrigation Department
- 6 Sr.AO/Computer for hosting on office website.

Sr.Accounts Officer/WC Cell

Dated: