

Message from PID

Let me share with you some of the major works of the Kathmandu Upatyaka Khanepani Limited, Project Implementation Directorate (KUKL-PID) in the past three months.

Allow me to start with water supply component.

KUKL-PID has conducted flushing and testing of around 63 km of the Bulk Distribution System (BDS) using Bagmati water diverted from Sundarimal after treatment. It has conducted pressure test on more than 1,006 km of the Distribution Network Improvement (DNI) and leakage test on Service Reservoir Tanks (SRTs) located in Balaju, Mahankal (existing Mahankal SRT), Arubari, Bansbari, Panipokhari, Kirtipur, Dhaphkel and Tigni.

I take this opportunity to inform that the perception survey conducted after starting supply of additional, fully-treated water sourced from Sundarimal has found that KUKL customers are satisfied with its quality and quantity. Of the 147 customers surveyed a) 14.3 percent responded that the quality of water is excellent b) 57.1 percent felt that the new water was of better quality c) more than two-thirds (84.4%) said the quantity of water supplied has increased.

KUKL-PID is also making progress in resolution of some major disputes that were halting project works. Working in close coordination with elected representatives and local communities, KUKL-PID has resolved alignment dispute over installation of pipeline from Ghalati to the SRT at Katunje. Pipe-laying has already begun along the stretch. KUKL-PID wishes to thank elected representatives, local administration and others for their role in finding a way out. The alignment dispute at Khahare-Bansbari SRT stretch is also over, thanks to joint efforts of all stakeholders involved.

Under wastewater component, KUKL-PID has laid over 30 km of interceptors, started operation of a modern, environment-friendly wastewater treatment plant at Guheshwori and rehabilitated the old WWTP located there.

With your cooperation and our hard work, we believe we will soon be able to supply clean and pure Melamchi water and provide improved wastewater services. That will be a game-changer and that is what we are striving for.

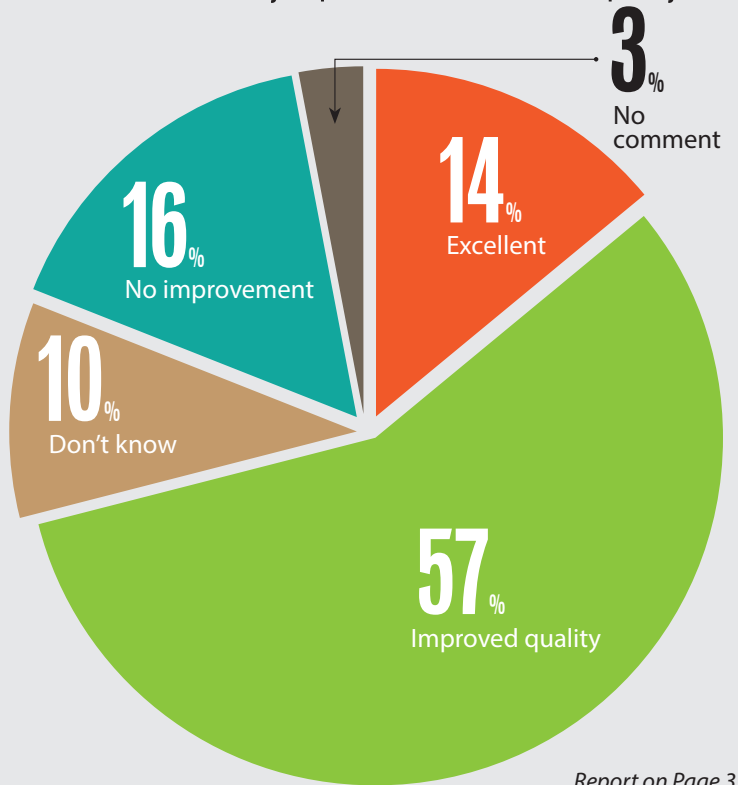


Bhoj Bikram Thapa
(Project Director)



SURVEY ABOUT ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLIED BY KUKL-PID

Has there been any improvement in terms of quality?



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Project driven by mission to provide improved water services

- **Launch:** In 2011, Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Improvement Project (KVWSIP) was launched with joint financing from the Government of Nepal (GoN) and the Asian Development Bank
- **Main objective:** KVWSIP aims to develop a reliable, equitable and sustainable system for providing water supply services in the Kathmandu Valley. In the first phase, the focus of the project is on distribution of clean and pure water to 1,02,574 households within Ring Road. The system consists of a) 77-km BDS b) Service Reservoir Tanks (10 nos, total capacity: 74,500 m³) c) Installation of 1132-km Distribution Network Improvement pipeline
- **Capacity building:** Improving operational efficiency and service delivery of Kathmandu Upatyaka Khanepani Limited is also within the scope of KVWSIP
 - Water supply improvement works are gathering momentum in most of the areas within Ring Road.
 - Separately, GoN has initiated DNI work in Kapan area. For installation of approximately 250 km pipeline, it has allocated NRs 1.6 billion (US \$1.6 million)
 - Due to the lack of financial resources, water supply improvement works are yet to begin in Tahachal, Chhauni, Swayambhu, Panipokhari, Maharajgunj, Baluwar and Bishal Nagar within Ring Road.

Flushing, testing and commissioning of new water supply system

KUKL-PID is making progress in construction as well as flushing, testing and commissioning of the new water distribution system that will convey Melamchi water to households.

It has already laid 75.4 km of the Bulk Distribution System (BDS) along with around 925 km of Distribution Network Improvement (DNI) pipelines. KUKL-PID has conducted drop tests at SRTs located in Khumaltar, Panipokhari, Mahankal (New Mahankal), Maharajgunj, Kirtipur, Balaju, Bansbari and Tigni, while construction of SRT is going smoothly at Katunje.

Flushing and testing of about 60 km of BDS pipeline is complete. KUKL-PID is also speeding up flushing and testing of DNI pipes that will supply water stored at SRTs to households. It has already conducted flushing of New Mahankal SRT-Ratopool, Panipokhari SRT-Khula Manch, Balaju SRT-Dallu and Chamati Bridge-Bajra Hotel (secondary line) stretches. These are part of efforts to ensure full functionality of the new water distribution system.

But full flushing, testing and commissioning of the new system will require steady supply of huge quantities of water, something which will not be possible without the availability of Melamchi water.

At the same time, KUKL-PID has set up 70,587 household connections and repaired 43 km of roads damaged during the installation of water pipelines.

	Kathmandu Valley Water Supply Improvement Project	Target	Unit	Progress
1	Construction of BDS	77	km	75.4
2	Flushing and testing of BDS	77	km	59.78
3	Construction of SRTs	10	nos	9
	Total capacity	74,500	m³	97.92%
4	Household connections	1,17,141	nos	70,587
5	Road repair works	110	km	43.204

Progress status of construction of valve chambers					
S.N	Package	Target	Unit	Progress	Remaining
1	Package 1	65	nos	60	5
2	Package 2	96	"	90	6
3	Package 3	36	"	36	0
4	Package 4	38	"	25	13
	Total	235	"	211	24
Distribution Network Improvement					
1	Package 1	226	nos	222	4
2	Package 2	254	"	218	36
3	Package 3	130	"	130	0

Katunje BDS alignment issue resolved, pipe-laying begins

KUKL-PID has successfully settled the alignment dispute at Katunje area through community mobilisation. By engaging different stakeholders like local people, elected representatives and contractors through mobilisation of Community Awareness and Safeguards Support Consultant, KUKL-PID has resolved the dispute over laying of BDS pipeline along Ghalati Chowk-Katunje SRT stretch.

After a series of meetings, KUKL-PID on October 16 signed an agreement with the municipality to:

- Expand BDS pipeline from Ghalati Chowk to Katunje Service Reservoir Tank through Ghalati Chowk-Panihiti-Katunje SRT road, lay pipeline and conduct other works by using land acquired for the purpose
 - a) Suryavinayak Chowk-Ganesh Temple-Krishna Temple Road
 - b) Arniko Highway-Chundevi Chowk-Vanachaur Road to avoid traffic obstructions during BDS pipeline expansion from Ghalati Chowk to Katunje SRT (KUKL-PID will make arrangements for blacktopping of 1.5 km of above-mentioned roads)



■ Hon'ble Member of Parliament Mahesh Basnet, local government representatives, Project Director of PID Bhoj Bikram Thapa and consultants participating in an all-party meeting on installation of the BDS pipeline from Ghalati to the SRT under construction at Katunje, Bhaktapur.

- c) Repair the road from Pandu Bazaar (Panihiti Chowk) to Gumba Chowk if any damage occurs during pipe laying and to blacktop Pandu Bazaar (Panihiti)-Chundevi Temple road later
- d) Make arrangements for compensation if loss/damage occurs during pipeline expansion
- e) Reinstate the road from Sallaghari to Ghalate Chowk and 50-metre (approx) road from Srijana Chowk to (Suryavinayak) municipality, damaged

during BDS pipeline expansion

KUKL-PID wishes to thank Hon'ble Lawmaker of Federal Parliament Mahesh Basnet, Hon'ble Lawmaker of the Provincial Parliament Shashi Jung Thapa and Mayor of Suryavinayak municipality Vasudev Thapa for their role in resolving the dispute. Pipe-laying is going on smoothly from Ghalate Chowk to Katunje SRT now.

Row on Khahare-Bansbari SRT BDS stretch is over with joint effort of stakeholders. Construction has begun there as well.

Striving for more efficient management of wastewater

Kathmandu Valley Wastewater Management Project (KVWWMP) was launched in 2013 with loan assistance from the Asian Development Bank and Government of Nepal. It aims to improve access to, and increase efficiency of wastewater services for the residents of the Kathmandu Valley by 1) rehabilitating and expanding sewerage network 2) modernising and expanding existing wastewater treatment plants at different locations in the valley.

Under this project, around 30 km of interceptor pipelines have already been laid along both banks of Hanumante, Manohara and Khasyangkhusung rivers out of 45 km. In parallel, High Powered Committee for Integrated Development of the Bagmati Civilisation has installed interceptors along Bagmati and Vishnumati and is installing wastewater collection laterals.

Wastewater will be transferred to modern, environment-friendly WWTPs under construction in Sallaghari (14.2 MLD), Balkumari (17.5 MLD), Dhobighat (74 MLD) and Guheshwori (16.2MLD) for treatment. Treated water will be discharged into rivers. These WWTPs, under the first phase, have total treatment capacity of 130.81 MLD.



Guheshwori WWTP to start full operation soon

KUKL-PID has achieved a critical milestone in wastewater management sector in the Kathmandu Valley.

It has rehabilitated and started operation of conventional WWTP (16.2 MLD) at Guheshwori. Operation of the modern, environment-friendly WWTP (16.2 MLD) has also started at Guheshwori with critical parameters of the effluent from the WWTP like BOD, COD, TSS, Oil and Grease and pH brought down to prescribed limits. KUKL-PID

has taken special care to ensure that treated effluents drain into the Bagmati river after passing crucial tests, given the sanctity of the Pashpatinath-Guheshwori area.

At the same time, construction of modern, environment-friendly WWTPs at Dhobighat, Balkumari and Sallaghari is also picking up pace with overall progress of 16.3 percent.

Discharge of treated water into rivers is expected to help reduce river pollution and provide suitable habitat for aquatic beings.

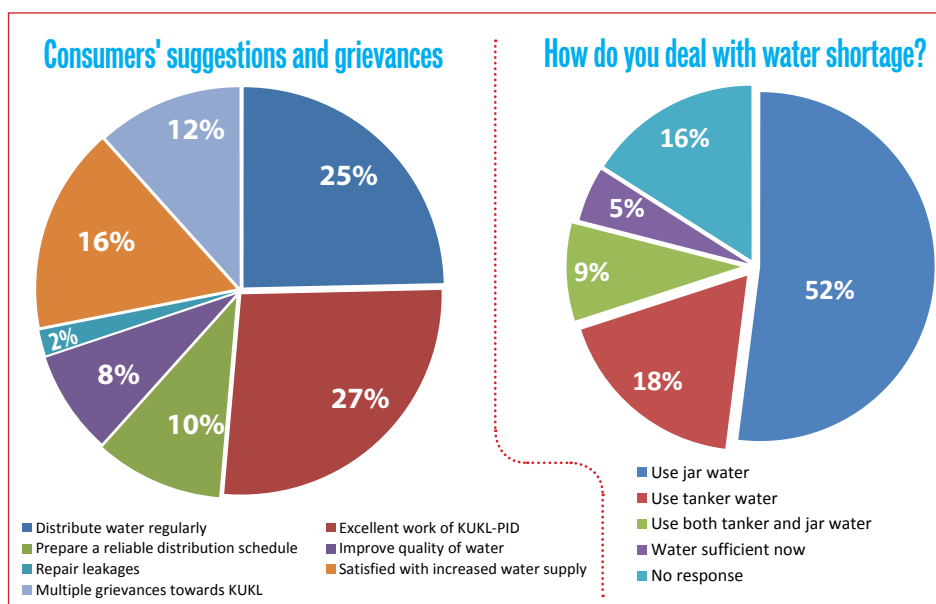
Additional water brings happiness to KUKL customers

KUKL-PID supplied additional water from the upper reaches of the Bagmati river after treating it at Sundarjal WTP during the rainy season to provide relief to citizens.

It conducted a perception survey using purposive sampling method among 147 KUKL customers selected from Asan, Baneshwor, Naxal, Dilli Bazaar, Maitidevi, Mahankal and Panipokhari clusters by mobilising community mobilisers from Community Awareness and Safeguards Support Consultant trained for the task. The questionnaire used for the survey covered quality/quantity of water, distribution schedule and grievances related to the additional service. The survey aimed to collect data on a) customers' perception of the service) their perception of KUKL-PID's works.

Major findings of the survey, conducted in the last week of September, are as follows:

About 14% of respondents found water to be of 'excellent' quality while 57% said it was of better quality. Ten percent respondents said they did not know whether water quality had improved, 16% said quality had not improved. Three percent respondents had no comment. Asked whether quantity of water had increased,



about 84% said it had increased, 10% said it had not, while the rest did not want to comment.

Asked about grievances towards KUKL's water distribution system, 10.2% respondents cited lack of a reliable water distribution schedule compatible with the service. Two

percent blamed lack of timely maintenance for leakages, while 11.6% had multiple grievances. Around 8% sought improvement in water quality, 16.3% were satisfied with increased supply. This shows KUKL customers developing positive attitude towards PID and its works.

Inter-school poetry contest celebrates ODF status

KUKL-PID organised a Kathmandu Valley-wide inter-school poetry competition titled 'Open Defecation-Free Nepal' on November 19 to mark the World Toilet Day 2019.

The objectives of the competition, organised at Padhma Kanya Vidhyashram Secondary School, Dilli Bazaar, with the participation of girl students from 18 schools based in the valley, were to a) mobilise students as agents of change in the Water and Sanitation Hygiene sector through awareness raising activities b) contribute to their all-round personality development by providing them platforms to showcase their talents c) disseminate information and messages from KUKL-PID about the status of implementation of the Melamchi Project in the Kathmandu Valley d) contribute to Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in project activities. KUKL-PID organises inter-school competitions on other relevant days like World Water Day and World Environment Day.

An independent panel of judges consisting of selected the winners of the inter-school competition. Pratima Pradhan of Guheshwori Secondary School came first, Soni Moktan of Bageshwori Secondary School came second and Sushmita Pahadi of Tangal Secondary



■ Project Director of KUKL-PID Bhoj Bikram Thapa and Principal of Padhma Kanya Vidhyashram Rita Tiwari handing over the prize and certificate to Pratima Pradhan, who came first in the competition.

School came third in the competition, whereas Sujata Khatri (Jana Kalyan Secondary School) and Grishma Upreti (Ratna Rajya Secondary School) bagged consolation prizes.

Project Director of KUKL-PID Bhoj

Bikram Thapa and Principal of Padma Kanya Vidhyashram, Rita Tiwari, handed over prizes to the winners, certificates of participation to other participants and token of love to the participating schools.

Call for increased focus on GESI mainstreaming

KUKL-PID organised a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) review workshop for Construction Supervision Engineers (CSEs) and contractors on December 17, 2019 with the overall objective of discussing Nepal Labour Act and Labour Rules, GESI Action Plan (AP) and the Government of Nepal's GESI Guidelines.

Specific objectives of the workshop were to sensitise contractors, Design Supervision Consultants (DSCs) and workers on a) GESI b) Core labour standards based on Nepal Labour Act and Labour Rules b) Contractual obligations related to GESI and c) Ways to resolve issues faced during project implementation

Project Director of KUKL-PID Bhoj Bikram Thapa, in his keynote address, stressed the need to mainstream GESI in all of KUKL-PID

activities. He stressed that the workshop should help prepare a GESI mainstreaming plan. Sociologist of KUKL-PID, Vidya Bhandari, made a presentation on Nepal Labour Act and Labour Rules highlighting issues like a) GESI obligations of workers and contractors b) Laws against child labour c) Labour welfare policy

Pramila Adhikari Neupane, Sociologist of KUKL-PID, made a presentation on GESI AP and Government's GESI Guidelines by covering issues like a) appointment of locals living in project areas b) GESI as a tool to end social discrimination

Team Leader of CASSC, Ram Krishna Giri, sought feedback from DSCs and contractors on the GESI checklist presented at the workshop for collection of GESI data of workers. He pointed the need to

collect data of workers based on their skills. Shishir Gautam (Social Development Expert, DSC-05), Anil Belbase (Community Mobilisation Expert, CASSC) and Bharat Acharya (Community Mobilisation Expert, CASSC) made presentations highlighting issues like GESI compliance and categorisation of workers and need on the part of the contractors to maintain attendance register. Chief of PID's Safeguards Unit, Laxmi Pant, said it is the collective responsibility of all -- KUKL-PID, contractors and DSCs -- to ensure GESI compliance as per the law and GESI AP.

The workshop concluded with the understanding to provide further support to contractors in improving GESI compliance at respective sites and incorporate their suggestions on the GESI reporting format.

Our Request

Ministry of Water Supply and Project Implementation Directorate apologise for inconveniences faced by the public during the implementation of the mega-project and appeal for everyone's support in this transformative endeavour.

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