

Field Visit Report

Walas Wewa Tank Rehabilitation (Phase II – CSIAP)

Trincomalee, Eastern Province

The World Bank financed Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP)

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation



30/05/2025

Prepared by

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Safeguard Division

Project Management Unit

FIELD VISIT REPORT

Walas Wewa Tank Rehabilitation (Phase II – CSIAP)

- **Date of Visit:** 26/05/2025
- **Location:** Walas Wewa, Kadawaththa Cascade
- **Project:** Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP) – Phase II
- **Contractor:** PTS Construction
- **Start Date of Work / Contractor Mobilized:** 07/04/2025
- **Visited by:** Mr. G. Jayantha, and Dr. Sithara Attapattu (World Bank), Ms. Sharmila Shanmuganathan (PMU), Mr. T.Sekaran (SSO/DPDO/EP), and the Technical Team of the DPDO/EP

1. Site Preparation and Access

- Work commenced on 07th April 2025.
- The scope includes improvement of the tank bund, repair of the spill structure, construction of a box culvert, spill tail bund, repair of the tower sluice, bathing steps, access steps, improvement of the RB main channel, and access road.
- Both upstream and downstream canal works are proposed under this phase.
- Site clearing has been completed, and construction materials have been stored at the site.
- Access roads are available, and no rainfall was recorded during the field visit week.
- No farmers, SAC, FO members, or laborers were present during the visit.
- No name board was displayed at the site.
- The contractor must display the subproject name board to ensure public awareness and accountability.
- A permanent elephant fence was observed around the tank, which is stopped during working hours. Work stopped at 6:30 PM due to HEC (Human-Elephant Conflict) issues. The operation of the elephant fence has been informed to the Civil Security Department.



2. Construction Activities and Infrastructure Improvements

- A **technical officer** appointed by the DAD was **present** and actively maintaining the **site logbook**.
- **Work stopped** at the site on **20th April 2025**, and no contractor presence was recorded afterward.
- Completed works include **site clearing, excavation, causeway concreting and compaction, and initial framework** for concrete works.
- **Canal clearing and concreting** had started but was interrupted due to floods.
- A **temporary shed** at the site had **collapsed** and was unusable.
- The contractor stated that activities are **temporarily halted**, with no clear plan for canal work completion despite **dry weather**.
- **Artificial water drawdown** was done, and **farmers agreed to forego Yala 2025 cultivation**.
- **No heavy machinery** was observed at the site.

REVISED ESTIMATE OF BOND INCLUDING SLUICE AND MAIN CHANNELS IN WALAS WEEVA IN MORAWATTA D.S. DIVISION IN THUNCOMALEE DISTRICT UNDER CLIMATE SMART IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE PROJECT (CSIAIP)

No	Description	Amount
A	Preliminaries	1,28,000.00
B	Improvement of Bank Erosion	10,00,000.00
C	Repair of C.D Spill	33,333.33
D	Construction of Spill Check Structure	1,08,000.00
E	Construction of Box culvert structure - 10 No	75,000.00
F	Spill (oil Bund) (one side)	2,00,000.00
G	Repair work of of Trench sluice 100-100/50	22,000.00
H	Construction of Jetting Box	10,000.00
I	Construction of Access Road to 100/50, 125/50	30,000.00
J	Improvements of BR Main channel	5,75,000.00
K	Improvement to Access Road - 1+125m	10,00,000.00
	Civil cost	50,00,000.00
	Provisional sum	2,00,000.00
	Sub Total with civil cost	52,00,000.00
	Less Discount	(2,00,000.00)
	Bid Price	50,00,000.00
	VAT @ 8%	4,00,000.00
	Bid Amount with VAT	54,00,000.00

Authorized Signature of
Contractor

Authorized Signature of
Supervising Officer



3. Environmental and Ecological Impacts

- The site is **outside** any socially and environmentally sensitive area. No impact on **protected species** or **habitats** was reported.
- No **tree removal** or **vegetation clearance** was noted.
- **Minor flooding** was observed in **downstream canal earthworks**.
- **Elephant presence** was reported occasionally; an **elephant fence** has been **permanently established**.
- **Environmental risk** is considered **low**. However, **garbage and materials** were not properly placed—the site must be **cleaned**, and **waste disposal areas** organized.
- The **site office** should be **properly set up** to withstand rain and wind.



4. Social and Livelihood Impacts

- Farmers agreed to forego Yala 2025 paddy cultivation due to tank rehabilitation.
- Usually, **12 farmers** cultivate around **6 acres**; this season, cultivation was **not done**.
- **Compensation** has been planned: affected farmer will receive **60 kg of green gram**.



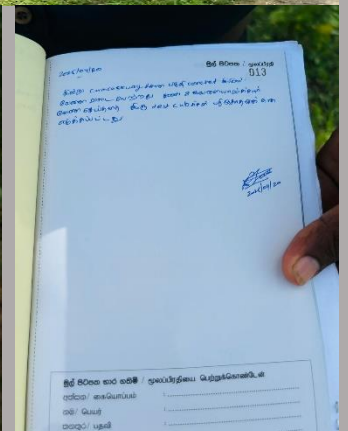
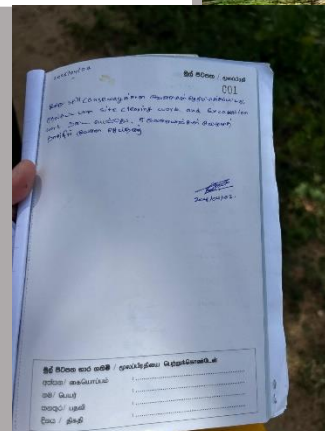
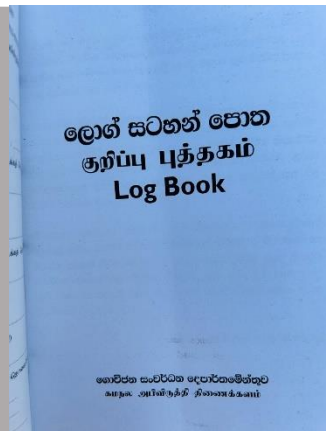
5. Stakeholder Engagement and Community Participation

- No FO or SAC members were present or engaged during the visit.
- Coordination between contractor and farmers was **weak**.
- No SAC logbooks or documentation were available at the site.
- No grievances were reported, likely due to **lack of community participation**.



6. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) and Camp Management

- A temporary shed had collapsed and needs to be re-erected.
- No workers were present during the visit. The contractor mentioned that 6–7 laborers are usually employed.
- The first aid box and grievance box were missing or not placed. Only one safety signboard was displayed, which was not sufficient for the site.
- Material storage was disorganized. The site should be maintained in a clean manner.
- OHS measures require improvement.
- A log book was maintained by the DAD supervisor.



7. Risk Level Assessment

Taking into account that construction work had commenced and Yala cultivation was foregone with the agreement of the farmers, the site conditions indicate a manageable external risk environment. Although no rainfall was recorded in recent days and dry weather persisted, the contractor halted work, even though conditions were suitable to proceed. This indicates a missed opportunity to progress during a favorable period. The potential for weather-related delays remains low, and the site's easy accessibility from the roadside ensures that there are minimal logistical challenges, even during the rainy season. There are no significant environmental or social sensitivities affecting progress. However, safety and communication protocols are not well established, resulting in non-compliance with regulatory standards and ineffective stakeholder engagement. While the proposed interventions are to upstream and downstream areas, and the environmental impact is minimal, the absence of contractors and laborers at the site, along with the current work delays, shifts the classification of the site from low to moderate risk. Nonetheless, considering the overall scope and conditions, there is a high likelihood that the rehabilitation work can be completed on or before 30th September 2025, provided that activities resume without further delay.
