

Field Visit Report
Thuwaran Kulam 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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Project Management Unit

FIELD VISIT REPORT

Thuwaran Kulam Tank Rehabilitation (Phase II – CSIAP)

- **Date of Visit:** 26/05/2025
- **Location:** Thuwarankulam Tank, Thuwarankulam Cascade
- **Project:** Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP) – Phase II
- **Contractor:** Sun Construction
- **Start Date of Work / Contractor Mobilized:**
- **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

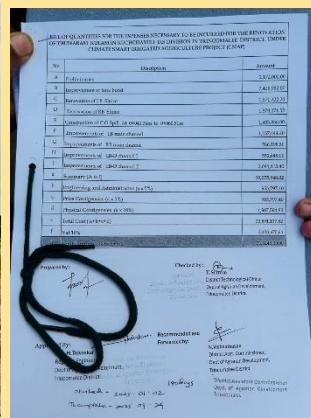
- Work commenced in the 1st week of April, 2025.
- The scope of work includes: **Tank bund improvement, Renovation of LB & RB Sluice, Improvements of LB main channel, Construction of C.O Spill, Improvements of LB-D channel I & II, and Improvements to Farm Road.**
- Site clearing and material storage were noted.
- Access road for this tank is available, and **no rainfall** was recorded during the visit.
- At the site: **Farmers, SAC, FO members, machineries, and the contractor** were present.
- **Name board was displayed.**
- Construction work had already started.



2. Construction Activities and Infrastructure Improvements

- A technical officer from DAD was present at the site.
- Scope-based construction work had commenced.
- The community repeatedly requested the spill raise, as it was not included in the project scope.
- Continued construction work and close monitoring by the DPDO and the implementing agency are essential.
- Since concreting work has been partially completed, if the contractor expedites the remaining work, the site can be completed before the rainy season.





3. Environmental Impacts

- The site is located 300m from the **forest boundary**. It was **not recommended to raise the spill level**.
- **No tree removal or vegetation clearance** was observed.
- **No flooding** was observed at the site.
- Occasional elephant presence was reported.
- No impact on **protected species or habitats** unless the spill level is raised.
- **Environmental risk: Low**.
- A **burrow pit** was observed; it should be **filled** when the contractor hands over the site.



4. Social and Livelihood Impacts

- None of the farmers lost their **livelihood** due to the **tank rehabilitation**.
- Usually, farmers do not cultivate **Yala paddy** due to **water scarcity** in the **tank**.



5. Stakeholder Engagement and Community Participation

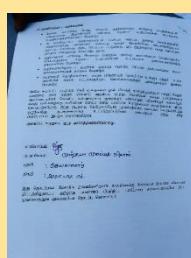
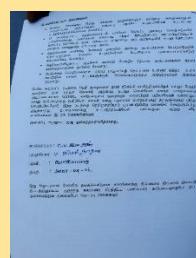
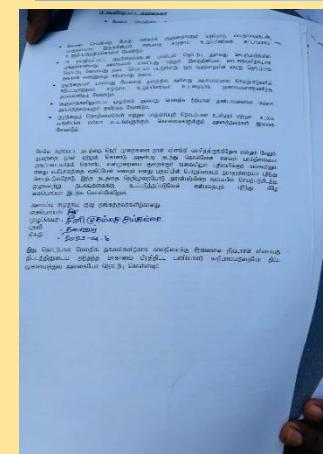
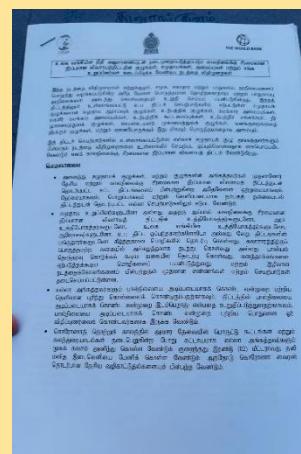
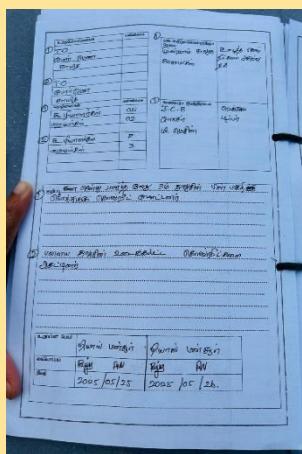
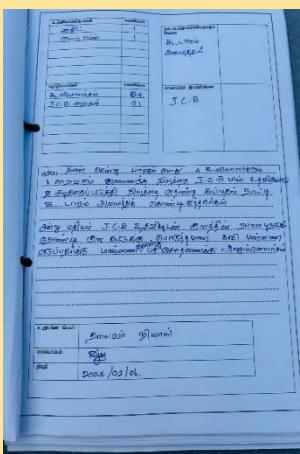
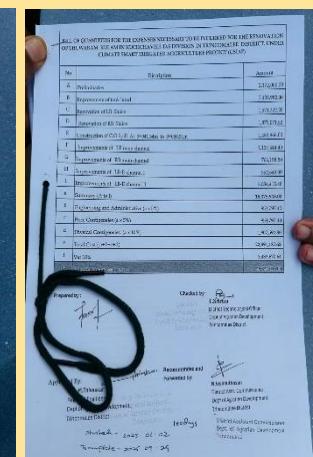
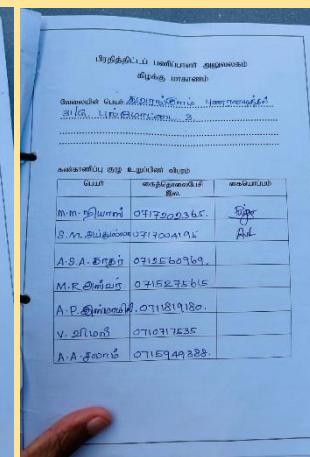
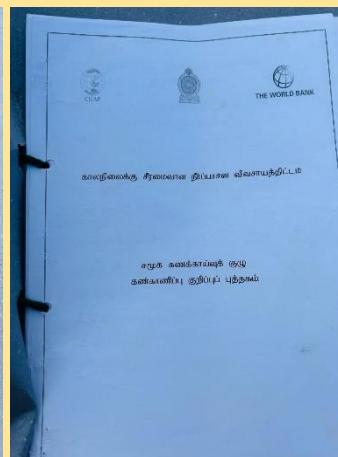
- FO and SAC members were present and engaged during the visit. They were **very active**. The active participation of the SAC was one of the reasons for the **speedy progress** of the tank work at this site.
- Strong coordination was noted between the **contractor and farmers**.
- Properly maintained **SAC logbooks** were available at the site.
- An **ESMP awareness program** had been conducted for the **contractor**.
- A grievance was reported requesting to **raise the spill level**. Farmers were informed that if the **Forest Department agrees** to the **spill raising** and provides **written approval**, it will be considered.
- Farmers requested an **agri road** of approximately 750m in distance.



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

- A **temporary shed** was set up at the site.
- Workers do not stay at the site.
- **No work** was in progress on the day of the **field visit**.
- A couple of **machines** were observed at the site.
- A **first aid box** was placed at the site.
- **Safety signboards** were **inadequate**.
- **Material storage** was observed.
- **OHS measures** require **significant improvement**.
- **ESMP, COC-GBV, GRM, and awareness materials** were available at the site.





7. Risk Level Assessment

Taking into account that **construction work has already commenced**, a significant amount of **concreting work** has been completed. Artificial water drawdown is not applicable at this site since **water is not available** in the tank. Farmers usually do not cultivate due to the **scarcity of water**. The site conditions currently indicate a **manageable external risk environment**.

Although **no rainfall** was recorded in recent days and **dry weather** persisted, the **contractor** halted work, despite **suitable conditions** to proceed. This reflects a **missed opportunity** to advance during a **favorable period**. The potential for **weather-related delays** remains low, and **work** should be prioritized.

This site is located **300m from the forest boundary**, but there are **no significant environmental or social sensitivities** that could hinder progress. While the interventions cover both **upstream and downstream areas**, the **environmental impact is minimal**. However, the **absence of contractor personnel and laborers**, combined with **ongoing delays**, still places the **site's risk level as low**.

This **contractor-side delay** must be addressed through close coordination and monitoring by the **Technical Team of the IA and the DPDO**. The rehabilitation work can be completed on or before **30th September 2025**, provided that activities **resume without further delay**.
