

**Management and Operation Manual  
for  
Private Micro-Hydropower Plants**

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## **PREFACE**

The main objective of preparing and distributing this Manual on management and operation of private or community owned/managed MMHP plants (especially the micro-range) is to provide some assistance to the managers and operators who are otherwise facing difficulties in this regard. Such difficulties have mainly emerged since the managers and operators of such plants are less educated, less exposed to machinery and have very few opportunities to participate in relevant and quality training programmes.

The preparation of the Manual was visualized, initiated and sponsored by ICIMOD as a regular component of NORAD-sponsored project "Capacity Building for Mini- and Micro Hydropower Development in the Selected Countries of Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region, Phase II". It is one of five such manuals aimed at the various groups of implementers, including; site surveyors and layout designers,-manufacturers of indigenous equipment, installers, managers and operators - and the repairers. The first draft of this Manual was prepared by DCS-Technology Development Butwal, Nepal and was extensively revised by me. Thus, this is a first indigenous and concerted effort to write quality manuals having a regional rather than general perspective. DCS, in particular, deserves acknowledgement and encouragement.

The main focus of this manual concerns the isolated, indigenous, local entrepreneur-owned plants in the micro-range. But mostly, such plants installed in Nepal, Pakistan and India have capacity less than' 60 kW. Keeping in mind that the managers and operators of such plants have very little education and even less technical knowledge, the manual has been kept simple and brief. For the same reason, the manual does not cover all different types of machines and management systems. In any case, it is almost impossible to cover all the managerial and operational aspects in one manual of this type. At the same time, one should always strive to improve such documents. Therefore, suggestions to improve it further and make it reasonably useful are welcome, indeed earnestly solicited from experienced implementing agencies and operators/managers who may be able to point out the additional aspects to be covered and the methodology.

The above remarks notwithstanding, it is hoped that manual in the relevant languages in India, Nepal and Pakistan would provide significant assistance and relief to the practicing managers and operators. It is also hoped that some training agencies would find it to be a useful support material for their training programmes.

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## **ACRONYMS:**

PTC	->	Positive Temperature. Coefficient
ECC	->	Electronic Current Cutout
LPC	->	Load Priority Controller
NGO	->	Non Government Organisation
kW	->	Kilowatt
BPT	->	Break Pressure Tank
ELC	->	Electronic Load controller
MCB	->	Miniature Circuit Breaker
ADB/N	->	Agriculture Development Bank/Neal
ITDG	->	Intermediate Technology Development Group
VIR	->	Vulcanized Indian Rubber (Insulation)
PVC	->	Poly Vinyl Chloride
TRS	->	Tough Rubber Sheathed (Insulation)
SOE	->	Sundhara Oil Expeller
DP	->	Double Pole (Switch)
MMHP	->	Mini- and Micro-Hydropower
MHP	->	Micro- Hydropower

## INTRODUCTION

To develop any village, region, or even a country'. proper resource mobilization, whether human or natural, plays a vital role. In the Hindu Kush-Himalayan (I-IKH) region there are few natural mineral resources of worth, except abundant water resources and a large pool of human resources, although unskilled. Using currently available technology, which is based on practical, installation experience, micro- and mini-hydropower (MMHP) can be installed to harness this available water resource; and combined with the human resource, through training, can play a significant role in enhancement of living standards in the remote and under-developed mountain areas.

As we approach the 21<sup>st</sup> century, electricity is no longer considered to be a luxury, but a basic need of people everywhere. It is synonymous with a better standard of living and is vital for better communications, health care and reduced physical labour.

Installation of equipment is not the end of the job many project. Proper operation and management of the plant and organising repair and maintenance are also essential for satisfactory performance which can be achieved through training and back-stopping. Indeed, proper management of these stages is the main determinant in the success or failure of the entire project.

In HKH region, settlements and houses are scattered and remote from road heads or national grid. Transmission of electricity or transport of fuel to many of these locations is prohibitively expensive. Therefore, old forest trees are being felled, with few new plantations to replace them, to provide firewood for cooking, commercial use and even lighting. Such deforestation also contributes towards flash floods and landslides. Some practical options to mitigate these problems are new plantation programme and use of MMHP to meet the local energy needs.

The capital required for investing in MMHP is beyond the reach of the people of mountain communities and loans must be taken. If these loans are not to be a burden; the MMHP

schemes must be carefully scrutinized, installed and wisely operated and managed (including proper repair and maintenance) to give long-term benefits. If properly installed, a MMHP plant may provide energy for lighting, grain grinding, oilseed expelling and other milling facilities, as well as for possible use of communication by phone, radio and television; and industries such as sawmills, papermills, Workshops, etc. It may even encourage facilities such as ropeways, to reduce the burden of physical pottering.

This manual has been prepared to assist in management of MMHP plants so as to give maximum returns and benefits from the investment. It assumes that the survey, design, installation and hand-over work has been completed amicably. The roles of operator and manager now become as important to the investors in the project as the role of a bus driver is to the safe operation of a bus. Carelessness on behalf-of either may result in an accident.

The manual is intended for the use of managers and operators of micro-hydropower (MHP) plants of upto 100 kW capacity. However, many chapters may also be relevant for larger MMHP plants of, say, up to 200 kW capacity. However, since the manual does not contain chapters on transformers or high-transmission transmission lines, such information would have to be acquired from other sources.

Ideally, the manual would be more useful for those managers and operators who have also attended a training programme based on this manual. However, those serving managers and operators may also find it beneficial who know the MHP plants and their parts reasonably well and their reading capabilities are adequate. Basically, the manual has been written for electrification schemes. However, the MHP plants (prime movers) powering other industrial applications such as agro-processing can equally benefit from the contents of this manual.

## **2. PLANT MANAGEMENT**

In small plants the operator and manager is usually the same person; or, the manager also assists in operation and maintenance. For plants larger than 50 kW, there should be two different positions; both for a manager and operator; but this again depends on the level of

management skill of the operator and also the interest and commitment of the manager who may also be the owner of the plant.

The operator is responsible for not just running the plant but also for maintenance and occasional repair. Therefore, he must understand the location and functions of each machine and components. He should be continually listening, testing and checking for malfunctions and problems. He needs to keep uppermost in mind that prevention is always better than cure - "a stitch in time saves nine". His responsibility will normally be for all equipment and structures from source to distribution including routine inspections, operation, loading of the system, distribution and good condition of equipment.

The manager is responsible for overall management of the plant including organization, planning, management, budgeting, tariff setting, keeping of books, etc.

## **2.1 Operators' Management**

### **2.1.1 Selection and Terms of Employment**

Management selects and appoints the operator who should be suitable for the job. The operator should be at least literate, preferably educated upto class 8 if possible; he should be experienced, sincere, honest and having the capacity to learn and build good relationship with others. He should be able to do basic trouble-shooting. If not, he should be trained properly by good trainers at a suitable Location; including at a running MHP plant.

A suitable local person should be selected as operator if possible, because he is less likely to leave the job. This may not always be possible though; in which case a more experienced person should be selected from outside and a higher salary offered. A more qualified person will run the project more smoothly and his higher salary is more likely to keep him there.

An operator can work 8 hours a day normally; but if the plant runs for more than 8 hours per day, an additional operator will be needed to cover illness and emergencies also. If the owner/manager is capable of running the plant, he may take the place of an emergency

operator. Two operators should be appointed if the plant has agroprocessing plus electrical generator.

Details of salary, leave, overtime and other facilities should be made clear at the time of appointment and it is recommended that a contract be drawn up covering all important conditions so as to avoid disputes later. Terms of resignation and period of notice by both sides should also be specified in the contract. The operator should preferably be appointed during the equipment installation stage of the project and be required to work along side the installers so that he learns about the procedure of installation, assembly, etc. If possible, installers should explain to the operator about what can go wrong with each component and how to run the equipment, apply tension to belts, grease the lubrication points and how to deal with emergencies.

If the plant is coupled to agro-processing equipment, the operator should also be trained to operate the agro-processing equipment and its accessories; i.e. shaft pulley, belt, etc. The operator should know how to change belts safely, how to fix alignment and diagnose faults of agro-processing machines. If the operator leaves the job after only a short time it will not only hinder the day to day work but also cause economic loss to the owner. It is, therefore, important to select those people who have little chance of leaving the job. Adequate incentives including good salary may be helpful in retaining good operators, in addition to good behaviour and treatment.

### **2.1.2 Training**

If the operator / manager is hired in the early phases of the project, the subsequent training needs may be less. It is, however, necessary to provide special training, if the employee is hired after the handover of the project. The owner/community should be aware of the ii-importance of training, without which a project will not run smoothly. The installer provides some basic training at the project site, to familiarize the operator with the machines and simple operational procedures. Usually this training may not be adequate. Therefore, additional extensive training should also be provided. There are organizations which provide such

training throughout the year. Often the training is given free of cost. The owner/community should make themselves aware of such opportunities available in their country.

### **2.1.3 Assignment and Supervision of Operator's Work**

The number of powerhouse operators needed by a micro-hydro project and their work assignments are determined by the capacity of the project, the complexity of the transmission lines, headrace, penstock, etc. The usual work load of the operators can be classified as follows.

- ◆ Regularly inspecting the civil works and penstock for damage and cleaning up.
- ◆ Flushing / cleaning the intake, headrace, desilting basins, forebay, etc.
- ◆ Repairing damage to civil works.
- ◆ Stabilising / cleaning surrounding areas to avoid landslide damage.
- ◆ Cleaning and properly maintaining the powerhouse and the equipment there.
- ◆ Properly operating the machines within the powerhouse.
- ◆ Listening for any malfunction or similar problems.
- ◆ Shutting down the plant if necessary.
- ◆ Carrying out some minor repairs.

The job of the manager is to clearly explain these assignments to the operators, to assist and lead them, and to supervise their work, especially during the initial stages of their allotment. The manager should also assess the quacks of the operators to learn and perform their duties amicably. He must also question them or reprimand them if necessary about any laxness in performing their duties.

## **2.2 Improving Customer Services**

### **2.2.1 Public Relations**

The manager and operator should be gentle in speech to the customers which is good for business. Any minor problems- with the customers should be sorted out immediately. For

complex problems, a general meeting should be called, inviting all related personnel. The prevailing problems should be discussed and a solution worked out jointly, especially in case of electrification schemes. Sometimes the operator / manager himself may have to visit the local workshop or organization remote from the plant. During this period, another capable person should be instructed to look after the operation and management of the plant. The public should be informed in advance of the approximate period and reasons for any shut downs of the plant so that they can make alternative arrangements.

The operator/manager of an electrification plant should visit the consumers and discuss with them problems or complaints they may have regarding the supply; and discuss other issues such as use of electricity, non payment of bill, low voltage, etc. Every effort should be made to hold such discussions in a cordial manner..

### **2.2.2 Good Service**

The operator/manager must provide good service to the customers on a first-come first-served basis with few exceptions. For example, people coming from distant places need to go home early, so they may be given priority after reaching an understanding with other customers.

While planning the supply of electricity, all houses requesting a fixed wattage supply, should be connected first. Only after all such houses have been provided for, additional available power should be distributed as per the requirements.

Unscheduled and unannounced shut down of the plants would lead to loss of revenue, business and reputation. Therefore, every effort must be made to avoid the breakdowns and shutdowns, through regular maintenance and taking care of small faults and problems which may eventually lead to serious break downs.

### **2.2.3 Load Management**

Power demand will exceed the installed capacity sooner or later in many plants because, unfortunately, some consumers may take more power than the amount they have subscribed for. There is a need for some sort of monitoring device to make certain that the generating

plant is not over-loaded and the investor is not suffering losses. It is not practical to install a meter in every house-hold in a MHP scheme. This will only introduce more costs and complications; especially since most consumers will be subscribing in the range of 50-200 watts only.

A flat rate system is generally used, and in this the consumers pay a fixed rate for wattage he/she subscribes to. Positive Thermal Coefficient (PTC) controllers are use for 25 to 50 watt range, electronic current cut-outs (ECC) are available for 50-200 w arrange, and miniature circuit Breakers (MCB) are suitable for consumers subscribe for more than 200 watts. However, some problems have been experienced when ECC were used in Nepal. The other two options may, therefore, be used.

Load factors of MHP plants are generally poor, especially the electrification schemes The main use of electricity is for domestic lighting. Thus the power demand is of certain hours in the evenings and sometimes in the mornings for about six hours a day While, the available power from the plant remains unutilized for the remaining period resulting in less income. The owner/manager must, therefore, always think of ways increase utilisation and/or sale of electricity particularly to industrial or commercial units.

During the daytime and at night, when lighting is not necessary, other end uses could be installed such as, small industries, shops with ' refrigerators, bakeries, sawmills, and so on. The owner of the MHP plant may invest in such applications himself; or he ma encourage or seek others to install such units and buy electricity from him. If industrial uses can be enhanced, power distribution must be carefully managed to be acceptable to such customers.

Sometimes due to high costs, there is a lack of interest in industrial development. The manager should motivate people to install industries, and charges should be reduced if the investors agree to operate during off peak hours. Industries should, wherever possible, not be run during peak hours; otherwise there will be voltage fluctuation. Rates for such industries should be decided before the industry is installed.

## 2.3 Financial Management

In order to keep track of income and expenditure, proper records and accounts of the income, expenditure and savings should be maintained. Repayments of the loan should be planned, based on the income and the savings and adequate amount must set aside each month for this purpose. An account book maintained for this purpose, must cover the following.

- ◆ Daily records of income and expenditure including the outstanding amounts.
- ◆ Records of Assets (property and stock owned, liabilities/bills or money still to be paid, on monthly basis.

Amounts spent on major repairs, new equipment or business expenses- should also be recorded daily and separately on monthly basis.

- ◆ All the income, expenditure, outstanding income and liabilities must be reproduced in a final table each year to determine net profit or loss. These calculations would be useful for planning the business for the next year.
- ◆ Usually, one Account Book would be sufficient for a MHP plant, but it should have many tables.

There are two main systems for keeping the accounts of a project; i.e. single entry book-keeping, where the transactions are recorded once, and double entry bookkeeping, where all the business transactions are recorded twice. For example, when a MHP project purchases spare parts, the spare's account will be increased and the bank account or cash account will be reduced. This double entry book-keeping system is preferred because it is a more systematic and professional method of maintaining accounts, and can help identify mistakes very easily. However, for smaller MHP schemes; say below 50 kW, the double entry system may be unnecessarily cumbersome and single entries both for income and expenditure may be good enough.

An example of book-keeping for a 30 kW, MHP scheme is illustrated in the following tables.

**Table 2.1 Details of Total Project Cost**

S.No.	Description	Amount (Rs.)
1	Land purchased	50,000
2	Civil construction (Canal, powerhouse, desilting basin, forebay)	300,000
3	Mechanical equipment (turbine, penstock, driving systems)	335,000
4	Electrical (Generators, ELC, components, etc.)	1,000,000
5	Transportation cost	100,000
6	Installation cost	200,000
7	Operator training	15,000
8	<b>Total Cost Rs.</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>
	<b>Sources of funds</b>	
1	Local contribution or self investment)	400,000
2	grammar from NGO	500,000
3	Loan from Bank	600,000
4	Subsidy	500,000
	<b>Total Rs.</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>

This Table should be provided on the First Page of the Account Book.

**Table 2.2 Loan Repayment Schedule for the MHP Plant**

Description	Amount
Complete repayment in 7 yearly installments	600,000
Ist yr. Ending June, 1997 – repayment of capital	86,000
Interest on 600,00 @ 16%	96,000
Ist installment of loan and interest to be paid by 15 July, 1997	182,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> yr. Ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 1998 – repayment of capital	86,000
Interest on 514,000 @ 16%	82,240
2 <sup>nd</sup> installment of loan and interest to be paid by 15 July, 1998	168,240
3 <sup>rd</sup> yr ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 1999 – repayment of capital	86,000

Interest on 428,000 @ 16%	68,000
Interest on 428,000 @ 16%	68,480
3 <sup>rd</sup> installment of loan and interest to be paid by 15 July, 1999	154,480
4 <sup>th</sup> yr ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2000 repayment of loan	86,000
Interest on 3.42,000 @ 16%	54,720
4 <sup>th</sup> installmtn of loan and interest to be paid by 15 July, 2000	140,720
5 <sup>th</sup> yr ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2001 – repayment of loan	86,000
Interest on 2,56,000 @ 16%	40,960
5 <sup>th</sup> installment of loan and interest to be paid by 15 July, 2001	126,960
6 <sup>th</sup> yr ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2002 – repayment of loan	86,000
Interest on 170,000 @ 16%	27,200
6 <sup>th</sup> installment of loan and interest to be paid by 15 July, 2001	113,200
7 <sup>th</sup> yr. ending 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2003 –repayment of loan	84,000
Interest on 84,000 @ 16%	13,444
7 <sup>th</sup> installment of loan and interest	97,444

The total amount of loan Rs. 600,000 at an interest rate of 16%.

This Table should be reproduced on page 2 of the Account Book for easy reference.

### **2.3.1 Income and Expenditure Account**

The manager or owner of the project should maintain records in the Account Book (ledger) similar to the example given below in Table 2.3. All income should be dated, and sources of income and expenditure clearly detailed. There will be different expenditures such as salaries, travel, other expenditures and loan installment. The Account Book should be updated daily and all transactions recorded in chronological order. Pending incomes to be received and necessary expenditure may be noted down separately but not accounted until they are actually received or undertaken. The final figures of income and expenditure should also be worked out for each month and year.

**Table 2.3      A Sample of Daily Entries in an Account Book for Month of January,1998**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Credit (Income)</b>	<b>Debit (Expenditure)</b>	<b>Balance (Net Income)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan, '98	Money in hand (opening balance)	10,000		
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan, '98	income from electricity sale from Area 1, 100 customers @ Rs. 1 00 each	10,000		
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan, '98	Salary for two staff a 1500 each for December 97	-	3,000	
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan, '98	Travel expenses paid	-	250	
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan, '98	Repair & maintenance expenses for canal	-	500	
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan, '98	Stationery (Postage & Telephone paid)	-	10	
1 <sup>st</sup> Jan, '98	Other expenses	-	5	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan, '98	Plant closed due to festival	-		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan, '98	Sale of electricity from area No. 2, 75 customers @ Rs. 100 each	7,500		
4 <sup>th</sup> , Jan, '98	Sale of electricity from area No.3 30 customers a Rs. 100 each	3,000		
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan, '98	Sale of electricity from area No.4 20 customers @ Rs. 100 each	2,000		
<b>Total for January 1998</b>				

At the end of each year it would be useful if incomes and expenditures of all major headings are recorded on a single page for such things as loan repayment, repairs, income from electricity, agro-processing, etc; as shown in the example in Table 2.4. In this table the remaining net balance can be used for the personal or family expenditure of the owner/investor.

For electricity sales, it is unlikely that cash payments will be made in the beginning of every month. Sometimes, money is not received until the following month. In such cases record of pending payments due at the bottom of the first page of the month should be maintained which should be struck off and entered as a regular entry in the Account Book when received.

**Table 2.4 Incomes and Expenditures under various heads for 1998**

Description	Credit (Income)	Debit (Expenditure)	Balance (Net Income)
Balance from 1997	21,000		
Income from electricity	270,000		
Income from Agro-processing	180,000		
Income from sale of Agro- processing commodities	215,000		
Income from sale of Agro-residues	13,000,		
Salary of Staff		36,000	
Maintenance		18,000	
Repair of generator		40,000	
Purchase of spares		14,000	
Stationary, telephone		600	
Loan Installment (Capital + Interest)		154,480	
Travel & transport		19,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>699,000</b>	<b>282,086</b>	<b>416,914</b>

Net yearly income for 1998 Rs. 416,914

Net average monthly income Rs 34,743

### 2.3.2 Budget for Next Year

Keeping in mind the income, expenditure and net profit of previous 2-3 years, it is advisable to prepare budget for the next year, say year 1999. The owner/manager should prepare another table (Table 2.5) on the next page of the Account Book 'after Table 2.4 showing anticipated incomes and expenditures for the next year and planning for some additional expenditure, say; major repairs, expansion of forebay, cleaning and repairs of penstock, etc. The expenditure must also include personal needs of owner and show the net savings which can be spent for repairs or for buying some new equipment. The final figures in the Table show that the owner has to arrange additional Rs. 27,000 from his own resources if he decides to go ahead -with his plans. He must also realize that the actual expenditure may be significantly different from the anticipated figures recorded in the budget.

**Table 2.5 Proposed Budget for the Year 1999**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Credit (Income)</b>	<b>Debit (Expenditure)</b>	<b>Balance (Net Income)</b>
Balance/saving from 1998	50,000		
<b>Anticipated Income/Expenditure</b>			
Income from Electricity	280,000		
Income from Agro-processing	150,000		
income from sale of commodities	210,000		
Income from other sources	20,000		
Salary of staff		38,000	
Maintenance		20,000	
Purchase of Spares		10,000	
Travel, training, etc.		10,000	
Loan installment		168,240	

Other expenditure		11,760	
Expenditure on self		240,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>710,000</b>	<b>497,000</b>	<b>213,000</b>
<b>Proposed additional expenditure</b>			
Purchase of Chiura (beaten rice) machine		150,000	
Installation of new equipment	30,000,		
Equipment repair including penstock		60,000	
<b>Total</b>		<b>240,000</b>	<b>- 27,000</b>

### 2.3.3 Business Expansion

Installation of additional end use equipment and/or supplying electricity to additional customers especially during the off peak hours should be one of the main considerations of the owner/manager of an MHP plant, after he has achieved success in operating and managing the current end uses optimally. One such example is shown below where the owner/manager of an existing electrification scheme decided to add some agroprocessing equipment to his plant to utilise additional power and thus earn more income. The cost of the new equipment and expected yearly returns are given in Table 2.6, which suggests that the simple payback period is about 4 years. This means also that the simple rate of return is about 25%; a healthy profit. One could suggest more complicated methods of financial analysis. However, since the overall investment is small, these simple figures may be adequate for the initial feasibility.

**Table 2.6 Estimated Income and Expenditure for the New Agro-processing Equipment**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Credit (Income)</b>	<b>Debit (Expenditure)</b>	<b>Balance (Net Income)</b>
Capital Costs			
Cost of grinder, huller and oil expeller		100,000	
Other mechanical equipment		50,000	

(shafts, belts, pulleys, etc)			
Transportation cost		25,000	
Civil works (materials, Labour, etc)		30,000	
Installation costs (materials, labour, testing, etc)		15,000	
<b>Total Capital Costs</b>		<b>220,000</b>	
Estimated average yearly income (from 3 units)	96,000		
Salaries, etc		24,000	
Maintenance		8,000	
Average repair costs per year (* 4% of total investment)		9,000	
<b>Total (per year)</b>	<b>96,000</b>	<b>41,000</b>	<b>55,000</b>

Assuming that the yearly income does not fluctuate severely; the owner would recover his investment in about 4 years.

### 2.3.4 Extending Supply

Another method of earning additional income is to extend electricity to some nearby areas if an additional capacity is available within the plant. This should hopefully also mean adequate additional income as compared to the investment involved. Calculations similar to those made in the above example may be repeated to estimate the costs and incomes. However, the factors involved here are a bit more complex and need to be assessed and estimated more carefully, mainly because the consumers are not within the premises of the plant (as is the case 'With agro-processing units) and many things can go wrong. For example, the prospective customers may refuse to get connections once the transmission lines have been extended into their area; or they may not pay bills regularly. Therefore, a more thorough survey needs to be carried out which should not only involve the counting of the households and their power requirements; but the assessment. of their enthusiasm for getting electricity and willingness to pay the connection fee as well as the bills. The owner-manager may also try to get some advance from residents of such areas before he starts installing the transmission lines.

The capital cost estimates may then be prepared along with estimates of income and recurrent expenditure. Usually, the net incomes from the electrification schemes are quite small and the net yearly incomes of about 15 per cent of the original investment may be considered adequate. If, however, it becomes necessary to obtain a loan on normal interest from a financial institution, then the project may not be viable and -possibilities of getting a subsidy or grant from a donor agency may be explored.

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## **2.4 Organizing Maintenance**

To maintain the MHP plant in the best possible condition, it is essential that routine maintenance be carried out in accordance with a predetermined schedule. Manufacturer's maintenance schedules for items like bearings and generators should be followed carefully. Routine preventative maintenance will result in extended plant life and reliable operation; and reduce the long-term operating costs. Waiting for the plant to break down, then trying to fix it will result in increased long-term operating costs, reduced plant life and user dissatisfaction.

The manager should clearly instruct the operator to check items outside and inside the powerhouse on a regular basis to ensure reliable operation. He should also randomly supervise his work. Problems if any, should be rectified as soon as possible to prevent them getting worse.

### **2.4.1 Maintaining Stock of Spares**

A micro-hydro scheme needs repair and maintenance quite often and the manager is responsible to organise it. Some spare parts should always be kept in stock, such as bearings, tools, grease, oil, belts, etc; to avoid delays in procuring them when they are needed. Bearings, should be

stored in the original packing; if this was not possible, then they should be coated with grease. Vee or flat belts need to be hung on a wall and not left coiled on the floor. Electrical parts should be packed, labeled and stored away from moisture. The storage area should be clean and secure.

It is recommended that one set of following spare parts should be kept in stock for an MHP Plant.

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| ◆ Turbine bearings          | 1 set (usually two)  |
| ◆ V-Belts                   | 1 set  |
| ◆ Flat belts                | Adequate length enough to cover the longest belt length used in the plant. |
| ◆ Grease                    | 1 kg.  |
| ◆ Generator bearings        | 1 set  |
| ◆ Gaskets                   | 1 set (for all locations)  |
| ◆ Penstock nuts, bolts      | 5% of total installed  |
| ◆ Expansion joint gasket    | 10% of total installed   |
| ◆ Fuses All installed sizes |  |

In addition, if the funding permits, one turbine runner and an AVR should also be kept in stock as spares.

#### **2.4.2 Maintenance Tools**

To enable the MHP plant to be kept well maintained, good quality tools are essential. manager should be responsible for keeping the tools properly and should instruct guide the operators to use them properly. The following suggestions will help keep tools in a good useable condition.

- ◆ Clean tools after use and return them to storage area.
- ◆ Lubricate them to prevent corrosion wherever necessary.

- ◆ Keep a record of tools.
- ◆ Do not throw tools, handle with care.
- ◆ Use tools as they are meant to be used.
- ◆ Check condition of tools and don't use damaged tools.
- ◆ Purchase new tools or repair them if they become unusable.
- ◆ Store hand tools on a board or in a cupboard.
- ◆ Store measuring instruments (multi-meter, vernier, etc.) in a cupboard or a draw to protect them from dust and impact.

The spares and tools should preferably be kept in a separate room under lock and key and record of their issuance and re-storing must be kept in the log book or a separate register. Fig. 2.1 gives some idea about proper storage of the tools.

### **Desirable Tools**

The following is a list of tools which will be useful in the maintenance of a MHP scheme.

#### **Electrical**

- ◆ Combination pliers
- ◆ Nose pliers
- ◆ Soldering iron and solder
- ◆ Hacksaw
- ◆ Line tester and multi-meter
- ◆ Torch or portable lamp

In addition, if funding is available; one wirepuller and safety belt should also be kept in the stock.

#### **Mechanical**

- ◆ Hammer

- ◆ File set (flat, -round, etc)
- ◆ Open and ring spanners, one set each
- ◆ Slide wrench (200 mm. or 300 mm.)
- ◆ Screw drivers (large, small)
- ◆ Phillips head screw driver (medium, small)
- ◆ Grease gun
- ◆ Metric Allen key set
- ◆ Bench vice and vice grip
- ◆ Portable hand drill
- ◆ Twist drill set
- ◆ Measuring tape
- ◆ Paint brush
- ◆ Oil can
- ◆ Hack saw
- ◆ Wire brush
- ◆ Emery paper (various sizes)

## **Civil**

- ◆ Pick
- ◆ Spade
- ◆ Shovel
- ◆ Crow bar (lever)

## **2.5 Organizing Repairs**

### **2.5.1 Procedures to Deal With a Breakdown and Fault Diagnosis**

When a breakdown occurs, necessary steps need to be taken to prevent further damage to the plant and possible injury to staff. This usually requires shutting down of the plant until the fault is diagnosed and the problem is rectified. Refer to the 'Manual for Maintenance and Repairs of MHP Plants' for problem diagnosis and corrective action.



### **2.5.2 Disassembling and Assembling the Equipment**

Before commencing disassembly work, always study carefully the layout of the unit to be dismantled. Decide which components need to be removed and which do not. The manager should decide whether a faulty part or machine can be repaired locally or it should be transported to the manufacturer. If it is not locally repairable and the operator is not experienced, then components which do not need to be removed should not be removed. With any disassembly and re-assembly there is always a chance of equipment damage and waste of time. However, in some situations where the transportation has to be manual; some heavier parts may be removed and not transported. For example,, if the turbine runner or shaft is, damaged, then it may be cumbersome and unnecessary to carry the whole turbine to the repairers. On the other hand, if the shaft needs to be repaired then it may not fit or align properly in the casing and/or bearing housing after it has 'been repaired. These are the types of decisions that need to be taken by the managers when the repairs need to be organised. Obviously, the wrong decisions would result in delays, extra expenditure and sometimes more damage to the equipment.

The manager should only allow the operator to do local repairs if he is well experienced. The manager or operator should have a basic knowledge' of electricity. Minor carelessness can also cause serious equipment damage, personal injury or death when dealing with electricity especially if electrical equipment is incorrectly assembled or wired, or not properly earthed.

### **2.5.3 Transporting Equipment for Repairs**

More complicated repairs to items such as generators, runners and electronic equipment may need to be carried out by the manufacturer or other competent repairer at his premises. Transport of these items from site may be difficult due to poor access. It is, therefore, important that before transportation,. care is taken to:

- ◆ pack equipment well using timber or thick cardboard;
- ◆ protect equipment from water damage by wrapping it in plastic;
- ◆ print the 'right way up' and 'handle with care' signs;
- ◆ inform persons responsible for transport about the need for care in handling, especially when loading and unloading from vehicles.

Figure 2.2 also illustrates a few 'rights and wrongs' with regard to transportation of the equipment.

### **3. OPERATION**

Correct operation and maintenance of a MHP plant is beneficial in many Managers and operators must be fully familiar with the equipment, its functions and operational procedures. Technical specifications must also be known and properly recorded in the Operations & Maintenance Manual provided by the installer, and in the Log Book. An example of specifications is given in Table 3.1 (p. 26-27).

#### **3.1 General Operation Procedure**

The following checks should be made during starting, stopping and running of plant any stage a problem is noticed; say, unusual sound, the plant should be stopped, problem rectified before starting or running the plant.

##### **3.1.1 The start up procedure**

###### **For Water and Turbine**

- ◆ Follow the specified procedure for cleaning up the civil works as applicable
- ◆ Visually inspect all equipment (e.g. turbine, generator, control panel, switch, etc.).
- ◆ Check oil levels in any equipment using oil reservoirs.
- ◆ Ensure that penstock and turbine valves are closed.
- ◆ Turn on water at intake.

###### **For Electricity**

- ◆ Check that all switches on the load side are in the "OFF" position (if an E installed), or;
- ◆ Check that all switches on the load side are in the "ON" position (if there ELC).
- ◆ Inform users that plant will be starting (some system needs to be developed operationally, since it is difficult to inform all the consumers). If belts are removed,

put them on the pulleys, check belt tension also. Gradually open the penstock valve (if fitted) to fully open position. Gradually let water into the turbine by opening the turbine valve, while check the pressure gauge to maintain smooth rise in pressure.

- ◆ If there are any push button switches for exciting the generator, press the voltage rises up to 200 V.
- ◆ Increase water flow by opening turbine valves further until the speed, and power comes up to desirable/rated level.
- ◆ For plants having ELC, gradually divert power to the load by switching the load switches.
- ◆ If there is no load controller increase the water flow until the voltage rises 220 V while the load is connected.
- ◆ The allowable voltage fluctuation, for plants below 25 kW is + 10% a 14%; for larger plants it should be within  $\pm 10\%$ .

#### **For agro-processing**

- ◆ Check all nuts, bolts, etc. of agro-processing machinery; move everything away from the drive system.
- ◆ Engage the belt from the turbine to the line shaft and then to the machine.
- ◆ If there is no line shaft, place the belt directly from the turbine to the machine; for example, rice huller.
- ◆ Admit grains to the huller, oil seed to the expeller, etc.
- ◆ Let water into the turbine, gradually opening the turbine valve until the required speed is reached.
- ◆ Check the pressure gauge to ensure that pressure is not fluctuating rapidly.
- ◆ Listen for any abnormal noise or vibration when the unit is running. Stop the turbine if this happens and look for the fault.
- ◆ Check drive systems (belt, coupling, etc.)
- ◆ Connect only those units simultaneously for which power is sufficient.

- ◆ If the turbine is powering a generator and agro-processing equipment simultaneously; priority goes to electricity and connect the agro-processing unit only if sufficient additional power (i.e flow) is available.

### **3.1.2 Continuous Checks during Running**

The following checks are to be made during the running of the plant. If at any stage an abnormal condition arises, the plant should be shut down and the problem diagnosed and rectified.

- ◆ Every hour check voltage, frequency and power output and record in the log book once a day. Abnormal readings must be recorded whenever noticed along with the corrective action taken.
- ◆ If voltage or frequency decreases due to over-load, remove some loads.
- ◆ Check for abnormal noises and water leaks.
- ◆ Check bearing and generator temperatures by touching the housings.
- ◆ Periodically check penstock pressure.
- ◆ Compute consumed power from panel meter (current and voltage) if watt-meter is not installed.
- ◆ If the power consumption is more than design capacity, disconnect some load from the distribution box.
- ◆ If over-load occurs, it could be that some consumer is using a higher load (i.e. heater, etc.) than permitted so checks should regularly be made at the premises of such type of users,

### **3.1.3 Shutting down procedure**

Following procedure should be followed prior to and during shutting down of. the MHP plant.

- ◆ Inform users that the plant will be shut down, if time permits (unless they already know, in the case of regular shut downs).

- ◆ Switch 'OFF' all connected load.
- ◆ Close turbine control valve gradually to prevent rapid penstock pressure rise.
- ◆ Close penstock valve.
- ◆ Stop water from forebay tank and intake if necessary.
- ◆ Ensure that powerhouse and equipment are clean and tidy.

If the shut down is due to an emergency, the actions should be quick and emergency devices such as jet deflectors (for Pelton turbines) should be actuated.

### **3.2 Safety and First Aid**

While working with electricity, if we do not take adequate care, it can be very dangerous even though it has some benefits. It is thus important to be aware of and remember safety precautions, and even more essential; to know how to perform first aid and primary treatment when an accident happens.

#### **3.2.1 Workplace Safety Precautions**

Following precautions may be taken while operating an MHP scheme or even working in a powerhouse while it is in operation.

1. If possible, shoes should be rubber soled; they must not be damp or wet.
2. While working, hands should not be wet.
3. Before starting work, the electrical supply to the work area, should be turned off if possible.
4. The location of the switch to turn off the whole electrical supply should always be known beforehand to workers.
5. While working on an electrical circuit, only essential fuses should be left in place; others should be removed.
6. Make sure that metal covered items such as the main switch and panel box are properly earthed.

7. If fire or an electrical accident occurs, the electrical power should immediately be turned off.
8. Tools and materials, when not in use, should be put in their proper place and only proper tools and materials should be used for particular work.
9. After finishing work, everything should be cleaned and returned to its proper place, and this practice should become a habit.
10. Work in a systematic way. If any work is unfamiliar, an experienced person should be asked to assist or advise; especially in case of electrical machines.
11. Oil should not be put in a machine that is running. While working in front of a machine (i.e. grinding, drilling, welding, etc.) glasses and gloves should be used.
12. While lifting any machine or material you should have a straight back and bend your knees.
13. Necessary primary treatment (first aid) should be immediately given to the injured person if an accident occurs.
14. Repaired work should only be operated after it has been carefully tested.
15. The work table should be well insulated (should be a wooden table).

### **3.2.2 First Aid for Electrical Shock**

If any person suffers an injury from a electricity related accident; he should be taken to a doctor as quickly as possible. If this is difficult or not possible (e.g the road may be blocked, transport facilities may be limited or the distance may be long) the sick person may have to remain in place for some time. In that situation, the injured person should be kept calm and first aid should be provided. It would be much beneficial, if some personnel were properly - trained at suitable places (civil defense centres, hospitals, etc) to administer first aid. In any case, following procedure may be adopted for providing first aid to an injured person.

1. The electrical line should immediately be disconnected, the main switch turned 'OFF', and the shocked person separated from the source of the shock. Don't forget clothing which may also be in contact with electric supply.
2. If the switch can not be reached quickly, the live wire should be removed from the person with the help of a non-conductor such as wood, plastic, rubber, etc.

3. If the person is unconscious and not breathing, artificial respiration, as described below, should be administered or else the person may die.
4. After giving artificial respiration, the area affected by the shock should be massaged; because an electric shock causes blood circulation to stop. T116 arms, feet, etc., should be rotated at the joints.
5. Feed the shocked person some warm milk or tea.
6. The shocked person should be encouraged to talk and move if possible; to give him confidence and to help him remain conscious. Don't let him lose consciousness.
7. Every effort should be made to make the shocked person as comfortable as possible.
8. If the condition of the injured is still serious (say, the breathing is irregular or he is sweating), he should be taken to a hospital or to a good doctor. A check up and treatment by a qualified doctor is even otherwise necessary as soon as it becomes available.

### **3.2.3 Artificial Respiration Techniques**

Anyone who receives a high voltage electrical shock may become unconscious, or even stop breathing. If so, the injured person must immediately be given artificial respiration, until he begins to breathe by himself. The following two techniques are usually used to revive breathing artificially.

#### **Face down method**

This method is simple and easy to learn and is thus more commonly used. In this method the person giving first aid kneels in front of the sick person and lays the sick person face down on the floor between his knees. The two hands of the injured person are folded in front of his head and the forehead rested on them, as illustrated in Fig 3. 1. In this way, the nose air passage remains open. Then the person giving first aid places his two hands with the fingers spread on the back of the sick person below the shoulders, and placing his two thumbs equally on the ribs of the sick person, slowly presses downward with his hands, watching carefully to see how much pressure is needed. The pressing should be such that air emerges from the lungs and they are emptied. The hands should then slowly be released. The sick person is then grasped by the upper arms just above the elbows with both hands, and the arms are pulled upwards towards the

person giving first aid. In this way, the chest expands and air enters the lungs. The person giving treatment should repeat this cycle at a rate of about 12 times per minute until such time that the sick person begins to breathe naturally by himself.

### **Mouth to Mouth Respiration**

The sick person should be made to lie flat on his back. First check that the jaws of the injured person can be easily opened; if not, open them by hand. Place the left hand under the back of the sick person's neck to raise it a little and using the right hand, block his nose. The person giving treatment then should place his mouth over the sick person's mouth. Holding the nose closed so that air cannot emerge, the person giving treatment should blow into the sick person's mouth to fill his lungs with air. After that, release open the nose so that the air in the lungs comes out. The right hand then again blocks the nose and the cycle is repeated at a rate of 10-15 times a minute until the person giving first aid notices that the pressure while blowing in is reducing. This method is graphically illustrated in Fig. 3.2.

### **3.3 Extended Shut Down**

If there is a major repair to be done in a MHP plant, the powerhouse would have to be shut down for a long period to organise and complete the repairs at the plant or elsewhere. If an extended shut down becomes necessary, the operator/manager should notify the villagers about the situation and about the tentative duration of the shut down. The equipment remaining within the powerhouse must be protected from corrosion, rain, landslides, pilferage and other such eventualities. Some items located outside the powerhouse (e.g. trashrack, canal gate) may also be dismantled and stored within the powerhouse or some other safe place.

### **3.4 Routine Inspection and Maintenance**

The operator should check the following items outside and inside the powerhouse on a regular basis to ensure reliable operation. A suggested frequency of checking is shown below. Any damage noticed during these checks should be rectified as soon as possible to prevent the problem getting worse.

### **3.4.1 Daily Inspection and Maintenance**

Every day the following items should be inspected and corrective action taken if necessary.

See also section 3.1.2

#### **Before Start Up**

- Clean the trash racks at the intake, desilting basin and forebay.
- Check whether sufficient water is flowing through the headrace.
- If not; the plant load should be reduced accordingly or it should not be started at all.
- Flush the forebay and desilting basin during the monsoons (every other day if the debris amounts are less).

#### **During Operation**

- Check the temperatures and vibration level of housings/casings of bearings of turbine and generator.
- Check the leakage from valves, turbine housing, or base frame.
- If the leakage is excessive from any location, repairs should be organised straight away or in due course as the situation demands.

### **3.4.2 Weekly Inspection and Maintenance**

- Walk to the intake via the headrace/pipeline and check for damage such as water leakage, cracked pipe, water emerging from the ground above the pipeline, etc. Flush forebay and desilting basins.
- Make detailed inspection of civil structures or surrounding areas for breakage, sliding, rock falling, etc.
- Check the penstock for water leakage or damage, say from stones.

### **3.4.3 Monthly Inspection and Maintenance**

- Walk from the powerhouse along the penstock to the forebay and check all expansion joints, flanges and welds for leakage.

- Close all the turbine valves, open up bearings and put two fingers full of grease in each. Do the same for the generator bearings using a grease gun.
- Inspect the generator, MCB switch, and ELC box and feel the cables to check if they are very hot. Also check to see if the colour of the cables has changed.
- Check fencing around high voltage transformer if installed.
- Inspect all the civil structures, including penstock and surrounding areas for landslides and damage and impending signs of land slides.

#### **3.4.4 Six Monthly Inspection and Maintenance**

- Inspect condition of poles and repair the damaged ones.
- Check transmission line clearance from the ground and tree branches. Check line connections of lightning arrestors and jumpers.
- Check stay wire tension.
- Check connections of distribution wires.
- Inspect distribution switches, fuses, etc.

One of the six-monthly inspections should be undertaken immediately after the monsoons.

#### **Cold Season Work**

- Inspect all places where water may have leaked from tanks, or headrace/pipeline and take corrective action.

#### **3.4.5 Yearly Inspection and Maintenance**

- Open side plate of the generator and clean any collected dust on the windings.
- Clean any collected dust, cobwebs, etc. on the inside and outside of the ELC box and the main switch. Also clean the deposited sediment from the ballast tank. -
- Test the earthing wire connection inside the powerhouse. Test the 240 volt insulators of transmission line and distribution line approached either side of the lines.
- Inspect the power control devices and service wires at consumer's homes.

- Cut down tree branches near the transmission lines.
- Inspect all trash racks and repair or replace them if necessary.

### **3.4.6 Additional Inspection and Maintenance**

- Every two years inspect the turbine runner, penstock, generator, load controller and all civil works. If possible, this inspection should be done by a competent consultant.
- Every two years, dig up all earthing Relates and inspect them for excessive corrosion. If necessary, the plate should be replaced, with several layers of salt and charcoal or coal dust placed in the hole, one after the other, above the plate. If the earth plate connection is loose, it should be tightened or redone.
- Every four years paint the penstock completely

### **3.4.7 Some Additional Suggestions Regarding Operation and Maintenance**

- Except for the cold months of December and January, the penstock should not be left empty on and sunny day (because the steel, pipe can heat up and the expansion may damage the penstock) when the plant is not running.
- Overflow from the forebay should be as little as possible; to achieve that, allow a small amount of excess water to come from the desilting basin gate.
- If the powerhouse is to be closed for longer than one hour, the flush gate from the desilting basin should also be left open.
- If the powerhouse is to be closed for a full day or longer the water flow from the source should also be minimised or stopped if possible.
- During operation, adequate ventilation should be provided in the powerhouse so that the generator receives the needed cooling air.
- To ensure that sufficient water is flowing to the ballast heater tank, the gate valve should be inspected daily. If the water flow reduces, the valve and union should be removed, tested and repaired if necessary.

### **3.5 House Wiring**

It has generally been observed that skills to undertake wiring within the houses and to provide connections does not exist in the remote and under-developed mountain areas. Therefore, managers or operators of such areas are usually called upon to carry out wiring at the premises of the consumers. The promoters of MMHP also recognise this fact And training for house wiring is included in the training for such persons. Therefore, some basic details of house wiring are also provided here.

Installation of wiring in a house involves installing the service junction box; making the connection with the incoming line; power outlets, and switches mounted in the desired location; and then taking the wires to different desired locations along the beams, poles, etc, as necessary. Table 4.1 shows some standard symbols for typical features of office house wiring.

It is recommended that every house should have a main switch and a fuse. Black sheathing distribution cable should be used as it protects against the sun's ultraviolet radiation. If the connection to the consumer is not through a wattmeter and the tariff is based on maximum allowable power; a PTC, MCB or ECC should be installed, according to allowable wattage (power), to prevent the consumers from over-using the power.

Housing wiring should be carried out in accordance with a recognised standard; such as Electrical Guidelines published by ITDG and ADB/N, Nepal. Such guidelines are usually available in every country.

The following are different types of internal wiring applicable to rural areas.

#### **Batten Wiring**

This is the most common and cheap type of wiring system where wires are run on wooden battens fixed to the walls or ceiling. It is classified into two parts.

**TRS or PVC Wiring:** In this system, TRS or PVC wires are fixed to well seasoned straight soft timber battens. Batten wiring, particularly with PVC cable, is widely used for indoor installations.

**Metal sheathed wiring:** In metal sheathed wiring the cables used are TRS or PVC insulated wires with metal outer covering.

It is suitable for places exposed to sun, provided no joint of any kind is exposed. This system may be installed in damp places.

### **Conduit Wiring**

This system consists of either VIR or PVC wires passed through rigid steep conduit pipes. Conduit wiring can be installed over the surface of walls and ceiling or may be concealed under the plaster.

### **Cleat Wiring**

In this type of wiring, cables are run over cleats. A special pattern of cleat may be used where wires pass round corners, so that there may be no risk of wires touching the wall. Where cleat wiring is on a metal portion along its run, the space between such metal and porcelain cleats should be filled or varnished.

Cleat wiring should not be employed on damp walls or ceilings.

### **Wood Casing Wiring**

This type of wiring consists of running the cables inside a wood casing having grooves. This is then covered with wooden capping. The wire used should be vulcanized rubber or PVC insulated cables.

The casing and capping should be of well seasoned teak wood or other hard wood, free from knots or any other defects.

## **Ready-made wiring**

The main feature of ready-made wiring is the junction box from which radiate the required number of power cords of predetermined lengths for different rooms/locations, terminating in a light bulb or power socket. The wires are fastened to wooden columns, beams, etc, at appropriate locations and the bulbs or switches are left hanging but properly secured.

### **4.1.1 Most Common Wiring Practices**

Usually, the houses in the mountain areas utilizing MHP are one- or two-story structures. Walls are usually made of mud and stone masonry and plastered with mud. The upper floor, supporting columns and roof, are usually made of wood. Very few Pakka houses (brick, concrete) may also exist in the mountain areas having more durable roof of corrugated galvanized iron or even R.C.C.

Conventional batten wiring is commonly used in Pakka homes with concrete or cement plastered brick walls which looks simple and neat (Fig. 4.1). However, it is more difficult to install in village homes having mud and stone masonry walls because of the unevenness of the walls and the difficulty of fixing the batten to the walls. Furthermore, availability of the required skills for house wiring in rural areas is limited, and the cost of labour for conventional wiring can therefore be significant.

For these reasons, ready-made wiring has been developed in Nepal and is becoming quite popular. Ready-made wiring includes a current limited and fuse mounted on a wooden junction box, from which radiate a number of good quality, double insulated power cords; each terminating in a light bulb or power outlet. The lengths of wires are predetermined. A section of ready made wiring system is shown in Fig. 4.2.

For ready-made wiring, lighting fixtures, switches and power outlets are permanently fixed into walls, supporting posts or other parts of the houses. At the service entrance a wooden junction box is installed, on which are mounted the current limited, fuses and possibly some power outlets.

To ensure good connections and eliminate any problems arising from frayed wires, the tips of the stranded conductor are solid red. The Figure 4.2 below illustrates the major components of a typical ready-made wiring, while Figure 4.3 shows a line diagram for the same system.

## **4.2 Earthing**

Earthing is considered really necessary only for industrial loads and electric cookers. However, if the funding permits, appropriate earthing should also be provided in houses. Acceptable methods for providing an earthing are as follows.

A 3m- 4 m long galvanized steel pipe, having 20 mm to 30 mm. diameter is buried vertically and connected to the earth line using brass or copper connections.

A copper or galvanized iron plate of total surface area not less than 1 sq. m, is buried at a depth of at least 2 m. and connected to the earth line using brass or copper connections.

## **4.3 General Rules For House Wiring**

- 1 The current rating of the conductor should be as per the requirement of the load as suggested in Table 4.2.
2. Every live (positive or phase) wire should be. protected by a fuse of suitable rating.
3. All the metal covering used for protecting the wires must be earthed, so that there is no danger due to insulation leakage.
4. Switches should also be provided on all live wires leading to a point in use.
5. Every circuit or apparatus should be provided with a separate switch.
6. The size of power and light circuit must be calculated separately according to the load.
  - a) One sub-circuit of light should be not more than 10 points or 800 Watts.
  - b) One circuit of power should be 3000-4000 Watts, maximum.
7. Switch board, distribution board, sub distribution board and power sockets should be installed about 1.3 meter above the floor level.
8. Tubelight or bulb should be installed about 2.5 meter above floor level.

9. Ceiling fan should be at least 2.5 meter from the floor level
10. In three phase, four-wires system installation, load should be equal on all the phases.
11. In three phase four wire system at the main board, the wire colours should be Red, Yellow and Blue. Neutral should be indicated in green or black

**Table 4.2 Symbols Used in Drawings of Internal House Wiring**

S.No.	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL
1.	Main fuse-board without switches, lighting	
2.	Main fuse-board with switches, lighting	
3.	Distribution fuse board without switches, lighting	
4.	Distribution fuse board with switches, lighting	
5.	Double pole switch	
6.	Re-wireable fuse	
7.	Fan	
8.	Incandescent lamp or filament lamp (bulb)	
9.	Florescent lamp (Tube light)	
10.	Two pin socket	
11.	Three pin socket	
12.	One way switch	
13.	Two way switch	
14.	Earthing (Earth point)	

In the following diagrams (Figure 4.4 to 4.14) some typical circuits for house wiring are shown.

Fig. 4.4 Diagrams of one-lamp or two lamp circuits.

Fig. 4.5 Two lamp circuit controlled by two single switches with fuse.

Fig. 4.6 Example of two-lamp and power socket circuits.

Fig. 4.7 Three lamp circuit controlled by three single way switches and on double pole switch and fuse. The D.P. switch is useful if a sub-circuit needs to be disconnected from a different location.

Fig. 4.8 Three lamp & two pin socket circuit controlled by 4 single switches, D.P. switch and fuse.

Fig. 4.9 Staircase lamp wiring having two, two-way switches

Fig. 4.10 Staircase wiring with 2 lamps and two two-way switches

Fig. 4.11 Wiring diagram for a florescent lamp D.P. switch is optional

Fig. 4.12 Florescent tube circuit with Glow starter and choke

**Symbols**

G = Glow type starter

T = Florescent tube

L = Choke

Cl = Small condenser, across the two bimetallic strips to suppress the radio interference generated by the choke

C = Condenser across the supply mains is used for improving the power factor



Fig. 4.13 Block circuit diagram for house wiring

**Symbols**

- A = Main fuse board with Double pole switch
- B = Distribution fuse board without switches
- C = Gangbox with 4 switches one way type & one two pin socket
- D = Load

Fig. 4.14 Two lamp circuit and two pin socket controlled by Three one way switches, D.P. Switch and Fuse

**Symbols**

- M = Main board (Main distribution board) Including D.P. switch kit-kat.
- S = Main supply (220 V)
- G = Gang Box (4 way; 3 one switch, Two pin socket)
- J = Junction box
- I = Incandescent lamp with holder

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