

MINUTES OF THE SLSC MEETING OF RKVY HELD ON 02-09-2014 IN THE CHIEF SECRETARY'S COMMITTEE ROOM.

The meeting started at 3.00 pm with the Chief Secretary in the Chair. List of participants is attached separately.

The Chief Secretary welcomed all the participants to the meeting. Dr. P. Shakil Ahammed, Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture and Shri G. Mohana Pai, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries represented the Government of India.

The Agricultural Production Commissioner (APC) then presented the overall status of RKVY in Kerala. Explaining fund position APC stated that Kerala has received an allocation of Rs 321 crore and as such we can approve projects to the tune of Rs. 480 crore (150 %) for implementation during the current year. Including the committed expenditure for the projects already sanctioned the total requirement after the approval of projects by the SLSC would be around Rs 370 crore. Regarding the progress of implementation APC informed that the State Government has spent the entire amount of Rs. 256. 24 crore received during the last year.

Requirement of Rs 63.13 crore from the current year's allocation for the 39 projects, sanctioned for implementation during the previous years was discussed and the projects revalidated for continuance. While discussing the projects Chief Secretary enquired whether there are any critical areas that require special attention in the implementation process. Though there were some initial delays in the implementation of projects like 'Fish net factory' all the projects have gained momentum by now the APC replied. A list of projects revalidated for implementation during the current year is given in annexure I.

The 69 projects proposed for the approval of the SLSC were then discussed based on the comments made on the agenda by the DAC and DAHD&F.

The project for productivity improvement of rice was approved within the subsidy norms of NFSM and RKVY guidelines on topping up of subsidy. Regarding fallow land cultivation it was decided that the subsidy will be 50 per cent of the cost limited to Rs. 4000 per ha. The beneficiary can also avail Rs. 7500 per ha admissible under the NFSM as input subsidy and as such he will be eligible for a total assistance Rs.11500 per ha.

In the case of sugarcane the subsidy was fixed as Rs.8000 per ha. as per the Gol norms. The assistance for setting up of coconut processing complex will be 25 per cent limited to Rs. 400 lakhs as per the norms of Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM).

The projects of process up-gradation proposed by MILMA under the RKVY sub scheme viz. NMPS were discussed and it was decided that 75 per cent assistance admissible under the sub scheme will be made available for the projects.

While discussing the projects of fisheries sector the APC informed that further release of funds will be made only after utilization of the entire funds released to that sector and physical completion of projects. The Principal Secretary, Fisheries informed that he has already initiated action to streamline activities under RKVY projects.

In the case of project for increasing storage capacity of Chengala check dam the Mission Director explained that the dam was constructed in the year 2012-13 under RKVY and the proposal now is to increase the height of the dam by one meter. APC explained that more than 100 ha in the hilly areas will be made cultivable by increasing the capacity. The project was approved. The project will be implemented as per the RKVY guidelines and the design available in the DPR subject to technical feasibility.

Decisions taken in general in the meeting are the following.

1. Conditions stipulated in the RKVY guidelines in the cases of topping up of subsidy and community works will be strictly followed.
2. State PWD schedule of rates will be followed in the cases of all construction activities taken up under RKVY.
3. Fresh research projects of KAU will be sent to ICAR for comments. The Vice Chancellor of KAU will take necessary follow up action with ICAR.
4. The DPRs of Infrastructure development projects proposed by the Department of Agriculture like 'Revival of paddy cultivation in Rani& Chithra Kayal' and 'Revitalization of Pokkali paddy cultivation' will be sent to Gol for scrutiny.
5. The infrastructure development projects of KLDC will be implemented as per RKVY guidelines and need not be sent to ICAR for comments.

The issue of sanction already accorded for the implementation of the project for the strengthening of Government goat farm, Komeri at a total cost of Rs. 450.40 lakhs, based on the decisions taken in the SLSC meetings and discussion of the officials of the Department of Animal Husbandry had with the officials of AHD&F division of the Gol came up for discussion. The APC explained that the project is coming up in the middle of the town and in Kerala the pressure on land is very high. Therefore it is necessary to protect the land from encroachment. As the officials representing Gol in the meeting were not aware of the issue it was decided that the matter will be examined at New Delhi by them and the decision communicated. The project already has the approved of the SLSC in principle.

The request for the enhancement of subsidy rate of 25 per cent sanctioned to dairy units of one lakh youth programme under RKVY was another item that came up for discussion. The Joint Secretary, Gol informed that the subsidy rate cannot be

enhanced, as per the RKVY guidelines. It was decided to take up the issue separately with the Gol.

A list of projects showing the project cost and decisions taken by the committee is attached as annexure II.

The meeting came to a close at 3.45 pm.

Sd/

Chief Secretary