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**Minutes of the the 4th meeting of the State Level Programme Management
Committee (SLPMC) of OTELP held on 19.10.2005 at 3 p.m. in the Conference Hall
of Programme Support Unit, OTELP**

Sri G V V Sarma, Commissioner & Secretary, ST & SC Development Department and Chairman, OTELP presided over the meeting. The following members were present.

1. Sri G B Reddy, Director, Orissa Watershed Development Mission
2. Sri Nalini Kr Burma, Joint Secretary, Forest and Environment Department
3. Sri B Biswal, Joint Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department
4. Sri R K Mishra, Joint Secretary, Finance Department
5. Sri Chittaranjan Satpathy, Dy Director, Planning & Coordination
6. Sri R K Choudhury, Joint Secretary, ST & SC Dev Dept
7. Sro A C Naik, AFA & Under Secretary, ST & SC Dev Dept
8. Sri Deepak Mohanty, PD, OTELP

At the outset the Programme Director, OTELP welcomed the Commissioner cum Secretary, STSCDD and Chairperson, OTELP and all other members of the committee.

1. Confirmation of Proceedings of 3rd meeting of SLPMC

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of SLPMC held on 18.4.2005 has been circulated to all members vide letter No.220/05 dtd.20.4.2005 of PSU, OTELP. The committee confirmed the minutes.

2. Review of progress implementation of OTELP

The P. D. OfTELP, made a presentation on the status of the programme and the progress made so far. The Committee noted the significant components of progress so far as below:

- (i) Fifteen Facilitating NGOs have been selected to function as Programme Implementing Agencies (PIAs) in 10 blocks of the 4 districts of Phase – I. Ten out of these selected FNGOs have signed the MoU with the respective PA, ITDAs and have been assigned 110 micro watersheds in nine blocks of the programme area of Phase – I to be covered under Watershed Development and Livelihoods support activities. These cover 332 no. of Programme villages with 52539.45 ha of non forest area and nearly 20000 ha of forest area to be treated. Besides, ten more micro watersheds have been assigned to the FNGO, ANTODAYA, who signed the MoU with the PA, ITDA, Thuamul Rampur on 30th September, 2005. Further, action is being taken to identify the micro watersheds in Kotagarh block in place of Daringibadi block of Kandhamal district to be included under Phase – I blocks in pursuance

to the decision taken in the 3rd meeting of the PSC. The FNGOs namely PRADAN and JAGRUTI out of the above selected FNGOs will be invited to function as PIAs in this block. The process will be completed by November, 2005.

- (ii) Establishment of community level institutions like VDA, SHG, VSS have been taken up along with PRA exercise and base line survey for assessment of the resources in the programme villages followed by formulation of a holistic Village Development and Livelihoods Plans.
- (iii) Plantation of 3,02,462 seedlings has been taken up during 2005-06 over an area of 1114.20 ha.
- (iv) UNOPS/DFID/IFAD/WFP Joint Review Mission has reviewed the progress of implementation during 21st to 27th April 2005 and the Mission has given a satisfactory report on the momentum gained in programme implementation since its formal launching.
- (v) The PSU has engaged the Water Support Services and Activities Network (WASSAN), and Vasundhara, a local based NGO as the Resource NGOs w.e.f. 16th August, 2005. This has been concurred by UNOPS as per provision of the Programme Loan Agreement.
- (vi) A meeting was convened on 24th September, 2005 in the Conference Hall of the PSU inviting the Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry & Afforestation) and the three Conservators of Forests having jurisdiction over the programme districts and the modalities of implementing the Participatory Forest Management component were worked out. Nearly 200 ha of Forest area adjoining to the villages of each micro watershed would be identified in consultation with the field functionaries of Forest Department and treatment plans will be prepared for the same along with the Village Development & Livelihoods Plans. The plans for treatment of the Forest areas will be approved by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer and the concerned Vana Samrakshana Samitis would be executing the same. New VSSs will be constituted by the Forest Department as per the existing guidelines of Joint Forest Management, wherever required. The VSSs will be effectively a part of the Village Development Associations and would function as working sub-committees for implementation of PFM component under the programme. The accounts in this regard will be maintained by the VDAs along with the accounts of other activities under Livelihood Enhancement component.
- (vii) The total expenditure by the end of September, 2005 has been Rs. 3,15,36,621/-, against which the PSU has submitted the revised Withdrawal Application (Reimbursement Claim) to the Finance Department, Govt. of Orissa for an amount of Rs.2.21 crores as per the observation and suggestion of Joint Review Mission. The same has been scrutinized and found admissible by the CAAA, Deptt of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, GoI.
- (viii) The members discussed the details of physical and financial targets for the current year. The projections are as follows:

Projections of Expenditure and Budget for the year 2005-06 under OTELP in Rs. lakh

Sl. No.	Particulars	Expnd. upto Sep. 05	Balance to be spent	Proposed month wise Expenditure						Budget
				Oct 05	Nov 05	Dec 05	Jan 06	Feb 06	Mar 06	
1	Salary, DA etc.	44.86	12.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	56.86
2	Administrative Overhead, Equipments and operational cost	19.67	12.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	31.67
3	Capacity Building	17.93	105.81	10.81	15.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	123.74
4	Livelihood Enhancement including Participatory Forest Management	22.00	578.00	0.00	56	87	116	145	174	600.00
	Administrative Cost to FNGO and VDC	65.13	19.07	0.00	0.00	15.07	4.00	0.00	0.00	84.20
5	Support for policy initiatives	0.00	10.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	0.00		10.00
6	Development initiative fund	0.00	110.00	0.00	44.00	44.00	22.00	0.00	0.00	110.00
7	Food handling	0.00	6.00	0.25	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.25	6.00
	TOTAL	169.59	852.88	15.06	125.00	171.07	172.25	170.25	199.25	1022.47

The committee discussed the programme in detail. It was decided to speed up activities under Capacity Building and Livelihood Enhancement so as to be able to reach the financial target for the year.

The Director, Orissa Watershed Development Mission informed that generalized format and guidelines would be developed shortly on the fund flow mechanism, micro accounting system for SHGs, simple accounting system for the Village Level Associations and Monitoring & Evaluation package including impact assessment for the Watershed Development Programmes being undertaken by the Mission. The same would be shared with OTELP and OTELP might also adopt them. The suggestion was well accepted by the committee. The Director, OWDM also suggested to include the P.D. Watershed, Bhawaniptna in the District Programme Management Committee under OTELP of Kalahandi District. The Collector, Kalahandi and P.A., ITDA, Thuamul Rampur would be requested to do the needful.

The Joint Secretary, Panchayat Raj suggested to involve the PRIs in the implementation of the programme. The P.D. OTELP informed the committee that all the field executives have been instructed to this effect in the same line as is being followed by the OWDM.

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3. Adoption of Programme Implementation Manual

The Draft Programme Implementation Manual as approved by the SLPMC in its 3rd meeting and submitted to the Finance Department, Govt. of Orissa has been received with the advice to finalize the same after incorporating the suggested changes and without making further reference to FD. The recent observations of Finance Department have been incorporated under relevant clauses. In case of three points, there is a contradiction between the earlier decisions of PSC headed by the Chief Secretary and the recent decision of the Finance Department. The committee was apprised that speedier implementation of the programme works could be done by adhering to the earlier decisions. After discussion, it was decided that the matter may be resubmitted to the Finance Department for their consideration so that on the issues of Recruitment & Service Regulations, TA/DA on Tours and PL account, so that the earlier decision would hold good.

The revised Programme Implementation Manual has been concurred by UNOPS/IFAD as per provisions of the Programme Loan Agreement. They had also suggested to include under the Accounting Section, the check list and mechanism of submitting the Withdrawal Application for re-imburement claims and the same has been complied.

The issue was deliberated upon thoroughly. The Chairperson explained that the PIM needs to be adopted soon so that all the field level executives would be made aware of the procedures and rules & provisions related to programme implementation, which will speed up the activities and utilization of funds. Further, the above three points raised by the FD at the time of scrutiny of the PIM have already been approved by the Govt. with due concurrence of the FD. The Joint Secretary, Finance Department suggested to re-submit the file for appraisal of FD and assured to sort out the matter at the earliest. Keeping in view the urgency, the committee decided to adopt the PIM in anticipation of the concurrence of FD on the above three issues.

4. Engagement of RNGOs

The committee noted the progress, as mentioned at item 2 (v) above.

5. Compliance on observations of Joint Review Mission:

The committee deliberated upon the action taken by the PSU and STSCDD in regards to the observations of the Joint Review Mission and approved the same.

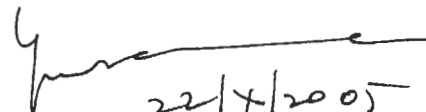
6. Inclusion of new block under Phase-I implementation

As covered under item 2 (Review of Progress of implementation of OTELP).

7. Any other item

The committee approved the proposal that a heavy duty photocopier machine would be purchased, for OTELP related work in the ST & SC Development Department.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and Members present.


22/7/2005