

Minutes of the the 9th meeting of the State Level Programme Management Committee (SLPMC) of OTELP to be held on 06.06.2008 at 3.30 P.M. in the Office Chamber of Commissioner cum Secy, STSCDD and Chairperson, OTELP

List of Members present is at Annexure – I

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 8th meeting of SLPMC

Minutes of the 8th meeting of SLPMC held on 05.09.2007 has been circulated to all members vide letter No. 806 dtd. 07.09.2007 of PSU, OTELP. The committee confirmed the minutes.

2. Action taken on key decisions of 7th meeting of SLPMC

The Programme Director presented the action taken report on the key decisions of the 8th meeting. The report was acknowledged by the committee and the following decisions were taken.

- Govt. in the Revenue & Disaster Management deptt have issued instruction to the District Collectors of the four OTELP implementing districts to take expeditious steps for settling the govt. land including the unsurveyed land with eligible landless tribal families under the provisions of OPLE Act / OGLS Rules in the OTELP villages even if such land is of more than 10⁰ slope, pending survey / settlement operation in these areas. Accordingly the PA, ITDAs will ensure timely compliance of the above.
- The above instruction will be translated in Oriya and circulated among all the FNGOs and VDCs for awareness and necessary follow up. The process of settling unsurveyed revenue land will be expedited and concluded within 3 – 4 months in the OTELP villages.
- The Forest Rights Committees in each programme village should be facilitated by the FNGOs for processing the eligible cases of land entitlement under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Rules, 2007 and submitting with the Sub Divisional level committees through the Palli sabhas.
- The Revenue Officer, PSU will keep constant liaison with the ITDAs and the respective Sub Collectors for timely processing of applications received by them. The scrutiny by the Sub Divisional level committees involves detail survey of the concerned forest areas. As suggested by the Commissioner cum Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management deptt, OTELP can facilitate the process by providing hand held GPS systems to the respective Sub Divisional level committees of the programme districts. The Revenue Officer, PSU to work out the above modalities in consultation with the concerned Sub Collectors. At least 50% of the applications should be finalised by end of August, 2008.
- The progress in regards to the land settlement under OTELP will be reviewed by the Commissioner cum Secretary, STSCDD and the Chairperson, OTELP every month. The P.D., OTELP will accordingly put up the monthly progress report for review.
- The Commissioner cum Secretary, STSCDD and the Chairperson, OTELP along with the Commissioner cum Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management deptt will review the progress at Koraput during the second week of July, 2008.

3. Annual Work Plan & Budget for the year 2008 – 09

Keeping in view the continuity in the programme activities, the AWPB for the year 2008 – 09 has been drawn up projecting a financial outlay of Rs. 50.13 crores as in Annexure I, which includes the unspent balance of Rs. 10.11 crores. Thus funds to the tune of Rs.40.02 crores only will have to be released to PSU during 2008-09 by the ST & SC Development department. The committee approved the same. The progress of implementation under OTELP should be discussed in every meeting of the concerned Gram Panchayat and all the PRI members should be apprised of the progress from time to time.

4. Key recommendations of Joint Review Mission conducted from 21st April to 3rd May.

- To ensure provision of forest as well as revenue land to the landless

Necessary action is being taken to address this issue as described under para 2.

- To resolve the issue of inadequate access and linkage of OTELP SHGs to banks/formal financing institutions and problems faced by the VDCs with the banks.

The Finance Officer in PSU will take up the matter with the Managers of Central bank of India, Indian Overseas Bank and UCO Bank for issue of instructions to their branches in the programme districts/ blocks for facilitating smooth transaction by the programme partners. Further the ITDAs will ensure that all the house holds in the programme villages are facilitated to open accounts in the near by Post Office or bank so that the wage payment will be made through cheques and not by cash.

- To strengthen the overall financial management system under the programme.

The PSU has organized a two days workshop on 12th & 13th May, 2008 involving the Finance Officers of ITDAs and the Financial Support Assistants (FSAs) positioned with the FNGOs (through DFID TA facility) for streamlining the financial management at the levels of VLSCs, VDCs and FNGOs. The critical issues on financial management at all levels as observed by the Mission were deliberated in detail. The functioning and monitoring schedule of the Finance Officers and the Financial Support Assistants have been finalized. There will be quarterly internal audit of the accounts of VLSCs, VDCs and FNGOs by the Finance Officers and FSAs.

- To develop a suitable village level exit strategy.

The Procurement Support Team established through the DFID TA facility may be entrusted with the assignment of developing the exit strategy.

- To consider using OTELP as a convergence vehicle for NREGS and other community development programmes of the state on the pattern being followed in the state of Meghalaya.

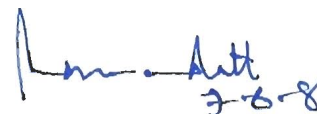
The Addl. Secretary, Panchayat Raj department, who attended the meeting informed that the proposal will be favourably considered for issuing such circular to all quarters.

5. Upscaling to new districts under Phase II

As per the recommendation of the MTR the Phase II of the programme has been started during 2007 with the addition of 9 more blocks in the Phase I districts of Koraput, Kalahandi,

Kandhamal and Gajapati. Eleven more blocks in the three districts namely Rayagada, Nawarangpur and Malkangiri are to be included under the programme during 2008. The concerned ITDAs will have to be strengthened with eight Subject Matter Specialists namely Programme Officer (Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation), Watershed Development Officer, Agriculture Officer, Forestry Officers, Programme Officer (Capacity Building), Micro Finance Officer, Finance Officer and MIS Executive. It was decided by the Programme Steering Committee that the Govt in the Revenue Department would be requested to post three officers in the rank of O.A.S (Jr - I) having experience as B.D.Os to function as P.O. (PME) in the respective ITDAs. However, applications from retired O.A.S. Officers may also be invited through open advertisement for the posts of P.O.(PME). Other posts of Subject Matter Specialists will be filled up by recruiting professionals on contract basis through open advertisement.

The committee deliberated and approved the above proposal. As suggested by the Commissioner cum Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management department, Govt. order would be obtained for posting of suitable officers as P.O.(PME) and with the condition that they would not be disturbed for a period of at least three years.



Chairperson, SLPMC and Secretary
ST & SC Development Department

List of Members present

1. Dr. Tara Datt, IAS
Commissioner-Cum-Secretary, STSCDD
2. Sri G.V.V. Sarma, IAS
Commissioner-Cum-Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Mgt deptt.
3. Sri Radhakanta Pani,
Addl. Secretary, Panchayat Raj Department
4. Sri Biswanath Dash
Dy. Director, P&C Deptt
5. Sri Niranjana Sahu
M&E Specialist, Orissa Watershed Development Mission.
6. Sri Deepak Mohanty, IFS
P.D., OTELP