

S-19014/08/2015-DDP
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
(Department of Land Resources)


6th Floor, 11th Block, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003

Dated: - 11.03.2016
15

Subject: Minutes of the meeting on Neeranchal during the two days Conference of the Chief Executive Officers of State Level Nodal Agency of all States held on 18th & 19th February, 2016 at Hyderabad

The undersigned is directed to forward a copy of the minutes of the meeting on Neeranchal held under the Chairmanship of Project Director, Neeranchal cum Joint Secretary (WM), Department of Land Resources during the two days Conference of the Chief Executive Officers of State Level Nodal Agency of all States on implementation of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Watershed Development (erstwhile Integrated Watershed Management Programme) on 18th & 19th February, 2016 at Hyderabad, for information and necessary action.

The minutes are also available at the website of the Department, www.dolr.nic.in.


15/3/16.
(Amit Kumar)
Director (WM)
Tel No.24362569

Distribution:

The Chairman/Principal Secretary/Chief Executive Officer SLNA of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Telangana

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to Secretary(LR)/ PPS to AS&FA/ PPS to AS(LR)/PPS to JS(WM), DoLR
2. DIGF (WM)/DC (WD), DoLR.
3. PSA NIC (Watershed Division), DoLR, with the request that the above minutes may kindly be uploaded on the Department's website.

Proceedings of the meeting on Neeranchal during the two days Conference of the Chief Executive Officers of State Level Nodal Agency of all States on implementation of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Watershed Development (erstwhile Integrated Watershed Management Programme) held on 18th & 19th February, 2016 at Hyderabad

A two days Conference of the Chief Executive Officers of State Level Nodal Agency of all the Neeranchal States, was held on 19th February, 2016 at Hyderabad under the Chairmanship of Project Director, Neeranchal cum Joint Secretary (WM), Department of Land Resources to review the status of implementation of Neeranchal and to sensitize the participating Neeranchal States about the actions required to be taken by them in the immediate future. The list of participants is at Annexure-I.

2. The Joint Secretary (WM) welcomed the participants and reiterated the information that the Government of India has approved 'Neeranchal' National Watershed Project on 7th October, 2015. Neeranchal aims to support the Watershed Component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The project will be implemented in nine projects States viz Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan.

3. JS (WM) informed that the tentative allocation for DoLR for the year 2016-17 is Rs 55 crore. The financial next year will be the '**zero year**' for the Neeranchal where all the pre implementation activities are to be taken up in preparation for the implementation of Neeranchal. The key activities to be taken up are given below:

- Launching of the programme at the States and District levels.
- Preparation of publicity material, booklets etc. in local language for launching the project during the year.
- Availability of office accommodation and staff is necessary. If States can operate from their current office then there is no issue. Otherwise new office location has to be identified and necessary upgradation/ improvements have to be carried out.
- DoLR has asked the States for the matrix of staffs like hydrologist, livelihood experts etc. engaged at SLNA and in District level to know the eligibility and qualifications and find out the gap that is to be filled through Neeranchal. States were advised to ensure that duplication of staff is completely avoided. States were again requested to send the matrix of staffs after filling the details.
- It was explained by JS(WM) that the next financial year is basically to be used for procurement of various equipment and services. All the procurements are to be done as per the World Bank norms. States were requested to identify the person or consultancy that will help in procurement. If there is a person, company or consultancy available in the SLNA or State then the resource should be quickly identified and taken on board. Instead of full time engagement, the resources can be availed for few days as and when required. Apart from the procurement expert a person who is well versed with financial procedures and norms should also be appointed. The States should share the procurement plan, manuals, cost table etc with the other Neeranchal Project States and DoLR as well. The States were requested to

identify financial team and expert etc. within two or three month. Training of personnel at the State level on procurement under the WB norms will be taken up and States were requested to inform DoLR if they require such training.

- DoLR will shortly share model EoI, RFP etc with the States. Once the HR policy is approved in DoLR it will also be shared with the States as a model HR policy.

Change in project Districts:

4. The States were urged to not send requests for the change of district identified for implementation of Neeranchal. The CEO, SLNA Gujarat said that district of Surendranagar selected under Neeranchal is now bifurcated into two new districts. Few Blocks of the Surendranagar district have gone to another district. On this JS(WM) replied that Neeranchal will be implemented as per the pre divided district in the portion of the Surendranagar District that was selected earlier ie. there will be no change in implementation area.

State Share under Neeranchal

5. The CEO SLNA Madhya Pradesh said that earlier Neeranchal was proposed to be implemented in the ratio of 90:10 (Centre : State), but now as the Government has approved this ratio to be 60:40 (Centre : State), DoLR was requested to send a letter in this regard. The CEO SLNA Jharkhand also informed that they have submitted a proposal for the Centre: State share for the consideration of the State Cabinet and that there is a need of a communication from Government of India regarding the sharing ratio is 60:40. The request of the CEOs was agreed to. Further, JS (WM) asked the States to initiate the process for allocation of State share so that in the next year budget there would be adequate funds for implementation.

6. It was informed that the expenditure and payments under Neeranchal is to be done through PFMS. Accordingly States were asked to start necessary activities for the same so that the payments can be started on the PFMS as soon as the funds are made available to the States.

Urban Watershed:

7. The planning for urban watersheds is also to be done on Watershed basis. The States were advised not to concentrate only on urban areas but concentrate on peri-urban areas also. The CEO SLNA Jharkhand enquired whether the catchment area of whole Ranchi District can be taken up under urban watershed. In regard this JS (WM) said that any town which is smaller in Ranchi District can be taken for implementation but not the whole Ranchi District. The State representative of Maharashtra has said that they have selected two districts earlier and now they want to select another district for the urban watershed component. JS (WM) clarified that the urban area for the development of urban watershed should also fall in the selected district.

Neeranchal-Components:

8. The various components of Neeranchal were once again explained for the benefit of the participants in the meeting. The first component ie **Central Institutional and Capacity**

Building is basically a soft component wherein things like data center, capacity building etc activities are to be performed. This component would be implemented/strengthen not only in nine Neeranchal State but also throughout India. This component provides for the development of customized training modules which will support the States in the development of their long term Capacity Building Plans for the resource persons at different levels, including development of training calendars for PMKSY.

9. The second component i.e **National Innovation Support** is essentially for research and technology development and will support the application of innovative, science-based knowledge, tools and approaches to underpin improvements to IWMP around watershed planning and implementation, agricultural intensification, climate change, rural livelihoods, and hydrology based on identified needs of the states, communities and farmers. There are 6 main themes covered under this component ie. new technology in watershed management, agriculture yield and productivity, marketing and forward linkages, adaptation to climate change in watershed management practices, hydrology and urban watersheds.

10. The third component ie **Implementation Support in Participating States** will provide project implementation support to the States and help the States to implement the knowledge gained under the component 2. Under this component support will also be provided to the States to improve GIS labs, monitoring systems, Capacity Building of their personnel and stakeholders and handholding support to upscale innovations. The component will fund State specific Innovation and Pilots and support implementation in selected districts. Centre and States will share this component in the ratio 60:40.

11. The fourth component i.e., **Project Management and Coordination** includes upgradation of the Neeranchal Project Implementation Unit (PIU) office; specialized incremental staff costs (both full and part-time) and provide operating costs for project management for PIU at DoLR level.

12. After summarizing the works to be taken up in the next 2-3 months for starting Neeranchal in the States, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.
