

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Programme Steering Committee of OTELP held on 25.8.2004 at 4.00 PM in the 2nd Floor Conference Hall of Orissa Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.

List of Members present is at Annexure-I.

2. At the outset Chairman requested the Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST & SC Development Dept. to briefly narrate the progress made so far in strengthening the PSU and ITDAs and to initiate discussions on the agenda items.
3. **Confirmation of the proceedings of the 1st meeting of PSC held on 3.2.2004.**

The minutes of the 1st meeting had been circulated amongst the members vide ST&SC Development Dept. letter no.5440 dt.20.2.2004. Since no suggestion or objection has been received from any quarter, the proceedings of the meeting dt.3.2.2004 was therefore confirmed.

4. **Selection of Micro Watersheds for the 10 Programme Blocks to be taken up in 1st phase.**

The Commissioner-cum-Secretary informed the members about the selection criteria adopted by the Programme Director, OTELP for selection of these Micro Watersheds and pointed out further that even though a Micro Watershed should ordinarily comprise 2 to 3 villages, yet some of the Micro Watersheds have been constituted taking 7 to 8 villages. The Director, Watershed Mission, however, observed that this might have become necessary since the tribal villages in those blocks are thinly populated as result of which more number of villages are required to be tagged together to get the treatable area of 500 hectares per watershed. Thus, after detailed discussions, the Micro Watersheds selected for 10 designated blocks of the first phase were approved by the Committee except the two Micro Watersheds of Koraput district already covered under IWDP-IV and EAS as well as Srikajola MWS of Kalahandi district as that village is going to be acquired for the Alumina Refinery Project. The Chairman requested the

Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST & SC Development to get these three Watersheds substituted at the earliest.

5. Approval of the selected list of FNGOs:

The Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST & SC Development Dept., informed the Members about the 16 (sixteen) FNGOs selected by a Committee headed by the RDC(SD) in their meeting dated 9.6.2004 which was attended, among others, by the Collectors of the four Phase-I districts. The list of FNGOs so selected was also sent to the Planning & Coordination Dept. and the Watershed Mission alongwith details for verification of their antecedents. The Director, Watershed Mission opined that the three stage scrutiny procedure adopted by the PD, OTELP for selection and short listing of FNGOs for OTELP is on proper norms and that the performance of all the shortlisted FNGOs has been satisfactory except Bharatiya Agency for Rural Development (BARD). The Committee, therefore, approved the selection of 15 FNGOs out of 16 FNGOs shortlisted (i.e. except BARD).

6. Approval of the cost norms for payment to the NGOs working as PIAs.

As regards payments to be made to the NGOs working as PIAs in the watersheds, the Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST&SC Dev. Dept. described the norms approved and adopted by the Orissa Watershed Mission under Agriculture Department as communicated to all quarters vide their letter no.460/DWM dt. 19.2.2004 and proposed that the same norms may be adopted for OTELP as well since it is also vetted by the Finance Dept.. After detailed discussions, it was decided to adopt the cost norms as has been done in case of Orissa Watershed Mission. The details of the cost norms and conditions thus approved for OTELP are as follows.

“ The NGO PIAs will be entitled to get Rs.1,50,000/- per Watershed of 500 ha. of treatable area over a period of 5 years. However, the NGO PIAs shall recruit and engage

professionally qualified personnel as WDT members and their entitlement to this grant would be conditional upon this. NGO PIAs, who do not comply with the above guidelines may be disengaged following appropriate procedures. The NGO PIAs will be given Rs 1,50,000/- per micro watershed project of 500 ha. (i. e. Rs.300/- per hectare) over the entire project period or proportion thereof as the case may be (depending upon the area, number of months they work, certainly not exceeding Rs. 300/- per hectare during the whole period of implementation, even if it spills beyond 5 years) subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The NGO PIA will recruit their own WDT members as per the guidelines and they shall be acceptable to the ITDA/DPMC.
- (ii) If a WDT member recruited by the NGO PIA is found to be wanting in performance at any point of time, the ITDA shall ask the NGO PIA to replace him with appropriate person to be accepted by the ITDA within a period of one month from the date the ITDA intimates the NGO PIA to that effect.
- (iii) The same will apply in case a WDT member leaves the NGO PIA. The NGO PIAs shall sign a MOU with the ITDA that it shall not claim more fund under administrative overheads than the amount prescribed above even if the project implementation period spills beyond five years. A copy of this MOU will be retained at the ITDA and another copy will be transmitted to Office of the P.D., OTELP."

Further, after discussions it was decided that it would be desirable to assign about ten micro watersheds to one NGO so as to make it viable for the NGOs to meet their administrative cost.

7. Presentation to be made before GoI in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs about the up-to-date progress made in programme implementation:

The Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST & SC Development Dept. informed the Committee about her detailed discussions with the Joint Secretary, MoTA and the representatives of DFID and IFAD in separate meetings held at New Delhi on 10.8.2004. However, the Chief Secretary desired that a detailed presentation showing the up-to-date progress made in programme implementation may be made by the Commissioner-cum-

Secretary, ST & SC Development Deptt. and Programme Director, OTELP at the earliest, as per convenience of Secretary, MoTA.

8. Recruitment of professional staff (Subject matter Specialists) for the PSU:

The Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST & SC Development Dept. appraised the Committee about the progress made in this regard. She informed that the selection of Programme Officer (Livelihood & NRM), Programme Officer (Capacity Building) and Programme Officer (Planning & Monitoring) have been completed. The Selection Committee is meeting on 3rd September, 2004 to select a suitable candidate for the post of Finance & Administrative Officer for the PSU. The selection of MIS Manager will also be done before 15th September, 2004 after the Technical Committee constituted for the purpose shortlists the applicants to be called for the interview. This short listing is necessitated as 502 persons have applied for a single post. She also informed that the letters of offer of contractual engagement will be sent to the candidates soon after finalization of the modalities of contractual engagement.

9. Strengthening of ITDAs:

11 categories of posts have been created for 4 ITDAs to be covered under the 1st phase of the programme and consolidated remuneration has been fixed for each category of posts. The Committee after thorough discussions on the proposals contained in item 4 of the Agenda note, approved the same regarding filling up of the posts of Programme Officer (Planning, Monitoring & valuation), Programme Officer (Capacity Building), Forestry & Agricultural Officers as suggested therein. However, to have proper selection, it was decided to constitute a Selection Committee for selection of suitable officers from respective line Departments for posting as Programme Officers (Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation),

Watershed Development Officers, Agriculture Officers and Forestry Officers in the four ITDAs under first phase of the programme. The Chief Secretary requested the Secretaries of Forest & Environment Deptt., Agriculture Deptt. and Revenue Department to suggest a panel of suitable officers to facilitate selection. These officers will be in the rank of Forest Rangers to be posted as forestry officers, in the rank of Junior Agriculture Officers to be posted as Agriculture officers and directly recruited OAS officers of Jr. Class-I/ Class-II to be posted as Programme Officers (Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation) in the four ITDAs. Principal Secretary, Agriculture mentioned that they can spare officers with Agriculture Engineering or Soil Conservation Engineering background with appropriate experience to be posted as Watershed Development officers in these ITDAs. The officers will be selected by the Selection Committee at the earliest out of the panels of names, so that they can be relieved to join in their respective ITDAs by 15th September, 2004. The Members of the Selection Committee are –

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| 1. Principal Secretary to Govt.
Agriculture Dept | Chairman |
| 2. Commissioner-cum-Secretary
Govt.
ST & SC Development Dept. | to : Member |
| 3. Special Secretary to Govt.,
Forest & Environment Dept. | : Member |
| 4. Programme Director, OTELP | : Member-Convener |

10. Approval of the rate of Daily Allowance (DA) to be payable for the Subject Matter Specialists (SMSs) of the PSU proceeding on tour:

The Committee, after comparative analysis of the rates of Daily Allowance etc. prevalent for the employees of IPICOL, APICOL and other Government agencies, decided to adopt the consolidated amount (towards accommodation i.e. boarding, lodging, DA etc.) @ Rs.350/- per day for tours within the State subject to a maximum monthly limit of

Rs.5,000/- in case the total number of tours in a month exceeds 15 days. However, for tours outside the State, the rate of Rs.1500/- per day (consolidated) in case of tours to places like New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Bangalore; and Rs.1200/- for Hyderabad and other State Capitals and Rs.1000/- for other places.

Chief Secretary asked Secretary to ensure that all personnel join their posts by the 15th September, 2004 so that the Project could be formally launched on the 2nd October, 2004 or any other date convenient to Chief Minister.

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

ANNEXURE-I**LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>Name & Designation</u>	
1.	Sri Pratip Kumar Mohanty, IAS, Chief Secretary	Chairman
2.	Sri G.B. Mukherjee, IAS, APC & Principal Secretary to Govt., Forest & Environment Dept.	Member
3.	Sri A.S. Sarangi, IAS, Principal Secretary to Govt. Agriculture Dept.	Member
4.	Sri S.B. Agnihotri, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt., Women & CD Dept.	Member
5.	Sri S.N. Tripathy, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt., Panchayati Raj Dept.	Member
6.	Smt. Alka Panda, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt., ST & SC Development Dept.	Member
7.	Sri P.K. Mishra, IAS, Special Secretary to Govt., Finance Department	Member
8.	Dr. R.V. Singh, IFS, Special Secretary to Govt., P & C Department	Member
9.	Sri P.K. Jena, IAS, Director, Watershed Mission	Member
10.	Sri Ashok Momin, OAS (SAG), Additional Secretary to Govt., Revenue Department	Member
11.	Sri Deepak Mohanty, IFS, Programme Director, OTELP	Member
12.	Prof. S.P. Padhi, Professor of Economics, Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies	Member