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**Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Programme Steering Committee of
OTELP held on 11.05.2006 at 11.00 P.M. in the 2nd Floor Conference
Hall of Orissa Secretariat, Bhubaneswar**

List of Members present is at Annexure – I

2. At the outset, the Programme Director, OTELP welcomed the Chief Secretary and all other members of the committee on behalf of the Commissioner cum Secretary, STSCDD and the Chairperson, OTELP, who was on tour to Assam on Election duty.

3. Confirmation of Proceedings of 2nd meeting of PSC:

The minutes of the 3rd meeting of PSC held on 20.08.2005 has been circulated to all members vide STSCDD letter No. 32418 dtd. 06-09-05. No suggestion or objection has been received from any quarter. The proceedings of the meeting dt.20.08.2005 were therefore confirmed.

4. Review of progress of implementation of OTELP:

With the permission of the Chair, the Programme Director, OTELP made a presentation on the over all status and progress of implementation of the programme.

FNGO engaged	Blocks taken up	Micro Watersheds taken up	Villages covered
12	10 (Gajapati : 3, Koraput : 3, Kalahandi : 2, Kandhamal: 2)	136	396

- The Annual Work Plan and Budget for the year 2005-06 envisaged an outlay of Rs. 1022.47 lakhs under different components, against which an amount of Rs. 1042.39

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lakhs have been spent during 2005-06. The cumulative expenditure under the programme up to end of 2005-06 has been Rs. 11.88 crores, out of which, re-imbursment claim for Rs. 6.46 crores has been sent to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, GoI. The re-imbursment claim for the balance amount will be sent within a week.

- The activities taken up during 2005-06 include Capacity building of primary stakeholders through constitution of different community based organizations and strengthening them with regular hand holding support. Entry Point Activities have been taken up on the basis of identified need of the communities to instill confidence and trust in them and to build up partnership with all the 396 programme villages covered under 136 micro watersheds of phase I Programme areas. Around 744 Self Help Groups including 487 SHGs are being promoted for taking up different livelihood support activities. Continuous trainings on critical issues concerning programme implementation and exposure visits have been conducted in the villages for the members of VDCs/Village Volunteers/SHGs etc. Besides, specific trainings and exposure visits have been undertaken for the programme partners for successful watershed development activities implemented in the state as well as under APRLP, Chhatisgarh Tribal Development programme and also to resource organizations like NIRD, Hyderabad, Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR) , Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, WADI Programme implemented by BAIF Development Research Foundation etc.
- The PSU has entered into agreement with NGOs namely WASSAN, VASUNDHARA and MART engaging them as Resource NGOs to address the capacity building needs of all the stakeholders in regards to implementation of activities under

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watershed development, livelihood through marketing intervention and policy

initiative agenda of the programme.

- Village Development & Livelihood Plans for the micro watersheds are being prepared after a detailed house hold and base line survey with active participation of villagers through PRA technique. These include treatment plan for the watersheds, Education and Literacy Plan, Health, Sanitation & Drinking Water Plan, Vocational & Skill up gradation Plan, Household wise / SHG wise feasible livelihoods Plan with good economic returns, food security Plan and Marketing Plan etc. Different land based NRM activities like raising of nurseries through the SHGs (18.55 lakhs seedlings being raised for the year 2006-07), location specific soil & moisture conservation measures, crop demonstration etc. have been initiated as per the plans so prepared. Under the Participatory Forest management component, 200ha of Reserved Forest area adjoining the micro watersheds have been identified and are taken for treatment as per the microplan duly approved by the concerned D.F.Os.
- Action has been initiated through Vasundhara for identifying the cases relating to land entitlement in the villages. The first set of recommendations from Vasundhara is expected during May, 2006.
- 100 MT of rice and 8MT of pulses have been received from WFP, which have been utilized as part of the labour component under Entry Point Activities, Livelihood Enhancement and Development Initiatives Funds activities.

Chief Secretary observed that the progress under the programme implementation has picked up well. The issues concerning the programme implementation was deliberated by all the members present and the following suggestions were made:

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- The activities of RNGOs are to be critically analysed with respect to the deliverables as agreed upon under the MoU with them.
 - While taking care of the marketing interventions, effort should be made to ensure proper price for the NTFPs like Salseed collected by the communities. In this regard facilitation through organization like TDCC Ltd. May be explored.
 - Wage employment for the villagers coming under Kotagada Sanctuary in Kotagada Block of Kandhamal district should be ensured, as per the agreement of the Govt with the authority of Tarapada Mines.
 - Mechanism of conferring the community right over the plantations raised by the people in the Podu affected areas may be worked out within the existing Govt. rules and provisions.
 - The villagers may be facilitated to improve their terrace farming practice in the hill slopes for better crop management and yield.
 - With regard to providing hand holding support to the farmers for better crop management through association with International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid & Tropical Areas (ICRISAT), Hyderabad, feasibility may be worked out for ICRISAT to have a local base in the programme areas.
 - Saving of food grains through Grain Banks or otherwise should be promoted among the villagers in order to enable them to negotiate the stress conditions and also to help the destitutes/poorest of the poors at the time of need.
 - The matter of survey and settlement of unsurveyed areas and hill slopes (beyond 10%) should be taken up with the Revenue Department to work out a feasible modality.
 - The activities of the NGO like Vasundhara should be closely watched and their continued association with this project reviewed.

5. Annual Work Plan & Budget for 2006-07:

The Annual Work Plan & Budget as approved in the 5th meeting of SLPMC on 28th April, 2006 was presented with a financial outlay of Rs.75.01 crores. The activities include

- Continuity of the activities undertaken during 2005-06
- Strengthening CBOs with support of PRADAN, SVA
- Developing Process Guideline through WASSAN
- Survey & Settlement of unsurveyed areas / hill slopes
- Settlement of land rights as per findings of Vasundhara
- Collaboration with ICRISAT
- Marketing intervention with support from MART
- Developing M&E package
- Up Scaling to Phase II districts
- Utilisation of 6000 MT of foodgrains

The committee approved the AWPB for 2006-07. The monthly plan of action with physical and financial targets should be worked out and the Programme partners should ensure timely implementation and completion of the activities so that the projected targets will be achieved.

6. Preparation for Up scaling to Phase II

The programme activities are to be extended to twenty more blocks in the Phase II with inclusion of three more districts namely Nawarangpur, Malkangiri and Rayagada. The Mid Term Review of the programme is due to be conducted during September, 2006, after which the Phase II areas will be covered under the programme. The issue has been discussed by the SLPMC in their 5th meeting on 28.04.2006 and SLPMC decided

that the schedule of preliminary preparations for upscaling to commence from July. The operations include

- District level sensitisation workshop
- Constitution of DPMCs & Amendment of Bye-laws
- Positioning of Subject Matter Specialists
 - Programme Officer (PME) cum Finance & Admn Officer – O.A.S. (I) Jr
 - Agriculture Officer – Junior Agriculture Officer
 - Watershed Development officer – Asst Engg, Agri / Soil Cons
 - Forestry Officer – Forest Range Officer
 - Programme Officer (Capacity Building) – Contractual
 - MIS Executive – Contractual
- Strengthening infrastructure of ITDAs
- Selection of FNGOs through advertisement
- Selection of micro watersheds
- Selection of RNGOs
- Concept Clarity Workshop – Orientation of staff of ITDAs/FNGOs
- Capacity Building
- Commencement of Programme activities

The Programme Steering Committee deliberated and approved the above schedule of activities. The Programme Support Unit is to initiate proposal requesting the respective departments for nominating suitable officers (preferably women officers) to come on transfer to ST & SC Development Department to function as Subject Matter Specialists in the ITDAs to be included under Phase II.

7. Any other Matter

(a) The Programme Support Unit and the ITDAs have been strengthened with the required number of Subject Matter Specialists against the posts created by the Govt. for the purpose. These posts have been partly filled up by officers on transfer from respective line departments and partly through recruitment of staff on contractual basis. It was suggested by the Programme Director that Govt. might consider for a special allowance for the govt officers posted under OTELP in order to boost their morale and sense of commitment, which are critical for the success of such programme. The Chief Secretary also observed that a programme like OTELP needs special consideration and suggested that a committee comprising the following members will analyse the issue and recommend for sanction of special allowance to the Govt. staff posted under OTELP.

1. Principal Secretary, Forests & Environment
2. Special Secretary, Finance
3. Commissioner cum Secretary, Panchayat Raj
4. Director-cum-Addl. Secretary, ST & SC Development Department

(b) A Video conferencing under the chairmanship of the Agriculture Production Commissioner cum Addl. Chief Secretary will be arranged with the concerned District Collectors for review of the progress of implementation of the programme.

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

LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	
1.	Dr. Subas Pani, IAS Chief Secretary	Chairman
2.	Sri R.N.Bohidar, IAS Agriculture Production Commissioner - cum-Addl. Chief Secretary	Member
3.	Sri S.P.Nanda, IAS Principal Secretary to Govt. Forest & Environment Department	Member
4.	Sri S.N.Tripathy, IAS Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt Panchayat Raj Department	Member
5.	Dr. Mona Sharma, IAS Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt Women & Child Development Department	Member
6.	Sri R.V. Singh, I.F.S. Special Secretary to Govt. Planning & Coordination Department	Member
7.	Sri K.C.Badu, I.A.S. Special Secretary to Govt. Finance Department	Member
8.	Sri G.B.Reddy, IFS Director, Orissa Watershed Development Mission	Member
9.	Sri Gopinath Mohanty, IAS Addl.Secretary to Govt. ST & SC Development Department	Member
10.	Sri Saswat Mishra, IAS Joint Secretary to Govt. Agriculture Department	Member
11.	Sri Biswajit Mishra, OAS Joint Secretary to Govt. ST & SC Development Department	Member
12.	Sri A. Karim Chief General Manager, NABARD	Member
13.	Sri Babji Vallapatla Member, Small Industries Development Bank of India	Member
14.	Sri Deepak Mohanty, IFS Programme Director, OTELP	Member