

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) held on 23rd April, 2010 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

The 29th meeting of the EC of NHM was held under the chairmanship of Shri P. K. Basu, Secretary (A&C) at 12.00 noon on 23.4.2010 to consider the Annual Action Plans (AAP) of the State Horticulture Missions (SHMs) for implementation during 2010-11. The list of participants is given at Annexure.

At the outset, Shri Atanu Purkayastha, Joint Secretary & Mission Director (NHM) welcomed the Chairman and the Members of the EC. He informed that the AAPs of the States had been examined as per the provisions and norms of the revised scheme and discussed with the SHM representatives in meetings held on 10th March, 11th March, 15th March, 16th March and 16th April, 2010. Based on the discussions, a final shape has been given to the AAPs of 17 States. While recommending the outlay for different components, past performance of the States has been kept in view. The AAPs are now placed before the Executive Committee of NHM for consideration and approval.

Thereafter, the present status of horticulture development in different States in terms of area, production and productivity of various horticultural crops was discussed with reference to physical progress and utilization of funds under NHM during the last five years.

Agenda Item No.1: Approval of AAP 2010-11

The AAPs in respect of 17 states were taken up for consideration. The Committee deliberated upon the individual AAPs and approved the State wise outlay for 2010-11 as per details given below:

S. No.	Name of State	Outlay including State share (Rupees in Crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	120+3.75
2.	Bihar	45
3.	Chhattisgarh	115
4.	Goa	5
5.	Gujarat	74
6.	Haryana	81
7.	Jharkhand	50
8.	Karnataka	125+7
9.	Kerala	70+8
10.	Madhya Pradesh	90
11.	Maharashtra	150
12.	Orissa	65
13.	Punjab	50
14.	Rajasthan	70
15.	Tamil Nadu	126+4
16.	Uttar Pradesh	121+4
17.	West Bengal	50+1.88
	Total States	1435.63
	(+) figures are of accrued interest	

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While approving the AAP, the following observations were made by the Chairman:

1. States having huge unspent balances should first utilize the unspent balances. The Action Plans should factor the availability of funds vis-à-vis capability of SHM to spend the allocated funds during 2010-11.
2. States should be encouraged to enhance productivity of the crops being taken under the programme.
3. The progress of rejuvenation component has not been satisfactory. This is a critical activity to improve the productivity of existing old and senile orchards. Therefore, there is need to identify gaps and revise the existing strategy for achieving the desired results. A proper mechanism needs to be devised to disseminate technology and train farmers on rejuvenation technology. Chief Consultants under NHM should visit different States and discuss this matter with the SHM, officials and farmers. Exposure visit of farmers should be organised to those institutes/places where rejuvenation technology has been developed and also adopted by the farmers.
4. More thrust needs to be given to protected cultivation, horticulture mechanization and post harvest management, rather than on area expansion.
5. Special emphasis needs to be given to protected cultivation of vegetables, especially near major consumption centres/metros.
6. Target for area expansion should be fixed after taking into account past achievement and capability.
7. Revision in targets & outlays for different components, if required, may be carried out in consultation with the SHMs. In case of Bihar, target for area expansion should be finalised in consultation with State Mission Director.

Dr. Kirti Singh, Member mentioned that rejuvenation is a highly technical activity and required different measures for different fruits. Therefore, farmers need to be extensively trained to adopt rejuvenation programme. He also expressed the need for an impact assessment study of the NHM Scheme. Shri A. S. Lamba, Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor mentioned that a Mid Term evaluation study of NHM had already been conducted and the NHM Scheme had been revised on the basis of its recommendations. It was decided that the salient findings of the Report will be circulated to the Members.

Dr. Gorakh Singh, Horticulture Commissioner mentioned that rejuvenation techniques for most of the fruit crops have been standardized by the ICAR Institutes and National Research Centres.

Prof. Piyush Kumar Sinha, Member mentioned that States could be allowed to engage some agencies if they are unable to meet the targets on critical components, due to paucity of staff.

Prof. S. K Roy, Member mentioned that thrust needs to be given to promote PHM to reduce losses.

AS & FA observed that the perception of post harvest losses to the tune of 25-30% appears to be too high and there is need to conduct proper study on this matter. Dr. H. V. L. Bathla, Chief Consultant (NHM) informed that the Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana has

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already undertaken a study on this issue and their report is likely to be submitted shortly.

Dr. S. Rajan, ADG (Hort.), ICAR suggested the need for feed back on the bottlenecks in implementing NHM. In case there are any technical bottlenecks, this could be sorted out with the help of ICAR Institutes.

Shri C. P. Appanna, General Manager, NABARD mentioned the need for providing compensation for cutting of trees under rejuvenation, as being done for coconut to encourage farmers to adopt this technology.

Agenda Item No. 2: Modalities for approving inter component changes in AAP.

The Committee approved the proposal of allowing inter component changes in the AAPs within the overall approved outlay at the level of Joint Secretary (NHM). In case the proposed changes/variations exceed the approved outlay for the States, the proposals will have to be approved by the Secretary (A&C), Chairman of EC.

Agenda Item No. 3: Revised Guidelines for NHM Scheme.

The Members of the EC took note of the revised guidelines for NHM Scheme and Terminal Market Complex to be implemented from 2010-11.

Agenda Item No. 4: Cold Storage Standards.

The Members of the EC took note of the Technical Standards for cold storages brought out by the National Horticulture Board to encourage the deployment of modern energy efficient technologies. These standards would become applicable under NHM scheme with effect from 2010-11.

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

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) OF NHM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SECRETARY (A&C) HELD ON 23RD APRIL, 2010

Sl No	Name & Designation	Full Office Address	Phone/Fax / E-Mail
	Members		
1	Shri P. K. Basu, Secretary (A&C)	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation(DAC)	23388444
2	Shri A. S. Lamba, AS & FA	DAC	23389348
3	Shri Atanu Purkayastha, JS(NHM)	DAC	23381305 jsnhm.agri@nic.in
4	Dr. Gorakh Singh, Horticulture Commissioner	DAC	23381012
5	Shri Bijay Kumar, MD, NHB	NHB, Gurgaon	0124-2342992
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9	Dr. S. Rajan, Assistant Director General (Hort.), ICAR	KAB II Pusa Campus, ICAR, New Delhi	25846847 Mail- srajan@icar.org.in
10	Shri C. P. Appanna, GM,	NABARD (Hort), Mumbai	
11	Dr. K. Gopi Krishna, Scientist-C	Seed Division, DST Room I/4 Hall-I Technology Bhawan, DST, New Delhi- 110016	011-26590298,mail- kongagopikrishna@yahoo.com
12	Shri S. K. Batra, Senior Consultant	M/o Panchayati Raj, Room No. 104, Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi	batrasurinder@hotmail.com
13	Shri B. B. Bhagat , US(Marketing)	DAC	23383980

	In Attendance		
14	Shri Shailendra Kumar, Director (NHM)	DAC	23389346 shailen.kumar@nic.in
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18	Dr. Lily Mitra, Deputy Commissioner (MI)	DAC	23070674
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21	Shri R. R. Sharma, STA(NHM)	DAC	
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24	Shri Jose C. Samuel , Chief Consultant(NHM)	DAC	krishijose@nic.in
25	Shri Suresh Rawat, Media Consultant(NHM)	DAC	
26	Shri P. S. Kholi, Resource Person(NHM)	DAC	