F.No.2/1/2017-M&I/Livelihood
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Livelihood Division

R.No. 218-'B' Wing,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 9.12.2017

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of the meeting for appraisal/approval of Standing Finance Committee(SFC) for continuation of Central Sector Scheme titled ‘Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce’ beyond XIIth Five Year Plan for the balance period of XIVth Finance Commission i.e. years 2017-18 to 2019-20 held on 6th and 7th December, 2017.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the SFC meeting held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Tribal Affairs) on 6th & 7th December, 2017 on the above mentioned subject and to enclose a copy of minutes of the said meeting for information and action as deemed appropriate please.

End: As above

(K. Chandra Sekar)
Under Secretary to the Govt.of India
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To

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110001.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, North Block, New Delhi.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, L-Block, Opp Haldiram, Connaught Circus, Barakhamba, New Delhi- 110001.
6. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi.
7. Secretary (IPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. Member Secretary, Niti Aayog, Sansad Marg Area, New Delhi, Delhi 110001.
9. The Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, 6th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi - 110003.
10. Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, Room No. 120, First floor, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi- 110001.
12. The CMD, NSTFDC, NBCC Tower, Bhikaji Cama Place, R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110066

Copy to:

1. PPS to Hon’ble MTA, Hon’ble MoS(TA-JSB), Hon’ble MOS(TA-SB)
2. PPS to Secretary (TA), Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
3. PS to JS&FA, MoTA, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. PS to JS(A), Shasti Bhavan, New Delhi
5. PS to JS(VKT), Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi
6. Director (IFD), Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
7. Director, NIC, MoTA.
Minutes of meeting for appraisal/approval of Standing Finance Committee (SFC) for continuation of Central Sector Scheme ‘Institutional Support for Development & Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce’ beyond XIIth Five Year Plan for the period 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020

Meeting for appraisal/approval of Standing Finance Committee (SFC) for continuation of Central Sector Scheme ‘Institutional Support for Development & Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce’ beyond XIIth Five Year Plan for the period 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 was held on 6th & 7th December 2017 in Conference Hall of this Ministry, Room No.734-735, ‘A’ Wing, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA).

The list of officials who participated in the meeting on both days is annexed.

2. The meeting started with Shri Vinod Kumar Tiwari, Joint Secretary (Programme Division), MoTA welcoming the participants and acknowledging the inputs given by various participating Ministries/Departments/Organizations, followed by a presentation which, in brief, explained the genesis of the scheme, its performance over the years till date quantum of funds spent, outcomes, further activities proposed and projection of funds required for continuance of the scheme over the period of three years. The general comments following the presentation were:

➤ Training programme be made more intensive with tie-ups with institutions like NIFT, NID, etc. to ensure that the beneficiaries be professionally equipped, gainfully employed and reach economic independence.

➤ Data relating to the locations of major markets for Minor Forest Produce as also in respect of primary, secondary and terminal markets needs to be updated regularly.

3. Comments of various participating members are as under:

NITI Aayog: Supports the proposal; comments had been furnished during the inter-ministerial consultations, which have been duly incorporated in the final SFC Memorandum.
M/o Agriculture: Supports the proposal. Suggested setting up of structured markets in tribal areas on the lines of Agriculture Markets through which tribal products can be sold.

Deptt. of Industrial Policy & Promotion: Supports the proposal. Suggested that Geographical Indicator certification be taken to improve marketability of tribal products/produce.

4. The Managing Director, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) briefed the Committee on the role and functions of TRIFED and how it is involved at various steps in procuring, storing, upgrading and disposal of the tribal produce/products. He also explained that success stories will be documented. In order to upscale marketing and sales, TRIFED has tied up with Amazon.com and Snapdeal.com and these portals will be procuring items from TRIFED marketing/Sales wing namely “Tribes India” only and not from any other open market supplier.

5. The Joint Secretary & Financial Adviser, MoTA observed that while there is a doubling in the projected expenditure and TRIFED has been the center for discussions, the STDCCs are not much talked about. They are neither submitting proposals for utilizing the budget available under the scheme nor furnishing utilization certificates regularly in respect of previous/old releases by the ministry. She also observed that the salary component of the proposed budget, at 75%, was very high. In view of this, TRIFED should not go in for the projected increases, but should work within the budget allocated.

6. The Joint Secretary (Administration), MoTA suggested that a proper inventory management be developed so that items can be moved about between different outlets as per demand. Also, skill of tribal artisans should be upgraded and new technology be adopted which will reduce costs, increase outputs making the products cost effective, and this, in turn will increase sales and help artisans at the same time. The Ministry should position itself as “friends of tribes” and ensure that at least 75-80% of the sale proceeds go to the tribal artisans. Bar Codes/QR Codes should also be devised which will indicate the name of the artisan, address.

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etc. so that due credit is given to them. They could also have "Artisan's Corner" in major outlets.

7.1. Secretary, Tribal Affairs observed that the right products were not being procured or stationed at the right places and the finished products were also not appealing. She also wanted to know the status of stocks that were procured over the last three years and that still remain in TRIFED's inventory. TRIFED was directed to make efforts to dispose of, within three months, the stock that has been piled-up with TRIFED for two years or more. For the disposal of this old stock, TRIFED should draw up a special pricing policy and conduct special drives.

7.2. She also observed that TRIFED should invest in Research & Development in partnership with reputed institutions. It should also professionally assess the market requirement and diversify according to the market needs rather than restrict its procurement to metal sculptures and sarees which it has in its stock in abundance.

7.3. It was also decided that the proposals for 2018-19 should be submitted by the State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (STDCCs) to the Ministry by the end of February, 2018.

8. Committee recommended continuation of the scheme for the remaining period of 14th Finance Commission.

9. The year-wise funds recommended by the Committee for the Scheme are as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Scheme</th>
<th>Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products / Produce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIFED</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STDCCs</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>66.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ON 06.12.2017

Ministry OF Tribal Affairs:
- Ms. Leena Nair, Secretary --- in Chair
- Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Joint Secretary (Admn.).
- Shri Vinod Kumar Tiwari, Joint Secretary (Programme Division).
- Shri Roopak Chaudhuri, Deputy Secretary (Livelihood)

TRIFED:
- Shri Pravir Krishna, Managing Director
- Smt. Sangeeta Mahendra, Executive Director
- Shri Amit Bhatnagar, Deputy General Manager
- Shri Naresh kr. Bhugra, Assistant Manager

OTHERs
- Shri Arun Kumar, Director, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare
- Shri R.J. Kachhap, AGM(Projects & CSR), NSTFDC
- Dr. S.B. Muniraju, S.R.O, NITI Aayog
- Dr. Ashish Kumar, Senior Development Officer, DIPP
- Sh. K.S. Panchpal, Deputy Secretary, INAPR

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ON 07.12.2017

Ministry OF Tribal Affairs:
- Ms. Leena Nair, Secretary --- in Chair
- Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Joint Secretary (Admn.).
- Shri Vinod Kumar Tiwari, Joint Secretary (Programme Division).
- Shri Roopak Chaudhuri, Deputy Secretary (Livelihood)

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