

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the National Food Security Mission Executing Committee (NFSMEC) held on 12.9.2012 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (A&C)

- 1) Tenth meeting of National Food Security Mission Executing Committee (NFSMEC) was held on 12.09.2012 at 3.00 PM under the Chairmanship of Secretary (A&C) at Committee Room No. 1 of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi. List of participants is appended.
- 2) Welcoming the participants, Joint Secretary (Crops) and Mission Director (NFSM) briefed the committee about the agenda and the structure of the meeting.
- 3) Thereafter, agenda items were taken up for discussion and decisions.

A. Approval of the minutes of the Ninth NFSMEC Meeting

- 4) Since no comments had been received from any member regarding the minutes of the ninth meeting held on 16th May, 2012, the minutes were approved.

B. Review of compliance of action points of Ninth NFSMEC Meeting

- 5) Compliance of action points were noted with following observations:
 - a) States other than Assam, Bihar, Gujarat and Karnataka should be asked to expedite the yield gap analysis and impact of interventions in poor performing districts.
 - b) A separate agenda item should be kept in the next meeting for review of status of Concurrent Evaluation.
 - c) J&K should submit a formal proposal to DRR, Hyderabad for organizing the training of Officers and farmers on SRI.

C. Ex post-facto approval

- 6) Revised State Action Plans for 2011-12 under NFSM- Rice were approved for the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, J&K, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim and Uttarakhand; under NFSM-Wheat for the States of Bihar, J&K and Uttarakhand and under NFSM- Pulses for Bihar.
- 7) In accordance with the decision of the Empowered Group of Ministers on Drought, ex post facto approval was given for enhancement of Seed distribution subsidy for Kharif crops.

D. New Approvals

- i) Relaxation in age limit of seeds of Rice, Wheat and Pulses**
- 8) The proposal was approved for the current year after detailed discussion. It was further decided that a separate proposal should be prepared by

the Crops Division to introduce differential subsidy rates to incentivize adoption of new varieties by farmers with higher subsidy.

- 9) Secretary (A&C) observed that the States should draw their concrete seed rolling plan and monitor the seed chain more effectively. He said that the practice of tendering the required quantity of seeds every year should be replaced by advance planning through long term contracts and placement of orders with the seed producers, whether in private or in public sector.

ii) Relaxation in size of cluster demonstrations for hill States

- 10) Considering the difficult terrain in the hilly States where it would not be feasible to get contiguous compact block of 100 hectares, the proposal for reducing the cluster size to 10 hectares as in the case of North Eastern States was approved.

iii) Permission to utilize Truthfully Labeled (TL) paddy seed

- 11) Considering that the TL paddy seed was produced under the supervision of the plant breeder, the proposal of Government of Tamil Nadu was approved.

iv) Additional allocation of Rs. 100 crores available under NFSM – Pulses

- 12) To give further impetus to pulses promotion, proposal to utilize savings accruing primarily due to non implementation of coarse cereals component this year, was approved for taking up additional A3P units during Rabi and Summer 2012-13.

v) Impact evaluation of NFSM for 11th Plan

- 13) Proposal to get the impact evaluation of NFSM done through an independent agency was approved with the observation that the process of appointment of the agency should be expedited and the study completed in time to meet the deadline fixed by Planning Commission in this regard.

E. Review of the implementation in Kharif and planning for Rabi

- 14) States having large Rabi areas under Wheat, Pulses and Rice crops presented a review of implementation of NFSM as also coverage of Kharif crops, preparedness for Rabi/Summer 2012-13. Salient State wise points emerging from discussions are given below.

- 15) **Bihar:** Due to prolonged dry spell in some parts of the State, a shortfall in crop sown area, paddy (9%) and pulses (50%) was estimated as compared to that of previous year. Kharif pulses area in the State was relatively very small and the shortfall was expected to be covered by additional area coverage in the contingency plan adopted by the State

which included Arhar, Urad, Maize and Toria crops. Due to late season rains, State was expecting normal coverage under wheat, maize and pulses during Rabi season and in fact target of boro paddy was enhanced from 1 lakh ha to 2 lakh ha.

- 16) **Haryana:** Deficient rainfall (-70%) up to 31st, July, 2012 resulted in significant shortfall under pearl millet crop. There was marginal shortfall of about 1 lakh ha under rice as well. Rabi crop season was expected to be normal with plans for doubling the area under summer moong from an area of 59000 ha covered under moong during summer-2012 to about 1 lakh ha planned for summer 2013. The strategy for Rabi – 2012-13 would include a major focus on application of micro-nutrient and 100% seed treatment. State requested for release of funds under A3P as the requisite UC was submitted in the prescribed format. It was clarified to the State Government that gypsum subsidy was brought at par at 750/- per hectare in both the wheat and the pulses components. As regards the application of micro-nutrient, it was observed by Dr. R.K. Gupta, Consultant (NFSM) that a recent study undertaken by Directorate of Millets Development, Jaipur in Rohtak and Yamuna Nagar Districts revealed that hardly 1% area of these districts is deficient in zinc. Therefore, State should consult the experts of Hisar Agriculture University and revisit the strategy on promotion of micro nutrients accordingly.
- 17) **Madhya Pradesh:** Though the rainfall was little delayed but good rainfall resulted in 111% coverage of normal crop area during Kharif-2012. Higher Rabi area coverage was expected under wheat and gram during 2012-13. Progress of expenditure under NFSM was reported to be low but expected to rise from September onwards as the physical targets had been achieved. Dr. J.P. Tandon, Member of the Committee stressed for replacement of old ruling varieties of wheat - C-306 and Lok-I, with new HI-1531 (Harsita) and MP-3288 varieties, which were good substitutes, under restricted irrigation.
- 18) **Maharashtra:** Area from sorghum, pearl millet, moong and urad was diverted to soybean and cotton in the State during Kharif-2012. However, normal coverage was reported under paddy as there were good rains in the paddy growing areas of the State. While there was an overall yield gain of about 9% up to 2011-12 under NFSM-Rice over base year 2006-07, there was little yield gain under NFSM-Wheat. Area under wheat had also declined during 2011-12 as area under gram was increasing in its place. Much higher yield gains of >60% were reported in case of moong and urad during 2011-12, which was likely to decline during Kharif-2012 due to adverse weather situation. Committed expenditure of about 80% was reported according to the physical achievements already made. State

requested for separate demonstration of rice and wheat @ Rs. 5000/ha. in view of separate areas of rice and wheat. State also requested for implementation of additional pulse programme during Rabi 2012-13 for the funds received for Kharif 2012. A big Lathyrus development program was planned by the State in Vidarbha region in close association with ICARDA.

- 19) **Punjab:** No adverse impact of deficient rainfall on rice production was reported by the State Mission Director NFSM. Rather higher production of rice was expected in the State during Kharif-2012 over Kharif-2011 due to lesser days of cloud cover. It was reported that there was 21% yield gain in wheat over base year of 2006-07. On preparedness for ensuing Rabi season, it was reported that there was adequate availability of certified seeds of 13.5 lakh qtl. as against the requirement of 11.66 lakh qtl. Strategy for Rabi – 2012-13 included total replacement of PBW-343, a susceptible variety, with PBW-644 in semi-hill area of *Kandy* region to arrest the incidence of yellow rust. Dr. J.P. Tandon, Member of Committee emphasized recently revised recommendations on wheat plantation by ICAR where it was suggested that the inter plant space should be reduced from 22 to 18 cm, which could provide additional yield gain of 5%. He also suggested that a campaign should be undertaken by the State on green manuring with Dhaincha for soil health management in the rice-wheat cropping system.
- 20) **Rajasthan:** Principal Secretary, Agriculture, informed that weak monsoon prevailed up to mid August which adversely impacted Kharif coverage in the State, particularly in Western Rajasthan where hardly 13% area was sown in July and more than 55% was sown after mid August. Pearl millet and pulses crops including guar were impacted. Compared to previous year, an overall sown area shortfall of about 5 lakh ha. in pulses and more than 15 lakh ha in pearl millet was estimated. However, late season rains in August and September would result in better coverage and productivity of wheat and gram during Rabi in the State. As regards the impact of NFSM, a mixed trend of higher productivity of gram and wheat over base year was indicated. Shortage of gram seed for the coming Rabi season was also stated as a concern. About the submission of online progress, it was assured that by 31st October, 2012, District wise online progress would be completed. He also endorsed the views on differential subsidy depending on age of certified seed. State requested for expeditious disposal of their pending proposals on clearance of pending liabilities towards farm implements supplied under NFSM, seed supplied by SFCI, Expenditure incurred under Mass media activities and cost of additional 20 units of A3P organized during 2011-12. Dr. J.P. Tandon, Member of the Committee advised the State to

indent breeder seeds of new varieties of wheat like HI-1531 (Harsita), HI-1544 and HD-3043 and HD -9267, recommended for the State.

- 21) **Uttar Pradesh:** Shortfall of about 3 lakh ha. was reported under rice during Kharif-2012. Majority of this area had been diverted to bajra. Due to some administrative delay, no physical progress was made under supply of micro-nutrients this year. A specific request was made by the State to allow them for diversion of funds for supply of seed drill which was in large demand under NFSM. It was clarified that State Food Security Mission Executive Committee was empowered to make inter-component changes based on the local needs to the extent of 20% of total allocations for NFSM –Rice, Wheat and Pulses. Dr. J.P. Tandon, Member of the Committee observed that there was a large area still under broadcast cultivation of wheat. Additional demand, if any of seed drill should be supported by the Department. However, multi-crop planter should be promoted with higher subsidy. He also suggested a number of new varieties like HD-4043 for restricted irrigation, HD-2985 for late sown condition and HI-1531 (Harsita), MP-2388 and HI-1544 for Bundelkhand Region.
- 22) **West Bengal:** Due to aberrant monsoon this year, coverage of paddy was 98% of normal area (41.3 lakh ha.) up to end of August, 2012. The contingency plan for coverage of remaining area included sowing of toria variety like PT-303, Maize and pulses. The State was largely depending on NSC for supply of certified seeds. The State was advised to enter into a long term arrangement with the seed producers for a period of at least three years whether through NSC or otherwise.
- 23) **Jharkhand:** Director of Agriculture, Jharkhand reported shortage of gram seed. He also shared that it was getting difficult to hire technical staff of PMT with the prescribed qualification on contractual basis. It was suggested to the State to consider keeping a panel of approved names for immediate replacement whenever the vacancy arose.
- 24) **Uttarakhand:** The representative of Uttarakhand echoed Jharkhand on the issue on appointment of PMTs. He also sought clarification about the changes within the approved demonstration component so as to increase the cost of hybrid rice seeds. He further informed that despite SC farmers comprising only 8% of the total land holdings, 27 % budgetary allocation was made under this component under NFSM. It was clarified by Crops Division that the allocations to different States under SC component would be reviewed in consultation with IFD for issuing revised orders.
- 25) **Gujarat:** Director of Agriculture, Gujarat informed that State Government having banned the engagement of retired personnel, it was

getting difficult to strengthen the PMT both at State and District levels. He also supported the proposal of age relaxation for seed promotion under NFSM by quoting an example of Gurjari variety of rice which was old but was popular in the State.

F. Other observations:

- 26) While complimenting the States on their presentations, Dr. Mrutyunjay, Member of NFSMEC suggested that PMTs both at National and State level should undertake more detailed analysis to find out the factors whether the yield gains were a contribution of rainfall or of good farm management, technical and administrative interventions promoted under NFSM. He felt that specific findings from the detailed study could inform better design of the mission in the 12th Plan.
- 27) Dr. Tandon also emphasized on the need to transmit the results of varietal performance under NFSM interventions so that only the better varieties are multiplied and breeder seeds of unsuitable varieties are not identified.
- 28) The representative of Planning Commission suggested that some mechanism should be devised to actively introduce and promote new varieties released after a lot of research work and investment of public funds in plant breeding. She suggested that perhaps a minimum quantity of breeder seeds should be indented by the DAC once a variety was released. Initially the foundation and certified seed of new varieties could be produced by the Central Agencies and seed so produced could be allocated to the concerned States
- 29) **DDG (CS), ICAR**, in his concluding remarks also complimented the good presentations and deliberations. He suggested that the each State should develop a crop calendar, which should include a column on last five years average of area, production and yield of the crops and area diversified to other crops. Instead of rice or wheat, if other crops were coming up, it would help in preparation of contingency planning for the State.

G. Action Points

- 30) State wise list of heat tolerant varieties of wheat and gram to be obtained from ICAR and communicated to all the States (**Action : NFSM Cell DAC**)
- 31) Provisions relating to allocation of funds under SC component to be examined and necessary clarification/relaxation , if any, communicated to the States (**Action : CA-V unit, Crops Division, DAC**)

- 32) Release of funds under A3P to Haryana State for the current year **(Action : CA-V unit, Crops Division, DAC)**
- 33) Clarification on uniform incentive of Rs. 750/ha on application of gypsum under NFSM-Wheat and NFSM-Pulses **(Action : NFSM-Cell DAC).**
- 34) State to submit indents for breeder seeds of HI-1531 (Harsita) and MP-3288 of wheat varieties **(Action: Department of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh).**
- 35) State to submit indents for new varieties of wheat like HI-1531 (Harsita), HI-1544 and HD-3043 and HD -9267. **(Action: Department of Agriculture, Rajasthan)**
- 36) State to submit indents for new varieties of wheat like HD-2985, HI-1531 (Harsita), HI-1544 and MP-2388. **(Action: Department of Agriculture, Uttar Pradesh)**
- 37) Request of Maharashtra for allowing separate demonstration of rice and wheat @ Rs. 5000/ha. in view of separate areas of rice and wheat to be examined **(Action: NFSM Cell).**
- 38) Request of Maharashtra to allow implementation of additional pulse programme during Rabi 2012-13 instead of Kharif-2012 to be examined **(Action: NFSM Cell).**
- 39) Proposal to provide additional funds to clear pending liabilities of Rajasthan towards farms implements, seed supplied by SFCI, expenditure incurred under Mass media activities and cost of additional 20 units of A3P organized during 2011-12 to be examined **(Action: CA-V Unit/NFSM Cell)**

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Tenth Meeting of the National Food Security Mission Executive Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (A&C) held on 12.9.2012 at NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi.

List of Participants

1. Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Secretary (A&C), DAC, New Delhi - Chairman
2. Shri Satish B. Agnihotri, Addl. Secretary & FA, DAC, New Delhi
3. Dr. S.K. Dutta, DDG (CS), ICAR, New Delhi
4. Shri Mukesh Khullar, Joint Secretary (Crops), DAC, New Delhi
5. Shri Narendra Bhushan, Joint Secretary (INM & M&T), DAC, New Delhi
6. Shri Shyam Lal Goyal, Joint Secretary, Department of fertilizers, Room No. 111-B, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. Shri Pradeep Kumar, Commissioner PR, Ministry of Water Resources, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
8. Dr. J.P. Mishra, OSD to Agriculture Commissioner, DAC, New Delhi.
9. Dr. J.P. Tandon, Ex. ADG (F & FC) ICAR, A-72, Sector-14, Noida-201301.
10. Dr. Mruthyunjaya, Formerly National Director, NAIP (ICAR), A-701, Vasundhara Apartments, plot 16, sector-6, Dwarka, New Delhi.
11. Dr. Vandana Dwivedi, Joint Advisor (Agri), Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi
12. Shri B.S. Detha, Commissioner Agriculture, Rajasthan, Pant Krishi Bhawan, Secretariat, Jaipur.
13. Shri D.B. Gupta, Principal Secretary, Agriculture, Govt. of Rajasthan, Secretariat, Jaipur.
14. Dr. B.R. Shah, Director (Agriculture), Krishi Bhawan, Sector 10/A, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
15. Dr. K.V. Sarvesh, Director of Agriculture, Shashdrai Road, Bangalore-500001.
16. Shri Anant Narayanrao Jawale, Director of Agriculture (Extension & Training) C/O- Commissionerate of Agriculture ,Govt. of Maharashtra, Pune.
17. Shri Arvinder Singh, Director of Agriculture, Room No. 226, New Secretariat, Patna, Bihar.
18. Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, Director of Agriculture, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
19. Shri R.S. Gopalan, Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Odisha, Ground floor, Heads of the Dept. Building, Behind the secretariat, Building, Bhubaneswar-751001
20. Dr. P. Bhattacharya Directorate of Agriculture, West Bengal, Writers' Buildings, Kolkata.

21. Shri Jata Shankar Choudhary, State Mission Director, NFSM, Campus of Krishi Bhawan, SAMETI Office, Kanke Road, Ranchi.
22. Shri Gurdial Singh, Mission Director (NFSM) -cum Joint Director Agriculture, Directorate of Agriculture, S.C.O. 85-88, sector 34-A, Chandigarh.
23. Shri R. Gnanaoli, Addl. Director (GOI Schemes), Commissionerate of Agriculture, Chepauk, Chennai-5.
24. Shri Laxmi Shanker Katiyar, Joint Director of Agriculture (Pulses), Madan Mohan Malviya Marg, Krishi Bhawan Lucknow (U.P).
25. Shri Khazan Chandra Pathak, Joint Director (Planning & Monitoring), Directorate of Agriculture Nanda ki Chawki, Prem Nagar, Dehradun.
26. Dr. T.K. Prabhakara Setty, State Consultant (NFSM), Directorate of Agriculture, Bangalore, Karnataka-560001.
27. Dr. O.P. Sharma, Senior Scientist (P.P.), NCIPM,L.B.S., Building, IARI, Pusa, New Delhi-110012
28. Dr. Someshwar Bhagat, Senior Scientist (Plant pathology), NCIPM, L.B.S., Building, IARI, Pusa New Delhi-110012.
29. Dr. K. Krishnappa, Resident Project Scientist, ICRISAT, Department of Agriculture, Seshadri Road, Bangalore-560001
30. Dr. A. Barik, Addl. Commr. (Crops), DAC, New Delhi.
31. Dr. J.P.Singh, Director (Millet), DAC, New Delhi
32. Shri C.Y. Barapatre, Asstt. Commr. (NFSM), DAC, New Delhi.
33. Dr. M.N. Singh, Joint Director, NFSM Cell, DAC, New Delhi
34. Shri Hari P. Babtiwale, Tech. Officer, (NFSM), Commissionerate of Agriculture, Govt. of Maharashtra, Pune.
35. Dr. D.V. Singh National Consultant (Plant Protection) NSC, New Delhi
36. Shri Satya Vir Singh, Consultant (Agronomy), NSC, New Delhi-110012
37. Shri Surendra Kumar Dalal, Consultant (Agril. Extension), New Delhi.
38. Dr. Shamsheer Singh National consultant (F.M.) New Delhi.
39. Dr. R.K. Gupta, National Consultant, New Delhi-110012
40. Dr. B.B. Singh National Consultant (Plant Breeding), New Delhi.
41. Shri A.K.Khanna, Programme Manager, NFSM
42. Dr.Suresh Yadav, STA(Crops), NFSM Cell
43. Shri Suraj Prakash, Programmer
44. Shri Bhanu Joshi, Programmer