

**Proceedings of the Eighth Meeting of the General Council of National Food Security Mission (NFSMGC) held on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 at New Delhi**

1. Eighth Meeting of National Food Security Mission General Council (NFSMGC) was held on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 in Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Hall, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The list of participants is annexed.
3. Shri Mukesh Khullar, Joint Secretary (Crops) & Mission Director (NFSM) welcomed the participants. Thereafter, the items on the agenda were taken up for discussion.
4. **Approval of the minutes of Seventh meeting of NFSMGC:** The minutes were confirmed.
5. **Review of compliance of Action points of Seventh meeting:** NFSMGC reviewed & noted the compliance of action points arising out of the decisions taken in 7<sup>th</sup> NFSMGC meeting.
6. **Ex Post Facto approvals to the following proposals were accorded**
  - Relaxation of age criteria for seed distribution under NFSM-Rice, Wheat and Pulses for 2012-13
  - Revision in subsidy rates on application of gypsum to bring about parity under NFSM-Wheat and Pulses
  - Reduction in size of cluster demonstrations of Rice and Wheat in Hill States
  - Increase in Seed Subsidy for Rice, Wheat and Pulses in drought affected areas for 2012-13 as per the order of EGoM on Drought.
  - Approval for use of TL Seeds of Rice in Tamil Nadu produced under scientific supervision
  - Programme on Additional Area Coverage of Pulses during Rabi/Summer 2012 with a total allocation of Rs. 100.00 crores.
  - Proposal for incurring expenditure on Krishi Karman Awards for the year 2011-12
7. Joint Secretary (Crops) & Mission Director (NFSM) made a presentation on "Status of Review of NFSM". He informed that production targets of rice, wheat and pulses crops kept for the Mission during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan were exceeded both in terms of production in the terminal year of the Plan against the base year and also in terms of the increase in the normal or average production of rice, wheat and pulses during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan against the average production in the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan. He said almost the entire plan outlay that had been budgeted for the Mission during 11<sup>th</sup> Plan had been utilised. The pace of expenditure was sought to be increased with higher allocation and releases in 2012-13, the first year of the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan. The

Planning Commission had communicated an outlay of Rs.12350 crores for the Mission for the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan. Detailed note for consideration of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) had been prepared accordingly envisaging promotion of rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals, cotton, jute and sugarcane crops. Separate provision for fodder crops had been omitted as the same was covered under National Livestock Mission. However, dual purpose (Food and Fodder) coarse cereals would continue to be supported under the National Food Security Mission. Other salient features of the Mission in 12<sup>th</sup> Plan were also presented along with strategies for capacity enhancement, institutional development and deepening the reach of its program.

8. Principal Adviser sought information on the specific contribution of NFSM districts in overall food grain production. It was clarified that NFSM provided the fulcrum for all other crop promotion programs hence a large role in the overall increase in foodgrains production was attributed to NFSM initiatives also with other price policy measures. In the document NFSM Retrospect and Prospect, it had been brought out that two-thirds of the NFSM Districts had shown increased productivity ranging from 5% to more than 20%. On average, the contribution of NFSM districts had increased the total foodgrains production in the country about 5%.
9. Secretary (A&C) suggested that an exercise be carried out to ascertain by some districts were responding well and others not so well to technologies promoted under the Mission. He suggested that focus group discussions be held with respect to major laggard Districts to identify specific issues that were constraining increase in productivity. He also suggested review of Districts included under NFSM, since many of them would now be ineligible having crossed the average State productivity.
10. Secretary (A&C) also expressed concern over the relatively slow pace of release of Pulses component of NFSM Budget for 2012-13. As against the achievement of 80% releases in Rice and Wheat, the achievement for Pulses crops was less than 50%. He asked AS&FA to review the release position with the Crops Division for improving the position.
11. Shri Sanjay Bhoosreddy, Joint Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fishery (DAHD&F) made a presentation on "National Livestock Mission (NLM) – Fodder Component". He informed that greater flexibility to States had been proposed on the pattern of RKVY. The proposed allocation under NLM would be Rs. 2800 crores during XII Plan. Under Fodder and Feed Development sub-mission component, the department was focusing only on feed & fodder crops. He said that the role of NFSM in taking up dual purpose coarse cereal crops would be complementary to the activities of NLM.

12. Secretary (A&C) enquired about the modalities in ensuring synergy of fodder development work under the two Missions. He also suggested that CACP could be approached to assess costing and economic value of fodder portion in food crops. He also wanted to know whether the advantages relating to fodder use were taken into account while releasing any new seed variety. It was clarified that while releasing any variety seed of food grain crop, the portion of available fodder was also being considered and this was duly mentioned in the notifications.
13. Joint Secretary DAHD&F said that NLM would specifically bank on support from Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) in the form of seed production of fodder as a pure crop. Chairman suggested that Seed Division of DAC should also take into consideration seed indent of fodder crops in the annual zonal review meetings.
14. Shri G. Anandan, General Manager, Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC), New Delhi made a presentation on "Encouraging Pulse Growers through Innovative Crop Insurance Products". In his presentation, he explained the modalities on loyalty bonus linked insurance. He stated that loyalty bonus linked crop insurance was being piloted in a couple of Hoblis in Karnataka State. The scheme was easy to administer along with the index based crop insurance product. A small part of the premium was kept as savings and the return from investing that amount was able to discount premium for farmers in future years, if they continued with the scheme. He proposed that some funds under NFSM could be provided to AIC to reduce the burden of farmers' contribution. Chairman opined that AIC should first assess performance of pilot project in Karnataka state before making proposal to NFSM for support. AIC should also put in its own contribution to the scheme apart from using the premium paid by farmers and the subsidies received from State and the Central Governments.
15. Shri Pravesh Sharma, Managing Director, SFAC made a presentation on building Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) to integrate producers in the Pulses value chain under the program "Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses Villages in Rainfed Areas". He informed that under the program, about 1.35 lakh Pulses farmers of seven states were mobilized @ 1000 farmers / FPO and were provided institutional building support, training and market linkages for better value realization. He proposed to take up similar work under NFSM during XII Plan developing value chain integration for linking up with markets especially for millets and pulses crops. He said that during XII Plan, Rs.200 crore (2% of allocation of NFSM) was proposed for mobilizing 10 lakh farmers in 5 years. Secretary (A&C) while taking note of the progress report presented by SFAC opined that a detailed discussion with the stakeholders in Marketing, Extension

and Crops Division would be desirable for thrashing out the exact mechanism of linkage of FPOs with the markets.

16. Dr. U.S. Singh, South Asia Regional Project Coordinator, IRRI presented the progress made under the project entitled "Identification of technology for stress tolerant varieties and management practices through minikit demonstration under NFSM-Rice program". He informed the house that rice varieties Swarna-Sub-1 developed for flood prone areas, Sahbhagi Dhan for drought prone areas and CSR-36, CSR-43 (for inland) and CR Dhan 405 (for coastal area) for salt tolerant areas were performing very well in farmers' fields. The seeds of these varieties were distributed through minikit program of NFSM during 2010-11 and 2011-12 in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The field results of these varieties were better than that of other varieties and were being preferred by the farmers. He also listed stress tolerant rice varieties which were in the pipeline for future release. He also proposed to extend collaboration on:-
  - 1) Incorporation of multiple stress tolerance into more number of popular varieties for eastern India.
  - 2) Seed and grain quality testing lab at NSRTC, Varanasi.
17. Dr. J.K. Ladha, IRRI made a presentation on the Global Rice Scenario and recent advances in rice technologies particularly those relevant to Eastern India. He proposed to develop ICT platform on rice production technology and other information including marketing aspects using mobile phones.
18. Secretary (A&C) appreciated the efforts put in by IRRI in its collaboration with NFSM. He said that the concept notes submitted by IRRI on specific topics were also the priorities of Government of India. He requested IRRI officials to prepare detailed project reports on the basis of the concept notes, which should then be quickly processed in DAC so that their implementation could start from the next Kharif Crop season.
19. While summing up the discussions, Secretary (A&C) complimented officials associated with National Food Security Mission at the Central, State and the District levels for their sterling performance during 11<sup>th</sup> Plan which should be further improved during the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan. Identifying specific constraints and addressing them innovatively and in partnership with the expert institutions was the way to go. He thanked all the participants and the speakers in the meeting for their presence and active participation.
20. Following action points are summarized for follow up:

### Action Points

1. Focus group meetings should be organized to look at the specific constraining factors affecting productivity of pulses and other crops for major laggard districts of NFSM. **(Action: NFSM Cell)**
2. Review of the Districts included in NFSM should be conducted for determining their eligibility during the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan **(Action: NFSM Cell)**
3. An exercise should be conducted to bring out exact contribution of NFSM Districts to the total food grains production in the country during 11<sup>th</sup> Plan **(Action: CA-V/NFSM Cell)**
4. NFSM Cell should ensure timely release of sanctioned funds to States, before commencement of sowing season through better coordination with the beneficiary States as well as with Finance Division of DAC. **(Action: CA-V/NFSM Cell)**
5. CACP should be approached to work out costing and economic value of fodder portion in crops grown for grain and fodder. **(Action: JS NLM, DAHD&F/Principal Adviser/CACP)**
6. DAHD&F to formulize a coordinating mechanism to ensure complementarities on Fodder and Feed Development programs under NFSM and NLM. **(Action: JS, NLM, DAHD&F)**
7. Seed Division of DAC should also take into consideration indents for breeder seeds of Fodder crops in ZSRMs and monitor seed multiplication of these crops. **(Action: Seed Division)**
8. AIC should assess performance of pilot project on loyalty discount program piloted in Karnataka before making proposal seeking NFSM assistance. **(Action: AIC)**
9. Stakeholder consultations should be organized by SFAC on the key aspects relating to linkage of FPOs with the markets. **(Action: SFAC/NFSM Cell)**
10. IRRI India should submit Detailed Project Reports on the basis of concept notes presented on different topics. These should be processed for early decision by DAC. **(Action: IRRI/NFSM Cell)**

### List of Participants

1. Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Secretary (A&C), DAC - In Chair
2. Ms. S. Bhavani, Principal Advisor, DAC, Krishi Bhavan New Delhi
3. Shri Raghav Chandra, AS & FA, DAC, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
4. Shri P.K. Pujari, AS & FA, DARE, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
5. Shri Siraj Hussain, Addl. Secretary, DAC, Krishi Bhavan New Delhi
6. Shri Balvinder Kumar, Addl. Secretary, DAC, Krishi Bhavan New Delhi
7. Shri Mukesh Khullar, Joint Secretary (Crops) & Mission Director (NFSM), DAC, Krishi Bhavan New Delhi,
8. Shri A. Purkayastha, Joint Secretary, (Seed/TMOP), DAC, New Delhi
9. Shri Narendra Bhooshan Joint Secretary, DAC, Krishi Bhavan New Delhi
10. Shri Sanjeev Gupta Joint Secretary, DAC, Krishi Bhavan New Delhi
11. Shri Pravesh Sharma, MD, SFAC, New Delhi
12. Dr. J.P. Mishra, Advisor, Agriculture, Planning Commission, New Delhi
13. Ms. Reena Saha Director (Crops & NFSM), DAC, Krishi Bhavan New Delhi
14. Shri J.K. Ladha, IRRI, Pusa, New Delhi
15. Shri U.S. Singh, IRRI, Pusa, New Delhi
16. Shri G. Anandan, General Manager, Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd., New Delhi
17. Shri M.K. Poddar, DGM, Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd., New Delhi
18. Dr. D.P. Malik, Addl. Commr. (Crops), DAC, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
19. Dr. J.P. Singh, Director (Millets), Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
20. Shri C.Y. Barapatre, Asstt. Commr. (NFSM), DAC, Krishi Bhavan
21. Shri Narender Kumar, Joint Director, NFSM, DAC, Krishi Bhavan
22. Shri Shamsher Singh, Consultant, NFSM, DAC, New Delhi
23. Shri B.B. Singh, Consultant, NFSM, DAC, New Delhi
24. Dr. D.V. Singh, Consultant, NFSM, DAC, New Delhi
25. Shri S.K. Dalal, Consultant, BGREI DAC, New Delhi
26. Shri Satya Vir singh, Consultant, BGREI DAC, New Delhi
27. Ashok Kumar Khanna, Programme Manager, (BGREI/NFSM), DAC
28. Shri B.K. Srivastava, Asstt. Director, NFSM Cell, DAC, Krishi Bhavan
29. Shri Suraj Prakash, Programmer (NFSM), DAC, Krishi Bhavan, N. Delhi
30. Shri Vikrant Singh, STA (Pulses), NFSM Cell, DAC, Krishi Bhavan

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