

By Speed Post

F.No.45-24/2014-Hort.
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
(Horticulture Division)

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 15.04.2015.

Subject: Minutes of meeting to discuss issue regarding Annual Action Plan 2015-16 relating to High Value Agriculture for the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, Saffron Mission (J&K) and Central Institute of Horticulture, Nagaland held on 09.04.2015 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith the minutes of the meeting on High Value Agriculture for the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands held under the Chairmanship of Horticulture Commissioner on April, 09, 2015 for kind information and necessary action.

(Dr. N.K.Patle)

Deputy Commissioner

Distribution:

1. Additional Secretary and Chairman HVA, DAC, Krishi Bhawan.
2. Development Commissioner, Andaman & Nicobar Administration
3. Development Commissioner, Lakshadweep Administration
4. Managing Director, National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon
5. Joint Secretary and Mission Director, NHM, DAC, Krishi Bhawan
6. Directorate of Agriculture, Jammu Division, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Talab Tillo, Jammu
7. Director, Central Institute of Horticulture, Nagaland

Copy to:

1. PS to Joint Secretary (NHM) / PS to ADC, NHM (OP, AV)
2. Director (Agriculture), Andaman & Nicobar Administration
3. Director (Agriculture), Lakshadweep Administration
4. Executive Director, NAFED, NAFED House, Ashram Chowk, New Delhi.
5. Under Secretary, (JS)
6. Under Secretary, (RKVY)
7. Assistant Director (NHM) (SKK)
8. Chief Consultant (MIDH)

Copy to

- (i) File No.45-36/2011-Hort. (in respect of Saffron Mission, J&K)
- (ii) File No.43-07/2011-Hort.IV (in respect of CIH, Nagaland)

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Minutes of the meeting held on 09.04.2015 under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.K. Malhotra, Horticulture Commissioner regarding Annual Action Plan of High Value Agriculture Crops (Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep), National Saffron Mission (Jammu & Kashmir) for the year 2015-16

A meeting was convened by Dr. S.K. Malhotra, Horticulture Commissioner, DAC to discuss the issues regarding Annual Action Plan for 2015-16 of Andaman & Nicobar, Lakshadweep, Jammu & Kashmir and Central Institute of Horticulture, Medziphema, Nagaland on 9th April, 2015 at 10.00 a.m. at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. The meeting was attended by officers from Horticulture Division/NHM, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Directors from State Governments (Annexure - I) and Central Institute of Horticulture. Horticulture Commissioner welcomed all the participants and first invited Director (Agriculture), A&N to present the Annual Action Plan for the year 2015-16.

Andaman & Nicobar

Dr. G.S Pandey, Director (Agri.) presented the Annual Action Plan of Rs 536.60 lakhs for Andaman & Nicobar. He also presented the annual report of 2014-15 and informed that the expenditure of Rs. 116.00 lakh was made from the total release of Rs. 141.00 lakh. The budget allocation of Rs. 500.00 lakh was given in the year 2014-15. The proposal for T.C. Unit and Center of Excellence was also given in the AAP for 2015-16. He stressed that there is no additional demand for fund in the year 2015-16 and stressed to establish the Center of Excellence and Tissue Culture Unit in the State. He also sought the technical guidance for setting up of Center of Excellence and T.C. Unit in the State from DAC & ICAR. It was decided to revalidate the unspent balance of 2014-15 for the year 2015-16 to complete the proposed activities for the state.

Mrs. Jyoti Singhal, Under Secretary (NHM) also stressed to give the component-wise break for different activities in AAP 2015-16. She has suggested to revalidate the unspent balance of 2014-15 for the year 2015-16.

Horticulture Commissioner has expressed the opinion that there is a need to put sincere efforts to promote the horticulture activities in Andaman & Nicobar.

Lakshadweep

There was no participation from Lakshadweep even after information given by DAC.

Jammu & Kashmir (Saffron Mission)

Shri Jatindra Sharma, Director (Agri.) has presented the AAP for Saffron Mission in the State and informed that there was a release of Rs. 50.00 crores in the year 2014-15 from allocation of Rs. 100.00 crore by RKVY. He has informed the expenditure of Rs. 1757.45 lakhs for the year 2014-15.

Horticulture Commissioner has informed that the yield of saffron was affected due to floods in Kashmir and only vegetative growth was observed as noticed by him during his visit to the State in the month of November, 2014. Horticulture Commissioner pointed out that technically there is no rejuvenation for saffron and it should be replaced by replanting. He also suggested Shri Jitendra Sharma to coordinate with Shri V.K. Srivastava, Under Secretary (RKVY) for fund allocation of previous years and present pattern of funding through RKVY.

The Mission has been extended upto 2015-16 and it was decided to allocate of Rs. 100.00 crore for 2015-16 to fulfill the proposed allocation of Mission.

Mrs. Anuradha Vemori, ADC (NHM) suggested to take the updated status of Saffron Park from National Horticulture Board.

Central Institute of Horticulture (CIH)

Dr. Lalilan Ram, Director, CIH presented the achievement and AAP (2015-16) of CIH and also discussed the issues of the Institute.

The participating members in the meeting has asked the status of demonstrations, planting material production, capacity building programmes and protected cultivation in CIH.

Director, CIH has already presented the Action Plan for the year 2015-16 in the meeting of Board of Management for CIH, held on 31.03.2015 at KVK – Kamrup, Guwahati. CIH has proposed the AAP of Rs. 47.88 crore for the year 2015-16. There is a proposal of 40.00 crore for infrastructure development like major works in the CIH. Since there is no allocation of fund for major works/capital expenses in 12th EFC. The major works can only be taken up in the institute when the allocation of fund will be made after approval through Standing Finance Committee. The proposal is being made for Standing Finance Committee.

Director, CIH also stressed to make sanction for vehicle so that the training programme can be speeded up. CIH has already proposed to start three months Certificate Courses and the same has been approved by Sec. (A&C), for which budget proposal has also been made in the AAP 2015-16.

Horticulture Commissioner in his concluding remarks expressed that Island horticulture assumes greater significance owing to agri tourism prevailing in the region. Demand for horticulture produce like fruits, vegetables, flowers and plantation

crops is increasing. We need to give a special focus for promotion of horticulture in the region. Keeping the importance of this sector, a small group of high value agriculture has been constituted under MIDH. The states under UT such as A&N, Lakshadweep and J& K for Saffron Mission should undertake the assigned activities as per the approved action plan and budgetary allocations. He conveyed his thanks to all for participation in this meeting.

The meeting ended by vote of thanks proposed by Deputy Commissioner (Hort.), Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Government of India.

Annexure-I

List of participants

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	Address
1.	Dr. S.K. Malhotra, Horticulture Commissioner	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
2.	Shri Om Prakash, Additional Commissioner (NHM)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
3.	Smt. Anuradha Vemuri, Additional Commissioner (MIDH)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
4.	Dr. Naveen Patle, Dy. Commissioner (Hort.)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
5.	Dr. B.L. Saraswat, ED	National Bee Board, DAC
6.	Ms. Jyoti Singhal, US (NHM)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
7.	Shri V.K. Srivastava, US (RKVY)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
8.	Shri S.K. Kaul, Assistant Director (NHM)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
9.	Dr. G.S. Pandey, Director (Agri.)	Andaman & Nicobar Island
10.	Shri Jatinder Sharma, Director (Agri.)	Kashmir
11.	Dr. Lallan Ram, Director Agri.	CIH, Medziphema, Nagaland
12.	Dr. R.C. Upadhyay, Chief Consultant (MIDH)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
13.	Dr. Jose C. Samuel, Chief Consultant	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
14.	Shri R.K. Chawla, S.O. (NHM)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
15.	Shri L.A. Khan, S.O. (Hort.)	DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi