

33-60/2021-MIDH (AAP)
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(Horticulture Division-MIDH)

Room No 457
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 13th January, 2022

Office Memorandum

Subject: Minutes of 2nd Meeting of the General Council of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) held under the Chairmanship of Honourable Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar on 30th November, 2021 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject mentioned above and to enclose herewith the minutes of 2nd Meeting of the General Council of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) held under the Chairmanship of Honourable Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar on 30th November, 2021 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for perusal and necessary action.

Encl:- as above

Harit Kumar Shakya
13.1.2022

(Harit Kumar Shakya)
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Distribution:-

1. PS to Hon'ble AM
2. All Members of General Council (As per List)

Copy to:

1. Tech. Dir, NIC with a request to upload the minutes on the website

List of members of General Council of MIDH:

S. No.	List of Members
1	Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Chairman
2	Minister of Commerce
3	Minister of Health
4	Minister of Finance
5	Minister of Food Processing Industries
6	Minister of Panchayati Raj
7	Minister of Science & Technology
8	Minister of Rural Development
9	Minister of Environment & Forest
10	Minister of Textiles
11	Minister of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER)
12	Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
13	Member NITI Aayog (erstwhile Planning Commission (Agri.))
14	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Agriculture & FW
15	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Commerce
16	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of AYUSH
17	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Finance
18	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Food Processing Industries
19	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Panchayati Raj
20	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Rural Development
21	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Environment & Forest
22	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Textiles
23	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of DONER
24	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of Bio-Technology
25	Secretary of Ministry/ Department of MSME
26	Chairperson, NABARD
27	Director General, ICAR
28	Additional Secretary (I/C Hort.), DAC&FW
29	Managing Director, National Horticulture Board
30	Chairman, Coconut Development Board
31	Horticulture Commissioner
32	Deputy Director General (I/C Bamboō), DAC&FW {Now JS(NABM)}
33	Advisor (Horticulture), DAC&FW
34	Joint Secretary (I/C NMSA)
35	Joint Secretary & Mission Director (MIDH), Member Secretary
36	Shri Bh. Ramkrishnam Raju – Non Official Member
37	Shri Mitul Kothari – Non Official Member
38	Shri Sreenagari Rajan – Non Official Member
39	Shri Ashok Kumar Patidar – Non Official Member
40	Shri Nanjundan Bhojan – Non Official Member
41	Shri Rukmsen Choudhary – Non Official Member
42	Shri Pijus Mondal – Non Official Member
43	Shri Suresh Thakur – Non Official Member
44	Shri Gh. Mohd. Mir – Non Official Member
45	Shri Dature Miuli – Non Official Member
46	Shri Aditya Bafna – Non Official Member
47	Shri Arun Mandal – Non Official Member

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the General Council of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) held on 30.11.2021 at Room no 142, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

The Second meeting of General Council of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare was held on 30.11.2021 at Room no 142, Krishi Bhawan. List of participants is at **Annexure**.

At the outset, Joint Secretary (MIDH) welcomed the members of the GC present in the meeting. Thereafter, JS (MIDH) made a presentation taking up each agenda item. Gist of discussions/decisions is given hereunder:

Agenda Item No. 1: To take note of the member present and grant leave of absence.

Leave of absence was granted to the members not present in the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2: To welcome new members in the GC of MIDH

JS (MIDH) welcomed the 12 non-official new members of GC of MIDH.

Agenda Item No. 3: Action Taken Report on the decisions of the last Meeting of GC.

S.N.	Decision of General Council	Status/Action taken
1	Establishment of FPOs for collection and distribution of vegetables and fruits	<p>Promotion of FPOs/FIGs is supported under MIDH as per the norms issued by SFAC from time to time. A total of 7467 FPOs/FIGs have been promoted under MIDH. Apart from this, assistance is also provided under MIDH to SFAC for creation of FPOs.</p> <p>Recently, a new Central Sector scheme for formation of 10,000 FPOs has been launched under Marketing Division and till date 4965 FPOs have been allocated to different implementing agencies for formation of FPOs. Out of which 1636 FPOs have been registered so far.</p> <p>GC noted the information.</p>
2	Import of Planting Material of suitable	To fulfill the requirement of genuine and quality planting material of high value

	varieties	<p>horticulture crops such as Apple, Walnuts, Almonds, Date-palm and Grapes Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has assigned the responsibility to National Seeds Corporation (NSC) for import of planting material and to National Horticulture Board (NHB) to create the PEQ facilities for imported planting material.</p> <p>The Post Entry Quarantine Facilities are to be created in 4 states viz, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, J&K and Arunachal Pradesh by NHB. All the 4 States have allotted the requisite land for creation of PEQ facilities.</p> <p>The required quantities of planting material will be imported by NSC from its own resources and hand it over to States as per their requirement on no profit no loss basis. In the 1st year, appx 10 lakh planting material (7.6 lakh Apple and 2.4 lakh Walnuts) will be imported.</p> <p>GC noted the information.</p>
3	Extensive stakeholders consultation shall be undertaken after obtaining recommendation of expert panel and cost norms committee	<p>In order to take a view on inclusion of new components and revision of cost norms Six (6) Regional Group covering all the States/UTs, were formed to study the existing provisions of scheme and point out the working difficulties, if any, and to also suggest new components, cost norms and new ideas. In addition, Four (4) different committees were constituted at Ministry level i.e. Committee to examine existing cost norms under MIDH, Committee on improvement of seed varieties, planting material and new technologies, Committee on Post Harvest Management and logistics and Committee to assess the need for trained manpower in horticulture sector.</p> <p>Based on the suggestions of the Regional Groups and Committees draft EFC memo (including cost norms) of MIDH for 5 year period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 has been prepared, which has been approved by EFC chaired by Secretary Expenditure, DoE. Process is underway for seeking approval of CCEA.</p> <p>GC noted the information.</p>

4	Condition of credit linked back ended subsidy needs to be relaxed.	<p>In the EFC memo of MIDH for the next 5 years from 2021-22 to 2025-26, Credit linkage is proposed to be kept optional for projects upto a project cost of Rs. 30 lakh to promote start ups. The proposal has been approved by Expenditure Finance Committee chaired by Secretary Expenditure during the meetings held on 03.08.2021 and 06.08.2021.</p> <p>In addition, the Government has also approved Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs. 1 lakh crore as a financing facility for providing credit for community farming assets and creation of PHM infrastructure near farm gate. All loans under this financing facility will be collateral free and will have interest subvention of 3% per annum up to a limit of Rs. 2 crore.</p> <p>GC noted the information.</p>
5	Processing of onion, irradiation, proper storage and drying needs to be encourage	<p>Under MIDH, low cost onion storage is promoted. Under PHM component, primary processing, processing and value addition in onion is also supported. As on date 33234 number of low cost onion storage has been created with capacity of 8.30 Lakh Tonne since 2014-15.</p> <p>Financial assistance for Irradiation is provided under the cold-chain scheme of MoFPI.</p> <p>GC noted the information.</p>

AGENDA ITEM 4: To review physical and financial progress under MIDH since its inception i.e. from 01.04.2014

Achievement of MIDH under all sub-schemes was presented by JS MIDH in which he highlighted the physical and financial achievements of major interventions of NHM, HMNEH, NHB and CDB.

The General Council noted the achievements of MIDH

AGENDA ITEM 5: Apprise GC About The Findings of the Impact Evaluation Study of MIDH undertaken By DMEO, NITI AAYOG and third party evaluation by M/s. Global Agrisystems Pvt. Ltd.

JS (MIDH) apprised the GC about the findings of the impact evaluation study of MIDH undertaken by DMEO, NITI Aayog and third party evaluation by M/s. Global Agrisystems Pvt. Ltd. Both the evaluations recommended continuation of schemes alongwith revision in the cost norms in line with cost escalation for various components with time.

The General Council noted the findings/recommendations of Impact Evaluation of MIDH scheme.

Agenda Item No. 6: Apprise GC about Prime Minister's Development Package being implemented in UT of J&K and Ladakh.

JS MIDH appraised the GC about the Prime Minister's Development Package being implemented in UT of J&K and Ladakh. GC was informed that CCEA had approved extension of time lines for implementation of PMDP for 3 years i.e. upto 31.03.2022 beyond the original closure date of 31.03.2019. PMDP has been revised with an outlay of Rs. 460.33 crore for J&K and Rs. 39.67 crore for UT of Ladakh.

The General Council noted the progress the PMDP package.

Agenda Item No. 7: Apprise GC about the new initiative of Horticulture Cluster Development Programme.

JS MIDH appraised the GC about the new initiative of Horticulture Cluster Development Programme being undertaken under MIDH scheme. In the first phase, 12 horticulture clusters for 7 crops namely apple, mango, banana, grapes, pineapple, pomegranate & turmeric in 11 States have been selected under the programme out of the total 53 clusters to be covered under the programme to be implemented by NHB,

The General Council noted the information.

Agenda Item No. 8: Apprise GC about steps taken for continuation of MIDH for next five years beyond 31.03.2021, co-terminus with 15th Finance Commission

JS MIDH appraised the GC about steps taken for continuation of MIDH for next five years beyond 31.03.2021, co-terminus with 15th Finance Commission. GC was informed that MIDH scheme has been recommended by EFC chaired by Secretary Expenditure for 5 years with a total outlay of Rs. 11447.49 crore including Rs. 464.82 crore for NBM which will again be part of MIDH w.e.f. 01.04.2022.

The General Council noted the information.

Agenda Item No. 9: To seek views and suggestions of GC Members on revision of MIDH Guidelines.

Details of the suggestions and views received from the GC members are as under:

A) Suggestions and views from Official members of GC of MIDH:

• **Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (DONER):**

(i) The Hon'ble Minister highlighted the major issues in North Eastern States such as low credit availing due to community based ownership of land, lack of cold storage and transport facility to connect interior villages to cities.

(ii) Export should be strengthened by promoting schemes like Krishi Udaan and Krishi Rail.

(iii) The 3rd party Certification for organic produce should be supported and training in Organic Farming should be provided to the farmers.

• **Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Minister for Panchayati Raj and Rural Development:**

(i) The Hon'ble Minister suggested to incorporate Horticulture crops specially the native fruits crops in the land degradation neutrality programme to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land through watershed development programme of MoRD by 2030.

(ii) The technologies like tissue culture, budding and grafting should be supported in Hub and Spoke model by Agriculture Universities and Research Institute which are directly linked to this Ministry for availability of quality seed and planting material.

(iii) SHGs and Panchayats may be involved in seedling distribution and tree plantations on panchayat lands.

(iv) More focus should be given on Bee keeping, Moringa cultivation and Solar power based technologies.

(v) The Organic Certification system should be simplified and the organic fertilizers should be labeled as Green fertilizers.

(vi) The improvement in quality parameters like shelf life and taste of indigenous varieties should be promoted through Research and Development (R&D) by ICAR.

• **Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (MoS) for Science and Technology:**

(i) The Hon'ble Minister cited the example of Purple Revolution under Aroma Mission and explained how the transformative changes can be brought in a particular sector through use of technology so as to cultivate any crop anywhere in the country and substituting imports with homegrown varieties.

(ii) He emphasized that we should change the way of promoting Agriculture and should treat farmers as Agriculture Starts ups or Entrepreneurs.

(iii) Further, he mentioned that the SHMs should be sensitized about the world class technologies through trainings which can be used to revolutionize the Horticulture sector.

(iv) Branding of unique products is important to enhance the exports. He stated that Basmati Rice of J&K which is one of the best basmati Rice and it should be branded for export.

(v) He also suggested for sharing of success stories of Waste to Wealth to promote entrepreneurship.

(vi) He further emphasized on strengthening of cold chain infrastructure and evacuation of horti produce to reduce post harvest losses.

• **Shri Narayan Tatu Rane, Hon'ble Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises:**

(i) Hon'ble Minister suggested that small farmers should evaluate the value proposition of its crop before cultivating and build their own brand in which Government universities should support farmers and entrepreneurs.

(ii) He emphasized that proper guidance for value added products and marketing should be given to farmers by Government officers.

(iii) He further emphasized on need assessment, product diversification and demand based cultivation of horticulture crops.

(iv) Taking example of marketing strategy of Israel and Holland for flowers, he suggested that lessons and strategy for marketing should be learnt from successful models of other countries.

• **Shri Ramesh Chandra (Member NITI Aayog):**

(i) He observed that growth of horticulture in the country is 4-5% per year but much scope of growth is still available. He stated that Private sector is most important in horticulture not only in PHM but also in production & pre-harvest.

(ii) The Horticulture should target the production contribution according to population proportion of India in world.

(iii) He highlighted that 70% of the growth in horticulture is because of Area Expansion and 30% of growth is because of Productivity which needs to be reversed in future.

(iv) Onion storage structure should be increased with inclusion of specialized structures as the present onion storage capacity is much less than the annual demand of onions of 25 lakh ton/year.

(v) Denmark and Chile should also be collaborated for developing new Centres of Excellences (COEs) in the country.

(vi) Post harvest and value addition should be given more emphasis.

(vii) Honeybee should also be promoted in convergence with horticulture.

(viii) Bamboo should be removed from Horticulture instead plantation crop Palm may be included.

(ix) The Climate smart horticulture is the need of the hour therefore, horticulture targets should be prepared in consonance with Climate Change.

(x) A Vision document should be prepared for future of Horticulture sector of the country.

- **Representative from Ministry of Panchayati Raj** suggested that Panchayati Raj Institutions may be involved for imparting training in horticulture. It was suggested that Panchayats may maintain a chart of interested people in Horticulture and link it to Horticulture Department for training purpose.

- **Representative from Department of Biotechnology** suggested that MIDH should explore and focus on the issues which can be resolved by the use of biotechnologies as novel technologies like enhancement of the shelf life of fruits which are available with DBT.
- **Representative from APEEDA** suggested that ICAR Research Laboratories and Centres should be converted into Centres of Excellences so that all the testing protocols can be done before exporting like NRC grapes is looking after all grape related work. The Product Centric NRC and ICAR Research Institute facilities can be used for the same purpose. APEEDA informed that as a result of its scheme for post harvest processing facilities, which they are implementing in association with NHB, the contribution of Horticulture has risen up from 12% to 20% in total agriculture exports.
- **Representative from Ministry of Ayush** suggested that Integrated Package of Practices should be developed for medicinal plants to achieve the goal of doubling farmer's income. The Annual Medicinal plants, like Ashwagandha, Shatavari and Tulsi can be cultivated with horticulture crops. It was also informed that they have agrotechniques available with them for 104 Medicinal Plants which can be integrated with Horticulture.
- **DG ICAR** emphasized on the need for improvement in availability of quality planting material through import, tissue culture & domestic production. For this, greater convergence and integration is required with other line departments. He further informed that ICAR is working on varietal improvement, package of practices and value addition technologies.

Suggestions from Non-Official Members

- **Shri Mitul Kothari:** Grafting technology for Horticulture Crops especially for Brinjal, Tomato, Chillies should be promoted and subsidized. Ceiling of Tractor up to 20 HP should be removed so that the farmers can use it in field as well as for transport of the produce.
- **Shri Gulam. Mohd. Mir:** To maintain the quality parameters of produce for export, an end to end cold chain infrastructure including grading and sorting lines, CA storage and Packhouses is needed.
- **Shri. Suresh Thakur:** Minimum support prices are needed for Kiwi and Apples with value addition and marketing support. Also, Pack houses in hilly area should be estimated on area basis instead of length and width dimensions.
- **Shri. Arun Mandal:** Indigenous varieties of North Bengal such as Darjeeling Orange should be promoted. National Research Centre may be established for Pineapple. The farmers should be provided with common processing facility centers to process indigenous crops. PMFBY should cover Horticulture crops also.
- **Shri. Aditya Bafna:** Pomegranate and Dates should be considered for inclusion in Cluster Development Programme. Every State should have State of Art Laboratories for Tissue Culture and Planting Material Production.

- **Shri. Ashok Kumar Patidar:** FPOs should be given grants on the basis of the ranking after review of their performance. On the basis of performance, SHG and FIG should also be converted in to FPOs. Quality testing labs should be available at district headquarters to assess the MRL for export purposes.
- **Shri. Nanjundan Bhojan:** Fertilizer should be given to farmers on the basis of their Soil Health Card. Also, Pesticide residue testing labs should be established in every State.

Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare:

(i) The Hon'ble Minister while appreciating the overall progress of the horticulture sector, stated that a lot is still needs to be done. He paid special emphasis on experience sharing and global thinking to take the sector to new heights.

(ii) While appreciating the suggestions of the members, he emphasized on the need of modern agricultural practices, use of technology, innovations, marketing and storages, logistics and branding for export.

(iii) He further informed that Agriculture has shown best performance in adverse conditions. Horticulture sector has major stake in agriculture production. We should also think how to involve Private Sector for further growth of horticulture.

(iv) Organic farming is important to increase farmers' income especially in tribal areas. States should also focus on medicinal plants grown in tribal & forest areas.

(v) Awareness Campaign needs to be organized in coordination with KVKs to create awareness about the potential of horticulture sector.

Meeting ended with the vote of Thanks from Hon'ble MoS Shri. Kailash Choudhary.

List of Participants for 2nd meeting of GC of MIDH dated 30.11.2021

S. No	Name	Designation	Telephone/ Mobile	Email-ID
1	Shri Narendra Singh Tomar	Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	23383370, 23782691	amofindia@gmail.com
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3.	Shri Narayan Tatu Rane	Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	23061566, 23061739	min-msme@nic.in
4.	Dr. Jitendra Singh	Minister of Science & Technology	23714230, 23316745	mos-pp@nic.in
5.	Shri G. Kishan Reddy	Minister of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER)	23022400, 23022401	g.kishanreddy@gov.in, psto.mdoner@gov.in
6.	Shri Kailash Choudhary	MoS Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	23782343, 23388165, 23382756	Kkailashchoudhary@gmail.com @
7.	Prof. Ramesh Chand	Member NITI Aayog (erstwhile Planning Commission (Agri.))	23096756, 23096774	rc.niti@gov.in
8.	Shri Rajbir Singh	Joint Secretary (MIDH) & Member Secretary	23384309	jsmidh-agri@gov.in
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10.	Shri Rambir Singh	JS Ministry of DONER	9868177081	rambirsingh@nic.in
11.	Shri Nitin K. Jain	Representative of Department of biotechnology, Scientist	24365972	nitink.jain@nic.in
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13.	Shri Divya A.B.	DS (PFCI), DoE	8130520261	divya.ab@gov.in
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15.	Dr. T. Mohapatra	Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR	23388991	
16.	Shri R. Rajesh	Adviser (Horticulture Statistics)	99884150	
17.	Shri Suresh Thakur	G.C. Member	8629019207	
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24.	Shri Aditya Bafna	G.C. Member	9167000003	agb@sgnventures.com
List of Participants attended through Video Conference (VC)				
25.	Shri Atul Saxena	Joint Secretary, MoFPI		
26.	Shri C.S.R. Murthy,	Chief General Manager, NABARD		
27.	Dr. Chandra Shekhar Sanwal	Deputy CEO, AYUSH		
28.	Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu,	Chairman, (APEDA)		
29.	Prof. Tanuja Nesari,	Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda		
30.	Shri R V Ramakrishna	General Manager, NABARD		
31.	Mr. Surendra Babu	Deputy General Manager, NABARD		