

Minutes of the review meeting on the functioning of the Odisha State Cashew Development Corporation Ltd. held on 01.07.2011 in the Conference Hall of Hon'ble Chief Minister.

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Hon'ble Chief Minister took a review meeting on the functioning of the Odisha State Cashew Development Corporation (OSCDC) Ltd. on 1st July 2011. The list of participants in the meeting is annexed.

2. With the permission of the Chair, the Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department made a brief power point presentation relating to the OSCDC Ltd. The important highlights are as under:

a) The OSCDC Ltd. was established in the year 1979 with main objectives to develop land, raise cashew plantation and other suitable species, render technical guidance and assistance to cashew growers and make available good planting materials.

b) In 1993, the OSCDC Ltd. was declared as "Nodal Agency" for development of cashew in the State.

c) Now the OSCDC Ltd. has 578 numbers of cashew plantations over an area of 30,558.91 hectares of which 284 numbers of plantations over an area of 12,337 hectares are old and senile.

d) The OSCDC Ltd. has established 15 numbers of cashew clonal nurseries with a production capacity of 21 lakh numbers of high yielding varieties of cashew grafts per annum.

e) The OSCDC Ltd. has raised mango scion banks and producing quality mango grafts and also has raised medicinal plants nursery under the National Mission on Medicinal Plants (NMMP) in the year 2011-12.

f) The OSCDC Ltd. has been running in profit for quite some time, became a debt free organization since 1995-96 and has an accumulated profit of Rs.14.69 crore at the end of 2009-10.

3. After the brief presentation on OSCDC Ltd., the issues raised by the Chairman, OSCDC were taken up for discussion. After detailed deliberation on specific issues, the following decisions were taken:

- (i) The Director, Soil Conservation has already transferred cashew plantations over an area of 25,533.93 hectares to OSCDC Ltd. Balance plantations, if any, may be transferred to OSCDC excepting those needed for R&D activities, production of planting materials, demonstrations and training activities for the Soil Conservation Directorate.

(Action: Agriculture Department / Director, Soil Conservation)

- (ii) Cashew plantations over an area of 18,704 hectares currently under Forest & Environment Department may be transferred to the OSCDC Ltd. after

obtaining necessary permission of the Forest & Environment Department Government of India.

(Action: Forest & Environment Department / M.D., OSCDC)

(iii) The OSCDC Ltd. will take steps to establish Cashew Processing Plant along with packing unit, godown for unprocessed and processed cashew and one Cashew Apple Juice Factory under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

(Action: OSCDC Ltd. / P.E. Department / Agriculture Department)

(iv) OSCDC Ltd. will submit specific proposals along with necessary action plans to the concerned District Collectors for sanction of funds under MGNREGS for digging boundary trenches around cashew plantations to avoid encroachments and elephant menace. This activity may be taken up immediately relating to the plantations which have already been leased out by the Revenue Authorities to the OSCDC Ltd. Only if necessary funding becomes unavailable, the attention of Panchyati Raj Department may be drawn for their intervention.

(Action: M.D., OSCDC Ltd. / Agriculture Department / Revenue & D.M. Department / Panchayati Raj Department).

(v) IDCO has acquired land in Jatni Tahasil for M/s. India Trade Centre including 12.55 hectares of land of OSCDC Ltd. currently being used as nursery having necessary infrastructural facilities. The OSCDC Ltd. may, therefore, be suitably compensated with a mandate to take up such nursery activities in the nearby area.

(Action: IDCO / Revenue & D.M. Department)

(vi) M/s. Arati Steel Ltd. was permitted to remove cashew trees from the land made available to OSCDC Ltd. at Ghantikhal and Madhapur Nidhipur in Athagarh Tahasil in course of land acquisition. The amount deposited as compensation by M/s Arati Steel Ltd. amounting to around Rs.54.87 lakh is deposited with the Tahasildar, Athagarh but not being passed on to the OSCDC Ltd. On receipt of necessary details from the Collector, Cuttack, Revenue & D.M. Department may suitably compensate the OSCDC Ltd. after obtaining Government orders.

(Action: Revenue & D.M. Department)

(vii) Claims for compensation amounting to Rs.8.28 crore submitted by OSCDC Ltd. to various Departments / Institutions who damaged cashew

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plantations in course of execution of various projects may be pursued by Agriculture Department after obtaining necessary details from the OSCDC Ltd.

(Action: M.D., OSCDC Ltd. / Agriculture Department)

- (viii) The Commissioner, Endowments will be approached by the OSCDC Ltd. to grant long term lease (for about 35 years) for Devottar land at Kapilash in Dhenkanal District for taking up cashew plantations. Currently, the Collector, Dhenkanal has been granting lease for the said land for a very short period (5 years) and as a result, the OSCDC is unable to finalize any long term action plan.

(Action: Collector, Dhenkanal / M.D., OSCDC Ltd.)

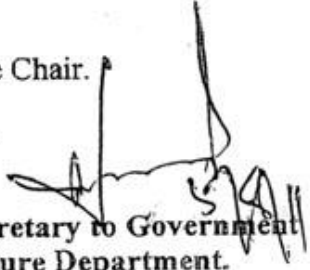
- (ix) The OSCDC Ltd. is not getting any revenue from 89 numbers of plantations under Machhkund Tahasil of Koraput District spread over an area of 4,362.48 hectares. These cashew plantations in non-forest land, as per Government policy, are to be distributed among the local tribals coming under the BPL category to supplement their income. The Collector, Koraput may be suitably instructed to enforce Government decision in this regard. Only if those plantations are in the forest land, the matter may be reported to Forest & Environment Department for their intervention.

(Action: Collector, Koraput / M.D., OSCDC Ltd. / Forest & Environment Department)

- (x) The OSCDC Ltd. may raise cashew plantation on ~~10,000~~ hectares of non-forest land to be made available on lease by Revenue & D.M. Department. As far as practicable, such plantations may be taken up over bald hills / waste lands to conserve soil as well as water. The OSCDC Ltd. may identify suitable lands and submit proposals to the concerned Revenue Authorities.

(Action: M.D., OSCDC Ltd. / Revenue & D.M. Department.)

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


Principal Secretary to Government
Agriculture Department.

Annexure

Members present in the meeting on functioning of Orissa Cashew Development Corporation held on 01.07.2011 in the Conference Hall of Chief Minister.

1. Sri Pradeep Maharathy
Hon'ble Minister, Agriculture
2. Sri Bikram K. Burma
Chairman, OSCDC
3. Sri J.K. Mohapatra, IAS
Principal Secretary to Govt.
Finance Department
4. Sri Ranglal Jamuda, IAS
Principal Secretary to Govt.
Agriculture Department
5. Sri Sourva Garg, IAS
Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt.
Public Enterprise Department
6. Sri B.P. Singh, IFS
Special Secretary to Govt.
Forest & Environment Deptt.
7. Sri Sanjeev Chaddha, IFS
Director, Horticulture
8. Sri Pramod Kumar Sahoo,
Director Incharge, Soil Conservation
9. Sri H.H. Mallick, OAS
Managing Director, OSCDC Ltd.