

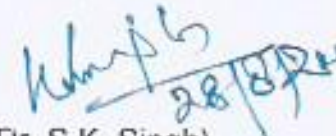
T-14018/23/2016/MDRC-CF
Govt. of India
Ministry of Agriculture & FW
Department of Agriculture, Co-operation & FW
Directorate of Marketing and Inspection
Head Office, New CGO building, NH-4, Faridabad-121001
(Market Development and Reform Cell)
Tel. No. 0129-2412518

Dated: the 28th August, 2017

Sub: Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Committee on the Model Contract Farming Act held on 18.08.2017 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of the minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Committee on the Model Contract Farming Act held on 18.08.2017 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Encl: As above.


(Dr. S.K. Singh)
Dy. Agril. Marketing Adviser &
Member Secretary

To

- i. PPS to Addl. Secretary (Mktg.), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi & Chairman of the Committee.
- ii. PS to Jt. Secretary (Mktg.), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi & Member of the Committee.
- iii. PS to Jt. Secretary (MIDH.), DAC&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi & Member of the Committee.
- iv. MD, SFAC, Siri Fort Auditorium, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi & Member of the Committee.
- v. Dr. J.P. Mishra, Advisor (Agriculture), NITI Aayog & Member of the Committee.
- vi. Representative of Dept. of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India & Member of the Committee.
- vii. Dr. S. K. Singh, Dy. AMA, GoI & Member Secretary.
- viii. Shri Bijay Kumar, Principal Secretary, Deptt. of Agriculture & Marketing, Govt. of Maharashtra & Member of the Committee.
- ix. Director, NIAEP, New Delhi & Member of the Committee.
- x. Principal Secretary (Cooperation), Govt. of Karnataka & Member of the Committee.
- xi. Principal Secretary, Agricultural, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh & Member of the Committee.
- xii. Shri Bharat Behera, Addl. Secy (Co-operation), Govt. of Odisha.
- xiii. Shri Mandeep Singh, GM, Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd, Chandigarh.

o/c

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Committee on the Model Contract Farming Act held on 18.8.2017 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

The 2nd meeting of the Committee on the Model Contract Farming Act was held on 18.8.2017 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Dr. Ashok Dalwai, CEO, National Rainfed Development Authority. List of participants is at Annexure.

2. At the outset, the Chairman of the Committee welcomed the Members of the Committee and asked Dr. S.K. Singh, Member Secretary to make the presentation to facilitate the Committee to deliberate upon.

3. The Member Secretary briefed the Chairman and other Committee Members on the road so far travelled by the Committee since its inception on 20.2.2017. Going further, he on behalf of the Committee made Section-wise detailed presentation of the preliminary draft Model Contract Farming Act, 2017. The Committee deliberated each Section in-depth and following decisions were made -

- i. The title of the draft Model Contract Farming Act was finalized as "The--- State/UT Contract Farming (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017" was reapproved, as same was approved in the 1st meeting also.
- ii. The proviso of Section 3(1), the sentence "Provided that till such time the Authority is not established by the Government/Administration , it may, by notification, nominate Director of Agriculture or Horticulture, as the case may be, to perform the functions and exercise the powers of the Authority under this Act" is to be reframed as "***Provided that till such time the Authority is not established by the Government/Administration , it may, by notification, nominate any Officer to perform the functions and exercise the powers of the Authority under this Act***".
- iii. Under Section 4(1)(a), the sentence "a Chairperson to be appointed by the Government/Administration from amongst the persons of eminence in the field of agriculture, agricultural marketing, agri-business and agri- trade & commerce" is to be reframed as "***a Chairperson to be appointed by the Government/Administration from amongst the persons of eminence in***

the field of agricultural sciences, agricultural marketing, agri-business, agri-trade & commerce, land revenue, judiciary, banking or in other like areas with cumulative experience of not less than 20 years in one or more of the above areas or in public life".

- iv. Under Section 4(1)(e), the sentence "one Chief Administrative Officer to be appointed by the Government/ Administration from amongst the officers of State/UT in the rank and status of Grade "A" officer or under secretary to the Government of India" is to be reframed as sentence ***"one Chief Executive Officer to be appointed by the Government/ Administration from amongst the officers of State/UT not below the rank of Director of State/ UT."***
- v. Under Section (5), the sentence "Chairperson to be the Chief Executive of the Authority" is to be reframed as ***"Chairperson to be the Head of the Authority"***.
- vi. One proviso under Section 6 (1) is to be added as ***"every official Member may be reappointed as Chairperson"***.
- vii. Under Section 11(2), the sentence "in absence of the Chairperson, any other Member chosen by a majority of the Members present from amongst themselves at the meeting, shall preside over its meeting" is to be reframed as ***"in absence of the Chairperson due to leave etc., the Chairperson will authorize any of the other Member to function as Chairperson and shall preside over its meeting. In case of vacancy of Chairperson arising out of suspension, resignation, dismissal or death etc., the Government/ Administration will nominate any of the other Member to function as Chairperson till regular incumbent assumes the office."***
- viii. Under Section 15 (1)(b), the sentence "take *suo-moto* notice of failure to perform as per agreement and refer such cases for decision to the Additional District Officer(Civil) / Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) concerned or the Officer authorized in this behalf or pass such order itself, as may be appropriate" is to be reframed as ***"take suo-motu notice of failure to perform as per agreement and refer such cases for decision to the concerned Sub-Divisional Magistrate/ Officer, In-charge of Revenue and General***

Administration of Sub-Division, by whatever name he is called, pass such order, as may be appropriate". Similar changes will be effected in the entire text of the draft.

- ix. Under Section 17(1), the sentence "Government/Administration may designate a district/block/taluka level officer from State/UT Agriculture/Horticulture department /directorate, to exercise the powers and to perform the functions assigned to it as "Registering and Agreement Recording Officer" under this Act. The officer so designated should be minimum of group "B" gazette" is to be reframed as ***"Government/Administration may constitute a Committee comprising officials from Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries/ Poultry and Allied fields not exceeding five Members headed by the Officer as nominated by the Government/ Administration. The Committee may be at district/block/taluka level, as may be prescribed, to exercise the powers and to perform the functions assigned to it as "Registering and Agreement Recording Committee" under this Act. The officers so nominated by the Department to constitute such Committee should at the minimum be a member of group "B" gazette service"***. Similar changes will be effected in the entire text of the draft.
- x. Under Section 19(1), the sentence "The Contract Farming producer shall get support to the production through supply of inputs, land use, technical advice and any other activity related thereto as specified in the agreement" is to be reframed as ***"The Contract Farming producer may get support to the production through supply of inputs, technical advice and any other activity related thereto as specified in the agreement". The word "shall" is to be substituted by the word "may" in all its provisos. Further in case of second proviso the words "for the best of production" are to be substituted by the words "for the optimal of production."***
- xi. Under Section 19(3), only enabling provision is to be made and existing one will go to Rules when framed.

- xii. Considering the price volatility, there was an agreement in the Committee that entire group of agriculture produce including livestock to be specified in the schedule may be grouped into: *(i) Volatile; (ii) Semi-Volatile; and (iii) Non-Volatile. Accordingly, the provisions in the draft and agreement will flow.*
- xiii. Chairman asked the Members to furnish their comments on the preliminary draft Model Contract Farming Act, 2017 made available to them at surendrak.singh@nic.in within 10 days.
- xiv. On the proposal of holding the 3rd meeting of the Committee, it was decided that it could be at Pune (Maharashtra) wherein all contracting companies and few progressive farmers be invited to participate in the discussion so as to facilitate Committee to understand all aspects of contract farming . The Principal Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra welcomed the decision and agreed to arrange such meeting in Pune (Maharashtra).

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

List of Participants

1. Shri Bijay Kumar, Principal Secretary (Agriculture), Govt. of Maharashtra.
2. Dr. J.P. Mishra, Adviser (Agriculture), NITI Ayog.
3. Shri. Bharat Behera, Addl. Secy (Co-operation), Govt. of Odisha.
4. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Dy. Commissioner (Horticulture), MIDH, DAC & FW.
5. Shri Abhimanyu Jhahria, Scientist, NIAP, ICAR.
6. Sh Mandeep Singh, General Manager, Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., Chandigarh.
7. Dr. S. K. Singh, Member Secretary.
8. Shri M. J. Ahmed, Marketing Officer.