

Minutes of the meeting chaired by Secretary, MDoNER on 18.5.2017 regarding S&T intervention (Farm Sector) in the NER.

The list of participants is enclosed.

Secretary MDoNER in his opening remarks pointed out that the project of S&T interventions in the North East (STINER) may be taken forward through the Nodal agencies identified. In this regard each agency may go forward by focusing on the individual technologies identified for it. As far as farm sector is concerned (encompassing agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, food and processed food products) NERAMAC will be the nodal point for coordinating technology dissemination. Similarly, for other identified technologies, follow up meetings and discussions will be held with them. For the purpose of this meeting, focus will be on NERAMAC and technologies relevant to it. Accordingly the discussion centred on NERAMAC and the four farm sector technologies namely:

- Driers
- Puffed Rice Maker Machine,
- Chaff Cutter (Mushroom) Machines from RuTAG and
- Amla picking machines

1. Funds (75% as advance) have already been released to NERAMAC has been selected as the Nodal Agency for deployment of Drier, Puff Rice Maker Machine, Chaff Cutter (Mushroom) Machines from RuTAG.

2. It was decided to add Amla picking machine in the above list. Also, in case any other machineries/technology is required by farmers, NERAMAC will identify and intimate the same to the concerned S&T institutes like RuTAG, CSIR, ICAR, DST, DBT, etc. for making it available to the farmers under intimation to MDoNER / PSA.

3. ICAR is organising a Regional Consultation Meeting in Imphal from 30-31 May, 2017. In this meet, Office of PSA along with NERAMAC will make available samples/prototype of all the identified technologies in Imphal for farmers, entrepreneurs, professors, etc. as part of demonstration and proof of concept (DPOC). It was suggested that NERAMAC should examine procuring the optimal number of machines for DPOC only before scaling up to the sanctioned numbers. Thus DPOC requirement of display in the 8 states may be logically worked out and places may be ideally/ co-located with Agriculture universities or similar sectoral institutes where hangars/spaces can be secured on mutual discussion / agreement basis. Additionally, Director (A&P) will write to the State Governments for providing the hangar/hall as state governments will be key stakeholders and co-owners of this dissemination process.

4. Office of PSA will coordinate with RuTAG, CSIR, ICAR, DST, DBT, etc. For bringing the identified technology to this demonstration site. The MD, NERAMAC will do the ground work and give liaison with the Office of PSA. The first sample will be showcased in Imphal from 30-31 May, 2017 during ICAR Regional Consultation Meeting.



5. A letter will be issued from PSA to Secretary, IT and DG, NIC for setting up the proposed Tech-Bazaar to bring all technologies on one user-generated portal for potential feedback, testing, dissemination and DPOC.
6. Under S&T intervention programme, hiring of consultants may be considered (one for non-farm sector – NEHHDC; one for farm sector – NERAMAC and one at MDoNER's level for coordination). The ToR will be framed by Office of PSA.
7. The first meeting on Turmeric was held on 12.5.2017 under the chairmanship of Secretary, MDoNER. It was observed that there was no integrated approach to benefit the entire turmeric eco -system and value chain and a greater coordination and regular exchange of information apart from transfer of technology to the stakeholders are require at regular intervals. In this meeting, it was decided that CSIR may create quality testing facility at the earliest. In addition CIMAP, NBRI may work out a joint programme for maximising the value from turmeric including processing of turmeric leaves. A small focused group of Lab Heads will be formed by the Office of PSA to maximise the value chain of turmeric.
8. A separate meeting with Secretary, DST for follow upon the task and intent of making 2017 a significant year of technology dissemination will be held on 19.5.2017 at 5:00 PM where representative o f Office o f PSA, MD, NERAMAC, JS(A&P) and Secretary, DONER will attend. A concept note for the same may be drafted by MD NERAMAC prior to discussions.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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Annexure-I

List of participants

- 1 Shri Naveen Verma, Secretary, DoNER - In chair
- 2 Shri S.N. Pradhan, Joint Secretary, DoNER
- 3 Dr. Ketaki Bapat, Scientist (F), Office of PSA
- 4 Ms. Mercy Epao , Director, DoNER
- 5 Shri B N Prasad, Director, DoNER
- 6 Shri Pankaj Prasad, MD, NERAMAC

