

DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION, ODISHA, BHUBANEWSAR

Letter No- 15(08)29/2018-30749 Date:- 01.11.2018

To

The Deputy Director of Agriculture cum Project Director ATMA.
Bolangir/ Gajapati/ Kandhamal/ Kalahandi/ Koraput/ Malkanagiri/ Mayurbhanj/ Nuapada/
Rayagada/ Sundergarh.

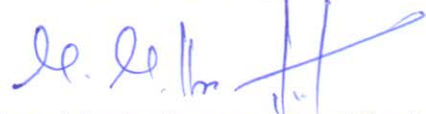
Sub.: Proceedings of the Review meeting of "Special Programme for Promotion of Millets in Tribal Areas (Odisha Millets Mission)" held at IMAGE on October 25th 2018.

Sir,

With reference to the captioned subject, enclosed please find herewith the Proceedings of the Review meeting of "Special Programme for Promotion of Millets in Tribal Areas (Odisha Millets Mission)" held at IMAGE on October 25th 2018 under the chairmanship of Director of Agriculture & Food Production, Odisha. And you are requested to act accordingly.

This is for your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

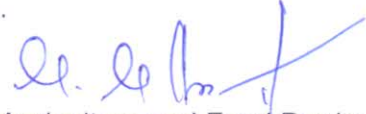


Director of Agriculture and Food Production,
Odisha, Bhubaneswar

Memo No- 30750

Dated- 01.11.2018

Copy forwarded to Director, NCDS, Bhubaneswar and Programme Secretariat (WASSAN) for information and necessary action and is requested to act accordingly.



Director of Agriculture and Food Production,
Odisha, Bhubaneswar

Memo No- 30751

Dated- 01.11.2018

Copy submitted to the Principal Secretary to Govt. Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favor of kind information.



Director of Agriculture and Food Production,
Odisha, Bhubaneswar

**Proceeding of the one day state level review meeting on implementation of
Special Programme for promotion of millets in tribal areas (Odisha Millets Mission)
held on 25th October 2018 at IMAGE, Bhubaneswar.**

A one day state level review meeting on implementation of Special Programme for promotion of millets in tribal areas (Odisha Millets Mission) was held on 25th October 2018 at IMAGE, Bhubaneswar under the Chairmanship of Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Odisha. Objective of the meeting was to review the progress of the implementation of Odisha Millets Mission (OMM) and identify different issues arising during the course of implementation of the programme.

After self-introduction, The Joint Director Agriculture (Millet), Odisha Millet Mission, said that OMM is a top priority programme for Government of Odisha. The focus of the programme is to improve the production and consumption of millets through different activities. Government of Odisha has also taken a historic decision to include the millets in state nutrition schemes and public distribution system. Though many strides have been made in the Odisha Millets Mission, many problems especially related to fund releases needs to be resolved.

Director, NCDS, Bhubaneswar and Joint Director Agriculture, Millet Mission also shared experiences in OMM.

Progress of Odisha Millets Mission was presented by State Coordinator, Programme Secretariat (WASSAN) on following subjects:

1. Target Vs Achievement of the Capacity building (CB) for FY 2017-18 & 2018-19.
2. Target Vs Achievement of area coverage for FY 2018-19.
3. Status of purchase of implements for custom hiring centres.
4. Status of selection of entrepreneurs for processing machines.
5. Status of selection of nodal agency for seed centres.
6. Status of submission of final farmer list for FY 2018-19.
7. Status of DBT for FY 2018-19.
8. Timeline of fund releases for FAs, CBO in FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19.
9. Status of fund releases for FAs, CBO in FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19.
10. Status of registration of farmers for Ragi procurement for KMS 2018-19.
11. Issues and challenges in implementation of project and procurement activities.
12. Issues related to bills and vouchers.

Detailed discussion took place on the each of the activities after the presentation.

Representatives of FA have said that fund releases are delayed by more than 6 months. Time gap between proposed fund release month and actual release of payment is more than 6 months. In case of districts such as Kandhamal, delay is more than 10 months.

As there is late release of funds, some of the programme components are not achieved as per target. It is suggested that salaries of FA staffs and CRPs may be delinked from the 70% mandatory fund utilisation. If targets still don't get achieved, then MoA may not be signed with concerned FA.

Funds for the new 25 extended blocks have not been released yet. The JDA Millet Mission said that all efforts are being made to release the necessary funds as soon as possible.

During 2017-18 the achievement was very low. Only 3334 Ha achieved against the target of 5488 ha (@ 196 ha x 28 blocks). Highest achievement was in case of Nuapada with 75% while lowest achievement was in Koraput district. Representatives of FA said that due to delayed fund release achievement were less.

During 2018-19 as against a target of 16,000 Hac, The FAs has submitted 12,334 Hac as achievement with a short fall of 3666 ha (only 77% achieved). Rayagada achieved highest area coverage with 95% while Nuapada achieved only 37% of its targeted area coverage. Extended dry spells, erratic rainfall and lack of proper contingency crop planning were cited as reasons for poor performance by FAs. Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Odisha, expressed his displeasure on the achievements particularly on Improved Agronomic Practices of millets.

. It was suggested that an exposure visit may be made to Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh to understand the process of protective irrigation. Protective irrigation funds available under OMM and Convergence plan should be mandatorily taken up by FAs in each block and suitable proposals may be submitted to DDA cum PD ATMA. The Collector & District Magistrate will make necessary steps in this regard. In addition Ragi crop may also be insured in suitable blocks.

Custom hiring centres have been established in all blocks. Nodal CBO have also been identified for managing seed centres in all districts. Millet machinery entrepreneurs have also been identified in all districts but enterprise promotion did not start as processing machinery specifications were yet to be finalised.

It was observed that apart from Gajapati, no other district has submitted the final farmer beneficiary list. Due to delay in submission of farmer list by the FAs, the DBT to farmers could not be initiated in many districts. Besides, DBT registration of new beneficiary farmers was also found to be unsatisfactory. Malkangiri achieved highest DBT registrations with 79.16% where as Rayagada was lowest with 14.59%. It was also found that mobile registration is very poor in the district..The Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Odisha, insisted to submit the beneficiary list within 3 days by the FAs.

Bills and voucher submission is becoming a major issue. Scheme officers from the dist said that the FAs and CBOs are not submitting the bills and vouchers in proper order violating the OGFR rules. Thus there is need for financial manual with an uniform bill & voucher format and proper certificates. Without proper documents, ATMA is unable to clear the bills in time. The Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Odisha, expressed that a financial protocol is being prepared and will be shared to all.

It is also proposed to allocate Rs 20,000/- per month for FAs to engage additional coordinator if they improve their performance and achieve the assigned target.

Procurement:-

After lunch break the discussion were made on ragi farmer registration. It is reported that only 17,402 farmers have been registered. The performance of online registration for ragi farmers is very less in non OMM blocks. Deadline for online registration of farmer should also be extended to 15th November 2018. Massive awareness campaigns should be launched in the districts to aware ragi farmers and efforts by all concerned be taken to enrol more farmers to be registered in PACS/ LAMPCS. In addition, there are many local NGOs engaged by different departments who can also be involved to improve the ragi farmer registration.

