

**GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

\*\*\*\*

**Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> State Level Steering Committee for preparation of U.T. of Puducherry Action Plan on Climate Change under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Puducherry held on 07.02.2023 at 11.30 AM to review the progress of the project on “Integrated Surface Water Management for Climate Change Adaptation in U.T. of Puducherry” under National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change**

The list of Officers who attended the meeting is enclosed as Annexure.

The Secretary (Science, Technology and Environment) welcomed the Chairman and Members of the State Level Steering Committee and made a presentation on the physical and financial progress of the NAFCC project. The status of project progress is stated below:

- Out of 39 Irrigation Tanks rejuvenated by PWD in Puducherry region, project works in 36 tanks have been completed and in 3 tank works were dropped due to permanent stagnation of water; No works are pending. PWD to settle the bills for all the completed works before end of February 2023.
- Out of 39 village ponds taken up for renovation in Puducherry region by the Commune Panchayats, project works in 34 ponds have been completed and in 3 ponds works were dropped due to permanent stagnation of water. Works are under progress in 2 ponds in Bahour Commune which is to be completed by end of February 2023 and all bills to be settled by the end of February 2023.
- In the mini lake formation work at Karaikal executed by PWD, 95% of the desilting work is completed; Road work and construction of Sluice Shutters are in progress and the entire project work to be completed by February 2023. Bill settlement for the works to be completed by 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023.
- Out of 147 ponds taken up for renovation in Karaikal region by the Municipality and Commune Panchayats, project works in 114 ponds have been completed, and works in 5 ponds were dropped due to permanent stagnation of water. Project works in 28 ponds are in progress and the executing entities have stated that the works will be completed by end of February 2023. Also, bill settlement for all the works to be completed by the end of February 2023.
- The financial utilization of the project till September 2022 is 9.35 Crores out of the total released amount of Rs. 12.93 Crores. Remaining Rs. 3.56 Crores is available as balance.

The Secretary (S,T&E) stated that the project timeline is already completed in September 2022. About 90% of the project works has been completed as of now. The pending works in 32 ponds is targeted to be completed before end of February 2023 and the balance work in the Mini Lake formation at Padutharkollai village, Karaikal will be completed by February 2023. Necessary documentation on project completion and outcomes including the Endline Survey



Report shall be finished by March 2023. Accordingly, a proposal for seeking extension of timeline till March 2023 for project closure and utilising the remaining balance amount of Rs. 3.56 Crores to settle the pending bills is placed before the steering committee for approval.

The Chief Secretary asked the reasons for the delay in the project completion. The officials from the project executing entities stated that the reasons for the delay in execution of project works were due to

- Early opening of Mettur Dam water in May 2022 and heavy rainfall during the monsoon has caused continues water stagnation in the ponds
- Repeated tenders had to be called for in some cases due to poor response
- Removal of encroachments in the ponds.

Now, Mettur dam water release has been stopped during second week of January 2023 and the project works have been commenced and will be completed by the end of February 2023.

The Chief General Manager, NABARD stated that the project had undergone several revisions and extension of timeline with approval of MoEFCC earlier. Hence, the project should be completed within the new timeline proposed subject to approval of MoEFCC.

After due deliberations, the steering committee approved the proposal for extension of the project timeline till March 2023 and permission to utilize the remaining balance amount of Rs. 3.56 Crores to settle the pending bills of the project and decided to recommend the proposal to MoEFCC and NABARD. DSTE shall submit a formal request to MoEFCC, Gol in this connection.

Further, the steering committee instructed the executing entities (PWD, Municipalities and Commune Panchayats) to expedite and complete the physical works in the ponds and mini lake project and settle all bills by February 2023. No more extension of timeline will be given. DSTE shall complete the project closure documentation works and Endline Survey Report by March 2023.

\*\*\*



## **Annexure**

### **List of participants**

**Chaired by:** Shri. Rajeev Verma, I.A.S., Chief Secretary to Government, Puducherry.

#### **Steering Committee members:**

1. Shri. M. Raju, I.A.S., Development Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government (Planning & Research), Puducherry.
2. Smt. A. Muthamma, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Transport; Science, Technology & Environment), Puducherry.
3. Shri. E. Vallavan, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Revenue & Disaster Management; Local Administration), Puducherry.
4. Shri. L. Kumar, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Animal Husbandry; Forest & Wildlife; Agriculture), Puducherry.
5. Shri. A. Nedunchezhiyan, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Fisheries), Puducherry.
6. Shri. T. Arun, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Public Works; Power), Puducherry.
7. Shri. T. Venkatakrishna, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Chennai.\*

#### **Officials from Govt. of Puducherry:**

1. Smt. P. Priyadarshini, Director, DST&E, Puducherry.
2. Shri. L. Mohamed Mansoor, District Collector, Karaikal.\*
3. Shri. A. Rajasekaran, SE (Circle – III), PWD, Karaikal.
4. Dr. R. Sagaya Alfred, Senior Scientific Officer, DST&E, Puducherry.
5. Shri. S. Sivakumar, Deputy Director (RD), LAD Puducherry.
6. Shri. K. Arunagirinathan, Deputy Director (LA), Karaikal.\*
7. Shri. A. Sureshraj, Commissioner, Oulgaret Municipality, Puducherry.
8. Shri. S. Subash, Commissioner, Karaikal Municipality, Puducherry.\*
9. Shri. R. Radhakrishnan, Executive Engineer, PWD, Puducherry.
10. Shri. K. Kalamegam, Environmental Engineer, DST&E, Puducherry.
11. Shri. V. Ejileradjane, Commissioner, MCP, Puducherry.
12. Shri. N. Jayakumar, Commissioner, NCP, Puducherry.
13. Shri. R. Cartiqueyane, Commissioner, Bahour Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
14. Shri. V. Ramesh, Commissioner, Ariyankuppam Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
15. Shri. D. Arumugam, Commissioner, Villianur Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
16. Shri. G. Elamurugan, Commissioner, TR. Pattinam & Neravy CP, Karaikal.\*
17. Shri. R. Balan, Commissioner, Nedungadu Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.\*
18. Shri. Chettiar Arunachalam Rajagopal, Commissioner, Thirunallur CP, Karaikal.\*
19. Shri. T. Sivanesan, Commissioner, Kottucherry Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.\*
20. Shri. R. Thirunavukarassu, Executive Engineer, LAD, Puducherry.
21. Shri. M. Loganathan, Executive Engineer, Karaikal Municipality, Karaikal.
22. Shri. A. Madivanane, Asst. Engineer, PWD, Puducherry.
23. Shri. J. Jayaraman, Asst. Engineer, PWD, Karaikal.
24. Shri. K. Malligarjunan, Asst. Engineer, Mannadipet Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
25. Shri. J. Manicassamy, Asst. Engineer, Nettapakkam Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
26. Shri. S. Amirthalingam, Asst. Engineer, Nedungadu Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.\*

#### **Officials from NABARD:**

1. Smt. N. Neeraja, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Chennai.\*
2. Smt. P. T. Usha, General Manager, NABARD, Chennai.\*
3. Smt. C. Sumithra, Deputy General Manager, NABARD, Chennai.\*
4. Shri. P.V. Sidharthan, District Development Manager, NABARD, Puducherry.

Note: \*Participation through Video Conference