

No. 7016/DSTE/PCCC/SAPCC/EE/2024/ 73
GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT
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Puducherry, the

16 FEB 2024

To

- ✓ 1. Shri. Ashish Madhaorao More, I.A.S., Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt. (Finance, Industries & Commerce, Education), Puducherry.
2. Smt. P. Muthumma, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Transport, S,T&E, Power), Puducherry.
3. Dr. D. Manikandan, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Public Works), Puducherry.
4. Shri. Pankaj Kumar Jha, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Health), Puducherry.
5. Shri. E. Vallavan, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Revenue, Local Administration), Puducherry.
6. Shri. Jayanta Kumar Ray, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Animal Husbandry, Forests, Agriculture), Puducherry.
7. Shri. A. Nedunchezhiyan, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Fisheries), Puducherry.
8. Shri. K. Balamurugan, DGM, NABARD, Puducherry.

Sir,

Sub: DSTE – PCCC – Circulation of Minutes of the 12th meeting of the State Level Steering Committee on Climate Change on the review of revised draft State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC 2.0) for the U.T. of Puducherry - Reg.

The minutes of the 12th meeting of the State Level Steering Committee on Climate Change under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary held on 04.01.2024 at 11:00 A.M. at the Conference Hall of the Chief Secretariat, Puducherry for the purpose of review and approval of Revised State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) for the U.T. of Puducherry is enclosed for kind perusal and necessary action.

Yours sincerely,



(YASAM LAKSHMI NARAYANA REDDY)
DIRECTOR

Copy to:

1. The P.S. to Chief Secretary, Puducherry – For kind information of Chief Secretary.
2. Standing Guard File.

Minutes of the 12th meeting of the State Level Steering Committee for preparation of U.T. of Puducherry Action Plan on Climate Change convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry for the review and approval of the draft revised State Action Plan on Climate Change held on 04.01.2024 at 11:00 A.M. in the Conference Hall of the Chief Secretariat, Puducherry.

The 12th meeting of the State Level Steering Committee for preparation of U.T. of Puducherry Action Plan on Climate Change was convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry on 04.01.2024 at 11:00 A.M. in the Conference Hall of the Chief Secretariat, Puducherry for the purpose of review and approval of the draft revised State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC 2.0). The list of Officials attended the meeting is enclosed as Annexure-I.

At the outset, the Secretary (Science, Technology and Environment) welcomed the members of the SLSCCC and briefed the Chief Secretary on the process of revision of SAPCC undertaken by DSTE and elaborated on the compliance to the decisions taken in the 11th SLSCCC meeting. As decided in the previous SLSCCC meeting, the draft SAPCC has been revised in consultation with the Secretaries and HODs to incorporate new and forward-looking mitigation and adaptation strategies. The total budget allocated to the plan has increased from ₹2787.48 crore to ₹7768.21 crore. Additionally, the revised plan maps the adaptation and mitigation activities to the available CS/CSS funds.

The Chief Secretary stated that Net Zero Action Plan and Carbon Credit proposals need to be developed for the U.T. on priority basis to secure additional funds for climate actions. Dr. Suruchi Bhadwal, Director, Climate Change Division, TERI, New Delhi stated that TERI is already working with states like Punjab and Haryana in framing Net Zero Action Plan with funding from external agencies and TERI can also support Puducherry for preparing Net Zero Action Plan if they could secure additional funds. TERI can also help the UT in preparing project proposal to garner carbon credit for Puducherry in due course, but asserted that carbon credit projects are completely separate projects and they cannot be a part of SAPCC and TERI may be approached on this with a fresh proposal.

Following the initial discussion, a detail presentation on the revised SAPCC 2.0 was made by Dr. Bhadwal. She explained how the revised SAPCC followed the common framework of the MoEFCC, and gave an overview of the climate and vulnerability profiles of the four regions of the U.T. that are covered in the SAPCC. She also presented the sectoral climate change mitigation and adaptation activities that were submitted by the line Departments after several consultations with the concerned Secretaries to Government and the line Departments.

The Conservator of Forests and Wildlife, Puducherry stated that Chandigarh is carrying out Carbon Footprint Assessment at Department levels with a vision of making Chandigarh Carbon Neutral. He suggested inclusion of such activities within SAPCC. He also stated that the document is very generic and suggested that the SAPCC document should describe the precise indicators for monitoring and evaluation of various mitigation and adaptation activities. Dr. Bhadwal, TERI stated that the draft SAPCC presented is a comprehensive document adhering to the framework of MoEFCC, and the document is prepared based on extensive climate and vulnerability assessment studies that are specific to Puducherry, with all the mitigation and adaptation interventions chosen based on an extensive and a series of consultation process with all the Secretaries and the line Departments. She clarified that, MoEFCC discourages GHG Reporting at sub national level in the SAPCCs, hence conducting departmental GHG / Carbon footprint may be done as separate exercise and cannot be a part of the revision of state action plan. She also stated that a separate chapter on monitoring and evaluation of SAPCC is included in the document outlining simple framework for monitoring the outcome of the multi-sectoral climate mitigation and adaptation actions listed in the documents. The departments shall prepare specific indicators for each activity at the stage of preparing the detailed project documents, based on the framework outlined in the SAPCC report.

Following the presentation, the Chief Secretary emphasized the need to expedite several proposed activities for accelerating the progress of climate actions. He observed that most "Renewable Energy" initiatives could be advanced from the long-term (2030 completion) to medium-term (2025 completion) category. This includes achieving 100% solar power installation in all government buildings by 2024 and maximizing rooftop solar adoption in households by 2026. Additionally, he expressed concern regarding the limited scope of e-buses (25 buses by 2030) and recommended a significant increase. Furthermore, he urged the solarization of all proposed electric vehicle charging stations.

The Chief Secretary also called for strengthening the adaptation activities in terms of capacity, beneficiary reach and timelines. He highlighted specific areas for expansion, such as building more check dams, rain water harvesting structures, creation of new water bodies, wetland conservation, mangrove rejuvenation, promoting natural farming in villages, establishing common wastewater treatment plants for industrial estates, implementing AI-based vessel tracking systems in all fishing crafts, etc. All the adaptation activities shall be reviewed further and refined with enhanced capacities and timelines in conjunction with the commitments made under various Government of India schemes. The budget components also to be revised accordingly. He requested that the concerned Secretaries shall bestow their personal attention to this and furnish the copies of revised action plans within 15 days.

After detail deliberations, the following decisions were made:

1. All the Secretaries shall review the climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in terms of capacity, beneficiary reach and timelines and furnish the copies of refined action plan for their respective departments to DSTE within 15 days.
11. DSTE to pursue action for preparing Net Zero Plan and Carbon Credit proposals for U.T. of Puducherry.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair.


(YASAM LAKSHMI NARAYANA REDDY)
DIRECTOR

List of Participants

Chaired by:

Shri. Rajeev Verma, I.A.S., Chief Secretary, Government of Puducherry.

Members:

1. Shri. Ashish Madhaorao More, I.A.S., Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt. (Industries & Commerce, Education), Puducherry.
2. Smt. P. Muthumma, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Transport, S,T&E, Power), Puducherry.
3. Dr. D. Manikandan, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Public Works), Puducherry.
4. Shri. Pankaj Kumar Jha, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Health), Puducherry.
5. Shri. E. Vallavan, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Revenue, Local Administration), Puducherry.
6. Shri. Jayanta Kumar Ray, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Animal Husbandry, Forests, Agriculture), Puducherry.
7. Shri. A. Nedunchezhiyan, I.A.S., Secretary to Govt. (Fisheries), Puducherry.
8. Shri. K. Balamurugan, DGM, NABARD, Puducherry – *representing CGM, NABARD, Chennai.*
9. Shri. Yasam Lakshmi Narayana Reddy, Director, Department of Science, Technology & Environment, Puducherry. -- *Convenor*

Government Officials:

1. Shri. Arulrajan, I.F.S., Conservator of Forests, Department of Forests & Wildlife, Puducherry.
2. Shri. K. Veeraselvam, Chief Engineer, PWD, Puducherry
3. Dr. R. Sagaya Alfred, Senior Scientific Officer, DSTE, Puducherry.
4. Shri. R. Radhakrishnan, Executive Engineer, PWD, Puducherry.
5. Shri. K. Kalamegam, Environmental Engineer, DSTE, Puducherry.
6. Shri. A. Madivanane, Assistant Engineer, PWD, Puducherry.

TERI Officials:

1. Dr. Suruchi Bhadwal, Director, Climate Change Division, TERI, New Delhi.
2. Smt. Veena CP, Research Associate, TERI, New Delhi.