

No. 6398/DSTE/PCCC/NAFCC/EE/2022/231
GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT
PUDUCHERRY CLIMATE CHANGE CELL
3rd FLOOR, PHB BUILDING, ANNA NAGAR, PUDUCHERRY - 605 005.
Telephone: (0413) 2201256 ; Telefax: (0413) 2203494.

Puducherry, the 21 APR 2022

Sir / Madam,

Sub: DSTE – Minutes of the meeting of 9th State Level Steering Committee for preparation of Union Territory of Puducherry Action Plan on Climate Change - to review the project “Integrated surface water management for Climate Change Adaptation in U.T. of Puducherry” under National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change - Circulated - Reg.

Minutes of the 9th State Level Steering Committee meeting for preparation of Union Territory of Puducherry Action Plan on Climate Change held on 11.04.2022 at 11.30 A.M. under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary at III Floor, Conference Hall, Chief Secretariat, Puducherry, to review the project “Integrated Surface Water Management for Climate Change Adaptation in Puducherry” under National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change is enclosed for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

13/4

(SMITHA. R., I.A.S.)
DIRECTOR

To

Steering Committee members:

1. The Development Commissioner-cum-Principal Secretary to Government (Planning & Research), Puducherry.
2. The Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government (Revenue & Disaster Management; Transport; School Education), Puducherry.
3. The Secretary to Government (Health), Puducherry.
4. The Secretary to Government (Animal Husbandry; Rural Development; Agriculture), Puducherry.
5. The Secretary to Government (Forest & Wildlife; Science, Technology & Env't.), Puducherry.
6. The Secretary to Government (Local Administration), Puducherry.
7. The Secretary to Government (Fisheries), Puducherry.
8. The Secretary to Government (Industries & Commerce; Public Works; Power), Puducherry.
9. The Chief General Manager, NABARD, Chennai.

Special Invitees:

1. The District Collector, Karaikal.
2. The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Puducherry.
3. The Director, Local Administration Department, Puducherry.
4. The Director, Agriculture Department, Puducherry.
5. The Superintending Engineer, Circle – II, PWD, Puducherry.
6. The Superintending Engineer, Circle – III, PWD, Karaikal.
7. The Deputy Director, Local Administration Department, Karaikal.
8. The Commissioner, Mannadipet Commune Panchayat, Puducherry - 605501.
9. The Commissioner, Nettapakkam Commune Panchayat, Puducherry - 605106.
10. The Commissioner, Bahour Commune Panchayat, Puducherry - 607402.
11. The Commissioner, Ariyankuppam Commune Panchayat, Puducherry - 605007.
12. The Commissioner, Karaikal Municipality, Karaikal - 609 602.
13. The Commissioner, T.R. Pattinam Commune Panchayat, Karaikal - 609 606.
14. The Commissioner, Thirunallar Commune Panchayat, Karaikal - 609 607.
15. The Commissioner, Kottucherry Commune Panchayat, Karaikal - 609 609.
16. The Commissioner, Neravy Commune Panchayat, Karaikal - 609 604.
17. The Commissioner, Nedungadu Commune Panchayat, Karaikal - 609 603.

Copy to:

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

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the 9th 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 11.04.2022 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

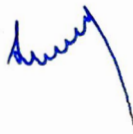
The list of Officers who attended the meeting is enclosed as Annexure.

Agenda Item No. 1: Review of the progress of the NAFCC project “Integrated Surface Water Management for Climate Change Adaptation in U.T. of Puducherry”

The Secretary (Science, Technology and Environment) made a presentation on the physical and financial progress of the NAFCC project. The steering committee observed that the works need to be speeded up and completed without further delay. The Secretary (S,T&E) appraised the physical progress of work as below:

- PWD, Puducherry (39 irrigation tanks) – 32 tanks completed, 4 tanks to be completed by May 2022 and 3 tanks proposed to be dropped.
- Commune Panchayats, Puducherry (39 ponds) – 25 ponds completed, 8 ponds to be completed by May 2022, 4 ponds to be completed by June 2022 and 2 ponds proposed to be dropped.
- PWD, Karaikal (formation of one mini lake) – Jungle clearance completed and formation of bund under progress; all works will be completed by August 2022.
- Municipality and Commune Panchayats, Karaikal (147 ponds) – 12 ponds completed, 104 ponds to be completed by May 2022, 31 ponds to be completed by June 2022.

2. PWD informed that works in 3 irrigation tanks in Puducherry could not be taken up due to permanent water stagnation and hence may be dropped. Likewise, Secretary (LA) informed that two ponds in Mannadipet Commune Panchayat could not be taken up due to encroachments and hence may be dropped to avoid further delay. Steering committee however advised that encroachment of waterbody needs to be taken seriously and High Court, Madras has passed strict orders for protection of waterbodies. Therefore Local body / LAD must nevertheless remove encroachment. Dropping them from the project does not absolve local body from carrying out its duty.



3. LAD / Karaikal Municipality informed that the works in Karaikal became part of the project later and have not been finalizing the tender due to poor response to tenders. But now, tendering process is nearing completion and work orders will be issued before April end. Unprecedented extremely heavy rainfall during February 2021 and during North East Monsoon in October – December 2021 resulted in water stagnation in ponds and has delayed the commencement of desilting work in the ponds where work orders were already issued. Now that the ponds are getting dry during summer, works will be commenced and completed by June 2022 in all the ponds.

4. General Manager, NABARD stated that the newly formed tank bunds and pond bunds should be stabilised by tree plantation. This could be implemented in convergence with ongoing activities of Forest Department and DRDA.

5. The Committee noted negligence of officials in recommending work which turned out to be non-feasible due to water stagnation. This negligence is a matter of concern as it took place even while submitting changes in project.

Action points:

- i) All works in the irrigation tanks at Puducherry shall be completed by May 2022.

(Action by: Irrigation Division – PWD, Puducherry)

- ii) All works in village ponds at Puducherry and Karaikal regions shall be completed by June 2022.

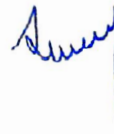
(Action by: Concerned Municipalities and Commune Panchayats, LAD)

- iii) Mini Lake formation work at Padutharkollai, Karaikal shall be completed by August 2022.

(Action by: Irrigation Division – PWD, Karaikal)

- iv) Tree plantation along the bunds of irrigation tanks, mini lake and ponds shall be carried out before next monsoon, in convergence with the activities of Forest Department and DRDA.

**(Action by: PWD, Municipalities and Commune Panchayats, LAD,
Forest Dept. & DRDA)**



- v) Explanation may be called from the officers who proposed DPR and now the work are stated to be non-feasible due to water stagnation or encroachment and proposal be submitted for suitable action against negligence.

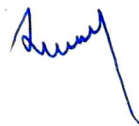
(Action by: Secretary (S,T &E))

Agenda Item No. 2: Seeking approval for extension of project time lime for the NAFCC project “Integrated Surface Water Management Ponds for Climate Change Adaptation in U.T. of Puducherry”

Secretary (S,T&E) informed that the approval of MoEFCC for the revised DPR was issued on 24-11-2021. She also stated that earlier the Model Code of Conduct for Legislative Assembly election during March – April 2021 and Model Code of Conduct for local body election during September – October 2021 caused certain delay in the tendering process. The heavy rainfall during February 2021 and North East Monsoon during October – December 2021 caused some delay in executing the desilting works in waterbodies.

Secretary (S,T&E) informed the committee that the timeline for completion of the project ends in April 2022 and a formal request need to be submitted to MoEFCC, GoI seeking extension of time line. After due deliberation, the committee advised the executing entities to complete all the physical works as per the timelines committed by them during the meeting. No further extension will be entertained. All physical works shall be completed before August 2022 and bill settlement and project closure shall be completed by September 2022. Administrative Secretary / HOD / Engineer concerned shall ensure proper due diligence with respect to the quality of work and also ensure that the payment made to contractors is commensurate to the work executed.

The steering committee approved the proposal for extension of time line and decided to recommend to MoEFCC and NABARD accordingly.



Annexure

List of participants

Chaired by:

Shri. Ashwani Kumar, I.A.S., Chief Secretary to Government, Puducherry.

Steering Committee members:

1. Shri. Prashant Goyal, I.A.S., Development Commissioner-cum- Principal Secretary to Government (Planning & Research), Puducherry.
2. Shri. C. Udaya Kumar, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Health), Puducherry.
3. Shri. R. Smitha, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Forests & Wildlife; Science, Technology & Environment), Puducherry.
4. Shri. E. Vallavan, I.A.S., Secretary to Government (Local Administration), Puducherry.

Officials from Govt. of Puducherry:

1. Shri. Ravideep Singh Chahar, Director, Local Administration Department, Puducherry.
2. Shri. A. Baskaran, SE (Circle – II), PWD, Puducherry.
3. Shri. A. Rajasekaran, SE (Circle – III), PWD, Karaikal.
4. Dr. R. Sagaya Alfred, Senior Scientific Officer, DST&E, Puducherry.
5. Shri. K. Kalamegam, Environmental Engineer, DST&E, Puducherry.
6. Shri. V. Ejileradjane, Commissioner, MCP, Puducherry.
7. Shri. N. Jayakumar, Commissioner, NCP, Puducherry.
8. Shri. R. Cartiqueyane, Commissioner, Bahour Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
9. Shri. M. Loganathan, Executive Engineer, Karaikal Municipality, Karaikal.
10. Shri. K. Veeraselvam, Executive Engineer, I & P.H. Division, PWD, Karaikal.
11. Shri. G. Elamurugan, Commissioner, TR. Pattinam & Neravy Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.
12. Shri. R. Balan, Commissioner, Kottacherry & Nedungadu Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.
13. Shri. N. Ravi, Commissioner, Thirunallur Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.
14. Shri. P. Lakshmanan, SAP, DRDA, Puducherry.
15. Shri. K. Malligarjunan, Asst. Engineer, Mannadipet Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
16. Shri. S. Mouttousivame, Assistant Engineer, Bahour Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
17. Shri. P. Nagaradjan, Asst. Engineer, Ariyankuppam Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
18. Shri. S. Amirthalingam, Asst. Engineer, Nedungadu Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.
19. Shri. J. Manicassamy, Asst. Engineer, Nettapakkam Commune Panchayat, Puducherry.
20. Shri. A. Madivanane, Jr. Engineer, PWD, Puducherry.
21. Shri. P. Maiyazhagan, Jr. Engineer, TR. Pattinam & Neravy Commune Panchayat, Karaikal.

Officials from NABARD:

1. Shri. S. Sreepathy Kalkura, General Manager, NABARD, Chennai.
2. Shri. P.V. Sidharthan, DDM, NABARD, Puducherry.

