


Memo No. AGA 318/2011/Pt/313

Dated Dispur the 26th October, 2016

Copy to:

1. Members present.....
2. P.S to Addl. Chief Secretary & APC, Agriculture, for kind appraisal of Addl. Chief Secretary & APC, Agriculture.
3. P.S to Comm & Secretary, Agriculture, for kind appraisal of Comm & Secretary, Agriculture.
4. The Director of Agriculture, Assam, Khanapara for kind information and necessary actions.
5. Sri Mrinal Barman, Dy Director and NO NeGP-A, Khanapara for information & Necessary action.

By Order etc.,


Addl. Secy to the Govt. of Assam,
Agriculture Deptment, Dispur

30/9/16

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT
ASSAM SECRETARIAT, BLOCK – D, 1st FLOOR,
DISPUR, GUWAHATI – 781006

MINUTES OF MEETING

State Empowered Committee Meeting- NeGP-A

Date	23 rd September 2016	Time	11:00 AM
Place	Chamber of Additional Chief Secretary cum Agricultural Production Commissioner (APC), Department of Agriculture, D Block, 1 st Floor, Assam Secretariat, Dispur – 781005		
Project Name	National e-Governance Plan, Agriculture (NeGP-A)		
Participating Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agriculture ii. Horticulture iii. Animal Husbandry & Veterinary iv. National Informatics Centre (NIC), Assam v. Assam State Seed Certification Agency (ASSCA) vi. Assam State Agricultural Marketing Board (ASAMB) vii. Information Technology (SeMT, Assam) viii. Fisheries ix. BSNL x. PwC (SPMU, NeGP-A) 		

Topic	<p>To discuss the overview, current status, issues & challenges being faced in implementing NeGP-A in Assam. Agenda points are-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Finalization of service portfolio2. Establish Project Governance Structure3. Identification of sites & Deployment of hardware4. Framework for Project Implementation5. Major activities performed and Current Status6. Pilot Go-Live7. State-wide roll out8. Fund Status
Introduction	<p>A meeting on review of NeGP-A, Assam was held on 23-Sep-16 at 11:00 A.M. at the chamber of the Additional Chief Secretary cum APC, Govt. of Assam, Agriculture Dept. in pursuance to the Govt. notification vide No. AGA 318/2011/Pt/297, dated 22nd Sept 2016. The meeting was chaired by the Addl. Chief Secretary, Agriculture cum APC Assam.</p> <p>At the outset, the participants were welcomed by the chair briefing about the agenda of the meeting followed by an interactive discussion session. On behalf of NeGP Cell-Assam, Chief Nodal Officer NeGP-A gave a brief introduction of the activities undertaken and requested State Project Management Unit (SPMU) to cover the details regarding all the activities. SPMU provided a brief background of the project, detailed progress made so far, key issues and challenges regarding implementation (state-wide rollout) of the scheme in Assam.</p>



ACTION ITEMS:

Sl No.	Points of Discussion	Responsible Person	Remarks	Target Date
1	<p>Releasing of pending state share to Directorate of Agriculture</p> <p>A total of INR 134.16 Lakhs is pending to be released by state for the scheme. A letter (No Z-11018/35/2016-IT FTS No 27094 dated 05-Aug-16) is already received from DACFW, GoI that till utilization of pending state share and remaining Central share with Assam, no more fund will be released from Centre. CNO, NeGP-A submitted the letter to honourable APC.</p>	DoA, Assam	Honourable APC assured the release of the pending state share to Directorate of Agriculture within the current financial year. As NeGP-A fund is being deposited & maintained through the ASFAC A/C, arrangement for depositing the said fund may be ASFAC A/C for easier transaction.	October 2016
2	<p>Provision of dedicated Connectivity to targeted locations</p> <p>Presence of connectivity at all targeted site locations is the backbone for a successful implementation of this esteemed scheme. A request letter was already submitted to BSNL during March, 2016 to make provision of connectivity initially in 04 pilot districts which didn't happen. This was one of the important point of discussion brought into the notice of BSNL authorities to make provision of suitable connectivity as per the feasibility of remaining sites across the state. General Manager, Kamrup Metro & Assistant Director, BSNL assured the department to fulfil this requirement within an earliest possible time.</p>	DoA, Assam/Agriculture Directorate/BSNL/SPMU, NeGP-A	As per suggestion of honourable APC and Commissioner & Secretary, this has been planned to submit the list of all targeted locations with detailed address and contact authority of the districts marking the priority sites where establishment of connectivity is in an immediate requirement. Accordingly, BSNL will carry out a feasibility study and submit suitable proposal to Department of Agriculture.	1 st week of October, 2016

3	<p>Notification to all District Agricultural Officer (DAO) s to start real-time transactions of rolled out services developed integrating with SSDG.</p>	DoA, Assam/All DAOs	<p>A notification will be circulated from Department of Agriculture initially for pilot districts and subsequently for rest of the districts to start real-time transactions for the services once capacity building programme gets over in October 2016.</p>	November, 2016
	<p>During Pilot Go-Live on 29-June-16, two agricultural services were made live which were developed under e-District programme (SUGAM) integrating with SSDG. Capacity building programme is already carried out throughout the state except 04 districts namely Baksa, Bongaigaon, Chirang & Udalguri and those are also going to be completed in the month of October 2016. But, the real-time transaction is not yet being started from pilot (Barpeta, Kamrup, Nagaon & Nalbari) & other districts where CB programme is already completed. A date may be planned from when acceptance of manual applications for these services should be stopped. The services are-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Application for grant of Fresh License for Fertilizer/Pesticide ii. Application for grant of Renewal License for Fertilizer/Pesticide 			
4	<p>Delegation of financial power to Director, Agriculture to release pending Invoices submitted by M/s Omega Security Solution,</p>	DoA, Assam/ Agriculture Directorate	<p>Honourable APC and Commissioner & Secretary commented that as the NeGP-A fund is already drawn and with ASFAC A/C, Director Agriculture may issue release order to authority of ASFAC for invoices submitted against NeGP-A scheme by M/s Omega Security Solutions.</p>	September, 2016
	<p>Under NeGP-A scheme, data entry operator (DEO) s are deployed in all DAOs which were hired through an agency named as M/s Omega Security Solution following govt. tendering process. Invoice for the 1st quarter of deployed DEOs are not yet released to ASFAC A/C of NeGP-A fund due to lack of delegation of financial power to Director, Agriculture which is yet</p>			

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	to receive by the Directorate from Govt. of Assam. Because of this all DEOs are not getting their salary for the month of June, July & August.			
5	Delegation of financial power to Director, Agriculture to release pending Invoice submitted by M/s PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd (PwC). The invoice raised by PwC, SPMU NeGP-A is also pending to get released against deliverable "Pilot Go-Live". PwC has already submitted a letter to Directorate to make provision for releasing their invoice. The reason behind is as same as explained in point sl. 4.	DoA, Assam/ Agriculture Directorate	Honourable APC and Commissioner & Secretary commented that as the NeGP-A fund is already drawn and with ASFAC A/C, Director Agriculture may issue release order to authority of ASFAC for pending invoices submitted against NeGP-A scheme by PwC.	September, 2016
6	Arrangement of workshop to conduct training on services rolled out by Centre This was proposed by CNO, NeGP-A & SPMU that workshop on the rolled out services by Centre can be planned to hold in the state inviting resource person from DACFW, Gol. All DAOs, District Nodal Officers for NeGP-A, and DEOs may participate in the workshop which will help the state in understanding the effective utilization of all 36 services rolled out by Centre.	DoA, Assam/Agriculture Directorate/SPMU, NeGP-A	Honourable APC appreciated the idea of conducting such kind of workshop in the state. He asked to draft a request letter asking convenient date & time from DACFW, Centre to organise one day programme which will be sent from Department of Agriculture.	October, 2016
7	Identification and application development of Agricultural/allied services for online service delivery SPMU, NeGP-A and SeMT Consultant from IT department apprised that more services covering agricultural & allied sectors can be planned to develop	DoA, Assam/IT Deptt., Assam/Agriculture & allied Directorates/SPMU, NeGP-A	A letter should be circulated to concerned Directorates within short notice for getting due approval for further pursuance of development for the identified services and steps should be taken to complete the process of online service delivery.	December, 2016



	for online service delivery. An initial level study is already carried out in this regard by SPMU, identification of such services may be finalized with due consent from concerned Directorate.			
8	<p>Updation/formation of district implementation committee as per agricultural/geographic jurisdiction (wherever applicable) and regular review of NeGP-A implementation progress at district level preferably every month</p> <p>As per the governance structure of this scheme, District Implementation Committee has to play a vital role in resolving ground level issues for smooth implementation of the scheme. All districts should come forward with periodic review on monthly basis under the chairpersonship of respective Deputy Commissioner (DC) s. If any updation/formation is applicable to any district, that may be notified to Department within a short period of time.</p>	DoA, Assam/Agriculture Directorate/ All District Implementation Committee/SPMU, NeGP-A	Honourable APC asked to draft a letter to all DAO (s), regarding updation/formation of respective District Implementation Committees and hold meeting regularly on a monthly basis. Proceedings of each meeting should be circulated to Department of Agriculture.	October, 2016
9	<p>Periodic review of NeGP-A progress at state level in a bi-monthly frequency</p> <p>CNO, NeGP-A and SPMU requested APC and other higher authorities to hold periodic review of the progress of the scheme at state level. This will help in resolving the issues & challenges faced by Directorate.</p>	DoA, Assam/Agriculture Directorate/SPMU, NeGP-A	Honourable APC suggested to assemble State Empowered Committee (SEC) on bi-monthly basis preferably every first Monday of the (2 nd) month and so on. The next SEC meeting may be called for by 7 th November 2016, Monday.	November, 2016
10	<p>Creating awareness among farmers/citizens /dealers/vendors etc. by utilizing electronic/ paper media to get benefits of the advisory services of the scheme</p> <p>The awareness among farmers has been observed not encouraging as found during SPMU visit to all districts</p>	DoA, Assam/Agriculture Directorate/SPMU, NeGP-A	Honourable APC and Commissioner & Secretary encouraged to utilize newspapers, radios, TVs etc. to publish/ broadcast advertise about the various services being developed under the scheme in	October, 2016



	of Assam in perspective of State-wide Go-Live of the scheme. Awareness programme may be thought of by utilizing various medias through which farmers/citizens and other stakeholders of the project may know about information/advisories which will benefited them.		regional language. The District Implementation Teams to play a critical role in sensitization of the farmers and other stakeholders	
11	State-wide Go-Live of NeGP-A programme in the state of Assam The scheme is running to achieve state-wide Go-Live in all targeted locations as per the progress on current date. The issues & challenges are already presented in front of honourable APC and other higher authorities which need to be addressed to meet this goal. Suggestions were looking forward from Department in this regard.	DoA, Assam/Agriculture Directorate/District Implementation Committee/SPMU, NeGP-A	Honourable APC asked to plan state-wide roll out in a phased manner, identifying the readiness and other preparedness in terms of infrastructure readiness, manpower deployment etc. in the districts.	March, 2017
12	A few interventions proposed to Department of Agriculture by PwC, SPMU NeGP-A PwC presented a few intervened solutions to honourable APC and other attendees in the meeting which are being adopted and followed by other states of the country as best practices and they are successful at a very large extent. If these solutions can be planned and agreed by DoA, PwC may provide full support to department in implementing those interventions in Assam as well.	DoA, Assam/Agriculture Directorate/SPMU, NeGP-A	APC welcomed the approach presented by PwC, he asked to submit a concept paper to Director, Consulting, PwC Mr. Supriya Das & SPMU, NeGP-A. If appropriate, the department will action on the note/paper to get approved by GoA as well as GoI. Accordingly, formal submission of proposal for the agreed and approved solution can be followed.	October, 2016

ATTENDEES: (In next page)

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No.	Name	Designation	Dept.	Signature	St. No. / Date
200	Manoj Das	Deputy Commissioner Assam	Commissioner	Manoj Das	24/05/16
201	Multi Sign	Comm & Eng Assam	AI 2003	LSJ	24/05/2016
202	A. Bhargue	Comm & Eng Assam		AmS	24/05/2016
203	M.P. Ghosh	Deputy Director Assam	Revenue	G. S. Ghosh	24/05/2016
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The meeting is ended with vote of thanks from the chair.


 Addl. Chief Secretary & APC
 Govt. of Assam