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F.No 27035/22/2016-Fy(IV)

Government of India

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated the 2rd November, 2017 9th

ORDER

Subject: Adoption of MGNREGS ponds for Aquaculture (Fish Seed Rearing & Growout culture)-

In continuation to this Ministry's letter No 27035-22/2016-Fy(IV) dated May, 2017 with reference to Memorandum of Understanding with Dept. of Rural Development, MoRD regarding convergence of MGNREGS and schemes under Blue Revolution Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries a MOU for convergence between MoRD and MoA&FW meant to optimize synergies between these schemes of two Ministries has been developed with the aim to maximize the outcome of the investment under these programmes.

2. Accordingly, the guidelines are hereby issued (Annexure-A) with details regarding technical specifications, components, subsidy and subsidy sharing pattern for effective implementation of the programmes.

3. State Governments /UT Administrations/ NFDB are requested to formulate specific action plan, strategy and roadmap for effective convergence of these programmes in their respective States/UTs. The State Governments/ UTs are also requested to sensitize all the concerned fisheries stakeholders such as State agencies/ organisations, corporations, federations, fisheries cooperatives, individual beneficiaries about the provisions of the scheme.

- 4. Self- contained project proposals in respect of the desired component in accordance with the provisions in the enclosed guidelines may be submitted through State Governments for availing the central financial assistance under the CSS. Availability of adequate matching budgetary provision in State budget, necessary clearances and land wherever necessary, need to be specifically indicated in the proposals:
- 5. The order is issued subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - a) Provisions of General Financial Rules, 2017 shall be applicable henceforth.
 - b) Release of funds shall be as per Cash Management System guidelines issued by Budget Division, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance vide OM No. 15(39) –B(R) / 2016, dated 21.8.2017.
 - c) The flow of funds is to be ensured through PFMS/DBT platforms.
 - d) The UCs shall be submitted only through PFMS in accordance with guidelines issued in this regard by the Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

6. No request for *ex-post facto* approval of any proposal would be entertained.

(AmarjeetSinha)

Secretary Rural Development (Devendra Chaudhry)

Secretary

Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries

Signales

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(as approved by the competent authority)

Guidelines for Adoption of MGNREGS ponds for Aquaculture (Fish Seed Rearing & Grow-out culture)

Preamble 1.

- Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Blue Revolution has adequate provision for suitable linkages and convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). The State Governments, UTs and other agencies shall converge Blue Revolution scheme with MGNREGS, "multipurpose farm ponds" that are being excavated in the land of small and marginal farmers for multipurpose use like pisciculture, Conservation, Protective Irrigation, Horticulture, and Plantation to improve their livelihood status.
 - As per the report of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, the number of farm ponds constructed under MGNREGS for various states/UTs in India were 1.2 6,10,569 nos during 2016-17 and 1,58,942 nos in 2015-16. Further in case of 2016-17, the top 10 states with regard to number of the farm ponds constructed under MGNAREGA are: Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Telangana, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The aforesaid 10 states have a share of 94.05% in the total farm ponds constructed under MGNAREGA as a whole during 2016-17 as shown below:

No. of excavated MGNAREGA Farm Ponds (2016-17)

SI. No.	State	No of farm ponds completed
	Andhra Pradesh	309539.
1	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	94382
2	Jharkhand harkhand	36087
3	West Bengal	32664
4	Telangana	
5	Rajasthan	25677
	Karnataka	23140
6	Madhya Pradesh	14611
7		13535
8	Odisha	13077
9	Uttar Pradesh	11523
10	Chhattisgarh	
	Total	5,74,235

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1.3 In this context, it is to be noted that these MGNREGS ponds can be used more profitably by synergising their use for fisheries development. It is advised that, hereafter the ponds that are dug/ renovated on public land, under MGNREGS, for the purpose of development of aquaculture/ fisheries should be as per physical construction parameters/design etc., as best suitable for fish rearing/ aquaculture. The ponds on farmer's cultivable land are primarily meant for irrigation. However, even these could be constructed as per technical specification for pisciculture, if farmer so desires. The Fisheries Officer at Block level shall provide the necessary technical inputs and supervision of construction/ renovation/ modification of ponds. Under Blue Revolution Scheme assistance will be in form of assistance such as input costs, manures, etc., for more profitable outcomes.

Objective of the BR- MGNREGS Components

- 2.1 It is therefore proposed to launch the Blue Revolution MGNREGS as a component of the Blue Revolution Scheme already approved by the Cabinet. The objective of the scheme will be to bring the multipurpose farm ponds constructed through MGNREGS under fish farming. It is proposed to use MGNREGS ponds both for fish seed rearing and table fish production depending on the size and depth of the pond, water holding capacity, water retention period etc. Smaller ponds with less depth and having water retention capacity for 4-6 months in a year can be utilized for fish seed rearing (as nursery pond-growing spawn to fry & fingerling). Bigger ponds with more depth and having water retention capacity for 8 months or more in a year can be utilizes for growing table size fish (as grow-out pond).
 - the purpose of fish culture from the year 2017-18. For 2017-18, it is proposed to take up at least 5% of the 6,10,569 ponds excavated in 2016-17 for fish culture activities. This figure comes to 30,528 no's. However, keeping the limited time available during 2017-18, around 25,000 no of ponds is targeted for taking up fisheries activities. Thus, a total of 25,000 nos. MGNREGS Ponds will be covered under Blue Revolution for fish seed / table fish production during 2017-18. The fish seed production component would be further dovetailed with already devised Mission Fingerling Programme wherever possible. Further for ponds to be dug in 2017-18, DRD it is advised to follow the technical specifications as at Annexure-I and Annexure-II for pond execution for aquaculture wherever possible.

Activities proposed

- Identification of suitable ponds renovated/dug under MGNREGS for fish seed rearing and grow-out culture with suitable modification as required for proper aquaculture as per parameters and design at (Annexure-I & Annexure-II).
- Input costs as per already notified Blue Revolution Guidelines No 27035-19/2015 (ii) Fy(IV) dated 28th September, 2017 (Annexure-III)
- Input costs assistance for (fish seed rearing assistance as per BR Guidelines notified vide No 27035-19/2015 Fy (IV) Vol.II dated 30th June, 2016 and their addendum/clarification issued from time to time (Annexure-IV).
 - Capacity Building by NFDB: 100% assistance through NFDB component (para-4 of BR (iv) Guidelines No. 27035-19/2015-Fy(IV) dated 28th September, 2017).

Unit Cost

The unit costs for both grow out fish culture and fish seed rearing is governed by the Central Sector Scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries, 2016 issued by Gol as per No. 27035-19/2015-Fy (IV) Vol. II. as detailed below.

- a. For fresh water finfish culture, the unit cost is as per actual subject to ceiling of Rs 1.50 lakh/ha.
- b. For fresh water prawn / trout culture the unit cost is as per actual subject to ceiling of Rs 2.50 lakh/ha.
- c. For Brackish water fin fish culture the unit cost is as per actual subject to ceiling of Rs 2.00 lakh/ha.

Pattern of Assistance 5.

The pattern of assistance will be as per the administrative approval No.27035-19/2015-Fy(IV) dated 28th September 2017 as detailed below.

- (i) For the proposals under this scheme, the total admissible Government subsidy (Central + State) will be limited to 40% of the project cost for general category beneficiaries and 60% of the project cost for weaker sections like Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), women and their co-operatives.
- (ii) Of the admissible subsidy at Sl.No.5 (i) above, the Central: State share shall be as follows:

(a) North East & Hilly States : 90% Central share and 10% State share

(b) Union Territories

: 100% Central share

(c) Other States

: 60% Central share and 40% State share.

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6. Terms and Conditions

- (i) Beneficiaries shall be provided central assistance for input costs for the initial crop only in the newly constructed/ renovated ponds/tanks.
- (ii) Central assistance for input cost shall be released only after the ponds/tanks are ready for culture.
- (iii) In case of excavation/ renovation/ modification of ponds under MGNREGS, all prescribed norms and process as per The Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005, and it is Schedules as well as the Annual Master Circular will be followed.
- (iv) Under no circumstances the input costs of fingerlings, manures etc. will be met from MGNREGS.
- (v) Re-excavation/ renovation of individual farm pods are not a permissible activity under MGNREGS.
- (vi) The maintenance of community assets (ponds on public lands in this case) is allowed under MGNREGS.
- (vii) The maintenance of individual assets (farm ponds on individual's land) is not allowed under MGNREGS. If an individual farm pond has been excavated under MGNREGS and the same has to be renovated for the purpose of aquaculture / fisheries, the cost of renovation will be borne by the beneficiary or though any source other than MGNREGS. However, the renovation/ customisation of water bodies/ ponds on public lands can be taken up for aquaculture/ fisheries under MGNREGS.

65

Annexure-I

7. Technical Specifications for Fish Seed rearing pond (Nursery Pond)

Ideal Area for Nursery Pond: 0.1 ha (0.25 Acre)

Pond Dimension: 40m length X 25 m Breadth X 1 m depth

Excavation details:

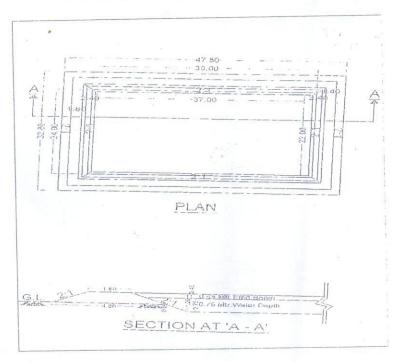
xcavation Particulars	Measurement (m)			Qty of excavated soil
Earth work excavation	Length	Breadth	Depth	
(exceeding 30 cm depth, 1.5 m in width as well as 10 sgm on plan)	(37+39)/2	(22+24)/2	0.5	437 cubic meter

Water spread area = 0.0874 ha

General characteristics of a Nursery Pond

Small ponds are suitable. Ponds should have a of depth 1 m and should have minimum water depth 0.75 m for a period of minimum 6 months in a year enabling to take up two crops per year. Nursery pond size can vary from 0.05 to 0.4 ha.

Plan & Section of 0.1 ha Nursery Pond



Note: Excavation and dyke height will depend on soil quality, seepage and flood level.



Technical Specifications for Fish Grow-out pond (Stocking Pond) 8.

Ideal area for Grow-out pond: 1 ha (2.5 acre)

Pond Dimension: 125m length X 80 m Breadth X 2.0 m depth

Excavation Details:

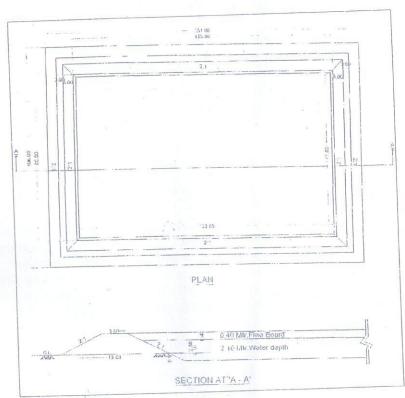
- Ling Porticulars	Measurement (m)			Qty of excavated soil
Excavation Particulars Earth work in bulk excavation (exceeding 0 cm depth, 1.5 m in width as well as 10 sqm on plan)	Length	Breadth	Depth 4	5878 cubic meter
	(125+123)/2	(80+78)/2	0.6	

Water spread area = 0.9796 ha

General characteristics of Grow-out ponds (Stocking Pond)

Larger pond of 0.4 ha and above is suitable. Ponds should be able to hold minimum of 1.5 m water for a period of minimum 8 months in a year enabling to take up one full crop.

Plan & Section of 1.0 ha Grow-out pond



Note: Excavation and dyke height will depend on soil quality, seepage and flood level.

No.27035-19/2015-Fy(IV) Government of India Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi Dated the 28th September, 2017

To The Secretaries in-charge Department of Fisheries of all the State Governments/UTs and others (as per list attached)

Subject: Implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries during the financial year 2017-18 Revised Administrative Approval - regarding.

Sir.

In continuation to this Ministry's approvals/orders (i) No.27035-19/2015-Fy(IV) dated 20th May, 2016, (ii) No.27035-19/2015-Fy(IV)-Vol.II dated 30th June, 2016, (iii) No.27035-19/2015-Fy(IV)-Vol.II dated 9th March, 2017, (iv) No.27035-19/2015-Fy(IV) dated 11th May, 2017 and (v) No.27035-3/2017-Fy(IV) dated 24th July, 2017 and other clarifications/amendments issued on the above subject from time to time, I am directed to convey the revised administrative approval of Government of India for implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries" during the remaining approved period from 2017-18 to 2019-20 with the following components:

(i) National Fisheries Development Board and its activities(NFDB),

(ii) Strengthening of Database & Geographical Information System of the Fisheries Sector (SoDGIS),

(iii), Monitoring, Control and Surveillance and other need-based Interventions (MCS),

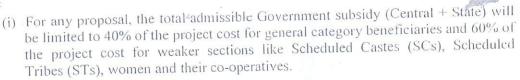
(iv) Institutional Arrangement for Fisheries Sector,

(v) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture,

(vi) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations,

(vii) National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen

- The scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries was originally approved in December, 2015 as a Central Sector Scheme. Niti Aayog, vide its OM No. O-11013/02/2015-CSS&CMC dated 17th August, 2016 has conveyed approval of the Government for implementation of the scheme as a core Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). Consequent to its conversion to a Centrally Sponsored Scheme(CSS) and reflect its revised character, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, vide its Note No.05(29)/PF.II/2005 dated 12.09.2017 has conveyed its approval to the revised subsidy and subsidy sharing pattern that shall henceforth be applicable.
- Accordingly, the subsidy and subsidy sharing pattern especially beneficiary oriented components of the Inland and Marine Fisheries under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries' are revised as under and which will be applicable from the financial year 2017-18 onwards:





(ii) Of the admissible subsidy at Sl.No.3(i) above, the Central: State share shall be as follows:

(a) North East & Hilly States : 90% Central share and 10% State share

(b) Union Territories : 100% Central share

(c) Other States : 60% Central share and 40% State share.

4. Besides, the scheme *inter-alia* also provides as detailed below:

- (i) New proposals/activities under the (1) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and its activities, (2) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture and (3) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post-Harvest Operations are to be implemented through the National Fisheries Development Board on the Detailed Project Reports (DPR) based model (As per para 9.1 of the CCEA Note dated 12th November, 2015 and supplementary Note for CCEA dated 22nd December, 2015) restricting the central financial assistance as below:
 - (a) 50% of the project/unit cost for general States, leaving the rest to State agencies/organisations, corporations, federations, boards, Fishers cooperatives, private entrepreneurs, individual beneficiaries.
 - (b) 80% of the project/unit cost for North-Eastern/Hilly States leaving the rest to State agencies/Organizations, Cooperatives, individual beneficiaries etc.
 - (c) 100% for projects directly implemented by the Government of India through its institutes/organisations and Union Territories.

However, in order to ensure uniform funding pattern for private entrepreneurs and individual beneficiaries, para-3 conditions shall apply in the light of para-8.3 of the CCEA Note dated 12th November, 2015.

- (ii) The other three components of the scheme namely, (a) Strengthening of Database & Geographical Information System of the Fisheries Sector, (b) Institutional Arrangement for the Fisheries Sector and (c) Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and other need-based Interventions are to be implemented Departmentally (DADF) with 100% central funding (vide para-9.2 of the CCEA Note dated 12th November, 2015).
- (iii) To continue the component on National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen in the DADF with its subcomponents as follows:
 - (a) (i) To continue the Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Active Fishermen in the DADF till a final decision on convergence with the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) is taken and (ii) In the event of convergence with PMSBY, the DADF to continue the Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Active Fishermen with all its existing components by suitably aligning with the PMSBY platform and implement it Departmentally (vide para-4(ii) & (iii) of the Supplementary Note for CCEA dated 22nd December, 2015).

- (b) To implement the fishermen housing scheme by aligning the guidelines and funding pattern with Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)/ Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)– Housing for All by 2022, as notified by the Ministry of Rural Development from time to time (vide para-4(iv) of the Supplementary Note for CCEA dated 22nd December, 2015).
- (c) Saving-cum-Relief component will be part of both marine and inland components to cover the marine and inland fishers (vide para-9.3 of the CCEA Note dated 12th November, 2015).
- 5. The detailed implementation guidelines, cost norms, unit costs and associated terms and conditions etc. in respect of all the components and sub-components of the scheme shall be as initially notified vide this Department's approval Nó.27035-19/2015-Fy(IV)-Vol.II dated 30th June, 2016 and as revised from time to time. The funding pattern shall now be as per para-3 and para-4 above of this Administrative approval order.
- 6. State Governments/UT Administrations/NFDB are requested to formulate specific action plan, strategy and roadmap for development and management of fishers in their respective States/UTs. The State Governments/UTs are also requested to sensitize all the concerned fisheries stakeholders such as State agencies/organisations, corporations, federations, fishers cooperatives, private entrepreneurs, individual beneficiaries etc. about the provisions of the scheme.
- 7. Self contained project proposals in respect of the desired component in accordance with the provisions and guidelines of the CSS may be submitted through State Governments for availing the central financial assistance under the CSS. Availability of adequate matching budgetary provision in State budget, necessary clearances and land wherever necessary, need to be specifically indicated in the proposals.
- 8. This revised administrative approval is issued subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - (a) Provisions of General Financial Rules, 2017 shall be applicable henceforth.
 - (b) Release of funds shall be as per Cash Management System guidelines issued by Budget Division, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance vide OM No.15(39)-B(R)/2016, dated 21.8.2017.
 - (c) The flow of funds is to be ensured through PFMS / DBT platforms.
 - (d) The UCs shall be submitted only through PFMS in accordance with guidelines issued in this regard by the Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- 9. No request for *ex-post facto* approval of any proposal would be entertained.
- 10. The committed liabilities/ pending releases of the projects sanctioned earlier by the Department would be met from the respective Head of Accounts of the CSS.
- 11. This issues with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division vide Dy. No 4296-FTS/AS&FA/2017 dated 13th September, 2017 and approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

-sd/-

(Yoginder Kumar) Under Secretary to the Government of India (Tel No. 011-23097014)



Extract from the Guideline of the CSS on Blue Revolution : Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries

Inputs Cost for freshwater fish culture and brackishwater fish/shrimp culture in MGNREGS ponds for Aquaculture

SI No	Component	Unit Cost	Terms and Conditions
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(v)
1.	For freshwater fish culture (unit cost includes cost of fish/prawn seed, feed, manure, disease prevention measures, transportation charges etc.)	(a) Finfish Culture: As per actual cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1.50 lakh/ha (b) Freshwater prawn/trout culture: As per actual cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2.50 lakh/ha	 (i) Beneficiaries shall be provided central assistance for input costs for the initial crop only in the newly constructed/ renovated ponds/tanks. (ii) Central assistance for input cost shall be released only after the ponds/tanks are ready for culture.
2.	For brackishwater fish/shrimp culture (unit cost includes cost of fish/shrimp seed, feed, manure, disease prevention measures, transportation charges, etc.)	(a) Finfish Culture: As per actual cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2.00 lakh/ha (b) Culture of shrimp such L.vannamei/P.monodon etc: As per actual cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 3.00 lakh/ha	 (i) Beneficiaries shall be provided central assistance for input costs for the initial crop only in the newly constructed/ renovated ponds/tanks. (ii) Central assistance for input cost shall be released only after the ponds/tanks are ready for culture.

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANIDING BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES AND DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Preamble

Whereas, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities, along continue to a significant role in generating gainful employment in the rural sector, particularly among the landless, small and marginal farmers and women, besides providing nutrition and food security to the country;

And, Livestock forms an important livelihood activity, supplementing incomes, offering employment opportunities, and finally being a dependable "bank on hooves" in times of need with the value of output from livestock sector at constant prices is about 27.8% of the value of output from agricultural and allied sector;

Further that, the Country has vast potential for dairy, fisheries and livestock development especially in rural areas including building infrastructure, providing employment, product value addition, etc and the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF) has been providing assistance through both central sector schemes and centrally sponsored schemes to the State Governments for sustainable development and enhancement of production and profitability of Flivestock and fisheries enterprises;

Notwithstanding, there is need for more financial resources so as to meet the objectives of increasing investment in the livestock sector for increasing production and productivity including value addition so as to enable higher farmers income even while creating self-employment opportunities;

Towards this end, the Department of Rural Development (DRD) has been relentlessly been working for rural upliftment through various programmes such as MNREGS, PMGSY, SAGY, NRLM, DDU-GKY, IAY, NSAP, SPMRM, Watershed Development Programme, Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme, etc.,

While, these programmes have, over the years, resulted in highly successful outcomes pertaining to employment generation, increased outreach to poor and marginalised groups like SC/ST, Women, strengthening of natural resource based including for ponds, tanks, water conservation, rural connectivity and land

8

development and these have resulted in some assured income all year round, reduction in poverty, distress mitigation, etc

It is hereby recognised, there is need for dovetailing and synergizing efforts of the DADF and the DRD especially in the context of common objective of helping the farmers double their income through the livestock sector,

Are sof cooperation

Hence, it is hereby agreed that DADF and DRD would mutually work together in synergizing various schemes of both the departments to achieve the common goal of doubling farmers income through the synergy of efforts in various sub-sectors, such as for example -

- In the case of fisheries, synergy in schemes such as Blue Revolution and MNREGS for pond development both community as well as individual owned for the purpose of fish hatchery, fish seed and fingering rearing, including increase in productivity of various water bodies as found in lakes, reservoirs, brackish water, wet lands, etc.
- ii In the case of dairy sector, synergy in dairy development with respect to providing employment through milch animals to poor landless farmers, widows and other unsupported sections of the rural population including unemployed youth, etc. through such schemes as DEDS, RGM and NRLM, SAGY etc.
- The small ruminants and poultry form the mainstay of the poorest of the poor in the rural economy and is addressed through the National Livestock Mission program of the DADF. This segment provides immense areas of cooperation in productivity enhancement, micro level infrastructure development at village household level etc by dovetailing with NRLM, etc.
- iv. In the case of joint skill development and capacity building through synergy with schemes such as DDU-GKY and related schemes of skill development and extension work of DADF
- Joint initiatives for fodder development especially in acidic and arid lands and areas of fodder shortage through NLM and NREGS synergy

Needless to say there are many areas of cooperation involving village level infrastructure development for farmers and village based occupation which together would lay the foundation for greater benefit of the farmer along with higher value realisation of the budgetary spend by the Government both at the Central and the State level.