

Minutes of the 7th Governing Council Meeting of HP Aquaculture, Fishing & Marketing Society, Bilaspur held on 20th April 2005 in the office chamber of the Secretary (Agriculture & Fisheries) Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.

The 7th Governing Council Meeting of HP Aquaculture, Fishing & Marketing Society was held on 20th April 2005 at Shimla under the Chairpersonship of Dr. Bharathi S. Sihag, Secretary (Agriculture & Fisheries) Government of Himachal Pradesh. Besides the Chairperson the following members attended the meeting:

1. Ms. Madhu Bala Sharma
Additional Secretary (Fisheries)
Government Of Himachal Pradesh Member
2. Sh. B.D. Sharma
Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries,
Himachal Pradesh Member
3. Sh. D.K. Sharma
Assistant Director of Fisheries, Mandi Member
4. Sh. V.K.Suri
Assistant Director of Fisheries, Chamba Member
5. Sh. N.S. Chaudhry,
Deputy Director of Fisheries (HQ) Invitee
6. Sh. Tapesch Chauhan
Fisheries Officer, Shimla Representative
7. Dr. Kuldip Kumar
Advisor(Fisheries) Member Secretary

As a prephase to the meeting the Chairperson welcomed all the participants of the 7th Governing Council Meeting of the Society and later asked the Member Secretary to take up agenda items for discussions:

Item # 1 Confirmation of the proceedings of 6th Governing Council Meeting:

Taking up the first agenda item, the MS informed the house that the proceedings of the last Governing Council Meeting held on 20th June 2004 were circulated to all the Society members and since no Objection has been received from any of the members as such the same may be confirmed.

The house approved the item.

Item # 2 Follow up action on the decisions taken in the 6th Governing Council Meeting:

The follow up action on the following decision taken in the 6th Governing Council Meeting of the Society's were reviewed item-wise by the house.

- **Procurement of feed drier:**

The decision regarding purchase of new feed mill from M/S Precision Product, Ahmedabad was approved subject to the condition that all codal formalities for purchase are observed. It was also decided that performance reports of the said feed mill supplied by the firms earlier to different parties be obtained and it may be ascertained that the mill is of excellent quality and is working with full satisfaction by the present users.

(Action: Director Fisheries)

- **Disposal of old feed / fish meal:**

Contact may be made with Punjab Agro Industries / HP Agro Industries seeking their willingness for purchase of old feed/ fishmeal lying at Patlikuhl farm on negotiated rates/terms. In the event of their refusal for purchase of the material, the same may be transferred to departmental carp fish farms for use as ingredient of carp feed.

(Action: Director Fisheries)

- **NORAD sponsored project 'Fish health studies under rainbow trout farming in Himachal Pradesh':**

In view of completion of the Indo-Norwegian project 'Fish health studies under rainbow trout farming in Himachal Pradesh' a new project proposal on 'Genetic upgradation of rainbow trout stock' may be prepared & submitted to NORAD. Fisheries Officer Patlikuhl may be involved in the project. The project, if possible

may be prepared in collaboration with a related fisheries institute on Indian Council of Agriculture Research Institute.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

- **Commissioning of Pathological Laboratory at Patlikuhl trout farm:**

With the completion of Laboratory building of Pathological Laboratory, the approved laboratory equipments be purchased at the earliest & the laboratory should be made operational catering the need of department as well as private trout fish farms. The posting of Norwegian trained Fisheries Officer be expedited and necessary action be taken at the department / society level. The stock surveillance work of private & departmental fish farms be done on regular basis in order to ensure a check on the health status of the bio stock of trout farms located in the different regions of the state. The Governing Council expressed satisfaction on the action taken on the decision taken in the last Governing Council meeting excepting the above said remarks.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 3 Extension of Society's operational period of HP Aquaculture, Fishing & Marketing Society :

A review of Society's performance vis-à-vis its mandate was made by the Governing Council member and after discussion, the Governing Council decided that the status quo of the Society be maintained. A note may be prepared of the assts created by the Society, the staff position as well as justification & continuation of functioning of the society be submitted to the Chairperson for further action if any at the Govt. level.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 4 Progress report of Fish Farms:

The progress of various fish farms of the society viz. Patlikuhl, Nagni, Barot & Deoli was reviewed by the Governing Council. Reacting on it the Chairperson desired that the on-going civil works of these farms especially augmentation of farm's water supply, repair of tanks etc be expedited so that production level of the farms could get quantum jump. Intervening on it, the Director –cum- Warden of Fisheries, Himachal Pradesh informed the house that requisite funds provision for civil works have already made for Barot & Sangla farm while adequate funds are being provided to Nagni Trout farm.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

The item was approved.

Item # 5 NORAD sponsored Project 'Fish health studies under rainbow trout farming in Himachal Pradesh'.

MS informed the Governing Council that in view of expiry of duration period and achievement of set targets under the NORAD sponsored project 'Fish health studies under rainbow trout farming in Himachal Pradesh' the bilateral project was terminated on 31st December 2004. The final report of the project was prepared & submitted to NORAD and other concerned agencies. The Chief Monitoring Unit, Indo-Norwegian Programme of Institutional Cooperation in his recent letter has conveyed that the NORAD monitoring unit has examined of project objective & goal as set out in the project document has been accepted.

In view of completion of project It was decided in the meeting that another bilateral project of Norwegian Govt. assistance preferably on 'Genetic rejuvenation gradation of rainbow trout stock of fish farms of Himachal Pradesh' be prepared and proposed to NORAD for financial & technical assistance. Advisor (Fisheries) informed that the same has already been discussed with Chief, Monitoring Unit, INPIC and he has expressed his willingness of entertaining such a proposal. It is decided that the proposed project should be made in collaboration with the concerned fisheries institute of Indian Council of Agriculture Research institute New Delhi. The Chairperson expressed her full concurrence of submitting a new proposal to NORAD. It was also decided that Sh. Yogesh Gupta, Fisheries Officer who is a Post Graduate and working at the Patlikuhl trout farm for a considerable period of time be associated actively in the project.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 6 SJVN project 'Development of fisheries in Nathpa Jhakri reservoir':

With the receipt of second installment of 25.0 lakh from Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam, by the department it was decided that the following three civil works prioritized by the department be got executed from the present executing agency viz. SIDC. And since the SIDC has already Society's unspent funds to the tune of over 11 lakhs lying with them, the balance funds be released to them only on the basis utilization report in installments. It was stressed by the Chairperson that the proposed work be taken up with greater pace so as trout farming activities at the farm be accelerated.

- a) Providing additional water supply from Rukti khad to Sangla.
- b) Construction of hatchery building at Sangla farm.
- c) Construction of hatchery building on turn key basis at Sangla farm.

Item # 7 BBMB sponsored project 'Development of fisheries in the riparian area of Suketi Khad and adjacent streams:

The Chairperson while expressing her satisfaction over the financial expenditure made under the BBMB funded project remarked that the physical project is still far from satisfactory. On being informed that the first batch of 29 trainees has already been sent to CIFT, Kochi the Chairperson suggested the second batch may also be sent by next month. The Director cum Warden of Fisheries, Himachal Pradesh highlighted the problem of higher cost of estimates vis-à-vis funds provision of providing water supply of Alsu from the HIMUDA. After brief discussion it was decided that matter be taken up with BBMB authorities for providing additional funds to meet the increased cost of estimates of water augmentation scheme of Deoli and Alsu fish farms. And in case of non-acceptance of the same approval be sought from BBMB authorities for providing additional funds to meet the increased cost of estimates of water augmentation scheme of Deoli and Alsu fish farms. And in case of non-acceptance of the same approval be sought from BBMB for re-appropriation of existing funds allocation.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 8 Payment of imported feed & seed:

The issue regarding payment of trout feed & 'eyed ova' imported from M/s Hogskolen I Headmark was discussed in the meeting.

After discussion, it was decided that Advisor(Fisheries) would send a detailed case to Chairperson cum Secretary (Agriculture & Fisheries) indicating the justification of purchase as well as other relevant details for taking the final decision on the matter.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 9 Additional staff to the Society:

Keeping in view the paucity of staff in the department, the Chairperson expressed her inability to provide additional staff to the Society.

Item # 10 Hiring taxi by Advisor(Fisheries) at Transport department approved rates:

Taking the issue in question of hiring taxi for undertaking tour on Govt. approved rate, it was decided that the earlier order of hiring vehicle at Rs. 5/- km. be restored. The Chairperson however added that taxi may not be hired for local journey viz. for traveling to airport/ railway station where actual journey is taken one way and payment is made on two way basis.

The item was approved

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 11 Payment of pension TA to Advisor (Fisheries):

MS stated in the Governing Council that under the existing rules, the traveling allowance after retirement could be claimed only up to one year after the superannuation date. And since in view of immediate appointment of Dr. Kuldip Kumar as Advisor-cum-Chief Executive Officer in the Society after his retirement, it was not possible to move away to Hometown after retirement from the serving station within the stipulated one year period. Advisor (Fisheries) has requested to allow Pension Transfer Allowance on Govt. approved rate from the Society's fund.

Taking the merit of the case into consideration it was decided by the Governing Council to allow Pension Transfer TA on Govt. Approved rates to Advisor (Fisheries).

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 12 Initiations of 'Award' to outstanding fish farmer by the Society.

MS stated that in order to promote Aqua farming in the state in private sector it is proposed to institute three awards viz. year's best carp fish farmer, Best trout fish farmer and highest fish seed producer (or best hatchery in the state).

Favoring the proposal, the Chairperson said that though it is a good idea of promoting fish farmers of the state but an exercise needs to be undertaken regarding modalities in the selection of genuine & deserving candidates. The Governing Council stamped its approval on the proposal subject to condition that Advisor (fisheries) would send a detailed proposal especially the process of selection of candidates, number of awards, criterion for selection, award money etc. Emphasizing further she said that the process of selection of awareness should be as transparent as possible.

(Action: Advisor Fisheries)

Item # 13 Expenditure statement of the Society for 2004-05:

The audited expenditure statement of the HP Aquaculture, Fishing & Marketing Society for the year 2004-05 were reviewed by the Governing Council & approved.

Item # 14 Any other issue:

The Deputy Director, Fisheries(HQ) raised the issue of purchase of vehicle for the office of DDF, Patlikuhl.

Reacting on it, the Advisor (Fisheries) stated that though the Society has received a proposal for release of funds for the vehicle of Patlikuhl office and funds too, were blocked for the same but at the same time two new proposals were received from Director-cum-Warden of Fisheries, Himachal Pradesh.

- Grant of Rs. 7.3 lakhs for meeting the state's of centrally sponsored scheme on coldwater fish culture.
- Construction of one silo for feed storage entailing approximate cost of Rs. 3.00 lakhs at Patlikuhl farm.

Taking these two important proposal in to consideration, MS said that the department may suggest priorities of the works and in case, the funds for these two works are to be released by the Society to the department it may not be possible to provide funds for the vehicle. After brief deliberation, the Chairperson desired that Director Fisheries may identify the priorities and inform to Advisor (Fisheries) for follow up action on the matter.

(Action: Director / Advisor Fisheries)

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.