

**Minutes of the 1st Project Sanctioning Committee meeting on Support to Training & Employment Programme for Women (STEP) Scheme held on 13.7.2011.**

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development to consider the proposals for financial assistance to eligible organisations under the STEP Scheme. The list of participants is at **Annexure A**.

**Part I**

The PSC considered the following new proposals and made the following recommendations:

Item No.	Name of the organisation	Trade /Sector	No. of beneficiaries/ Project duration proposed	PSC's recommendation
1.	Association for social Health in India, Jammu & Kashmir	Khadi & Village Industries	600 3 years	The Committee noted that the project is more than 4 years old. The Commissioner & Secretary, Social Welfare Deptt., Govt. of J&K was of the view that the cost of the project needs revision. Therefore, the representative of the organisation was advised to submit a revised project proposal through the State Govt. for consideration by the Ministry.
2.	Scotlane Poverty Eradication Centre, Kolkata, West Bengal	Goatery	600 3 years	The Committee noted that the organisation does not have any experience in the Goatery Sector. While going through the Audited Accounts, the Committee observed that the organisation has shown huge loans/advances in its annual accounts to run various social sector projects creating a doubt about financial condition of the organisation and rejected the proposal.
3.	Sri Ramkrishna Ashram, South 24 Pargana, West Bengal	Goatery	690 3 years	The Committee noted that the organisation does not have understanding of STEP Scheme and any past experience to run the Goatery project. Hence, the proposal was rejected.
4.	Achala Trust, Himmatnagar, Gujarat	Handicrafts	600 3 years	The Committee noted that the project was more than 4 years old and required to be linked with vocational training certificate course under Department of Labour. The Committee advised the organisation to prepare a revised proposal linking the training with Vocational Training Providers approved by the Government and submit through the State Government.
5.	Thirumala	Goatery	1000	The Committee noted that the organisation

	Education & Social Welfare Society, Bijapur, Karnataka		2 years	has completed a similar project under STEP for which mid-term evaluation study was done by ISST in the year 2009 which had not found the project satisfactory. The Committee also noted that the organisation did not have a sound financial condition to take up a project for 1000 beneficiaries. The Committee, therefore, did not approve the project proposal.
6.	DHWANI Institute for Rural Development, Madhya, Karnataka	Sheep Rearing	1000 3 years	<p>The Committee noted that the organisation was advised to revise its original project proposal in the last PSC meeting held on 11/3/2011.</p> <p>The organisation submitted a revised proposal. The Committee considered the proposal and approved a project of 200 beneficiaries at a per capita cost of Rs.4750/-. The organisation was also directed to link the training with Vocational Training Providers approved by the Government.</p>
7.	Anavoor Mahila Samajam, Thiruvananthapuram	Goatery	500 2 years	<p>The representative of the organisation explained to the Committee about the institutional arrangements proposed for forward and backward linkages of the project. The organisation claimed that they have institutional tie up for vocational training with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram.</p> <p>Considering the financial position and experience of the organisation, the Committee approved the project for 200 beneficiaries at a cost of Rs.8000/- per beneficiary for two years.</p>
8.	Kerala Feeds Limited, Thissur, Kerala	Goatery	10000 2 years	<p>The project was considered in the last meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee held on 24.11.2010 in which the Committee observed that the project was heavily dependent on the marketing of goat milk for viability for which no authentic data on the market or future requirement was made available and mortality of the kids was also not been taken into account.</p> <p>The revised proposal received from the Kerala Feeds Ltd. was again placed before the PSC on 13/7/2011. The Committee desired to know the reason for proposed 50% subsidy on feeds produced by the organisation. On the issue of requirement</p>

				of goat milk the Committee desired to know the source of collecting goat milk by the factories and the price thereof, which the representative of the organisation could neither explain nor could show any supporting data. The Committee noted that the sale of goat milk has been included in the returns to calculate viability of the project, thus understanding its supply and availability is important. The Committee, therefore, advised the organisation to compile this data and submit through the State Govt. along with the details of linkage of the training proposed with the Vocational Training Providers under the scheme of Government
9.	Pragatishil Jankalyan Samiti, Nalbari, Assam	Handlooms	600 3 years	The Committee noted that the organisation does not have sufficient past experience in the handloom sector besides its financial position is not sound. The Committee, therefore, did not approve the project proposal.
10.	Unice-Socio Eco Cultural & Educational Forum, Hailakandi Town, Assam	Diary	500 2 years	The Committee noted that the organisation doesn't have good financial condition and sufficient past experience in the dairy sector. The Committee, therefore, did not approve the project proposal.
11.	Centre for Rural Development & Madarasa Committee, Marigaon, Assam	Goatery	500 2 years	The Committee noted that the organisation neither has experience in the goatery sector nor is financially sound. The Committee, therefore, did not approve the proposal.
12.	North East Rural Welfare Society, Nagaon District, Assam	Goatery	500 2 years	The Committee noted that the organisation does not have experience in the goatery sector. Its financial condition is also not sound. The Committee, therefore, did not approve the project proposal.
13.	North East Voluntary Association for Rural Development, Barpeta, Assam	Fishery	500 2 years	The organisation explained that they will train mainly the women beneficiaries already covered under other social sector schemes being implemented in the proposed area. These women will be provided training and also engaged in fish farming activities of the 12 ponds owned by the organisation and some reclaimed wasteland.  The Committee wanted to know the training tie up of the organisation. The organisation

				<p>submitted document of institutional tie up with Office of the Fisheries Training Institutes, Barpeta, Assam for vocational training.</p> <p>Considering the experience in the field, to start with, the Committee approved a project for 250 beneficiaries at the rate of Rs.7928/per beneficiary for 2 years subject to the condition of submission of documentary evidences about the ownership of 12 ponds by the NGO and permission of the State Government for the use of wasteland for fish farming.</p>
14.	Golaghat Nirman Mahila Gul, Golaghat, Assam	Goatery	500 2 years	<p>The project was considered in the last PSC meeting held on 24/11/2010 in which the Committee observed that the revised proposal submitted by the organization is technically sound but it is not clear from the documents submitted by them whether they have any infrastructure or technical experts available for the operation of such a big project of 1000 beneficiaries. Moreover, the claim of the organisation that they have distributed 200 goats amongst beneficiaries is not supported by documentary evidence.</p> <p>The organisation again submitted a revised proposal meeting the observation of the last PSC meeting. The State Government representative present in the meeting also satisfied himself with the submission of the organisation. The organisation further explained to the Committee that they will train poor and assetless women in the proposed sector in three blocks of Golaghat district of Assam bordering Nagaland, which are badly affected by militancy. The organisation claimed that they have institutional tie up for vocational training with Goat Research Centre, Barhihat, Assam. Considering the past experience of the organisation, the Committee approved a project for 200 beneficiaries at the rate of Rs.7918/- per beneficiary for the project period of 2 years.</p>

**The Project Sanctioning Committee considered the following proposals for extension of project duration and gave the following recommendations:**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Name of the organisation</b>	<b>Trade/ Sector</b>	<b>No. of beneficiaries /Project duration/ proposed cost</b>	<b>PSC's recommendation</b>
1	Dr. RadhaKrishnan Trust, Junagarh, Gujarat	Handicraft	540 3 years Rs. 32.50 lakhs	The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned in the year 2007 and Rs.10.38 lakhs has been released as first installment to the organisation. The project was expected to be completed by August, 2010 however the organisation could not submit claim for next installment of grant through the State Government. The State Govt. representative present in the meeting informed the Committee that the organization has breached the terms & conditions of the sanction and diverted funds to other head. The Committee, therefore, asked the State Government to initiate the process of recovery of grant released to the organisation along-with penal interest thereon.
2	Haryana Nav Yuvak Kala Sangam, Rohtak, Haryana	Mushroom	2000 3 years Rs. 108.43 lakhs	The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned during the year 2008 and a total amount of Rs.70.40 lakhs has so far been released in four installments. The project was expected to be completed by July, 2011 and therefore placed before PSC for extension of timeline. The project was evaluated in the month of June, 2010 by Institute of Social Studies Trust, New Delhi (ISST), which has reported it as a successful project, has also pointed out shortcoming in the marketing skills and training inputs, to be addressed by the organisation. The Committee observed that the organisation has mainly focused on providing training to the women and was not able to arrange bank linkages as well as bringing in desired increase in the income level. The Committee, therefore, recommended that an inspection should be carried out by the Director(STEP),MWCD along with a State Govt.'s representative before a view is taken for extension of the project period and release of further installment.

3	Jammu and Kashmir Ex Service League, Jammu, Kashmir	Aromatic and Herbal Farming	3000 3 years Rs. 195.30 lakhs	<p>The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned to the organisation in the year 2002 and Rs.168.38 lakhs have so far been released to the organisation in four installments. The project was expected to be completed by March, 2005 and one extension was already given to them on the recommendation of State Govt. in January, 2009 upto 31.03.2010.</p> <p>The Secretary, Social Welfare Deptt., Govt. of Jammu &amp; Kashmir did not recommend further extension of the project and informed the Committee that the organisation could not sustain the project activities i.e. growing of lemon grass and diversified to other aromatic and herbal plants such as aloe and marigold which was not approved by the PSC. The representative of the organisation explained to PSC the challenges they faced because of which diversification was necessary. The Committee was of the view that though the project could not take off as per the expectations, the organisation made genuine effort to work in a difficult area. The Committee decided to close the project. The request for release of balance grant made by the organisation was turned down by the Committee.</p>
4	Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Bangalore, Karanataka	Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	600 3 years Rs 40.51 lakhs	<p>The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned in the year 2003 and was expected to be completed by March,2006 and grant amount to total Rs.30.80 lakhs has been released to it in four installments besides one extension of project duration given upto January, 2010. The project was evaluated by the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, which has positively commented over the project.</p> <p>The Committee noted that the organisation is unwilling to continue the project further. The State Government will give a report to the Ministry about the project and further course of action within 15 days.</p>
5	Karnataka Co-operative Milk Federation Limited,	Dairy (Phase-VI)	10000 3 years Rs 669.35 lakhs	<p>The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned to the organisation in the year 2007 and expected to be completed on 22.11.2010 and Rs.466.19 lakhs have</p>

	Bangalore, Karnataka			<p>already been released in four installments so far. NABCONS has evaluated the project and reported that in the first two years, total 8000 target group members had received benefit. As a result of multi-pronged services received from KMF including initial information about dairying, monetary and technical assistance in acquiring livestock, relevant technical knowhow and marketing assisting from district milk union, the SHGs members had seen a distinct improvement. Further, the training and awareness creation initiatives were very effective. In all the evaluation study appreciated the efforts made by the Federation in bringing positive changes among the targeted beneficiaries under the project.</p> <p>The General Manager of the organisation and the State Government representative explained to the Committee the details of the success of the project and reasons for delay in completion of project. The Committee approved the extension of project duration for one year i.e. upto 22.11.2011.</p>
6	Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers Federation Ltd., Bangalore, Karnataka	Dairy (Phase-V)	10000 3 years Rs. 689.338 lakhs	<p>The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned to the organisation in the year 2007 and expected to be completed by 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2010 and Rs 566.55 lakhs has already been released in four installments so far. NABCONS has evaluated the project and reported that in the first two years, total 8000 target group members were benefitted. As a result of multi-pronged services received from KMF including initial information about dairying, monetary and technical assistance in acquiring livestock, relevant technical knowhow and marketing assisting from district milk unions, the SHGs members had shown a distinct improvement. Further, the training and awareness creation initiatives were very effective.</p> <p>The Committee noted the success of the project and reasons for delay in completion of project as explained by the State Government's representative. The Committee approved the extension of project duration for one year i.e. upto</p>

				5.08.2011.
7	Sri Maitri Association, Devengerre, Karnataka	Sheep rearing	500 2 years Rs 24.66 lakhs	The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned to the organisation in the year 2009 and was expected to be completed by March 2011. Rs.12.32 lakhs have already been released in two installments so far. The project was evaluated by NIPCCD in March, 2010 which have broadly supported the project besides giving some suggestions for the improvement of the project. No representative from the organisation was present in the meeting. The Committee advised the State Government representative to send a report on the project within 15 days to enable it to decide the future course of action regarding continuation of the project.
8	Dharmanilayam Charitable Society, Kottayam Kerala	Goatery	500 2 years Rs 29.095 lakhs	The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned in the year 2007 and was expected to be completed by September, 2009. Grant to the tune of Rs.14.07 lakhs has already been released to them in two installments so far. The Committee also noted that the release of second installment was delayed due to a complaint against the organisation and the same was investigated by State Government and NIPCCD and found to be wrong. The mid term evaluation of the project is due, however, since the release of fund is delayed considerably, the Committee recommended that the next installment of grant should not wait for evaluation report and the Ministry may release funds subject to the submission of prescribed documents by the organisation.
9	Thiruvananthapuram Sericulture Co-operative Society, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	Sericulture	500 3 years Rs 40.00lakhs	The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned in the year 2008 and should have been completed by July, 2011. Rs.13,69,283/- have so far been released as 1 <sup>st</sup> installment of the 1 <sup>st</sup> year.  The Committee was not convinced with the explanation given by the representative of the organisation on the achievement made and did not agree for further extension of the project. The

				organisation will send Utilization Certificates of the fund already released through the State Government. The project will be closed thereafter.
10	Anayadi Milk Producer's Coop. Society Ltd., Kollam, Kerala	Dairy	500 2 years Rs 40.00 lakhs	<p>The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned in the year 2008 and was due for completion by July, 2010. Rs.17.59 lakhs have so far been released in two installments. The project has been evaluated by the NABCONS who have reported that the income level of the beneficiaries has increased from Rs.80/- to Rs.2400/- per month through the project.</p> <p>The Committee advised to the State Government representative to inspect the project and forward QPR, UC and other necessary documents alongwith a comprehensive report on the project to the Ministry based on which further extension of the project could be considered.</p>
11	Rajiv Gandhi Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.	Floriculture	500 3 years Rs 22.58 lakhs	<p>The Committee noted that the project was sanctioned in the year 2008 and should have been completed by July, 2011. An amount of Rs.15.65 lakhs has already been released in three installments and NABARD is undertaking the evaluation of the project.</p> <p>The Committee was not convinced with the explanation of the representative of the organisation about the income generation aspect of the project. The Committee decided to keep the extension of the project pending till the evaluation report is received.</p>
12	Shriram, Ahirrao Memorial Trust, Dhule, Maharashtra	Dairy	600 3 years Rs.41.536 lakhs	<p>The project was sanctioned in the year 2007 and was expected to be completed by August, 2010. Rs.26.48 lakhs have been released in three installments. The mid term evaluation report has been received from Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Co-operative Management, Pune in June, 2011 which has reported that the project has resulted in quantifiable and non-quantifiable improvements on beneficiaries. The Committee, however, advised to the</p>

				State Government representative to inspect the project and forward the QPR and UC to the Ministry after the visit, based on which further extension will be considered.
13	Nehru Yuva Mandal, Taluk: Patan, District-Satara, Maharashtra	Goatery	600 3 years Rs 43.14 lakhs	The project was sanctioned in the year 2007 and was expected to be completed by August, 2010. Grant of Rs.12.94 lakhs has so far been released in two installments. The Committee advised the State Government representative to inspect the project and forward the QPR and the UC to the Ministry based on which the Ministry will take a view on extension of the project.
14	Sneh Bahuddeshiya Sanstha, Nagpur, Maharashtra	Dairy	600 3 years Rs 45.04 lakhs	The organisation was sanctioned the project in the year 2007 and was expected to be completed by July, 2010. A sum of Rs 19.69 lakhs has been released in two installments. The Committee advised the State Government representative to inspect the project and forward the QPR and the UC to enable the Ministry to take a view on extension of the project.
15	Shri Hanuman Sahkari Dudh Vyavasayik Sanstha, Maryadit, District Kohlapur, Maharashtra	Dairy	600 3 years Rs 37.45 lakhs	The project sanctioned in the year 2008 for completion by July, 2011. An amount of Rs.15.05 lakhs was released to the organisation in one installment. The Committee noted that the organisation did not submit claim for next installment alongwith the requisite documents despite repeated reminders and therefore asked the State Government to look into the matter and submit a detailed report.
16	Aspiration Achiever Society, Dhar District, Madhya Pradesh	Fisheries	700 3 years Rs 53.129 lakhs	The project sanctioned in the year 2005 for completion by March, 2008. The organisation has already been given one extension upto March, 2010 and Rs.31.15 lakhs have been released in four installments. The project has been evaluated by the NABCONS. The state government, however, recommended that the project time may not be extended till their inspection is completed. The Committee therefore, decided to wait for the State's inspection

				report.
17	Mizoram Multi Commodity Producers Cooperative Union Ltd., Aizwal, Mizoram	Dairy	3000 3 years Rs. 206.36 lakhs	The project sanctioned in the year 2003 was to be completed by March, 2006. A total amount of Rs.171.45 lakhs was received by the organisation in five installments and one extension was given upto March, 2009. After the evaluation by NABCON, who reported satisfactory progress, the project was further continued. The Committee accepted the reasons for delay in sending the required documents by the organisation. The Ministry will take further action for extension of the project on the basis of the documents received.
18	Mizoram Tribal Working Society, Aizawl, Mizoram	Piggery	500 2 years Rs. 27.41 lakhs	The project sanctioned in the year 2008 was to be completed by January 2010. First installment of Rs.7.61 lakhs has so far been released. The Committee was not convinced with the explanation of the representative of the NGO about the work undertaken and advised the State Government to initiate the process for recovery of the money released to them with provisions of penal interest thereon.
19	Gracely Multipurpose Cooperative Society, Dimapur, Nagaland.	Piggery	510 2 years Rs. 19.58 lakhs	The project sanctioned in the year 2008 was to be completed by July, 2010. An amount of Rs.9.75 lakhs was released to the organisation in two installments. The project was evaluated by the VidyaSagar School of Social Work, Kolkata, West Bengal in March, 2010. The Committee felt that the organisation has not done much work and decided that the State Government should initiate the process for recovery of the money already released to the organisation with provisions of penal interest thereon.
20	Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producer's Fed. Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Dairy	10000 3 years Rs. 649.946 lakhs	The project sanctioned in the year 2002 was to be completed by March, 2005. Rs.425.19 lakhs were released in four installments. However, the Ministry is yet to receive claim for next installment alongwith QPR, UC, audited accounts and justification for delay in project implementation. The Committee decided that the State Government should submit a detailed report on the

				project.
21	Bharatiya Mahila Gramodyog Sansthan, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	Handicrafts	500 3 years Rs. 40.00 lakhs	The project sanctioned in the year 2007 was to be completed by October, 2010. Rs.25.29 lakhs were released to in three installments. The representative of the organisation could not explain the work done by them so far and the ways regarding sustainability of the project. The Committee decided not to extend the project and asked the State Government representative to send a report before the project is closed.
22	Malipukur Samaj Unnayan Samiti, District Howrah, West Bengal	Handicrafts	600 3 years Rs.39.30 lakhs	<p>The project sanctioned in the year 2007 was to be completed by September, 2010. Rs.24.55 lakhs have been released in four installments. The Committee noted that the project was evaluated by the NABARD Consultancy Services. The representative of the organisation present in the meeting informed the Committee that they have already submitted necessary documents through the State Government for release of 2<sup>nd</sup> installment of 2<sup>nd</sup> year.</p> <p>The Committee noted that good progress has been made by the organisation and decided to extend the project upto Sept, 2011 for one year from the scheduled date of completion. It directed that the State Government may be asked to forward the papers submitted by the organisation to the Ministry for early release of funds.</p>

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## ANNEXURE-A

### List of participants who attended the Meeting of the Project Sanctioning Committee(PSC) on Support to Training & Employment Programme for women (STEP) Scheme during the year 2011-12 held on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2011.

#### MWCD

1. Shri D.K. Sikri, Secretary (WCD) .....In Chair)
2. Shri Sudhir Kurmar, Additional Secretary (WCD)
3. Dr. Sadhana Rout (Joint Secretary)
4. Shri G. Devnani Deputy Secretary (Finance)
5. Shri L. Saikia, Director
6. Dr. Dinesh Paul, Director (NIPCCD)

#### EXPERTS

1. Shri Angshuman Dey, Director, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, GOI
2. Dr R K Rathore, Chief Consultant, Horticulture, ICAR
3. Shri S. Adinarayana , Asst. Director (Handloom), Min. Of Textile
4. Shri Rakesh Kumar, Accounts Officer (Handicraft), Min. Of Textile
5. Dr. R.V.P.Singh, RO, Planning Commission

#### STATE GOVT. REPRESENTATIVES

1. Shri Jeet Lal Gupta, IAS, Commissioner/ Secretary, Social Welfare Deptt., J & K.
2. Shri Ravi Patil, Dy. Commissioner, Deptt. Of Women & Child Development, Maharashtra.
3. Shri P.T.M. Sunish, Managing Director, Kerala State Women's Dev. Corporation, Kerala.
4. Ms. Vinod Kumari, Project Officer , Haryana Women Dev. Corp. Ltd., Haryana
5. Shri V.A.Patel, General Manager, Gujarat Women Development Corp., Gujarat
6. Shri B.M.Shah, D.O. & Manager, Gujarat Women Development Corp., Gujarat

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