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AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 2nd January 2010

No. 52—AP-II-66/2009-Ag.—The Governor of Orissa do hereby constitute a State Farmers' Commission consisting of Shri S.M. Patnaik, I.A.S. (Retd.), former Chief Secretary, Orissa and former Member, State Human Rights Commission as the Chairman and the following other members :—

- |                                                                                                            |    |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------|
| (1) Dr. Niranjana Panda,<br>Soil Scientist,<br>Presently, Chairman,<br>Western Orissa Development Council. | .. | Member          |
| (2) Dr. Sudhakar Panda,<br>Economist,<br>Presently, Chairman,<br>State Finance Commission.                 | .. | Member          |
| (3) Dr. D. P. Ray,<br>Vice-Chancellor, O.U.A.T.                                                            | .. | Member-Convener |

2. The Chairman and other Members of the Commission including Member-Convener shall hold office from the date on which they, respectively, assume office.

3. The Terms and Reference of the Commission shall be as follows :

- (1) To review the current status of Orissa's agriculture, its performance, strengths and weaknesses, assess the condition of different categories of farmers in various agro-climatic zones and work out a comprehensive strategy for achieving sustainable and equitable agriculture development of the State.
- (2) To analyze the factors responsible for low farm income and suggest measures to enhance income of the farmers through market-driven, crops diversification, improved marketing, value addition and agro processing.
- (3) To examine the existing cropping patterns and farming systems and suggest rational land use policy including programmes for marginal lands, wastelands as well as flood and drought-prone and water-logged areas.
- (4) To examine land tenure and land ownership systems, other agrarian problems regarding farm productivity and rural income and suggest appropriate measures.

- (5) To evaluate development, testing and dissemination of improved agricultural technologies and suggest measures and mechanism for revitalization of agricultural research, education and extension, taking into consideration the ongoing work of State and Central Institutions, Organizations, NGOs. and others.
- (6) To analyze the reasons for rural indebtedness and the role of micro finance institutions in providing micro credit.
- (7) To examine the current input use efficiency and functioning of the delivery systems for seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and credit and suggest improvement.
- (8) To recommend measures for stepping up investments in agriculture and allied sectors and promoting public-private partnership in agricultural enterprises.
- (9) To suggest measures for harnessing information technology in agriculture and for making farming knowledge-based.
- (10) To review the current status of water use for agriculture, its performances and potential and make recommendations for rational, efficient and sustainable exploitation of ground and surface water for enhanced agricultural productivity.
- (11) To analyze efficacy of existing crop insurance schemes and suggest improvement in implementation of the crop insurance schemes as well as other risk coverage mechanism.
- (12) To review the current rural employment situation, constraints and difficulties and suggest avenues for enhancing on-farm and off-farm employment opportunities.
- (13) To examine any other issues specifically referred to the Commission by the Government.

4. The Commission may invite other officials and experts to its meeting as and when required. The Commission may, as required, set up Sub-Committees or Study Teams on specific issues and problems and engage technical consultants in a cost-effective manner to study particular aspects covered by State Farmers' Commission's Terms of Reference.

5. The Commission shall, before submission of its Report, have extensive consultations and interaction with all stakeholders farmers, their Organizations, NGOs., Industry, State and Central agricultural research and development organizations and institutions.

The Commission shall devise its own procedures. It may call for such information and take evidence as necessary. The Departments of State Government and organizations/institutions fully or partly funded by the State Government shall furnish such information and documents and render such assistance as required by the Commission.

6. The Commission shall undertake field visits as necessary with a view to imparting a practical, realistic and focused orientation to its recommendations.

#### 7. Terms of the Commission

The terms of the Commission shall be for a period of six months.

By order of the Governor

U. P. SINGH

Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary to Government