

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th May, 2013 at 11.30 AM in the chamber of the DM & Collector, Khowai District, Tripura, regarding bringing seasonal fallow land under cultivation of oilseeds and leguminous crops.

Officials present in the meeting are shown in Annexure – A.

The District Magistrate & Collector, Khowai initiated the discussion by welcoming all the participants present in the meeting. At the outset, she explained the necessity of convening the meeting and elaborated that in Khowai District in tribal areas as well as non-tribal area, there is a tendency of keeping land fallow which needs to be utilized to the optimum level by concerted efforts of Agriculture Department and District Administration.

Thereafter, the DM & Collector, Khowai requested the officials of the agriculture department to present to the house about how to utilize the fallow land of Khowai district to the maximum level. The Deputy Director, Agriculture, briefed the house through power point presentation about the status of fallow land of the state as well as Khowai District.

The status of fallow land at Khowai District is as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of Agriculture Sub-Division	Total fallow land (in hac.)
1.	Khowai	7889
2.	Tulashikhar	2976
3.	Teliamura	5996
Total in Khowai District:-		16861

Out of the above shown total fallow land, 1865 hac. is being targeted for coverage during kharif 13-14 and for Rabi 687 hac. land is targeted.


After threadbare discussions, the following decisions were taken:-

1. **Fund Tie Up:** It is decided that, the requirement of fund on various components like seeds, fertilizer, chemicals, fencing, land preparation etc. will be assessed by the Supdt. of Agriculture, Khowai and the report shall be submitted to this office within 7 days. Depending of the break-up of fund requirement and possibility to converge with NREGA or other TW funds, the target for the district shall be expanded, provided that other resources like availability of seeds, other inputs is not a constraint.
2. **Wise spread IEC:** A standard Movie/ IEC movie shall be made and used for generating awareness among farmers for propagating good farm practices of mixed cropping and alternative cropping for both Rabi and Kharif crops. One soft copy is already available in the Agriculture Directorate and shall be supplied to the Supdt. of Agriculture, Teliamura and in turn, he shall consult with the undersigned for preparing standard movie for Khowai District.

The Joint Director, Agriculture Department informed the house that the present modus operandi for generating awareness amongst farmers is through the medium of All India Radio, Doordorshan, and Local Cable TV Networks etc. He was requested to give the schedule for the same so that the PRI bodies and others propagate the message and ensure these are shown to farmers.

3. **Action Plan:** The achievement of Kharif season target should be closely monitored and lessons learnt should be documented. Must intervention is not being made at this stage since the sowing season is at the door step. However, it should be documented and should be used as a platform for demonstration. We may also prepare films on success stories. It is also decided that the Action Plan for Kharif for the year 2013-14 should be reviewed by June, 2013 with detailed indication of beneficiary, village, location, block, species/ variety, etc.
4. **Marketing and Forward Linkage:** It is also decided that a detailed Action Plan for marketing and forward linkages for farmers has to be prepared by SA, Khowai. He should estimate the net harvest for Kharif 13-14 and put up a note on how we can link up the marketing of the produce so that farmers get a good price. He must take into account that a **mini lentil mill** may be available at the district/subdivisional level and if it shall be profitable for someone to lease it at the current rate of production/future anticipated rates.
5. **Universalising indigenous Arhar cultivation:** It is also resolved that Arhar plants should be grown by each household. Agri grass-root officers shall be directed to propagate/ facilitate the planting of 10 plants by each family in Khowai district except Nagar Panchayet Area. Attempt shall also be made at covering all AWCs in the process. The successful implementation of this shall be dependent of the zeal of the Agri. Officers posted in this district. SA should closely monitor the same.
6. The Superintendent of Agriculture, Khowai, has been nominated as the Nodal Officer, for co-ordinating and preparing the entire project.

The meeting ended with thanks from the Chairman.


(T. DEB BARMA, IAS)
District Magistrate & Collector,
Khowai District, Tripura.

Government of Tripura
Office of the District Magistrate & Collector
Khowai District:Tripura

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Dated, 14.05.2013.

To
All concerned for necessary action.

Copy to:-

1. The Addl. Chief Secretary, Tripura, for kind information.
2. The Director, Agriculture Department, Govt. of Tripura, Agartala.
3. The Deputy Director, Agriculture, Gurkhabasti, Agartala.


District Magistrate & Collector
Khowai District:Tripura