

**Minutes of the 2<sup>ND</sup> meeting of the High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) of RKI held at 5 p.m on 05/03/2019 at the Chief Secretary's Committee room.**

The meeting commenced as scheduled with the Chief Secretary in the chair. List of HLEC members who participated in the meeting is appended.

In his inaugural remarks, Chief Secretary emphasized the need for speedy action to ensure timely preparation of projects and quick execution. The agenda notes circulated were considered.

**Agenda Item No. 1: Action taken Report**

The Committee noted the actions taken subsequent to the last meeting of the HLEC held on 8/11/2018.

**Agenda Item No. 2.: World Bank Development Policy Loan (DPL)- Preliminary Project Proposal Report (PPPR)**

The CEO briefed the committee about the Preliminary Project Report Proposal - PPPR - submitted before the Department of Economic Affairs for obtaining a World Bank Development Policy Loan(DPL) of 500 million USD towards Kerala's resilient recovery from the August 2018 floods and to enhance Kerala's resilience against natural disasters and climate change impacts through policy actions. He further informed that the PPPR has been approved by the Screening Committee of Department of Economic Affairs, subject to the approval from MHA and NITI Ayog. The comments of NITI Ayog are awaited, and the Resident Commissioner is following it up. The Committee took note of the actions taken in the matter.

**Agenda Item No. 3:Preliminary Project Proposal Report -for availing External Assistance for Road Projects**

The CEO reported that the Preliminary Project Proposal Report for availing a loan of Rs.729 Crore from the KFW under the Indo-German Bilateral Development Corporation for the development of climate resilient roads in the state has been submitted to the Department of Economic Affairs by the PWD. The Committee took note of the same.

**Agenda Item No. 4.: Rebuild Kerala Development Plan (RKDP)**

The CEO presented the draft Rebuild Kerala Development Plan before the committee. He informed that the draft RKDP has been prepared after extensive discussions and deliberations led by Secretaries of key departments, heads of departments and their functional agencies , covers priorities of the sector, areas that need to be addressed to bring resilience, critical issues of reform, with the objective of rebuilding Kerala . These meetings were facilitated by a team of specialists from the World Bank. The sector notes thus finalised have been incorporated into the document. He further clarified that the note has captured the description of the problems in each sector, impact of flood to the sector and the structural challenges, the policy/regulatory changes,institutional reforms required to be brought in and the investments that have to be planned over a period of next 10 years. The notes also list studies to be carried out to support the above policy, institutional and investments activities. HLEC discussed the draft RKDP at length. Chief Secretary pointed out that the note has general descriptions of the problems and desirable outcomes, but no action plan or DPR for implementation. CEO submitted that the Investment plan

and the Financing plan are being prepared, and will be added to the document. Chief Secretary suggested that wherever sufficient data based on studies or reports are available, the process to prepare DPRs should be initiated without further delay as almost six months have gone by. Additional Chief Secretary (WR) and Agricultural Production Commissioner informed that the sectoral issues have been identified by the departments themselves and the same have been incorporated into the notes. Dr. Abraham pointed out that the departments may prepare Implementation Plans as per the RKDP that can be incorporated into this document. Additional Chief Secretary, Finance informed that essential studies as per the plan can be undertaken immediately for which funds can be arranged from state funds.

After detailed discussions, the HLEC approved the draft RKDP and took the following decisions in this regard.

1. The Secretaries of the departments concerned shall list out the studies that are essential for preparing DPR for implementation of the RKDP.
2. Wherever sufficient data and information are available, the departments can start preparing DPRs without going for further studies
3. Each department shall prepare an Implementation Plan as per the RKDP.
4. The sectoral notes may be placed in the public domain . Consultations may be undertaken, involving local experts and stakeholders, if necessary involving United Nations agencies.

The following time lines were also prescribed:

1. Listing of studies : one week
2. Preparation of DPR s where studies are not required : within a month

3.Preparation of implementation plan: two weeks

4. Public consultations: within a month.

#### **Agenda Item No. 5.: Diaspora Bonds**

Dr.K M Abraham, Chairman, RKI-IC, explained the rationale of the Diaspora Bonds, outlining the discussions that took place with Shri Dilip Ratha, World Bank and a global expert in the subject . The HLEC approved the issue of Diaspora Bonds, in principle, and authorised the CEO to take up the matter with Finance department for further action in the matter .

#### **Agenda Item No. 6.: Strengthening of RKI**

CEO,RKI explained the necessity to have aProject Management Support Services entity with the objective of providing technical, management and secretarial support to RKI and line departments involved, including their executing agencies and other partner institutions/ stakeholders in investment planning, technical exploratory studies, development of sectoral policies, training and capacity building, technical reviews, in addition to program monitoring and evaluation, progress monitoring, reporting, communication, grievance redress and feedback, etc. for implementing the RKI development plan. He requested the HLEC to approve that the draft ToR formulated in this respect. The HLEC discussed the agenda in detail. Sri. T.K.A.Nair desired that the matrix of consultants may also include experts from the fields of bio diversity and liquid and solid waste management. ACS Finance suggested to have consultants on regular basis only in core areas and others may be hired on the basis of services rendered.

The HLEC authorized CEO to take necessary steps to select a firm to provide Project Management Support Services to RKI, following a transparent competitive process.

**Agenda Item No. 7.: Strengthening of offices of key Secretaries**

The CEO informed that the proposal has been prepared based on the directions of the Chief Secretary to provide technical support to Secretaries of key departments involved in the rebuild efforts. Based on the projected requirements, terms of reference have been prepared for Agriculture, Local Self Government and Water Resources departments. Some other department secretaries have also indicated that they need support units. The HLEC considered the proposal and authorised the CEO to collect proposals from the Secretaries, and take necessary steps to provide the minimum support units needed, after following due process.

**Agenda Item No. 8.: Appointment of consultants in RKI**

The HLEC ratified the appointment of Smt. Prasanna Kumari. N, Joint Director and Chief(i/c) (Retd) as consultant .

**Agenda Item No. 9.: Setting up of office space for RKI**

The CEO explained the justification behind the proposal. After having take note of the same, HLEC approved the proposal to take on lease a space of around 3,000sq. ft. in Calsar Heather Tower, near Secretariat to set up the RKI secretariat. The HLEC authorised the CEO to take further action in this regard. He was also authorised to carry out the interior construction and to make procurements that are required for the setting up of the office, following due process.

**Agenda Item No. 10: Report on : a) Immediate Recovery Program (2018-19)**

**b) Short Term Recovery Plan (2019-20)**

The HLEC authorised the CEO RKI to publish the two reports prepared by RKI Secretariat - Immediate Recovery Program , detailing the work relating to post flood recovery done by departments and government agencies, and the Short Term Recovery Plan, with details of projects related to recovery to be undertaken in the financial year 2019-20. The Secretaries were requested to ensure veracity of the data depicted in the reports and suggest amendments, if any, within a week's time.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1	Sri.Tom Jose	Chief Secretary (Chairman)
2	Dr.T.K.Jose	Additional Chief Secretary (LSGD)
3	Sri.Manoj Joshi	Additional Chief Secretary (Finance)
4	Sri.Vishwas Mehta	Additional Chief Secretary (Water Resources)
5	Dr.V.Venu	Principal Secretary (Revenue)&Chief Executive Officer for RKI
6	Sri. Devendra Kumar singh	Principal Secretary (Agriculture)
7	Dr.A. Jayathilak	Principal Secretary (Planning)
8	Sri.K.R Jyothilal	Principal Secretary (Transport)
9	Sri.M.Shivsankar	Secretary to the Chief Minister
10	Sri. Anand Singh	Secretary(PWD)
11	Sri.B.G Harindranath	Law Secretary
12	Dr.K.M. Abraham	Chairman (RKI Implementation Committee)
13	Sri. T. K. A. Nair	Ex-officio member to HLEC