

MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE HIGH LEVEL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE (HLEC) OF REBUILD KERALA INITIATIVE (RKI) HELD ON TUESDAY, 30th APRIL, 2019 AT CHIEF SECRETARY'S COMMITTEE ROOM, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

The meeting started at 12.15PM. Chief Secretary chaired the meeting. List of participants attached.

Chief Secretary welcomed the participants. He emphasised the need to speed up action in projects under RKI. He pointed out that the World Bank Development Policy Loan disbursement is contingent on several prior actions to be taken by departments and urged the Secretaries to complete issuing the necessary orders immediately.

The meeting then discussed on the agenda items.

1. Report on Actions taken after 2nd HLEC Meeting:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Point of action</i>	<i>Present status as updated in the meeting</i>	<i>Remarks/ decisions</i>
1.	World Bank Development Policy Loan: Prior actions	In-principle approval of the Council of Ministers has been given to operationalize the prior actions identified and all departments concerned have been authorized to take timely action toward the same.	The meeting discussed the item in detail as agenda item No. 3.
2.	3 rd Advisory Council Meeting	Meeting held on 20/03/2019.	Noted.
3.	Rebuild Kerala Development Programme draft document	Sectoral consultations and workshops conducted.	Noted. The meeting discussed the item further as agenda item No. 2.
4.	Diaspora Bonds	Secretary (Fin-Resources) said that FD has concurred the proposal and has asked the KIIFB, KFC and KSIDC to offer their opinion on the same. He told that given the situation, KIIFB is the only agency which has the capability to float the bonds. Shri TKA Nair also agreed with the	Principal Secretary (FR) briefed the status of the issue of Diaspora Bonds. The Hon'ble members in general proposed, the KIIFB may be designated as the institution to manage the fund. The CS directed the FD to expedite the matter. Action: ACS (Finance)

		same.	
5.	Strengthening of RKI	Eols are invited from consultancy firms for (a) Project Management Support Services, (b) Design and Construction Supervision Consultants (DSC) for LSGD Roads in Kerala , and (c) Technical Support Consultants (TSC) to Water Resources Department (WRD).	Noted.
6.	Strengthening of offices of key Secretaries	Proposals have been received from Secretaries of PWD, Environment and Agriculture departments.	Chief Secretary directed Secretaries to provide their specific requirements to RKI, and RKI to take further action towards placement of consultants to those who have made the request . Action: Secretaries, CEO, RKI.
7.	Setting up of office space for RKI	Lease deed executed. Interior construction and procurements will be carried out soon.	Noted.
8.	Report on: a) Immediate Recovery Program (2018-19) & b) Short Term Recovery Plan (2019-20)	Reports finalised.	Noted.

2. Rebuild Kerala Development Plan:

CEO, RKI outlined the sectoral consultations that were held and the steps taken to finalize the final draft RKDP. Chief Secretary directed to provide a summary of the responses received from experts, officials and general public on RKDP in the sectoral workshops to HLEC members. Members of HLEC may provide their inputs to CEO, RKI, within a week. The final draft of RKDP shall be finalised at the earliest so that it be placed before the council of ministers by 22 May 2019.

[Action: CEO (RKI)/ Secretaries]

3. Prior Actions to avail the Development Policy Loans

The meeting discussed the status of implementation of prior actions identified for availing DPL from World Bank, which is summarized in the table below.

Sl. No.	Prior action	Status as updated in the meeting	Decision/ Remarks
1.	GoK has issued revised guidelines/regulations for project preparation, selection and budgeting, including criteria for project readiness, feasibility and resilience for the RKDP.	Operational guidelines of RKI formulated. Final draft of RKDP is getting ready and will be placed for Cabinet approval.	The draft RKDP will be finalised at the earliest. [Action : CEO, RKI.]
2.	The GOK has issued legal instructions for mobilizing private institutional and retail finance for financing resilient recovery efforts.	With GST Council's approval, GoK has decided to levy the new flood cess on GST. Draft notification prepared and submitted to Fin. Minister. Formal orders will be issued soon after elections.	Issuance of the notification should be expedited. [Action : Prl. Secy (Fin-Resources)/ Secretary (Taxes)]
3.	The GoK has adopted new protocols for enhancing emergency preparedness and response capacity of various departments	Process of updating State Disaster Management Plan is going on. On finalisation, will be placed for approval of Executive Committee.	A meeting of the SEC, State Disaster Management Authority will be convened to approve the updated Hand Book on Emergency Management at the earliest. [Action : Prl. Secy (Revenue & DM)]

4.	The GoK has constituted a cross-sectoral State level committee to draft a River Basin Management and Conservation Authority (RBMCA) Act and establishment overseeing the operationalization of RBMCA.	Draft G.O. is being approved.	G.O. will be issued at the earliest. [Action : ACS (Water Resources)]
5.	The GoK has notified: (i) five agroecological zones and (ii) the reorganization of the Agriculture Department along agroecological zones.	G.O. issued for establishing working group. Internal stakeholder consultations are going on and will be completed soon.	Consultations will be completed at the earliest, and G.O issued. [Action : ACS (Agriculture)]
6.	The GoK has: (i) notified the criteria for the identification/determination of the core road network and (ii) adopted policies for resilient design, construction and maintenance of core road network.	G.O. notifying criteria for identifying core road network will be issued soon.	PWD to issue Amendments to the G.O. notifying the criteria for CRN at the earliest. [Action : Prl. Secy (PWD)]
7.	The GoK has established a committee to revise the Town and Country Planning Act to make master plans risk-informed master planning and revise the annual expenditure planning and budget guidelines for urban local bodies to undertake multi-year municipal infrastructure investments.		Committee to incorporate risk informed master plans in the Town Planning Act SHOULD be constituted at the earliest. A Sub Committee to examine the preparation and finalization of the Land Use Plan for the state chaired by Sri T.K.A. Nair, may be formed. The Committee should include representative of the Land Use Board and

			Planning & Economic Affairs Department. Action: ACS (LSGD)
8.	The GOK has established a cross-sectoral Committee to prepare the policy and institutional program for strengthening water supply and sanitation services and their resilience to disasters and impacts of climate change.	G.O. on establishing a cross sectoral committee is being issued.	G.O. in the matter will be issued at the earliest. [Action: ACS (Water Resources)]

4. Designating nodal officers in the key departments involved in RKDP

The meeting directed the concerned departments to appoint an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary as a Nodal Officer to co-ordinate with RKI and to act as a single point of contact for all matters related to rebuilding efforts undertaken by the respective departments.

[Action: All Secretaries]

5. Other items of discussion:

a. Requirement of studies by Departments

The CEO drew attention of the Committee members that, in the last meeting of HLEC, it was decided to go ahead with the studies that were essential for the preparation of DPRs in respective fields without waiting for assistance from the Bank for the purpose. He also pointed out that the ACS (Fin) has clarified that funding will not be an issue for taking up essential studies. The Chief Secretary then asked the Secretaries whether they have prioritised the studies. PrI Secretary (Agriculture) and ACS (Water Resources) submitted the list of studies proposed to be undertaken by the Department. Head of the Forest Force (HoFF) informed that in the wake of the recent floods, the Forest Department has conceived a proposal to relocate sensitive habitations located deep inside the forest, so that their vulnerability can be reduced. The proposal also included acquisition of some private estates located on the steep slopes of the Western Ghats. If the proposal is accepted under RKI, such acceptance can be leveraged to access Central funds. HLEC discussed and decided to give in-principle approval to the proposal. HoFF also pointed out that the Department

would carry out a study on relocating the more sensitive tribals, work out the modalities and place before HLEC. HLEC decided to give permission to carry out such a study by a reputed agency.

[Action: Secretaries concerned]

b. Preparation of DPRs by Departments

ACS (Water Resources) informed that the Department of Water Resources have already submitted proposals to RKI. Chief Secretary has directed that the next HLEC meeting will consider proposals which are ready, and finalize the sectoral allocation of the DPL 1.

[Action: Secretaries concerned]

c. Domain Experts for PWD :

The Principal Secretary, PWD submitted that prioritisation of roads require domain expertise. Considering the enormity of the task, RKI may consider providing the PWD with consultants having domain expertise for selection, design, construction and maintenance of roads for the next 5 years. The meeting agreed to the same, Principal Secretary, PWD was directed to provide specific requirements to RKI secretariat.

[Action: Pri Secy, PWD/ CEO, RKI]

The meeting decided to hold the next HLEC meeting at **3.00PM on 22/05/2019**.

The meeting concluded at 01.45PM.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Sl. No	Name	Designation
1.	Sri. Tom Jose	Chief Secretary (Chairman)
2.	Dr.Vishwas Mehta	Additional Chief Secretary (Water Resources)
3.	Dr. Asha Thomas	Additional Chief Secretary (Forest) [i/c]
4.	Sri. Devendra Kumar Singh	Principal Secretary (Agriculture)
5.	Dr.V. Venu	Principal Secretary (Revenue) & Chief Executive Officer, RKI
6.	Sri. Sanjeev Kaushik	Principal Secretary (Finance-Resources)
7.	Sri. Kamala Vardhana Rao	Principal Secretary (PWD)
8.	Sri K G Bhat	Secretary (LSGD) [i/c]
9.	Sri.B.G Harindranath	Law Secretary
10.	Sri. P K Kesavan	Principal CCF & HoFF
11.	Sri. T. K. A. Nair	Ex-officio member to HLEC