

Fish Farmer Development Agency
Setting up of in Bhandara District,
Maharashtra State.

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Agriculture and Corporation Department,
Resolution No.FDX 4376/ 2311/ 11-ADF,
Mantralaya Annexe, Bombay - 4000 32.
Date :- 19th November, 1977.

READ :- 1) Demi Official letter, No.FDX 4373/56504-G-1, dated the 9 th August, 1975, from Shri A.K.Muzumdar, Secretary to Government, addressed to Shri S.P.Balsubramaniam, Joint Secretary to Government of India (Fisheries), New Delhi.

" Please refer to your Demi-Official letter, No. 33-2 74-FY (T.I), dated the 3rd/4th July, 1975, regarding setting up of Fish Farmer's Agency in Maharashtra State.

2. The Scheme meeted by the Government of India for setting up of Fish Farmer's Development Agencies in various States was initially referred to us under your Ministry's Letter dated 29th December 1973. In your subsequent letter, No 9-46/71 Fy. (T.I) Vol II, dated the 14th January, 1974, in was clarified that one Agency was earmarked for Maharashtra State, during the year 1974-75. The extent of water area to be developed by this Agency was indicated to be 150 hectares. In your letter under reference, however, the Government of India has now intimated the allotment of two Agencies, with a total area of 1250 hectares. As you know, we had forwarded a Projected Report for setting up only one Agency in this State in Bhandaran District on the basis of your earlier letter of 14-1-1974 referred to above. This apart this Government considers that it would be more practicable to take up one Agency to begin with, and that the question of setting up additional Agencies may be considered only after two gain some experience and useful information about the working of the first Agency itself.

3. As regards the set up of the Agency, the Agency as proposed by the Government of India. Viz. the Collector as Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad as Member and other Officials, will in effect function as an advisory body and the member will hardly be in a position to spare adequate time for this work. Moreover, Government property and funds can hardly be entrusted to an advisory body of committee. Hence it would be better if the Agency for such Projects is entrusted to an existing body like a District Cooperative Federation or Fisheries Development Corporation. In this state, the work may be entrusted to the Regional Fisheries Cooperative Federation at Nagpur which functions for the eight districts of Vidarbha and whose jurisdiction inter alia covers Bhandara District. There would be no difficulty in deputing technical personal of two Fisheries and Irrigation Department to the Federation for successful implementation of the programme.

I am sure there would be no objection to our proposed the entrust this work to the regional Fisheries Federation, Nagpur, mentioned above.

4. As regards your suggestion to modify existing Policy the enable leasing of tanks for a period of 15 years at a stretch, this Government feels that the existing policy in this state viz. of giving the leases for a period of 5 years at a time and further renewal (Which can be upto 15 years or even more in the aggregate) after reviewing the performance of the leases in the initial period (s) would meet the basic purpose in view. A specific commitment on the part of the state Government to adopt the period of 15 years for grant fishing leases as a matter of policy may not, therefore, be insisted upon. Further, the Policy of this Government societies and not to individuals, whoever such cooperative societies exist. The suggestion to work the scheme through the District. Fisheries Federation as mentioned above would, the fore, be also helpful in implementing this policy of encouraging the Fisheries Cooperatives in the State.

5. As regards the finance to be made available under this scheme, the pattern of 70% loan by Commercial Banks, 5% investment by the concerned Fisheries Cooperative Societies and 25% grant by the Government of India (as already proposed under the scheme) ap preferable. The pattern of 75% loan assistance (institutional finance) is adopted in schemes with much higher outlays also where financial assistant from Agriculture Refinance Corporation is made The Government of India may therefore, agree to pattern of 70% (loan) by Commercial Bank 5% by the concerned Society and 25% be the Government of India. There would be difficulty in providing Government guarantee for repayment of the Bank loans.

6. Similarly, there is no need to set up an committee in our State, as on area of 184 hectares already been surveyed and indentified, out of which an area of 62 hectares has been found suitable for perennial irrigation. In any case, a small committee for survey of any additional area if necessary can be set up without delay after the Government of India financial clearance for the project it self is received Similarly, there is no difficulty in placing at the disposal of the agency a composite fish farm as desired. We have such a farm at seoni bandh with a area of 5 hectares, which should meet the needs of the project.

7. I shall be grateful if the Government of India reconsider the projects from the above points of via and communication their concurrence to our proposal early, so that a revised scheme can be drawn up an on getting your financial clearance."

1) Government Letter, Agriculture and Cooperation Department, No.FDX 4376/23117/11-ADF, dated the 1st July, 1970.

" I am directed to refer to the correspondence resting with your Demi Official letter No 33-2/74-FY(T-1), dated the 13th April, 1976 and to stated that the scheme for the Fish Farmers' Development Agency has now been recast with a view to implementing it through the Regional Fisheries Federation of Vidarbha and a copy (with a spare copy) or the revised scheme is enclosed. It is envisaged that the

Vidarbha Vibhagiva Machhimar Sahakari Sangh Limited which is the Co-operative Society registered under the Maharashtra cooperative Societies Act, 1960 will implement the scheme through the Primary Fisheries Cooperative Societies who are at present operating the various tanks included under the scheme for development of fisheries. The points raised in the demi official letter referred to above are explained below at ad seriatim :

(1) The exact composition of the Managing committee and the Executive with their functions which the State Government proposed to have under new arrangement have been spelled out in paragraphs 8 and 9 in (Chap. IV) of the scheme.

(2) As regards the leasing of the tanks, it has been mentioned in para. 7 of the scheme that the lease of the tanks selected under the scheme which are owned by the State Government / Zilla Parishad will be granted for a period of 5 years while starting the scheme and this will be renewed further upto 15 to 20 years by extending the lease by 5 years each time. State Government considers this as adequate rather than to adopt a policy to grant the fishing leases for a period of 15 years at one time.

(3) (a) & (b) The state Government has accepted in the report (para. 7) to guarantee repayment of loans to be taken by the fish farmers from the Government of India and Commercial Banks. The Controlling Officer in this respect will be the State Director of Fisheries.

(c) The State Government proposes to keep at the disposal of the implementation agency i.e Sanghi the seoni-bandh Fish Farm in Bhandara district which is equipped to produce about 50 lakhs of annually.

(d) It has been indicated in the report (para the State Government would spare the service the required staff to the agency on usual conditions.

2. I am directed to request you therefore to scheme as prepared now and communication the cle Government of India thereto."

Letter No.31013/8/77FY (T-1), dated the 30 th August, 1977 from the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (Department of Agriculture), New Delhi.

"I am directed to refer to the correspondence resting with your letter No.FDX-4376 / 23117 / 11 / ADF, dated the 13th April, 1977 and subsequent letter dated the 18th April, 1977 on the subject mentioned above and to convey the administrative approval of the Government of India for setting up of Fish Farmers Development Agency in Bhandara District as a pilot project under the Central Sector Scheme for Intensive Development of Inland fish culture during the year 1977-78 at a total cost not exceeding Rs9.33 lakhs (Rupees nine lakhs and thirty three thousands only) as per the approved pattern of assistance for this is scheme.

2. The Central Government would bear the amount in accordance with the approved pattern of assistance for the scheme subject to the ceiling of the sanctioned amount. Strict economy should be observed so as to keep the actual expenditure to the minimum. No deviation from the approved scheme should be made without the prior consent of the Government of India.

3. The Government of India share in the form of loan for inputs is limited to Rs 1,20,000 (Rupees One lakh and twenty thousands only) which represents 75% of the total requirements for 200 hectares; the remaining 25% being granted as subsidy. The term and conditions and rate of interest on the loan on Central as instance is given below:-

(i) A moratorium for repayment of principal amount of the short term loan of Rs. 1,20,000 for inputs is allowed for a period of two years. Interest will, however, be payable during the period of moratorium also.

(ii) The principal amount of loan is repayable in three annual equal installments due on the third anniversary of the payment of loan to the state Government. It shall bear interest at the rate moratorium of two years.

(iii) A rebate of 1/2% of interest rate would be allowed for prompt repayment of principal and interest-

(iv) If the installments are not paid on due dates, penal interest at the rate of 2 1/2% over and above the rate of interest would be charged on all overdue installments of principal and interest.

The administrative approval is subject to the following terms and conditions as agreed to by the Government of Maharashtra in their letter No. FDX 4374 / 56504-G-T, dated August, 1975 from the Deputy Secretary to the Govt of Maharashtra, Department of Agriculture and Bombay.

The sanction will be governed by the following conditions:-

(i) Grant of long term lease of selected tanks and ponds owned by State Governments and Gram Panchayats for a period of 10-15 years to the fish farmers trained sponsored by the agency.

(ii) The State Government would stand guarantee for the repayment of loan or would allow mortgage of the ponds and tanks leased to the fish farmers in favour of banks, if required.

(iii) The State Government would place the fish seed farm located at Seoni Bandh having five hectares area in good and working condition in the initial stage but would soon make available a larger fish seed farm of about 8 hectares within a period of two years capable of producing 10 lakhs fish seed

fit for stocking annually by construction of new farm or expansion of existing farm at their own expenses in order to cope up with the increased demand of fish seed.

(iv) The State Government would place the services of the required staff at the disposal of the agency on deputation at appropriated terms and conditions.

(v) The grant-in aid will be governed by the rules and orders and such other instructions framed by the Government of India under GFR 143-155 as amended from time to time.

(vi) The unspent balance, if any, shall be intimated to the Government of India at the end of the financial year along with utilization certificates of the amounts spent during the financial year. The unspent balance shall be taken into consideration before releasing funds during the subsequent years. No diversion of funds shall be made.

A detailed scheme may please be submitted for the year 1978-79 well in time for consideration of Government of India.

Monthly progress reports and Annual report indicating physical and financial achievements shall be furnished in the prescribed proforma regularly in time to this Ministry.

The accounts of the Agency shall be subjects to audit by Chartered Accountant selected by the Managing committee and pay and Account Officer (Sectt.) Department of Agriculture New Delhi.

This sanction issues in exercise of the delegated powers in consultation with the Finance section vide their Dy.No.2279/F- III/77 dated 1.8.77.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

(iv) Letter No 31013/8/77-FY (T-1), both dated the 13th September, 1977 from the Government of India addressed to the pay and Account Officer (Secretariat), Department of Agriculture, New Delhi.

RESOLUTION:	Government is pleased to sanction the scheme for Fish Farmers Development Agency in Bhandara District Of Maharashtra State, as detailed in the appended Project, to be implemented through the Vidarbha Vibhagiya Machhimar Sahakari Sangh Limited, Nagpur, at total cost of Rs.9.13 lakhs which is to be received from the Government of India by way of grant and loans as follows:-	Type as an accompaniment
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Grant :- Rs 8.13 lakhs
Loan :- Rs 1.20 lakhs

The details of the amount are given in Annexure - I to the Government of India's letter No.31013/8/77-FY (T-1), dated the 30th August, 1977, which has been typed as an accompaniment to this Resolution. The expenditure during the current financial year should be restricted to Rs 1.42 lakhs as given in the statement -A accompanying this Resolution and claimed from the Government of India by way of Central assistance as per procedure. laid down by Government of India in Office Memorandum No.2 (45) / Finance, Department of Expenditure (Special cell), New Delhi.

2. Government is also pleased to accord sanction to the creation of posts as given below by the Vidarbha Vibhag Machhimar Sahakari Sangh Ltd, Nagpur, on its own establishment for implementation of the scheme. The personnel for these posts should be made available by the Director of Fisheries and the concerned superintending Engineer of the Irrigation Department by obtaining orders of Government for deputation etc.whenever necessary.

	<u>Post</u>	<u>No of Post</u>	<u>Pay Scale</u>
1)	Chief Executive Officer (of the rank of Assistant Director of Fisheries)	1	650-45-1100-50-1200
2)	Fisheries Extension Officer of the rank of the Assistant Superintendent of Fisheries	2	170-10-250-EB-10-280-15-370
3)	Farm Superintendent (of the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Fisheries)	8	170-10-250-EB-10-280-15-370
4	Engineering Supervisor	1	170-10-260-15-320-EB-15-380-20-520
5	Sub- Overseer	2	130-250.
6	Fishermen	2	80-2-90-2-110
7	Assistant (of the rank of Sr. Clerk)	1	150-300

F. RECOVERIES

The Agency will make efforts to arrange for payment of reasonable advances to the fishermen cooperative Societies by the marketing cooperative or central fisheries corporation with reference to the crop position, to cover repayment of annual installments and other expenses of fish farmers from the year from which tanks starts yielding fish. If these efforts are successful this will be stipulated as one of the important conditions in the agreement between the fisheries cooperative societies and the marketing cooperative/Central Fisheries Corporation. The Fisheries Extension Officers will assess the likely yield from each pond and advise the marketing society/ Central Fisheries Corporation in regard to payment of advance from the time to time. Effective steps will be taken to ensure that the F.C.Ss. do not indulge in practices such as diversion of the catches to middlemen or others.

If the system of paying advance by the Marketing cooperative/Central Fisheries Corporation does not materialize, the Fisheries Extension Officers will be entrusted with the work of ensuing recoveries at the time of sale of fish to the marketing organization.

G. CATCH STATISTICS:

Fishermen Co-operative Societies will be provided with fish catch coupons. The Fish Farmers will be trained by the Extension officers in the system of filling up these coupons. The catch coupons, duly filled up will be sent to the Chief Executive Officer by the farmers, to facilitate assessment of annual production.

H. INCENTIVES

A fish crop competition system will be introduced. All the Fisheries Cooperative Societies will be encouraged to participate in the crop competition scheme. The Fisheries Cooperative Societies who diligently applied to technology and produces the maximum quantity of fish per hectare will be awarded suitable prize under the scheme. This incentive will be the form of assisting the Fisheries cooperative Societies with a grant, equivalent to 25% of the annual installment payable to the Cooperative Bank or as decided by the State Fisheries Department.

The Fisheries Cooperative Societies will also be allowed appropriated concessions, to be decided upon suitably, if the repayment to the Bank and to Government is made by them in time. The Extension Officers will also be given suitable monetary incentive by the Agency, when the production targets are successfully achieved by the Fisheries Co-operative Societies under their supervision and it will ensured that repayment are made in time. The quantum of incentive will be decided by the Managing Committee.

I. REPORTING AND EVALUATION :

It is proposed to have a comprehensive reporting system that would provide information on progress of work being done at the field level. In the early phase of the work, the progress will be connected mostly with surveys, training, granting of loans financial aspects. According, reporting during this phase will be restricted to these aspects. In the second phase, the reporting will be related to progress of cultural activities, particulars will be restricted to these aspects. In the second phase, the reporting will be related to progress of cultural activities, particular of production, returns, repayments etc. In regard to the first phase, the basic reports will arise from the Fisheries Extension Officer, Farm Superintendent and the Engineering Supervisor, these will consist of diaries maintained be them in which daily account of work done by them and progress noticed will be recorded every week, they will send extracts from their diaries to the Chief Executive Officer. They will also submit a monthly progress report to him. The Chief Executive Officer will consolidate and place his monthly reports before the Managing Committee which will review the progress once in a month. The reports, together with the review notes of the committee, will be sent to the Special Review Committee the Director of Fisheries, the State Government, and the Regional Fisheries Development Officer, Nagpur by the Executive Officers, Farm superintendent and the Engineering Supervisor will continue to maintain diaries in which a detailed account of work done by them or progress observed will be recorded and weekly extracted sent the Chief

Executive Officer. In addition, they will continue to send monthly progress reports on the progress of work to the Chief Executive Officer. In doing this, the Extension Officers will take into consideration the prescribed forms. The Chief Executive Officer will consolidate and place monthly reports before the Managing Committee which will review the progress. These registers will be carefully scrutinized by them with reference to their own field studies. The Director of Fisheries would also send his comments on the progress to the State Government on each of the monthly reports. Annual reports will also like wise be sent by the Chief Executive Officer to the Director of Fisheries, State Government after it is approved by the Managing Committee. The Chief Executive Officer will also maintain detailed diary of inspections, field visits etc. made by him.

The Director of Fisheries will conduct an annual evaluation of the progress of work. The evaluation report will specifically bring out the aspects which need attention and rectification. Suggestion regarding remedial measures will also be given by him. This report will be sent by him to the sangh, state Government and the Union Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation, New Delhi. The Ministry of Agriculture will also conduct necessary evaluations from time to time.

8)	Account (of the rank of Jr. Superintendent	-	200-350
9)	Stenographer	1	180-400
10)	Clerk/Typist	1	115-215
11)	Peon	2	75-100
12)	Driver	1	100-150

3. Government is pleased to direct that the vidarbha Vibhagiya Machhimar Sahakari Sangh Limited, Nagpur, should in the first instance take steps to take the Regional Fisheries Development Officer, Nagpur and the District Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nagpur, as Government nominee on their Managing Committee. Government is also pleased to give sanction for formulation of the Review committee consisting of the following member for reviewing the progress of the scheme periodically:-

1) Director of Fisheries, Maharashtra State	Chairman,
2) Representative of Collector, Bhandara	Member,
3) Representative of Zilla Parishad, Bhandara	Member,
4) Divisional Joint Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Nagpur,	Member,
5) Chairman, Vidarbha Vibhagiya Machhimar Sahakari Sangh Limited,	Member,
6) Representatives of the Cooperative Bank	Member,
7) Regional Fisheries Development Officer	Member Secretary

4. The expenditure to be incurred during the current year should be debited to the

budget head " 312- Fisheries" and 712-loan for fisheries" and met from the advance of Rs.1 lakh from the Contingency Fund Sanctioned vide Government Memorandum, Finance Department No. CNF/1177 /122-BUD-12, dated the 15th November, 1977. The remaining expenditure should be met from the supplementary grants that will be made available during the remaining period of the current financial year.

5. This order is issued with the concurrence of the Finance Department and Expenditure Priority Committee (Vide Finance Department and Expenditure Priority Committee(Vide Finance Department un-Official reference No 1148/EXP-14, dated the 31 October, 1977.)

By order and in the name of the Government of Maharashtra.

(V.G.Padhya)
Section Officer,
Government of Maharashtra.

The Director of Bombay,
The Superintendent Engineer, Nagpur Irrigation Circle, Nagpur,
The Regional Fisheries Development Officer, Nagpur,
The District Fisheries Development Officer, Bhandara,
The District Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Bhandara,
The Divisional Joint Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Nagpur
Division, Nagpur,
The Collector Of Bhandara, Bhandara,
The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Bhandara.
The Manager, District Central Cooperative Bank Limited, Nagpur,
The Chairman, Vidarbha Vibhagiya Mahhimar Sahakari Sangh
Limited, Nagpur, (By letter),
The Accountant General, Maharashtra - II, Nagpur,
The Planning Department,
The Finance Department,
The Irrigation Department,
ADF/ Staff Assistant to secretary (ADF), 9-ADF.
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