

## **ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur organized a virtual meeting on “Guidelines for earmarking and utilization of funds for development action plan for SCs and STs”**

ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur organised a meeting on “*Guidelines for earmarking and utilization of funds for development action plan for SCs and STs*” on 22.07.2021 in virtual mode.

Dr. Atar Singh, Director of ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur take over this meeting. Initially he started with background of SCST population in India, what approach adopted Government of India for the socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes by manual scavenging; and holistic development through earmarking of funds. He also expressed the objectives and eligibility of this important scheme.

He also guided on components of this scheme that is – (i) Income generating scheme (ii) monitoring and evaluation (iii) Skill development programme (iv) Infrastructure development.

After the discussion of above points he stressed on utilization of funds of SCSP programme which are not upto mark by KVKs. Following points he has included in this talk –

- The minimum earmarking funds for DARE/ICAR is 8.3% for Development Action Plan for SC (DAPSC) and 4.3% for Development Action Plan for ST (DAPST) of scheme fund
- Only those schemes may be included which ensure direct benefits to individual or families belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe instead of notional allocation for all schemes.
- Earmarking of funds under beneficiary oriented schemes should be done in proportion to population for SCs and STs
- Schemes to develop agriculture and allied activities may include irrigation, animal husbandry, dairy development, vocational training, etc. that provide a source of livelihood to concerned population.
- The method of expenditure of budget outlay under DAPSC and DAPST needs to be approved in accordance with the financial rules/norms.
- DAPSC and DAPST funds are non-divertible and non-lapsable
- HRD of the SCs and STs through specifically providing adequate agricultural education and health services.
- Training in agricultural practices, which may be a government-private venture.
- As total 10 KVKs (Chandauli, Faizabad, Hardoi, Kaushambi, Lucknow, Mirzapur, Raebareli, Sitapur, Sonbhadra and Unnao based on population >40% selected blocks) farmers located in field and near to the beneficiaries, initiatives of appropriate asset creation may also be utilized for “Demonstration” to the target beneficiaries of SCs and STs.
- Moreover, State agency could be involved in the transfer of assets.
- A group of 5-10 SC and/or ST farmers may be constituted for skill development by State Agriculture Department/Extension Agencies.
- This group may be provided a package of small tractors with accessories, tube wells in the electrified villages and pump sets in non-electrified villages.
- They may be provided with other agricultural inputs like quality seeds, pesticides, fertilizers etc.
- This farmers group may also be given training for cultivation of suitable crops and for undertaking activities in the sectors of fisheries, animal husbandry, horticulture etc.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks.



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Based on the NITI Aayog



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- The method of expenditure of budget outlay under DAPSC and DAPST needs to be approved in accordance with the financial rules/norms.
- DAPSC and DAPST funds are non-divertible and non-applicable
- Human resource development of the SCs and STs through specifically providing adequate agricultural education and health services.
- Opening up of coaching-cum-guidance centres in Universities/Colleges for SC and STs students appearing under various competitions concerning agriculture.