

Third Annual Conference of Chief Secretaries

Action Points

The following are the action points that emerged from the Chief Secretaries' Conference held on 3-4 February, 2012:

Nurturing Innovation

1. State Governments may take action to set up State Innovation Councils to suggest policy interventions to spur innovation in respective states with a special emphasis on inclusive and sustainable innovation. Preliminary meeting of the State Innovation Council may be held under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister after selecting domain experts as members and defining the mandate & Terms of Reference of the Council.
2. State Governments may prepare a well focused road map Roadmap for Innovation to understand and analyse the innovation quotient in the State and identify challenges and opportunities in the State for 2010-2020 within a time period of 6 months.
3. State Governments may initiate a parallel process for institutionalizing and adopting within the current framework the core suggestions and recommendations of the Council.
4. State Governments may become part of the India Innovation Portal and share case studies, best practices, policy reports, news and media related to innovations happening in the State.
5. State Governments should encourage science education in schools, organize exhibitions at district level to encourage and identify innovations in each district. There are many affordable innovations in the informal sector. State Governments should prepare a grass root innovation atlas.

Transparent & Accountable Governance-Effective Public Service Delivery

6. State Governments may review legislation and also put in place systems for delivering better services from the point of view of compliance to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) which has been ratified by the nation in June 2011.
7. State Governments should utilize funds earmarked for capacity building under various schemes to build capacity of the NGOs and the elected representatives.
8. State governments have to pay attention to capacity building and augmenting of human resources in addition to process reengineering to meet the timelines.

Infrastructure-Forcing the Pace

9. Provision may be made in PPP projects for maintenance during the term of the contract. Alternatively, the option of incorporating maintenance clauses in public

funded projects and entering into OMT (Operation, Maintenance, Toll) contracts may be considered.

10. State Governments may revamp their distribution systems, including management of State utilities and the interface with the State Energy Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) for promoting power generation.
11. State Governments may expedite Environment and Forest clearances for coal blocks.
12. On the Eastern and Western Freight Corridors proposed by the Railways, the respective State Governments are urged to expedite acquisition of land and other clearances with a view to spur investments.

Skill Development

13. The Group of Officers constituted by Advisor to Prime Minister on Skill Development may finalize its report to allocate the target of skilling 8.5 million people for 2012-13 to Government of India Ministries/ Departments, with respect to sectors and areas within the next 2-3 weeks, on the basis of which, the Ministries/ Departments may then finalize their action plans.
14. State Governments may take necessary action to make the State Skill Development Missions (SSDMs) vibrant and active. The SSDMs may finalize the action plans for skill development in respect of States at the earliest, sector wise/ location wise/ institution wise, so that funds under various Schemes can then be projected and tied up with various agencies. In this regard, private sector participation and funding must be leveraged to the extent possible.
15. The State Governments, with low capacities of ITI/ ITCs, may examine strategies to increase these capacities, by increasing the number of shifts and commensurately enhancing the number of trainers within the next two months. Action may also be taken for filling up vacancies of Principals and Instructors.
16. Ministry of Labor and Employment (MoLE) may expedite the scheme for modernization of employment exchanges through private participation to have the scheme in place by the end of March, 2012.
17. MoLE may take steps to secure Cabinet approval expeditiously on the scheme for apprenticeship which will incentivize increase in the number of seats available for apprenticeship.
18. MoLE may draw up a communications campaign to enhance awareness about the skill development initiatives and the actions being taken by various entities in this regard within the next two weeks.
19. State Governments may take steps to identify vocational training providers (VTPs) to boost the Modular Employable Skills (MES) scheme, latest by March, 2012. State Governments may send the pending Utilization Certificates for World Bank

- and MES scheme to MoLE early to enable further release of funds. MoLE may examine enhancing the stipend of Rs. 15/ hour for training in MES to Rs. 30/hour.
20. State Governments may consider providing land for the 1500 new ITIs and 5000 Skill Development Centres proposed by MoLE.
 21. State Governments may focus attention on upgradation of ITIs under PPP model. The Institute Management Committees are to be empowered and encouraged to utilize the interest free loans available under the scheme.
 22. State Governments are requested to utilize funds allocated under the National Urban Livelihood Mission.

Crisis Management

23. State Governments may put together their State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP) and standard operating procedures (SOP) intrinsic to SDMP covering all aspects of crisis management, including aspects of prevention, mitigation, response and recovery, and post-crisis audit, within a period of six months, based on the comprehensive guidelines issued by National Disaster Management Authority.
24. State Governments may look at the model used to set up the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and take urgent steps to set up State Disaster Response Forces (SDRF) within a period of 6 months.
25. State Governments may depute key persons involved in planning, logistics and operations' management issues of crisis management to the capacity building programmes organized regularly by NDMA. In all training programmes on disaster management, aspect of trauma may be included.
26. State Governments, which have not yet identified and communicated pilot districts for implementation of the National School Safety project, have to expedite their responses.

Flagship Programmes: Follow up of Decisions Taken at the Second Annual Conference of Chief Secretaries

Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyudeekaran Yojna

27. Secretaries of State Governments may attend the review meetings held every two months by Secretary, M/o Power on Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY). Chief Secretaries may review the achievements periodically, which in itself will give impetus to the scheme.

Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, Ministry of Water Resources

28. State Governments are requested to-
 - i. Speed up command area development programmes to increase the coverage of irrigation in 12th Five year Plan.

- ii. To review national projects and complete necessary DPRs in time
- iii. In cases where DPRs are ready ensure that other clearances are accorded.
- iv. To expedite land acquisition.
- v. To ensure adequate budget provisions and timely release from the State's share of funds.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

- 29. State Governments are required to ensure quality reports on the progress of the scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna

- 30. State Governments may put up Site Labs and carry out quality checks under the Pradhanmantri Gram Sarak Yojana (PMGSY). State Governments may enforce the five year maintenance clauses built in the contracts of projects. State Governments may ensure that State Rural Roads Development Corporations (SRRDCs) update website at Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) level.
- 31. State technical agencies to design the standard bidding document according to the guidelines. In case of over specifications, the Principal Technical Agency is required to amend the specifications.

Rural Village Electrification Scheme

- 32. State Governments of North Eastern States and Special category States may send proposals with focus on capacity building under the Renewable Energy Development in India early and M/o New Renewable Energy may extend necessary support. State Governments may send proposals for Solar Mission and Rice Husk Gasifiers.

Drinking Water & Sanitation

- 33. State Governments are requested to establish and ensure coordination for proper implementation of the two programmes, Total Sanitation Campaign and National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) where they are handled by different line departments.
- 34. State Governments to furnish relevant documents at the earliest to draw incentive earmarked for States, which hand over water supply management to PRIs, under the NRDWP programme, in the current financial year itself.

Other Action Points that emerged in the Interactive Session

Department of Personnel, Public Grievances & Training

35. Government of Himachal Pradesh said to be facing shortage of IAS Officers, could consider increasing the intake for some years in a row.

Department of Financial Services

36. State Governments are requested to ensure computerization of land records to facilitate priority sector lending.
37. Eight State Governments which have not joined the National Pension Scheme to consider joining at the earliest.
38. Department of Financial Services has to ensure integration of State Treasury system with the core banking operations of Banks.

Department of Telecommunications

39. Regarding the peculiar problem of connectivity of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep, the Department of Telecommunications will take up the matter with Department of Space for seamless satellite connectivity.

Ministry of Panchayati Raj

40. State Governments are requested to start pilot implementation of the applications developed for use at Panchayat level.

Department of Food & Public Distribution System

41. State Governments have to share information on storage capacity under the public distribution system (PDS).

Ministry of Environment & Forests

42. State governments have to wait for environmental clearances before commencing work in non-forest areas.
43. State Governments are required to provide GIS data/latitude and longitude for expediting processing of proposals for mining projects.
44. State Governments are requested to ensure a quorum of 50% eligible members of Gram Sabha while passing resolution for conversion of forest land to non-forest use.
45. In case of hydel projects, cumulative assessment of impact on biodiversity, taking worst case scenario in to consideration is to be made and clearance obtained accordingly.
46. State Governments are requested to send some success stories in terms of access & benefit sharing of forest and desert produce, to be showcased in the

pre-conference workshops or the background material, for the UN Conference on bio-diversity to be held in India on October 1-19, 2012.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries

47. State Governments are urged to utilize funds earmarked for capacity building, awareness generation and preparatory work in terms of the National Project on Food Processing Industries being taken up in the 12th Five Year Plan.
48. State Governments are requested to provide comments on the draft guidelines on National Project on Food Processing Industries circulated by the Central Government.

Ministry of Textiles

49. State Governments are requested to commit their matching grant resources to enable the Central Ministry to release provisions already made for loan waiver under the package for handloom sector.
50. State Governments are requested to expedite clearances for Integrated Textile Parks and Clusters already sanctioned by the Central government and make land available for new clusters.
51. State Governments to make suitable land available for three branches of National Institute of Fashion Technology.

Ministry of Railways

52. States through which the Dedicated Freight Corridor is passing are required to expedite release of funds and clearances.
53. State Governments are required to clear 22 Railway projects struck up for various clearances in the States. Ministry of Railways may separately apprise the respective State Governments of the details of the projects.
54. State Governments are requested to send prioritized list of railway projects for being taken up by the Ministry of Railways.
55. State Governments are requested to actively take up projects for development of Railway Stations on PPP mode.
56. State Governments are requested to see that the approach roads leading to Railway Stations should be decongested.
57. Ministry of Railways to send a team from RITES to survey the rail link proposed in Mizoram upto Myanmar border.
58. Ministry of Railways to send survey report of Rishikesh-Karna Prayag, Tanakpur-Bagheshwar and Karna Prayag-Bagheshwar railway lines to Government of Uttarakhand as soon as the survey is completed.

Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion

59. All six State Governments involved in the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor need to expedite acquisition of land.
60. State governments are requested to identify the legislations in their purview, such as the Air Act, Water Act, etc., which require amendments in view of the recently approved National Manufacturing policy and to take steps to amend them.
61. State Governments are also requested to identify land banks and acquire the same as part of preparedness for implementation of National Manufacturing Policy.
62. State Governments to review the progress in the setting up of manufacturing zones at the highest possible level.

Ministry of Coal

63. State Governments, especially, those of West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, are requested to try and avoid building of super structures on coal bearing areas.
64. State Governments are requested to expedite various clearances for the projects of Coal India.
65. State Governments are requested to take steps to complete public hearing for environmental clearance within the stipulated 45 days.
66. State Governments have to ensure that old cases are not opened up in the context of rates for settlement notified.

Department of Justice

67. State Governments which are not planning to establish Gram Nyayalayas may intimate the same in writing.
68. The Department of Justice to make allocations for maintenance and recurring cost component of computerized courts.

Ministry of Urban Development

69. State Governments are urged to develop strong municipalities and to plan connectivity oriented expansion of cities.
70. State Governments to expedite their responses to the proposed 50% reservation for women in urban bodies.
71. State Governments are urged to strengthen the Metropolitan Planning Committees.

Ministry of Health

72. State Governments to oversee that the utilization certifications of funds released to Primary Health Centres in their State are expedited.

Department of School Education

73. State Governments are required to send proposals for the new scheme on Vocational Education.

Ministry of Labour & Employment

74. All pending utilization certificates may be got expedited to enable the Ministry to process new proposals.
75. State Governments are required to ensure submission of annual affidavit as per the directions of the Supreme Court of India in *M. C. Mehta vs. Government of Tamil Nadu*.
