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Prepare District Specific Projects for Infra and Livelihood Improvement- Chief Secretary to Collectors

Bhubaneswar, 10 Feb

“Prepare innovative projects based on potential of your district for elevating people to the height of a surplus level of living”, directed Chief Secretary Sri Suresh Chandra Mahapatra. He gave this direction while reviewing the present state of development and future prospects of growth in each district over video conferencing from State *Lolseba Bhawan*. Sri Mahapatra said, “Now that the coverage of the schemes focused on necessities like food, water, housing, road and electricity have expanded considerably towards saturation, the districts should plan for achieving next higher stage of development”. This will be possible, added Sri Mahapatra, “with identification of district wise potential in terms of agro-climatic zone, natural and human resources; and, molding those to definite projects for harnessing the opportunities”.

Further, Sri Mahapatra directed Collectors of all districts to identify “missing links in the matters like all weather connectivity to all villages, irrigation for more than one crop, livelihood enhancement, crop diversification, agricultural marketing, escalation of income generation, pipe

water supply, extension of health services and intensification of economic activities”. They were also directed to expedite implementation of infrastructural projects through proactive action for forest clearance, tree falling permission, issue of no objection certificates, land acquisition *etc.*

Adding to the Chief Secretary, Development Commissioner Sri Pardeep Kumar Jena advised the Collectors to find ‘missing links’ in different infrastructure and livelihood schemes on the basis of “objective criteria like non-availability of alternatives, additional advantage of the proposed work in terms of enhancing productivity, saving of cost and time”. He added, “While expediting infrastructural projects, the Collectors should look at both the Government projects and the projects being laid by private sector investors. Sri Jena added, “Assess your present state of development and define the target you fix for your district in terms of short, medium and long term objectives.

Additional Chief Secretary and Agriculture Production Commissioner Sri Raj Kumar Sharma said, “The primary sector like agriculture and allied activities provides livelihood employment to more than fifty percent of rural population. So the interventions in this sector will have direct benefit to the people. He advised to come up with projects for crop diversification, judicious use of water, fishery, poultry and enhanced marketing support to agricultural products. He also directed the Collectors to “spend some more time with agriculture, soil conservation, horticulture and irrigation officers for formulation of innovative projects”.



Chief Secretary Sri Mahapatra assured that Government would provide all support including finance for potential based innovative projects in each district. Planning and Convergence department would be the institutional mechanism between Collectors and the respective departments for appraisal, approval and sanction of the projects.

Principal Secretary Agriculture and Farmers’ Empowerment Dr Sourbh Garg, Principal Secretary Panhayati Raj and Drinking Water Sri Deo Ranjan Kumar Singh, Principal Secretary Industry Sri Hemant Kumar Sharma, Principal Secretary Water Resources Smt Anu Garg,

Secretary Skill Development and Technical Education and CMD IDCO Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh along with senior officers of concerned departments joined the video conference. The Collectors apprised about district potential and ground level improvement in implementation of the infrastructural and industrial projects.

****U.K.Mohapatra, PRO to Chief Secretary.****