MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made on this day of 27th month of 2013 year between the

Central Silk Board, a Govt. of India's organization created by an Act of Parliament namely Central Silk Board Act, 1948 (61 of 1948) functioning under the administrative control of Govt. of India, Ministry of Textiles having its Board Secretariat at BTM Layout, Madivala, Bangalore represented by its Member Secretary hereinafter called "Central Silk Board (CSB)" on the one part

And

Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), 5-10-192, 3rd 4th Floor, Hermitage Office Complex, Huda Building, Hill Fort Road, Nampally, Hyderabad-500004, represented by its Chief Executive Officer hereinafter called "Project Implementation Agency (PIA)" on the other part.

Whereas the Govt. of India, Ministry of Rural Development has sanctioned a special project under Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) - Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) for promotion of Tasar based livelihoods in the state of Andhra Pradesh covering Adilabad, Khammam, Karimnagar, Warangal and East Godavari districts. Whereas CSB, being the Project Co-ordinating Agency has the overall responsibility for execution, fund sharing and for undertaking other aspects to see
hat the project is effectively implemented to accomplish its objectives. The key objectives of this MKSP Project are:

1. Building capacities of all participating families in adopting skills to effectively and profitably make use of the improved technologies and practices to push the productivity frontiers for accelerated growth in Tasar Sector,
2. Strengthening engage in livelihood activities based on Tasar sericulture,
3. Introduction seed sector to eliminate the key supply constraint in Tasar sericulture.
4. To promote large scale replication through infusion of credits from the banks
5. Investment to create alternative market mechanisms to ensure fair prices for cocoons.
6. Promote Producers' Collective to provide sustainable systems of services to Swarojgaris.
7. Design development and dissemination

Whereas CSB under its authority has identified PIA to implement the project in the state of Andhra Pradesh and the PIA has agreed and consented to undertake the task of implementation of the project in terms of the project profile enclosed herewith as Annexure-I which forms part and parcel of this MOU.

In witness whereof the parties herein agreed to the following:-

1. The project comprises of several components. The PIA shall implement each of the components to ensure achieving physical and financial targets set for each component as envisaged in Annexure-I. To accomplish achieving the targets for each component, the PIA shall work out project schedule year-wise containing work plan for the entire year, target set for the said year, funds requirement year-wise and shall submit the same to CSB. While the PIA receives the Central Share directly from MoRD, CSB releases will be made as per annual requirement.

2. The project will cover 5928 beneficiaries in the proposed four districts of the state of Andhra Pradesh for a period of three years from the date of sanction.

3. The total cost of the project is Rs. 1046.75 lakhs of which Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) funding would be Rs. 785.0625 lakhs and CSB will contribute Rs. 261.688 lakhs through its CDP schemes as mentioned in the Annexure-I.

4. The PIA shall identify the target group; priority should be given to poorest of the poor and most vulnerable category of women such as SC/ST, minorities, landless and the Primitive Tribal Groups.

5. The PIA shall ensure that the project shall lead to:

[Signatures]

Ishita Roy, IAS
Member-Secretary
Central Silk Board
Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India
CSE Complex, BTM Layout, Madipakkam
Bengaluru - 560 068

Chief Executive Officer
Society For Elimination of Rural Poverty
Hyderabad,
a) Establishment of effective institutional platforms of Tasar practitioners for improved access to finance and selected public services

b) Development of pro poor value chain around Tasar practitioners ensuring increased access to market and market information for better marketing of their products

c) Promotion of community based Livelihoods Organizations owned and managed by the tribal Tasar practitioners that enable them to increase household income through livelihood enhancements on a sustainable basis

d) Development and promotion of sustainable Tasar management practices in pre harvest, harvest and post harvest technologies to enhance livelihoods opportunities for Tasar practitioners leading to climate change resilience and improved bio diversity

e) Drudgery reduction for women Tasar practitioners through use of gender friendly tools / technologies

f) Improved productivity of tasar sericulture related resources on a sustainable basis

g) Development of value chain for access to markets leading to better price realization

6. The PIA shall ensure following of non-negotiable of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and MKSP and should ensure that these principles are respected and are not violated while implementing the project:

a) Building Institutions of the poor (such as SHGs, SHG federations, Livelihoods, collectives, Social Collectives, etc.) is a prerequisite for livelihoods promotion.

b) Active generic institutions like women SHGs prioritised in the process

c) Self reliance of institutions promoted

d) Ensure equity in decision making and all other common activities including benefit sharing.

e) Sustainable resource use (pre-harvesting and host harvesting) with feasible care for regeneration and development.

f) Development of NTFP value chain for forward and backward linkages which is the integral part of the project

g) Practices are eco-friendly

h) Targeting the poorest of the poor and most vulnerable category of women such as SC/ST, minorities, landless and the particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTG) dependent on NTFP

i) Participatory approaches and bottom up planning will constitute the core value of the MKSP.

7. Purchase of vehicles is not admissible under the project. Administrative expenses for managing the project shall not exceed 5% and no cost escalation/ reallocation
on account of administrative expenditure shall be permitted. Any savings on the administrative expenses should be used only for furthering the activities of the Project.

8. The PIA shall open and maintain a separate bank account of the project for implementing the project.

9. The PIA shall submit the Inception report and the Detailed Project Report (DPR) respectively, in the prescribed format within 15 and 30 days from the date of receipt of 1st installment of Central share from MoRD.

10. The PIA shall follow the Group Approach for delivery of services and the Community based organizations shall be given key role in the management, decision-making and handling of finances under the Project.

11. The PIA shall follow standard audit and accounts procedure, maintenance of books of accounts in respect of project funds. Financial audit shall be carried out by the Chartered Accountant of the PIA or any other authority appointed by the State Government. The Audit Report together with action taken on the auditor’s observations and physical progress under the project shall be furnished at the time of release of 2nd and 3rd installment of Central funds.

12. Audit Reports of the Project shall reflect the total Government Grant (Central and CSB share and interest thereon) and cash contribution if any from other sources with reference to cost estimates and components in the project report.

13. CSB or the Ministry of Rural Development retains the right to carry out internal audit of funds and financial implications of the project, if deemed necessary.

14. The PIA shall submit the Progress Report of the Project by 15th of the month succeeding every quarter in the format prescribed by the Co-ordinating Agency/Ministry, failure of which would make PIA liable to refund the Central funds released for the project along with interest.

15. The interest amount accrued on Government releases, if any, shall be adjusted against the Government share of the project cost at the time of release of the third and final installment. PIA shall also exhibit and account for the interest earned and accrued and utilize such interest for the project only subject to overall sanctioned project cost, under intimation to the CSB/ MoRD.

16. SERP (PIA) will constitute a designated committee/team for smooth implementation and periodical monitoring of the project at State level, headed by the Secretary (Rural Development) of the State and supported by a State Level Technical Project Support Group to be headed by the Commissioner of Sericulture, Department of Sericulture, Govt. of A.P. in the implementation of the Projects.

17. A web based monitoring system is to be established and a web site for the project with details regarding beneficiaries, training, income etc will have to be
maintained by the PIA. The action plan, time line survey and the training content/modules shall be immediately uploaded on the website by the PIA.

18. The PIA shall furnish a certificate to the effect that the beneficiaries under MKSP have not been assisted/ proposed for assistance under any other Government Programme for similar activities.

19. Project period is three years from the date of agreement. At the end of the project period the ownership and management rights of the infrastructure and assets created if any, under the project, shall remain with the participating women groups/ organizations.

20. The Project completion report shall be made available by the PIA within two months from the date of Project completion along with final Utilization Certificate and Audit Reports and funds that remained unspent, if any.

21. It shall be open to the CSB or Ministry of Rural Development to prescribe such conditions, as it deems fit, from time to time to ensure proper execution of the project, which shall be binding on the PIA.

22. CSB shall monitor physically the progress of the project and also scrutinize the physical progress report submitted by PIA component-wise and make suggestions or modifications if necessary for effective implementation of the each component of the project. PIA shall abide by the decision of the CSB in pooling of resources from relevant components for activities those are common to all the projects in the interest of smooth implementation and monitoring.

23. For any clarification with regard to implementation of the project, funding pattern, aims & objectives and other terms the Annexure-I shall be referred to which is forming Part and Parcel of this MoU.

24. CSB shall release its corresponding matching share every year, for effective utilization of the central share.

25. CSB shall not be responsible or liable for any loss or damage that may be suffered by the person or property of PIA or any of its personnel or third parties during the implementation of project.

26. CSB shall not be liable for violation of any rules or regulations if any committed by PIA.

27. PIA shall indemnify CSB against any loss or damage or violation arising under clause (25) & (26), above.

28. Any violation, lapse or default or retardation in the implementation of the task on the part of PIA will be viewed as detrimental to the progress of the project and CSB may immediately suggest corrective measures. In spite of the same if PIA commits breach of any of conditions of this MoU or acts in any manner which is detrimental to the objectives of the project, the CSB shall have right to recover the funds already released and stop forthwith further release of
funds and/or take such other action/s as may be deemed fit keeping in view the nature of violation, lapse or default if any, on the part of PIA.

Ishita Roy, IAS  
Member Secretary  
Central Silk Board  
Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India  
CSB Complex, BTM Layout, Madiwala  
Bangalore - 560 068

CENTRAL SILK BOARD

1) Witness 1

2) Witness 2

Society For Elimination of Rural Poverty  
Hyderabad.

1) Witness 1

2) Witness 2

Chief Executive Officer  
Society For Elimination of Rural Poverty  
Hyderabad.