MINUTES OF THE 137TH BOARD MEETING OF CENTRAL SILK BOARD HELD AT NEW DELHI ON 11.3.2020

The 137th Board Meeting of Central Silk Board was held under the Chairmanship of Shri. Sanjay Sharan, Joint Secretary (Silk), MoT & Vice Chairman, CSB, at India International Centre, New Delhi on 11.3.2020 at 11.00 AM. In accordance with Ministry of Textiles letter no 25011/15/2019-Silk dated 18.02.2020 conveyed with approval of Secretary (Textiles), Joint Secretary (Silk) & Vice Chairman, CSB chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chairperson as per provisions of Rule 24(1) of the Central Silk Board Act 1955. The list of participants who attended the meeting is appended. Shri R.R.Okhandiar, IFS, Member Secretary, Central Silk Board and Member Convenor extended a warm welcome to the Chairman and the Members for the Board Meeting. Member Secretary requested Shri Divakar Y.Bhat, Assistant Director, CSB to place the agenda items for discussions.

Item No.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of 136th Meeting of the Central Silk Board held at Bhubaneswar on 2nd August, 2019.

The Minutes of the 136th Meeting of the Central Silk Board held at Bhubaneswar on 2nd August, 2019, were circulated amongst the Members. Since no comments were received, the minutes were confirmed.

Item No.2: Follow-up action on the Minutes of 136th Meeting of the Central Silk Board held at Bhubaneswar on 2nd August, 2019.

1) With regard to Disaster Management Plan, it was informed that MoT has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Home Affairs vide O.M No.25011/6/2019-Silk dt.20.9.2019 for including new items and also suggested revision of existing norms related to silk sector.

2) With regard to handing over of farm and building of REC, Navsari to Navsari Agriculture University, it was informed that CSB intends to use the said infrastructure for reviving sericulture in Gujarat. It was informed that CSB intends to introduce Eri sericulture amongst farmers having castor plantations raised for seed production. CSB has initiated discussion with M/s. Jayant Agro Organics Ltd., Mumbai, a company involved in castor oil extraction, on possibilities of introducing eri sericulture amongst farmers associated with them. CSB intends to utilize the farm and building of REC, Navasari for providing extension activities for promotion and development of Eri sericulture in Gujarat.
3) With regard to enhancement / revision of wages of TSFWs/Skilled Farm Workers of CSB, the Ministry has already rejected the proposal sent by CSB.

4) As regards enhancement of honorarium to Chairperson CSB from Rs.40,000/- to Rs.60,000/- per month, CSB to take up the matter with the Ministry after appointment of regular Chairman.

5) With regard to establishment of Silk Museum of International Standards, Shri D.K. Suresh, M.P. opined that it would be appropriate to establish the Silk Museum as a joint venture effort of Govt. of India and Govt. of Karnataka. It was decided that CSB would prepare a Detailed Project Report after getting the consent of Govt. of Karnataka for a joint venture project and submit the same to Ministry for consideration. Shri D.K. Suresh, MP would use his good office to prevail upon Govt. of Karnataka on the issue of establishment of Silk Museum of International Standard as a joint venture effort.

6) On the issue of appointment of Data Entry Operators (DEO), the DEOs have to be engaged against live vacancies only. Further, the post due to be abolished as per right sizing plan of the organization should be excluded. The proposal with proper justification indicating the GFR provision that would be followed, should be sent to the Ministry for further examination as there is financial implication.

7) There was no detailed discussion regarding updates made in Labour Manual of CSB with regard to revision of Disturbance Allowances, Appointing Authority & Authority to accept the resignations of Skilled Farm Workers, Competent Authority for shifting / transfer of Farm Workers, Change of Name & Date of Birth of Skilled Farm Workers, However, Member Secretary CSB should examine these issues with reference to GoI extant rules, financial or legal implication and refer the same to the Ministry, if required

8) The Board was informed that the matter related to restoration of promotion channel for Scientists from D to E in CSB is sub judice and that the proposal of extension of pay scale on par with S&T organisation & extending Level 13A to Directors of CSB has not been accepted by the Ministry.

9) The Board was informed that the issue of creation of a separate Directorate of Sericulture in Odisha has been taken up with Govt. of Odisha.
Item No. 3: Status of Sericulture Sector

Shri. R.R.Okhandiar, Member Secretary, CSB made a detailed presentation on the status of Sericulture Sector in the country. Member Secretary highlighted the achievements made in the last five years emphasising on the R&D Innovations, Establishment of Automatic Reeling Units for production of international quality raw silk, commendable progress made in the Seed Sector, supply of Buniyad Reeling Machine to eradicate thigh reeling in Tasar sector, progress made under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan & Tribal Sub Plan, Silk Mark Organisation of India initiatives to protect consumer interests. He also identified many areas as part of Way Forward approaches like Collaborative Research, Private participation in silkworm seed production, Foreign Direct Investment in sericulture, Promotion of large scale farming and big investment in Post Cocoon Sector, use of silk for non-textile applications apart from increasing raw silk production and creating additional employment.

Shri D.K.Suresh, MP, opined that the focus should be on providing support for construction of Rearing Houses and establishment of big capacity Automatic Reeling Units, the way it is practised in China.

The Commissioners of Sericulture & DoS representatives from different States requested CSB to provide improved host plant varieties, silkworm breeds, improved technology packages and required financial support for achieving the raw silk production targets set for the coming years.

The Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Textiles advised to regularly update the component wise beneficiary list under SCSP & TSP programmes.

Shri Sanjay Singh, MP desired to have the details of potential sericulture districts information available with CSB. He also wanted CSB to take up a study to understand the issues concerned to the sericulture sector stakeholders of Varanasi region.

Shri Ajay Nishaad, MP suggested that CSB may also write to the concerned State in support of their initial letter written to the District Collectors of 27 districts seeking support for development of sericulture in those districts. This would further help in convergence of State funds under different schemes.

Item No. 4: Consideration of Annual Report of CSB for the year 2018-19

It was informed that copies of Annual Report of CSB for the year 2018-19 have been forwarded to the Ministry of Textiles with a request to place them before both the houses of the Parliament. It was also informed that copies of Annual Report have been sent to all the Board Members also. The Board took note of the action taken by CSB.
**Item No. 5: Consideration of Revised Estimate 2019-20 and Budget Estimate 2020-21**

The details of Revised Estimate of Rs. 933.53 crores for the year 2019-20 which includes Rs. 573.00 crores under GIA Salaries and Rs. 360.53 crores under Plan towards implementation of approved components under CSS Scheme under Silk Samagra was brought to the notice of the Board.

Similarly, details of Budget Estimate for the year 2020-21 amounting to Rs. 932.24 crores which includes Rs. 525.75 crores under GIA Salaries and Rs. 406.49 crores under Plan towards implementation of approved components under CSS Scheme under Silk Samagra were placed before the Board. The Budget Estimate of Rs. 932.24 crores for the year 2020-21 was considered by the Board.

**Item No. 6: Consideration of Certified Annual Accounts and Audit Report of CSB for the year 2018-19**

It was informed that the Annual Accounts of CSB for the year 2018-19 has been prepared and the same has been audited by the DGCA, MAB, Hyderabad. It was also informed that the certified Audit Report is awaited. The Board took note of this and advised CSB to place the Annual Accounts and the Audit Report on receipt of Audit Report from DGCA, MAB, Hyderabad. It was suggested to place the same before the Board during its next meeting.

**Item No. 7: Engagement of Consultants on contract basis in Central Silk Board**

It was informed to the Board that CSB has not conducted many recruitments for non-scientific lower posts as well as certain posts in entry level of group A posts owing to ban on recruitment from 1997 till 2003. While lifting the ban on recruitment in CSB in November 2003, Ministry advised the CSB to follow the DoPT guidelines, namely, 1/3rd of the “live” vacancies arising in a year only can be filled subject to a ceiling of 1% of the sanctioned strength with the approval of the Screening Committee for the Annual Direct Recruitment Plan (ADRP), and the remaining 2/3rd of the “live” vacancies are to be abolished / surrendered every year. Further, Senior Level posts of the rank of Joint Director, Deputy Director in Accounts, Finance, Law, Publicity, Technical and Administration areas are not being filled after retirement of the incumbents as there are no eligible persons in the feeder cadre for promotion. It was informed that under these circumstances CSB is constrained to seek the assistance of Consultants to ensure that crucial areas of work in CSB are not hampered. Further, it was informed that Rule 22 (1) 1(A) of the Central Silk Board Rules 1955, empowers the Board to appoint any person or persons for such period
and on such terms and conditions as it may think fit, for the purpose of collecting information or statistics or otherwise assisting the Board in carrying out its duties under the Act.

Member Secretary informed that based on the requirement of personnel in crucial and core areas such as Accounts, Finance, Law, Publicity, Technical and Administration etc. CSB intends to engage not more than 10 consultants following GFR 177 and Manual of Procurement of Consultancy & Other Services, 2017 (Ministry of Finance). He further informed that the financial implication for engaging consultants at different Levels, which is based on DoPT OM dated 16-03-2006, would be as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Level of Pay Matrix</th>
<th>Consultancy Fee per month</th>
<th>Local Conveyance per month</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level -12</td>
<td>Rs.60,000/-</td>
<td>Rs.2,500/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level -11</td>
<td>Rs. 50,000/-</td>
<td>Rs.2,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level - 8 to 10</td>
<td>Rs. 40,000/-</td>
<td>Rs.1,500/-</td>
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It was also informed that the consultants shall be engaged following a transparent selection process and the consultant so engaged shall be initially for a period of six months and extendable for a further maximum period of one year subject to satisfactory performance and approval by Competent Authority.

Regarding engagement of Consultants, there has to be justification and engagement against live vacancy not earmarked for surrender by following the prescribed financial rules and procurement procedures. Further, the post due to be abolished as per right sizing plan of the organization should be excluded. The proposal with proper justification should be sent to the Ministry for examination as it has financial implication.

After detailed deliberations, the Board approved the proposal of engagement of Consultants in CSB on contract basis against live vacancies only. Further, the post due to be abolished as per right sizing plan of the organization should be excluded. It was decided by the Board that the proposal with proper justification indicating the GFR provision that would be followed, should be sent to the Ministry for further examination as there is financial implication.
Item No. 8: Status of acquisition of CSB land and building at CSB Complex, BTM Layout Madivala, Bangalore by M/s BMRCL for Metro Rail Project

The details of acquisition of CSB land and building to the extent of 9943 sq. mtrs and 3845 sq.mtrs respectively, for the Metro Rail Project and the compensation received in respect of land acquired was brought to the notice of the Board. It was also informed that CSB intends to take up construction of staff quarters to the extent of 3845 sq.mtr, the cost of which would be met by M/s BMRCL, through CPWD, Bangalore on CSB land at Gottigere, Bangalore.

Item No. 9: Taking up Commercial Trade Activity by Central Silk Board

The idea of developing a commercial arm of CSB for revenue generation and business development was placed before the Board seeking suggestions. Shri D. K. Suresh, MP suggested that the products to be taken up for commercialisation need to be listed and a comprehensive plan to market these products to be put in place. Shri Chiranjeev Choudhury, DOS, AP suggested that implications of Government’s involvement in commercial activity should be kept at the back of the mind while preparing the comprehensive plan. The Board suggested constituting an in-house Committee with a mandate to study the feasibility and possibility of this commercial activity and to suggest a comprehensive plan.

Item No. 10: Re-constitution of the Standing Committee

It was informed that the tenure of the present Standing Committee was for a period of one year w.e.f. 23.1.2019 or till the new Committee is constituted and that the new Standing Committee has to be constituted for the next one year as per Section 6 (2&3) of the CSB Act. After deliberations, the new Standing Committee consisting of the following members was constituted for a period of one year i.e. till 12-03-2021 or till the new Committee is constituted.

1. Chairman, CSB
2. Joint Secretary (Silk) & Vice Chairperson CSB
3. Member Secretary, CSB
4. CCA, MoT
5. Shri. D.K. Suresh, Member of Parliament
6. Commissioner of Sericulture, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
7. Shri P.Somanna, Non Official Board Member

Item No. 11: Any other subject with the permission of the Chair

1) Shri Chiranjeev Choudhury, DOS, AP raised issue of 18% GST being levied on silk machineries and how that is affecting the small and
marginal stakeholders of sericulture sector. Shri D K Suresh MP & Shri Sanjay Singh, MP suggested that a fresh proposal may be sent seeking exemption of GST on silk machineries with a copy marked to them so that they can take up the matter with GST Council independently.

2) Shri D. K. Suresh, MP suggested that big capacity ARM units and increased outlay for components like construction of rearing house is required for India to be competitive in the international market. Member Secretary informed that CSB has prepared a scheme for supporting big capacity ARM units with reduced subsidy pattern with an aim to set up few such units on pilot basis.

3) Shri D. K. Suresh, MP also suggested to prepare a proposal seeking Income Tax exemption for sericulture related activities to attract big investments in the sector

4) Shri Chiranjeev Choudhury, DOS, AP emphasised the need to initiate R&D efforts to find out economical replacement for wood as fuel in silk industry. He also suggested exploring the possibility of setting up state of the art Incubation Centres to attract start ups in sericulture.

5) Shri Bimal Mawandia, Chairman, ISEPC wanted to have the list of sericulture activities with scope for private participation for circulation amongst ISEPC members.

6) The issue of recent increase in imports of silk from country like Vietnam in the backdrop of MFN status given to them was raised by ISEPC. It was suggested to prepare a detailed report in the matter and submit it to Ministry for consideration.

7) Shri Sanjay Singh, MP suggested to explore the possibility of providing training on Buniyad reeling machine as part of rehabilitation programme for inmates of Tihar Jail.

All the above matters may be examined in depth by Member Secretary, CSB with reference to extant rules, financial implication and justification for deliberation in the next meeting

**Item No. 12: Fixation of date for the next meeting**

It was decided to convene the next meeting of the Board at Bangalore during October/November, 2020.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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List of participants for the 137th Board Meeting held at NEW DELHI on 11.03.2020

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<tr>
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<th>UNDER SECTION 4(3)(a)</th>
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<td>II</td>
<td>UNDER SECTION 4(3)(b)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Shri Sanjay Sharan</strong>, Joint Secretary (Silk), &amp; Vice Chairman, CSB, Ministry of Textiles, New Delhi</td>
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</table>
| 3 | **Dr. Shakuntla Devi**  
   | Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Textiles, |
| 4 | **Shri Rajit Ranjan Okhandiar, IFS**  
<p>| Member Secretary, Central Silk Board |
| III| UNDER SECTION 4(3)(c) |
| 5 | Shri Ajay Nishad, M.P. (L.S.) |
| 6 | Shri D.K. Suresh, M.P. (L.S.) |
| 7 | Shri Sanjay Singh, M.P. (R.S.) |
| | UNDER SECTION 4(3)(d) |
| 8 | Shri S. Yogesha |
| 9 | Shri K. Mudde Gowda |
| 10| <strong>Shri P. Somanna,</strong> |
| V | UNDER SECTION 4(3)(e) |</p>
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name and Designation</th>
<th>Address and Contact Details</th>
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| 11  | Tmt. P.Sri Venkada Priya, IAS  
Director (Sericulture),  
Department of Sericulture,  
Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Salem – 636 007. – Rep. by Shri R.Rangarajan, DDS, | |
| 12  | Shri Chiranjiv Choudhary, IFS  
Commissioner of Sericulture,  
Government of Andhra Pradesh,  
Department of Sericulture,  
Guntur – 522 007. | |
| 13  | Shri Mukta Nath Saikia, ACS  
Director of Sericulture,  
Government of Assam,  
GAUWAHATI – 781 022 (Assam) | |
| 14  | Shri Kavindra Kiyavat, IAS  
Commissioner of Sericulture,  
Government of Madhya Pradesh  
Lower Basement,  
Satpura Bhawan,  
Bhopal – 462 004. – Rep. by Shri A.K. Assistant Director, Bhopal | |
| 15  | Shri Uday Pratap, IAS,  
Director,  
Directorate of Handloom, Sericulture and Handicrafts,  
Department of Industries, Mines & Geology,  
Govt. of Jharkhand,  
RANCHI- 834 001 (Jharkhand). – Rep. by Shri Anil Kumar, Dy. Director of Sericulture, DOS, Jharkhand | |
| 16  | Shri Narendra Singh Patel,  
Director,  
Directorate of Sericulture,  
Govt. of Uttar Pradesh,  
Lucknow- 226 010. Rep. by Dy. Director of Sericulture, DOS, U.P. | |
| 17  | Shri Anand Yadav, IAS,  
Director of Sericulture,  
Directorate of Sericulture,  
Govt. of Uttarkhand,  
Dehradun-248 007. | |
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>XI</th>
<th>PERMANENT INVITEES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Chairman,</td>
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<td>Indian Silk Export Promotion Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>New Delhi – 110019</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Dr. S. Ayyappan, (Chairman, RCC, CSB), Mysore</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOARD SECRETARIAT</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Dr. Narendra Rebbely, IRS, Director (Finance), CSB.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Dr. R.K. Mishra, Director (Tech.), CSB</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Shri Julian Tobias, Joint Director (Admin.), CSB</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Shri Divakar Y. Bhat, Assistant Director (Insp.) CSB</td>
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