

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND MEETING OF TASK FORCE HELD ON 12.10.2006
AT 4 P.M. IN THE THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE HALL

The second meeting of Task Force on "Strengthening Civic Engagement for Government - NGO Partnership" was held on 12.10.06 at 4 PM in the 3rd Floor Conference Hall of Secretariat. Shri Vivekananda Pattanayak, Chairperson of the Task Force presided over the meeting. List of Members present in the meeting is at Annexure-I.

2. Dr. R.V. Singh, Special Secretary, Planning & Coordination Department and Member Secretary, Task Force welcomed the members and delegates from Zilla Parishad, Khurda present in the meeting.

3. The Chairperson re-iterated the objectives of the Task Force and briefly narrated the deliberations / discussions held in the last meeting. He also invited the members / invitees to offer their views. The proceedings of the last meeting as circulated in P & C Dept. letter No. 11927 dated 31st August 2006 were confirmed.

4. Expressing thanks on behalf of the Zilla Parishad for having been invited to the meeting, Shri B B. Balabantaray, Member, Khurda Zilla Parishad remarked that NGOs should work in tandem with the Government and PRIs. NGOs should work together with PRIs, especially in Health, Education, Water Supply & Sanitation and Self Employment Programmes of Government. There is also a need for creation of awareness among PRIs for Government-NGO partnership in development programmes. He emphasised that the PRI members should be trained properly so that they are aware of their duties and responsibilities.

5. The Chairperson, referred to the Zilla Parishad Act, 1991 (Section-3, Chapter-II) and indicated that PRIs and NGOs could work together in undertaking developmental schemes in Agriculture, Social Forestry, Live Stock, Water Supply, Public Health & Sanitation, Primary/ Secondary/ Adult Education etc.. Zilla Parishad may provide grant-in-aid to Public Welfare Organisations within the District and involve them in various developmental programmes. While enlightening the Zilla Parishad delegates about the provisions of law, the Chairperson requested them to interact with NGOs of the district so that the latter come forward to participate in the development projects of the district.

6. Vice-Chairperson of the Task Force and Development Commissioner-cum-ACS, expressed his views on decentralised Planning and implementation of various programmes. He stated that various Village Level Organisations like V.S.S, Pani

Panchayats, VECs and SHGs etc were created by Government at grassroots level to involve the Village Community in the development process. He desired to know how these organisations could be linked to Zilla Parishads and other PRIs. The Task Force may look forward to evolve a mechanism for the linkages between these Organisations and PRIs so that implementation of development programmes could be sustained and made successful.

7. Sri B B Balabantaray, suggested that co-ordination between PRIs and NGOs should be strengthened. As there is flow of funds to PRIs from various sources to take up different development Projects, NGOs should associate themselves with such programmes/projects in a more meaningful manner. The PRIs should be aware of the functioning of the NGOs in respective areas. He suggested that the funds of P.R. Deptt. could be utilised for the training of PRI members.

8. Chairperson indicated that Planning & Co-ordination Deptt. have brought out NGO directory in respect of three Revenue Divisions and opined that this Directory may be referred to by Zilla Parishad/Panchayat Samiti to ascertain the NGOs' in operation in the District..

9. The Secretary, ST & SC Development Department indicated that existence of multiple organisations like V.S.S, Pani Panchayats and SHGs was creating confusion in the minds of people and that there was need to specify their functions and clarify their linkages with PRIs. He emphasised that these organisations should not evolve at the cost of P.R. Institutions that have constitutional mandate. He stressed that convergence of resources and manpower should be ensured for optimum result in the development of rural areas.

10. Principal Secretary, Forest & Environment Deptt. pointed out that some NGOs indulge in activities which prejudice the interest of the State or create disharmony in society. He said that there should be a mechanism to deal with such self-indulging NGO and to differentiate between good and bad NGOs so that public interest is protected. He stressed that NGOs working for the people in the right earnest should be encouraged and involved in Government programmes

11. Shri Jagadananda, Secretary, CYSD indicated that as per 73rd & 74th Amendment of the Constitution Panchayat Samiti is a constitutional entity and be given due

attention and priority. There is need for interaction between NGOs and PRIs at the time of preparation of district planning / micro planning.

12. Special Secretary, P & C Deptt.. stated that Govt. of India have suggested that plan will be formulated from grassroots level during the 11th Five Year Plan. There was need for training the people at grassroots level to prepare micro plans. He mentioned that there was no dearth of funds for training programme of PRI functionaries. Panchayat Raj Department could take care of such training programme at district and lower levels. He pointed out that there was lack of coordination between nodal officers of different programmes and NGOs. There should be meetings of nodal Officers, NGOs and Collectors at district level to identify the strategies and programmes for partnership between Government and Voluntary Sector.

13. Sri R.N. Mohanty, Secretary, TSRD, Bhubaneswar remarked that a suitable action plan should be chalked out so that NGOs and PRIs could work better and more effectively. He suggested that PRIs members should be trained suitably

14. Shri U.S. Mishra, Member, Gram Vikas stated that DRDA should take steps on behalf of P.R. Deptt. to ascertain what NGOs are doing and what benefits have gone to the people from their activities. Otherwise, PRI members may remain skeptical of the activities of the NGOs of their locality. He stressed that there should be harmony between NGOs and PRIs.

15. The Chairperson remarked that the Zilla Parishad members and NGO representatives could seek clarification from Secretaries of Panchayati Raj, Forest & Environment, and other Departments. He also advised that clarification could be sought from Special Secretary, P & C Department, who is Member Secretary of the Task Force. He indicated that the proposals submitted by Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, West Bengal and OGU Welfare Association, Arunanchal Pradesh circulated by the Planning Commission have been circulated to the Members of the Task Force. They may offer their views thereon. The Members should also peruse and offer their comments on the papers presented by Lutheran World Service, Shri Jagadanand and National Policy on the Voluntary Sector, Action Plan to bring about a collaborative relationship between Voluntary Organisation and Government and proceedings of the Colloquium on strengthening civic engagement for Government-NGO partnership.

16. Shri Jagadananda spoke of problems and issues involving the NGOs. He stressed that there was an urgent need to develop appropriate data set on NGOs and to identify enabling and disabling factors for cordial and productive partnership between Government and NGOs. He suggested that a time-frame be set to create the database so that the problems faced by NGOs and Departments in interacting with each other are ascertained and a partnership framework between Government and NGOs be formulated quickly. He emphasised that the Voluntary Sector is not associated with three major programmes of the Government like Sarva Shikhya Abhijan, NREGS and National Rural Health Mission. He commented that involvement of NGOs in these schemes could yield rich dividends for the concerned people. He also suggested that the Task Force should organise four major consultations in the form of workshops: (i) with PRI, (ii) with Nodal officers of Deptts. on NGOs, (iii) with Collectors, and (iv) with NGOs with a view to developing a robust framework and appropriate guidelines.

17. The Special Secretary, Planning & Coordination Department indicated that a website on NGOs of the State would be launched with all relevant information and guidelines. Interested NGOs /Individuals may access the website and offer their views for consideration of the Task Force. The Task Force would also solicit views/comments of the NGOs/Individuals/Institutions in the Government-NGO partnership through advertisements in local newspapers.

18. The Chairperson observed that Panchayat Samiti representatives would be invited to the next Task Force meeting for interaction with them. He advised all the Members to go through the papers and come up with their responses/views so that the suggestions could be examined and further follow up action could be taken.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair and participants.

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CHAIRPERSON

**MEMBERS PRESENT IN THE SECOND MEETING OF TASK FORCE HELD
ON 12.10.2006 AT 4 PM**

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Participants</u>
1	Shri Viveknanda Pattanayak, Chairperson
2	Dr. U. Sarat Chandran, DC-cum-ACS, Vice-Chairperson
3	Shri S . P. Nanda, Principal Secretary to Government, Forest & Environment Deptt.
4	Dr. Mona Sharma, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, W & CD Deptt.
5	Shri Tara Dutt, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, ST & SC Development Deptt.
6	Shri G.K. Dhal, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, P.R. Deptt
7	Shri M. Saran, Special Secretary, H & FW Deptt.
8	Shri Jagadananda, CYSD, Bhubaneswar
9	Shri Udaya Shankar Mishra, Gram Vikash, Mohuda, Berhampur
10	Shri Rabindranath Mohanty, Tagone Society for Rural Development
11	Shri Jajati Keshari Mohanty, Lutheran World Service
12	Shri R.K.Panda, CPSW
13	Robert De' Quadros, Credibility Alliance, Mumbai
14	Dr. S.P.Padhi, Director, NCDS, Bhubaneswar
15	Smt.Anjubala Chhotray, Vice-President, ZP, Khurda
16	Shri P.M. Swain, Member, ZP, Khurda
17	Shri A.C. Pradhan, Member, ZP, Khurda
18	Shri Bibhuti Bhusan Balabantaray, Member, ZP, Khurda
19	Dr. R V Singh, Special Secretary to Government, P & C Department, Member Secretary
