

Proceedings of the Meeting of Steering Committee of OMGI held in Second Floor Conference Hall on 8.5.2005

The first meeting of the Steering Committee of OMGI was held on 8.5.06 under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary. The list of participants is enclosed in the **Annexure**. The important points of deliberations are indicated below.

1. OMGI Programme:

The meeting began with a presentation on the salient features of Orissa Modernizing Government Initiatives Programme. The objectives of the OMGI programme and the nature and scope of assistance available to Departments was explained. The need for continuous evolution and adaptation of public institutions in tune with the changing technology and socio-economic conditions calls for setting up of an institutional mechanism that furnishes the requisite impetus for change and development of Government organizations. OMGI aims to create the institutional arrangement that will provide the necessary impetus for reform. Under this programme, the Departments may identify important areas of reform in their own sphere, draw up actions plan for reform and implement the plan. For this purpose they will be provided assistance in the form of Consultancy support for undertaking requisite study of issues of public importance and drawing up of the plan for reforms. They will also be provided the support for training of their employees engaged in the implementation of the

programme. Support for necessary expenses on exposure visits, travel, documentation, training, change management, etc. may be granted out of the programme on submission of a comprehensive reform proposal and its approval by the Steering Committee.

2. Managing Litigation against Government:

The Committee noted the need for the modernization of the Litigation Management System. The burden of litigation against Government is seriously detracting from the quality of time and effort that Departments devote to the implementation of programmes and performance of statutory duties. This gravely affects delivery of public services by Government organizations. A suitable software should be made available to effectively deal with the litigation against Government.

3. Best practices workshops

Recognizing the importance of improving the standard of public administration by dissemination of best practices, the Committee affirmed that there is an urgent need to educate the officials regarding the best practices in governance. This may be done by identifying important sectoral themes and organizing workshops on those themes. The domain experts from different parts of the country on such themes may be identified and invited in the workshop. The officers working in that particular sector ranging from the senior officers of the Department to those working in the Districts may participate in the workshop. The officers will get an opportunity to learn

the advances made in a particular sphere which will not only upgrade their knowledge and skills, but will also provide them the motivation to rise to superior levels of performance. Important sectors such as education, health, urban development, agriculture, etc. may be covered in these workshops. These workshops may be held once in a month.

4. Documentation

The Committee also noted that the work of documentation in Government needs to be strengthened. The advances in Governance reforms can be achieved only with comprehensive and precise documentation of the leading issues in public policy and management, and of the innovations and improvement in the policy framework, Government processes, technology and human resources that are required to address those issues. Documentation performs an important function to bring about such an orderly change. It was decided that required steps may be taken to strengthen the facilities for documentation.

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

ANNEXURE

Members Present

1. **Dr. Subas Pani, IAS,
Chief Secretary, Orissa**
2. **Shri A.K.Tripathy, IAS,
Development Commissioner
Orissa**
3. **Shri S.P. Nanda, IAS,
Principal Secretary,
Forests & Environment Department.**
4. **Smt. Rajalakshmi, IAS,
Principal Secretary,
Commerce & Transport Department**
5. **Dr. Arun Kumar Panda, IAS,
Special Secretary,
Housing & Urban Development Department**
6. **Shri T.K. Pandey, IAS,
Special Secretary,
General Administration Department**
7. **Shri K.C. Badu, IAS,
Special Secretary,
Finance Department**
8. **Shri N. Chandra, IAS,
Additional Secretary,
General Administration Department**
9. **Shri R.P. Das,
Additional Secretary,
School & Mass Education Department**