

**MATERIALS FOR UPDATION OF GOVERNMENT WEBSITE
(PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT)**

CABINET DECISIONS

28.02.2005

- 1. Proposal to enact a new legislation for levy and collection of tax on entertainment and to repeal the existing law i.e. the Orissa Entertainments Tax Act, 1946(Orissa Act 5 of 1946).**

The Entertainment Tax is being levied and collected under the Orissa Entertainment Tax Act, 1946. Over the years, tax compliance under the existing law is declining substantially primarily due to its limited scope, high tax rate, opening up of new avenues of entertainments like Cable TV, Satellite TV, Video Parlours and most of the provisions of Entertainment Tax being found to be redundant which requires replacement.

The Cabinet, therefore, decided to enact a new legislation by repealing the existing Entertainment Tax Act, 1946 so as to rationalise the tax rate, as well as its provisions, for increasing the tax base and ensuring better tax compliance and at the same time to prevent tax evasion by adequate penal provision.

The Cabinet further decided that Oriya films being screened in the Cinema halls will be exempted from Entertainment Tax through appropriate orders under the proposed legislation.

- 2. Food and Procurement Policy 2004 - 05 participation of Government agencies in procurement.**

In the Food and Procurement Policy for the marketing season 2004-05 approved by the Cabinet in its 4th meeting, it was decided to keep an overall paddy procurement target of 20 lakh MT of rice. Out of this, 17 lakh MT would be procured by the millers through levy system and one lakh MT would be procured by the Orissa State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd(OSCSC) and the Co-operative Organisations. Food corporation of India has been requested to procure 2 lakh MT rice.

Against this target, 10.50 lakh MT of paddy has been purchased by various agencies as on 16.01.2005 compared to 9.55 lakh MT of paddy purchased up to 15th January last year.

Direct Procurement of paddy by the Orissa State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd and Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies(PACs) during the current marketing season 2004-05 is expected to exceed the target of one lakh MT rice.

In the mean time, National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation (NAFED) has sought permission for undertaking paddy procurement in Orissa with a target of 50,000 MT of rice to be delivered as Custom Milled Rice(CMR) to Food Corporation of India. Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Orissa has requested for enhancement of paddy procurement target of Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies (PACs) by 13,600 MT rice. Orissa State Co-operative Marketing Federation(MARKFED) has sought for permission to undertake paddy procurement in the district of Sambalpur and Bargarh.

The Cabinet approved the proposal.

3. Extension of Service period from dt.08.11.1998 to dt.31.10.2000 of Shri Bhaskar Ch. Mohapatra, Ex-Driver, O/o the Executive Engineer, Charbatia(R&B) Division after retirement and payment of decretal dues.

One Shri Bhaskar Mohapatra, working as Driver under Works Department was due to retire on 30.4.1988 on superannuation as his date of birth recorded in his Service Book was 7.4.1930. He filed a O.A. Case 291/91 to continue in service claiming his date of birth 8.10.1944, basing on the T.C. issued by the Headmaster, Rakala U.P. School, Hindol in his favour. In pursuance of the direction of Hon'ble O.A.T. in O.A. Case No. 291/91 enquiries were held to ascertain his date of birth and as no convincing evidences in support of changed date of birth was produced by Sri Mohapatra, he was retired on 7.11.1998.

Sri Mohapatra again filed the O.A. Case No.453(C)/99 challenging the above order of retirement. The Hon'ble Orissa

Administrative Tribunal in their order dt.9.5.2003 directed the date of birth of Sri Mohapatra is as 8.10.1942 and observed that he had to retire on 31.10.2000 and to get 50% of his salaries for the intervening period from dt.8.11.98 to dt.31.10.2000.

The Cabinet approved, the proposal made in pursuance of OAT's orders.

4. Proposal for amendment of the Orissa Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1956(Orissa Act 3 of 1957).

The agricultural marketing system in Orissa is regulated by the provisions of the Orissa Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1956(O.A.P.M.Act.) and the Orissa Agricultural Produce Markets Rules, 1958 (O.A.P.M. Rules). The said Act and the Rules regulate the buying and selling of the agricultural produce notified by the Government under the control and supervision of the Regulated Market Committee(RMCS). Under the present O.A.P.M.Act and Rules the State Government alone are empowered to set up markets in the market area and the private sectors are prohibited to set up markets in the State Government of India have formulated a Model Act allowing the private entrepreneurs to establish private markets, to encourage them to make massive investments required for development of alternative marketing infrastructure and the supporting services for better marketing of agricultural produce of the farmers.

The Government of India have provided in the Model Act for introduction of the Contract Farming system in the States. The main features of the contract farming are that selected crops are grown by farmers under a buy-back agreement with an agency engaged in trading or processing of such produces. The contractual agreement with the farmers provides access to production services and credit as well as knowledge of new technology.

Therefore, it was decided to make provisions in the O.A.P.M.Act., 1956 for establishment of markets by any persons in the market area by obtaining license from the Director of Agricultural Marketing, Orissa for a period of three years initially

which can be renewed from time to time for a period of one year, and for introduction of contract farming system by entering into an agreement between the “contract farming producer” and “contract farming sponsor” with a view to facilitate production, sale and purchase of the agricultural produce of the farmers. The contract farming sponsor shall register himself with the Market Committee on payment of fees and shall get the contract farming agreement recorded with the Market Committee.

5. Employment Mission.

Problem of unemployment, underemployment and seasonal unemployment is on the increase in our State. The State Government have mounted a special drive for creation of self employment opportunities during 2003-04 to 2006-07.

2. The State Government have accorded very high priority on generation of self employment opportunities so as to reduce unemployment problem in the state. During 2003-04, 1.72 lakh. During 2000-01 to 2003-04, 5.32 lakh self employment in individual mode have been created. Apart from the individual mode, self employment opportunities are also being created in group mode especially under Mission Shakti Programme.

3. The proposed Employment Policy intends farming of a model law on contract farming, strengthening of co-operative movement, new and innovative self employment programmes and reorganization of Directorate of Employment. Apart from the aforesaid policy initiatives, the Employment Policy incorporates various sectoral strategies which are needed to boost up employment opportunities in various sectors and sub-sectors.

4. As a part of the policy, various Self Employment Programmes will be implemented in the State vigorously in a Mission Mode. As such, a High power Employment Mission will be set up under the chairmanship of Honourable Chief Minister. The main objectives of the Employment Mission are:

i. To facilitate generation of adequate employment opportunities through a policy frame work.

- ii. To recommend and initiate bold steps for infrastructure development which will open up avenues for self employment and create a conducive atmosphere for sustainable wage employment.
- iii. To act as a catalyst in opening up marketing opportunities for commodities and goods produced in the state.
- iv. To mount special drive for creation of self employment opportunities particularly in agriculture and allied sectors and small scale industries, handicraft and cottage industries and in the I.T. sectors.
- v. To encourage and facilitate training of young entrepreneurs on development of small scale and cottage industries.
- vi. To monitor generation of employment in different sectors and programmes.
- vii. To facilitate launching of training programmes for both uneducated and educated unemployed persons for upgradation of their skill.
- viii. To formulate area and trade specific strategies for maximizing employment opportunities on a sustainable basis in the state supported and private sectors.
- ix. To facilitate proactively substantial wage employment for various development activities with special emphasis on creating of community and individual assets. Sectors like forestry, watershed development, rural communication, horticulture and land development among others will receive priority.
- x. To facilitate a coordinated approach in achieving the above objectives through convergence of various ongoing schemes for maximizing the benefits over time and space and in reaching out the most needy sections of the population.

6. The Employment Mission will look into policy matters relating to Employment Programmes. There will be an executive body of the Mission under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary which will implement policy decisions. The Directorate of Employment will be reorganised and the Mission Office will be located in the Directorate of Employment.

--XX--XX--