

Government of India

National Advisory Council

27th September, 2013

1. The Thirty Third meeting of the National Advisory Council was chaired by Smt. Sonia Gandhi on 27th September, 2013 at 2 Motilal Nehru Place, New Delhi.
2. Members who attended the meeting were Dr Narendra Jadhav, Ms Anu Aga, Dr NC Saxena, Ms Mirai Chatterjee, Prof Virginius Xaxa, Dr AK Shiva Kumar, Shri Deep Joshi and Shri Ashis Mondal.
3. Shri AK Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation made a presentation on the progress made in the implementation of NAC recommendations on reforms proposed for *Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY)* and *National Programme for Shelter and other Services for the Urban Homeless*. He informed that the Union Cabinet on 3rd September, 2013 approved RAY and National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM). In pursuance of the vision of Slum Free India, RAY was launched in June, 2011 in two phases; the preparatory phase for a period of two years which ended in June, 2013 and implementation phase for the period 2013-2022. The NAC recommendations, namely, eligibility of homeless and precariously housed, the scattered poor and definition of slums, other eligibility barriers, social amenities and basic services, mapping and survey, transparent slum tenability assessments, moratorium on forced eviction etc have been factored into the implementation strategy of the scheme. The *National Programme for Shelter and other Services for Urban Homeless* is now a component of NULM which incorporates the NAC recommendations viz. every one lakh urban population to have at least one permanent and well equipped all weather shelter for 100 persons or two with capacity for 50 persons, all necessary infrastructural facilities to be put in place, location of shelter to be close to the concentration of homeless persons and their work place etc.
4. Dr Narendra Jadhav, Convener of the Working Group on "*Skill Development of Functionaries in Social Sector Programmes of Government*" presented the draft recommendations of the Working Group. The presentation highlighted the demand for a very large number of frontline workers which will be generated over the 12th Plan period as a result of the expansion of the various social sector flagship and other programmes. Consequently, the need was emphasized for a clear Human Resource Policy which would include reforms in recruitment and selection process, systematic training and capacity building, developing performance management system, evolving human resource policy and introducing development related curricula in universities etc. The proposal was approved by the Council.
5. Shri Ashis Mondal, Convener of the Working Group on "*Agro-Forestry/Trees on Farms*" presented the draft recommendations of the Working Group. It was pointed out that Agro-forestry/Trees on Farms can be a great source for achieving multiple objectives of food security, nutrition & health, employment, livelihood, energy, climatic

change adaptation and mitigation. The presentation emphasized the urgent need to have a National Policy Framework on Agro Forestry to address issues of lack of institutional architecture, absence of dedicated extension mechanism and regulatory constraints. He underlined the need to constitute Agro-forestry Mission/Board to bring about the necessary coordination and convergence, simple and uniform regulatory regime, more investment in R&D, quality control for seeds and saplings, technical collaboration with expert agencies, availability of institutional finance and insurance coverage to the agro-forestry projects. The proposal was approved in principle by the Council.

6. The next meeting of the NAC is scheduled to be held on 25th October, 2013.