

**PRESS RELEASE**

**XII State Level Empowered Committee**

**of Special Area Development Programme held on 02.02.2021**

State Level Empowered Committee for Special Area Development Programme was held on 02.02.2021 at 11.00 AM through webinar under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Vice-Chairman Thiru.C.Ponnayian, State Development Policy Council.

Tmt. Jayashree Raghunandan, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Planning & Development Department, Dr. Sandeep Saxena, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment and Forests Department, Tmt. Reeta Harish Thakkar, IAS., Special Secretary, Finance Department, Thiru. Kayarat Mohan Das, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry and Extension), Tmt P. Rajeswari, IFS., Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Planning & Budgeting), Forests Department, Dr. B.C. Archana Kalyani, IFS., Head of Division (Land Use), Tmt. J. Innocent Divya, IAS., District Collector, The Nilgiris, and Tmt. K.M. Sarayu, IAS., Project Director, HADP, Unit-I, Ooty, District Forest Officers / Deputy Directors and concerned Departments are participated in the meeting.

During this COVID-19 Pandemic period, this Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister has taken reduce austerity measures the administrative cost considerably, but pumping more money on development schemes such as Special Area Development Programme as

done. Hence, an amount of Rs.75 crore has been allocated for implementation of SADP for the year 2020-21.

For the year 2020-21, during XII SLEC, about 206 projects for a total cost of Rs.**86.78** crores (SADP Rs.85.53 Crores) were taken up for screening during the meeting. The Hon'ble Vice Chairman, SDPC suggested for close monitoring of the SADP Projects through both by the THIRD PARTY and by Technical team.

To the improve livelihood opportunity, the projects of INDCOSERVE (The Tamilnadu Small Tea Growers Industrial Cooperative Tea Factories Federation Ltd.) for 20 Food Trucks was approved along with Carbon Neutral Tea manufacturing by installing solar power plants which would address the climatic change issues. In addition to this, projects on Afforestation, Drinking Water were considered under this SLEC.

A 'Dashboard' exclusively for SADP has been developed and launched it is informed that the processing and appraisal of SADP proposals can be done through online process. **Web Monitoring System** has also been established for the effective and quick monitoring of the projects for Special Area Development Programme.

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