

**PRESS RELEASE**

**XII (2<sup>nd</sup> Round) State Level Empowered Committee  
of Special Area Development Programme held on 15.02.2021**

State Level Empowered Committee for Special Area Development Programme was held on 15.02.2021 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, 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, Tmt. Shilpa Prabhakar Satish, IAS., Joint Secretary to Government, Health and Family Welfare Department, Thiru S. Ramanathan, Deputy Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, Tmt. R. Bhuvaneshwari,

Deputy Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Dr. B.C. Archana Kalyani, IFS., Head of Division (Land Use) SADP Unit –II, Chennai and Tmt. K.M. Sarayu, IAS., Project Director, SADP, Unit-I, Uthagamandalam, District Forest Officers / Deputy Directors and Officers of concerned Departments participated in the meeting.

During this COVID-19 Pandemic period, this Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister has taken austerity measures and the administrative costs were reduced considerably, but money on development schemes such as Special Area Development Programme has been given its full share. Hence, an amount of Rs.75 crores has been allocated for implementation of SADP for the year 2020-21.

For the year 2020-21, during XII (2<sup>nd</sup> Round) SLEC meeting, about **113 projects for a total cost of Rs.3065.179 Lakhs** were taken up for screening during the meeting. The Hon'ble Vice Chairman, SDPC mentioned that Hon'ble Chief Minister who is also the Chairman of SDPC has been giving more emphasis on health projects especially during COVID period and for the first time in SADP Health department has been included and for this year 16 projects for Rs. 13.6 crores has been sanctioned under SADP to address the health issues. The Hon'ble Vice Chairman, SDPC mentioned that it is the vision of the Hon'ble Chief

Minister that the poor and down trodden people should be benefitted at large and SADP projects should be accordingly sanctioned to benefit the community at large.

The major schemes recommended during the meeting are Health Infrastructure and equipment, Afforestation, Drinking Water & Drainage, Man Animal Conflict, Soil and Water Conservation works.

A 'Dashboard' exclusively for SADP is used for processing and appraisal of SADP proposals online. **Web Monitoring System** has also been established for the effective and quick monitoring of the projects for Special Area Development Programme.

**Thiru. C. Ponnaiyan,  
Hon'ble Vice Chairman,  
State Development Policy Council**

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