

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Technical Committee of the Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plants and Machinery (ISAPM) held 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 at 2.30 p.m. in the Conference Room of Indian Jute Industries' Research Association (IJIRA), Kolkata.**

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Subrata Gupta, Jute Commissioner.

Shri Dipankar Mahto, Secretary, National Jute Board and Convenor of the Technical Committee of Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plants and Machinery (ISAPM) welcomed all the participants in the meeting and initiated discussions on the agenda items.

The list of participants of the meeting is enclosed at Annexure- A.

**Agenda-1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the second meeting of the Technical Committee of the Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plants & Machinery (ISAPM) held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014 at NJB.**

The approved minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting was circulated on 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2014.

Since no comments were received from any members, the minutes was taken as confirmed.

**Agenda-2 : Reporting on action taken on the decision of the second meeting of the Technical Committee of ISAPM held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014.**

The committee noted the report on action taken.

Shri D. C. Baheti requested the Chairman to allow import of second-hand machinery namely, Intersecting Drawing Frames, Spinning Frames, Shuttleless Looms and Non-Woven lines suitable for jute along with other admissible machinery as per guideline of TUFs. In this respect, a threadbare discussion was held amongst the members / officials on merits and demerits of importing secondhand machinery. Chairman opined that basically ISAPM has been approved only for new machinery by the Ministry of Textiles and he advised that both IJIRA and Industry would submit separate proposal preferably within 31.12.2014. Then a small consultative committee will be formed to resolve this issue considering the reports of both IJIRA and industry and before the placed before the Technical Committee. The decision of the technical committee will be forwarded to Ministry for approval.

**Agenda-3 : Reporting of status on the progress of the scheme.**

The committee noted the progress of the scheme since its commencement.

The convenor suggested that henceforth, photographs of the machinery to be properly taken during inspection at the shop floor of the mill and those photographs to be submitted along with the inspection report after completing all other formalities.

**Agenda-4 : To consider enlistment of core jute machinery manufacturer (Vendor) and additional machinery with existing list of approved machines.**

The committee considered the name of enlisted vendors those applied for inclusion of additional core jute machinery and enlistment of new vendor under the scheme.

The process of enlistment, so far, followed by IJIRA, for new vendor for inclusion of additional core jute machinery against already enlisted vendors, have been reviewed by the committee. The committee approved the additional machinery against enlisted vendors at Sl. Nos. 1,3 & 4 namely Lagan, Jutex & Madhabi respectively. Regarding a new vendor at Sl. No. 2 namely Manish, the committee provisionally approved the same, subject to checking and recommendations of financial criteria by IJIRA in-house on the basis of data available in the respective applications. The applicant/s would be contacted, in case data are incomplete.

The admissible unit basic price of different core jute machinery to be fixed and limited to the average unit price of all vendors enlisted for an identical machine every year.

**Agenda-5 : To consider letter received from Association of Jute & Handicrafts Entrepreneurs of Eastern India (AJHEEI) regarding enhancement of the incentive from the present level of 20% to 50% of the cost of machinery listed for production of Jute Shopping Bags and also for exemption of fees payable to IJIRA for techno economic evaluation of the proposal / claim under ISAPM.**

Subject matter of the letter was sympathetically considered by the committee members. The Chairman agreed to consider the proposal subject to submission of proper justification. The proposal will ultimately be placed before the Ministry for approval.

Chairman advised to form a committee with representative one each from O/o, Jute Commissioner, NJB and IJIRA. The committee will meet to take final decision on the percentage of incentive to be allowed under the scheme for the machines for diversified jute products. The machinery for jute shopping bags, other JDP items and technical textiles viz. Jute Geotextiles are to be examined for the enhanced percentage of incentive and the incentive claim should be made only under bank finance of funding. The report shall be placed before the Committee for consideration on urgent basis.

There being no other matter for discussion, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair.