

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

2, Motilal Nehru Place
New Delhi 110 011.

No.5/NAC/Mtg6/2004/1585

27th October, 2004

Sub : **Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC).**

Please find enclosed herewith. a copy of the minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the National Advisory Council held on 20th October along with draft Agenda for the Seventh Meeting proposed to be held on 27th November, 2004.


(Dhiraj Srivastava)
Officer on Special Duty (NAC)

Encl: as above

Smt Aruna Roy
Member, NAC
SB/158-A, Gandhi Nagar
MG Road, Bapu Nagar
Jaipur – 302 015 (Rajasthan)

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Sub: Minutes of the Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) held on 20th October, 2004 at New Delhi.

The Sixth Meeting of the NAC was chaired by Smt. Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday, 20th October, 2004 when the following Members of the Council were present:-

- (i) Smt. Aruna Roy
- (ii) Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao
- (iii) Shri Jairam Ramesh
- (iv) Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan
- (v) Dr. Jean Dreze
- (vi) Dr. V. Krishnamurthy
- (vii) Dr. Madhav Chavan
- (viii) Dr.A.K. Shiva Kumar
- (ix) Dr. D. Swaminadhan
- (x) Dr. N.C. Saxena

2. Shri Arun Bhatnagar, Secretary, Shri Pulok Chatterji, Joint Secretary and Shri Dhiraj Srivastava, OSD were also present.

3. At the outset, the minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd September, 2004 were confirmed.

4. The discussions commenced with the recommendations formulated in respect of the Health Sector which, inter alia, direct focus on a composite approach to Health Care in the rural and urban areas, the integration of vertical and horizontal programmes, effective measures to strengthen the delivery systems and the convergence of schemes in the areas of health, family welfare, nutrition, immunization, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene. A range of pertinent issues were raised and deliberated upon at length in the light of which it was agreed that the proposals in this behalf, which also envisage the setting up of a National Health Mission, should be forwarded to the Government of India at the earliest.

5. The Council next took up the Recommendations relating to Elementary Education and was apprised, in this context, of the issues which emerged at the Consultation Workshop on "Universalization of Elementary Education: Urgent Tasks and Long-term Perspectives" held on 15th October, 2004. It was recalled that several observations and suggestions were offered at that forum in respect of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan which had been kept in view in again placing the matter before the NAC. Following a detailed discussion, it was agreed that the Government of India should be addressed to consider urgent steps to activate the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Mission (which was announced in early 2001 but has remained largely non-functional), outlining the other relevant aspects as well.

6. The Council were informed about the discussions which took place in the Planning Commission on 19th October, 2004 in regard to Watershed Development Programmes. This Item of the Agenda is to be discussed further in the NAC.

7. Presentations were made to the Council on the subject of Tribal Welfare and Development and on issues relating to a new National Policy for the Resettlement and Rehabilitation of project - affected families, on problems pertaining to the "eviction of tribal communities from forest lands" and on the question of a proposed Commission on Displacement, Resettlement and Rehabilitation. It was agreed that discussions would continue in the Council on these matters.

8. A Press Release was issued and the Meeting concluded with expression of thanks to the Chairperson.

Government of India
National Advisory Council

Agenda for the Seventh Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC)
to be held on Saturday, 27th November, 2004 at 2, Motilal Nehru Place, New
Delhi.

- (i) Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the NAC held on 20th October, 2004 (9.30 am – 9.35 am)
- (ii) Finalization of Recommendations on Watershed Development (9.35 am – 10.30 am).
- (iii) Further discussion on NCMP Issues relating to Tribal Welfare and Development (10.30 am – 11.45 am)
- (iv) Discussion on matters raised in regard to “eviction of tribal communities from forest lands”. (11.45 am – 12.45 pm)
- (v) Finalization of the conclusions of the Meeting (12.45 pm – 12.55 pm)
- (vi) Approval of the Press Release (12.55 pm – 1.00 pm)
- (vii) Any other Item with the permission of the Chairperson.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
NEW DELHI**

**Agenda for the Fifth Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC)
to be held on Thursday, 23rd September, 2004 at 10, Janpath, New Delhi.**
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- i) Approval of the minutes of the meetings of the NAC held on 14th & 28th August, 2004.
- ii) Discussion on the Health Sector including Health Insurance – (9.30 am to 12.30 pm).
- iii) Finalization of the conclusions of the Meeting (10 minutes).
- iv) Approval of the Press Communiqué (10 minutes).
- v) Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chairperson.

-file-3

NAC official Letter Received - Date 10-13 Sept. 2004
From: Dhirej Srivastava

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Subject : **Minutes of the Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC)
held on 23rd September, 2004 at New Delhi.**

The Fifth Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) was chaired by Smt. Sonia Gandhi on Thursday, 23rd September, 2004 at New Delhi. The following Members participated in the discussions :-

- (i) Smt. Aruna Roy
- (ii) Prof. CH. Hanumantha Rao
- (iii) Shri Jairam Ramesh
- (iv) Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan
- (v) Dr. Jean Dreze
- (vi) Dr. V. Krishnamurthy
- (vii) Dr. Madhav Chavan
- (viii) Dr. A.K. Shiva Kumar

2. Shri Arun Bhatnagar, Secretary, Shri Pulok Chatterji, Joint Secretary, Smt. Jayanti S. Ravi, Deputy Secretary and Shri Dhiraj Srivastava, OSD were present.

3. The Council were first informed about the setting up of a Non-lapsable Fund (Prathmik Shiksha Kosh) exclusively for the Elementary Education Sector, including the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. Note was taken of the current position in respect of processing of the draft Rural Employment Guarantee Bill and the draft Right to Information Bill.

4. It was recalled that a Consultation Workshop on Health had been sponsored by the NAC on 22nd September, 2004 in New Delhi at which key issues, including the convergence of Health, Family Welfare, Nutrition and other related Programmes, the urgent need to strengthen and improve the delivery systems, the preparation of Village and District Health Plans, the integration of

School Education and Health Care, rigorous monitoring of the Public Health system, Health Insurance for poor families (which, *inter alia*, forms part of the National Common Minimum Programme), the training of Health Workers, Sanitation and appropriate redesigning of Medical Education were deliberated upon in detail. At this stage, the Council were also apprised in regard to the various organizational, administrative, financial and legislative measures that need to be considered and addressed in depth in order to demonstrate tangible results in the functioning of the Health sector as a whole.

5. These issues were discussed further in the Council and views and opinions expressed by all the Members present, in the light of which it was agreed that the requisite proposals in respect of Health Insurance, Community Health Volunteers, Health Delivery systems, Public Health Infrastructure and Sanitation would be formulated for being taken up with the Government.

6. It was also noted that senior officials of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development) would separately be meeting with NAC Members to discuss watershed schemes and other programmes of the Department.

7. The Sixth Meeting of the Council was scheduled for Wednesday, 20th October, 2004 and the Seventh Meeting for Saturday, 27th November, 2004. In the meanwhile, a Consultation Workshop on "Universalization of Elementary Education : Urgent Tasks and Long-term Perspectives" is to be organized in conjunction with the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy (Ministry of Human Resource Development) at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. Discussions would also be arranged, in association with the Planning Commission, on Watershed Programmes, if possible before the next Meeting of the Council.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
NEW DELHI**

**Agenda for the fourth Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) to
be held on Saturday, 28th August, 2004**

- (i) Discussion on Education, including the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, modifications in the design of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and ICDS - based on (a) Presentation made by Dr. Madhav Chavan on 31st July, 2004, (b) Paper on "Universalization of Access to Quality Basic Education as intended in the NCMP" by Dr. Chavan, (c) Paper entitled "Universalization of ICDS" by Dr. Jean Dreze, Smt. Aruna Roy, Dr. N.C. Saxena and Dr. A.K. Shiva Kumar and (d) any other Papers on the subject that may be circulated in advance of the Meeting. **(9.30 A.M. onwards).**

WORKING LUNCH

- (ii) Discussion on completion of on-going irrigation projects and efficient/optimal utilization of water resources **(Upto about 3.30 P.M.)**
- (iii) Introduction of the subject of laws relating to Women. **(10 Minutes)**
- (iv) Finalization of the conclusions of the Meeting. **(10 Minutes)**
- (v) Approval of Press Release **(10 Minutes)**
- (vi) Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chairperson.

File-3 NAC official letter Received - Date - 17 August, 04
From - Dhirendra Srivastava
(CO-ORDINATOR, NAC)

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
NEW DELHI**

**Agenda for the Fourth Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC)
to be held on Saturday, 28th August, 2004**

- (i) Discussion on Education, including the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, modifications in the design of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and ICDS – based on (a) Presentation made by Dr. Madhav Chavan on 31st July, 2004, (b) Paper on “Universalization of Access to Quality Basic Education as intended in the NCMP” by Dr. Chavan, (c) Paper entitled “Universalization of ICDS” by Dr. Jean Dreze, Smt. Aruna Roy, Dr. N.C. Saxena and Dr. A.K. Shiva Kumar and (d) any other Papers on the subject that may be circulated in advance of the Meeting. **(9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.)**
- (ii) Discussion on completion of on-going irrigation projects and efficient/optimal utilization of water resources. **(2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.)**
- (iii) Introduction of the subject of laws relating to women. **(10 minutes)**
- (iv) Finalization of the conclusions of the Meeting. **(10 minutes)**
- (v) Approval of Press Release. **(10 minutes)**
- (vi) Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chairperson.

Agenda for the Third Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC)

- I. Approval of the Minutes of the last Meeting.
- II. Finalizing the proposed amendments to the Freedom of Information Act for forwarding to Government (**15 minutes**).
- III. Finalizing the draft Employment Guarantee Act for forwarding to Government (**15 minutes**).
- IV. Discussion on Health, including Health Insurance – based on (a) the Presentation made by Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan on 31st July, 2004, (b) the Paper entitled “Ensuring a Healthy Future” by Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan and (c) the Papers entitled “Bharat Swaasth” and “Health Insurance for Informal Sector Workers” by Smt. Mirai Chatterjee (**60 minutes**).
- V. Discussion on Education, including Mid-Day Meal Scheme, modifications in the design of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and ICDS – based on (a) the Presentation made by Dr. Madhav Chavan on 31st July, 2004, (b) the Paper on “Universalization of Access to Quality Basic Education as intended in the NCMP” by Dr. Chavan, the Paper entitled “Universalization of ICDS” by Dr. Jean Dreze, Smt. Aruna Roy, Dr. N.C. Saxena and Dr. A.K. Shiva Kumar and (d) any other Papers on the subject that may be circulated in advance of the Meeting (**60 minutes**).
- VI. Discussion on Procedures (**15 minutes**)
- VII. Finalization of the conclusions of the Meeting (**10 minutes**).
- VIII. Finalization of the Agenda and Date for the next Meeting (**10 minutes**).
- IX. Approval of the Press Communiqué (**10 minutes**).
- X. Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chairperson.

file-3
NAC official letter received - date - 4. Aug. 2004 05/1/2004

(From - Shivaj Sastavara)

OSD, NAC

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Subject : **Minutes of the Meeting of the National Advisory Council held on 31st July, 2004 at New Delhi.**

The second Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) was chaired by Smt. Sonia Gandhi on Saturday, 31st July, 2004 at 4 P.M. at New Delhi. The following Members participated in the deliberations :-

- (i) Smt. Aruna Roy
- (ii) Prof. CH. Hanumantha Rao
- (iii) Shri Jairam Ramesh
- (iv) Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan
- (v) Dr. Jean Dreze
- (vi) Dr. V. Krishnamurthy
- (vii) Dr. Madhav Chavan
- (viii) Dr. D. Swaminadhan
- (ix) Dr. N.C. Saxena

2. Shri Arun Bhatnagar, Secretary, Shri Pulok Chatterji, Joint Secretary, Smt. Jayanti S. Ravi, Deputy Secretary and Shri Dhiraj Srivastava, OSD were also present.

3. The Meeting commenced with a short Film on conditions in rural Rajasthan, which was followed by detailed discussion on suggested amendments to various clauses of the Freedom of Information Act, 2002. It was felt in the light, *inter alia*, of the observations of several of the Members present that the matter needed to be gone into further (and certain clauses redrafted). It was agreed that all suggestions from a sub-group of the Members would be collated and the final draft modifications made available to the NAC Secretariat by Tuesday (3rd August, 2004).

4. The next Item of the Agenda relating to an Employment Guarantee Programme was then taken up in the context of a Draft National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (already circulated to the Members). Views and opinions were expressed in this behalf and it was mentioned that the matter had also been receiving attention in the Government. After further discussion, it was felt that the Draft may be comprehensively examined by a sub-group of Members and finalized by Friday (6th August, 2004) for consideration in the next Meeting of the NAC and for being forwarded to the Government.

5. Presentations were made on the Health, Medical and Sanitation Sector and on "Universalization of Access to Quality Basic Education" in the country which subjects, it was agreed, may be discussed in the next Meeting scheduled for Saturday, 14th August, 2004 and for which the Agenda is to be circulated separately.

6. A Press Release was issued and the Meeting concluded with expression of thanks to the Chairperson.



No. भारत सरकार /OSD/NAC/2004

राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार परिषद

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
NEW DELHI

July 27, 2004

Sub: 2nd Meeting of the National Advisory Council,
which is to take place on 31st July, 2004 – reg.

A copy of Draft of "Proposed amendments to the Freedom of Information Act, 2002" is enclosed herewith for discussion in the 2nd meeting of the National Advisory Council on 31st July, 2004 at 5.00 pm at 10, Janpath, New Delhi.

(DHIRAJ SRIVASTAVA)
OSD, NAC

Smt. Aruna Roy,
Member, National Advisory Council,
SB/158-A, Gandhi Nagar,
NG Road, Bapu Nagar,
JAIPUR – 302 015.

Encl: as above



DHIRAJ SRIVASTAVA
OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY

No. _____/_____/OSD/NAC/2004/22

भारत सरकार
राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार परिषद
नई दिल्ली
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
NEW DELHI

July 23, 2004

The enclosed Paper has been received from
Prof. Tahir Mahmood and is being forwarded to the
Members, NAC as background material.

(DHIRAJ SRIVASTAVA)
OSD, NAC

Smt. Aruna Roy
Member, National Advisory Council
SB/158-A, Gandhi Nagar,
NG Road, Bapu Nagar,
JAIPUR – 302 015 (RAJASTHAN)

Minority-related Provisions
in
UPA's Common Minimum Program

Comments and Suggestions

by

Professor Dr Tahir Mahmood
Former Chairman, National Minorities Commission

The United Progressive Alliance (UPA), now ruling at the Centre, has announced a Common Minimum Program (CMP). Certain significant provisions relating to the minorities of the country are included under this CMP. The Nation will indeed curiously watch how, when and to what extent these provisions are translated into concrete action. A properly edited version of these provisions is being offered below, along with some comments and suggestions for the consideration of the UPA and its Government.

I. Text of Minority-related Provisions in the CMP

A. Basic Principle

The CMP announces six Basic Principles for Governance. Principle 5 among these reads as follows:

“To provide for full equality of opportunity – particularly in education and employment – for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, the OBCs and the Religious Minorities.”

B. Measures to be adopted for the Welfare of Minorities

- To enact a model comprehensive law to deal with communal violence and encourage the States to adopt it to generate faith and confidence in the minority communities.
- To amend the Constitution to establish a Commission for Minority Educational Institutions that will provide direct affiliation for minority professional institutions to central universities.
- To promote modern and technical education among all the minority communities – social and economic empowerment of minorities through a more systematic attention to their education and employment to be a priority concern for the UPA.
- To establish a National Commission to see and report in six months on how best the welfare of the socially and economically backward sections among the religious and linguistic minorities, including reservation in education and employment, can be enhanced.
- To provide adequate funds to the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) to ensure its effective functioning.
- To examine the question of providing Constitutional status to the National Minorities Commission; and to strive for recognition and promotion of the Urdu language under Articles 345 and 347 of the Constitution.
- To restructure and revive the National Integration Council – to meet at least twice a year – so as to fulfil its original objectives.

II. *Demands of the Basic Principle*

1. In Principle 5 of the Basic Principles of Governance "Religious Minorities" have been bracketed with the Schedule Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs. By doing so the CMP *very rightly* recognizes that Religious Minorities – like the SCs, STs and OBCs – are *a weaker section of the society*.
2. A basic requirement in this context is that there must not be different yardsticks for safeguarding the interests of the various weaker sections of the society. In other words, for the Religious Minorities too the Government should adopt measures similar to those already in force, or proposed, for the other three weaker sections. *This will be perfectly in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.*
3. The stress in Principle 5 is on providing "full equality of opportunity". Though such equality of opportunity is to be provided in general and in all matters whatsoever, special emphasis has been laid, *very rightly*, on providing equality to all the weaker sections – including the Religious Minorities – in respect of (a) education, and (b) employment.
4. As regards education, under the National Education Policy of 1986 the *Muslims and the neo-Buddhists* had been identified as the most backward communities in the country. Special measures are, therefore, to be urgently adopted particularly for these two groups of citizens.
5. As regards employment, it is an established fact that *the largest minority of the country*, the Muslims, are very much under-represented in all categories of employment. That their numbers in all these categories are wholly disproportionate to their national-level and State-level populations has been repeatedly pointed out in the reports of various bodies including the Gopal Singh Committee Report of 1983. Concrete measures are, therefore, to be adopted forthwith in this regard.

III. *Proposed Concrete Measures*

Measure 1 : Model Law on Communal Violence

- (a) Several drafts of such a law have been prepared in the past. A special committee may be constituted to examine all these drafts and to quickly produce a Bill to be introduced in Parliament.
- (b) All those States which are under the rule of the Congress or its allies should be directed – and not only 'encouraged' [as the CMP says] – to adopt this model law when ready.

Measure 2 : Minorities Educational Institutions Commission

- (a) Establishing such a Commission *does not require* an amendment of the Constitution. It can be immediately set up by a Notification of the Government.
- (b) The scope of the proposed Commission's work should not be confined to professional institutions and must extend to all educational institutions, of all kinds and levels, established and maintained by the minorities.

Measure 3 : Promotion of technical education among the minorities

- (a) The UPA's concern in this regard is very gratifying. To translate this concern into concrete action special provisions will have to be introduced into the laws and regulations of all the official bodies regulating technical education in the country.
- (b) This matter may also be placed under the proposed Minorities Educational Institutions Commission, referred to under *Measure 2* above.

Measure 4 : National Commission on Minorities Welfare

- (a) This Commission should be constituted by a Government Notification without any delay.
- (b) It should consist only of experts having special knowledge or experience of the social and economic problems of the minorities and must be given all the necessary facilities for its assigned work.

Measure 5 : National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation

- (a) The NMDFC must be placed under a Chairman who is a distinguished expert in minority affairs.
- (b) It must have a Consultative Committee consisting of experts to advise it on its work.

Measure 6 : Status of National Commission for Minorities / Urdu

- (a) There is no urgency to confer Constitutional status on the National Minorities Commission. Nor will it make any difference to the working of the Commission. Instead, the Commission's Parliamentary statute of 1992 should be amended to ensure that it is always managed by experts in minority affairs and faithfully carries out its mandate.

- (b) The work of ensuring recognition and promotion of Urdu under the relevant provisions of the Constitution may be assigned to a Special Section to be set up for this purpose in the National Council for the Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL). This Special Section should be placed under an expert in the subject and must pursue a time-bound schedule to complete its assignment.

Measure 7 : National Integration Council (NIC)

- (a) The proposal for the revival and re-structuring of the NIC is very gratifying. It must be implemented without any delay.
- (b) The NIC must be given a legal framework and should have a restricted membership. Its proposals must be duly implemented by the Government.

IV. *Additional Suggestion*

- (a) To oversee the implementation of all the minority-related provisions in the CMP the Government should consider setting up in the PMO a Special Cell under the charge of an Advisor on [or Commissioner for] Minority Affairs.
- (b) This Special Cell in the PMO may also be assigned the work of periodically examining and reporting on the working of all minority-related official bodies – including the NCM, NMDFC, Maulana Azad Foundation and Central Wakf Council.



(Professor Dr Tahir Mahmood)

16 June 2004

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Agenda for the National Consultation on Approaches to improving Health Care Delivery

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9.30 AM – 9.45 AM Welcome by Secretary, NAC and Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, National Coordinator, Lok Satta and Member, NAC,

Introductions

9.45 AM – 10.30 AM Presentation of Government's current views and approaches

Shri J.V.R. Prasada Rao, Secretary (Health)
Shri P.K. Hota, Secretary (Family Welfare)

10.30 AM – 11.00 AM Discussion on Strategies for implementing the National Health Policy

11.00 AM Tea

11.15 AM – 12 Noon Discussion : Key Gaps in Public Health Delivery System

12 Noon – 1.00 PM Discussion : Agenda for Primary Health Delivery

1.00 PM – 2.00 PM Lunch

2.00 PM – 3.00 PM Agenda for First Referral Hospitals

3.00 PM – 4.00 PM Linkages between Health and Economic Development, Sanitation, Water and Nutrition

4.00 PM – 5.00 PM Accountability and Health Financing

5.00 PM – 5.30 PM Conclusion and Summary

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File-3 NAC official Letter Received मी Date-22-July-04
From → Dhiraj Srivastava (OSD)

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Subject : Minutes of the Meeting of the National Advisory Council held on 17th July, 2004 at New Delhi.

The first Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) was chaired by Smt. Sonia Gandhi on Saturday, 17th July, 2004 at 5 P.M. at New Delhi. The following Members joined the discussions :-

- (i) Smt. Aruna Roy
- (ii) Prof. CH. Hanumantha Rao
- (iii) Shri Jairam Ramesh
- (iv) Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan
- (v) Dr. Jean Dreze
- (vi) Dr. V. Krishnamurthy
- (vii) Dr. Madhav Chavan
- (viii) Dr. A.K. Shiv Kumar
- (ix) Dr. D. Swaminadhan
- (x) Dr. N.C. Saxena
- (xi) Shri Sam Pitroda

2. Shri Arun Bhatnagar, Secretary, Shri Pulok Chatterji, Joint Secretary and Shri Dhiraj Kumar Srivastava, OSD were also present.

3. Initiating the discussions, the Chairperson, NAC highlighted the importance of focussing on issues pertaining to the welfare of the poor and vulnerable sections, with particular emphasis on Employment, Agriculture, Education and Health and of time-bound implementation of the National

Common Minimum Programme (NCMP). After a Presentation was made by Shri Sam Pitroda, which outlined the basic parameters, the Chairperson invited the views and suggestions of the Members, including in regard to the subjects on the Agenda.

4. All the eleven Members who were present participated in the ensuing deliberations in which attention was, *inter alia*, drawn to the time-bound commitments reflected in the NCMP, the poor quality of implementation in such critical areas as the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and the ICDS, the leakages and corruption obtaining in the field, the 'gap' in most States between the achievements being reported and the ground realities, the inefficiencies and weaknesses of the delivery systems, the adequacy (or otherwise) of financial provisions, performance-related releases of funds and the legislations relating to Employment Guarantee and Freedom of Information. In the light of their direct knowledge and experience of field conditions in different parts of the country, several Members raised specific issues in areas ranging from irrigation projects and administrative reforms on the one hand to SC/ST welfare, food security and science and technology on the other. Information was sought in respect of the on-going Irrigation Schemes which is to be obtained from the Planning Commission.

5. It seemed clear from Members' observations that monitoring and review mechanisms need to be strengthened and upgraded, all-round, and governance levels substantially improved for the intended benefits to reach the poor and the needy.

6. After further discussions, it was agreed, with the approval of the Chairperson, that, to begin with, the Members (mentioned below) be requested to quickly formulate Policy Papers on 10 identified areas, as follows :-

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (i) Employment | (Dr. Jean Dreze / Smt. Aruna Roy) |
| (ii) Food Security | (Dr. Jean Dreze) |
| (iii) Agriculture & Irrigation | (Prof. CH. Hanumantha Rao) |
| (iv) Governance | (Dr. N.C. Saxena) |
| (v) Education | (Dr. Madhav Chavan) |
| (vi) Health | (Dr. A.K. Shiv Kumar) |
| (vii) Women & Child Development | (Smt. Aruna Roy) |
| (viii) Tribal Affairs | (Dr. D. Swaminadhan) |
| (ix) Manufacturing | (Dr. V. Krishnamurthy) |
| (x) Science and Technology | (Shri Sam Pitroda) |

7. It was also agreed that the Papers would need to be as well-researched as possible and that a few Papers e.g. Employment Guarantee Act could be circulated in advance of the next Meeting of the Council which was scheduled for Saturday, 31st July, 2004 at 5 P.M. at 10, Janpath, New Delhi. Such Papers could then be taken up for detailed consideration and discussion in the NAC.

8. The Meeting ended with the Members expressing thanks to the Chairperson.

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Agenda for the Second Meeting of the National Advisory Council
(NAC)**

1. Discussion on :-

- (i) Draft National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2004 (copy enclosed),
- (ii) Other Papers forwarded by Members, NAC.

2. Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chairperson.

PROGRESS REPORT ON SELECTED ITEMS
OF THE NATIONAL COMMON MINIMUM PROGRAMME (NCMP)

As on 9.7.2004.

SL. NO.	MINISTRY/ DEPARTMENT	ITEM SELECTED FOR FOLLOW UP	STATUS	COMMENTS
1	MHA	The Sarkaria Commission had last looked at the issue of Centre-State relations over two decades ago. The UPA Govt will set up a new Commission for this purpose keeping in view the sea changes that have taken place in the polity and economy of India since then.	The setting up of a new Commission would require wider consultations, particularly with regard to its terms of reference. MHA has prepared the following action plan and time frame. The consultations would not only be necessary with various divisions of the Ministry but also with various Ministries of the Government of India and the Inter-State Council Secretariat. Issuing letters to various Ministries and the Inter-State Council Secretariat eliciting suggestions 05.07.2004 Furnishing of comments by the Ministries and the Inter-State Council 16.08.2004 Preparation of the Cabinet Note 15.09.2004 Setting up of the new Commission - 31.10.2004	
2	Ministry of Finance/Ministry of HRD	The UPA Govt will introduce a cess on all central taxes to finance the commitment to universalize access to quality basic education. A National Commission on Education will be set up to allocate resources and monitor programmes.	Dept of Elementary Education has asked Finance Ministry if they would pilot the legislation. No reply has been received.	There is danger of this matter getting delayed due to difference of opinion between two Ministries. DEE may be advised by PMO to take the lead in the matter. The imposition of the cess is only the means to the end. The objective is to set up the National Commission.
3	Dept of Secondary Higher Education	The UPA Govt will amend the Constitution to establish a Commission for Minority Educational Institutions that will provide direct affiliation for minority professional	Out of 17 central universities under the MHRD, only 6 are affiliating univs. They are bound by the University Act, Statutes and Ordinances. These statutes will have to be amended to provide direct affiliation of minority	The Ministry has given no comment on the steps being contemplated and the time frame required. The sectoral officer in

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64/75/2003/Ministry

		institutions to central universities.	institutions to central universities.	PMO could obtain specific information on these in the next fortnightly progress report.
4	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.	The UPA will establish a National Commission to see how best the welfare of socially and economically backward sections among religious and linguistic minorities, including reservations in education and employment, is enhanced. The Commission will be given six months to submit its report.	A Commission on Economically Backward Classes was set up in Jan 2004 to work out modalities for providing reservation to economically backward classes not covered under the existing reservation policy. The position of this existing Commission is being reviewed and the modalities to establish a National Commission are under consideration.	The scope of the proposed national Commission would have to be broader than that of the existing Commission. The efficient course would probably be to restructure the existing Commission to incorporate the wider objectives. PM has directed that the MOSJE could be asked to indicate time frames by 30.9.2004 for completion of each phase of the necessary modalities.
5	DOPT	The UPA will set up an Administrative Reforms Commission to prepare a detailed blueprint for revamping the public administration system.	A note for Cabinet for setting up of the ARC is being finalized.	
6	Ministry of Labour and Employment	The UPA Govt will establish a National Commission to examine the problems facing enterprises in the unorganized, informal sector. The Commission will be asked to make appropriate recommendations to provide technical, marketing and credit support to these enterprises. A National Fund will be created for this purpose.	A Cabinet Note is under preparation.	PM has suggested that the nodal Ministry for this should be either the Ministry of SSI or the Planning Commission. Cabinet Secretary may give his proposal within one week after discussing in a COS.
7	Dept of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry	The UPA Govt will set up a National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council to provide a continuing forum for policy dialogue to energize and sustain the growth of manufacturing industry like food processing, textiles and garments, engineering consumer goods, pharmaceuticals, capital goods, leather and IT hardware.	Draft Cabinet Note is under the consideration of the Commerce and Industry Ministry	

8	MHA	The National Integration Council will be restructured and revived so as to fulfill its original objectives. It will meet at least twice a year.	MHA proposes to submit a fresh proposal for reconstitution of NIC by 31.7.2004 after taking into consideration various aspects, viz. its composition and mandate. It is also proposed to hold the first meeting of NIC during this year. Cooperatives is a state subject. Despite the existence of a Central Model Cooperative Law, very few States have adopted progressive laws on cooperatives. There is need, therefore, for a Constitutional amendment with respect to cooperatives that will ensure that the basic principles of cooperation are protected and preserved within the body of state laws. These basic principles include voluntarism, democratic functioning, autonomy, open membership and member economic participation. The Constitution amendment should at the same time ensure that cooperatives as a subject continue to remain in the State List. The Ministry is therefore considering an amendment Bill covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Timely conduct of elections; ▪ Maximum time limit for supersession of a managing committee; ▪ Timely conduct of audit; ▪ Uniform tenure for managing committee; ▪ Regular and timely general body meetings; ▪ Right of a member to access information. Preparation of an amendment Bill will require consultation with State Govts and Central Ministries. It will not be tabled during the ensuing Budget session.	<p><i>PM has directed that the issue of a need for a Constitutional Amendment Bill should be examined first.</i></p> <p>If it is felt that such a Bill is necessary, the Ministry should also be requested to indicate a time frame for completion of consultations; legal and financial vetting and bringing the draft Bill to the Cabinet.</p> <p>The Ministry may be advised that the right to autonomous management and the right to independent professional audit must be incorporated in the Constitutional amendment Bill.</p>
9	Ministry of Agriculture, etc.	The UPA Govt will bring forward a Constitutional Amendment to ensure the democratic, autonomous and professional functioning of cooperatives.		
10	Ministry of Defence	The UPA will set up a new Department of ex-Servicemen's Welfare in the Ministry of Defence. The long pending issue of one rank, one pension will be re-examined.	An internal note of the Ministry has been submitted to Raksha Mantri.	<p><i>PM desires that all processes for this be completed expeditiously and the Department created by 30.9.2004.</i></p> <p><i>The language of the CMP makes it clear that the new Department is to be set up within the MOD. Sectoral officer has been advised to request MOD to send substantive</i></p>

					<i>comments before the next fortnightly review.</i>
11	Ministry of Labour and Employment	The UPA Govt will immediately enact a national Employment Guarantee Act. This will provide a legal guarantee for at least 100 days of employment to begin with on asset-creating public works programmes every year at minimum wages for at least one able-bodied person every rural, urban poor and lower middle-class household. In the interim, a massive food-for-work programme will be started.	A draft Bill has been prepared and is under consideration in the Ministry		
12	Ministry of Law & Justice, Dept of Legislation	The UPA Govt will take the lead to introduce legislation for one-third reservations for women in vidhan sabhas and in the Lok Sabha.	Draft Cabinet Note along with draft Bill has been circulated to the concerned Ministries on 2.7.2004 for comments.		
13	MHA	The UPA has been concerned with the manner in which POTA has been grossly misused in the past two years. There will be no compromise in the fight against terrorism. But given the abuse of POTA that has taken place, the UPA Govt will repeal it, while existing laws are enforced strictly.	<p>Action Plan and time-frame for taking/completing action on immediate repeal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002 has been submitted for the approval of the Home Minister and would be conveyed to the Prime Minister's Office shortly.</p> <p>The POTA will lapse on 22.10.2004. MHA has listed several provisions of POTA that do not exist in other existing criminal laws. MHA feels that it would be necessary to incorporate all or some of these provisions in other existing laws. MHA also suggests that other Bills to incorporate the provisions of POTA may be introduced simultaneously. MHA proposes to constitute an inter-Ministerial committee headed by Home Secretary to look into these issues from the legal and security angles. It is to give its recommendation in two weeks after its constitution.</p> <p>On its repeal, cases under POTA could be reviewed by a Screening Cte headed by the Union and State Home Secretaries.</p>	<p><i>PM feels that this should first be discussed in the Coordination Committee of the UPA before the draft Bill is brought to the Cabinet.</i></p> <p>The NCMP clearly promises that POTA will be repealed. Merely allowing it to lapse will not fulfill this promise.</p> <p>The principal and other constituents of the UPA, have maintained that existing laws are adequate to meet requirements of terrorism and militancy control. In addition, States are free to pass their own laws as per local requirements. Replacing POTA by another central law will go against the spirit of the commitment made in the CMP.</p> <p>Some constituents of the UPA have demanded that POTA be repealed with retrospective effect. It needs to be seen if the setting up of a Screening Cte to review existing cases after repeal of the</p>	

			<p>law will really meet this demand. It is suggested that the repealing of POTA can and should be done during the forthcoming Budget session. The inter-Ministerial Cte should therefore give its recommendations by mid-July at the latest.</p> <p><i>PM has convened a meeting on this on 9.7.2004. PMO, could advise MHA on the basis of decisions taken in this meeting.</i></p>
14	DOPT	The Lok Pal Bill will be enacted into law.	<p>The draft Bill as it stands now should be placed before the new Cabinet for final consideration. It should then be introduced during the forthcoming budget session.</p>
15	DOPT	The Right to Information Act will be made more progressive, participative and meaningful.	<p>The first priority should be to bring into force the Act as passed. To expedite this, DOPT should immediately place their draft rules on website for inviting comments from public within a period of 45 days. <i>Simultaneously</i>, during this period DOPT should arrange meeting(s) with the Legislative Dept at appropriate levels to resolve differences regarding the draft rules. Draft rules should be finalized by 15.9.2004 on the basis of inputs received from public and State Govts. It may not be necessary to wait for all State Govts to respond, as they will be framing their own rules. <i>Simultaneously</i>, DOPT should</p>

The Lok Pal Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha in 8/2001 and referred to the department related Parliamentary Standing Cte. The Stg Cte gave its report in 12/2001, the Govt took a view on the recommendations and made modifications. The 13th Lok Sabha was dissolved before the Bill could be taken up.

Parliament passed the Freedom of Information Act in December 2002. it was notified in Jan 2003. it shall come into force on such date as Central Govt may notify. It has not yet come into force.

Central Govt shall make the initial rules (s.17). states shall make their own rules (s.18).

DOPT has prepared detailed rules but Legislative Dept has not concurred and has suggested simplification of rules. Center has written to State Govt to provide draft rules. Only 4 States have responded so far.

DOPT proposes to place the draft rules on departmental website for inviting comments from general public. This has not been done yet.

S.21 lays down that Centre can make provisions/modifications that are not inconsistent with the Act within 2 years of the date of commencement of the Act. DOPT feels that this can be done on the basis of inputs received only after the coming into force of the Act.

As regards making the Act more progressive, DOPT's view

			is that if defects come to notice that cannot be rectified through the mechanism of S.21, proposals for amending the Act will be initiated.	study the F of I Acts passed by several States to see if they have any progressive features that should be incorporated in the Central Act. DOPT's considered views on this should be received by 15.9.2004.
16	MHA	The UPA will enact a model comprehensive law to deal with communal violence and encourage each state to adopt that law to generate faith and confidence in minority communities.	MHA has proposed to prepare a draft model law which would seek to integrate the following: a) Consolidate the various offences relating to causing disaffection among communities spreading hatred and ill-will amongst sections of the people and indulging/abetting communal violence. b) Cast responsibility on the Central and State Governments for promoting communal harmony and to effectively deal with communal violence. c) Provide for more stringent punitive provisions to strengthen the deterrence value of the law. It is proposed to prepare an Approach Paper after wider consultations and thereafter prepare a draft bill either in consultation with the Department of Legal Affairs or by making a reference to the Law Commission of India as may be decided. MHA has planned that the Approach paper would be ready by 15 th August 2004.	MHA could be asked to consider including the issue of rehabilitation of riot victims in the model law, including uniform and timely payment of relief and compensation.
17	DOPT	All reservation quotas, including those relating to promotions, will be fulfilled in a time bound manner. To codify all reservations, a Reservation Act will be enacted.	DOPT plans to launch Special Recruitment Drives (SRDs) to clear backlog of SCs, STs and OBCs. This involves several steps like identification of backlog by all Ministries, advertising posts by recruiting agencies like UPSC etc., conducting exams and interviews. DOPT says no time frame can be given. DOPT has started discussion on a Reservation Act. DOPT feels no time frame for its enactment can be given.	A clear time frame should be indicated immediately by DOPT for completing identification of backlog by all Ministries/Depts. Thereafter, progress on filling of backlog should be reported by DOPT to the full Cabinet every three months. DOPT should report specific progress on preparation of a Bill on Reservation every fortnight to PMO. By end August 2004, DOPT

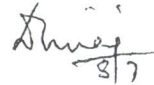
18	DOPT/DIT	E-governance will be promoted on a massive scale.	<p>In July 2003 the Cabinet identified thrust areas for e-governance. Two main items in this are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. finalizing the National Action Plan (NAP) for e-governance; 2. setting up the National Institute of Smart Govt (NISG). <p>The NAP for eGov has been approved in principle. Dept of Information Technology (DIT) has developed a matrix of indices that include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. core policies; II. core infrastructure and support infrastructure; III. HRD and training; IV. Technical assistance; V. Organizational structures like National and State e-Gov Councils, NISG, eGov Standards Institution, NIC. VI. R&D VII. Core e-Projects or Mission Projects. <p>Core e-Mission Projects have been identified. DIT has initiated discussions with concerned Ministries regarding this and other components of the NAP.</p> <p>NISG was conceived to offer high end consultancy involving pvt sector resources and competencies, funding and implementing agencies, etc. NISG is to provide a single point agency to guide the process. DIT, Dept of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG) and National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) will be the initial promoters of NISG. GOI's contribution would be Rs.2 crores towards the equity of NISG. No further GOI support is envisaged at present.</p> <p>UNDP has recently cleared \$3.5 million for a project on Information and Communication Technology for Development. Further support of \$26.5 m from UNDP and</p>	<p>should be able to indicate a clear time frame for its enactment.</p> <p><i>Regarding the NAP for eGov, PM has directed that DOPT and DIT should, in the first instance, complete the discussions with the administrative by 31.10.2004.</i></p>
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19	Ministry of Law & Justice	As part of its commitment to electoral reforms, the UPA will initiate steps to introduce state funding of elections at the earliest.	<p>The Election and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Act, 2003 provides for, inter alia:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. equitable time sharing on electronic media; 2. free supplies of copies of electoral rolls and other items; 3. contributions from companies and individuals and income tax relief for such contributions; 4. not including travel expenses of leaders of political in election expenses; 5. waiving of need to keep records for contributions of up to Rs.20,000. <p>It is proposed to suggest convening an all-party meeting for charting future course of action for state funding of elections.</p>	<p>other donor agencies is possible during Nov 2003-Dec 2007.</p> <p>An agreement between UNDP, DEA and DIT has been concluded, making DIT the executing agency and NISG the implementing agency.</p> <p>Minister's approval is being sought for submission of a Cabinet Note for (a) establishment of NISG and (b) contribution of equity of Rs. 1 crore each by DAR&PG and DIT for NISG.</p> <p><i>PM has directed that an approach paper setting out various options and alternatives should first be prepared and discussed. Subsequently the matter should be brought to the Cabinet. An all-party meeting, could be convened thereafter if necessary.</i></p>
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July 8, 2004

After the conclusion of the first Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) on Saturday, 17th July, 2004, the Members of the NAC have been invited to join the Hon'ble Prime Minister for Tea at 7.30 p.m. at 7, Race Course Road, New Delhi.

2. The Hon'ble Chairperson, NAC would accompany the Members on this occasion.



(Dhiraj Kumar Srivastava)
OSD, NAC

To :-

All Members of the National Advisory Council (By Name)

- (i) Prime Minister's Office (Shri Pulok Chatterjee, Joint Secretary), South Block, New Delhi.
- (ii) Private Secretary to Chairperson, National Advisory Council, New Delhi.

No. 001/MS-NAC/04
July 5, 2004

MEETING NOTICE

The Chairperson, National Advisory Council, Smt Sonia Gandhi, would be convening the 1st Meeting of the Council on July 17th, 2004 at 5.00 p.m. at 10 Janpath, New Delhi.

The connected papers would be circulated separately.

You are requested to please join the discussions.

AR 5/7/2004
(Arun Bhatnagar)
Member Secretary, NAC

Smt Aruna Roy
Member - NAC
SB/158-A, Gandhi Nagar
NG Road, Bapu Nagar
Jaipur - 302 015

IMMEDIATE

No. 2/NAC/2004
Government of India
National Advisory Council

The Office of Shri Arun Bhatnagar, IAS (Retd) who has taken over as Secretary, National Advisory Council (NAC) is **temporarily** located in Room No. 116, North Block (Gate No. 4), New Delhi-110 001. Shri Bhatnagar's telephone numbers, for the present, are as follows :-

Office Tel.No. : 011-2309 2729

Residence Tel.No. : 011-2464 8441 (C-I/14, Lodhi Gardens,
South End Road,
New Delhi-110 003)

Dhiraj

(Dhiraj Kumar Srivastava)
OSD, NAC
5th July, 2004

Smt. Aruna Roy,
Member, National Advisory Council,
SB/158-A, Gandhi Nagar,
NG Road, Bapu Nagar,
JAIPUR-502 015.
(Rajasthan)

(भारत के राजपत्र: असाधारण [भाग-II खण्ड-3(i)] में प्रकाशनार्थ)

भारत सरकार

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय

सरदार पटेल भवन, संसद मार्ग
नई दिल्ली-110001, दिनांक 25.6.2004

अधिसूचना

12(1)-2004-सीएमपी: मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय के अ.शा. सं. 631/2/1/2004-मंत्रिमंडल III, दिनांक 24.6.2004 के अनुसरण में राष्ट्रपति निम्नलिखित व्यक्तियों को राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार परिषद का सदस्य नियुक्त करते हैं :-

1. श्रीमती अरुणा रॉय, मजदूर किसान शक्ति संगठन, राजसमंद, राजस्थान
2. श्री सी.एच. हनुमंत राव, अध्यक्ष, आर्थिक एवं सामाजिक अध्ययन केन्द्र, हैदराबाद
3. श्री जयराम रमेश
4. डॉ० जयप्रकाश नारायण, राष्ट्रीय संचालक, लोक सत्ता, हैदराबाद
5. डॉ० जेन ड्रेज, दिल्ली स्कूल ऑफ इकोनोमिक्स
6. डॉ० वी. कृष्णामूर्ति, यूसीएएल फ्यूल सिस्टम्स लि०, चेन्नई
7. श्रीमती मीरई चटर्जी, संचालक, सेवा, अहमदाबाद
8. डॉ० माधव चौहान, प्रथम, दिल्ली
9. डॉ० ए.के. शिव कुमार, सलाहकार, यूनीसेफ, नई दिल्ली
10. डॉ० डी स्वामीनाथन, अध्यक्ष, महात्मा गांधी अनुसंधान एवं सामाजिक कार्य संस्थान, हैदराबाद
11. श्री सैम पिटरोडा
12. डॉ० एन.सी. सक्सेना, 68, फ्रेंड्स कॉलोनी वेस्ट, नई दिल्ली-110065

अरुण कुमार सक्सेना

(अरुण कुमार सक्सेना)
संयुक्त सचिव, भारत सरकार

सेवा में,

महा प्रबंधक,
भारत सरकार मुद्रणालय,
मायापुरी, रिंग रोड
नई दिल्ली ।

भारत सरकार के सभी सचिव

प्रतिलिपि सूचनार्थ:-

1. अध्यक्ष, राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार परिषद के निजी सचिव ।
2. राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार परिषद के सभी सदस्य ।
3. प्रधानमंत्री के संयुक्त सचिव ।
4. मंत्रिमंडल सचिव के स्टाफ अधिकारी ।
5. राज्यमंत्री (सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन) के निजी सचिव ।
6. सचिव (सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन) के प्रधान निजी सचिव ।

अ. कु. (स. ११)

(अरुण कुमार सक्सेना)

(TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA : EXTRAORDINARY [PART-II SEC.3(i)])

Government of India
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Sardar Patel Bhavan, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi-110 001, dated June 25th, 2004.

NOTIFICATION

12(1)-2004-CMP: In pursuance of the Cabinet Secretariat UO No.631/2/1/2004—Cab. III, dated 24th June, 2004, the President is pleased to appoint the following persons as Members of the National Advisory Council:-

1. Smt. Aruna Roy, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangatan, Rajsamand, Rajasthan.
2. Shri C.H. Hanumantha Rao, Chairman, Centre for Economic & Social Studies, Hyderabad.
3. Shri Jairam Ramesh.
4. Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, National Coordinator, Lok Satta, Hyderabad.
5. Dr. Jean Dreze, Delhi School of Economics.
6. Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, UCAL Fuel Systems Ltd., Chennai.
7. Smt. Mirai Chatterji, Coordinator, SEWA, Ahmedabad.
8. Dr. Madhav Chavan, PRATHAM Delhi.
9. Dr. A.K. Shiv Kumar, Advisor, UNICEF, New Delhi.
10. Dr. D. Swaminadhan, President, Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Research & Social Action, Hyderabad.
11. Shri Sam Pitroda.
12. Dr. N.C. Saxena, 68, Friends Colony West, New Delhi-110 065.



(A.K. Saxena)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

To

The General Manager,
Govt. of India Press,
Mayapuri, Ring Road,
New Delhi

_____ along with Hindi version

All Secretaries to the Govt. of India

Copy for information to:-

1. PS to Chairperson, National Advisory Council.
2. All Members of the National Advisory Council.
3. JS to PM.
4. SO to Cabinet Secretary.
5. PS to MOS (S and PI).
6. PPS to Secretary (S and PI).



(A.K. Saxena)

SONIA GANDHI
CHAIRPERSON
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL



10, JANPATH
NEW DELHI - 110 011
PHONE - 23012686, 23014481
FAX - 23018651

24 June 2004

Dear Aruna Roy ji,

I write to congratulate you on your nomination by the Prime Minister as a member of the National Advisory Council and to welcome you as a colleague. You will find that the terms of the Council are broad and flexible. In keeping with the objectives of the Common Minimum Programme (CMP), the thrust of the Council's work would be to look at the issues that particularly affect the economically and socially weak. Our responsibility is to help and advise the Government to carry forward, in an effective and time bound manner, the commitments of the CMP for the benefit of the people. Together in the Council, we shall have to chart a course that will best realize this goal.

I am enclosing a copy each of the notification for the constitution of the Council, a list of the Members of the Council and the Common Minimum Programme.

I am keen to start the work of the Council as soon as possible and hope to fix an early date for its first meeting. I sincerely look forward to working with you.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sonia Gandhi

Smt Aruna Roy
Member
National Advisory Council
New Delhi

Agenda for the First Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC)

1. Introductory Remarks
2. Presentation by Mr. Sam Pitroda
3. Discussion on :-
 - (i) Terms of Reference *
 - (ii) Result-oriented Strategies for time-bound Implementation of the Common Minimum Programme,
 - (iii) Delivery Systems and Review Mechanisms
4. Concluding Observations

* Copy of Order dated 31st May, 2004 enclosed for ready reference.

No. 631/2/1/2004-Cab
Government of India
Cabinet Secretariat

New Delhi, the May 31, 2004

ORDER

Sub: Constitution of a National Advisory Council (NAC) to monitor the implementation of the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) of the Government.

The Government has decided to constitute a National Advisory Council (NAC) to oversee the implementation of the National Common Minimum Programme of the Government.

2. The NAC would be headed by a Chairperson with the rank and status of a Union Cabinet Minister and shall consist of such number of Members, not exceeding 20, as may be nominated by the Prime Minister in consultation with the Chairperson.

3. The functions of the National Advisory Council would be as follows:-

- (a) To monitor the progress of the implementation of the Common Minimum Programme;
- (b) To provide inputs for the formulation of policy by the Government and to provide support to the Government in its legislative business.

4. The Council would be supported by a Secretariat with the necessary complement of officers and staff who shall be responsible to the Chairperson. The Council may engage services of such experts and academics, as required, to assist in its work. The Council may invite such person or persons, as it may deem fit, to participate in its deliberations.

5. The Council would be provided adequate and appropriate office space by the Central Government. All expenditure incurred in connection with the functioning of the Council would be met by the Central Government and provided through the PMO.

6. The expenditure incurred for the functioning of the Council would be met by the Central Government.

7. The Council would meet at least once every quarter and more frequently, if necessary and would be serviced by the Prime Minister's Office.


(K.L. Sharma)
Deputy Secretary to Cabinet

No. 631/2/1/2004-Cab
Government of India
Cabinet Secretariat

New Delhi, the May 31, 2004

ORDER

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(K.L. Sharma
Deputy Secretary to Cabinet

No. 631/2/1/2004-Cab.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
CABINET SECRETARIAT (MANTRIMANDAL SACHIVALAYA)

New Delhi, the 3rd June, 2004.


ORDER

Subject: Appointment of Chairperson of the National Advisory Council (NAC).

Consequent upon the constitution of a National Advisory Council (NAC) to oversee the implementation of the National Common Minimum Programme of the Government vide this Secretariat Order of even number dated 31.5.2004, it has been decided to appoint Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Member of Parliament as the Chairperson of the National Advisory Council (NAC).


2. The Chairperson, NAC will hold the rank and status of a Union Cabinet Minister.

3. These Orders come into force with immediate effect.


(Shatrughna Singh)
Joint Secretary (Cabinet)
Tele : 2301 5861

To
All Members of the Council of Ministers.

Copy also forwarded to Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson, National Advisory Council.



(Shatrughna Singh)
Joint Secretary (Cabinet)

Copy also forwarded to the Deputy Chairman and Members of the Planning Commission.


(Shatrughna Singh)
Joint Secretary (Cabinet)

Copy also forwarded to the following :-

Secretary to the President.
Secretary to the Vice-President.
Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister.
All Secretaries to the Government of India.


(Shatrughna Singh)
Joint Secretary (Cabinet)

184/JS(P)/6104
78
Prl. Secy to PM

Dy. No. 1670-6/04

Date 7/6/04

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Agenda for the Nineteenth Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) to be held on Saturday, 26th November, 2005 at 2, Motilal Nehru Place, New Delhi.

- (i) Confirmation of the Minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting held on 29th October 2005.
- (9.00 a.m. – 9.05 a.m.)

- (ii) Discussion on the 'Right to Education Bill'.
- (9.05 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.)

- (iii) Presentation by Secretary, Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) on Biomass.
- (10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.)

- (iv) Further discussion on the Unorganized Sector Workers' Bill in the light of the drafts circulated earlier.
- (11.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.)

- (v) Any other Item(s) with the permission of the Chairperson.
- (1.00 p.m. – 1.25 p.m.)

- (vi) Press Release.
- (1.25 p.m.)

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Subject :- Minutes of the Meeting of the National Advisory Council (NAC) held on Friday, 30th September, 2005 at New Delhi.

The Seventeenth Meeting of the NAC was chaired by Smt. Sonia Gandhi on Friday, 30th September, 2005. The following Members of the Council were present :-

- (i) Prof. CH. Hanumantha Rao
- (i) Dr. A.K. Shiva Kumar
- (iii) Dr. V. Krishnamurthy
- (iv) Shri Jairam Ramesh
- (v) Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan
- (vi) Dr. Madhav Chavan
- (vii) Dr. D. Swaminadhan
- (viii) Smt. Aruna Roy
- (ix) Ms. Sehba Hussain
- (x) Prof. Mrinal Miri

2. Shri Arun Bhatnagar, Secretary, Shri Pulok Chatterji, Additional Secretary, Smt. Jayanti S. Ravi, Director and Shri Dhiraj Srivastava, OSD were also present.

3. The minutes of the Meeting held on 26th August, 2005 were confirmed.

4. The discussions commenced with a review of the Procedural Guidelines for the conduct of business in the NAC, on which the views of three Members were available on record. It was pointed out that certain "formal processes" were

necessary to ensure transparency in the Council's working, even as other aspects could be left to the "informal processes". It was felt that while it may seldom be practicable to specifically identify networks of peoples' movements and other such organizations and to arrange public debates in different parts of the country, appropriate Consultations could be arranged by the NAC in conjunction with all the Members (or the Members more directly connected with a particular subject) who could advise in regard to the individuals and groups, including experts and professionals, proposed to be invited in this regard. The Ministries and Departments concerned could also be suitably associated in this process.

5. It was indicated that the NAC Secretariat should expeditiously deal with the Petitions and Representations relating to the National Common Minimum Programme that are being received from time to time, interact with the Ministries and Departments, as and when required, and invariably apprise the Member(s) concerned in respect of the status of and the Action Taken in a matter as early as possible, including with reference to recommendations forwarded to the Government by the NAC. It was further agreed that the suggestions sent by the Members on the Agenda Items, the Minutes of the Meetings, Presentations to be made to the Council and other issues would be processed, in due time, and the orders of the Chairperson sought in this behalf.

6. The following suggestions were also made:-

- (i) Proposals for Agenda Items, if received from Members, would be processed by the NAC Secretariat which could then, with the approval of the Chairperson, circulate a projected Agenda for the next 3-6 months.
- (ii) The NAC Secretariat would continue to keep detailed records of discussions of the NAC meetings which could be viewed by Members or made available to them on demand. Such records would not be placed on the website.

- (iii) The website could continue to display Background Papers and Discussion Papers on NCMP subjects that may be received by the NAC with a clear notation that they do not necessarily reflect the NAC's views. Presentations made to the NAC by various Ministries/Departments would also be placed on the website with the consent of the concerned Ministry. Draft Bills received by the NAC could also be placed on the website with the consent of the administrative Ministry.
- (iv) The NAC Secretariat may obtain updated status reports on the NAC proposals and circulate them to the Members once in a Quarter.
- (v) Important and lengthy Presentations on Agenda Items could be made separately to the Members a day before the Meeting.

7 The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare offered a Presentation on the recently launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) after which the NAC Members especially highlighted the following:-

- (i) The architecture of the Mission and its objectives should be more clearly defined, particularly in key areas such as Universal Health Care, Infrastructure Improvements, Risk-pooling Systems and effectively integrated, as also locally accountable, Service Delivery mechanisms,
- (ii) Time-bound and quantifiable goals and specific Road Maps ought to be quickly determined, alongwith the health infrastructure linkages and provision of adequate financial allocations,
- (iii) The Mission should strengthen a community-based Public Health System and move towards a National Health Service of acceptable standards with universal coverage.

8. In regard to the HIV/AIDS Control Programme, on which a Presentation was made by the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), the NAC emphasized :-

- (i) Streamlining of data collection and collation and regular random sampling to bring about timely interventions,
- (ii) Development of capacities at the grassroots level (and integration with the Public Health Delivery system) are critical to successful implementation in Mission Mode,
- (iii) It is necessary to reach out to the vulnerable sections, including sex-workers and drug users,
- (iv) A central feature of the HIV/AIDS Control Programme should be the extensive use of condoms towards which a re-strategized. Programme needs to be directed, with sharp focus on the deliverable goals and full coverage of the vulnerable population.

9. It was decided that the observations of the NAC in regard to the two Presentations would be forwarded to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and NACO respectively and further Reports obtained after some time.

10. A brief Presentation entitled "Energy Policy, 2005" was made in the general background of the rising international oil prices; these discussions will continue in the next Meeting of the Council which was scheduled for Saturday, 29th October, 2005.

The Meeting concluded with thanks to the Chair.
