

**The Chief Minister met Shri Kapil Sibal, Union Minister for HRD & IT along with the following Cabinet Ministers:**

1. Shri Abdu Rabb, Minister for Education
2. Shri P.K.Kunhalikutty, Minister for Industries
3. Shri K.M. Mani, Minister for Finance
4. Shri K.C. Joseph, Minister for Rural Development
5. Shri K. Babu, Minister for Excise

Shri E. Ahmed, MoS, HRD & External Affairs and officers from Govt. of India were also present in the meeting.

The following points were discussed/decisions taken in this meeting.

1. The Chief Minister thanked the Union HRD Minister for sanctioning of Central University at Kasaragod. He was informed that the land for this University has already been identified and handed over and the inauguration of the same can be held in January, 2012 at his convenience.
2. To the request for a final decision on establishment of an IIT in Kerala, the Union Minister informed that five IITs are proposed to be started in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. A decision will have to be taken in consultation with the Planning Commission and Union Cabinet. The Chief Minister informed that the Prime Minister has already announced sanctioning of an IIT in Kerala in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. This announcement was made during his visit to Trivandrum. The Union Minister said that he fully supported Kerala's demand for an IIT and there will be no problem in starting it in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan if the Prime Minister also supports it.
3. To the request for upgrading the Cochin University of Science & Technology (CUSAT) to the level of an Indian Institute, the Union Minister observed that he agrees with the aspiration of Kerala's leaders to have both IIT & IEST. However, he would like the Kerala Government to decide its priorities clearly. While the Central Government will be very happy to consider both, in case it was not possible to do so because of resource considerations, the State Government should indicate what would it like to have. The Chief Minister made it clear that while the State would like to have both the IIT and the IEST, the priority of the State was to have the IIT in the State. The Chief Minister also mentioned that the Govt. of India should consider upgrading the CUSAT to the level of IEST as part of its 11<sup>th</sup> Plan and IIT in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan.

4. The Chief Minister raised the demand of State Government to have Lal Bahadur Shastri Integrated Institute of Science & Technology (LBSIIST) at Malappuram. This proposal is in line with the Rajender Sachar Committee Report highlighting the need for new development strategies for minority communities. The Union Minister immediately agreed to consider granting Rs.50 crores for the proposed Institute.
  5. The Chief Minister pointed out the difficulty in establishing IIT course within the current scheme of Govt. of India which requires private industry participation without any visible benefit for such industrial partner. The Chief Minister requested the Union Minister to consider modifying the scheme to allow either public sector units to participate or to give some incentives to make this scheme attractive for private investors. The HRD Minister promised to look into it, if the response to the scheme was equally bad in other States also.
  6. To the request for proposal by State Government to establish LBS College of Engineering in Kottayam, the HRD Minister agreed to consider it in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.
  7. To the request of the State Government for vocationalisation of Higher Secondary Education, the Union HRD Minister responded that a scheme for the same is being put up before the Union Cabinet and a decision is likely to be taken early next year.
  8. The HRD Minister regretted their inability to grant additional funds under Sarva Siksha Abhyan since the Finance Minister has not agreed to their demand.
  9. The Chief Minister requested the HRD Minister to grant “deemed University” status to KILA. The Union Minister was informed that an application under the UGC Act 2010 has already been made for this purpose. The officials of the HRD Ministry agreed to follow this up with the concerned authorities.
  10. The Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology was informed that the State Government has submitted a proposal to his Ministry of obtaining financial assistance and support for setting up an ‘Electronic Hub’ at Ambaloor near Kochi for promoting electronic hardware manufacturing and assembly, R&D centres and supporting infrastructure. The State Government had also sought grant-in-aid support of Rs.124 crores, being 50% of the infrastructure development cost for setting up of the ‘Electronic Hub’.
- The Union Minister informed the Chief Minister and the Minister for Industries and IT, Kerala that the project proposal would be favourably considered for approval and that grant-in-aid would be

given to the Government of Kerala setting up of this facility at an early date.

## **2. MEETING WITH SHRI E. SREEDHARAN, CMD, DELHI METRO RAIL CORPORATION**

Shri E. Sreedharan, CMD, DMRC met the Chief Minister in the presence of following Cabinet Ministers and Shri K.V. Thomas, MoS, Food & Consumer Affairs (IC).

1. Shri K.M. Mani, Minister for Finance
2. Shri P.K. Kunhalikutty, Minister for Industries
3. Shri K.C. Joseph, Minister for Rural Development
4. Shri Abdu Rabb, Minister for Education
5. Shri Adoor Prakash, Minister for Health
6. Shri K. Babu, Minister for Excise & Ports
7. Shri Aryadan Mohammed, Minister for Electricity
8. Shri K.P. Anil Kumar, Minister for Tourism
9. Dr. M. K. Muneer, Minister for Panchayats
10. Smt. P.K. Jayalakshmi, Minister for ST Development
11. Shri K.M. Chandrasekhar, Vice Chairman, Planning Board and officers of the State Govt.

- Shri E. Sreedharan expressed willingness of DMRC to execute the work in a turn-key basis.
- DMRC will do all open tendering to avail best technology.
- Tendering will be done in block of works.
- JICA may not fund civil works – we have to have different source of funding (JICA loan sanction may take about 18 months).
- For many proposed works, land acquisition may not be needed – work on NH portion can be started in 1<sup>st</sup> Phase. Minister (Rail) prefers simultaneous action.
- Team to prepare an Action Plan for Advance preparation expecting Govt. of India approval.
- A decision on whether to entrust the work to DMRC on a ‘turnkey’ basis or to do otherwise, will be taken by the Government after discussing pros and cons of this issue in the next meeting of the Kochi Metro Rail Company Board.
- All the other matters requiring decision of the Government level (those regarding land acquisition, putting fast track procedure etc.) will be placed before the next meeting of the Cabinet.

### **3. MEETING WITH SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE, UNION MINISTER OF POWER**

The Chief Minister met Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde, Union Minister (Power) along with Shri K.C. Venugopal, MoS (Power), Shri Aryadan Mohammed, Minister for Power, Shri K.M.Chandrasekhar, Vice Chairman, Planning Board and the Officers of the Ministry of Power and Government of Kerala.

The following decisions were taken :

1. The need of making additional power allocation of 700 MW to compensate the State for the loss of hydel energy on account of fulfilling the national obligation of biodiversity preservation and forest conservation to Kerala was emphasized upon by the Union Minister. It was also pointed out that Delhi has surrendered about 1000 MW of power. Hon'ble Union Minister promised to see that Kerala get available additional power due to this surrender.
2. Regarding allocation of gas for power generation, Hon'ble Union Minister suggested that since the availability of gas was low, the matter of optimal allocation of gas is being looked into by a group of Ministers chaired by the Hon'ble Finance Minister. The State Government may take up the matter with the Union Minister in this regard.
3. Regarding rationalization of duty for Naphta, Union Minister of Power also agreed with the need of such an action and he said to take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance.

### **4.MEETING WITH SMT. KRISHNA TIRATH, UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT (I/C).**

Hon'ble Chief Minister met the Union Minister of State for Women & Child Development in the presence of Dr. M.K. Muneer, Minister for Panchayats & Social Works, Shri K.C. Joseph, Minister for Planning & Rural Development, Shri P.T. Thomas, M.P. and other officers of the State Government.

Following decisions were taken :

1. The proposal of providing Rs.5.00 lakh for each of the proposed 2000 Anganwadi buildings during the next financial year could be considered by the Ministry if the Planning Commission agrees to provide for such assistance under the new schemes proposed for implementation during the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period.
2. The proposed assistance of Rs.10 crore for Gender Park (Thantedam) could be considered if the Planning Commission

approves the implementation of proposed National Mission for empowerment of women during 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period.

3. The Union Minister promised to look into the Nirbhaya programme proposal and arrange to support under Prajwala scheme if found suitable.
4. The Union Minister promised to support Asraya programme in all aspects particularly with respect to the empowerment and rehabilitation of women and child destitutes.

#### **5. Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs & Water Resources**

1. Implementation of Kuttanad Package with a cost of Rs.248.39 crores. The Union Minister informed that final approval would be granted by Govt. of India in the first week of December.
2. Enhancing the central share to 90% in Kuttanad Package – Union Minister informed that any change in the cost sharing is not possible at this stage because 90% cost sharing is only for special category states.
3. Cost Escalation – On the matters of revision of cost Union Minister informed that the package has been approved by Union Cabinet after having been appraised by financial bodies, it is not possible to provide for any cost escalation.
4. Mullaperiyar Dam : Union Minister desired that Govt. of Kerala should provide letter stating to undertake the reconstruction of dam from the State finance without affecting the existing water sharing arrangement with Tamil Nadu. Subsequently Govt. of India would make efforts for bilateral talk between Tamil Nadu and Kerala for construction of new dam.

#### **6. Meeting with Shri Sanjay Kothari, IAS, Additional Secretary of Tourism, Govt. of India and Shri Anand Kumar, IAS, Joint Secretary of Tourism, Govt. of India.**

- Govt. of Kerala has submitted a proposal for the protection and development of backwater in Alappuzha as Mega Backwater Tourism Circuit seeking a central assistances of Rs.50 crores under Mega Circuit. The project is mainly for development of house boat terminals, night halt terminals, development of micro destinations and beaches on the way, development of farm and rural tourism schemes connected with the circuit, conservation and upgradation

of the environment, developing safety and security measures for the house boats and community training. Hon'ble Chief Minister was assured by DG tourism to expedite the approval from Govt. of India sanction.

- Govt. of India have recently announced a scheme of granting Tourist Visa on Arrival for citizens from selected countries. The facility is limited to the airports in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata only. Kerala being one of the prominent tourism destinations in the country, Govt. of Kerala has requested the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India to extend this facility to the airport at Kochi also. It was decided that Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India would take up this matter with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India.
- Under the new schemes being developed by Govt. of India for 12<sup>th</sup> plan, Govt. of Kerala has prioritised the Major Tourism Circuits for Development in Mission Mode and the northern circuit will be taken up first in Kerala. Tourism Parks are also identified for development of activities under tourism. Rural tourism clusters with one village as the focus will also be developed in various areas in Kerala.
- The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala pointed out that Bekal requires infrastructure development and it was decided that the infrastructure development at Bekal would be taken up in the northern circuit which will be developed under the Major Tourism Circuit Scheme.
- DG Tourism, Govt. of India pointed out that Govt. of India is giving importance to employment generation under the tourism development and they have schemes for training drivers. Hon'ble Chief Minister informed that Govt. of Kerala would prepare a scheme for selection of drivers, training them and creating a link with the banks for loan for acquiring vehicles and submit to Govt. of India.

