

Vol. 01 Issue 03 - Quarterly

July – Sept 2020

Meeting (Through Video Conferencing) with Agri. Equipment Manufacturers and State Nodal Officer

by Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Mechanization and Technology Division under the chairmanship of Shri Ashwani Kumar, Joint secretary (M&T)

11th April 2020 at 4:00 h

Video conferencing meeting was organized by Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Mechanization and Technology Division under the chairmanship of Shri Ashwani Kumar, Joint secretary (M&T) on 11.04.2020 at 4 P.M to discuss the various problems and issues of Agricultural machinery manufacturers arising due to the country lockdown to prevent the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and the essential requirements of the farmers. Therefore, all the executive members of the various

associations viz TMA, PTMA, AMMA-India, AICMA, etc and their member manufacturers were requested to participate in the video conferencing for which the web link was shared. Members from AMMA-India participated in the meeting and raised their concerned and problems facing due to lockdown, subsidy and testing issues. Joint Secretary assured to look into these issues and take necessary action. In this regards an office order was issued and copy of the same is placed below for information and necessary action.

F.No 13-13/2020-M&T,(I&P) Government of India Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (Mechanization & Technology Division)

Krishi Bhawan New Delhi, Dated' 24th April, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Exemption from following activities / requirements related to testing of Agricultural machineries including Tractors, Power Tillers and Combine harvesters till 31st December, 2020- reg

Reference of this Ministry's letter No:

- 1) letter No 13-1/2017, dated 28th February, 2019, Random selection of a test sample
- 2) Ministry's order No 13-24/2018- M&T (I&P), dated 19th September, 2019 and 13-35/2019-M&T (I&P), dated 11th December, 2019 the validity of different type of ICT and Subsequent Batch Test Reports
- 3) No 13-10/2019-M&T (I&P), dated, 12 th February, 2019
- 4) Minutes of the meeting held on 11.04.2020
- Ministry's letter no. 13-9/2019 M&T(1&P) dated 26th April 2019 and 3rdOctober 2019 regarding compliance to Technical Critical specification and Extension of Grace Period

Sir,

I am directed to convey the approval of the competent authority of DAC &FW, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare for the Exemption from following activities / requirements related to testing of Agricultural machineries including Tractors, Power Tillers and Combine harvesters **till 31**st **Of December, 2020** to ensure the uninterrupted supply of agricultural machinery to the farmers under subsidy programme during the ongoing lockdown as preventive measure to Covid 19 Pandemic.

"Exemption from random selection of test samples, subsequent batch testing after the expiry validity of test reports, updating of CMVR, COP &Type approval applicable to Tractors, Power Tillers, Combine Harvesters and other self propelled agricultural machinery till 31.12.2020. Testing of tractors as per revised BIS Standard IS 12207-2019 and Implementation of new technical critical specifications of 51 agricultural machinery has also been deferred till 31.12.2020".



To

- All Principal Secretaries/ Additional Chief Secretaries/Directors of respective State Agriculture Departments.
- 2) Directors of all 4 FMTTIs Budni, Hisar, Anantapur and Biswanath Chariali
- Testing Heads of all 35 approved Test centers of DAC&FW at SAUs, ICAR institute and State agriculture Departments.

Copy to:

- 1) PPS to JS (M&T)
- All Principal Secretaries/Additional Chief Secretaries/Directors of State Agriculture Departments.
- 3) ADC/DC(M&T)-II/AC (M&T)

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Proceedings of Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers Association (AMMA-India)

30th May 2020 Via Video Conferencing Time at 11:00 h - 12:30 h

Agenda items for the meeting was:

- 1. Welcome by Mr. S V Raju, Chairman AMMA-India
- Activity details during Covid 19 Meeting by JS (M&T); TMA meeting; BIS FAD 20 meeting
- 3. Issues to be taken with JS(M&T):
 - Bank guarantee should be released to all manufacturers of In-situ scheme during the years 2018-19 & 2019-20 in order to help manufactures financially.
 - Manufactures should be given more time to adopt & implement critical specification of implements finalized by GOI.
 - Scheme for modernization of agriculture industry should be consider with lower EMI, Subsidy on design software, 3D scanning, material analysis, international experts hiring for (product design, system improvement, new setup).

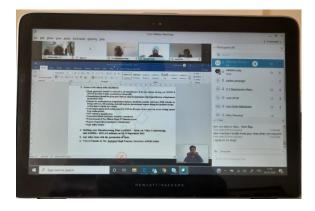
- Centralized approval of testing report by GOI in all states. Every state can access testing reports from online portal.
- GST refund to manufacturers.
- Centralized Bank Guarantee should be considered.
- Postponement of New Bharat Stage IV Emission norms
- Export of agricultural machinery related issues
- Any other issues
- Holding next Manufacturing Meet (AMMM – 2020) via Video Conferencing and AMMM – 2021 at Ludhiana on 18-19 September 2021
- 5. Any other item with the permission of chair.
- 6. Vote of Thanks by Mr. Sarbjeet Singh Panesar, Secretary AMMA-India

List of members attended the ECM via video conferencing are:

Sr.No.	Name	Designation	Mobile
1	Mr. S.V. Raju	Chairman	94483-96260
2	Mr. Mitul Panchal	Sr. Vice Chairman	99791-06007
3	Mr. Rajkumar	Vice Chairman	99442-41360
4	Mr. Sarbjeet Singh Panesar	Secretary	98151-74313
5	Mr. Maltesh Niranjan	Additional Secretary	99450-59444
6	Mr. Deepak Agarwal	Treasurer	94151-42895
7	Mr. D.S.Balachandra Babu	Chairman Intl. Affairs	98400-62049
8	Dr. Surendra Singh	Permanent Invitee	73870-81819
9	Mr. Baldev Singh Amar	Founder President AMMA-India	98720-18040

As the country has been forced into a lockdown after 23 March 2020, owing to the rapid spread of COVID-19 and the threat that it poses to domestic population, the

economic activity has come to a grinding halt. The uncertainty which surrounds this pandemic has left many producers in the agriculture industry wondering what direct effects will this have on a national and global level—and on their operations. Medium and small range agriculture industry, Spare Parts industry & its suppliers & customers are facing big problem due to lockdown. In order to discuss national & state level issues due to lockdown Executive Committee Meeting was called via video conferencing.



The proceeding of the meeting as follows:

- 1. Mr. Sarbjeet Singh Panesar, Secretary AMMA-India welcomed the members and shared the manufacturing activities allowed to agricultural machinery sector during lockdown.
- 2. Mr. S.V. Raju, Chairman AMMA-India addressed the members and also welcomed them and thanked them for attending the meeting. He appreciated the efforts for conducting Executive Committee Meeting via Video conferencing and shared his views to conduct similar meeting with the state chapters and review how the states are progressing post Covid-19 lockdown.
- 3. Dr. Surendra Singh Shared activity detail during Covid-19 Meetings.
 - a) The total strength of association is 687. In year 2019, 25 new members joined the association and in currentyear2020 so far only one member has joined.

Details of new members are available on the website.

- b) Under the chairmanship of Shri Ashwani Kumar, JS(M&T) a videoconference meeting was organized with the manufactures and state Govt Officers to discuss the various problems and issues of Agricultural manufacturers arising due to the country lockdown to prevent the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and the essential requirements of the farmers. Details given above.
- c) BIS FAD 20 meeting was held on 22ndMay 2020 but due to technical problem it was rescheduled on 5thJune 2020 and was conducted successfully. Dr. Surendra Singh attended the meeting.
- d) Due to Covid-19 affect all social gathering function and meeting has been postponed. It was decided that the next Manufacturing Meet (AMMM-2020) will be held by Video conferencing in September 2020 and after that Manufacturing meet (AMMM-2021) will be held at Ludhiana on 18-19 September 2021.
- e) AMMA-India will request GOI & Ministry of Agriculture to consider agriculture machinery as input to agriculture just like seeds, fertilizer and chemicals. Farmers should use Kisan card to buy agricultural machinery excluding tractors, power tillers and combine harvester.
- 4. Mr. Rajkumar, Vice Chairman AMMA-India shared important information:
 - a) Submission of video by 6thJune to Ministry of Agriculture by few manufactures and farmers appreciating the support

provided to agricultural manufacturing industry and Farmers by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

- b) Implementation of critical specification of implement should be postponed to March 2021.
- c) In case of re-testing of same implements GOI should consider minimizing test hours & testing charges.
- d) SMAM revised guidelines for 2020-21 has been released.
 Copy of same is available on AMMA-India website.
- e) AMMA-India should request to all state government to extend the ongoing SMAM subsidy scheme by 6 months.
- f) Govt. has accepted3 and 5 Ton trailer for subsidy purpose.
- 5. Mr. Baldev Singh founder president AMMA-India shared his views & agreed on the centralized approval of testing report & bank guarantee by GOI. In case of export related issues government should organised B2B meeting with the foreign manufactures & importers.
- Mr. D S Balachandra Babu, suggested to approach Govt to provide modernization funds for agricultural machinery industries at least once in 15 years.

- Mr. S V Raju suggested to approach Ministry of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries to provide subsidy to machinery used in these sectors.
- 8. Mr. Sarbjeet Singh Secretary AMMA-India brief the members.
 - a) Shared information about GEM portal https://gem.gov.in/, and requested all the AMMA-India members to register their company & products on this portal. As a suggestion during state chapter meeting via Video conferencing meeting a 15minute GEM portal presentation should be shared. Also shared some problem faced on GEM portal.
 - b) AMMA-India will share all issues with the joint secretary by mails which were included in the ECM agenda items.
 - c) Due to government guidelines on social distancing and travelling in future AMMA-India will organize it's all meeting via video conferencing. It was decided to hold next executive council meeting in June and followed by EPTF & State Chapter meetings.
- 9. Mr. Sarbjeet Singh Panesar, Secretary AMMA-India proposed Vote of thanks to members for joining via video conferencing and attending the ECM.

Video Conference Meeting with Associations of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturer

17th June 2020 at 11:00 h Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (Mechanization & Technology Division) Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Agenda of the meeting:

- i. Introduction with the new Joint Secretary (M&T) Ms. Shomita Biswas, IFS
- ii. Suggestions for taking forward the growth of Farm Mechanization in the country.



Ms. Shomita Biswas, Joint Secretary (M&T) welcomed the association members. Dr. V N Kale was also present in the meeting. Following points and issues were raised and discussed:

- Due to shortage of migrant labour for paddy transplanting farmers have adopted new technology at larger stage that includes DSR Drill (direct seeded rice drill) & paddy transplanter. Government should review the result of crop &this machine and encourage farmers in future to adopt this technology.
- 2. It has been observed year after year that the funds for SMAM & CSR

scheme are not released on time. Due to which manufactures are not given sufficient time to manufacture implements thus lots of farmers are not able to take benefits of subsidy scheme. Manufactures should be given 4 to 5-month period to plan production and import certain items used in implements.

- 3. Haryana government has empanelled manufactures under the SMAM scheme but the time was very short to complete the documents. The last date was 15thJune and lot of manufactures were not able to participate due to not availability of test reports which were delayed due to COVID-19 lockdown. Date needed to be extended till end of July, so more manufactures should get empanel them self.
- 4. In recent years, many states have started imposing huge EMD and Security deposits for the empanelment of Firms and their products for the various SMAM schemes and these amounts varies from state to state with very high value. For example, in Kartanaka state the EMD and Security deposit is minimum of Rs. 5 Lakhs for one product to Rs. 75 lakhs (for Power Tiller etc..), and many other states also have started demanding such high EMDs and Security deposits. If one manufacturer has 5-6 products, they will have to block in Crores with various states only for EMDs and

Security deposits, which is becoming a major problem particularly for the MSME sector companies. Hence, we request that the empanelment of the firms to be taken up at National level with one EMD/Security deposit to cover for all the states.

5. Testing and certification for the financial year 2020-21

Due to corona pandemic outbreak and the following lockdown, the product testing and certification has become impossible. Considering the same, the ministry has extended the validity of the existing certificates till 31stDecember 2020. But, due to the continued lockdown measures of many states and the interstate travel ban etc.., the testing has not been started by many testing centres as well as by the Industries. Hence, we hereby request to further extend the validity of the test reports to 31stMarch 2022.

6. Testing Fee

As you may be aware, for the past few years the testing fee has been increased to the tune of 15% annually which has resulted in a very high testing fee. Many small machinery manufacturers, particularly MSME sector companies are unable to pay such huge testing fee that too with the validity of test reports now been reduced to 5 and 7 years, it becomes a big burden on the MSME sector companies. Also considering the recent Corona pandemic and the lockdown effect, it has made it more unaffordable for the industries to bear such high costs of testing fee. Hence, we hereby request you to waive of the testing fee increase this year and also to further reduce the testing fee for the small equipment and implements which are mostly used by small and marginal farmers.

7. Standardization

We have recently been introduced of the new standardization of 52 machineries. Many manufacturers need to get their product redesigned retested and to match the standardization parameters. Considering the Covid-19 lockdown situation, the implementation of the same had been postponed to 31st Dec 2020 by the ministry. But, as the Covid situation and the testing of the products has not improved, we hereby request you to withdraw the implementation of the same for the time being as this will make it very tough for the industries and test centres to take up additional testing in this pandemic period and also additional huge testing expenses.

8. Export Support - Huge export opportunity

Global agricultural machinery market is estimated to be appr 160bn\$ and India presently has only about 150mn\$ share in exports (0.1%) and China has close to 50bn\$ share and our share can be increased to atleast 25 bn\$ level easily and quickly. To increase our export share, forex revenue (appr 25bn\$) and employment (5,00,000 employments), following needed:

- a) Focus to change from Tractorization to Mechanization
- b) Full focus and support for Research and Innovation with simple policy changes as below:
 - i) Establish 4 regional Agri Machinery Parks for R&D, Quick commercialization and cluster manufacturing for exports
 - ii) Cluster working model
 - iii) Cluster independent management of these parks – very important
 - iv) Funding can be out of MSME and other ministry regular CFC funds

- v) Free access to the industry on IPR for few years
- 9. Establish Agri Machinery Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) 1000 cr annual fund with 50%

subsidy) – To improve and implement

modern manufacturing technology and Industry 4.0 kind of manufacturing methods which will make the industry to stand up against others in global market.

Fifteenth meeting of Agriculture and Food Processing Sectional Committee, FAD 20

05th June 2020 11:00 h (Via Video Conferencing)

Venue: Lal C Verman Conference (Ground floor), Manak Bhavan, 9, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110002

Fifteenth meeting of Agriculture and Food Processing Sectional Committee, FAD 20was held on Friday, 05thJune 2020 at 11:00 am. Dr. K AlagusundaramDDG (Engg) ICAR was the Chairman of FAD 20 meeting. Dr. Surendra Singh from AMMA-India attended the meeting. Various agenda items were discussed and decisions were taken.

Webinar on "Scope of Farm Mechanization in India" 30th June 2020 at 11:30 h

The Agrovision Foundation has been organizing weekly webinars pertaining to Agriculture and allied industry to apprise about the challenges and opportunities during this tough time of COVID 19.



In the last few weeks, they have organized Webinars on MSMEs. Dairy,

Poultry, Food Processing, Irrigation, Renewable Energy, Fisheries (Marine & Inland), Pesticides etc.

In this series they organized next webinar on "Scope of Farm Mechanization in India" scheduled on 30thJune 2020 at 11.30 am to support the industry by creating a platform to connect with the community, stakeholders and government to keep them informed about the current scenario, evolving situation and way forward. Mr. S V Raju, Chairman of AMMA-India participated as panelist in the webinar and expressed his views.

Dear Members/Readers

AMMA-India is bringing out quarterly News Letter beginning 2020. This is circulated to all members of AMMA-India, and all individuals/organizations related to agricultural mechanization world over. This Newsletter also contains product advertisement and other matters related to agricultural machinery industry. Those who are interested may send material soft copy on email ammaindia10@gmail.com; ammaindia@aiamma.org. The charges for advertisements are: Full page INR 5000/- (USD 100) per issue and INR 15000/- (USD 300) for four issues.

You may transfer the money to the AMMA-India account as below with intimation on <u>ammaindia10@gmail.com</u>:

Bank Name: Axis bank Ltd, Dhanori Branch, Pune A/c Name: Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers Association Account No: 919010067288902; IFSC Code: UTIB0004160

Upcoming Events

1. Agricultural Machinery Exhibition (AGRIINTEX-2021)

CODISSIA Intec Technology Centre, Coimbatore in association with All India Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers' Association (AMMA-India) is organizing Agricultural Machinery Exhibition Agriintex 2021 from 11^{th -} 14th July 2021. All manufacturers are requested to take part in AGRIINTEX-2021.

For stall booking please contact the Chairman, Agriintex 2021, CODISSIA G D Naidu Towers, P.B. Box no. 3827, Huzur Road, Coimbatore - 641 018 (India). Ph: +91 422 2222396/397 Mob: + 91 74026 15182 Email: agriintex@codissia.com

2. AMMM - 2021

All India Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers' Association (AMMA-India) in association with CODISSIA Intec Technology Centre, Coimbatore and Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana is organizing Agricultural Machinery Manufactures' Meet (AMMM – 2021) during 18-19 September 2021 at Ludhiana (India). For more details please contact on Mob: +91-7387081819 and Email: <u>ammaindia@aiamma.org;</u> <u>ammaindia10@gmail.com</u>.

- 3. Agri Technica Asia Bangkok, Thailand14-16 October 2020
- Agricultural machinery: EIMA International3rd to 7th of February
 2021 at Bologna exhibition complex Italy.