

F. No. K-11033/2/2016–MGNREGA-V
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
(Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Division)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated: 12.04.2016

To

The Principal Secretary/Secretary/Commissioner
Department of Rural Development (Incharge of MGNREGA)
All States/UTs.

Subject: Convergence of Planning Activities at the Gram Panchayat Level – reg.

Sir/Madam,

All the Gram Panchayats in the country prepare Labour Budget under MGNREGS, following a participatory planning process. States have prescribed detailed guidelines for Gram Panchayat Development Planning (GPDP) which envisage a single integrated planning process for all the resources over which Gram Panchayats have command.

2. As of now planning cycles of FFC grant and MGNREGS are different, taking place at different points of time. This affects possibilities of synergy, convergence, and most importantly, taking a holistic view of the development needs of the Gram Panchayats. Therefore, there is a strong need to synchronise and harmonise the planning processes of all programmes at the level of the Gram Panchayats. The following guidelines are prescribed:

- (i) MGNREGS Plan for 2016-17 has already been prepared. Therefore, for preparation of the non-MGNREGS part of the plan for 2016-17, the needs assessment made under MGNREGS for the current year may suitably be utilized.
- (ii) Planning for the year 2017-18 shall be mandatorily synchronized. Plans for utilizing the FFC grants and MGNREGS will follow the same cycle. The situation analysis and need analysis should be common.
- (iii) The Plan Teams for MGNREGS and Resource Groups for the GPDP at the Gram Panchayat and Block levels need to be harmonised and made into a single group for integrated planning.
- (iv) Support structures at the Block, District and State levels need to be harmonised and made into a single entity with tasks covering both streams of planning.

- (v) Needs assessment at GP level should be done jointly and resources fitted in to match the needs from different schemes in accordance with the guidelines of the respective scheme.
- (vi) Capacity building of elected representatives and resource persons should be common even while focussing on the guidelines and priorities of individual schemes particularly MGNREGS and FFC grants.
- (vii) The environment creation should again follow the above approach.
- (viii) Special care has to be taken to fully involve the SHG network in the planning process.
- (ix) As far as possible, for the items permissible both under MGNREGS and FFC grants, the labour component should be met from MGNREGS and the material component from FFC grant. In order to avoid complications due to mixing of funds, it is suggested that such works may be done as two parts of the same project. For example, the formation of a road could be taken up under MGNREGS and its paving or black topping could be done utilizing FFC grant.
- (x) At the end of the planning exercise, Gram Panchayats should have a single plan indicating the items of work and the source of funds,
- (xi) The approval for MGNREGS component, FFC component and other component may follow the existing procedures. Even these could be harmonised to the extent possible in accordance with their respective guidelines.

3. Based on the principles outlined above, State level may do the following:

- (i) Issue comprehensive guidelines.
- (ii) Design capacity building programmes.
- (iii) Hold special meetings right from the States to the Gram Panchayat level to explain lucidly the concept and practice of integrated planning to address the needs of the Gram Panchayats, utilizing different sources of funds.

Yours faithfully



(A. K. Sumbly)

Deputy Secretary (MGNREGA)

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