

F. No. G-31011/20/2015-MGNREGA-V
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110011
Dated: 17th March, 2016

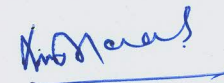
To,
Principal Secretary
Panchayat & Rural Development Department
Government of West Bengal
Kolkata.

Sir,

This is in reference to the meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 10.03.2016 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development to discuss and scrutinize Labour Budget Estimates under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for FY 2016-17 submitted by Government of West Bengal.

A copy of the approved minutes of the Empowered Committee meeting is enclosed for kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(Rajesh Makkar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Encl: as above

Copy to: PPS to Secretary (RD), Department of Rural Development
PPS to AS & FA, Department of Rural Development
PPS to AS, Department of Rural Development
PS to JS (RE), Department of Rural Development
Shri P.K. Mittal, Sr. Technical Director, NIC-DRD- with a request to get the minutes uploaded on NREGA Soft as "Minutes of meeting of Labour Budget 2016-17 for West Bengal under What's New Section and Circular >Planning > Labour Budget".



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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE ON STATE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SRDP) INCLUDING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE
STATE OF WEST BENGAL FOR FY 2016-17.**

DATE: 10.03.2016

A meeting of the Empowered Committee for the State of West Bengal for the Financial Year 2016-17 was held on 10.03.2016 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development in Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi. The State Government of West Bengal was represented by Shri Saurabh Kumar Das, Principal Secretary, Panchayats and Rural Development Department. The list of other participants is at Annexure-I.


2. After going through the presentation made by the State and after due discussion on various aspects of implementation of MGNREGA, the Committee made the following observations:

- 1) **Commitment of the State with regard to Focus Areas:** The targets taken by the State as noted by the Ministry, are as under for FY 2016-17:

S. No.	Targets for the Focus Areas	No./Length in Km.	Average Unit Cost (in Rs.)
1.	Construction of Farm Ponds	88948	2.00 lakh
2.	Construction of Vermi Compost / NADEP Tanks	133083	12000 - 30000
3.	Construction of IHHL	3.5 lakh	12,000
4.	Construction of AWC Buildings	6212	10.50 lakh
5.	Roadside Plantation	15374 Km.	1.50 lakh/Km.

However, State will share their strategy for achieving the above targets with the Ministry within a week. By 19.03.2016, NIC – DRD will make an enabling provision in NREGA soft for enabling the States to upload their specific targets district-wise. State should upload the district-wise targets in NREGA soft by 31.03.2016.

- 2) **Completion of Incomplete Works:** Since inception till 31.03.2015, the percentage of works completed is 78 %. During FY 2015-16 (as on 07.03.2016), the percentage of works completed is 4 %. It is advised that all works taken up till 31.03.2015 should be completed and this Ministry's letter dated 09.03.2016 may be referred to in this regard. The State will



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examine the reasons for poor rate of completion of works. The State will make efforts for completing all incomplete works (3.99 lakh) as on **31.03.2015** by **31.07.2016** without fail.

- 3) **Public Works relating to Natural Resource Management (NRM):** Out of total works, 3.25 lakh number of works (21.93 % of total works) have been taken up as Public Works relating to NRM (Category A of Para 4 (1) of Schedule 1 of the Act) in FY 2015-16. The State needs to scale up the works related to NRM during the FY 2016-17. The State is requested to ensure linkage between MGNREGS and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana (PMKSY).
- 4) **Creation of Individual Assets:** In order to strengthen the livelihood resource base of the rural poor, it is desirable to put adequate emphasis on creation of more individual assets (Category B of Para 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Act). An analysis of the performance of the number of individual assets being created reveal that, out of the total works, 7.14 lakh number of works (48.17 % of the total works) have been taken up on private lands in FY 2015-16 (as on 08.03.2016). The State is expected to take up more works under individual category and get them completed on time.
- 5) **Progress of integration and synchronization with the planning process of Gram Panchayat Development Plan.**
- 6) **Training of Technical Personnel:** State should complete the training of officials as part of Block Technical Resource Teams on SAMARTHYA Technical Training Manual (MGNREGA) latest by 31st July 2016.
- 7) **Deployment of Senior Technical Personnel at State/District level:** State should ensure that Senior Technical Personnel are deployed at State/ District level to guide and monitor the technical personnel at the field level.
- 8) **Integration of planning with SHG network.**
- 9) **Expediting Aadhaar Seeding Process:** As of now, there are 130.12 lakh active workers, out of which 71.62 lakh (55%) have been seeded in MIS. Against the Aadhaar numbers seeded in MIS, 19.47 lakh have been converted to Aadhaar Based Payment System (ABPS). To expedite the process of Aadhaar enrolment of MGNREGA workers and seeding the same into their Bank accounts, camps may be organised at Block and GP level as advised vide letter dated 23rd February, 2016 jointly issued by Department of Financial Services and



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Department of Rural Development. A copy of said letter was handed over to the State during the meeting. The State needs to expedite pace of seeding of Aadhaar data into the NREGA soft.

- 10) **Skilling the unskilled MGNREGA workers:** The State needs to implement Project LIFE, under MGNREGA, in a mission mode to achieve the targets finalized in consultation with the States and duly communicated to them. State is yet to start the Skilling for Wage Component training of 7.07 lakh numbers of workers.
- 11) **Implementation of Social Audit Action Plan:** Conducting of Social Audit as laid down in the Audit of Scheme Rules 2011 is mandatory for the State to be eligible for release of funds for 2016-17. The State is expected to take following steps:
- Setting up of Society
 - Engagement of full time Director
 - Recruitment of core staff like SRPs & DRPs
 - Bank account of SAU
 - Finalization of Social Audit Calendar by 31st March 2016
 - Notification of Governing Body
- 12) **Expenditure on Agriculture and Allied Activities at the District level:** In 3 Districts (Bankura - 52.74%, DGHC [GTA] - 54.68% and Paschim Mednipur - 38.19%), the expenditure on agriculture related works are below the statutory limit of 60%. Efforts should be stepped up to ensure that more works in this category are taken up in FY 2016-17 in these Districts.
- 13) **Strengthening of Monitoring mechanism:** Monitoring mechanism with emphasis on field supervision needs to be strengthened in the State.
- 14) **Geo-tagging of Assets and maintenance of Assets Register at GP level:** State needs to ensure Geo-tagging of Assets and proper maintenance of Asset Register at the GP level with effect from 1st April 2016.
- 15) **State Convergence Plan:** The State Convergence Plan for FY 2016-17, duly approved by Chief Secretary, will be finalized by State and submitted to the Ministry latest by 31.05.2016. Interim State Convergence Plan approved by Pr. Secretary (RD), Government of West Bengal may be submitted by 30.04.2016.


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- 16) **Annual Master Circular:** Annual Master Circular should be translated and disseminated in the field latest by 15.04.2016.
- 17) **CFT Project:** State Government should hold review of CFT project.
- 18) **Photo Gallery of Sustainable Assets:** The Ministry is launching an online photo gallery of sustainable assets. An online module for uploading photos will be developed by NIC and shared with the States soon. States are requested to start collecting photographs of sustainable assets with details like work code, type of work, category of work, year of construction, GP, Block, District etc. Separate communication will be sent from the Ministry regarding this. State may collect and upload 400 photographs of different sustainable assets.
- 19) **Online Compendium of Success Stories/Good Practices:** The Ministry is also launching an online compendium of Success Stories/Good Practices. Each State has to identify 25 success stories or good practices, and upload in an online module which will be made available in the NREGA soft soon. Separate communication will be sent from the Ministry regarding this.
3. The Empowered Committee agreed to the Labour Budget of **1877.61 lakh Person days (PDs)** for FY 2016-17 for the State of West Bengal. The State may always come up with a proposal for the revision of Labour Budget after September, 2016, if the actual performance exceeds the agreed to Labour Budget.
4. **Under no circumstances, the State will cross the approved Labour Budget for FY 2016-17 without the prior approval of the Ministry.**
5. The State Government should furnish month-wise and District-wise Person days projection as per agreed to LB to the Ministry latest by 31st March 2016. While doing so, the need for the programme in the backward areas will be kept in mind. The uploading of this information in the MIS is an essential pre-condition for the release of funds in FY 2016-17.
6. **Issues pertaining to Livelihood and Convergence:** Efforts should be made to improve the livelihood resource base of the poor by appropriately converging MGNREGA with other RD programmes.

Aparajita Senapati
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Annexure-I

**LIST OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED
COMMITTEE HELD ON 10.03.2016 FOR FINALISING LABOUR BUDGET FOR
THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL FOR FY 2016-17.**

MoRD Officials

1. Shri Amarjeet Sinha, Additional Secretary
2. Shri Rajeev Sadanandan, JS(RH & NSAP)
3. Shri Atal Dulloo, JS (NRLM)
4. Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, JS (RE)
5. Shri P.K. Sarangi, JS (RE-III)
6. Shri Prasant Kumar, JS (A&C)
7. Shri Anil Subramaniam, DS (Skills)
8. Ms. Sudha P. Rao, C E A
9. Shri P.K. Mukhopadhyay, Adviser (Stats)
10. Shri Prashant Mittal, Senior Technical Director
11. Shri A.K. Sumbly, DS
12. Shri Rajesh Makkar, US
13. Shri Ashutosh, PO (ICT)
14. Shri Ritesh Saxena, PO (ICT)

State Officials

1. Shri D. Sarkar, Commissioner
2. Smt. Esha Sengupta, Joint Secretary
3. Shri Choten Lama, CEO, NRLM
4. Smt. Nilanjana Dasgupta, Joint Secretary