Sice of the D.M. & D.P.C. GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Panchayats & Rural Development Department

- 5 SEP 2017

Joint Administrative Building Block HC-7, Sector –III, Salt Lake Kolkata-700 106

R. No. TOT 16 MONREGA

S.G.A., CELL

Memo. No. 4638(23)-RD/O/NREGA/18S-03/09(pt-I)

Date: 05/09/2017

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The Principal Secretary (GTA)
The District Magistrate & District Programme Coordinator (ALL)
The Additional Executive Officer (SMP)

Sub: Mid-year review of performance in MGNREGA

Madam/Sir.

On 29 August, 2017 we had a mid-year review with the Ministry of Rural Development. Government of India regarding performance of the State and Districts in implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. I would like to convey at the very outset that in the said meeting performance of the State in MGNREGA implementation was highly appreciated. We indicated that going by the trend, this year we could be somewhere close to 30 crore in terms of person-days generated during the year. I must say that it was consorted effort made by the districts which resulted in such a high level of performance. Congratulations for the team effort.

However, exceptionally high level-of performance often leads to certain questions regarding efficacy of the planning process and its implementation. In the meeting itself questions were raised about exceptionally high level of PD generation in Jalpaiguri. South 24-Parganas. Hooghly, Howrah, Paschim Medinipur, Maldah, Purulia, Alipurduar and Birbhum. All these districts were above 200% in PD generation till July 2017 against their proportionate projections till that month. This has also been pointed out by the Ministry in the minutes of the meeting circulated to the State. We also did an analysis of the data and found that the LB projections in these districts are substantially on the lower side, especially corresponding projections till July 2017. There are certain exceptions like Jalpaiguri and Howrah which have already achieved its annual labour budget. Paschim Medinipur and Purulia too have crossed 70% of the annual projections. Kindly note that we do not have any objections to such over-performance by the districts. Rather, enhanced level of performance is always appreciated. The only concern that we have is the focus on generation of assets. PD generation in the field must be for the purpose of generating productive assets. Also, payment of wages must be based on actual work in the field. It is obviously measurement-based payment and not attendance-based payment, which will have to be adhered to. Please note that the name of the official responsible for taking measurement will henceforth be indicated in the muster rolls and available on the public domain. Any deviation in measurement will call for scrutiny and fixing of responsibility. You are siso aware of the transparency measures taken up in the programme including geo-tagging, social audit etc. These are tools to ascertain the quality and quantity of assets generated in course of MGNREGA implementation.

The Ministry has decided to send teams to the exceptionally high performing districts to make an on ground assessment of the scenario. I am sure that you all are having sufficient evidences to showcase our achievements. However, it is probably high time for you to undertake thorough inspection of the works taken up, so as to ensure that there are no discernible gaps in the field.

Yours faithf wy

· (Dibyendu Sarkar)

Commissioner P&RD Department

Memo No. 1238 (25)/mgnorege Date 6/9/17

Copy for storasten and action to:

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