

**F.N. M-11015/02/2017/RE-III**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Rural Development**  
**Department of Rural Development**  
**MGNREGA Division**

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

To,

The Secretary/Principal Secretary  
**Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh,**  
**Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh,**  
**Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and West Bengal**

Sub: Roll out of SHG- VRP Training Programme on Social Audit under MGNREGA

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the subject cited above, Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with NIRD&PR Hyderabad is going to roll out SHG- VRP Training Programme on Social Audit under MGNREGA. The initiative aims to create a community cadre of Village Resource Persons (VRP) who will be engaged in conducting social audits at the Gram Panchayat level.

2. A consultative workshop was held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017 at NIRD & PR Hyderabad involving representatives from states NREGS, Social Audit Units, State Institute Rural Development, State Rural Livelihood Mission of the 11 states to discuss the modalities for the proposed training programme.
3. Accordingly, a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been prepared by the Ministry based on the inputs received from representatives of participating States.
4. Prior to the launching of the SHG-VRP training programme, the SAUs concerned may intimate their detailed timelines for conducting these trainings (containing the dates and venues) to the Ministry and NIRD&PR by 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The names of the trainees would be declared during the *Swacchata Pakhwada* (1<sup>st</sup> Oct – 15<sup>th</sup> Oct) in the Gram Sabha meetings.

I request your assistance and cooperation in effective conduct of the training programme in your respective states.

Encls: as above

Yours faithfully

(Aparajita Sarangi)  
Joint Secretary – MGNREGA

Copy to:

1. Joint Secretary, NRLM
2. Director General, NIRD&PR, Hyderabad
3. Director, Social Audit Unit
4. Director, SIRD Concerned
5. Director, SRLM

15/9/17

## Standard Operating Procedures for SHG-VRP training program

This is in reference to Ministry letter dated 25th August 2017 on creating a community cadre of Village Resource Persons (VRP) from among Women Self Help Groups members. Accordingly a two day workshop was organized at National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad to develop a detailed roll-out strategy. The workshop was attended by 11 selected states.

### Overview:

The Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India is planning to initiate a capacity building programs for the members of women Self Help Groups on Social Audit. The objective of this initiative is to create a community cadre of Village Resource Persons to be built from among women SHGs. A letter from Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development dated January 2, 2017 states that, there is a need to involve SHGs in the social audits to make community accountability framework more effective. The curriculum for VRP training has been developed by Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. The responsibility of organizing the VRP training for SHGs is entrusted to Social Audit Units (SAUs) in collaboration with the State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) of the respective states, with support from SRLMs. The trained community cadre will be engaged as VRPs for social audits.

### 1. Selection of States:

Criteria for selection of the States are as follows:

- a) Those states where Intensive Block Strategy under National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) and National Rural Livelihoods Project (NRLP) is being rolled out,
- b) Those states which have a Social Audit Unit established; and
- c) Those states in which the 30-day Certificate Course on Social Accountability and Social Audit have been completed. Accordingly, the 10 states of **Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and West Bengal** have been identified for the roll out of the trainings of women for VRP trainings. Additionally, the state of Bihar is being included due to the presence of SRLM. In Bihar, the VRP training would be taken up once the 30-day training program is completed.

List of state-wise number of GPs and SHGs is at Annexure- I.

### 2. Training Overview: