To,

Principal Secretary,
Rural Development Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Chennai

Sub: Labour Budget of Tamil Nadu under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA for the FY 2016-17 reg.

Sir,

This is in reference to the meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 11.03.2016 at Krishi Bhavan, 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 the FY 2016-17 submitted by Government of Tamil Nadu.

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

Yours faithfully,

(Prasanna V. Saliyan)
Assistant Commissioner
Phone No: 011-23071326

Encl: as above

Copy to:

1. PPS to Secretary(RD), Department of Rural Development
2. PPS to Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Department of Rural Development
3. PPS to Additional Secretary, Department of Rural Development
4. PS to JS (RE), Department of Rural Development
5. Shri P.K. Mittal, Sr. Technical Director, NIC, Department of Rural Development – with a request to get the minutes uploaded on NREGASoft (whatsnews/Labour Budget head) as 'Minutes of meeting of Labour Budget 2016-17 for Tamil Nadu'.
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE ON STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SRDP) INCLUDING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE STATE OF TAMIL NADU FOR FY 2016-17.
DATE: 11.03.2016

A meeting of the Empowered Committee for the State of Tamil Nadu for the Financial Year 2016-17 was held on 11.03.2016 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development in Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi. The State Government of Tamil Nadu was represented by Shri K. Baskaran, Director, MGNREGA, Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj. The list of other participants is at Annexure.

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:

i. 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Units (Nos./Kms)</th>
<th>Average Unit Cost (Rs. in lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Construction of Farm Ponds/ Ooranies</td>
<td>17500</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Construction of Vermi Compost</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Construction of IHHL</td>
<td>7.5 Lakh</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Construction of AWC Buildings</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>7.00 (5.00 lakh under MGNREGS &amp; 2.00 lakh under ICDS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Roadside Plantation</td>
<td>10000 Km</td>
<td>7.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 district-wise targets. State should upload the district-wise targets in NREGA Soft by 31.03.2016. This is an essential pre-condition for next release. Further, the other focus areas of the State are as under:
ii. **Completion of Incomplete Works:** Since inception till 31.03.2015, the percentage of works completed is 89%. During FY 2015-16 (as on 08.03.2016), the percentage of works completed is 11%. 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 examine the reasons for poor rate of completion of works. The State will make efforts for completing all **incomplete works** (1.01 lakhs) as on **31.03.2015** by **31.05.2016** without fail.

iii. **Public Works relating to Natural Resource Management (NRM):** Out of total works, 1.009 lakh number of works (18% of total works) have been taken up as Public Works relating to NRM (Category A of Para 4 (1) of Schedule I 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).

iv. **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 and more individual assets (Category B of Para 4(1) of Schedule I of the Act). An analysis of the performance of the number of individual assets being created reveal that, out of the total works, 0.934 lakh number of works (17% of the total works) have been taken up on individual land 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.

v. **Progress of integration and synchronization with the planning process of Gram Panchayat Development Plan.**

vi. **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.

vii. **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.
viii. Integration of planning with SHG network.

ix. **Expediting Aadhaar Seeding Process:** As of now, there are 90.97 lakh active workers, out of which 66.12 lakh (73%) have been seeded in MIS. Against the Aadhaar numbers seeded in MIS, 37.08 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 Department of Rural Development. A copy of the said letter was handed over to the State during the meeting. The State needs to expedite pace of seeding of Aadhaar data into the NREGASoft.

x. **Training of Barefoot Technicians:** Bare foot Technicians are not appointed in the State.

xi. **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 especially the Skilling for Wage component training at the earliest. The target/ spill over of FY 15-16 will be added to target of FY 16-17. The combined target for the three components is skilling 69092 youths in FY 2016-17 (Skilling for wages – 43079, Skilling for Self Employment – 16654 and Livelihood Upgradation – 9363).

xii. **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 the 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

xiii. **Expenditure on Agriculture and Allied Activities at the District level:** In the current financial year, in 04 Districts (Nilgiri – 54.00%, Erode – 34.00%, Coimbatore – 51.00%, Kanyakumari - 53.00%), 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.
xiv. **Strengthening of Monitoring mechanism:** Monitoring mechanism with emphasis on field supervision needs to be strengthened and it has to be properly documented in the State.

xv. **Geo-tagging of Assets and maintenance of Assets Register at GP level:** State needs to ensure Geo-tagging of Assets and proper maintenance of Assets Register at GP level with effect from 1st April, 2016.

xvi. **Annual Master Circular:** Annual Master Circular needs to be translated and disseminated to the field latest by 15.04.2016.

xvii. **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. Your State may collect and upload 400 photographs of different sustainable assets.

xviii. **Online Compendium of Success Stories/Good Practices:** The Ministry is also launching an online compendium of success stories. Each State has to identify 25 success stories or good practices, and upload in an online module which will be made available in the MGNREGA website soon. Separate communication will be sent from the Ministry regarding this.

xix. **Cluster Facilitation Team Project:** No CFT Projects are there for Tamil Nadu state.

3. The Empowered Committee agreed to the Labour Budget of **3155.03 lakh persondays (PDs)** for FY 2016-17 for the State of Tamil Nadu. 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 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 LBB 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.
LIST OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE HELD ON 11.03.2016 FOR FINALISING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE STATE OF TAMIL NADU FOR FY 2016-17.

MoRD Officials

1. Shri Amarjeet Sinha, Additional Secretary
2. Ms. Sudha P. Rao, Chief Economic Adviser
3. Shri Rajeev Sadanandan, JS(RH & NSAP)
4. Shri Atal Dulloo, JS (NRLM)
5. Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, JS (RE)
6. Shri Prasant Kumar, JS (A&c)
7. Shri P.K. Sarangi, JS (RE-III)
8. Shri P.K. Mukhopadhyay, Adviser (Stats)
9. Dr. Suparna S. Pachouri, Director
10. Shri Prashant Mittal, Senior Technical Director
11. Shri Anil Subramaniam, DS (Skills)
12. Ms. Neeta Tahiliani, Under Secretary
13. Shri Ashutosh, PO (ICT)
14. Shri Ritesh Saxena, PO (ICT)

State Officials

1. Shri K. Baskaran, IAS, Director, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Tamil Nadu.
2. Shri P. Ponnaiah, Additional Director, MGNREGS.
3. Ms. V. Amuthavalli, IAS, Chief Executive Officer –TNSRLM, Tamil Nadu.
4. Shri. J. Sampath, Additional Chief Executive Officer –TNSRLM, Tamil Nadu.
5. Shri D. Subramaniam, Assistant Project Officer – TNSRLM, Tamil Nadu.
6. Shri F. Abdul Razick, Additional Director (Rural Development), Directorate of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Tamil Nadu
7. Ms. B. Sree Devi, Assistant Director, MGNREGS, Tamil Nadu.
8. B. Ram Prashath, Assistant Programmer, Management Information System in Tamil Nadu.