To,

Secretary,
Rural Development Department,
Government of Jammu & Kashmir,
4th Floor, Mini Block, J&K Civil Secretariat
Jammu 180 001.


Sir,

This is in reference to the meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 16.03.2016 at Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development to discuss and scrutinise Labour Budget Estimates under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for 2016-17 submitted by Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

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. Salian)
Assistant Commissioner (MGNREGA)
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 Jammu and Kashmir.
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE ON STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SRDP) INCLUDING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE STATE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR FOR FY 2016-17.

DATE: 16.03.2016

A meeting of the Empowered Committee for the State of Jammu and Kashmir for the Financial Year 2016-17 was held on 16.03.2016 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development in Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi. The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir was represented by Shri. Khurshid Ahmad Shah, Secretary and Shri K.K. Sidha, Additional Secretary, 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:

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</td>
<td>1885</td>
<td>2.0 - 5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Construction of Vermi Compost / NADEP Tanks</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>0.10 - 0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Construction of IHHL</td>
<td>47770</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Construction of AWC Buildings</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>7.00 (5.0 lakhs MGNREGA + 2.0 lakhs from Other Dept)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Roadside Plantation</td>
<td>220 kms</td>
<td>7.73 lakh per Km</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 NREGASoft for enabling the States to upload their specific district-wise targets. State should upload the district-wise targets in NREGASoft 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 71%. During FY 2015-16 (as on 11.03.2016), the percentage of works completed is 10.7%. 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 (1.05 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, 0.50 lakh number of works (25% 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 should ensure converging MGNREGA with Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee 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 1 of the Act). An analysis of the performance of the number of individual assets being created reveal that, out of the total works, 0.0072 lakh number of works (0.36% of the total works) have been taken up on individual land in FY 2015-16 (as on 11.03.2016). 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 District Technical Resource Teams (740) and Block Technical Resource Teams (2412) 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 12.64 lakh active workers, out of which 0.73 lakh (6%) have been seeded in MIS. Against the Aadhaar numbers seeded in MIS, no data has 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. **Mobile Monitoring System:** 270 tablets given to the State for mobile monitoring may be considered to be used in 1-2 districts with saturation approach for data entry into MIS by 31.05.2016.

xi. **Training of Barefoot Technicians:** The State will nominate the BFT trainers for the training to be held at NIRD&PR, Hyderabad in the second week of April, 2016. On completion the training, State will train 120 BFTs in 4 batches. The training calendar to be shared with the Ministry.

xii. **Skilling the unskilled MGNREGA workers:** Jammu and Kashmir is not a Project LIFE state.
xiii. **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 by 1st June, 2016:

a. Setting up of Society
b. Engagement of full time Director
c. Recruitment of core staff like SRPs & DRPs
d. Bank account of SAU
e. Finalization of Social Audit Calendar by 31st March 2016
g. Districts to publish Social Audit Calendar of their blocks/panchayats in the leading dailies of the State and also give wider publicity in the areas of Audit (Panchayat or Ward).
h. Vigilance Monitoring Committees (VMCs)/Panchayat Audit Committees (PACs) comprising of five members (not members of panchayat) with two women members to be constituted in every panchayat.
i. Capacity building of the Vigilance Monitoring Committees/Panchayat Audit Committees regarding Social Audit by IMPA & RD.
j. Training module to be developed in consultation with IMPA & RD, and AG (Audit), J&K.
k. Work files to be constructed on the pattern devised by the Administrative Department.
l. Training on book keeping and record maintenance to field functionaries.
m. Joint inspections will be conducted by the District Audit Teams and Team of AG to evaluate performance and compliance of the MGNREGA guidelines.

xiv. **Expenditure on Agriculture and Allied Activities at the District level:** In the current financial year, in 18 Districts (Anantnag- 50%, Badgam- 50.65%, Bandipora- 50.11%, Baramulla- 48.9%, Doda- 53.83%, Ganderbal-52.92%, Jammu-38.25%, Kargil- 48.44%, Kathua- 43.92%, Kulgam- 56.64%, Leh (Ladakh)- 58.69%, Pulwama- 42.19%, Ramban-53.04%, Reasi- 58.45%, Samba- 44.46%, Shopian- 43.78%, Srinagar- 39.48% and Udhampur- 54.97%), 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.

xv. **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
xvi. **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.

xvii. **Annual Master Circular:** Annual Master Circular needs to be translated and disseminated to the field latest by 31.03.2016.

xviii. **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.

xix. **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.

xx. **Research and Evaluation studies:** The State should commission research and evaluation studies on relevant areas under MGNREGA and share the same with the Ministry.

xxi. **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 Secretary (RD), Government of Jammu and Kashmir may be submitted by 30.04.2016.

3. The Empowered Committee agreed to the Labour Budget of **263.65 lakh persondays (PDs)** for FY 2016-17 for the State of Jammu and Kashmir. 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 LB to the Ministry latest by 31\textsuperscript{st} 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 16.03.2016 FOR FINALISING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE STATE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR FOR FY 2016-17.

MoRD Officials

1. Shri Amarjeet Sinha, Additional Secretary
2. Dr. Santhosh Mathew, JS (Skills)
3. Shri Atal Dulloo, JS (NRLM)
4. Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, JS (RE)
5. Shri Prasant Kumar, JS (A&C)
6. Shri P.K. Sarangi, JS (RE-III)
7. Shri Prashant Mittal, Senior Technical Director
8. Dr. Suparna S. Pachouri, Director
9. Shri Prasanna V. Salian, Assistant Commissioner
10. Shri Ashutosh, PO (ICT)
11. Shri Ritesh Saxena, PO (ICT)

State Officials

1. Shri. Khurshid Ahmad Shah Secretary
2. Shri. K.K. Sidha, Additional Secretary

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