No. G-31011/3/2016-MGNREGA-V
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
Dated: 30th March, 2016

To
The Secretary
Rural Development Department
Government of Bihar
Patna- 800001

Sir,

This is in reference to the meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 21.03.2016 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 Bihar.

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

Yours faithfully,

(Ajay Kumar Sumbly)
Deputy Secretary (MGNREGA)

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 Bihar under What’s New Section and Circular>Planning>Labour Budget”.
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE ON STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SRDP) INCLUDING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE STATE OF BIHAR FOR FY 2016-17.

DATE: 21.03.2016

A meeting of the Empowered Committee for the State of Bihar for the Financial Year 2016-17 was held on 21.03.2016 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development in Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi. The State Government of Bihar was represented by Shri Arvind Kumar Chaudhary, 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. No.</th>
<th>Targets for the Focus Areas</th>
<th>No./Length in Km.</th>
<th>Average Unit Cost (in Rs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Construction of Farm Ponds</td>
<td>15000</td>
<td>1.5 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Construction of Vermi Compost / NADEP Tanks</td>
<td>40000</td>
<td>25000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Construction of IHHL</td>
<td>2.31 lakh</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Construction of AWC Buildings</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>6.90 lakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Roadside Plantation</td>
<td>20,000 Units (200 Plants/unit)</td>
<td>3.0 lakh</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 targets district-wise. **State should upload the district-wise targets in NREGA Soft by 31.03.2016.**

ii. **Completion of Incomplete Works:** Since inception till 31.03.2015, the percentage of works completed is 63.41 %. During FY 2015-16 (as on 21.03.2016), the percentage of works completed is 5.57 %. It is advised that all works taken up till 31.03.2015 should be
completed and this Ministry’s letter dated 17.03.2016 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 (309854) as on 31.03.2015 by 31.07.2016 without fail.

iii. **Public Works relating to Natural Resource Management (NRM):** Out of total works, 80,690 number of works (14.86 % 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 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 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, 1,24,835 number of works (22.99 % of the total works) have been taken up on private lands in FY 2015-16 (as on 21.03.2016). 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:** The Planning process under MGNREGA for works of 2017-18 should be seamlessly integrated with the process of planning for the Gram Panchayat Development Plan. The State will send an action plan on the method of integration of the two processes and issue detailed guidelines for operationalising this.

vi. **Training of Technical Personnel:** State should finalize the Training Calendar and share it with the Ministry by 31.05.2016. SAMARTHYA technical Training Manual (MGNREGA) should be translated in local language by 30.04.2016 and uploaded on the state website (with a link to NREGA soft) before the start of training. The training of District Technical Resource Teams of 61 EE/AE officials should be completed by 31.05.2016 and training of Block Technical Resource Teams of 977 Panchayat Technical Assistants and 665 JE officials should be completed by 30.06.2016.
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:** Following from the two rounds of participatory planning, the next round must include the integration of the SHG network in the following manner; SHGs formally involved in planning for works (individual and community), SHGs participation in Gram Sabha on prioritization of works, SHGs demand for works for improving their livelihood to be included in MGNREGA Shelf of Works.

ix. **Expediting Aadhaar Seeding Process:** As of now, there are 38.93 lakh active workers, out of which 2.58 lakh (6.6%) have been seeded in MIS. Against the Aadhaar numbers seeded in MIS, no account 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 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.

x. **Skilling the unskilled MGNREGA workers:** The State needs to implement Project LIFE-MGNREGA, in a mission mode to achieve the targets finalized in consultation with the States and duly communicated to them. The target/spillover of FY 15-16 will be added to target of FY 16-17 as proposed by the State in Labour Budget meeting. The combined target is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combined Target as per SSP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skillling for Wages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 15-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5289</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State has requested for reimbursement of expenditure under Skillling for Wages component. The same was approved.
xi. **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:

   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  
   f. Notification of Governing Body

xii. **Expenditure on Agriculture and Allied Activities at the District level:** In 28 districts out of 38 districts, 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.

xiii. **Strengthening of Monitoring mechanism:** Monitoring mechanism with emphasis on field supervision needs to be strengthened in the State.

xiv. **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.

xv. **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 Bihar may be submitted by 30.04.2016.

xvi. **Annual Master Circular:** Annual Master Circular should be translated and disseminated in the field latest by 31.03.2016.

xvii. **Barefoot Technician (BFT):** The State should conduct training for 500 BFT in batches of 30 participants each. The State will nominate the participants by 1st week of April 2016.
Clustering Facilitation Team (CFT): The State will take a review to the CFT project and operationalise it fully with a 9 persons each per Block in 25 Blocks.

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.

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 1425 lakh Person days (PDs) for FY 2016-17 for the State of Bihar. 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.
LIST OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE HELD ON 10.03.2016 FOR FINALISING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE STATE OF BIHAR FOR FY 2016-17.

MoRD Officials

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

State Officials

1. Shri Arvind Kumar Choudhary, Secretary, Rural Development
2. Shri Aditya Kumar Das, Director
3. Shri C.P. Khanduja, Director