To
The Secretary
Community & Rural Development Department
Government of Meghalaya
Additional Secretariat Building
Shillong- 793001

Subject: Labour Budget of Meghalaya under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA for the FY 2017-18-reg.

Sir,

This is in reference to the meeting of the Empowered Committee held on 27.02.2017 at Krishi Bhawan, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi to discuss and scrutinize Labour Budget Estimates under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for 2017-18 submitted by Government of Meghalaya.

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

Yours faithfully,

(Rajeev Sharma)
Under Secretary (MGNREGA)

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 (whats New/Labour Budget head) as ‘Minutes of Meeting of Labour Budget 2017-18 for Meghalaya
Minutes of the Empowered Committee meeting on Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Labour Budget (LB) for MEGHALAYA for FY 2017-18.
Date: 27.02.2017

A meeting of the Empowered Committee for the State of Meghalaya for the Financial Year 2017-18 was held on 27.02.2017, Ministry of Rural Development at Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi. The State Government of Meghalaya was represented by Sh. P. Sampath Kumar, Commissioner & Secretary, Community & Rural Development. The list of other participants is given in Annexure I.

2. After going through the State presentation and due discussions on various aspects of MGNREGA implementation in Meghalaya, the Committee had the following observations:

i. Commitments of the State with regard to Focus Areas: The targets taken up by the State as noted by the Ministry, are as under for FY 2017-18:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Type of Work</th>
<th>Commitments for FY 17-18 (including spillovers)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Farm Ponds</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vermi/ NADEP Composting</td>
<td>20000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AWC</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Road Side Plantation (in Km)</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>*IHHL</td>
<td>21037</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Figure as per PMAY(G) targets

The state will upload district-wise targets in NREGASoft by 31.03.2017 and ensure its achievement in a planned manner.

ii. Completion of Incomplete Works: The status of completion of works in Meghalaya was observed to be as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>No. of Works taken-up</th>
<th>Works Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Numbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Till FY 2014-15</td>
<td>56178</td>
<td>54300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Till FY 2015-16</td>
<td>66124</td>
<td>61568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Till FY 2016-17 (as on date)</td>
<td>81237</td>
<td>61809</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As on date, 4556 works or 6.8% are incomplete out of the works taken up since inception till 31st March, 2016. It is advised that all works taken up till 31.03.2016 should be completed by 30.06.2017. The State will also examine reasons for large
number of incomplete works and make efforts for completing all incomplete works as on 31.03.2017 by 30.09.2017 without fail.

iii. Delay in Payment of Wages: In FY 2016-17 (so far) 91.09% of wage payments have got delayed. This is a matter of concern for the Ministry. The state needs to chalk out its strategy for minimizing the delay in payments. The strategy, so chalked out, will be shared with the Ministry latest within 15 days of the LB meeting. If the situation of delay payment does not improve considerably, it may adversely impact the release of funds in future.

iv. GeoMGNREGA: Every asset that gets completed in FY 2017-18 has to be mandatorily geo-tagged. As on 27.02.2017, Meghalaya has generated 17694 no of Asset Ids against 61809 number of works completed since inception of the programme. 8452 number of assets have been accepted and geotagged. There are also1839 number of registered MSEs without any geotags. State has agreed to ensure that registration of MSEs for all locations is completed by 31st March, 2017 and all locations with nil geotag start geotagging by 31st March, 2017.

v. Natural Resource Management (NRM) Works: Out of total works, 31.58% have been taken up as NRM works (both community & individual) in FY 2016-17. The State has conducted workshop as per the Mission Water (MWC) Framework shared on 1st Nov, 2016. The State needs to revisit the works to be taken up under NRM and make them part of DIP in these Blocks.

vi. 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 for vulnerable rural households. An analysis of the performance of the number of individual assets being created reveals that, out of the total works, 5177 number of works (26.89% of the total works) have been taken up on private lands in FY 2016-17 (as on 27.02.2017). The State is expected to take up more works under individual category and get them completed on time.

vii. Construction of roads in accordance with the standard specifications: A considerable percentage of expenditure is made on construction of roads every year. The Ministry vide its letter no. P-17026/1/2015-RC dated 17.11.2016 has standardised its specifications for all non-PMGSY roads to be taken up under MGNREGA programme. In FY 2017-18, the standard specifications as laid down in the advisory will be strictly adhered to by the state.

viii. Job Card (JC) Verification/ Updation: JC verification and updation exercise in the state of Meghalaya has led to verification/ updation of 93.43% of active and 90.37% all JC holders. However, there are still 48375 Job Cards (including 30148 active Job Cards) which need to be verified and updated. The state will complete this exercise by 30.04.2017. State is also expected to random check JC to ensure consistency of field
and MIS data.

ix. Adoption of Seven Register in the Gram Panchayat: Out of the 6260 GPs in the state of Meghalaya, 2005 GPs have adopted Asset Register and 1610 have adopted all the seven Registers. This good governance initiative should be completed by 30.04.2017. State should randomly check the maintenance these registers at the GPs to ensure proper maintenance.

x. SECC data and deprived households: The state of Meghalaya has 327506 number of deprived households as per the SECC data. Out of these, 140477 are landless households dependent upon manual casual labour. The SECC mapping to be completed by 30.04.2017. The state should make special endeavours to complete the survey at the earliest as well as issue job cards to all willing households dependent upon manual casual labour by 31.05.2017.

xi. Social Audit: The State has established the independent Social Audit Unit (SAU). Staffing of SAU status is as under:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Director</th>
<th>SRPs</th>
<th>DRPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanctioned</td>
<td>Engaged</td>
<td>Sanctioned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The state should complete the engaging and placement of all staffs by 30th June, 2017.

95 number of resource persons are to be trained of which only 34 has been trained. Trainings of resource persons at all levels should be completed by 30.04.2017 and details should be shared with the Ministry. The State representative informed that they are bringing a Social Audit bill by virtue of which all Social assistance schemes including MGNREGA would come under the purview of Social Audit. 3866 Social Audit had been conducted in the state. However, none of these report uploaded on NREGAsoft.

xii. Framing of Grievance Redressal Rules and appointment of Ombudsman

The State has not framed Grievance Redressal Rules. The Rules are required to be framed latest by 30th April 2017 and the same will have to be implemented in true letter and spirit. Besides, there are 7 districts which have no Ombudsman. Steps will be taken to fill up all the vacant seats with fresh engagement of Ombudsman latest by 30th June 2017.

xiii. e-FMS Universalisation: 100% e-FMS universalisation for wage and material payment has been initiated from 1st December 2016 onwards. However, the
administrative charges will be under e-FMS mode of payment w.e.f 1st April, 2017.

xiv. Bare Foot Technicians (BFTs) training and deployment: The State has identified 90 number of persons for BFT training. 30 members have been trained with certification. The State should finalise a deployment policy for the recruited BFTs and share a copy of the same with the Ministry by 31.03.2017.

xv. Project LIFE-MGNREGA implementation
The target for FY 2017-18, component wise are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill for Wages</th>
<th>Spill-over targets from FY 2016-17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skill for Self Employment</td>
<td>Spill-over targets from FY 2016-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livelihood upgradation</td>
<td>Spill-over targets from FY 2016-17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The targets include spill-over of FY 16-17.

xvi. Constitution of State Employment Guarantee Council (SEGC) and status of meetings
The state has constituted SEGC and conducted one meeting in the current FY.
Regular meetings may be conducted and minutes be shared with the Ministry within 15 days of the meeting.

xvii. Status of Compliance of audit observations of C&AG on Social Audit
With reference to Report 8 2016, the following audit paras are pending with state viz. 2.2, 2.3.1-2, 3.1.2, 3.2.1-2, 3.3-8, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6

xviii. Deployment and training of Technical personnel: The status of technical personnel deployment is as under:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESIGNATION</th>
<th>NUMBERS</th>
<th>COVERAGE AREA (no. of GPs : technical personnel)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assistant</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>6260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Engineer</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>5948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Engineer</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Engineer</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5349</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State should ensure that adequate technical personnel are deployed at all levels.

xix. Capacity building of Technical personnel- DTRT & BTRT Trainings
State should finalize the Training Calendar and share it with the Ministry by 31.03.2017 and complete the training of 291 officials as part of District/Block Technical Resource Teams on SAMARTHYA Technical Training Manual (MGNREGA) latest by 30th June 2017. State should also ensure that SAMARTHYA Technical Training Manual (MGNREGA) is translated into regional languages and uploaded on their website (with a link to NREGA soft) before the start of training.

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xx. Other issues:

- Performance under Project life is very dismal. The state needs to make effort to raise the performance.
- Only 4 Ombudsmen in place against 11. State needs to expedite and appoint Ombudsman in all 11 Districts.
- 52.49% GPs have no MSE registered and 29.39% GPs have registered MSE but no Geo-tagging done.
- General complaints 8 in number and 3 VIP references are pending. The State needs to take expeditious step to resolve the pending complaints.

3. The Empowered Committee agreed to the Labour Budget of **112.32 lakh Person days (PDs)** for FY 2017-18 for the State of Meghalaya. However, the state may always come up with a proposal for the revision of the LB, at any point of time of the year, if the performance of the state exceeds the agreed to LB.

4. 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 2017**. While doing so, the NRM component of LB in blocks identified under Mission Water Conservation should adhere to the guidelines. The uploading of this information in the MIS is an essential pre-condition for the release of funds in FY 2017-18.

5. 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 like Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana – NRLM (DAY-NRLM), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojna – Gramin (PMAY-G) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

\[\text{Signature}\]

\[28/2/17\]
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE HELD ON 27.02.2017 FOR FINALISING LABOUR BUDGET FOR THE STATE OF MEGHALAYA FOR FY 2017-18.

MoRD Officials

1. Sh. Nagesh Singh, Additional Secretary
2. Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, JS (MGNREGA)
3. Sh. Atal Dulloo, Joint Secretary (NRLM)
4. Sh. Prasant Kumar, Joint Secretary (RH, A&C)
5. Dr. Suparna S. Pachouri, Director (MGNREGA)
6. Sh. Sameer Verma, Director (RH)
7. Sh. Rajeev Sharma, Under Secretary, MGNREGA
8. Sh. Akhilesh Kumar, Assistant Director, MGNREGA
9. Sh. Ashutosh Gupta, PO (ICT)
10. Sh. Ritesh Saxena, PO (ICT)

State Officials

1. Sh. Sampath Kumar, Commissioner
2. Sh. George B. Lyngdoh, Joint Mission Director, SREC, Meghalaya
3. Ms. I. R. Sangama, Secretary