

Minutes of the review meeting of Panchayat and Rural Development Department by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam held on 06-06-2021

A review meeting of Panchayat and Rural Development Department was held on 06-06-2021 chaired by Dr.Himanta Biswa Sarma, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam in the presence of Sri Ranjeet Kumar Dass, Hon'ble Minister, Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Assam.

(Officers present in the meeting is at ***Annexure- I***)

After a threadbare discussion, the following decisions were taken:

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Generation Scheme (MGNREGS):

1. At the onset, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam sought for the details of all job card holders.
2. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam emphasized on making MGNREGS an output-oriented scheme which would help in asset creation in the rural areas. For this, there has to be a fundamental shift in MGNREGS. Schemes should be taken up in thematic and yearly basis which should also result in asset creation along with income generation for various institutions like schools, religious institutions, block offices etc. in the rural areas as well as individuals. All necessary guidelines and SOPs/model estimates for the same are to be issued from the P&RD department. The department has to prepare an agenda on how MGNREGS can be made meaningful resulting in huge asset creation in the rural areas through proper utilization of the resources allotted for the scheme.
3. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam instructed that the department should be judicious in taking up the schemes under MGNREGS during the flood season so that quality of works is not compromised and misuse of funds does not take place. Also, for the time being, till new guidelines are issued with respect to the proposed paradigm shift in MGNREGS, no new works are to be started. On-going schemes should be prioritized.
4. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam stated that the tea garden labourers specially the faltu/temporary labourers should be issued job cards so that during the lean period they may be engaged under MGNREGS. In this regard, schemes should be taken up through discussion with the Tea Garden Management Authorities so that necessary and required assets inside the garden like roads etc. can be created. Mandays generation in tea garden areas is to be made compulsory. Individual Asset Creations should also take place in the tea gardens.
5. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam said that income generating schemes like construction of fisheries in schools, religious places, block offices etc. to be taken up. Also, plantation of Agar/Chandan trees should be done. Similarly during the flood season plantation of fodder should be taken up.
6. In respect of material bills under MGNREGS, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam said that allocation of funds should be made block wise and should be based on the progress of the schemes undertaken. Timely payment of the bills should also be ensured. Material bills should be released only after proper verification of photographic evidence. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam would himself verify 100 schemes before release of fund under MGNREGS.
7. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam instructed the department to prepare presentations on the role of Deputy Commissioners in making MGNREGS a successful work-oriented asset creation scheme and on how a schematic approach can be adopted towards MGNREGS. Also, senior officers should be entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring of schemes.
8. It has been strictly stated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam that the department should keep a close watch on the implementation of schemes in Block and GP areas so that no middlemen is involved in the implementation process of any scheme under MGNREGS and other programmes.

Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G):

1. With respect to sanction of houses under PMAY-G, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam ordered that all the remaining eligible beneficiaries from the SECC list should be accorded sanction before the next review meeting.

2. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam asked the department to focus on the timely completion of already sanctioned houses. The Deputy Commissioners and the Superintendents of Police of the districts would be instructed to supervise and assist in faster construction of houses. He also asked the Principal Secretary to HCM, to conduct a video conference with the DCs of the worst performing districts with respect to completion of already sanctioned PMAY-G houses.
3. On being apprised on the issue of landless beneficiaries under the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam decided that the issue would be taken up with the respective DCs. Also, the matter of obtaining NOCs from the Tea Garden Management Authorities for the PMAY-G beneficiaries of the tea gardens to be pursued.
4. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam suggested that sanction letters of PMAY houses are to be given to the beneficiaries of the scheme by organizing Sanmilans in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister, P&RD, Assam, the concerned DCs and senior officials of the department. Also, workshops be organized to create general awareness among the beneficiaries on how to procure the necessary raw materials and complete the houses on time.
5. On being briefed on the expected brick shortage that may arise and stand as an obstacle for timely completion of the houses, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam directed that the material requirements for the scheme are to be ascertained by the department. At the same time, the DCs and DCCs of the districts are to be asked to submit a report on the current availability of bricks in their respective districts. He stated that maximum rates for bricks and cement would be fixed so that the prices of these raw materials are not inflated as a result of increase of demand.
6. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam has asked the department to seek all the remaining targets of PMAY-G from the centre.

Finance Commission:

1. With respect to the Finance Commission Grants, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam sought for the present guidelines for both tied and untied funds. He directed the department to prepare the list of works to be undertaken in the field in consultation with the Hon'ble Minister, P&RD, Assam and sanction funds accordingly to the districts. Such works should also be thematic, taken up on yearly basis and revised guidelines to be prepared accordingly and shared with the panchayats.
2. With the finance commission untied fund, renovation of tinned roofs of schools are to be done for which specification of the tin to be used are to be made by the department and panchayats are to be instructed accordingly.
3. With respect to the convergence with the PHE department for the utilization of funds under tied grants, an immediate meeting of the P&RD department and PHE department is to be scheduled with the Hon'ble Minister, P&RD, Assam.
4. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam on being apprised about the issue of pending remunerations of the current and the previous PRI members, directed that the pending remuneration of the current PRI members will be booked under the State Finance Commission Devolution Grant immediately and the remunerations of the previous term PRI members will also be covered by the State Finance Commission grants in 3 (three) instalments in the coming years.

National Social Assistance Program:

1. After being briefed on the number of beneficiaries being covered under the ongoing national as well as state social assistance programmes, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam asked the department to prepare a list of consolidated grants-the pension schemes of both central and state government, Orunodoi scheme, NFSA scheme - received by a single household at GP level. This will reflect the total assistance received by a household under various schemes of the government.

Assam State Rural Livelihood Mission:

1. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam instructed the MD, ASRLM to compile a data on the women of minority and vulnerable areas engaged in the Self Help Groups. He also directed to design a communicative and counselling based plan to bring these women under the ambit of social reforms like small family, hygienic condition etc.
2. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam announced that the Bank Sakhis, Krishi Sakhis and Pasu Sakhis will also be given scooties and ASLRM is to prepare the budgetary allotment for the same.

3. Regarding the DDU-GKY scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam directed that training should be imparted to develop skills which are need based resulting in employment generation, like driving etc. Also, the schemes under DDU-GKY to be correlated with Skill Mission.
4. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam directed the MD, ASRLM to submit fund proposal under KAMS for capital subsidy.
5. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam has also directed the transfer of the officials who have been serving in one place for more than 3 (three) years.

State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development (SIPRD), Assam:

1. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam asked the Director, SIPRD to prepare a list where Panchayat Bhawans are required and prepare a standard model and estimate for the same. Also, necessary steps are to be taken for early completion of civil works under RGSA.

Miscellaneous:

1. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam directed that the post of Sr. BDO to be notified through a Cabinet Memorandum within one month and to be filled up by IAS and ACS officers. All vacancies in the department will be filled up by conducting a common examination based on the ROP pay band.
2. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam suggested that Gunotsav type of programmes can be taken up in the panchayats.
3. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam also instructed that BDOs and GP Secretaries who have been serving for more than 3 years in a district should be transferred to another district. For this, the districts should be divided into five zones and shuffling of the BDOs/GP Secretaries is to be done zone and district-wise respectively.
4. While carrying out any inspection, if schemes are not found in the field, strict action should be initiated against the concerned PRI member and GP secretary.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the chair.

Sd/-
(Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma)
Chief Minister, Assam


Memo No. PRD-12019/14/2020-PRD (B)/35- A

Dated Dispur, the 16th June, 2021.

Copy for information and necessary action to :-

1. The Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam.
2. The Commissioner, Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam, Juripar, Panjabari, Ghy-37.
3. The Principal Secretary ,BTC, Kokrajhar/KAAC, Diphu/DHAC, Haflong, Dima Hasao
4. S.O. to the Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Dispur, Ghy-06.
5. The Deputy Commissioner,, Assam.
6. The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad,....., Assam.
7. The Project Director, DRDA,....., Assam.
8. P. S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Panchayat & Rural Development, etc. Department.
9. P.S. to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Panchayat & Rural Development Department, Dispur.
10. The Secretary/Addl Secretary/ Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Panchayat & Rural Development Department, Dispur.

By Order etc.


Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Panchayat & Rural Development Department



List of Officials present in the meeting		
Sl. No	Name	Designation
1	Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma	Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam
2	Shri Ranjeet Kr. Dass	Hon'ble Minister, P&RD, Assam
3	Shri Samir Kr. Sinha, IAS	Principal Secretary to HCM, Assam
4	Dr. JB Ekka, IAS	Principal Secretary to Govt. of Assam, P&RD Deptt.
5	Smt. Jolly Das Brahma, ACS	Commissioner & Secretary P&RD, Assam
6	Shri Hemen Das, IAS	Secretary P&RD, Commissioner, P&RD
7	Smt. Juri Doley, ACS	Additional Secretary P&RD, Director SIPRD, Assam
8	Smt. Krishna Baruah, ACS	State Mission Director, ASRLM
9	Sri Mriganka Choudhury, ACS	Joint Director, P&RD, Assam
10	Sri Rupak Kr. Mazumder, Retd. IAS	PM & EO, P&RD, Assam
11	Sri H. Doley	Director, Social Audit, Assam