

86191/2019/MOPR
Rahul Bhatnagar, IAS
Secretary



भारत सरकार
पंचायती राज मंत्रालय
डॉ. राजेन्द्र प्रसाद रोड, कृषि भवन,
नई दिल्ली - 110001
Government of India
Ministry of Panchayati Raj
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, Krishi Bhawan,
New Delhi-110001

D.O. No. K-11015/1/2018-CB

Dated: 01st March, 2019

Dear *Chief Secretary,*

As you are aware, the Government has been implementing the restructured Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) from the current financial year. This important core scheme of the Government of India was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 24.04.2018 on the occasion of the National Panchayati Raj Day. The scheme primarily focuses on strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with main thrust on convergence with Mission Antyodaya and emphasis on strengthening PRIs in the 117 Aspirational Districts. During 2018-19, Annual Action Plans of 32 States / UTs had been approved and funds accordingly provisioned.

2. With a view to expeditiously implement the scheme and for achieving the stipulated objectives in a progressive manner, this Ministry has taken the initiative for approval of the Annual Action Plans of all States / UTs by the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of RGSA for the year 2019-20, **well in advance so that the States / UTs have full year for implementation of their approved activities.** Towards this end, the 3rd meeting of the CEC of RGSA was held on 22nd and 23rd February, 2019. A copy of the minutes of that meeting is enclosed for your information and necessary action which also contains the details of the activities / components / funds recommended by the CEC with reference to the Annual Action Plan for 2019-20 of your State / UT. Requisite financial sanction for release of funds based on UCs and supporting documents submitted by the respective States will be issued in due course.

3. While sharing the above details with you, I hope that your State Government must have made provision for the matching State share in the State budget for 2019-20 in line with the provisions of funding pattern provided under RGSA. This may please be ensured for smooth fund release and implementation of interventions under the scheme in the coming financial year. Further, it is also requested that the necessary **preparatory activities such as identification of implementation agencies, mobilisation of necessary manpower resources etc may also be completed before the start of the next financial year** so that the Action Plan is taken up for implementation in full swing w.e.f. early April 2019 itself. It will be advisable and appropriate that the activities approved under the Annual Action Plan are evenly spaced out through the year 2019-20, ensuring that such arrangement obviates the possibility of rush of activities at the closing end of financial year 2019-20.

4. The task of the State Government will become quite easy and expeditious if a Calendar of activities to be undertaken month-wise during 2019-20 is drawn up at the very start of the financial year. This will enable the concerned authorities to pay proper attention for the completion of the activities slated for respective timelines, and for

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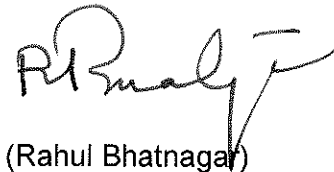
monitoring the implementation of the Scheme. I would request that the Calendar of activities so drawn up may be shared with us.

5. I would like to reiterate that as per instructions of Ministry of Finance it has become mandatory for all States/UTs/implementing agencies to adopt the Expenditure Advance Transfer (EAT) modules on Public Financial Management System (PFMS) in respect of all Centrally Sponsored Schemes/Central Sector Schemes including RGSA. Therefore, you may also direct the concerned officials to ensure necessary action in this regard, if the same has not been already complied with.

6. I also take this opportunity to express the unstinted support of this Ministry in the endeavour to strengthen PRIs, and look forward to a progressive and fruitful year of implementation of RGSA under your leadership.

With regards

Yours sincerely



(Rahul Bhatnagar)

Chief Secretaries,
All States / UTs

Copy to: Principal Secretaries / Secretaries, Panchayati Raj Department of all
States / UTs