

K-11015/12/2015-DPE
Government of India Ministry of Panchayati Raj
(DPE Division)

Sardar Patel Bhawan, Parliament Street,
New Delhi-110001
Dated: 2/7/2015

Subject: Minutes of the 1st meeting of Central Executive Committee (CEC) of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) for 2015-16 under the chairpersonship of Secretary (PR) on 22.6.2015 in the conference room of Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

In supersession of this Ministry's communication of even no dated 25/6/2015 on the above mentioned subject, the undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of the **revised minutes** of the first meeting of CEC of RGPSA for 2015-16 for information and necessary action.



(S. K. Upadhyay)
Under Secretary
Tele. 011-23346341

To,

- (i) All members of the Central Executive Committee (CEC)**
- (ii) All participants of the meeting**

Copy to: Sr. PPS to Secretary (PR)
PA to JS(SM)

Ministry of Panchayati Raj

(DPE Division)

Minutes of the first meeting of the Central Executive Committee (CEC), RGPSA held on 22.06.2015

The First meeting of the Central Executive Committee (CEC), RGPSA was held under the chairpersonship of Shri. S.M. Vijayanand, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj at 10:00 am. onwards in Conference Room of Ministry of Panchayati Raj, 11th Floor, LIC Building, K. G. Marg, New Delhi. The list of participants is at Annexure – I.

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the members of the CEC to the meeting. Thereafter, Smt. Sarada Muraleedharan, Joint Secretary, MoPR and Member Secretary of the CEC informed the members that the discussion includes the status of the implementation of NPTA 2014-15 as well as the budget of NPTA 2015-16.

Agenda item 1 – status of implementation of NPTA 14-15

The members of CEC reviewed the status of implementation of National Plan for Technical Assistance 2014-15. JS SM informed that the proposals for innovations from NGOs could not be taken forward as the funds under the scheme had been reduced drastically at RE stage.

Agenda item 2 – NPTA 15-16

The proposed budget of NPTA 2015-16 was then presented. The NPTA 2015-16 proposal included the items

1. Thematic awards to panchayats
2. Beacon panchayats and peer learning Centres
3. Developing financial and administrative operative systems as relevant to individual States for roll out of FFC awards
4. Support to School of local Governnace in NIRD&PR
5. Faculty development of SIRD
6. Performance assessment frameworks
7. Thematic modules
8. Workshops and National Consultations
9. E-governance
10. Knowledge repository on Panchayati Raj
11. Innovative Projects.

The Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj informed the members that under the FFC award, funds to the tune of Rs. 200292.2 Crores would be allocated to Gram Panchayats of the country. The funds will directly go to the Gram Panchayats. Out of the total funds 90% of the grant would flow to States as Basic Grant for the services such as sanitation, playground,

water, health etc. and 10% as Performance Grant. Basic Grants have to be passed to the Gram Panchayats within fifteen days of receipt by the State Government. In case SFC has not fixed such a formula, the Basic 2 Grants would be distributed with 90% weightage for population as per 2011 Census and 10% for area. Hence, it was estimated that 26% of the funds would be going to the states of UP and Bihar.

He further stated that w.e.f. from 2015-16, the state component has been delinked from the scheme. The fund to the tune of Rs. 60.00 Cr. has been provided for activities to be undertaken under the scheme at Central Level through National Plan for Technical Assistance (NPTA). In view of the limited resources the ministry has prioritized some activities to be under taken under NPTA 2015-16 and requested CEC members to give their comment on the prioritization of the activities proposed.

SPR informed that the matter has been taken up with Ministry of Finance for providing some some funds under State plan component of RGPSA for support to states towards capacity building and training, institutional structure for training, e-enablement, Satcom and PMU however, in view of limited funds it would not be possible for supporting administrative and technical manpower and GP construction.

Thereafter, the activities prioritized for 2015-16 were put for discussion.

1. Beacon Panchayats and peer learning Centres:

A new initiative was proposed by Ministry of Panchayati Raj as 50 Gram Panchayats and 15 Block Panchayats across the country will be selected as best practices immersion sites for peer learning in various thematic areas of Local Governance such as sanitation, Natural Resource Management, drinking water, own source of revenue, MGNREGA, social sector etc. This proposed activity includes process documentation of 65 panchayats, augmentation and institutionalization of best practice in 50 Gram panchayats and 15 Block Panchayats , Capacitating of 350 Field visit coordinators , assistance to SIRD for supervisory and handholding support to peer learning centres. The amount proposed for the activity was 14.00 Cr.

On a query from Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram regarding criteria for identifying such beacon panchayats, it was clarified that a selection process involving Experts and field visits would need to be prescribed, and that awardee panchayats could be brought in to the universe of panchayats from which selection was undertaken. Shri Mahipal, Dir, MoRD suggested that District Panchayats should also be covered for Beacon panchayats as there might be some district Panchayats might also be doing exemplary work. It was clarified that since for the present the decision has been taken for GP and BP, the proposal regarding DP would be considered in the next phase subject to availability of funds.

CEC decision : Rs 14 Cr approved for the proposal of beacon panchayats, and amount of Rs 6 CR to be utilised in the current year. The scope of taking up District panchayats as beacon panchayats to be considered in Phase II of the scheme.

2. Developing Financial and administrative operating system as relevant to individual states for roll out of the FFC award

Development of 5 types of manuals, was proposed under this head. These were to be contextualised to each State. It was recommended that the manual on Office management cover Rules of Business as well. In view of the specialised expertise required in developing budgeting, accounting and audit manuals relevant to each of the States, it was agreed that the work may be assigned to the Indian Institute of Public Auditors.

CEC decision : Rs. 5 Cr. was approved by CEC for developing the manuals as detailed in the agenda note

3. Support to the School of local governance(SLG) in NIRD & PR

Secretary informed to CEC members that in pursuance of recommendation of Alagh committee for reform and revamp of the NIRD, it was envisaged to set up the school of local self governance at NIRD& PR by subsuming centre for Panchayati Raj. This will work as think tank, work on policy research related issues & policy advocacy, focus on training and capacity building and also work on knowledge management. It was proposed that the area of panchayats and community participation may be elaborated to incorporate social mobilisation and partnership with SHG networks too. As it was imperative for this Ministry to take a lead role in supporting the SLG, for certain critical activities, an amount of Rs. 7 Cr. is proposed to be earmarked.

CEC decision : Approved. Funds to be released on the basis of Plan submitted by NIRD&PR

4. Faculty Development of SIRD

National & regional level workshops/ consultations, module development and dissemination as proposed was concurred by CEC. It was discussed in the meeting with CEC members that the consultation/workshop would focus on the module of training for ERs including participatory training methodologies, training need assessment, evaluation of trainings done by SIRDs. Besides training modules on PRI -CBO convergence in the wake of the efforts at Convergence with NRLM should also be listed as priority under this activity. It was discussed that SPRCs needed to be restored on priority and to be funded centrally if funds were not available under the State component. It was also decided that funding support for SPMUs if required, could be met from the NPTA.

CEC decision : Approved.

5. Performance Assessment Framework

CEC decision : The CEC approved Rs. 50 lakh for the development/modification of software program(MIS) for the assessment of performance in the specific area for the thematic award and further dissemination among the states, and for developing State specific performance assessment frameworks.

6. Thematic modules

The CEC discussed the various material being developed under the SCPRI project. On query from Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram, regarding state's response to the material AS(RSS) informed that the feed back from the States on the earlier developed resource material was very positive. However due to resource crunch, States were not able to translate the developed resource material in local/regional language.

Dr. Mahi Pal Director, MoRD suggested that the hand books addressing practical implementation issues faced by ERs would be useful. It was clarified that the resource material under the project were developed/ being developed to cover the roles of panchayats in certain thematic areas like sanitation, water, animal husbandry, health etc. and that resolving state and district specific operational issues was not currently envisaged.

CEC decision : Approved Rs 67 lakh as proposed

7. Workshops

The CEC considered the proposal to hold various consultations and Workshops for developing strategies and solutions relevant to improving the quality and reach of local governance. It was informed that two such undertakings have already been initiated in the current year –

- a. National Peer learning workshop on Own Source Revenue Generation by Panchayats
- b. National Write shop for GP Development Plan through Participatory Planning

CEC decision : Approved an amount of Rs 1.72 Cr. for holding of workshops /consultations.

8. E-Governance

The CEC considered the proposal for under taking certain activities under e- goverence at Ministry of Panchayati Raj level viz .maintenance of PES and development of other applications by NIC (Rs 14.31 Cr.), NPMU at Ministry of Panchayati Raj (Rs 1.83 Cr), Capacity building including workshop, Hardware and system software.

CEC members stressed the need to strengthen both SPMU & DPMU. It was agreed that the support for SPMU would be restored under the central component in case of non availability of funds under the State plan component of RGPSA.

CEC decision : Approved amount of Rs 18.76 Cr for listed activities.

9. Knowledge repository on Panchayat Raj

It was agreed that the capture/documentation and dissemination of reports, manual, acts, rules related to Panchayati Raj in all the states should be the joint responsibility of NIRD&PR and Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

CEC decision : Approved amount of Rs 1 Cr. For the activity

10. Innovation Projects

JS(SM) informed CEC members that although the RGPSA guidelines allow for supporting innovation projects up to Rs. 10 cr. under central component. Due to limited funds, Rs 3 Cr. was proposed for the innovative projects.

To a query from Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram regarding financial assistance for the GPOD project in Karnataka State under innovation category which was approved by CEC as part of annual Plan of the State of Karnataka for 2014-15, it was informed that the first instalment of the approved plan including the GPOD project had been released. Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram suggested that priority should be given to incomplete project sanctioned during 2014-15 to complete the project before considering the new proposal.

CEC decision : Approved Rs 3cr. for innovative projects, with first charge to already sanctioned project

11. Incentivisation of States for Devolution

The committee was informed that this year due to funds constraints the PRI PSP awards would be met from the state component of RGPSA if the funds under the State component were made available. It was further informed that from this year, thematic PSP awards would be introduced for the following themes

1. MGNREGS
2. Sanitation
3. Civic Services: Drinking water, street light, infrastructure : further split into
 1. Drinking water
 2. Streetlights and other civic services including e enabled services
4. Natural Resource Management
5. Work for marginalized sections: further divided as –
 1. Women
 2. SC and/or ST
 3. Other marginalised groups like disabled, senior citizens etc.
6. Performance in social sectors: education, health, child development etc.
7. Disaster management
8. Individuals/CBOs etc. taking voluntary actions to help and support Panchayat/supplementing efforts of Panchayats etc.
9. Innovation in Revenue Generation.

However, the awards to the State Governments, especially for incremental improvement in devolution would have to be met from the Central Component and Rs 15 Cr is proposed to be earmarked.

Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram member CEC suggested that in view of crunch of funds, the option of giving the states certificates as was done during 2014-15 should be examined, especially if other components needed greater allocation.

CEC Decision : Approved, subject to prioritisation of expenditure of other elements of the NPTA approved above and availability of funds

Dr. Meenakshi Sundaram suggested that in view of critical strategic activities proposed to under taken by Ministry of Panchayati Raj during the current year in the realm of 14th FC awards coupled with limited availability of funds under the national component, Secretary may reallocate the funds approved for different activities. The above proposal was approved by CEC.

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

National Plan for Technical Assistance (NPTA)

S.No.	Activity	Cost details	Total cost approved by CEC (Rs. in Crore)
1	Panchayat Incentivization- Thematic awards to Panchayats	As per approved criteria	15.00
2	Beacon Panchayats and Peer Learning Centers	-	6.00
3	Developing financial and administrative operating systems as relevant to individual States for roll out of the FFC award	<p>Development of State specific manuals @ Rs 0.75 Cr in following areas:</p> <p>Planning Office management Procurement Budgeting Development of State specific Audit and Accounts Manual @ Rs 1.5 Cr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compilation and study of existing manuals - Development of content - State specific adaptations - National Stakeholder consultations - Dissemination and adoption <p>System and process innovations (Rs. 0.50 Cr)</p>	5.00
4	Support to the School of local governance in NIRD&PR	-	7.00
5	Faculty development of SIRD	<p>(i) One national and 3 regional workshops/consultations : Rs 50 lakh</p> <p>(ii) Module development and dissemination in 5 states : Rs 25 lakh</p>	0.75
6	Performance Assessment		0.50

	Frameworks		
7	Thematic modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of resource material : Rs 20 lakh - Implementation of PESA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Support to identified organisation to spearhead GP level campaign in 1 GP in 10 states o Handbook on governance in PESA areas 	0.67
8	Workshops	<p>(i) Regional workshops for adoption of specific materials: - Rs. 0.60 cr.</p> <p>(ii) National TOTs: Rs 0.40 cr.</p> <p>(iii) Workshop for Schedule VI areas and UTs: Rs 0.10 cr.</p> <p>(iv) National Consultations on specific areas of Panchayati Raj : Rs. 0.12 cr.</p> <p>(v) National peer learning workshops and Writeshops (Rs 0.50 Cr)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own Source Revenue • GP development plan through participatory planning 	1.72
9	E governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance of PES and other applications by NIC : Rs 14.31 Cr - NPMU at MoPR – Rs 1.83 Cr - Capacity building workshop - Hardware and system software 	18.76
10	Knowledge repository on Panchayati Raj	-	1.00
11	Innovative Projects	As per approved criteria	3.00
	Total		60.00

List of Participants

(Annexure-1)

S.No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri S.M. Vijayanand	Secretary, MoPR
2.	Shri A.K. Goyal	Additional Secretary, MoPR
3.	Smt. Rashmi Sukhla Sharma	Additional Secretary (RGPSA), MoPR
4.	Smt. Neerja Sekhar	Joint Secretary (PESA), MoPR
5.	Shri Sushil Kumar	Joint Secretary, MoPR
6.	Smt. Sarada Muraleedharan	Joint Secretary, MoPR
7.	Dr N.K. Sahu	Econ. Advisor, Dept. of School Education and Literacy
8.	Shri B.D. Viridi	Adviser NITI Aayog
9.	Smt. P.P. Syamala Devi	Dist. Panchayat President, Kasargod
10.	Shri S.M. Zulfiquar Ulla	Director, Panchayati Raj RD & PR Dept. govt. of Karnataka
11.	Shri Dilip Kumar	Director (IFD), MoPR, New Delhi
12.	Shri Rakesh Chaturvedi	Dy. Director, Dept. of Panchayati Raj (Representing Principal Secretary P.R., U.P.)
13.	Shri P.K. Singh	Under Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
14.	Shri Roopak Chaudhuri	Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs
15.	Shri Ritesh Sharma	SPMU
16.	Shri Vikas Seth	Partner of Datapro
17.	Shri Bhupender Singh	Pardhan Garam, Gungakhede, (Bagpat)
18.	Shri Rajiv Goel	Technical Director, NIC
19.	Shri Manie Kharge	Technical Director, NIC
20.	Shri Meenakshisundaram	Vice Chairman, Myrada
21.	Dr K. Jayalakshmi	Prof. CPR, NIRD&PR, (Hydrabad)
22.	Shri Shibabrata Kar	UNDP, MoPR, (SCPRI)
23.	Shri Ashok Dalwai	Additional Secretary, Dept. of A and C
24.	Dr Mahi Pal	Director MoPR

