Minutes of the First Meeting of Central Executive Committee of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan for the financial year 2016-17

The 1st CEC meeting of Central Executive Committee (CEC) of RGPSA was held under the chairmanship of Shri J. S. Mathur, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj at 1030 hours onwards in the conference room of MoPR, 11th Floor, JP building, KG marg New Delhi. The list of Participants is at *Annexe-I*.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members of the CEC in the meeting. He informed the Committee that in the wake of implementation of recommendation of 14th Finance Commission and in line with the budget speech of finance Minister for restructuring of RGPSA as Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) to help Panchayati Raj Institutions to develop governance capability to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the action for approval of new structured scheme of RGSA has been initiated and it was hoped that the newly restructured scheme would be operationalised soon. He informed that an allocation of Rs. 655 crore was available for strengthening of Panchayats in BE 2016-17. Two writeshops at Hyderabad and Guwahati had been held for facilitating the States to prepare capacity building plans for 2016-17, wherein the matter regarding restructuring of RGPSA was also discussed. 28 States had participated. It was brought home that activities for capacity building that had been supported during 2015-16 would continue to be supported and that pending approval of the restructured scheme, the States could submit their plans for 2016-17 under RGPSA/RGSA so that the necessary training activities particularly for GPDP were not stalled for want of funds. In pursuance of the above, proposals from the States of Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Kerala & Telangana for seeking financial assistance for the activities for capacity building and training of all stakeholders and other related activities supported during last year in their respective States were being considered in the CEC.

- 2. The Chairperson then observed that since the process for operationalization of RGSA has been initiated, which might take two to three months, it was felt that the CEC could consider and accord approval for the proposals of the States containing those ongoing activities like training and capability development which in all probability would be supported in the newly restructured scheme. The release of funds in respect of these States could be made keeping in mind the scope for modifications. In case the approval made here in respect of any of such activity was not found to be inconsonance with the new guidelines, the same would be recorded and the releases would be modified accordingly. The CEC agreed to the above proposition and subject to the above, States were asked to present their proposal.
- 3. Thereafter, the respective States made presentations in respect of their proposals for consideration of the CEC. Specific observations made in the context of these proposals by the Chairman and members of the Committee are as follows:-

- **1.** Tracking of released fund needs to be done by States and all States would be asked to provide information on the nature of plans prepared by Gram Panchayats.
- **2.** NCC & NSS youth should be roped in the programme. (*Though this suggestion was made in the context of proposal of Telangana, it was decided that a letter will be sent to all States for this purpose by the Ministry*)
- **3.** Training should focus on relevant content which had practical application.
- **4.** IEC: Secretary MoPR suggested to the State to explore IEC options through TV, Mobile Van & AIR and take good IEC materials including from electronic media from different States. (It was decided that a letter will be sent to all States for this purpose by the Ministry. SPR also observed that all States should send their material for use in electronic and print media to this Ministry)
- **5.** Status of utilization of FFC funds needs to be monitored at State and Central levels.
- **6.** States should develop domain expertise for training and performance.
- **7.** Secretaries to Government should represent the States in the CEC meetings.
- **8.** Lecture based training should be avoided. Training should include participatory and interactive sessions.
- 9. JS, Niti Aayog pointed out that feasibility for Solar power in Panchayats by availing funds available under schemes of Ministry of Non Renewable Energy (NRE) should be explored by States on priority, which can ensure uninterrupted power supply in Gram Panchayats.
- 10. All States were asked about the scope of utilising the data entry operators of MGNREGS for entry of work related to GPDP. The state representatives were of the opinion that the data entry operators of MGNREGS were fully engaged and would not be able to do justice to any additional assignment.
- **11.** SHGs need to be oriented on social development issues that have a bearing on local governance.
- 12. It was also decided that a letter be sent from MPR to the new State Governments on the recent developments in capacity building initiated by the Central Government.
- 4. Deliberations and the decisions that took place in respect of the proposals of these four States are as follows:

(a) ASSAM:

- The State had 89% expenditure. Main areas of carry forward were GPDP trainings, ETC upgradation and DPRC construction.
- The State informed that the State level resource pool was being expanded and that it was realised
 that mentoring and handholding of Panchayats was necessary to undertake an exercise of this
 scale in a sustainable manner. All 5 Universities of Assam had been linked for identifying young
 professionals who could support CB at the panchayat level they were being identified from
 among graduates /post graduates in MSW, Economics, Political Science, Sociology, etc
- The State representative informed that the State intended to institutionalize the decentralised Planning process, and that a development portal for tracking GPDP processes was being put in place by the State.
- The State Government proposed to do action research for developing five beacon Panchayats, but agreed during discussions to take up 40 beacons. Swachh Bharat was to be the main focus under SDG. It was informed that the SDG led training would be totally integrated into the GPDP process.
- New DPRC was proposed for the Sixth Schedule Areas.
- The State representative informed that State share would be to the tune of Rs. 6 crore, and that formal communication regarding the same would be sent shortly.

The CEC approved the proposals of the State Government as follows:

Sl.	Name of the Activity	Unit (carry over	Amount	Amount	Total Amount
No.		+ new)	approved as	approved as	approved
			carryover	new	
1	Capacity building and Training	68432 +	682.13	1589.67	2271.80
	on GPDP	87158= 155590			
2	Capacity building and Training	4516+82407=	108.38	918.40	1026.78
	other than GPDP	86923			
Α	Total training	242513	790.51	2508.07	3298.58
	Institutional structure				
3	Construction of DPRCs	10 Sanctioned & 1 new	881.00	200.00	1081.00
4	Upgradation of ETCs	7 ETCs	200.00		200.00
5	Recurring cost of SPRC	1		40.00	40.00
6	Recurring cost of DPRCs (including proposed additional Faculties of existing ETCs	11		196.40	196.40
7	E-enablement	1 e-PMU and 27 e-DPMU		285.08	285.08
8	SATCOM facilities management	1 Hub & 16 SITs	40.00	80.00	120.00
В	Sub-total Institutional structure		1121.00	721.48	1842.48
A+B	Total				5141.05
9	1% of the project cost for IEC				51.41
10	5% for programme management				257.05
	Total approved budget				5449.51

SPR also observed that the approval given above will be subject to how the scheme unfolds. The details of the activities and the amounts allotted respectively for the same is given in **Annexe-II**.

(b) KERALA

- The State representatives informed that they have attempted to formulate their proposals tailored strictly as per the guidelines received from Govt. of India and those approved by their Government.
- While appreciating their performance in e-Governance, the State Govt was exhorted to make Panchayats 100% e-functioning, including transaction of service delivery by GPs.
- The State was asked to indicate the State component and the items for which expenditure would be incurred under the State component.
- Standing Committee training was to be proposed as new item.

Thereafter, the CEC approved the proposals of the State Government as follows:

Sl.				
No		Amount	Amount	Total
		approved as	approved as	approved
		Carry Forward	New activity	
1	Gram Panchayat Development Plan	-	383.75	383.75
2	Other than Gram Panchayat Development	105.00	274.72	379.72
	Plan			
3	Institutional Infrastructure	-	-	-
a	SPRC	-	100.00	100.00
b	DPRC	-	1000.00	1000.00
4	Human Resource, Recurring costs for at	-	40.00	40.00
	SPRC			
5	SATCOM	295	52	347.00
	Total	448.5	1850.74	2250.47
6	Programme Management Unit (5%)	48.50	102.00	102.00
	TOTAL	105.00	2247.47	2352.47

The details of the activities and the amounts allotted respectively for the same is given in **Annexe-III**

(C) TELANGANA

- The representatives of State Governments submitted that constituency wise resource envelopes had been shared with legislators, and that 2700 GPs had been adopted by various celebrities.
- The State also pointed out that they wanted to undertake iterative training to improve the governance capabilities of the functional committees. The PR department is equipped with trained master trainers and through them the department has been able to establish a cycle of master trainers at all levels downwards. The CEC asked them to expand their resource pool with expertise outside RDPR.
- The State was asked to revise the per capita training costs on part with the costs of the previous year, since training was being imparted on campaign mode. It was also pointed out that rather than doing piecemeal training, extensive coverage should be ensured in identified thematic areas in the training other than GPDP that was proposed. The State was asked to clearly indicate its focus w.r.t. SDGs for the current year, and to have that reflected in the training proposed. The State was asked to revise and resubmit training proposals other than GPDP.
- Referring to the point of ensuring effective convergence between the scheme of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj departments, the Chairman advised them to utilize the facilities under skill development programmes.
- Chairman also advised them to make efforts for engaging personnel from organizations other than NIRD and PR.
- The Chairman observed that despite the combined efforts of ISRO and Rural Departments in that region, there is a tremendous need for improvement in assets mapping.

- In the context of the proposal of State Government for developing one stop shops initially in 100 GPs, CEC suggested them that such shops must handle banking correspondence for all Government payments in the case of scheme like MGNREGA, SBM, etc.
- The State Government was also advised to ensure that they work on GPDP guidelines for factoring requirements of PESA into GPDP, and was asked to study the advisory issued by MoPR in this regard.
- It was pointed out that there are different formats for transcribing plan in PlanPlus Application for the same scheme. The Chairman observed that NIC should examine this issue carefully for ensuring uniformity.

Thereafter, the CEC approved the proposals of the State Government as follows:

S1.	Item	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)		CEC Decisions	
No		Carry	New	Total	
		Forward	Proposed	approved	
		approved	approved		
1	Gram Panchayat Development Plan	389.43	692.43	1081.86	Approved Carry Forward & New activities for GPDP
2	Other than Gram Panchayat Development Plan	0.00	2846.44	Not Approved	Plan. For New Proposed activities under other than GPDP training, the CEC advised the State to come up with revise proposal by taking into consideration unit cost per participant @ Rs. 350 for V.P, @ Rs. 500 for B.P, @ Rs. 750 for D.P, @ Rs. 1850 for State. The State was advised to give training to EWRs, SC/ST/OBC, Functional Committees etc.
3	Special support to PESA Area	0.00	295.95	295.95	
4	Institutional Infrastructure	0.00	1950.00	1950.00	
5	Human Resource, Recurring costs for Training	0.00	90.00	90.00	

6	SATCOM	0.00	50.00	50.00	
7	IEC (1%)	0.00	0.00	34.67	
8	Programme	0.00	0.00	173.39	
	Management Unit				
	(5%)				
	TOTAL	389.43	5924.82	3675.87	

The details of the activities and the amounts allotted respectively for the same is given in **Annexe-IV**.

(D) MADHYA PRADESH

- The State has made expenditure of Rs. 22.88 cr. for FY 2015-16.
- The representatives of State Government informed about the steps being taken by the State Government for rolling out the Gramoday se Bharat Uday programme at the level of GPs.
- They informed about the templates being prepared, sensitization done at the GP and also the proposed meetings of all Deputy Commissioners at Bhopal on 17-18 June, 2016 for formulating a concrete and comprehensive strategy.
- The Chairman advised them to track their roll out efforts carefully. The representative of the State Government informed that they were monitoring each stage of the roll out. It was informed that their SIRD faculty was taken on deputation from PR department and they also rely on guest faculty.
- The Chairman, referring to the need of preparing effective and relevant modules for CB&T, emphasized the need to ensure that the focus is on quality of training. The State said that manual format for tracking GPDP in line with Plan Plus 2.0 had been developed by the State.
- Concern was expressed at the volume of training that had to be undertaken by the State from the point of view of the State's capability to deliver on the numbers. It was stated that the resource pool was being increased exponentially. SPR suggested that with the kind of numbers that the State had, there had to be serious efforts to adopt SATCOM based trainings, for better coverage.
- The State has released FFC grant of 2015-16 to 22824 GPs. Further, they intimated that plans have been prepared for 22822 GPs.
- GPDP training had been imparted to 38273 ERs, 22704 Functionaries, 10270 Participatory Planning Teams, 1252 Support Staff, 6158 Resource Persons.
- The Chairman also advised them that the GP heads should also be made aware of GPDP very minutely, about necessity of keeping books of accounts properly, importance of convergence, gender issues besides the implementation of scheme of PMGSY. With reference to the poor participation of women in CB&T activities- particularly outside their villages- the Chairperson observed that more efforts should be made in this behalf so that EWRs get the benefit of training.
- The State was advised to examine the scope for placing bare foot engineers at the GP cluster level. State representatives informed that the GRS had been designated Assistant Secretary of the GP.
- The Chairman also advised the State authorities to focus on e Panchayats and making their plans compatible with Plan Plus- for which the State Government can liaise with ISRO and Department of Space etc.
- CEC member Ms. Nirmal Buch stressed on the need for participatory learning.
- The CEC member Shri. Meenakshisundaram observed that the State Government CB&T/ GPDP in respect of their PESA areas should be integrated into the larger GPDP training.

- The State Government was also advised to ensure that they work on GPDP guidelines for factoring requirements of PESA into GPDP, and were asked to study the advisory issued by MoPR in this regard.'
 - The CEC advised to develop short-term films on GPDP under the IEC activities.

Thereafter, the CEC approved the proposals of the State Government as follows:

Sl.	Item	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)			CEC Decisions
No		Carry Forward	New Proposed	Total	
1	Gram Panchayat Development Plan	1466.25	2354.04	3820.29	Approved Carry Forward & New activities for GPDP Plan.
2	Other than Gram Panchayat Development Plan (PESA area trainings)	-	1616.60	1616.60	Approved
3	Special support to PESA Area	-	2318.21	2318.21	Approved
4	Institutional Infrastructure (SPRC = Rs. 100.00 lakh, DPRC = Rs. 200.00 lakh)	-	300.00	300.00	Approved
5	Human Resource, Recurring costs for Training (SPRC= Rs. 40.00 lakh, DPRC = Rs. 40.00 lakh)	-	80.00	80.00	Approved
6	E-Enablement	-	255.12	0.00	Not Approved. CEC advised to undertake manpower cost under 5% PMU of total plan
7	SATCOM	-	1530.00	0.00	Not Approved
8	IEC (1%)			81.35	
9	Programme Management Unit (5%)			406.75	
TOTA	TOTAL			8623.20	

The details of the activities and the amounts allotted respectively for the same is given in **Annexe-V**.

List of Participants of CEC meeting

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Jitendra Shankar Mathur	Secretary, MoPR
2.	Shri A. K. Goyal	Additional Secretary, MoPR
3.	Shri B. D. Virdi	Adviser, MoPR
4.	Dr. Dvijendra Kumar Sharma	Joint Secretary, MoPR
5.	Smt Sarada Muraleedharan	Joint Secretary, MoPR
6.	Shri Dilip Kumar	Director (IFD), MoPR
7.	Shri C. Chinnappa	Director (CB), MoPR
8.	Shri S. K. Upadhyay	Under Secretary (CB), MoPR
9.	Shri Vikram Singh Gaur	Joint Secretary, Niti Aayog
10.	Smt Nirmala Buch	President, Mahila Chetna Manch
11.	Shri Meenakshi Sundaram	Vice Chairman, MYRADA, B'lore
12.	Dr. K. Jayalakshmi	Prof. & Head, NIRD&PR, Centre for PR
13.	Shri N F Husain	Director, Deptt of School Education & Literacy,
		M/o HRD
14.	Dr. Chandramani Sharma	Director, M/o Agriculture & FW
15.	Shri K. P. J. Gerald	Under Secretary (SC/ST) M/o HRD
16.	Shri Rakesh Bhardwaj	Under Secretary
17.	Shri Sanjay Sharma	Nodal Officer (RGPSA), Govt of Rajasthan
18.	Shri K. C. Vijayakumar	Special Secretary, LSGD, Govt of Kerala
19.	Shri Jayachandran R.	Team Leader, RGPSA, Kerala
20.	Ms R. Anita	Director, PR&RD, Govt of Telangana
21.	Shri P. Rama Rao	Deputy Commissioner, Panchayat Raj & RE,
		Telangana
22.	Shri A. M. M. Zakri	Director (SIRD), Assam
23.	Shri Bikram Goswami	Assistant R.O., SIRD Assam
24.	Shri Brajesh Kumar	Additional Secretary, Govt of Madhya Pradesh
25.	Shri S. K. Sachan	Deputy Director, MGSIRD, Jabalpur (MP)
26.	Dr. Vinod Yadav	Deputy Commissioner, MP, Bhopal
27.	Shri Prafulla Joshi	SPC/PO RGPSA, MP, Bhopal
28.	Shri Jay Kumar Shrivastava	Computer Instructor & programmer, MGSIRD,
		Jabalpur
29.	Shri Sanjeev Kumar	Sapanch Gunja Khedi, Distt. Baghpat UP