

Minutes of the Third Meeting of Central Executive Committee (CEC) of Rashtriya Gram Sawaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) for the financial year 2017-18 held on 20th May, 2017 at 3.30 PM in Conference Hall, JP Building, KG Marg, New Delhi

The third CEC meeting of RGSA for 2017-18, was held under the Chairmanship of Shri J. S. Mathur, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj at 3:30 PM in the Conference Room of MoPR, 11th Floor, JP building, New Delhi. The list of Participants is at Annexe-I. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members of the CEC to the meeting. Thereafter Shri K.S Sethi, Joint Secretary informed that the agenda before the CEC included, proposals of 06 States of Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Odisha and West Bengal for assistance under RGSA. The item-wise discussions, observations and decisions of the CEC are as below:

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the second CEC meeting In pursuance of CEC meeting held on 25/05/2017, the minutes of the meeting containing the decision taken in the meeting were issued on 29/05/2017. CEC has confirmed the minutes of the meeting.

2. Action Taken Report: In the last CEC meeting held on 25/ 05/2017, besides, consideration & approval of Annual Action Plan in respect of 8 States/ UTs, the CEC had also took decisions on training strategy relating to subject area, methodology & outreach of training programs been undertaken by States, in the context of changed scenario post FFC awards, which required more innovative methods of training. In this regard, on the observations of the CEC action has been taken.

3. Organising Regional Workshop cum Training on MoPR e-Governance initiatives (PES applications)& Sanction of Funds to NICSI for continuing central e-Panchayat activities during 2017-18 : CEC gave in principle approval to the proposed expenditure for conducting regional workshop cum training programmes and for annual proposal for providing funds to NICSI for maintaining PES applications, programme management, faculty support, workshops, hardwares and other e- governance initiatives after receiving due UC for the previous year balance.

CEC also suggested to hold a two days programme on PES applications in July / August 2017 for all the states at New Delhi"

4. General Observations:

(i) Audited UC for funds released in 2015-16: CEC advised States to furnish the audited utilization for funds released during 2015-16, if not already submitted. Also, to submit physical/ financial progress and provisional UC for 2016-17.

(ii) Capacity Building & Training: CEC advised the States to integrate trainings on subjects which are thrust areas of Government of India into their training calendar, including themes of less cash payment, water conservation, sanitation, leadership development, motivational training, scientific agricultural practices to double income of farmers, JAM, Ujjwala etc. **The States**

were also advised to develop, as well as use, training modules of line departments for trainings in areas of sanitation, agriculture (scientific and modern techniques), water conservation, animal husbandry, fisheries, health, women and child development, rural development etc. All States were advised to update their GPDP data on PlanPlus. **Further, the CEC advised to conduct trainings at places having adequate training infrastructure and conducive ambience**, as well as use of short films for content delivery during training programmes. In this regard, the newly launched YouTube channel of Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) was also shown to the CEC members. **States were asked to prepare their own short films on good work by PRIs as well as download films from the YouTube channel to screen at training programmes or through hand held projectors. States could also dub them in regional/local languages. States were asked to publicize the channel, so that all stakeholders are able to access and view it.** Further, the CEC advised the States to propagate the reading of quarterly news magazine “Gram Uday Hamara Sankalap” which has already been dispatched to the Gram Panchayats through India Post. **The States were advised to publicize mobile App of Newsletter and give their feedback. States were asked to provide feedback from GPs regarding the magazine’s postal copy having reached them. It was also advised to States to translate the magazine in their local/ regional language for wider dissemination.**

- (iii) **Innovative Training Programme:** CEC emphasized that all major States may organize innovative training programmes for Sarpanches and Panchayat functionaries on the lines of programme organized by MoPR in Siri Fort New Delhi for PRIs from 8 States during Dec, 2016. **At least one such programme be organized in each State by September, 2017.** This exercise is aimed at training and capacity building of PRI, ERs and functionaries and to motivate them so that they are able to better plan and utilize the enhanced flow of resources (including FFC grants) available at GP level. At these innovative programmes, **achiever Sarpanches may be invited for sharing best practices with the participants. Songs, films, quiz, nukkad natak (Short plays) formats can be used.** It was informed that letter regarding this matter including copy of booklet on the program has already been sent to the states. Every state was requested to organize at least one such training program before September, 2017 and inform the Ministry in this regard.
- (iv) The States should explore the possibility of distance training mechanisms for PRIs including IP based virtual classrooms, for improving outreach of training programmes.
- (v) States were also advised to upload information relating to GPDP and FFC utilization on MoPR dashboard.

(vi) CEC discussed regarding the effective use of portable, inexpensive hand held pico projectors, in agricultural extension by Digital GREEN, an NGO in Bihar. Digital GREEN vastly improved the effectiveness of existing agricultural extension programs by engaging with, and training the community on producing and sharing short videos on local agri best practices. These videos were screened using battery-operated pico projectors by village facilitators, who use the videos to spark interactive conversations among farmer groups, like women self-help groups, on a fortnightly basis. States were advised to examine use of this inexpensive best practice through a pilot, and provide feedback to MoPR.