

डॉ. चन्द्र शेखर कुमार, आई.ए.एस.
अपर सचिव

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आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

पंचायती राज मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
टावर-II, 9वां तल
जीवन भारती बिल्डिंग,
नई दिल्ली-110001

MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Tower-II, 9th Floor,
Jeevan Bharati Building,
New Delhi-110001

D.O. No.N-11019/18/2020-Governance-Part (1)

Dated: 28.11.2022

Dea Madam / Sir,

This is with reference to D.O. of even number dated 22.11.2022 advising states/UTs to initiate and complete the block level selection process of Gram Panchayats (GPs) and their nomination to District by 19th December, 2022 under National Panchayat Awards 2023.

2. While recommending GPs, the states/UTs are requested to ensure that the marks of GPs, if required to be changed after field verification by the committees, must be only in exceptional cases where there is sufficient evidential ground. **Ministry will verify such cases once these are recommended for National Panchayat Awards.** In this regard, the records of discussions of the meeting held on 01.11.2022 may be referred (enclosed).

3. Further, it has been found through a random check that some block level committees have changed the marks of GPs without any evidence and justifications/remarks in the field verification format uploaded. **It is informed that the change of marks by the committees at Block/District/state/UT level, if done, must be accompanied with sufficient evidences/justifications, else, the original marks secured by the GP will be considered.**

4. It is therefore requested that the Block Level selection and nomination process may be completed within timeline i.e. 19th December, 2022 and while adhering to the instructions issues above and through National Panchayat Awards guidelines. Further, states/UTs may approach this Ministry for any support (email: awards-mopr@nic.in; 011-23725310; National Panchayat Awards WhatsApp Group) which will be provided by the concerned team accordingly and promptly.

Resal

Yours Sincerely,

Enclosed: As above

28.11.2022
(Dr. Chandra Shekhar Kumar)

Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary/Secretary,
Panchayati Raj Department, All States/UTs.

RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS

Review Meeting held with states/Union Territories (UTs) on 01.11.2022 at 11:00 AM regarding status of online Questionnaire filling and Block Level Selection/Nomination process of GPs to District) under National Panchayat Awards-2023

A virtual meeting (VC) with States/UTs was held under the chairmanship of Dr. Chandra Shekhar Kumar [Additional Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR)] in presence of Dr. Bijaya Kumar Behera (Economic Adviser, MoPR) on 01.11.2022 at 11:00AM in the Conference Hall at Jeevan Bharati Building regarding progress of online filling of questionnaires by Gram Panchayats (GPs) in states/Union Territories (UTs) under National Panchayat Awards-2023. Total 30 States/UTs (except Lakshadweep, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh) and other officials/officers from Ministry and NIC attended the meeting.

2. Additional Secretary, MoPR reviewed the award progress of the states/UTs, specifically of those whose performance was below national average i.e. 78.21% (as on 01.11.2022; 10:24 AM enclosed at Annexure-I). He requested states/UTs to ensure participation from all its GPs including Tribal Villages/ Traditional Local Bodies (TLBs) etc. by 15th November, 2022 and advise their Block Level teams to support GPs/TLBs in this matter. AS (MoPR) gave following instructions to the states/UTs lagging behind in participation:

- i. All GPs have to mandatorily participate as they receive funds under various programmes of Central and State Governments.
- ii. Non-participation of GPs may cause fund flow under various programmes in future.
- iii. Other line Ministries/Departments will be appraised with the performance of GPs/states/UTs with low/no participation with a request for evaluation/special audit of the programme implementation in such GPs.

3. A brief presentation was also shared by Incentivization of Panchayats (IoP) Division, MoPR regarding selection and nomination process of GPs at Block Level. After that, NIC-MoPR team demonstrated the online process of block level assessment, selection & recommendation through awards portal. NIC also informed that only those Block Panchayats will be able to proceed for block level assessment & selection whose all (100%) GPs have frozen the award questionnaires. Further, following points were brought to the notice of states/UTs:

- i. States/UTs/Districts and Blocks may constitute theme-wise / or single Committee comprising of members from all concerned line departments. In case single Committee has been constituted, separate Minutes of the Meeting/Proceedings/Recommendations must be signed for selection/nomination of GPs under each award theme.
- ii. Change of marks of GPs/TLBs by Block Panchayat Performance Assessment Committee, if needed after field verification, may be done only in exceptional cases/data mismatch and not a regular practice. However, MoPR may verify these cases subsequently.
- iii. Remarks of BPPAC in the verification/recommendation report to be maximum of 100 words only. NIC team to ensure this on the awards portal.
- iv. Field verification of only top 3 ranking GPs to be conducted by BPPAC, as per guidelines. Verification Report of the BPPAC must be counter signed by Sarpanch. Only in cases where the Sarpanch is not in place/existing, GP Secretary can countersign the verification report of BPPAC.
- v. Technical Orientation/Review sessions of all states/UTs for Block Level Selection process will be conducted daily w.e.f. 10.11.2022 as per the Progress Review calendar of awards participation progress being done regularly till now.
- vi. States/UTs where Panchayat at District or Block level is not existing, there state/UT or District will oversee the nomination process.

4. Concluding the meeting, Additional Secretary, MoPR advised all states/UTs to ensure action on the points as stated above.

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