

अमरजीत सिन्हा  
AMARJEET SINHA



सचिव  
भारत सरकार  
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय  
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग  
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SECRETARY  
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Department of Rural Development  
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D.O.No. RD/Secy/14/2018

June 26, 2018

**Subject : Mission Antyodaya – Third Party Assessment of progress towards Poverty-Free Gram Panchayats.**

**Dear Chief Secretary,**

You may kindly recall the selection and ranking of Gram Panchayats (GPs) taken up under 'Mission Antyodaya'. 'Mission Antyodaya' envisages—within 1,000 days and under State-led initiatives—unleashing the latent potential of participating GPs through convergence and concerted actions of all stakeholders to propel these GPs to a virtuous cycle of development.

A great deal of meaningful work has been done in many states to systematically address the multi-dimensionality of poverty. There are already many villages that have addressed their challenges in water conservation, sanitation, road, electricity, internet infrastructure and banking facilities, etc. This is also evident in the ranking of GPs under 'Mission Antyodaya' wherein 120 such GPs have scored higher than 80 (out of 100) in the baseline survey conducted during October 2017 (Please find a list of such GPs attached with this letter). Evidently, these GPs have a narrative of development that requires to be assessed and documented based on robust methodologies so as to serve as probable roadmap in respect of other GPs.

You may also recall that the Framework of Implementation of 'Mission Antyodaya' in paragraph 12.1 (b) provides for third party assessment of selected GPs/clusters based on pre-defined terms of reference. The Department of Rural Development would like to take up a detailed documentation and assessment of the processes and progress made in these 120 GPs. It is quite likely that there could be many more such GPs or villages outside of those selected under 'Mission Antyodaya', too, that have made remarkable progress to address the poverty of households and geographies. We request the State Government to send us the first set of such Gram Panchayats and villages to us. The Department of Rural Development would engage eminent research institutions to undertake a detailed case study and assessment of the progress made in all these GPs and villages based on composite parameters based on framework of 'Mission Antyodaya' that are also aligned to Sustainable Development Goals, and indicators of Ministry of Panchayati Raj towards incentivizing GPs.

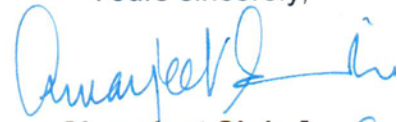
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It is with this background that we request you to send us the names of the Gram Panchayats or villages, which have substantially addressed the challenge of poverty, by 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2018, to enable us to carry out the documentation and assessment of the outstanding work done there. We would like to complete the assessment well before 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018 to as our tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on the initiation of his 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary Celebrations.

*With regards,*

Yours sincerely,

  
[Amarjeet Sinha]  
27 June 2018

Encl: As above.

To:

**The Chief Secretary, Government of :**

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh **[by E-mail]**

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Commissioners, MGNREGA  
Directors of SRLM. } by E-mail