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SECRETARY



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September 18, 2020

This is regarding the decision to hold Mission Antyodaya (MA) Survey, 2020 together with People's Plan Campaign (PPC) –“*Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas*” of Ministry of Panchayati Raj from October 02, 2020 to January 31, 2021. You may recall that vide D.O letter No. M-11015/159/2019-CB, dated 18.08.2020, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj had requested the States/UTs to provide leadership and guidance for the successful conduct of PPC, 2020. As the database of MA Survey becomes a critical input during PPC for Gram Panchayats for preparing their Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs), the Ministry of Rural Development has always worked in tandem with the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. For MA Survey, 2020 also we shall continue our convergent efforts and has decided to conduct MA Survey, 2020 contemporaneously with PPC, 2020.

2. Essentially, the MA Survey is a collaborative and participative exercise. I gratefully acknowledge the whole hearted support extended by the State Governments/UT administrations during MA Survey 2019, which was instrumental in completing the Survey in 99 per cent and verification in 97 per cent of GPs across the country. As we are poised to launch the MA Survey 2020 on October 02, 2020, I understand that we all are constrained to operate in unusual an environment emerged due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The conduct of Survey, hence, would be carried out in accordance with this situation. You may find the detailed guidelines for the Survey from the e-book on PPC, 2020, published by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj. Nevertheless, I shall reiterate some of the points as follows;

- The questionnaire and methodology would be same; 143 parameters covering 29 transferred subjects. However, this time we also plan to do Geo-referencing to the feasible parameters.
- Like last year, the mode of doing Survey would be digital in the sense that the enumerators would gather and upload the data collected from the field through MA Survey mobile application (APK).

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- Since questionnaire and mode of the Survey remain unchanged, the training materials used in the previous year, particularly the Audio Visual on using MA Survey mobile APK, can be used among the enumerators for education purpose.
- The need for training would be obviated if the States/UTs could re-nominate those officials, who were involved at state and district-level in MA Survey 2019, for this year's Survey. However, any training, if needed, would be carried out in digital mode in collaboration with NIRD&PR.
- The cost of the Survey would be met from the funds of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).
- Due to the pandemic, a major change has been brought with respect to the Gram Sabha's *validation* of the data collected by the enumerators. Since convening Gram Sabha would be contrary to the COVID-19 advisories issued by the Government of India and respective State Governments, it is decided that Gram Panchayat Samiti and GP Secretary shall *validate* the collected dataset. Further, as and when social distancing norms get relaxed, Gram Sabha (GS)-validation should proceed *post facto*. The verification stage by BDOs shall be followed as in the previous year. However, the State must be cautious not to compromise the quality and authenticity of the data.

3. Dr. Biswajit Banerjee, Joint Secretary (SAGY/Rurban/MA) will be the Nodal Officer for Mission Antyodaya in the Ministry of Rural Development. His contact details are: Room No. 361-A, Department of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, Phone: 011-23384707, Email: [biswajit.banerjee@gov.in](mailto:biswajit.banerjee@gov.in). As an immediate step from your side, I advise you to nominate a State Nodal Officers (SNO), preferably Principal Secretaries, Departments of Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj, and 2-4 State-level Resource Persons (SRPs), who would closely monitor the progress of the Survey in the States. Their contact details, including e-mail IDs and mobile numbers may be shared to [nicttechma@gov.in](mailto:nicttechma@gov.in), [biswajit.banerjee@gov.in](mailto:biswajit.banerjee@gov.in) and [ac.adatte@nic.in](mailto:ac.adatte@nic.in).

4. I along with Secretary, Ministry of Panchayat Raj, would be holding a Video-Conference with all the Principal Secretaries, Departments of Rural Development/ Panchayat on 23.09.2020 at 10:30 am to discuss over the launching of MA Survey, 2020 along with PPC, 2020 on October 02, 2020 and review the preparedness of the State/UT. The detailed programme for the VC is enclosed as Annex.



5. With your experience with previous year's MA Surveys, I hope that you would appreciate the utility of Gap Reports and scoring generated out of MA Survey data analysis not only in preparing GPDPs but in assessing the development status of the GPs/villages. Here, in the Ministry, we are constantly striving to make use of this dataset in new ways and arenas, which would be helpful to States and other Ministries, including for generating gap reports for the blocks and districts for planning from XV FC funds. Given that the States/UTs have critical role in various aspects of the MA Survey, I would request you to advise and sensitize all officials/ Line Departments concerned to ensure that MA Survey 2020, despite hurdles posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, would be a fine accomplishment like that in the previous year.

Yours sincerely,

encl: as above

sd/-

[Nagendra Nath Sinha]

The Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India.
2. Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Rural Development/Panchayati Raj of all States/UTs.

sd/-

[Nagendra Nath Sinha]

Copy for information and n/a to:

1. JE(RE), Department of Rural Development, for assuring the services and issuing necessary advisory to all functionaries concerned for the Survey Works.
2. DDG, NIC(SECC/ MA), Department of Rural Development

[Nagendra Nath Sinha]