

अमरजीत सिन्हा
AMARJEET SINHA



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May 8, 2018

Subject: Mission Antyodaya – Progress

At the outset I would like to congratulate the States for having made excellent selection of Clusters and Gram Panchayats under Mission Antyodaya with inclusion of Gram Panchayats with good social capital. The ranking of Gram Panchayats was also a useful exercise in identifying the gaps. Based on gap analysis made already, MoRD programmes have been approved for 2018-19 and shared with all the States to grant priority to Mission Antyodaya Gram Panchayats and the 115 Aspirational Districts.

As you are aware, Mahatma Gandhi's 150 Birth Anniversary Celebrations will go on from 2nd October, 2018 to 2nd October, 2020. Ideally, we would like all these selected Gram Panchayats to become completely Poverty Free by 2nd October, 2020. However, we will need clear milestones to assess where we have reached. As was made clear in the discussions, the vision is to create thousands of Hivre Bazaars and Popat Rao Pawars across the country. In fact, already in many States there are large number of villages where substantial progress has been made in providing sustainable livelihoods to every household. I would like to request the States to give us State-wise list of Gram Panchayats where they have already managed to make significant difference in the well being of poor households.

As you are aware, the Government lays emphasis on the 115 Aspirational Districts. 8,154 Gram Panchayats in the 115 Aspirational Districts have also been taken up under Mission Antyodaya. I would like to request you to take concerted action on the ground using all the resources available through convergence of RD programmes. The Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan scheme of MoPR will also roll out in these Panchayats on priority to improve governance of Gram Panchayats. We would also like the State Governments to undertake Human Resource reforms in line with the recommendations of Sumit Bose Committee to ensure that the outcomes are achieved through improved governance by better HR redeployment and reform.

Seeing the progress made in many of these Gram Panchayats, I am confident that a significant difference can be made in each of these 50,000 Gram Panchayats spread across 5,000 Clusters in different States if concerted efforts at gap filling is made on the basis of data analysis.

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I look forward to hear from the States on their effort to ensure sustainable livelihoods for all households in these selected Gram Panchayats. It will be the best tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's memory, if Gram Swaraj in its true spirit of well being for all, complete social harmony and equality is achieved across these one lakh villages by 2nd October, 2020. I would eagerly await your response in the matter.

Yours sincerely,


(Amarjeet Sinha)

To:

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Rural Development of all States and UTs **[By Name]**

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