

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
COMMUNITY & RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

NOTIFICATION

Dated: Shillong, the 24th March, 2015

***CHIEF MINISTER'S SPECIAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND
REVISED GUIDELINES***

No.CDD.205/2014/10 - In supersession of the earlier notification No.CDD.72/2000/245 dt.10/11/2009 the State Government hereby revise the guidelines of the CMSRDF, to be operational from 1.4.2015 as below:

I. Introduction -

The Government of Meghalaya has been implementing the "Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund" since 2000 - 2001 as a component of the Special Rural Works Programme, with an objective to generate wage employment and to create socially and economically useful public assets. With the experience of over 14 years of implementation, it has been felt that there is a need to revisit the guidelines and accordingly, the CMSRDF guidelines are re-notified, after making comprehensive changes.

II. Nature of works to be taken up under the Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund -

The works to be taken up under the Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund shall include construction of rural roads, footpaths, footbridges, drainages, culverts with hume pipes, improvements of water sources, community halls, multi-purpose buildings, provision/improvement of rural electrification, school buildings, playground, schemes such as procurement of equipment, new vehicles like mortuary vans, ambulance, school buses and oxygenated vans for transporting live fish, etc. Eco-friendly innovative projects also will be considered under the scheme. The schemes/projects should not be highly technical in nature and the project cost should be minimized either through convergence or by ensuring people's contribution. Community participation is essential.

III. Area of operation -

The Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund will be applicable for the rural/semi-rural areas of the State as ordinarily defined/notified by the Community & Rural Development Department of the State.

IV. Nodal Department –

The Community & Rural Development Department shall be the Nodal Department for the Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund. A specific provision for the Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund is made in the Plan Budget of the Community & Rural Development Department as a special component of the Special Rural Works Programme.

V. Identification and proposal of schemes –

The schemes identified and proposed by the village communities, MLAs and/or Partner Organizations should be submitted along with detailed plans and estimates to the Chief Minister's Secretariat. The detailed plans and estimates should be duly countersigned by the competent technical authorities. Proposals not accompanied by plans and estimates will be returned to the proposers at the initial stage itself by the CM's Secretariat. Likewise, in cases where procurement of equipment is involved, quotations are necessary to be attached along with the proposal. Any proposal without the plans and estimates, or quotations as stated above shall be returned to the proposers by the CM's Secretariat. The works/projects identified should indicate the Block jurisdiction.

VI. Selection of the Schemes –

The schemes proposed by the MLAs and NGOs under the Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund shall be considered by the Chief Minister and if approved, he will indicate the amount to be sanctioned for the proposal. Upon the receipt of the directions of the Chief Minister, the Chief Minister's Secretariat will advise the Community & Rural Development Department on the names of the schemes and the amounts approved.

VII. Scrutiny of plans and estimates and sanction of the Schemes –

On receipt of the advice from the Chief Minister's Secretariat, the Community & Rural Development Department shall examine the plans and estimates and issue sanctions where all the conditions are satisfied. Thereafter, the funds shall be placed at the disposal of the concerned BDOs for implementation forthwith.

VIII. Role of the Departmental Committee in the Administration of the Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund --

With a view to ensuring quick sanction, the schemes as identified and selected by Chief Minister under the Fund shall be exempted from the purview of the Departmental Committee as constituted under Planning Department's circular No.PLR.35/97/20, dt.21.5.98 and also from the purview of any State Level/District Level Committees. For sanction of individual scheme(s) under CMSRDF, the Community & Rural Development Department need not obtain the approval of Planning Department and may sanction such scheme(s) on its own, as per the approved Guidelines.

IX. Modalities of the implementation of the projects --

- (i). The implementation of the schemes under the Chief Minister's Special Rural Development Fund shall be through direct participation of the people and not through contractors. Contractors are not allowed under the CMSRDF. The involvement of the people is through the Village Dorbars/Local Committees/Beneficiary Organizations, etc.
- (ii). On receipt of the funds from the Community & Rural Development Department, the concerned Block Development Officers should ensure that the funds as made available to the Implementing Agency are properly utilized.
- (iii). In such cases where projects have been sanctioned and funds released, but not implemented in respect of the MLAs who have ceased to be the MLAs prior to the commencement of implementation, such fund should be refunded by the implementing agencies to the Community & Rural Development Department and the same will be merged with the NGO category, of a particular year. Funds of MLAs who did not submit proposals in earlier years and are not elected anymore, will also be transferred to the NGO category likewise.
- (iv). All the CMSRDF funds should be kept in Savings Bank Accounts and the interest earned should be reported to the State Government periodically. Interest funds will be returned to the Community & Rural Development Department periodically, and will be utilized for the purposes of the CMSRDF scheme.
- (v). The implementing organizations should prominently display the scheme details on site/on equipment.

X. **Modes of payment**

- (i). All implementing agencies, NGOs, etc, should open a Bank Account, jointly operated by two members and funds should be released to their accounts only.
- (ii). If fund due to be released is above Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only) the Block Development Officer concerned should release the same in 2 (two) installments.
- (iii). If the amount is below Rs. 50,000/- (Rupee Fifty thousand only), the Block Development Officer shall release the total amount to the Beneficiary Organization in one installment only. Also, in case of purchase of equipments, vehicles etc., release of the amount may be made in one installment.
- (iv). The fund shall not be allowed to be utilized for land compensation or for payment of salaries and office expenses. The Block Development Officer shall obtain written agreement/undertakings from the Village Dorbars/Local Committees/Beneficiary Organization asserting that there shall be no claim for land compensation and for payment of salaries in so far as the scheme is concerned and that it will ensure proper maintenance of the Scheme when completed.
- (v). A Utilization Certificate in respect of the amount drawn and utilized should be furnished by the Partner Organizations to the Block Development Officers concerned for record. Completion Certificate accompanied by photographic evidence should be submitted within six months of release of money to the Block Development Officer, who will in turn, submit to the Nodal Department.
- (vi). If the organization/beneficiaries fail to submit the UC for first installment and do not claim the second installment after a gap of three years, the particular work or project allotted or executed by them should be deemed as closed and the fund be returned back to the Directorate.