

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAMODAYA YOJANA (PMGY) GUIDELINES (GRAMIN AWAAS)

Introduction : Housing is a basic requirement for human well-being. Not only do all citizens need shelter, they also require in their houses such facilities as drinking water and proper sanitation. It is towards this end that a new initiative has recently been announced, as part of the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), in the field of provision of rural shelter, which is focused to extend benefits to the rural poor. : Housing is a basic requirement for human well-being. Not only do all citizens need shelter, they also require in their houses such facilities as drinking water and proper sanitation. It is towards this end that a new initiative has recently been announced, as part of the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), in the field of provision of rural shelter, which is focused to extend benefits to the rural poor.

The Ministry of Rural Development has been entrusted the responsibility of providing shelter to the poor in the rural areas. While the Ministry are already implementing Schemes, including the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), in the sphere of Rural Housing, considering the magnitude of the task it has been felt to be imperative to supplement the efforts being made in this direction through the introduction of a Comprehensive Scheme which aims at reducing the shortage of houses for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the rural areas and also assists in the healthy development of the habitat in these areas.

The Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (Gramin Awaas) will generally, be based on the pattern of the Indira Awaas Yojana and will be implemented in the rural areas throughout the country.

Target Group : The target group for houses under the scheme will be the people who are living Below the Poverty Line in the rural areas, belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes, freed bonded labourers and non SC/ST categories. Not more than 40% of the total allocation during a financial year can be utilized for construction of dwelling unit for non SC/ST BPL families, while funds to the tune of 3% will be earmarked for benefit of BPL disabled persons.

Identification of Beneficiaries : The District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads will decide the number of houses to be constructed, Panchayat-wise and the same will immediately be intimated to the Gram Panchayat. Thereafter, the Gram Sabha will select the beneficiaries from the list of eligible households, restricting this number to the target allotted. The intermediate-level Panchayat (Panchayat Samity) will invariably be sent a list of selected beneficiaries.

Allotment of Houses : The allotment of dwelling units will be in the name of female member of the beneficiary household; alternatively, the dwelling unit can be allotted in the name of both husband and wife.

Location of House : Dwelling units will be built on individual plots in the main habitation of the village. The houses can also be built in a cluster within a habitation, so as to facilitate the development of infrastructure, such as internal roads, drainage, drinking water supply and other common facilities. Care should always be taken to ensure that the houses are located close to the village and not too far away so as to ensure safety and security, proximity to place of work and for social communication.

Involvement of Beneficiaries : The beneficiaries will have complete freedom as to the manner of construction of the house. No contractor is to be engaged for the construction of dwelling units. The house should also not be constructed by any Government Department/Organisation who may, however, extend technical assistance and arrange for coordinated supply for raw materials such as cement, steel or bricks, if the beneficiaries so require. The spirit under-lying the scheme is that the house is not to be constructed/delivered by any external agency and is to be constructed by the beneficiary himself/herself.

Efforts should be made to utilize local materials and cost-effective technologies (developed by various institutions) to the maximum possible extent. No type design should be prescribed for dwelling units, except that the plinth area of the houses should not be less than 20 Sq. metres. The layout size and type design of dwelling units should depend on the local conditions and the preference of the beneficiary. The houses should be designed in accordance with the wishes of the beneficiaries, keeping in view the climatic conditions and the need to provide ample space, kitchen, ventilation, sanitary facilities and smokeless chulha as also the community perceptions, preference and cultural attitudes. The barrier free concept may be incorporated in the construction of houses meant for the disabled, with a view to facilitate his/her smooth movement in the house. In areas susceptible to natural calamities (such as fire, flood, cyclones and earthquakes), the incorporation of disaster resistance features in the design should be encouraged.

Provision of smokeless chulha and Sanitary Latrine : It should be ensured that all dwelling units are provided with smokeless chullahs which are fuel efficient and being smoke free are more convenient to use. The construction of sanitary latrines will form an integral part of the PMGY (GA) dwelling unit. Plantation of trees in the habitat (or around the individual house) should simultaneously be taken up.

Ceiling of Construction Assistance : The ceiling of construction assistance under the scheme will be Rs. 20,000 per unit for plain areas and Rs. 22,000 per unit for hilly/difficult areas. For the conversion of unserviceable Kutcha houses into Pucca / semi Pucca houses, the maximum assistance will be limited to Rs. 10,000.

Mode of Implementation : The proposal will be forwarded by the State Governments to the Government of India under the Scheme. In addition to proposals for houses for the poor, the proposals may also include provision for internal roads, drainage, drinking water, plantation, improvement of habitation and for making houses cyclone and earthquake resistant. The maximum provision for these items will not exceed 10% of the

proposal cost. Upto 20% of the proposal funds could be utilized for the conversion of unserviceable kutchha houses into Pucca /semi Pucca houses.

The proposals received from the State authorities will be scrutinized/sanctioned by a Committee comprising the following: -

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| 1. | Secretary (Rural Development) | Chairman |
| 2. | Additional Secretary and FA (Rural Development) | Member |
| 3. | Adviser (RD), Planning Commission | Member |
| 4. | Joint Secretary, (Rural Housing) | Member |
| 5. | Director in charge of PMGY (GA) | Convener |

Release of funds : The funds for the scheme will be released to States / UTs in two installments by the Union Ministry of Finance, on the recommendation of the Union Ministry of Rural Development. The funds for the Second Installment will be released after Utilization Certificates/Audit Reports are received. During the year, 2000-2001, however the Second Installment would be released without insisting on completion of these procedures. The total releases during the financial year will be restricted to the allocated amount for the State/UT during the year.

Monitoring and Evaluation : The State Government should prescribed the periodical reports and returns through which the performance of PMGY (GA) in the districts would be closely monitored and would also obtain appropriate reports and returns from the DRDAs/ZPs. The reports and returns would be submitted to the Government of India by the States/UTs in respect of the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (Gramin Awaas), separately, in the prescribed format.

The States/UTs should conduct periodic Evaluation Studies on the implementation of PMGY (GA), which can be got conducted by reputed Institutions/Organisations on issue arising out of the Concurrent Evaluation and the studies carried out by the States/UTs/Government of India. Copies of the Reports on Evaluation Studies (conducted by States/UTs) would be furnished to the Government of India and remedial steps would be taken by the States/UTs on the basis of these Evaluation Studies, as also the Concurrent Evaluations which are conducted.