

May 12 '11

Dear KB,

As discussed this morning, I am sending below, the term and conditions for the Jharkhand committee sent by Raju (after the meeting held last month) and the action suggested.

I understand from Behera that the file has been 'put up' and that earlier when the terms were discussed with BK Sinha, he seemed to be in agreement. There should therefore be no problem in the issue of orders, so that the programme for Ranchi can be planned.

You may like perhaps talk to BK Sinha, if there is no progress...

Best wishes,
Lalit

ps Mr Behera's tel numbers are 093 501 16713, 011 2462 0487

Terms of Reference of the Committee constituted by Ministry of Rural Development, GOI, to look into the implementation of MGNREGA set down by Raju and sent to Aruna Roy, as discussed in the meeting for Jharkhand

1. The Committee would study (perhaps facilitate might be more appropriate) the implementation of MGNREGA in the state of UP and make a set of recommendations on key processes relating to MGNREGS and stay engaged with the State, for a period of one year, for facilitating follow up action on the key recommendations so as to significantly improve the implementation of MGNREGA in the State in general.
2. The Committee could engage experts, resource persons or resource institutions to assist the Committee in carrying out it's study (substitute work)
3. The Committee would adopt participatory methods in carrying out the study, by closely interacting with the primary and secondary state-holders at the grassroots level and by holding focussed group discussions with the implementing agencies at all levels in the State.
4. The Committee would identify civil society organisations actively working with wage seekers on MGNREGA and associate them in their studies so as to build their capacities as well
5. The Committee would focus, (iinter alia) on the following key MGNREGS processes
 - a. Demand for employment

- b. Opening of works
 - c. Execution of works
 - d. Payment of wages
 - e. Transparency measures
 - f. Social auditing
6. The Committee would make specific recommendations on the following
- a. Strengthening of implementation machinery from State to GP level
 - b. Capacity building of the implementing agencies, particularly the newly elected PRI representatives
 - c. Transparency on flow of funds
 - d. Social auditing – Institutional mechanism and the processes
 - e. Grievance redressal mechanisms
 - f. Payment of wages without delays
7. The Committee would provide facilitation support to the implementation agencies of the State as detailed below
- a. Building awareness among the wage seekers on their rights and entitlements
 - b. Identify capacity building agencies to provide continuous capacity building support to the implementing agencies, particularly the PRI bodies
 - c. Social auditing in accordance with the directions issued by MORD under Section 24 of MGNREG Act
 - d. Replication of best practices, particularly to ensure prompt payment of wages to the wage seekers
 - e. Transparency measures at GP level
8. The Committee would submit quarterly report to the MORD covering recommendations on key processes, status of follow up action initiated by the State and the facilitation support extended to the State

The minor changes in italics are mine. We may need to specifically mention that for 'facilitation' and replication of best practices as

pilot/trials, financial support would be provided by the ministry.

The proposed action suggested by Raju – based on the premise that an action oriented recommendations and facilitation support is more valuable than a mere study report.

Send ToR to M/RD for approval

Ask M/Rd to 'facilitate the 1st mtg in Jharkhand with Deptt of RD to discuss the ToR and chalk out an action plan

Request M/Rd to 'place mechanisms' for securing services of experts, Res Persons/institutions

M/Rd to issue revised orders for the constitution of the committee, making it more broad based

A senior M/Rd officer of assist the committee

On Sat, May 7, 2011 at 11:08 AM, aruna roy <arunaroy@gmail.com> wrote:

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> Dear Shri Behera

> I was in Delhi yesterday and tried to get you on the phone. Jean Dreze has agreed to be there on the 17th and 18th of May. Nilkhil Dey and I could be there on those dates. Will you please confirm with the rest. The TORs will be sent to you by this evening.

> With best wishes,

> Aruna Roy

> PS Please do let me know your phone numbers.

> Thanks

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> On Fri, May 6, 2011 at 7:45 PM, Bharat Chanda Behera <bc.behera@nic.in> wrote:

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>> Respected Madam,

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>> Kindly suggest a suitable date for the visit of committee members to Ranchi. Mr. Lakra has

submitted a report to MORD on his return. Mr. Asthana and MR. Lakra are proposing to visit Jharkhand on 12th May. No comments have been received on the draft TOR prepared by Mr. Raju.

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>> with regards

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>> BC Behera

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