GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract
Planning & Economic Affairs Department - Annual Plan, 2016-17 - Additional Plan assistance, to Local Bodies - Issuance of operational guidelines - Orders Issued.

PLANNING & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O. (Ms) No.16/2016/Pig. Thiruvananthapuram, Dated:13.04.2016.

Read: Note No.SPB/185/2015/DPD dated, 26/02/2016.

ORDER

In the Budget for 2016-17, an amount of Rs.500 crore is earmarked as additional plan assistance to Local Bodies.

2) As per the note read above, the Member Secretary, State Planning Board has furnished draft operational guidelines for the implementation of the scheme of additional plan assistance to Local Bodies in the Budget 2016-17 and requested to accord sanction of the proposal.

3) Government have examined the matter and found that the operational guidelines are necessary for the proper implementation of the scheme additional plan assistance to Local Bodies.

4) In the circumstance, Government are pleased to accord sanction to the operational guidelines for the implementation of additional plan assistance to Local Bodies subject to the following conditions:

(a) Absolutely no publicity in this regard shall be made in electronic, print, radio, internet or any other media in any form whatsoever.

(b) No political functionary shall make any reference in this regard during any public speech or communication to the press or public.

(c) No political functionaries including Ministers, local body members etc. would be involved in any manner in the provisions of the facility concerned wherever needed.

(d) These instructions or publicity will be applicable to the Central Government as well as the State Government.

(e) The relevant provisions of Model Code of Conduct issued by the Commissions shall be strictly followed.

5) Local Self Government Department will issue administrative sanction for all the projects included in the scheme. Guidelines of the scheme are appended.

(By Order of the Governor)

MUHAMMED SAKEER.I

ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To

The Member Secretary, State Planning Board, Thiruvananthapuram,
The Principal Secretary, Local Self Government Department,
The Principal Accountant General (Audit/A&E), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram,

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ADDITIONAL PLAN ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

1. Background

1.1 The Government of Kerala have been allocating approximately one-fourth of its State Plan outlay to Local Self Government Institutions (LSGIs) and they have succeeded in developing a participatory planning methodology and in providing minimum needs of infrastructure especially housing, water supply, house hold sanitation, power and road connectivity. But the intended results could not be achieved in certain mandatory functions of vital importance like waste management, construction of public comfort stations, burial grounds and slaughter house, control of stray dogs, etc. Programmes have been initiated by many LSGIs to solve these problems, but failed to make a mark mainly due to lack of dedicated facility and staff to run the system generated, lack of proper planning, lack of strategy, funding issues, lack of proficiency in the field and local protest, etc. In the above context, to encourage the LSGIs to perform these functions of vital interest effectively, the Government have decided to provide Additional Plan Assistance (APA) similar to the funding pattern of centrally sponsored schemes over and above the normal development fund to District Panchayats and Municipal Corporations from the financial year 2016-17 onwards.

2 Objectives

2.1 The scheme intends to prompt local governments for taking up viable projects in some specific areas mentioned in Para 2.3 and to encourage the LSGIs to perform the above functions effectively.
2.2 To promote District Panchayats in formulating comprehensive schemes for the entire areas in the district by pooling of funds from grama panchayats, block panchayats and municipalities and to take a lead role and assist other local governments in performing these mandatory functions of vital interest to the state as a whole.

2.3 Enable District Panchayats and to provide financial support to District Panchayat and Municipal Corporations to take up viable projects under the following vital areas:

- Waste Management(solid and liquid).
- Production of Organic Manure.
- Animal Birth Control (stray dogs).
- Construction of Storm water/Waste water drains.
- Construction of modern slaughter houses.
- Construction of burial grounds/crematorium.
- Mini Hydel projects.
- Providing infrastructure facilities to Industrial Parks.
- Tapping of non-conventional energy sources.
- Certification of commercially produced organic products.
- Construction of public toilets and wayside amenities.

3 Allocation and Mode of Funding

3.1 An amount of Rs. 500.00 crore is provided as state share assistance for the scheme during 2016-17. Of this Rs. 250.00 crore will be set apart for solid/liquid waste management projects and Rs. 250.00 crore for other areas of activities.

3.2 The funding pattern of projects implemented under this scheme would be in the ratio of 70:30 between the State Government and Local Governments. It is expected that an investment to the tune of Rs.715 crore can be made for these focused projects with the contribution of local governments.
3.3 The allocation from this fund will be purely on demand base and release will be performance base on the basis of specific indicators.

3.4 District Panchayats and Corporations are eligible for assistance from this scheme. In the case of District Panchayat, they can formulate joint venture projects mobilizing funds from other local governments including municipalities. In this context, the local governments can follow integrated project approach as laid down in the decentralised plan guidelines.

3.5 The local government share of thirty per cent can be met either from their development fund/own fund/CSS fund/State sponsored scheme fund/loan from financial institutions or by way of contribution from public or reputed institutions.

3.6 The land purchase components can also be included in the scheme, if necessary.

4 Formulation of project/scheme/programme

4.1 District Planning Committee shall convene a meeting of the chairpersons of all local bodies and discuss the scope of undertaking schemes utilizing additional assistance and reach a consensus in this regard.

4.2 As majority of the areas in which projects can be undertaken utilizing the additional assistance are the mandatory functions of lower tier local governments, it is advisable to formulate joint projects sharing funds by the local governments concerned.

4.3 There must be a MoU between the parties in respect of sharing of fund, responsibilities, running, up keep and maintenance, etc.; before undertaking joint projects.

4.4 The project should be included in the annual plan of the local government concerned, formulated through Sulekha application and obtain the approval from DPC.

4.5 A single project at the district level should be formulated by the implementing agency (District Panchayat/Municipal Corporation concerned) to
address an issue incorporating detailed estimate of individual works rather than formulating many similar projects in the same sector.

4.6 Those components which can be completed during the financial year itself only shall be included in that year's project and other components should be phased in the subsequent years.

4.7 If the Local Government share for the scheme is earmarked from development fund, it should be set apart before sector allocation as done in the case of anganwadi feeding.

5 Detailed Project Report

5.1 The implementing agency should prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for each of the selected projects utilizing the expertise of department officers concerned or empanelled agencies. A maximum of 1.5% of the project estimate cost can be utilized for the preparation of DPR, if necessary. Before the preparation of DPR, model projects uploaded in the website can be referred to.

6. Government Sanction and Allocation of Funds

6.1 A copy of the project proposal along with resolutions approving the project by the local governments concerned should be forwarded to the Member Secretary, State Planning Board for scrutiny and vetting on or before 31st March of the year.

6.2 After preliminary clearance from the State Planning Board, the implementing agency should prepare DPR.

6.3 The Detailed Project Report has to be forwarded to the State Planning Board with the approval of district planning committee along with an undertaking on the assurance of local government share for sanction before 31st May of the year.

6.4 The projects will be sanctioned to those local governments which adhere to the above time schedule strictly.
A High Level Committee with the following composition will approve the projects through a single window system.

1. Vice Chairman, State Planning Board : Chairperson
2. Hon'ble Member concerned, SPB. : Co-Chairperson

3. Principal Secretary (LSGD) : Vice Chairperson
4. Secretary, P&EA Department : Member
   • Secretary, Finance Department
   • Director, Urban Affairs Department
   • Director, Panchayat Department
   • Commissioner, Rural Development
   • Director, Suchitwa Mission
   • Chief Engineer, LSGD
   • State Performance Audit Officer
   • Chief, DP Division, State Planning Board Convenor

On the basis of the recommendations of the committee, administrative sanction shall be issued by the Principal Secretary, LSGD.

7. Release of Fund

7.1 The fund will be operated by the Principal Secretary, LSGD. The local government’s share should be utilized first for funding the projects after the final approval. The 50% of the state share will be released after the utilization of the 75% of the local body’s share. The remaining 50% of the state share will be released on completion of the project along with the completion report of the implementing officer.
Monitoring Arrangements

8.1 State Level Monitoring Committee
A monitoring committee at the state level will be constituted with the following members. Member (DP) as Chairman; Secretaries of Planning, Finance and LSGD, SPAO as Members and Chief, Decentralised Planning Division, as Convenor. A Local Government Plan Monitoring Cell will be constituted within the Decentralised Planning Division in State Planning Board with minimum staff strength of a Deputy Director and a Research Officer.

8.2 District Level Monitoring Committee
A district level committee to monitor the progress of implementation should be constituted with the following composition:

- The District Collector & Member Secretary, DPC : Chairperson
- Secretary, Implementing LSGIs concerned : Member
- Secretaries of Participating Local Governments:
- District Officers of the department concerned :
- District Planning Officer : Convenor

The Committee will meticulously review the progress of implementation every month. The projects under the scheme should be implemented strictly adhering to the guidelines.

9. Model Projects
9.1 The model projects will be published in the websites of LSGD and SPB so that the interested local governments can choose viable projects from the list.