

# MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING ON 07.05.2022

Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Social Audit Society Kerala (MGNSASK) (Local-Self Government Department, Government of Kerala) 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, C.W.C. Buildings, LMS Compound, Palayam, Vikas Bhavan (P.O) Thiruvananthapuram-695033. Phone: 0471-2724696 Email: keralasocialaudit@gmail.com Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Governing Body on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 11.00 a.m.in the office Chamber of Sri. Panabjyothi Nath IAS, Secretary, Water Resources (Room No. 364), Government Secretariate, Main Block, Thiruvananthapuram

## **Agenda and Decisions**

### 1. Approval of the Minutes of the last GB Meeting held on 11-11-2021

The GB meeting has approved the minutes of the last Governing Body meeting held on 11-11-2021.

#### 2.Action Taken Report on the Decisions of the 12th GB Meeting held on 11.11.2021

The GB meeting assessed the progress of the functioning of the Social Audit Society for the last six months based on the action taken report circulated to the GB members and appreciated the achievements and incremental progress of the Regular Social Audit of MGNREGA during the FY 2021-22.

# **3.**Reconstitution of the General Body, Governing Body and Executive Committee of the MGNREGA Social Audit Society, Kerala

The Government of Kerala as per G.O. (Rt.) No. 696/2022 Dated, Thiruvananthapuram,21-03-2022 has re-constituted the General Body, Governing Body and Executive Committee and later this G.O. was modified with G.O. (Rt.) No. 1000/2022 Dated, Thiruvananthapuram,21-04-2022. In the G.O. issued for reconstitution of the General Body, Governing Body, and Executive Committee, the Chairman of the Governing Body and the Executive Committee is Sri.Pranabjyothi Nath IAS, Secretary Water Resources Department. The GB meeting suggested to amend the bye-law of the society in the next General Body meeting and to modify that the Chairman of the Executive Committee may be a non-official member appointed by the Government from among the eminent persons.

## 4. Report on the Progress of the Regular Social Audit During the FY 2021-22

The GB meeting examined the progress of the Regular Social Audit (RSA) of MGNREGA works implemented by the Grama Panchayats during the first cycle of the FY 2021-22 (From April 2021 to September 2022). The GB meeting observed that in some of the districts the progress of RSA is dismal and the coverage is very limited. The Director, SAU explained the reason for this poor coverage due to the shortage of social audit resource persons and their massive drop out during the period of COVID 19 pandemic and the non-disbursement of wages/ honorarium in time.

The GB meeting entrusted the Director, SAU to fill up all the vacant posts of social audit resource persons within a period of two months and to ensure comprehensive coverage of the social audit of MGNREGS works in the two audit cycles.



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## 5. Report on the Fund Position, Income and Expenditure of the SAU Kerala

The GB meeting suggested to change the usage of Income and Expenditure statement rather than Receipts and Payments statement and approved the details of the Income and Expenditure Statement. The GB meeting entrusted the Director to install the TALLY Software and prepare the accounts with the support of this software.

# 6. Approval of the Budget Proposal of the SAU Kerala for the FY 2022-23

The GB meeting has approved the budget proposal of the Social Audit Unit Kerala for the Financial Year 2022-23 and entrusted the Director, SAU to send the budget proposal with a detailed note to the MoRD, Government of India and do the follow up work to get the social audit fund for the FY 2022-23 and to ensure effective functioning of the SAU Kerala.

# 7. Approval of the Appointment of the MIS Expert

The Governing Body meeting approved the appointment of Mrs. Nayna Mariya Varghese as the MIS Expert in the SAU Kerala on contract basis for a period of one year.

# 8. Approval of the Appointment of the Accounts Officer

The Governing Body meeting approved the measures taken by the Director, SAU to appoint the Accounts Officer through the Professional and Technical Employment Officer, Thiruvananthapuram in a transparent process. The GB meeting entrusted the Director, SAU to fill up the post at the earliest and to place the Accounts Officer immediately.

# 9. Fixing the Norms for the Recruitment of BRPs and VRPs

The GB meeting has approved the following norms for the transparent selection and appointment of BRPs and VRPs in various districts;

- The unit of selection and appointment of the BRPs is the district and the VRPs is the block in which the applicants belong.
- Priority for filling up the vacancies should be given to those districts which have severe shortage of resource persons, such as Malappuram, Wayanad, Ernakulam, Kasaragodu, Kannur and Idukki. Subsequently, the vacancies of other districts will have to be filled up.
- The selection of BRPs shall be based on the preferential qualification of Post-Graduate Degree and the selection of VRPs shall be based on the preferential qualification of Graduate Degree mentioned in the notification of these posts.
- If the short- listed applicants come more than five times of the existing vacancies, the SAU will have to conduct a written test for elimination of the candidates and to short list the candidates five times of the existing vacancies of BRPs in the district and VRPs in the blocks and then conduct the interview.
- The recruitment process shall be initiated immediately and fill up all the vacant posts within two months.



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 A selection committee will have to be constituted in each district, consisting of the Director SAU/ Social Development Specialist, the Joint Programme Coordinator/ Ombudsperson and one non-official member of the Governing Body for the recruitment of BRPs and VRPs.

## 10. Approval of the Activity Plan for the FY 2022-23

The key tasks and activity plan prepared and presented by the Director, SAU has approved by the GB meeting. It is suggested that these activities will have to be implemented in a time bound manner and the Executive Committee will have to monitor the progress of implementation of these activities continuously and concurrently.

## 11. Approval of the Procurement of Furniture for the SAU Office

The GB meeting has approved the procurement of furniture which costs Rs. 59082/-(Rupees Fifty Nine Thousand and Eighty Two Only) for the office use of SAU.

# **12.** Report on the Social Audit of MDMS in Kerala and social audit of other Departments and Agencies

The Director, SAU reported that lack of support on the part of the Director, General Education, the administrative department implementing the PMPOSHAN scheme and the undue intervention during the time of conducting the social audit of the scheme prevented the SAU to complete the social audit process and finalize the social audit report of the PMPOSHAN. The Chairman of the GB suggested to convene an inter-departmental Secretary level meeting to discuss and resolve the issue immediately. The GB meeting entrusted the Director, SAU to meet the Secretary, General Education Department and to request for a convenient date and time for this meeting.

The SAU has to undertake the responsibility of the social audit of other Centrally Sponsored Schemes/Programmes and the state sponsored programmes such as, Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Programme. In order to implement the social audit of other development programmes at an extended scale the GB has decided to strengthen the institutional system of the Social Audit Society, including the ministerial support system to conduct other social audits and to become a potential institution for social audit in the state.

## 13. Fixing District Level Responsibility of the Non-Official Members of the GB

To facilitate the social audit of MGNREGA and to monitor the social audit activities of various districts, the GB meeting decided to fix the district level responsibility of non-official members of the GB. The responsibility of the non-official members is listed as follows;

SI.No.	Name	Districts
1	Sri.S.Rajendran	Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Ernakulam and Pathanamthitta
2	Smt. Girija Surendran	Trissur, Palakkad and Malappuram



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3	Sri. Animon	Kollam, Kottayam and Idukki
4	Sri. A.N.Prabhakaran	Kozhikkodu, Waynad, Kannur and Kasaragodu

## 14. Fixing the Norms for Wage Release and Social Audit Output Based on Persons Days

The GB meeting decided to release the wage/ honorarium of the various levels of resource persons based on the social audit outputs. Conduct of social audit Grama Sabha meetings and public hearings will have to be taken as criteria for disbursement of wage/ honorarium. The GM meeting estimated that generally 8-10 persons days are required for completing the social audit process in a Grama Panchayat ward and to conduct the social audit Grama sabhas. The GB meeting also decided that depending on the number of MGNREGA works and the geographical terrange of the Grama Panchayat few additional persons days are to be given for the VRPs. The GB meeting entrusted the Director, SAU to identify such GPs in various districts and to sanction 2-3 additional persons days for such GPs.

# 15.Report on the Social Audit Issues Mapped and Submitted to the Mission Director

Approved the report on the social audit issues identified and handed over to the MGNREGA Mission Director. The GB entrusted the Director, SAU to concurrently report the social audit feedback to the LSGD, Government of Kerala and the MGNREGA Mission Director.

# 16.Sanction for Purchase of Lap tops for Director, MIS Expert and Accounts Officer

The Governing Body meeting has sanctioned to procure three laptops for the use of Director, MIS Expert and Accounts Officer and has given administrative sanction for Rs. 2.00 Lakhs (Rupees Two Lakhs only) for the same.

# 17.Enhancement of Salary of DRPs, BRPs and VRPs

The GB meeting has decided to enhance the existing monthly salary/honorarium of the District Resource Persons (DRPs) in to Rs. 23,000/- (Rupees Twenty Three Thousand only), and Block Resource Persons (BRPs) in to Rs. 15000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand Only) respectively and the daily wage for Village Resource Persons (VRPs) in to Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five Hundred and Fifty Only) with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

# 18. Fixation of Salary of the Director, SAU Kerala

The MoRD, Government of India initially fixed the salary of the Director, SAU as 60000/- (Rupees Sixty Thousand Only) in 2017. The Social Audit Society of the various states subsequently revised the salary of the Director of the SAU. The average salary of Full Time Directors, SAUs in the four south Indian states is **Rs. 90,966.75/-** and the average salary of the last six months drawn by the former full time Director, SAU was **Rs. 1,27,256/-.** Therefore, the Governing Body has decided to revise and fix the salary of the Director in to **Rs.1,00,000/-** (Rupees One Lakh Only) per month during his period of service in the SAU as Director.



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### 19. Sanction for Payment of Arrear Rent of the SAU Office

The SAU signed agreement with CSI Trust Association Treasurer Rev. D. Calvin Kristo and in the original agreement itself the provision for 8 % of annual rental increase was included. The SAU has paid the rent to the CSI Trust Association only up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and the rent arrears amounts to Rs. 7,21,262/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Twenty Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty Two Only) is due to the CSI Trust Association. Therefore, the Governing Body meeting has sanctioned and entrusted the Director, SAU to pay the rent arears to CSI Trust Association immediately.

#### 20. Other Items Permitted by the Chair

#### 20.1. Approval of the Audit Report of the SAU for the FY 2021-22

The GB meeting approved the Audit Report submitted by R.Venkitachalam and Associates, Chartered Accountants, Thiruvananthapuram. The GB examined the audit observations given by the chartered accountant. The Director SAU has given assurance to the GB that these audit observations will have to be taken in to consideration and will have to be corrected positively and proactively.

#### 20.2. Fixing the Sitting Fee of the Non-Official Members of the Governing Body

The GB meeting has decided to sanction Rs. 2000/- (Rupees Two Thousand Only) as the sitting fee for the non-official members of the Governing Body along with TA at par with Class-I officers of the state government departments.

#### 20.3. General Body Meeting of the Social Audit Society

The first meeting of the reconstituted General Body of the Social Audit Society will be conducted in the second week of June 2022.

#### 20.4. Nomination of Non-Official Members of the Governing Body to the Executive Committee

The bye-law of the Social Audit Society stipulate to nominate two non-official members of the Governing Body to the Executive Committee. Hence, the Governing Body meeting has decided to nominate Smt. Girija Surendran, Gireendram, Kunnathoormetu.P.O., Palakkad and Sri.A.N.Prabhakaran, Anchanattu, Kottarakkunnu,P.O., Vellamunda, Wayanad as members of the Executive Committee.

The meeting is concluded at 1.30 pm with the consolidation remarks of the Chairman, Governing Body.

05.22.

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