GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL Panchayats & Rural Development Department 63, N.S. Road, Kolkata – 700 001

No. 3896-RD/P/MGNREGA/18S-01/07

Dated: 24.06.2013

ORDER

Whereas in terms of the provision of the Constitution of India in Article 243 E (1) and subsection (1) of section 7 of the West Bengal Panchayat Act, 1973, tenure of different Gram Panchayats constituted pursuant to the 7th Panchayat General Elections, 2008 will expire on completion of five years from the date of the first meeting of respective Panchayat bodies;

And whereas Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 stipulates engagement of Job Card holders within 15 days from the date of preferring demands and all such job seekers engaged are to be paid wages within 15 days from the date of such engagement;

And whereas the MGNREGS accounts in the Gram Panchayats are presently operated by the Pradhan of respective Gram Panchayat with the Executive Assistant / Executive Assistant-in-charge of the Gram Panchayats;

And whereas the cheques and payment orders pertaining to MGNREGS cannot be signed by the elected Panchayat office bearers once the tenure of the existing Panchayat bodies expires on completion of their present five-year term;

And whereas payment of wages to the job seekers cannot be kept pending till the new Gram Panchayats are constituted.

Now, therefore, after careful consideration of the provisions of the relevant Acts and the issues involved, the Governor is pleased, as an interim measure, to order that the MGNREGS related accounts of the Gram Panchayats whose tenure will expire shortly shall be jointly operated by the Block Development Officer concerned in the capacity of Programme Officer, MGNREGA with the Executive Assistant / Executive Assistant-in-charge of the respective Gram Panchayat as the co-signatory. This interim measure shall automatically stand reversed once the newly elected bodies pursuant to the 8th Panchayat General Elections are constituted. The District Magistrate as District Programme Coordinator, MGNREGS shall ensure compliance of this order with immediate effect.

The order issues in the public interest and only in relation to operation and maintenance of the MGNREGS accounts.

Memo No. 3896/1(36)/RD/P/MGNREGA/18S-01/07

Copy forwarded for favour of information and necessary action to the:

- 1-17. The District Magistrate (Except Darjeeling District), with the request to communicate this order to all concerned immediately
- 18. The Private Secretary to the Minister-in-Charge, Panchayats & Rural Development Department, Government of West Bengal, for information of the Minister-in-Charge
- 19. The Sr. PA to the Principal Secretary for information of the Principal Secretary, Panchayats & Rural Development Department, Government of West Bengal
- 20-36. The District Nodal Office, MGNREGA, all Districts. (Except Darjeeling District)

Commissioner, MGNREGS

Dated: 24.06.2013

& Joint Secretary Panchayats & Rural Development Department