

अल्का उपाध्याय

अपर सचिव एवं महानिदेशक (एन आर आई डी ए)

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ग्रामीण विकास विभाग
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

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Dated: 21st May 2020

To,

The State Mission Directors/CEOs,
SRLM- All States/UTs

Subject: Prioritizing DAY-NRLM activities

In view of the recent guidelines of MHA, SRLMs need to synergize the activities that are critical for supporting women. It is, therefore, important to resume work under DAY-NRLM, to the extent possible and in keeping with the exigencies of the current situations and advisories of MHA & MoHFW, GOI. Some of the systems and protocols will have to be relaxed/amended, at least for a short period, till the situation normalizes.

The following are accordingly proposed-

1. SRLM offices should resume working and also motivate staff at District/ Block level to start their work, albeit in conformity to MHA and State directives.
2. First instalment of approved budget of current financial year has been released. SRLMs must ensure the release of funds (centre and state share) from State Treasury on time. Detail status to be updated to Mr. Pavan Kumar, NMMU- FM (email ID- mmfinancenrlm2@gmail.com, Mobile No. – 09560032023), latest by 25th May 2020.
3. In response to COVID-19, all geographies in the country have been categorized into 3 zones i.e. red, orange and green. Work related to NRLM needs to be resumed by ensuring safety norms applicable for different zones, as per the followings:
 - 3.1. In the green zone areas, VO/CLF may be advised to conduct the meetings with their Office Bearers and bookkeeper/account (not more than 5-6 person) or with minimum 50% of executive committee members as per the prevailing situation to ensure the continuity of necessary activities of these federations.
 - 3.2. SHG members more than 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women should avoid participating in these meetings. SHG meetings may be conducted either on a fortnightly or monthly basis.
 - 3.3. To avoid the spread of CORONA – 19 pandemic, SRLMs need to ensure that all SHG members are trained properly on the preventive measures to be adopted while conducting meetings by the trained Community cadres and mission staff. Also, need to ensure that CBOs follow all safety measures strictly while conducting the meetings.
 - 3.4. Seating arrangement with social distancing norms to be followed and soap-water or sanitizer to be arranged to wash the hand before and after the meeting.

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4. It is very important to ensure funds liquidity position with the community institutions for supporting both consumption and livelihoods related expenditure. SRLM shall ensure the release of community funds (i.e. RF, CIF and VRF on priority). Focus should be in blocks wherever community funds have not been released or has not been released to a large number of eligible SHGs/VOs/CLFs.
5. It should be ensured that not more than 12% rate of interest is charged on loans to SHG members by SHG federations.
6. SRLMs need to focus on preparation of Micro Credit Plans/repeat MCPs for ascertaining the credit needs of SHG members and disbursement of loans to members from the available funds in the institutions bank account or unwithdrawn bank loan amount.
7. SRLMs are advised to promote the digital transaction in SHG/VO/CLF meetings as far as possible.
8. To ensure safety of BC Sakhi/DigipaySakhi working under DAY-NRLM and for smooth transaction operations while providing banking services, SHGs may be advised that BC Sakhi/DigipaySakhi who are involved in disbursement of PMGKY and other DBT during the lockdown period may be provided loan from SHGs on priority for their settlement account till 30th September, 2020 for catering to high volume of transaction loads.
9. The spiralling impact of COVID -19 pandemic has re-emphasized the need for risk coverage of every households. SHG members and one of the major earning members of the family should be covered under life and accidental insurance (PMJJBY & PMSBY). This needs to be followed up regularly.
10. Understanding the ongoing situations of the COVID-19, SRLMs are advised to promote the meetings/trainings/etc. on virtual platforms such as webinar, skype, google meet, google hangouts, etc.
11. States are advised to submit the proposal under Innovation Fund of the DAY-NRLM in response to COVID-19 pandemic (issues related to migrant worker, food security and others). Similar initiative may also be taken under NRETP for 13 NRETP states. Details may be discussed with NMMU thematic teams.
12. To ensure the dream of **'One Nation- One Ration Card'** steps need to be taken to ensure that all eligible households particularly poor and vulnerable households and households of returned migrant laborers are having ration card. VOs/CLFs may be assigned to prepare the list and share with gram panchayat and also motivate the SHG members to complete the Aadhar verification. SMMU can share the list and follow-up with the department of Food & Public Distribution to ensure the benefit.
13. Ensure preventive measures are being taken while undertaking any activities related to COVID-19 including maintaining social distancing while working, use of mask, wash hands, regularly maintain hygiene and social distancing as required or any measures suggested by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Family & Health.

Yours faithfully,



(Alka Upadhyaya)