

सत्यव्रत साहु, आई.ए.एस.  
संयुक्त सचिव  
*Satyabrata Sahu, I.A.S.*  
Joint Secretary



भारत सरकार  
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता मंत्रालय  
Government of India  
Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation  
B-2 Wing, 4th Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan,  
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D.O. No: W-11042/70/2015-Water-II

Date: 18 October, 2016

Dear Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) was constituted with the purpose of giving recommendations on specified aspects of Centre-State fiscal relations during 2015-20. Under its recommendations, the FFC has awarded grants to the tune of Rs. 2,00,292.20 crore to Gram Panchayats from 2015 to 2020 to support and strengthen the delivery of basic services **including "water supply, sanitation including septic management, sewage and solid waste management, storm water drainage, maintenance of community assets etc"** in the rural areas of the country. Mostly these funds should be spent for operation and maintenance of the assets already created.

2. Ministry of Panchayati Raj has also written to Chief Secretary of your state in this regard for utilizing funds under FFC and has requested the State Government to issue suitable instructions to GPs for according priority to various activities relating to the provision of safe drinking water. A copy of letter dated 27.09.2016 from Ministry of Panchayati Raj is **enclosed for reference.**

3. As safe drinking water is a vital need of the people, it is important for the government to address the problem of drinking water of the people. A list of indicative works that can be taken up under this grant is given below:

- Providing pipe connections to rural households.
- Maintenance of damaged pipes, repair of tap connections, bore wells, purchase of spare parts under the operation and maintenance component.
- Providing safe drinking water to schools and anganwadi alongwith their maintenance.

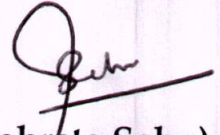
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- Ensuring sustainability through construction and augmentation of recharge pits, trenches, check dams, dug wells, skimming wells, traditional water bodies.
- Constructing community drinking water facilities.
- Providing community water purification plants in areas suffering from chemical or bacteriological contamination.
- Capacity building of various village level institutions/functionaries.
- Payment of electricity charges for water supply schemes.

4. I shall be grateful if you impress upon the Chief Secretary of the State to issue necessary guidelines / instructions with regard to allocation of suitable amount of funds for drinking water facilities, so that the rural drinking water infrastructure/assets could function smoothly and efficiently.

With regards.

Yours sincerely



(Satyabrata Sahu)

To

Principal Secretary/ Secretary in-charge of PHED/ RWS of all States/ UTs

Copy to: Engineer-in-Chief in-charge of PHED/ RWS of all States/ UTs.

No. N-11011/9/2016-FD  
Government of India  
Ministry of Panchayati Raj

11th Floor, Jeevan Prakash Building,  
25-K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001  
Dated 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

To

The Chief Secretary  
(All States as per list)

Subject: Providing safe drinking water to rural people utilizing funds under FFC grant - *regarding*

Sir,

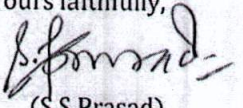
Under the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) award, grants to the tune of Rs. 2,00,292.20 crore are being devolved to Gram Panchayats (GPs) for the period 2015-20 at Rs. 488 per capita per annum at an aggregate level to support and strengthen the delivery of basic civic services by the GPs. The grants are being released in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) dated 8-10-2015.

2. To ensure that the grants being made available are utilized properly and for the prioritized local needs, the States have issued their detailed guidelines for preparation of participatory Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) converging resources from various State and Central sector schemes over which the GPs have command. The FFC and the guidelines issued by MoF emphasize on delivery of basic services such as water supply, sanitation and street lights in addition to other activities for utilization of grants.

3. The decision for prioritizing utilization of FFC funds for providing basic services lies with the GPs which have to incur expenditure after preparation of GPDPs. Since Government of India has accorded utmost importance and priority to providing safe drinking water in the rural areas, Gram Panchayats should be advised to consider undertaking various activities connected with providing safe drinking water to the people utilizing FFC grants.

4. Hence, it is requested that suitable instructions to Gram Panchayats for according priority to various activities relating to the provision of safe drinking water may be issued at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

  
(S S Prasad)  
Director

Copy to:

1. Joint Secretary (DW), Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.
2. Director, (FCD), Department of Expenditure, CGO Complex, New Delhi.