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 தேசிய கொள்கைகள் மற்றும் பொருளாதார விவகாரங்கள் அமைச்சு
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL POLICIES AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

“මිලෝදා” (පැරණි වයිමිස් ගොඩනැගිල්ල), පළමු මහල, බ්‍රිස්ටල් වීදිය, කොළඹ 01. / ‘மிலோதா’, 1^{வது} மாடி, மிர்ஸ்டல் வீதி, கொழும்பு 01. / “Miloda”(Old Times Building), 1st Floor, Bristol Street, Colombo 01.

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 எனது இல } MNPEA/PLN/RIDP/2017
 My No }

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 உமது இல }
 Your No }

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 திகதி } 11.01.2017
 Date }

Circular No. **MNPEA 02/2017**

All District Secretaries,

Rural Infrastructure Development Programme (RIDP) – 2017

Annual Budget 2017 has allocated funds under the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs for implementation of Rural Infrastructure Development Programme at Grama Niladari Division (GND) level.

The objective of this programme is to enhance employment and livelihood opportunities through development of supportive infrastructure and uplifting socio-economic status of rural communities. Special focus should be given to projects which generates self-employment opportunities for the youth and women.

Following guidelines are issued for implementation of this program;

1. The program will be implemented in all GNDs. Each GND will initially get projects worth of **Rs. 500,000/**.
2. Divisional Secretaries (DSs) should form committees of the community in each GND. The Committee shall consist of heads of registered Community Based Organizations. All officials working in the GND should involve in this process and DS may identify one official as convener and coordinator for each GND.
3. The Committee should identify the projects that reflect priority needs through a participatory consultative approach.
4. **Project selection - Priority Areas**
 - 4.1 **Rural Infrastructure –**
 - 4.1.1 Storage facilities for agriculture produce.
 - 4.1.2 Weekly fairs, marketing centers (කඩමණ්ඩිය).
 (Please refer the website in the Prime Minister’s Office for details of weekly fairs - villagefair.pmooffice.gov.lk/)
 - 4.1.3 Construction and renovations of canals, anicuts, ponds, agro wells.
 - 4.1.4 Community drinking water supply projects.
 - 4.1.5 Any other priority physical infrastructure projects.

4.2 Livelihood and Capacity Development

- 4.2.1 Agriculture modernization and post harvest management.
- 4.2.2 Micro, Small and Medium entrepreneurship development.
- 4.2.3 IT facilities.

5. The Committee should pay attention to following factors when selecting projects
 - 5.1 Community interest and acceptance.
 - 5.2 Focus on poverty alleviation, production and income improvement.
 - 5.3 Projects already identified in the development plan in the area should be prioritized.
 - 5.4 Optimum use of available resources in the area.
 - 5.5 Sustainability of the project.
 - 5.6 Participation of local communities, CBO/NGO/INGO.
 - 5.7 Equitable distribution of funds among beneficiaries.
 - 5.8 Projects which could be completed before end of 2017.
6. DS may allow clustering of GNDs not exceeding five and implement not more than **two projects** within the cluster.
7. Minimum of **70%** from the total allocation from a GND or a cluster should be allocated for projects identified under **the priority area 4.1 (infrastructure)**. Balance (maximum 30%) can be allocated for the projects identified under the priority area 4.2. However, not more than two (2) projects can be implemented in one GN Division.
8. Incomplete work continuing from previous year can be given priority.
9. Equipment/Materials value **not exceeding Rs.20,000.00** can be given to an entrepreneur as a direct grant under the **item 4.2**. Priority should be given to the entrepreneurs who are already engaged in the industry/trade. The Divisional Secretary shall ensure that the identified beneficiaries have not received any grant assistance from the government during the last 2 years.
10. Divisional Secretary shall prepare an aggregate schedule of project proposals covering all GN divisions and submit after getting Divisional Coordinating Committee approval, to District Coordinating Committee through District Secretary before **28th of February 2017**.
11. District Secretary should place the proposal before DCC for information and request for allocation before **31st March 2017**. Requests received for Allocations after 31.03.2017 will be rejected.
12. No amendments to proposals to be made after **31.05.2017**.

13. All the contracts shall be executed in terms of the Procurement Guidelines. Direct contract is not permitted for the projects exceeding the project over Rs. 500,000.00.
14. An amount not exceeding **1%** of the total allocation could be provided to cover the Administrative cost of the District Secretariat and Divisional Secretariats. Secretary Home Affairs should be consulted for any clarification on method of spending.
15. District Secretaries and DSs shall ensure completion of projects prior to **31.10.2017**.
16. Monitoring and Evaluation of the Program will be carried out by the Department of Project Management and Monitoring (DPMM). District Director planning shall establish a monitoring system and report the progress to DPMM before the 10th of the following month.
17. A name board of the size of 4'X3' prepared according to the design provided by this ministry should be installed at the commencement of a project. A cost not exceeding Rs. 6,000.00 shall be included in the estimate.

Please bring the contents of this Circular to the notice of all Hon. MPs in your District. Please table this circular at the meetings of District Coordinating Committee and Divisional Coordinating Committees for information



M.I.M. Rafeek
Secretary

Copies:

1. Secretary to the Treasury – f.i.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs - f.i. & n.a.
3. All Chief Secretaries - f.i.
4. Auditor General - f.i.
5. Director General, Department of National Planning - f.i.
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7. Director General, Department of Treasury Operation - f.i. & n.a.
8. Director General, Department of Project Management and Monitoring - f.i. & n.a.
9. All District Planning Directors - f.i. & n.a.