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

“මිලෝදා” (පැරණි වයිමස් ගොඩනැගිල්ල), පළමු මහල, ත්‍රිස්ටල් වීදිය, කොළඹ 01. / ‘මිලෝදා’, 1<sup>වන</sup> மாடி, பிறிஸ்டல் வீதி, கொழும்பு 01./ “Miloda”(Old Times Building), 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Bristol Street, Colombo 01

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திகதி }  
Date }

Circular No. 02/2016

All District Secretaries,

**Rural Infrastructure Development Program-2016**

The Annual National Budget for 2016 has allocated a sum of Rs. 1 million for each Grama Niladhari Division (GND) in the country to implement the Rural Infrastructure Development Program for 2016. I draw your attention to the Economic Policy Statement delivered by the Hon. Prime Minister on the 05<sup>th</sup> November 2015 which spells out the basis for originating this Program. The intention of this programme is to develop rural infrastructure facilities to improve the livelihood opportunities and economic productivity of the rural communities and uplifting socio-economic welfare status leading to improved quality of life of rural communities.

Following guidelines are issued in implementation of this program;

- 1- The program will be implemented in all GNDs except those coming under the jurisdiction of Municipal Councils. Each GND is eligible for **Rs. 1 million** and projects shall be identified benefitting residents within the GND.
- 2- You are requested to instruct Grama Niladaris (GNs) through Divisional Secretaries (DSs) to form a committee of the community within the respective GND. The Committee shall consist heads of all the active registered (registered with DS) Community Based Organizations operating within the GND. GN would coordinate and facilitate the meetings and activities of the committee. This committee would identify projects which reflect urgent priority needs of the community.
- 3- The Committee should identify the projects which are related to village level infrastructure development through a participatory consultative approach with the residents of the GND in the following priority areas;
  - 3.1- Community based water supply projects both rehabilitation and new construction to improve the drinking water and common bathing facilities.
  - 3.2- Small scale electricity projects.
  - 3.3- Rural roads, footpaths, rural bridges, culverts and foot bridges. (rehabilitation/ new construction)

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- 3.4- Constructions and renovations of canals, anicuts, ponds and agro wells under the minor irrigation projects for agricultural activities.
- 3.5- Any other physical infrastructure projects which could be implemented at village level to uplift the rural livelihood.
- 4- Funds can be allocated to complete partially completed projects if they can be fully completed within this year. This provision is available for the year 2016 only.
- 5- DSs may allow to combine two (2) or more but not exceeding five (5) GNDs as a cluster to complete unfinished project works identified by the committees of such GNDs within that cluster if such projects are more effective and beneficial. You may develop a suitable criteria together with DSs within your district for allowing such projects for a cluster.
- 6- The committee should identify not more than 5 projects in each GND and submit to the Divisional Secretary who will make arrangements for implementation upon satisfaction that the project identified by the community;
- reflects the urgent important needs of the relevant GN division;
  - contribute to the economic and social development of the community and employment generation;
  - beneficial to the majority living within the GND;
  - would enhance the rural livelihood; and
  - be within the allocated budget.
- 7- The Divisional Secretary shall prepare an aggregate consolidated schedule of projects covering all GN divisions within his or her Divisional Secretariat Division. This schedule shall be submitted to the Divisional Coordinating Committee for approval.
- 8- Divisional Secretary shall submit the consolidated schedule of projects approved by the Divisional Coordinating Committee to the District Secretary on or before **30<sup>th</sup> of April 2016**. District Secretary should ensure obtaining the concurrence of District Coordinating Committee for such schedules of projects prior to make request for necessary allocations from this ministry before **31<sup>st</sup> May 2016**.
- 9- All the contracts shall be implemented according to the provisions of Procurement Guidelines. Direct contracts to registered societies are not permitted.
- 10- An amount not exceeding **1%** of the total allocation could be provided to cover the Administration cost of the District Secretariat and Divisional Secretariats.
- 11- District Secretaries and the Divisional Secretaries are responsible to ensure completion of all the projects before the **31<sup>st</sup> October 2016**.

12-District Secretary has to ensure that all the projects are implemented strictly in accordance to the government rules and regulations. Further, it is essential to establish a proper system to monitor the entire process (project identification and selection, implementation and achieving intended impacts and results) of this program under the Director Planning in your district. Monthly progress should be reported to the Department of Project Management and Monitoring before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the following month.

13-Monitoring and evaluation of the entire Program will be carried out by the Department of Project Management and Monitoring of this Ministry.

14-Please bring the contents of this circular to the attention of all the elected representatives through Divisional and District Coordinating Committees of the Districts.



**M.I.M. Rafeek**  
Secretary

Copies

1. Secretary, Ministry of Finance – for information
  2. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs – for information
  3. Chief Secretaries of all the Provincial Councils- for information
  4. Auditor General, Department of Auditor General - for information
  5. Director General, Department of National Planning - for information
  6. Director General, Department of National Budget
  7. Director General, Department of Project Management and Monitoring
  8. All District Planning Directors
  9. Chief Financial Officer/ Chief Accountant, MoNPEA
- } for information and necessary action