

GOPABANDHU GRAMIN YOJANA

Hemanta Kumar Nayak

The Government of Orissa under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik has launched a new initiative called "The Gopabandhu Gramin Yojana (GGY)" on October 9, 2006 with a view to providing additional developmental assistance to the targeted 11 (Eleven) districts which are not covered under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF). The scheme has been implemented from the year 2006-07 and will continue to be implemented during the 11th Plan period from 2007-08 to 2011-12.

2. Coverage of Districts :

The GGY has been implemented in the following 11 districts ; (i) Angul (ii) Balasore, (iii) Bargarh, (iv) Bhadrak, (v) Cuttack, (vi) Jajpur, (vii) Jagatsinghpur, (viii) Kendrapara, (ix) Khurda, (x) Nayagarh and (xi) Puri.

3. Objectives of GGY :

The principal objective of the scheme is to provide additional development funds to the targeted districts to provide infrastructure consisting primarily of *Bijli*, *Sadak* and *Pani* (i.e., electrification, roads and water supply) to every revenue village in the identified 11 districts. Some of the specific projects which could be taken under the Yojana would be in the nature of construction of concrete roads within the village,

construction of black top/concrete roads to connect a village with a nearest PMGSY or ODR road, installation of street lights within the village, for which the maintenance is to be borne by the concerned Gram Panchayat (GP), provision of drinking water supply and creation of irrigation sources.

The additional development funds provided in this Yojana would be of un-tied nature and supplement the programmes which are already available in the aforesaid sectors and provide synergy and convergence to the different development programmes.

4. Fund Allocation :

Each targeted district will provided an additional development assistance to the extent of Rs. 10 crore (Rupees Ten Crore) per annum for a period of 6 years from 2006-07 to 2011-12.

5. Mechanisms for implementation of the GGY

Panchayati Raj Department is the Nodal Department for the purpose of administration of the GGY and take appropriate budget provisions for this purpose under separate head of account each year beginning from the year 2006-07 onwards until the expiry of the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

The GGY aims at providing infrastructure consisting primarily of *Bijli, Sadak* and *Pani* to every revenue village in the identified eleven districts. For this purpose, each village may be allotted funds in the following manner (i) the villages having a population below 500 persons may be given funds to the extent of Rs. 2 Lakh each, (ii) the villages having population above 500 but less than or up to 1000 persons may be given Rs. 3.00 lakh each, and (iii) the villages having population more than 1000 persons may be given Rs. 5 lakh each. The census figure of 1991 shall be adopted for determining the population of village for the purpose of implementation of this Yojana. The objective is to cover all revenue villages in a phased manner by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan.

The Gram Sabha of the identified village shall select the projects to be undertaken within the village to the ceiling prescribed above funds received from other sources such as SGRY, Finance Commission Award etc. may be dovetailed for the purpose. Contributions from villages may also be encouraged.

The proposals approved by the Gram Sabha shall be compiled by the Block and put up to the District Level Committee for approval of the project lists. There will be a District Level Committee headed by the Collector and will consist of all the M.P., MLAs and Chairperson, Zilla Parishad of the district. While selecting the villages and the schemes, the District Level Committee shall ensure that the resources are not spread too thin and that durable assets are created.

After the projects are sanctioned, estimates will be prepared by the BDO for those projects which can be accommodated within the financial allocations for the particular year. The process may be repeated every year. While

preparing the estimates, the BDO may take assistance of Assistant Engineer of the Block/Engineers of the Electricity Utility/Water Resources Department etc. as the case may be. The limit of administrative and technical sanctions for this projects will be the same as available for similar ongoing schemes. The provisions of OGFR and OPWD code would apply to the projects to be taken up under the GGY.

The Yojana will be executed in the eleven targeted districts under the umbrella of the district plans. The projects under the GGY shall be integrated with the district plan to bring about necessary convergence with other schemes of the Government such as the Swajaladhara, the Biju Krushak Vikash Yojana, the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutkaran Yojana and PMGSY etc.

While doing so, the following points may be kept in mind;

- (a) Villages having a population of more than 1000 persons may be provided with a multipurpose hall of around Rs. 5 lakh to be taken up within the premises of the school with funds from Sarba Sikshya Abhiyan (SSA). The hall may have a raised platform at one end to be used as dais. Such a hall may also be available to the village during off hours or during school holidays for community use. The school committee may charge a suitable fee for the use of the hall which should be retained in the school for maintenance and other developmental activities of the school.
- (b) In blocks having less than 35% of irrigation, a special drive may be conducted to take up irrigation projects under the Biju Krushak Vikash Yojana. Such projects may include lift irrigation points, community bore-well projects, etc. depending upon the feasibility of the project. Villages having population more than 1000 persons may be given priority over those having

less than 1000 population. Over-riding priority should be accorded to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes habitations irrespective of their population status, for which funds should be accessed inter-alia from MADA, ST & SC Development Corporation, ITDA etc. wherever applicable.

Funds will be released in not more than two installments by the Panchayati Raj Department directly to the concerned Collectors who will maintain a separate head of account for the Yojana with the District Rural Development Authority (DRDA). The concerned Project Director, DRDA will function as Drawing & Disbursing Officer for this Yojana.

The District Collector will release the funds to the concerned implementing agencies within 15 days of the receipt of the funds from the Government in Panchayati Raj Department. The District Collector and Project Director, DRDA will be directly responsible for effective and timely implementation of the Yojana. The Collector will furnish Monthly Progress Report (MPR) on financial and physical achievements of the Yojana to the Panchayati Raj Department.

6. The State Level Steering Committee

There will be a State Level Steering Committee (SLSC) under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary that will have the overall responsibility for effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the Yojana. The SLSC will have the following the composition.

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|--|---|-------------|
| (i) Chief Secretary | - | Chairperson |
| (ii) Development Commissioner
- Cum - Additional Chief
Secretary | - | Member |
| (iii) Agriculture Production
Commissioner -Cum-
Additional Chief Secretary | - | Member |

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|
| (iv) Principal Secretary, Finance | - | Member |
| (v) Special Secretary (Plan)
Planning & Co-ordination (Plan) | - | Member |
| (vi) One nominated NGO/CSO | - | Member |
| (vii) Secretary, Panchayati Raj
Department | - | Member
Secretary |

The Chairperson of the State Level Steering Committee will have the powers to invite any other officer, authority or civil society organization to a meeting of the committee. The Committee will decide its own rules of business.

7. Preparation of District Plan

District Plan will be prepared as the Guidelines for the District Plan in the 11th Five Year Plan as contained in Planning Commission Letter No. 13011/1/2006/SP-Co. dated. 25.08.06 which has been already circulated to all Collectors vide P & C. Department letter No. 12189(30)/P dated 04.09.2006 and in such a manner as may be specified by P & C Department from time to time.

The main principles which have to be taken into consideration for implementation of the GGY and the preparation of the District Plan are summarized as follows :

- (i) The flow of funds from all sources namely State Plan, Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Central Schemes, externally aided projects and funds received from any other source for development purpose are to be aggregated in arriving at the resource availability for District Plan.
- (ii) Funds under the Yojana are to be used as additionality for those schemes that are selected, developed and approved in the manner as elaborated in section 5 above.
- (iii) The cost effectiveness of all schemes should be carefully considered so that returns from

the funds invested under the scheme are maximized.

(iv) There should be complete transparency in the choice of schemes and their locations. The prioritized list of schemes and the reasons for taking up the schemes and the criteria for choice of locations must be reflected in the District Plan and be made available on the web-site.

(v) It should be ensured that the schemes are sustainable and assets should be planned with care so that they are useful and maintained even after the scheme is over. Special attention is to be given to sustainability of each project. In the case of community assets, wherever possible future maintenance should be built into the programme, e.g. if a community hall is constructed, individuals who use the hall should be charged user fees so that corpus fund for maintenance can be set up.

(vi) It will be mandatory that funds are allocated for SC communities under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and ST communities under Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) modes in proportion to their populations in a village.

8. Social Audit :

Social Audit and vigilance shall be encouraged at grass-roots level. The District Collector shall also prepare schedules of inspection which prescribe the minimum number of field visits for each supervisory level functionary and shall ensure that the inspection schedules are faithfully followed by supervisory level functionaries. The Government in Panchayati Raj Department may also prescribed additional monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, reports and returns with a view to assessing the effectiveness of the implementation of the Yojana from time to time.

9. Other Matters

Panchayati Raj Department shall be responsible for clarifying doubts, if any, and ensure that bottlenecks in the implementation of the Yojana are removed as expeditiously as possible and communicated to all concerned.

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NEW GENERATION BICYCLE PLANT TO BE SET UP IN ORISSA

The State Government has signed a memorandum of understanding with Uttam Galva Steel Limited (UGSL) for establishment of a three million tonne steel plant and 210 MW power plant with an investment of Rs.8,987 crore, and a new generation bicycle plant at Gopalpur. On the occasion, Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik said the establishment of the new generation bicycle plant will usher in a revolution in the sector. UGSL is a secondary steel producer, which converts hot-rolled coils into cold-rolled ones and sheets for different end-rolled ones and sheets for different end-users like automobile, white goods, general engineering, drum and barrels sectors. The MOU was signed by Secretary in the Steel and Mines Department Shri L .N.Gupta and UGSL Chairman Shri R.K. Miglani. Industries Minister Shri Biswabhusan Harichandan, Minister for Steel and Mines Shri Padmanabha Behera, Chief Secretary Dr. Subas Pani and senior officials were present.

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