

285109/2017/O/o SECRETARY (RD)

अमरजीत सिन्हा  
AMARJEET SINHA



सचिव  
भारत सरकार  
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय  
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग  
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001

SECRETARY  
Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Rural Development  
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D.O.NRRDA- P-017(29)/10/2017-WB

August 29, 2017

Dear Girija,

The Rural Road Network plays an important role in bringing the rural people into the mainstream by providing access to various economic and social services. The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) has been in the forefront in the last 17 years for improving/strengthening the rural road network in the States by providing all-weather road connectivity.

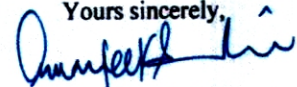
2. The success of maintenance and management of the huge rural road network lies in the optimal use of the resources available at the disposal of the State Governments. The availability of data handling tools and a qualitative data base is a pre-requisite for ensuring proper management of these roads. Considering this, the Ministry of Rural Development has initiated a project to digitize the database of rural roads on the GIS platform. This would, *inter-alia*, contain spatial data and attribute data of habitations, administrative boundaries and various other information relating to rural road network. This digitized data will be hosted in the designated website by CDAC, Pune. You will agree that GIS is not only an important decision making tool for the maintenance and management of the rural roads but the availability of this data in the public domain will also ensure transparency and accountability, which will ultimately yield credibility. The creation of web based GIS for PMGSY is a time bound project and the Ministry of Rural Development intends to launch this project by January, 2018.

3. I have recently reviewed the status of implementation of GIS with the States, including your State, on 18/08/2017 (copy of Minutes is enclosed for ready reference). I am given to understand that Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University has been engaged for the digitization of the roads records under PMGSY in Tamil Nadu. It emerged in the said review that the status of implementation of PMGSY, GIS in your State is not proceeding at the desired pace due to inadequate manpower presently involved in the project work of digitization. Out of 31 districts, digitization has been completed for only three districts i.e. in 61 blocks out of 385 blocks, which is only 15%. In order to achieve the target set by the Ministry for launching the Scheme, the current pace needed to be speeded up, which requires adequate staffing at both GIS consultant and SRRDA levels and continuous supervision.

4. In view the above, I request you to review the project at your level and direct the concerned Department to increase the personnel involved in this project so as to expedite the process and submit the digitized data for the entire State (with all layers) to C-DAC, under intimation to the Ministry, by the end of December, 2017.

with personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Amarjeet Sinha)  
29 August 2017

Encl: As above.

Smt. Girija Vaidhyanathan,  
Chief Secretary,  
Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Secretariat,  
Chennai - 600 009.  
[Tamil Nadu]

J.P. Singh  
29/8/17