

To,

**Principal Secretary/Secretary/CEO-SRRDA
(PMGSY) in all States and UTs(except Goa)**

**Subject: Inspection of PMGSY projects under 2nd tier of Quality Monitoring,
during the Covid-19 lockdown period- regarding.**

As you are aware, in order to mitigate the hardship of people during the Covid-19 lockdown period, the Ministry of Home Affairs vide its Order dated 15th April, 2020 had allowed to carry out certain construction activities in non-containment zones, from 20/04/2020 adhering to proper precautionary measures with regard to social distancing. Construction of roads in rural areas (*outside the municipal limits*) is one such activity, allowed during this period.

2. By now, SRRDAs must have issued necessary direction to their field officials to initiate the preparatory activities and expedite the completion of ongoing projects. Monsoon not being very far away, the current working season is the best time where we can achieve substantial completion of projects and makeup for the losses which have happened during last four weeks. I am sure; PIUs must be making all out efforts in this regard.

3. At this juncture, we should also not lose our focus on the Quality of construction of rural roads under PMGSY. The PIUs may be advised to be extra cautious during this period and ensure that in **no case**, sub-standard work may be accepted. PIU staff should ensure that contractor's engineer maintains the QC register on daily basis and the entries in the site order books are also done on daily basis.

4. I am informed that NRIDA has already issued a letter to all the States, indicating the annual targets for second tier quality monitors inspections for the year 2020-21, based on the arrear of presently ongoing, sanctioned and unawarded works and recently completed works.

5. With the present restrictions on movement of rail and air traffic, NQMs deployment is not feasible during this containment period. As such, the guidance and support of third tier quality monitors would be impacted during this period and we will be relying on 1st and 2nd tier for overall quality management. Therefore, the State Quality Monitors (SQMs) residing in the work district / nearby district, in the non-containment zones of the State, may be deployed for inspection of the ongoing PMGSY projects.

6. Further, during this containment period, the Superintending Engineer (SE) concerned and the Chief Engineer (CE) of the jurisdiction may also be advised to undertake frequent field inspections of the on-going projects. **As a special dispensation during this containment period, these inspections by SEs and CEs may be treated as independent inspection under the 2nd tier**, which is otherwise as per PMGSY Operations Manual (Para 11.4.5), actually the part of 1st tier of Quality Management System. The SEs and CEs may register themselves in the OMMAS as SQMs, with the support of State Quality Coordinator (SQC). However, it should be ensured by the SQC, that the inspections are carried out as per the guidelines for second tier quality monitors (SQMs), requisite tests are carried out and observations reported in the same format. The quality grading abstract and the corresponding photographs of the inspected works may be uploaded in OMMAS, through web. The said measure is an entirely emergency arrangement, and hopefully give yield result.

Yours faithfully,



(Alka Upadhyaya)

Additional Secretary(MoRD)

21.04.2020