



DO No: NRRDA-T015(14)/3/2018-Dir(P-I)

25 February, 2022

**Sub: Regarding payment of pending bills through eMARG.**

Reference is invited to this office letter No.NRRDA-T015(14)/3/2018-Dir(P-I)/143 Dated 01 February 2021, wherein the states were advised to clear the backlog of pending bills of maintenance of roads under DLP. You may be aware that maintenance payments of PMGSY roads were to be done through eMARG with effect from 1.4.2020, as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

2. In order to ensure that contractor always maintains roads in good condition, SBD mandates that contractor will submit bills every month and PIU engineers will verify and keep evidence of proper road maintenance before clearing bills for payment. Delay in bill submission by the contractor results in forfeiture of his right of payment of such bills. The relevant clauses of both the old (2015) and new (2020) SBDs are reproduced below:-

**Cl 38.2 (c) (Old SBD)** "If the bill for a month is not received from the Contractor by the 10th day of the succeeding month or/ and if the Engineer has not certified that the Contractor has carried out the maintenance work for defects brought to his notice under clause 32.6 within specified period, no payment will become due to the Contractor for that month."

**Cl 38.2 (f) (Revised SBD)** "The contractor shall submit monthly bills by the 10th day of the next month (on web based software utility e-Marg) and If the bill for a month is not received from the Contractor, he forfeits his right for the payment and no payment shall be due to the contractor."

3. After implementation of eMARG from 01 April 2020, it was expected that time barred bills for maintenance will not be accepted for payment. While states were onboarding on eMARG, the decision regarding payment of such bills was left to the discretion of the PIUs, with them keeping reasons for such deviations on record.

4. In order to ensure timely maintenance and payment of bills, states were advised, through advisory dated 1 February 2021, to clear the backlog of pending bills by 28 February 2021. It was also advised that necessary evidence of road maintenance by the contractors should be kept on record and due care should be taken so that fake bills are not submitted/ paid. It was also stipulated that after 28 February 2021, eMARG will allow the payment of time-barred pending bills only after online certification/ approval by the Chief Engineer of SRRDAs (through eMARG login of Chief Engineers).

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5. However, it is noticed that still states are making payment on maintenance bills older than 1 April 2020, which raise doubts as to their financial propriety, as most of these are being submitted after considerable delays. After giving sufficient time and notice to clear backlog of bills, now in the interest of financial propriety and discipline, it has been decided that bills of DLP pertaining prior to 1 April 2020 will not be allowed to be paid in eMARG from 1 April 2022. Any bills which pertain to period prior to 1 April 2020 will be made zero by the eMARG system itself and no payments for such period shall be allowed by the system effective from 1 April 2022. Hence, any backlog of bills before 1 April 2020, which the state deems need to be cleared should be cleared before 1 April 2022 by the concerned Chief Engineer SRRDA after satisfying himself/ herself with the genuineness of such bills.

6. Similarly, for the bills pertaining to FY 2020-21, if the record of RI and PE is not found then the bills will be sent to Chief Engineer's login. After 1 April 2022, such bills will require certification from the concerned Chief Engineer of SRRDA for payment. Any bills which pertain to FY 2020-21, will be made zero by the eMARG system itself and no payments for such period shall be allowed by the system effective from 30 September 2022.

7. To maintain the pace of maintenance, bills related to maintenance during FY 2021-22 should also be paid by 30 September, 2022. Beyond this date, bills will need to be certified by the concerned Chief Engineer of SRRDA for payment. Any bills which pertain to FY 2021-22, will be made zero by the eMARG system itself and no payments for such period shall be allowed by the system effective from 31 March 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

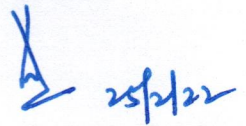
(Dr. Ashish Kumar Goel)

To:

**The Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of Nodal Department implementing PMGSY in the States/UTs**

Copy to:

**CEOs/ E-in-C/ Chief Engineer of SRRDAs (PMGSY)/ Departments implementing RCPLWEA**



(Dr. Ashish Kumar Goel)