

IMMEDIATE

DP-13011(6)/10/2021-DP-I
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department Social Justice & Empowerment

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
Date: 24th June, 2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of meeting held on 22.06.2022 for Social Audit of the Scheme of DoSJ&E -reg.

A meeting was held through virtual mode on 22.06.2022 under the chairperson ship of Secretary(SJE) related to Social Audit of the schemes of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJ&E) with the officials of National Resource Centre for Social Audits (NRCSA)-CSA -NIRD&PR. A copy of the minutes of the meeting (Annexure-I) is enclosed herewith and being circulated among all the concerns for taking further necessary action.

2. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

(Sanjay Kumar)
Under Secretary (DP Division)
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To

1. JS (SD)/ JS (SCD-B)/ JS (BC)
2. Mission Manager, NRCSA
3. Ms. Sawmya Kidambi, Chairman of Social audit advisory

Copy to:

1. PPS to Secretary (SJE)
2. Dr. C. Dheeraja, Associate Professor, NIRDPR, Hyderabad

Annexure-I

Meeting minutes of the Interaction and Synergy Meeting of National Resource Centre for Social Audits (NRCSA)-CSA -NIRD&PR team with Secretary, DoSJ&E, GOI, Joint Secretaries, Dy. Secretaries and DSJ&E's team organized virtually from 04:30 PM to 6:00 PM on 22nd July 2020.

The meeting started with the introduction of participants with opening remarks of Secretary, DoSJE, GOI, Shri R. Subrahmanyam who deliberated on the objective of Social audits as stakeholder's evaluation of schemes which can provide true picture of the status of implementation of the schemes by identifying problems and also suggesting solutions to improve.

2. Ms. Radhika Chakravarthy, Joint Secretary briefed about the I-MESA scheme of the Ministry and the scope of NRCSA cell in facilitating social audit of DSJE Schemes in next five years. She elaborated that through this exercise, the Ministry will be able to evaluate the reach and the impact of the schemes. She also informed about the Social Audit pilots that were held last year.

3. Ms. Sowmya Kidambi, Chairperson, Social Audit Advisory Board expressed the motive of the Social Audits of the schemes and concerned that this should not be seen as a fault finding mission but as a mechanism to point out the ground realities to improve the overall implementation of the Scheme by adhering to the basic Principles of Social Audits *i.e.* information, participation, People's forum, hearing, action and security.

4. Shri Gurjeet Singh, Mission Manager, NRCSA - CSA elaborated that Social Audit is an empowering process for community as a stakeholder to know about their rights and responsibilities and is an important tool to establish transparency and accountability in the system. He briefed about the challenges of making this process beneficial to all stakeholders including policy makers by providing People's feedback.

5. Mrs. Kalyani Chadha (Joint Secretary, SJE), Mr. Ram Prasad Meena (Joint

Secretary, SJE), Mr. Parveen Kumar Thind (Director), Mr. Amresh Bahadur Pal (Dy. Secretary) and Mr. Rajesh Makkar (Dy. Secretary) briefed about various schemes under the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and all of them wished that this Process will be able to present the true picture of the implementation of the schemes and felt the need for more detailed discussion with NRCSA team, so that the schemes that needs to be taken for social audits in this financial year can be finalized along with tools.

6. The Secretary, SJE then laid down five points for moving forward and explained it as -

- Scheme
- Stakeholders
- Statistics
- System
- Sharing

He emphasized that the Information regarding Point 1, 2 and 3 needs to be provided by respective departments to NRC-SA and the NRC-SA should start working on Point 4 and 5 to Prepare Social audit Guidelines and finalize tools and processes.

7. Mission Manager, NRCSA –CSA then presented the annual action plan for the current year and laid down the challenges while facilitating social audit of social justice schemes in all four stages of the process i.e. Preparation, Verification, Validation and Action. He also raised need of formulating the fund flow mechanism to SAUs for smooth conducting of Social audit process.

8. After Discussion and deliberations following decisions were taken:-

- i. All Departments' heads to ensure sending the details about their respective schemes to NRC-SA, so that tools and questionnaire can be prepared by 30th June.
- ii. DSJ&E to facilitate visit of NRCSA-CSA team to Institutions and Departments in few states to get firsthand knowledge of the Schemes.

- iii. National level writeshop for preparing guidelines to be organized at NISD, Delhi with participation from SAUs, CSOs, Institutions and Departments representatives on 11-13th July as proposed in the Action plan (MoU).
- iv. Workshops to get feedback for preparing training modules and developing MIS system shall be organized at NIRD as proposed.
- v. At least one round of social audits to be conducted through SAUs in August and National level presentation on findings to be made by NRCSA-CSA

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair by Dy. Director General, NIRD&PR, Shri Sashibhushan.
