



D.O. No.:J-11011/15/2022-Media

Dated: 23rd March, 2022

Dear **Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary,**

This has reference to this Ministry's D.O. letter of even no. dated 09.02.2022 & 07.03.2022 and virtual meeting of Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj with States/UTs on 14.03.2022 regarding celebration of **Iconic Week** (11th – 17th April 2022) earmarked for **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** as part of 75-week commemoration of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** (AKAM) to organize iconic and impactful events. In this context, Ministry of Panchayati Raj has conceptualized different thematic conferences following a 'whole-of-society' & 'whole-of-government' approach and worked out details of the **week-long events**. Hon'ble Vice President of India has very kindly given his consent to inaugurate the Week-long celebrations and attend the inaugural session of **National Stakeholders Conference on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** on **11th April 2022** at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Hon'ble State Ministers are also being invited to participate in the National Stakeholders Conference. Details of seven-day events are at **Annexure**.

2. The main thrust of the event is on in-depth deliberations on the localization of SDGs and Iconic Week celebrations is designed to focus attention of all stakeholders, including elected representatives of PRIs, on how pace of attainment of SDGs can be accelerated in rural India through Panchayats. The Ministry is sending separate requests to States for deputing a definite number of elected representatives & functionaries consisting of all the three tiers of Panchayats to attend the National level function in New Delhi on all 7 days.

3. However, the celebration under AKAM during 11th to 17th April, 2022 need not be confined to Delhi alone. Similar functions may be organized at State, District and GP level. All Gram Panchayats (GPs) may please be instructed to hold Panchayat Meetings during this week wherein focus would be on deliberation on the Nine Themes which have been identified for GPs to aim to become

- Poverty Free & Enhanced Livelihoods village
- Healthy village
- Child friendly village
- Water sufficient village
- Clean & Green village
- Self-sufficient infrastructure in village
- Socially secured village
- Village with Good Governance
- Engendered Development in village.

The GPs may be advised to adopt any one or more of the aforesaid Themes for focused attention in 2022-23 and a resolution should be subsequently moved and adopted in the meeting of the **Gram Sabha** to be organized on **24th April, 2022** on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day. It must be remembered that eventually all GPs will need to adopt and realize all the aforesaid Nine Themes if the country is to attain the SDG targets by 2030. Arrangements may also be made in all GPs to enable the participants in the meeting of Gram Sabha on 24th April to watch the proceedings of NPRD-2022 function which is likely to be graced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and will be telecast and streamed live.

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4. The Ministry has finalised the talking points/discussion points in the form of PPTs on all the aforementioned Nine Themes which are being shared with the States. These may be translated into local language and suitably modified before being transmitted to all Panchayat Secretaries/ Sarpanch well before 11th April for use in the meetings of the Gram Panchayat during the iconic week and Gram Sabha on 24th April, 2022.

5. Certain other items which can be deliberated upon and included in the Agenda for the Panchayat Meetings and Gram Sabhas are as under:

(a) Creating awareness and facilitating all household in the Panchayats to hoist National Flag during 11th to 15th August, 2022 under the 'Har Ghar Jhanda' initiative under the AKAM programme. National Flag is a living symbol of the sacrifices of freedom fighters and martyrs who have laid down their lives to safeguard unity and security of the country and National pride. The flag dimension under the initiative could be 30inch X 20inch (length to breadth) or half of it i.e 15 inch X 10 inch (length to breadth). Further details will be shared subsequently.

(b) Selecting a day as the '**Foundation Day**' of Panchayat- to be called **Panchayat Foundation Day** in line with National Day or State Foundation Day. All GPs are expected to celebrate the Panchayat Foundation Day every year with great enthusiasm and vigour wherein, inter alia, special meetings of Gram Sabha, Sports Competition, Health Melas, Felicitation of local 'achievers' who have excelled in their field be it agriculture, public service, education etc. who have directly or indirectly contributed to the development of the Panchayat. Each GP would be required to upload details of the Panchayat Foundation Day in the Facilitator's Report on the Vibrant Gram Sabha portal.

6. As in the past, I trust that the State Authorities will take all necessary steps to ensure active participation of elected representatives and general public in the Iconic Week celebrations under AKAM between 11th to 17th April and NPRD-2022 on 24th April and thereby make these a grand success. All PRI functionaries may also be encouraged to upload videos, messages of these celebrations/functions on social media.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

SK
23.3.22
(Sunil Kumar)

**Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary,
Department of Panchayati Raj,
All States / UTs, except Chandigarh and Delhi.**