GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No.RDP 239 ZPS 2011 (P1)

From: The Secretary to Government, 
Rural Development & P.Raj Department, 
M.S.Building, 3rd Floor, 
BANGALORE-560001.

Karnataka Government Secretariat, 
M.S.Building, 
Bangalore, Dated: 19-12-2012

To,

1 Dr. Hrusikesh Panda, 
Additional Secretary, 
MoPR, Government of India, 
Sardar Patel Bhavan, 
New Delhi 110001

2 Ms. Anne P. Stenhammer, 
Regional Programme Director, 
U.N. Women, South Asia 
Sub Regional Office, 
19A, Rajdoot Marg, Chankyapuri, 
New Delhi-110021.

3 The Director General, 
Administrative Training Institute, 
Mysore.

4 Sri. Suraj Kumar, 
Head, Governance Unit, 
UN Women, 
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110 021.

5 The Director, 
ANSSIRD, Lalitha Mahal Road, 
Mysore.

6 The Chief Executive Officer, 
Zilla Panchayat, 
Mysore, Uttara Kannada and Dharwad.

7 Smt. M.C. Shailaja, 
Faculty, ANSSIRD, 
Lalitha Mahal Road, Mysore.

8 Smt. S.N. Fathima, 
District Project Officer, 
Zilla Panchayat, Mysore

9 Sri Rabindra Indra, 
District Project Officer, 
Zilla Panchayat, Mysore

Sir,

Sub: Meeting Proceedings of 30-11-2012.

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Minutes of the Third State Level Steering Committee meeting on “Promoting Women’s Political Leadership and Gender
Responsive Governance” held on 30th November 2012 at Conference Hall of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore, convened under the Chairmanship of Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, for kind information and further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Margaret Lina Noronha
Under Secretary to Government, RD & PR Department
(Ph.No.080-22032295)

Copy To:

1) The Personal Secretary to Principal Secretary, Women and Child Welfare Department.
2) Personal Secretary to Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department.
3) Personal Secretary to Secretary (PR), Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department.
4) Personal Assistant to Director (PR), Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department.
5) Website.
Minutes of the Third State Level Steering Committee on “Promoting Women’s Political Leadership and Gender Responsive Governance” held on 30/11/2012.

The Third State Level Steering Committee Meeting on UN Women Programme was held on 30-11-2012 under the Chairmanship of Sri. E.V. Ramana Reddy, Secretary-I, RDPR, to review the progress achieved in the implementation of “Promoting Women’s Political Leadership and Gender Responsive Governance in Karnataka” at the Conference Hall of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. Details of the officers who participated in the meeting is as follows:

1. Dr. E.V. Ramana Reddy, IAS, Secretary-I, Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
2. Smt. V. Rashmi, Secretary (Panchayat Raj), IAS, Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
3. Sri. Suraj Kumar, Head of the Governance, UN Women, South Asia Regional Office, New Delhi.
4. Sri. P. Kumar, Director, Panchayat Raj, Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
5. Dr. Ajay Nagabhushan, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Mysore.
6. Sri. Meghannvar, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Dharwad.
7. Sri. Annadanaiah, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Uttara Kannada.
9. Sri. Mullalli, Deputy Secretary, Zilla Panchayat, Dharwad.
10. Sri S.N. Fathima, District Project Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Mysore.
11. Sri Rabindra Indra, District Project Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Dharwad.

A) The Director, Panchayat Raj, extended welcome to all officials at the meeting. He briefly explained the significance and the status of the
programme in Karnataka. The Director stated that the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, GOI, the United Nations Women and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, GOK, have signed an MoU on 14-09-2011 to strengthen, empower and enhance equal political participation of women in Panchayat Raj Institutions. Presently the scheme is being implemented in two districts viz., Mysore and Dharwad. Approval of the National Steering Committee for the selection of Uttara Kannada district as the 3rd district has been accorded. And that ANSSIIRD is handling the training and capacity building component under this scheme.

(B) The Action Plan as approved in G.O. No. RDP 239 ZPS 2011, dated: 20/12/2011 for Mysore and Dharwad was reviewed along with timelines for each activity. It was observed that –

a) Identification of 100 Gram Panchayats in both Mysore and Dharwad due in January 2012. This has been completed.

b) Identification of 50 Motivators as one Motivator for every two Gram Panchayats due to have been completed in February 2012, is still to be concluded. So far, 42 Motivators have been identified in Mysore Zilla Panchayat and 46 Motivators in Dharwad Zilla Panchayat. Both the CEOs stated that they would see that Motivators identification would be completed in the next fortnight. CEO, Mysore said that Universities and colleges were also being involved in the programme. He also mentioned that PDOs are being involved in this programme. CEO, Dharwad mentioned that Saksharta Preraks could also work as Motivators as they are women from the community.

c) Training of Motivators in both the districts as reported by Director, SIRD is said to have been undertaken and completed in August 2012.

d) Preparation of database for the selected Gram Panchayats by the District Project Officers (DPOs) due for completion in April 2012 is yet to be completed by both the districts. However, CEO, Dharwad stated that the profiles of electoral representatives has been completed in Dharwad district.

(e) Sensitization Workshop for the District Level Functionaries was stated to have been completed by both the districts in June (Mysore) and August (Dharwad).

(f) The Chair took note of the fact with concern that the following activities were yet to commence:

i) Sensitization Workshop for the Taluk Level Functionaries slotted for May-June in the Action Plan.
ii) **Conduct of Ward Sabha Meetings** in the selected Gram Panchayats slotted from May-July 2012 in the Action Plan.

iii) **Conduct of Mahila Sabha Meetings** in the selected Gram Panchayats slotted from May-July 2012 in the Action Plan.

iv) **Conduct of Gram Sabha Meetings** in the selected Gram Panchayats slotted from May-August 2012 in the Action Plan.

(g) **As these activities were yet to start**, related activities in the Annual Action Plan as the Follow up actions for decisions taken at Gram Sabhas, Convergence with Line Departments through Taluk Meetings, Exposure visits to progressive villages and Panchayats were also delayed as also the activity of Creating Model Panchayats (10 per district).

The CEO’s of both the Zilla Panchayats were asked to focus on the programme and submit a revised Action Plan in view of the changing timelines within the next fortnight. Directions were also given to review the work of the DPOs and ensure that the PRI machinery at all levels cooperates and contributes to the goals of this programme. The DPOs should go out to the field and identify the key issues (female foeticide, female infanticide, malnourishment in women and children, adult illiteracy, dowry, child marriage, alcoholism, child/women trafficking, access barriers to health, education facilities for girl child and women) and problems of the women in these Gram Panchayats and focus on these issues and solutions for the same in in the Ward, Mahila and Gram Sabhas. No reports fortnightly/monthly were been submitted by the CEOs to the state government. The CEOs were asked to submit fortnightly/monthly reports to the Director (PR), RDPR who is the Nodal Head for this scheme at the State level.

(C) **Activities taken up by ANSSIRD** was reviewed. The Director, SIRD stated that two Training of Trainers at State Level was conducted in Dharwad and Mysore. District level training for Elected Women Representatives in six batches was conducted. District Level Training for Elected Men Representatives and Women Volunteers were yet to be complied with.

CEO, Mysore suggested that instead of mere printing of pamphlets as part of awareness campaign the medium of television (Cable TV) and radio could also be explored. The Head of the Governance, UN Women, New Delhi stated that mobile telephones had emerged as a platform for awareness and communication in many Gram Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh. And that women were using this to communicate, share information and also develop content. He offered assistance in case the state was interested in using this platform for IEC activities.
(D) Status of Uttara Kannada (Karwar) district:

It was agreed by all that though 100 Gram Panchayats had already been identified, there had been a delay in appointing a DPO for Karwar. Further formal communication on Karwar has not been received from UN Women. The Head Governance Unit, UN Women, informed that the National Steering Committee meeting also had taken note of this issue. He further stated that earlier in the year, though candidates for DPO, Karwar had been shortlisted, they had joined elsewhere and hence not reported for duty and that now the state government can submit a list of shortlisted candidates to the Governance Unit, UN Women. The Chair directed Director, SIRD to issue an advertisement in state newspapers, receive applications, scrutinize applications and shortlist candidates. Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Dharwad informed that advertisement can also be issued in Dharwad and Karwar local newspapers. The Head Governance Unit, UN Women concurred to this. He also stated that a letter seeking budgetary allotment for Karwar has to be sent from the state government.

The meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks by the Chair to all the members who participated in the meeting.

Dr. E. V. Ramana Reddy,
Secretary,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj
Government of Karnataka.