

F.No.11-12/2008-Hort.  
Government of India  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation  
(Horticulture Division)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated the 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2013

To

The Mission Director/Director (Horticulture)/Director  
(Agriculture)  
All State Governments/UTs

Subject: - Enhancing the Role of Panchayats in Centrally  
Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) – regarding.

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs) play a key role in the implementation of the “National Horticulture Mission” and “National Mission on Micro Irrigation” Schemes at the district level. The scheme guidelines also envisage involvement of PRIs in active implementation of the scheme, such as beneficiary selection, awareness creation and training, etc.

2. Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Panchayati Raj has recommended for the enhanced role of Panchayats in Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) and has emphasized that the Panchayats should be devolved 3-Fs, i.e. Functions, Funds and Functionaries. Further, all stake holders should formulate Activity Mapping for strengthening the involvement of PRIs. Model Activity Maps are available in the reports of the Expert Committee and could be accessed on the website of Ministry of Panchayati Raj at [www.panchayat.gov.in](http://www.panchayat.gov.in).

3. Cabinet Secretariat has also emphasized to devolve to the PRIs the following aspects in respect of all CSS schemes. Hence, it is directed that the same may also be adopted in respect of ‘National Horticulture Mission’ (NHM) and ‘National Mission on Micro Irrigation’ (NMMI) Schemes:

- a) Identification of crops and beneficiaries in consultation with District Panchyats.
- (b) Training, Extension and Awareness creation through Panchayats and Gram Sabhas.

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- (c) Attending Panchayati Raj Institution and Gram Sabha meeting and giving them data and feedback by the official concerned with implementation of CSSs.
  - (d) Formulation of suitable guidelines.
4. All State Governments/Implementing Agencies are requested to take further necessary action accordingly and keep this Department informed of the same.

Yours faithfully

  
(Sadhna Khanna)  
Under Secretary (Hort.)