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SECRETARY

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D.O.NO. 3 /RMDD

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As you are aware, the RM&DD is commencing the Reconstruction of Earthquake Damaged Rural Houses (REDRH) project in a Mission Mode. This project will have the following salient features:

1. The implementation mechanism to be primarily “owner driven” and only in cases where the owner is found not capable of constructing the house, the Block Rural House Construction Committee (BRHCC) will take up the implementation through a special delivery mechanism involving a voluntary/resourceful village person/cooperative society (not for profit) agency. However, even in this case, the total funds will still be released as Account Payee cheques to the owner in installments (as is being followed in the Chief Minister’s Rural Housing Mission).
2. In remote areas, limited relaxation of the house design may be permitted, provided prior approval of the District Level Committee is taken. However, even in this case, the plinth area of 605 square feet and RCC frame (columns and beams) is mandatory.
3. Only TMT Bars 500d will be purchased from STCS in a centralized manner and issued to the beneficiaries. The logistics of cement storage and transportation being a perishable commodity was found difficult to be managed efficiently by the Department and hence self-purchase of permissible brands of cements shall be allowed.
4. Partnership with NGOs like Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim (VHAS), WWF-India and others may be explored to provide Awareness, Training material and Capacity building support on voluntary (no-cost implications to State Government) basis.
5. Accordingly, the detailed Operational Guidelines of the Scheme (46 pages) have been prepared in a participatory manner after several rounds of consultation - detailing the reconstruction strategy, house design, estimate, drawings, construction material, beneficiary prioritization, construction process, financial management, records to be maintained, monitoring, evaluation and transparency norms and activity calendar have been prepared and enclosed for your ready reference.

The success of this project, considering its scale, will depend largely on the implementation efficiency and hard work put in at the Block and Village level and strong monitoring and evaluation from the District level. Your personal attention is needed to ensure that the beneficiary prioritization process is taken up with adequate transparency safeguards so that it can stand the test of independent scrutiny.

The coordinating officer for this programme from RM&DD head office is Dr. Sandeep Tambe, Special Secretary (094740-59791, jointsecy@gmail.com). Feel free to get in touch with him for any clarifications.

I shall be grateful if you could initiate this project at the earliest, by building capacity at the District, Block and Village level by taking up rigorous orientation and training programs and ensuring that these guidelines are followed in letter and spirit, duly following the time schedule as indicated in the operational guidelines.

Yours


Secretary-RMDD
Government of Sikkim

ALL DISTRICT COLLECTORS

Copy to:

- 1) Principal Secretary to HCM for kind information of HCM**
- 2) PS to Hon'ble Minister, RMDD for kind information of HM**
- 3) All ADCs(Dev) for taking up the project in due earnest**
- 4) All BDOs for taking up the project in due course.**