OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Guidelines for DDU-GKY PwD Projects, Common Cost norms–Empowered Committee meeting -reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry’s O.M. of even No. dated 28th March, 2016 on the subject mentioned above and enclose herewith minutes of the meeting of the Empowered Committee held in the Ministry on 31st March, 2016 for information and necessary action.

(S.B. Tiwari)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel: 23743625

To,

1. AS &FA
2. AS (RD)
3. JS (Skills)
4. CEO &MD, NSDC, New Delhi
4. COO (Skills)

Copy to:

1. PPS to Secretary (RD)
2. PPS to AS&FA
3. PS to AS (RD)
4. PS to JS (S)
5. DS (Skills)
6. All Officials/Consultants, Rural Skill Division, MoRD
Minutes of the meeting of the Empowered Committee of NRLM held under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development on 31st March, 2016 regarding Framework for DDU-GKY PwD Projects, Common Cost Norms for DDU-GKY/Roshni projects etc.

1. A list of participants is given at Annexure.

2. Joint Secretary (Skills) stated in brief about the Agenda items for consideration/decision of Empowered Committee. The Agenda items No. 1, 2 and 3 placed before EC for decision and Agenda items No. 4, 5, and 6 placed before EC for information. The decision of EC after discussion in details on these Agenda items are as under:

Agenda No. 1 Framework for DDU-GKY PwD Projects

3. The EC approved the Framework for DDU-GKY PwD Projects subject to the following observations and conditions:

i) The EC noted that the one-time travel cost proposed at the rate of Rs. 5000 per candidate in the cost norms for DDU-GKY PwD Projects (Item 3 of Annexure 3 of Framework on DDUGKY PwD Projects) was the same that was notified by the Common Norms Committee of MSDE with the difference that the CNC provided for Rs. 5000 only to candidates of special areas. What the framework for DDU-GKY Pwd Projects does is to extend this to an equally if not more deserving group, i.e. the PwDs, who are also poor, live in rural areas - for whom such support was critical.

ii) The EC pointed out that the transportation cost proposed for non-residential training was wrongly noted as Rs. 1500 per day for cost payable outside the district of domicile (see Item 4-b of Annexure 3 to the Framework of DDU-GKY PwD Projects) and advised that the same may be corrected as Rs.1500 per month. The EC also noted that such costs, at the same level, were allowed under Common Cost Norms (CCN) to persons with disability(Schedule I, 5.2 of CCN notification dated 15th July 2015) and therefore need not be treated as a welfare measure.

iii) With regard to cost provision for live distance training (see Item no. 13 of Annexure 3 to the Framework of DDU-GKY PwD Project); the EC decided that there should be no separate provision and the live distance should be subsumed under the training cost payable to the PIA.

iv) With regard to the additional support costs proposed in Annexure 3 to the Framework on DDU-GKY PwD Projects (Serial No. 9, 11,12,14), it was clarified by the JS (Skills) that the costs proposed were for the purpose of providing support to the candidate for placement and personal assistive aids as well as teaching aids that were essential to enable customized support to persons with disability. It was also clarified to the EC that these items of support and the amount were arrived at after extensive nation wide consultation with over 45 organizations with
experience in the sector. JS(S) also brought to the notice of EC that a detailed note with rationale for such costs along with deliberations of experts, had been shared in file, with the IFD.

v) With regard to support to foreign placement, counseling and career progression, it was clarified that the provisions were agreed to as welfare measures by the Common Norms Committee vide minutes dated 11 December 2015. It was clarified that the support for foreign placement and retention were the same as approved in the extant DDU-GKY guidelines. However, EC was informed that the retention support proposed is higher than the support approved in the DDU-GKY Guidelines, as it has been established in practice that retention for PWD’s would require greater investment by the PIA to support not just the person with disability but also the workplace ecosystem to enable effective assimilation of PwDs in the workplace. It was also further noted by the EC that Hon. PM while reviewing DDU-GKY had mandated the continuance of support for career progression, retention and foreign placement for rural youth.

vi) The EC also noted that the project appraisal criteria (Annexure 2 of the Framework of DDU-GKY for PwD Projects) could be notified separately in order to allow for periodic update/modification based on changing requirement of the programme and implementation realities. However the EC duly approved the proposed appraisal criteria.

Decision: The EC reviewed the framework for DDU-GKY PwD projects and the clarification provided by the Skills division. The EC also noted the fact that disability imposed great social and economic burdens and this was doubly so on individuals adversely affected by poverty, gender and social mores as well as challenges of rurality. The EC also took note of the fact that the program was obligated to support effective outcomes for PwD as per existing government mandate as well as enactments. Accordingly, the EC approved the framework with the direction that the framework may be taken to the CNC of MSDE for their information and concurrence before implementation by MoRD.

(Action : Rural Skills Division, MoRD)

Agenda No. 2 - Minimum term of 3 years for DDU-GKY/Roshni projects

4. (i) JS (Skills) appraised the EC that DDU-GKY had sanctioned projects with 1-2 year project tenure, with the approval of the EC but has in practice found that any tenure less than 3 years was unworkable given the time required for grounding a project, conduct of training and completion of placement verifications, all of which took a duration of at least 8-10 months before a PIA could become eligible for second installment. Therefore, it was clarified that the approval of EC was sought to specify a minimum tenure of 3 years for all existing (as listed in the Agenda item no.2) as well as future projects- both YP and AP. It was also clarified that such minimum specification will in no way restrict a PIA in planning or achieving their milestones more aggressively, if they so wanted. On a query from EC, JS(S) also clarified that all existing projects of less than 3 year tenure would be revised to 3 years without any discrimination and AP states would also
be asked to do the same. This will be done without any financial implication on MoRD.

Decision: The EC approved the notification of the minimum tenure of 3 years for all DDU-GKY, Roshni as well as Himayat projects and application of the notification to all existing sanctioned/approved projects (of YP and AP) with a tenure less than 3 years with no financial implication for MoRD.

(Action: Rural Skills Division, MoRD and SRLMs, AP States)

**Agenda Item No. 3- Common Cost Norms**

5. The JS (Skills) explained to the EC that the above agenda was discussed in the meeting held on 7th October, 2015 under chairmanship of SRD wherein the division was instructed to approach the CNC for their concurrence on four existing provisions in DDU-GKY in respect of items mentioned at point 2.1 of this Agenda. The JS (Skills) noted that the division had duly taken up the matter with the CNC and the CNC had allowed the DDUGKY to retain the four provisions as additional welfare measures for trainees in their minutes dated 11th December, 2015. The Minutes of CNC was brought to the notice of the EC, as part of agenda notes. It was also clarified that the division had sent a detailed proposal in file to the IFD as well on the matter and was awaiting the final approval of EC for alignment of DDU-GKY with CCN, MSDE, as proposed in the agenda item notes.

Decision: The EC considered the above agenda item and approved its implementation for DDU-GKY, as proposed in the agenda.

(Action: Rural Skills Division, MoRD, CTSAs and SRLMs/Nodal Agency of AP States)

**Agenda Item 4. Change in DDU-GKY/Roshni projects approved under delegated power**

6. The agenda item was presented by the JS to the EC as items for information and EC took due note of the same.

**Agenda Item 5. DDU-GKY/Roshni cancelled projects**

7. The agenda item was presented by the JS to the EC as items for information and EC took due note of the same.

**Agenda Item 6. Closure of the complaints**

8. The agenda item was presented by the JS to the EC as items for information and EC took due note of the same.

9. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the EC.
List of the Participants attended the meeting of the Empowered Committee of NRLM under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, held on 31st March, 2016 regarding Framework for DDU-GKY PwD Projects, Common Cost Norms for DDU-GKY/Roshni projects etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shri S.M. Vijayanand, Secretary (MoRD)</td>
<td>In-Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Shri Amarjeet Sinha, Additional Secretary</td>
<td>MoRD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dr. A. Santhosh Mathew, Joint Secretary</td>
<td>MoRD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Shri Parmeet Soni</td>
<td>NDSC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Shri Sidhil Sasi, Director (Finance)</td>
<td>Director (Finance), MoRD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ms. Gayathri Kalia, COO</td>
<td>MoRD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>