Letter (Ms) No.6, dated 20.01.2017

From
Thiru. Hans Raj Verma, I.A.S.,
Principal Secretary to Government.

To
All Members of Legislative Assembly
(through the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj).
The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
Chennai-15.
The Principal Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and Water Supply
Department, Chennai – 9.
The Secretary, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Secretariat,
Chennai – 9.
All District Collectors (except Chennai).
All Project Directors, District Rural Development Agencies
(through the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj).
The Commissioner, Corporation of Chennai, Chennai-3.
The Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai-108.
The Commissioner of Treasuries and Accounts,
Chennai-15.
The Member Secretary, State Planning Commission,
Chennai-5.
The Director, Local Fund Audit Department, Chennai-108.
The Principal Accountant General, Chennai – 18/35.
The Pay and Accounts Officer (Secretariat), Chennai – 9.
The Pay and Accounts Officer (South), Chennai – 35.
The Pay and Accounts Officer (East), Chennai – 5.
The Pay and Accounts Officer (North), Chennai –1.
The Pay and Accounts Officer, Madurai.
All Treasury Officers.
National Informatics Centre, Chennai-9.

Sir/Madam,

Sub: MLACDS 2016-17 - Maintenance of Drinking Water Supply in
Rural Areas – Rainfall deficit during 2016 – Utilisation of fund
in the untied component to water supply works to mitigate
critical situation in the coming months – Instruction - Issued.

2. From the DRD&PR., Letter Roc.No.35548/ 2016 /

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I am to state that in the G.O first cited, the Government have accorded
administrative sanction for a sum of Rs.470 Crore and allocated Rs.2,00,00,000/-
per Members of Legislative Assembly Constituency out of which Rs.1,10,00,000 has been earmarked for Tied component and the balance of Rs. 90,00,000/- for untied component and issued guidelines under MLACDS for the year 2016-17.

2. I am also to state that, in the reference second cited, the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj stated that there are frequent requests from various districts for sanction of funds for taking up water supply works to mitigate the drought situation and that instructions have already been issued to the District Collectors to give priority for water supply works from out of the available funds at the district level from all Grants including General Fund. In addition to that, there is a need to mobilize additional resources for water supply works. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has also stated that during the year 2016, due to the failure of North-East Monsoon, there is an overall deficit of 61% in average rainfall as per Meteorological Department data. The poor rainfall has led to drying up of almost all water sources in Tamil Nadu. Hence, there is an urgent need to initiate immediate action to overcome the drought situation. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has therefore requested the Government that, in order to mitigate the prevailing drought situation, the District Collectors may be instructed to apprise the prevailing drought situation in the District and request the MLAs to give priority for water supply works only under the untied component of Rs.90.00 lakh of MLACDS. Though some of the MLAs have proposed works from out of the untied component of Rs.90.00 lakh, many of them have not proposed works so far. Hence, a communication from the Government to the Collectors on the above lines will enable the District Collectors to take up water supply works for a sum upto Rs.105.00 lakh to tide over the drought situation.

3. After careful examination of the proposal of the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, the Government direct that all District Collectors to apprise the MLAs of the prevailing drought situation in the Districts and to request them to give priority for water supply works and utilize the amount of Rs.90.00 lakh under untied component of MLACDS, to mitigate the prevailing drought situation. I am also direct all District Collectors to take up water supply works for a sum of Rs.105.00 lakh (Rs.90.00 lakh under the untied component + Rs.15.00 lakh under tied component already allotted exclusively for water supply works) under MLACDS to tide over the drought situation.

4. I am also to state that the above restriction of fund under MLACDS should be made applicable only to the balance amount available for year 2016-17 and also for the year 2017-18.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

for Principal Secretary to Government.

Copy to
The Additional Chief Secretary/Secretary-I to the Hon’ble Chief Minister, Chennai-9.
The Senior Personal Assistant to Hon’ble Minister for Municipal Administration,
The Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary to Government, Chennai-9.
Finance (BG-I/BG-II/RD) Department, Chennai – 9.