

Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam - Conduct of Rural Library Competitions in 5074 Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Village Panchayats of 2006-07 and 2007-08 during the School holidays in the Second fortnight of December 2009 – Guidelines

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS1) Department

G.O.(Ms.) No.132

Dated : 01.12.2009

Read :

- 1) G.O.(Ms.) No.115, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Dated 11.9.2006.
- 2) G.O.(Ms.) No.97, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, dated 13.6.2007.
- 3) From the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Letter Roc.No. 78076/2009/AGAMT-2, dated 16.11.2009.

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ORDER :

In the Government Order first and second read above, detailed guidelines were issued to implement AGAMT scheme in 2,540 Village Panchayats during 2006-07 and in 2,534 Village Panchayats during 2007-08 respectively. As such, totally 5,074 Village Panchayats have been covered under AGAMT scheme during 2006-07 and 2007-08.

2. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in his letter third read above has stated that under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) Scheme, during 2006-07 and 2007-08, 5,074 Village Libraries have been established for which the books have also been selected and placed in the respective AGAMT library buildings in the seven categories viz. (i) Books for Children (ii) Books for youth (iii) Reference books (iv) Books by/on Great Personalities (v) Fiction (vi) Non-Fiction and (vii) Poetry and Literature. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has further stated that in order to encourage the usage of libraries, it would be appropriate to organize Rural Library Competitions in each of the AGAMT village libraries of 2006-07 and 2007-08 during the school holidays in the second fortnight of December 2009 and the above competitions may be conducted with an expenditure of up to Rs.7,500/- per Village Panchayat from out of Village Panchayat Fund Account. The total expenditure for the conduct of this Rural Library Competitions in 5,074 AGAMT 2006-07 and 2007-08 Village Panchayats will be Rs.3.81 crores. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has therefore requested the approval of the Government for the draft guidelines for conduct of Rural Library Competitions and to incur the expenditure from the Village Panchayat fund account.

3. The Government` have carefully examined the proposal of Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in detail and decided to accept it. Accordingly the Government direct that Rural Library Competitions be conducted at the 5074 AGAMT Village Panchayats of 2006-07 and 2007-08 during the school holidays in the second fortnight of December 2009 as per the Guidelines annexed to this order and also to incur a sum not exceeding Rs.7500/- (Rupees Seven Thousand Five Hundred only) per Village Panchayat and the net expenditure for all the 5074 Village Panchayats should not exceed Rs.3.81 crores.

4. This order issued with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O.No. 3358/FS/P/09, dated 25.11.2009.

(By Order of the Governor)

NIRANJAN MARDI
Secretary to Government (i/c)

ANNEXURE

GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT OF RURAL LIBRARY COMPETITIONS

1. Introduction:

In order to improve the basic infrastructure facilities in the Village Panchayats, the Government have launched the flagship programme of Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) from 2006-07 onwards. Establishing Library in each AGAMT Village Panchayat is one of the compulsory components of AGAMT. During 2006-07 & 2007-08, 5,074 AGAMT Libraries have been established. Further, 7,544 AGAMT Libraries are being established for the years 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11.

2. Guidelines for conduct of Rural Library Competitions to stimulate reading habit and usage of Libraries.

2.1 In order to popularise the usage of libraries and to bring out the literary talent of the children and the youth living in rural areas, it is proposed to conduct **Rural Library Competitions in AGAMT 2006-07 & 2007-08 Village Panchayat Libraries in the 2nd fortnight of December, 2009.**

2.2 Participants will be grouped into **three categories** indicated in Table 1 below based on their age and class in which they study. The aim is to enable the children and youth of various age groups to show their literary talents and inculcate amongst them the habit of reading books.

Table 1: Categories of participants for Rural Library Competitions

S. No.	Category	Description / Category
1	Primary and Middle School	Students (both boys and girls) presently studying upto Class 8 th .
2	High School & Higher Secondary School	Students (both boys and girls) presently studying in Class 9 th to 12 th .
3	Others	Children and youth (both boys and girls) not falling in categories 1 & 2 above, including School dropouts.

2.3 Events: Following four events will be organized for all the categories of participants as listed in Table-1 above.

i. Spotting the places on the maps: Maps of the World, India, TamilNadu and the District concerned are displayed in each AGAMT Library. The participants will be asked to come inside the library building one by one and locate 20 locations within a period of 5 minutes each and point out to the judge available for this Competition. The locations sought to be located on the Maps may be Countries/Cities/Rivers/Seas/Oceans and other important landmarks available on the Map. The first two participants in each category, who locate the maximum number of places within the time limit given, will be given the 1st and 2nd prizes.

ii. Memory test based on the books available in AGAMT library: A total of 776 books have, so far, been provided to AGAMT 2006-07 and 2007-08 Libraries. All the participants will be asked to come inside the library buildings together, spend 15 minutes inside the building and visually observe (without taking any notes) the name of the books available alongwith the name of the authors of those books. Subsequently, the participants will be asked to write the name of the books and their authors based on their visual memory of the observation of the books. If the number of participants is large (say above 20), then batches of upto 20 participants can be asked to come inside the Library building batch-wise and the Memory Test conducted batch-wise. The overall and first two participants in each category who correctly write the maximum number of correct names of the books and their authors will be given the 1st and 2nd prizes.

iii. Debate Competition: A Debate Competition will be conducted for each category of participants. Each participant can speak for not more than 5 minutes. The topics of the Debates should be non-controversial and will be communicated separately by the Directorate of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. The best two orators in each category will be given the 1st and 2nd prizes based on their performance.

iv. Poetry Recitation: Poetry books like Thirukkural, books by Bharathiyar, Bharathidasan, etc. are available in AGAMT Village Libraries 2006-07 and 2007-08. Based on these, a Poetry Recitation Competition will be organized for each category of participants based on the books available. Each category of participants will be asked to recite poems of a specific author whose book(s) are available in the AGAMT Library, as may be decided by the judges. Example: Participants of Primary and Middle School category may be asked to recite the poems of Bhartiyar, those of High School and Higher Secondary Schools may be asked to recite Tirukkural and those of other categories may be asked to recite poems of Bharathidasan etc. A time limit of upto 4 minutes may be given for each participant and the participants will be asked to recite the poems out of their memory. Based on the performance, the prize winners will be selected out of each category.

Next year, there will be another Category of Prizes for such readers who use the AGAMT Village Panchayat Library for the maximum number of days. Hence it should be ensured that the 'Readers Register 'is maintained upto date in all AGAMT libraries.

2.4 Venue: The events will be conducted in the premises of the established AGAMT Village Panchayat Libraries. Events like spotting places on the Maps, Memory test based on AGAMT Library books, Poetry Recitation can be conducted inside the Library building itself. The Debate Competition can be organized either inside the AGAMT Library building or in the space adjacent to it.

2.5 Prizes :

2.5.1 'First' as well as '**Second'** Prizes for each of the events will be awarded on the same day when the competition is held and the value of the Prize will be as follows:

1st Prize - Rs.200/-

2ndPrize – Rs.150/-

Participation Prize: A Pencil/Pen worth upto Rs.10/- can be given for all the participants (other than 1st and 2nd Prize winners) of each competition, subject to a maximum of 100 such participants in the Village Panchayat put together.

2.5.2 The First and Second prize winners of each event will also be awarded a **'Merit Certificate'** in addition to the cash prize and all other participants will be awarded a **'Participation Certificate'** duly signed by the Village Panchayat President.

2.6 Steps to be followed for the conduct of the Rural Library Competitions:

Step 1: Special Meeting by Village Panchayat:

- A Special Meeting by Village Panchayat should be convened by the Village Panchayat President atleast 15 days prior to the conduct of Rural Library Competitions to chalk out the Action Plan for conducting the Competitions.
- The following persons may also be called as Special Invitees to this Special Village Panchayat Meeting: -
 - i) Concerned Councilors of District Panchayat and Panchayat Union.
 - ii) Teachers of local Government and Private Schools.
 - iii) Members of Self-Help Groups.
 - iv) Nehru Yuva Kendra Volunteers.
- The detailed Action plan for conduct of the Competitions should be deliberated upon and a resolution detailing the Action Plan should be passed by the Village Panchayat.

Step 2: Wide publicity:

- The message of conduct of 'Rural Library Competitions' should be widely published in the Village Panchayats concerned through various means of communications like Tom-tom, Pamphlets, Posters etc.,
- The matter should also be discussed as an Agenda item in a special Grama Sabha Meeting convened for this purpose in the first fortnight of December, 2009.

- A special Press Release on the conduct of 'Rural Library Competitions' in 2006-07 & 2007-08 AGAMT Village Panchayats should be given by District Collectors.

Step 3: Conduct of Competitions:

- The venue for the conduct of Competitions should **only** be the AGAMT Village Library premises. The site adjacent to the AGAMT Library may also be used for some of the Competitions. The venue should be kept ready with the help of local volunteers and retired or serving School Teachers in the Village.
- The Judges for each of the Competitions should mostly be the teachers of the available Government and Private Schools of the Village Panchayat concerned. Retired Teachers/ Graduates residing in the Village Panchayat can also be involved as Judges on a voluntary basis.
- Expenditure upto Rs.2,300/- per Village Panchayat may be incurred by the Village Panchayat on items such as Public Address System, Stationery (such as papers, pens, pencils), Printing of Certificates and other arrangements for the conduct of the competitions.
- The children of Primary, Middle, High School & Higher Secondary Schools of the Panchayat area, College Students and the youth (including School drop-outs) from all the habitations (including the SC/ST habitations) should be actively involved to participate in the conduct of competitions in the AGAMT Village Panchayat Libraries.
- The prize distribution should be organized on the same day on which the Rural Library Competitions are held.

2.7 Tentative Expenditure for each Village Panchayat

2.7.1 Based on the value of prizes for the Competitions, the estimated expenditure for each is as shown in Table 2:

Table :2 Tentative expenditure for conduct of Rural Library Competitions for each Village Panchayat

(Amount in Rs.)

S. No.	Event	No. of Categories	1 st Prize (@Rs.200 per prize)	2 nd Prize (@ Rs.150 per prize)	Total amount required per Village Panchayat
1	Spotting the places on the Maps	3	600	450	1,050
2	Memory Test based on books available in AGAMT Libraries	3	600	450	1,050
3	Debate Competition	3	600	450	1,050
4	Poetry Recitation	3	600	450	1,050
5	Participation Prize (for all categories put together)				1,000
Sub Total					5,200
6	Expenditure for arrangements for conducting the Rural Library Competitions				2,300
Grand Total					7,500

2.7.2 The total expenditure for the conduct of the Competitions in each Village Panchayat should not exceed Rs.7,500/- as detailed above. This expenditure should be incurred from the Village Panchayat Fund account.

2.7.3 The net approximate expenditure for all 5,074 Village Panchayats will, hence, be approximately $5,074 \times \text{Rs.} 7,500 = \text{Rs.} 3.81$ Crores.

2.7.4 The Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department is empowered to modify the above guidelines, whenever necessary, in consultation with the Commissioner of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj.

NIRANJAN MARDI
Secretary to Government (i/c)

