



## **ABSTRACT**

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department – Quality Control - Appointment of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Quality Monitors for monitoring Road works under PMGSY, NABARD (RIDF), AGAMT, TFC etc., and works implemented under other Schemes in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department viz., NREGS, Panchayat Union School Renovation Programme, Samathuvapuram etc. – Ordered – Amendment – Issued.

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Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS 1) Department

G.O.(Ms.) No.142

Dated :22.12.2009

Read :

1. G.O.(Ms.) No.176, RD & PR (SGS1) Department, dated 21.11.2008
2. G.O.(Ms.) No.25, RD & PR (SGS1) Department, dated 23.03.2009
3. From the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Letter No.21841/2008/TU2, dated 16.11.2009.

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### **ORDER :**

In the Government Order first read above, the Government among others have permitted the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj to call for the 'Expression of Interest' from the retired Government Engineers/Private Engineers having specific qualifications mentioned in that Government Order for appointment of 30 State Quality Monitors in the State for (a) Roads and (b) Schemes, under each category through the Selection Committee constituted by the Government.

2) In the Government Order second read above, the Government among others amended the qualification criteria thereby making eligible the retired personnel of the level of Assistant Divisional Engineer (ADE) / Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) and above to apply for the posts of State Quality Monitors Roads and Schemes.

3) The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in his letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above has stated that even after the relaxation of qualification criteria and wide publicity through Newspapers and affixing advertisement in various Department Notice Boards, only 45 retired Senior Government Engineers / Private Engineers have responded and out of this, 21 applicants (10 SQMs for roads and 11 SQMs for Schemes) were found eligible and orders were issued after obtaining approval from the Selection Committee constituted for this purpose. Moreover, 16 applications were received from the retired Government Engineers and after scrutiny, 5 applicants for SQM - Roads and 7 applicants for SQM - Schemes were selected. Thus, 15 SQMs for Roads and 18 SQMs for Schemes have been appointed, so far.

4. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj further stated that as per PMGSY guidelines, each and every PMGSY road works should be inspected by the SQMs atleast three times. The first two inspections of every work should be carried out during the execution of work spaced atleast 3 months apart and last inspection should be carried out on the completion of every work, within one month of its completion. Apart from the usual inspections, the SQMs should also verify the Action Taken Reports (ATRs) on the defects pointed out by the National Quality Monitors / State Quality Monitors. The PMGSY guidelines (para 15.5) envisage that all works rated unsatisfactory shall be again inspected by SQMs or NQMs after the receipt of rectification reports from the State Quality Coordinator (SQC) i.e., Superintending Engineer (RD). Further, para 15.6 of PMGSY guidelines indicates that recurrent adverse reports about quality of road works in a given District/State, entail the suspension of the programme in that area till the defects are rectified. Since NQMs are frequently commenting for improvement in quality of PMGSY road work, inspection by SQMs is essential. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has further stated that the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, has sanctioned 818 road works under PMGSY Phase VI and 1,593 road works under PMGSY Phase VII programme. The PMGSY Phase VI road works were commenced during October 2008 and PMGSY Phase VII works were commenced during June 2009 and thus, approximately 2,400 road works are to be inspected by the SQMs atleast 3 times. Hence, the total number of inspections to be made is 7,200 approximately. As such , the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has stated that with the existing 15 SQMs, it will take 16 months to inspect all the 2,400 road works.

5) The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has further stated that since the SQMs have to carry out many inspections, the present strength of 15 SQMs (as against the provision of 30 SQMs - Roads) are not sufficient according to the PMGSY Scheme guidelines and the SQMs are also required to inspect the road works apart from the PMGSY road works, constructed under NABARD, TFC etc., it is necessary to increase the number of SQM-Roads for ensuring the quality construction of road works and effective monitoring. In this connection, the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has pointed out that for previous advertisements, some retired Divisional Engineers / Superintending Engineers of Highways Department with Mechanical Engineering qualification have responded for the post of SQM-Roads and also representations have also been received from various retired Engineers having Mechanical Engineering qualifications, but with 25 years of experience in Highways Department in road works, to consider them as SQM – Roads.

6) The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is therefore of the view that due to shortage of SQM - Roads and considering the non response from the retired senior engineers, the applicants who have Mechanical Engineering qualification and who have worked in the cadre of Assistant Divisional Engineer and above, in Highways Department, and retired with more than 25 years experience in the Highways Department may be considered for appointment as SQM – Roads and requested the Government to modify the qualification criteria for appointment of SQM- Roads.

7) The Government have examined the proposal of the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj carefully and decided to accept it. Accordingly, the Government permit the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj to call for the "Expression of Interest" from the retired officials in the rank of Assistant Divisional Engineer (or Equivalent) and above in Highways Department of Tamil Nadu having B.Tech/B.E. (Mechanical Engineering) qualification and having more than 25 years of experience in road laying works also for appointment of State Quality Monitor-Roads.

8) The following amendment is issued to the G.O.(Ms) No. 25, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, dated 23.03.2009.

### **AMENDMENT**

For the existing paragraph "A.State Quality Monitors – Roads" occurring under Amendment –I in the said G.O, the following shall be substituted.

**A. State Quality Monitors - Roads:** Retired officials in the rank of at least Assistant Divisional Engineer (or equivalent) and above in Highways, Public Works Department, CPWD, Border Road Organization (BRO) or any other departments/undertakings of Government of India/ Tamil Nadu or Private Engineers of any firm having more than 25 years of experience in road laying works, having a B.Tech./ B.E. (Civil Engineering) qualification. Retired officials in the rank of Assistant Divisional Engineer (or equivalent) and above in Highways Department of Tamil Nadu having B.Tech/B.E.(Mechanical Engineering) qualification & having more than 25 years of experience in road laying works are also eligible.

(By Order of the Governor)

K.ASHOK VARDHAN SHETTY  
Principal Secretary to Government.

**To**

The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Chennai – 15.

All District Collectors.

All Project Officers of District Rural Development Agencies.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGSI,CGS II & PRI) Department.

The Accountant General (A & E), Chennai–6/18/35.

The Pay and Account Officer (S), Chennai–5.

The Pay and Account Officer, Madurai.

All Treasury Officers.

**Copy to :**

The Senior PA to Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Chennai – 9.

The Finance (Rural Development) Department, Chennai – 9.

The PS to Principal Secretary to Government, RD & PR Department, Chennai – 9.

// Forwarded by Order //

SECTION OFFICER