

NABARD – RIDF XIII 2007–08 – Tender advertisement published in the Newspapers by Director of Information and Public Relations – Reimbursement of excess amount.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS I) Department

G.O.(Ms.) No.148

Dated: 9.9.2008

Read:

- 1) G.O.(Ms.)No.108, Information and Tourism Department, dated 28.5.1999.
- 2) From the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj D.O.Letter No.2235/2008/TU4, dated 23.7.2008.

ORDER:

The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in his D.O.Letter 2nd read above has stated that the Project Officers of District Rural Development Agencies have requested the Director of Information and Public Relations, Chennai to release the tender advertisements in the Newspapers as per norms prescribed in the G.O. first read above for NABARD-RIDF XIII works on various dates. However, the Director of Information & Public Relations has released the advertisements in the Newspapers against the norms prescribed by the Government. As a result, advertisement bills have been sent to many districts in excess of the rates prescribed. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has further stated that tender advertisements have been released to the newspapers by wrongly calculating the 'cumulative total value of various packages' in the District instead of deciding the type of edition for releasing of advertisement only based on the 'maximum value of a single package' within the district. This has resulted in the release of advertisements in the higher grade editions of newspapers thereby causing unnecessary expenditure to the districts. Due to the excess bills raised for the advertisements, the District Rural Development Agencies are facing with additional financial burden. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has worked out the excess amount due to the advertisements released against the norms as Rs.27,82,581/- and requested the Government that 14 District Collectors may be allowed to pay the advertisement charges as per the norms prescribed by the Government and the excess cost should be paid by the Director of Information and Public Relations to the advertisement agencies. The excess amount already paid by 15 Districts may also be reimbursed by the Director of Information and Public Relations.

2) After careful consideration and as agreed during the meeting convened by the Principal Secretary, Finance on 27.6.2008 and attended by the Principal Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and the Director of Information and Public Relations, the Government accepts the decisions taken in the above meeting and direct that ;

- (i) The District Rural Development Agencies shall first pay the advertisement charges to the advertisement agencies and then claim the excess amount paid by them from the Director of Information and Public Relations through the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.
 - (ii) The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj will send necessary claim proposals to the Director of Information and Public Relations. The Director of Information and Public Relations in turn shall reimburse the excess amount claimed by the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.
 - (iii) The Director of Information and Public Relations is requested to issue necessary instructions to prevent recurrence of such excess expenditure in future by ensuring release of tender advertisement as per norms.
- 3) This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O.No.2368/FS/P/08, Dated 01.08.2008.

(By order of the Governor)

K. ASHOK VARDHAN SHETTY
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT