



ABSTRACT

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department – Appointment of Special Officer to Village Panchayats to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of Village Panchayats – Maintenance of Village Panchayat Accounts – Mode of Operation Jointly Operated by Special Officer / Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat) and Zonal Deputy Block Development Officer - Orders – Issued.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR.1) Department

G.O. (Ms) No.143

Dated: 29.11.2016

72412

Read:

- 1) G.O. (Ms) No.124, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, dated 24.10.2016.
- 2) From the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj letter No.5776/2016/PRI 1.3, dated 26.10.2016.

ORDER:

The Government in the order read above, issued orders appointing Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat) as Special Officer to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of the Village Panchayat in view of the direction of the interim orders of Hon'ble High Court of Madras dated 04.10.2016 in W.P.No.33984 of 2016.

2. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in his letter second read above has stated that The Hon'ble High Court of Madras in its interim order dated 04.10.2016 on the W.P.No. 33984/2016 amongst other things, directed the State Election Commission to issue fresh notifications, conduct elections and complete the election process, as per law, at the earliest, not later than 31.12.2016. Hence a new section, 261-A has been inserted to the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 enabling the appointment of Special Officers for the Village Panchayats, Panchayat Union Councils and District Panchayats to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of such Rural Local Bodies vide Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, (Third Amendment) Ordinance No- I, 2016 dated 17.10.2016. Since the term of elected representatives in Rural Local Bodies expired on 24.10.2016, the Government have appointed Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) as Special Officers for all the Panchayats in their respective Block to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of the Village Panchayats vide G.O. (Ms) No.124, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR1) Department, dated 24.10.2016.

3. Further he has added that detailed instructions were issued to the Inspector of Panchayats / District Collector regarding duties and responsibilities of Special Officers in Village Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and District Panchayats vide his letter dated 24.10.2016.

4. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has also stated that the Government have prescribed procedure for operation of accounts by Village Panchayats vide G.O. (Ms) No.146, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, dated 17.08.2007, G.O. (Ms) No.60, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, dated 16.04.2015 and G.O. (Ms) No.89, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, dated 15.06.2015. As per these guidelines, the various bank accounts maintained by the Village Panchayats are to be jointly operated by the President and Vice-Presidents of the Village Panchayats concerned. Now, in G.O. (Ms) No.124, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, dated 24.10.2016, Block Development Officers (Village Panchayats) have been appointed as Special Officers to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of the Village Panchayats. Therefore, in view of enabling administrative convenience during the Special Officer period, the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has requested the Government to authorize the Zonal Deputy Block Development Officers to jointly operate the Village Panchayat Account No. 1 to 7 as second signatory along with the Special Officer/Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) in the Panchayats in their respective zone.

5. The Government after careful examination of the proposal of the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj at para 4 above decided to accept it and accordingly issue orders authorizing the Zonal Deputy Block Development Officer to jointly operate the Village Panchayat Account No.1 to 7 as second signatory along with the Special Officer / Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat) in the Panchayats in their respective Zone.) and

6. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is directed to issue instructions to all the District Collectors to bring it to notice of all the Special Officer / Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat).)

(By Order of the Governor)

HANS RAJ VERMA,
Principal Secretary to Government.

To

The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Chennai – 15
The Additional Chief Secretary / Commissioner of Rural
Development and Panchayat Raj (Training), Chennai-15.
All District Collectors (Except Chennai)
All Project Directors, District Rural Development Agency,
The Accountant General, Chennai – 18/35.
The Pay and Accounts Officer (South), Chennai-35.

All District Treasury Officers,
The Director of Local Fund (Audit), Chennai.

Copy to:

- The Hon'ble Chief Minister's office, Chennai -9.
- The Special Personal Assistant to Minister (Municipal Administration and Rural Development, Implementation of Special Programme), Chennai -9.
- The Principal Private Secretary to Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Chennai - 9.

// Forwarded by Order //

P. S. Srinivasan
Section Officer. 29/11/16
29/11/16