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Social Audit Unit, 1st Floor,
Barowalias House, Kahlini, Shimla (HP) 171002

From

The Principal Secretary (UD)-cum-Chairman,
Social Audit Society, Himachal Pradesh

To

1. The Additional Chief Secretary (RD & PR) to the,
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
2. Principal Accountant General (C&AG)
Gorton Castle Building, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
3. The Deputy Accountant General (Social Sector)
AG office, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
4. The Joint Director,
Department of Rural Development, SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla
5. The National Director,
Chinmaya Organisation for Rural Development (CORD),
Sidhbari, District Kangra, H.P.
6. The Chairman,
Himotkarsh Sahitya and Jan Kalyan Parishad (Regd.),
Rotary Galli, Ward No. 9, Distt. Una
7. The Managing Director,
IIRD Complex, Bye Pass Road, Shanan, Sanjauli, Shimla

Dated: Shimla the 3rd February, 2022

Subject: **Proceedings of the meeting of Governing Body of H.P. Social Audit Society held on 20.01.2022**

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of proceedings of the meeting of Governing Body, HP Social Audit Society, held on **20.01.2022** at **11:30 AM** under the Chairmanship of Sh. Devesh Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary (UD)-cum Chairman HP Social Audit Society, in Committee Room, Ellerslie Building, H.P. Secretariat Shimla-171002 for your information please.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As Above

Member Secretary-cum-Director,
Social Audit Unit,
Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. As Above 1360 **Dated** 3rd February, 2022

Copy to:

PS to Principal Secretary (UD) to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh for kind information of worthy Principal Secretary (UD) please.

Member Secretary-cum-Director,
Social Audit Unit,
Himachal Pradesh

<u>Proceeding of the meeting of Governing Body of Himachal Pradesh Social Audit Society (under MGNREGA) held on 20.01.2022 at 11:30 AM</u>

The meeting of the Governing Body of Himachal Pradesh Social Audit Society was held under the Chairmanship of Sh. Devesh Kumar (IAS), Principal Secretary (UD)-cum-Chairman of the Governing Body of Himachal Pradesh Social Audit Society on **20.01.2022**at **11:30 AM** in Committee Room, Ellerslie Building, HP Secretariat, Shimla-171002.

Following members attended the meeting:

1. Sh. Prateek Patil, Deputy Accountant General (AMG-1), Indian Audit and Account Department.
2. Sh. Robin George, Joint Director, Department of Rural Development.
3. Dr. Kashma Metre, National Director, Chinmaya Organisation for Rural Development.
4. Sh. Jatinder Kanwar, Representative of Himotkarsh Sahitya and Jan Kalyan Parishad, Distt. Una.
5. Sh. L.C. Sharma, Managing Director, Institute for Integrated Rural Development
6. Sh. T.C. Kashyap, Director(SAU)-cum- Member Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Social Audit Society

At the outset, the Director (SAU), Convener-cum-Member Secretary, Social Audit Unit welcomed all the participants present in the Committee Room, Dr. Kashma Metre and Sh. Jatinder Kanwar, who joined the meeting through Google Meet due to COVID-19 Pandemic. A presentation on various activities under Social Audit and achievements was presented by him before the Governing Body. Thereafter, Agenda items were presented before the Governing Body one by one for consideration and decision:

1. **Confirmation of minutes of last Governing Body Meeting:** The member Secretary apprised the house of the last Governing Body meeting which was held on 07.01.2021. The worthy chairman directed that wherein decisions have not been implemented till now be implemented soon.

2. **Enhancement of remuneration and TA in respect of SRPs, DRPs, BRPs & VRPs:** As decided in the last Governing Body meeting held on 07.01.2021 for the enhancement of remuneration and TA proposed through proper channels by Director (Social Audit Unit) to Secretary (RD&PR) and the same was approved by Hon'ble Minister (RD & PR). Copy of the approval placed before Governing Body for approval.

   It was recommended by the Governing Body that the proposal on account of enhancement of remuneration of Resource Persons may be first examined by the Finance Department through the administrative department. It was suggested by Dr. Kshma Metre that HR policy should be prepared for the employees of Social Audit Unit as they are not paid in parity with the outsource employees engaged in Govt. Departments. Performance based, atleast comparable annual increment should be introduced for all. The Chairman, emphasized that a comparative statement of the same posts filled on outsource basis can be considered to be equated with the posts of SAU in-comparison with the same posts filled on outsource basis by the Director (RDD/PR) and such disparity may be removed. Director (RD) may consider to make a provision on the analogy of equal post to get equal wages so that future problems could be avoided. Simultaneously other states of the country may also be contacted, specifically neighbouring states, as how the wages of the SAU staff are fixed by the respective states.

3. **Audit of SAU Accounts:** Audit Reports of AG, HP and internal audit report on the accounts of SAU from Chartered Accountant for the Financial Year 2020-21 were presented before the Governing Body after review it was approved. It was suggested to take necessary action on para of AG HP and after physical verification para be got settled.

4. **Strengthening of SAU:**The member Secretaryapprised the house that it was approved in theGoverning Body meeting held on 07.01.2021 that one Accountant and two Clerks will be engaged on outsource basis.However, due to lack of funds the posts could not be filled. The then worthy Secretary (RD) has however approved to engage two more Data Entry operators, one Junior Office Assistant/clerk and one steno typist on outsource basis.

   After going through the agenda items and previous decisions of the Governing body it is finally approved by the Governing body that one accountant, two clerks/JOA(IT) and one steno be taken on outsource basis. The necessary funds shall be provided by the Rural Development Department out of 6% administrative charges earmarked out of MGNREGA including existing posts of SAU including Director who has been appointed by the Govt. from HP finance and Accounts Services of the state for the smooth functioning of Social Audit Unit. The above proposal of staff on outsource basis may be first got approved from HP Finance Department through the administrative department.

5. **Purchase of furniture, fixture and hardware for the office of Director Social Audit Unit:**It was submitted that besides approval for engaging Staff for smooth functioning of Social Audit Unit in a meeting held on

29.12.2021with worthy Secretary (RD&PR) who have accorded approval for purchase of furniture, fixture and hardware for the office of Director (Social Audit Unit) from admin funds of MGNREGA may be provided by Director (RDD). Out of Admin fund of MGNREGA permission may be accorded to buy one projector and one LED for office use.

The Chairman of the governing Body approved two printers (One for Director and one for office staff of heavy duty make), 10 visiting chairs, 1 executive chair, One sofa set, one center table, 4 office chairs, 4 office assistant table, 5 Computer system and 9 UPS,Joint Director (RDD) was directed to urgently either provide fund or to purchase furniture, fixture and hardware for the office of Director, Social Audit Unit and the Joint Director (RDD) agreed to the proposal.

6. **Status of Social Audits:**The status of Social Audit conducted in Financial Year 2021-22 was presented before the house. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, concurrent Social Audit was conducted in April, June and July (till 15th July, 2021). The process of concurrent Social Audit was not done in the month of May, 2021 due to COVID Curfew. Thereafter, the process of regular Social Audit was started from 22nd July, 2021 and is scheduled till March, 2022 after approval of State Govt. to convene Gram Sabhas. The process of regular Social Audit was withheld in 8 districts of Himachal Pradesh in the month of October, 2021 till 05.11.2021 due to imposition of Model Code of Conduct for by-elections. Social Audit unit has also conducted Social Audit of MDM scheme and PMAY-G on pilot bases. The status of issues and financial misappropriation was also presented before the house.

   It was the directions of the worthy Chairman, Governing Body that Director RD may be directed to follow up the Social Audi findings and direct his officials to take appropriate actions on the issues raised during Social Audits and recover the amount immediately in a time bound manner and deposit in the recovery accounts maintained for the said purpose in every district. Joint Director, RDD was directed to inform the status of ATR in the next meeting.

4.

7. **Web Application and mobile monitoring app for Social Audit Unit:** It was decidedin the last Governing Body meeting held on 07.01.2021 that a Web Application will be designed by Dept. of Information and Technology for Social Audit Unit for Monitoring of live attendance, timely payment of Resource Persons and online reporting to SAU and implementing agencies for all the schemes to be taken under Social Audit. The matter was taken up with Department of Information Technology many times and on **17.09.2021** a letter was received from Department of Information and Technology vide which they refuse to take up the project due to lack of

resources. Thereafter, a letter was sent to HPSEDC on **01.10.2021** (as suggested by Department of Information Technology). A proposal received from them on **23.10.2021** for **Rs.6,92,070/-** + present enhancements if any. Approval of Governing body was sought by Director, SAU so that the project may be started at the earliest.

In view of the above, it was recommended by the house that a dialogue may be held with other states with reference to this and if the exercise is done in their state, the same agency may requested for the said purpose as the web applications already in use are well tested which reduce the development and maintenance cost. Department of RD may look into the costing effect as already approved by the Secretary (RD) to the Govt. of HP.

8. **Annual Pan for FY 2022-23:** It is proposed before the house that Social Audit of the following schemes will also be undertaken alognwith Social Audit of MGNREGA in FY 2022-23:

Sr. No.	Name of the Department/Board	Name of the Scheme
1	Department of RD	PMAY-G
2	Department of Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities & Specially Abled	National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)
3	HP Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board	Benefits delivered amongst the workers
4	Department of Elementary Education	MDM Scheme

It was suggested by the house that MoU may be signed with all the above mentioned implementing agencies to finalize the terms and conditions between to the service provider and receiver. In addition to this, other implementing agencies like IPH, HP State Mental Health Authority (Social Audit of Re-habitation Centers), Department of Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities & Specially Abled (Social Audit of Virdh Ashrams/Old Age Homes), Panchayati Raj (Social Audit of Fifteenth Finance Commission) may also be approached to conduct the Social Audit for their public schemes as it will increase the transparency and accountability of the implementing agency.

9. **E-office:** It was proposed that on the analogy of State Govt. other offices, e-office may be introduced in the office of Social Audit Unit for effective management, accountability and transparency.

The proposal was approved with the direction to take up the matter with Department of Information and technology.

10. **Adoption of financial delegation issued under financial rules, 2009 and latest instructions issued from time to time by Govt. of Himachal Pradesh:**Approval of Governing body was sought for adoption of delegation of Financial powers as per the Financial Rules, 2009 of H.P. State Govt. and amendments in delegation issued by the State Govt. from time to time in r/o HOD, HOO & controlling officer etc. In addition to the above, guidelines for the procurement of goods and services issued on 24.10.2013 in exercise of the powers conferred by rule 192 of HP Financial Rules 2009 shall be adopted by SAU for the smooth functioning.

The house recommended that the approval of finance Department may be sought through administrative department so that functioning of other societies may also be referred.

11. **Disengagement of Two Resource Persons:** Disengagement of one Block Resource persons i.e. Sh. Pawan Chauhan and one Village Resource Person i.e. Liyakat Ali on the basis of poor work and conduct was proposed.

The house approved the proposal on the recommendation of the Director (SAU), and work and conduct provided by the District Resource Person. The Director, SAU was directed to prepare speaking orders to both the Resource Persons for their disengagement.

12. **Record keeping and weeaing out of Record pertains to Social Audit of at Block Level:** It was submitted that there are numerous kind of record like application for the post of BRP and VRP, Formats for Social Audits, Social Audit Reports, evidences collected for issues w.r.t. Financial Misappropriation, Financial Deviation, Process violation and Grievances stacking from 2016 to till date. The Governing Body was requested to take a decision on the matter like record keeping as well as weeding out the record because the field staff i.e. BRPs and VRPs has not been provided any kind of official infrastructure and furniture to keep this record and day by day it is being piled up.

In this regard, house approved that SAU to frame their own guidelines w.r.t. record keeping and weeding out the record and present the same before the house, keeping in view the gravity of the record.

13. **Draft Budget of Social Audit Unit for the year 2022-23:**The draft budget was reviewed by the house and suggestions were given to revise the same.

Besides the agenda items, other issues w.r.t. Annual Reports of previous years, use of IEC material for awareness of general public and panchayat functionaries was discussed and it was approved by the house that a strategy may be worked out w.r.t. frame of various kind of IEC material i.e., audio visual print and folk media and the necessary funds may be provided by the department of Rural Development Himachal Pradesh for the transparency and accountability. The component w.r.t. costing of Social Audit to other departments may also be included as administrative charges.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the chair.

Principal Secretary (UD)-cum-Chairman
HP Social Audit Society