



ABSTRACT

Schemes – State Scheme – Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) – Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam for the year 2021-2022 – Administrative Sanction and release of Fund - Guidelines for the year 2021-2022 prescribed – Orders – Issued.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS.1) Department

G.O.(Ms.) No.148

Dated: 14.12.2021

பிலவ-கார்த்திகை-28ந்தேதி
திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு-2052

Read:

From the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
Letter No. 41812/2021/MGNREGS.III.2, dated 23.09.2021.

ORDER:

The Hon'ble Minister (Rural Development) has made the following Announcement on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 24.8.2021 during the Budget presentation of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department:-

"கிராமப்புற இளைஞர்களுக்கிடையே வாசிப்பு மற்றும் கூர்ந்தாய்வு திறனை ஏற்படுத்தி பொறுப்புள்ள குடிமக்களாக உருவாக்குவது அவர்களின் சுயமுன்னேற்றத்திற்கு இன்றியமையாதது. இதற்காக அனைத்து கிராம அண்ணா மறுமலர்ச்சித் திட்டம்-II-ன் கீழ் அனைத்து நூலகங்களும், படிப்படியாக முதியோர்கள் மற்றும் மாற்றுத் திறனாளிகளுக்கான கட்டமைப்புகளுடன் புனரமைக்கப்பட்டு கூடுதல் புத்தகங்களும், புதிய தளவாடங்களும் வழங்கப்படும்".

2. In the letter read above, the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has sent necessary proposal for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam for the year 2021-2022 stating that as per the Article 243G, along with the XI Schedule of Constitution of India and Section 111 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 empower the Village Panchayats to open and maintain Libraries / Reading rooms in the Villages. Accordingly, 12,618 Rural Libraries were established from 2006-07 to 2010-2011 under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT). The establishment of Rural Libraries included construction of a New Library Building, provision of furniture and a comprehensive

collection of new books. Due to non-maintenance and disuse of the above Libraries for the past 10 years, most of them are in unserviceable condition.

3. He has further stated that the basic objective of establishing Libraries was to create habit of reading and also to provide exposure to topics and books normally not readily available in rural areas. The world of books would enhance knowledge and enable critical thinking among the rural youth, which is important in their self-development. Further, this will also encourage rural youth to prepare for competitive exams like Civil Services, Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, Railway recruitment, etc. In order to achieve the above objective and also to bring back the dormant Rural Libraries to functionality, it is proposed to revive all the 12,525 Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam within the Village Panchayats in the next three years i.e. from 2021-22 to 2023-24. The Rural Library Buildings will be repaired and renovated including provision of ramp and toilet, replacement of damaged furnitures and provision of new/additional books.

4. He has also stated that for the year 2021-22, 1/3rd of the 12,525 Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries, i.e., 4116 Libraries in 387 Blocks will be revived at an estimated amount of Rs.91.75 Crore for fulfilling the above needs as detailed below:-

S.No	Subject	Required Amount (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Amount required for repairing of 4116 Libraries	60.88
2.	Providing Furnitures to 4116 Libraries at a cost of Rs.25,000/- per Library.	10.29
3.	Providing New books to 4116 Libraries at a cost of Rs.50,000/- per Library.	20.58
	Total Amount Required	91.75

5. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has therefore requested the Government to sanction and release a sum of Rs.91.75 Crore which includes Rs.64.22 Crore (70%) under State Fund and Rs.27.53 Crore (30%) from dovetailing fund (Capital Grant Fund) during the year 2021-2022 for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam.

6. The Government have carefully examined the proposal of the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam in detail and decided to accept the same and issue the following orders:-

- (i) Administrative sanction is accorded for a sum of Rs.91.75 Crore (Rupees Ninety One Crore and Seventy Five Lakh only) and sanction is accorded for the release of Rs.91.75 Crore (Rupees Ninety One Crore and Seventy Five Lakh only) which includes Rs.64.22 Crore (70%) under State Fund and Rs.27.53 Crore (30%) from dovetailing fund (Capital Grant Fund) for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam for the year 2021-2022;

- (ii) Detailed Guidelines for the Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam for the year 2021-2022 is annexed to this order.

7. The amount sanctioned in para 6 (i) above, shall be debited to the following Head of Account:-

SI.No	Head of Account	Amount in Rupees
1.	2515-00 Other Rural Development Programmes – 102 – Community Development – State’s Expenditure – KP – Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam – 309 – Grants – in – Aid - 03 – Grants for Specific Schemes. (DPC-2515 00-102 KP 30903)	64,22,00,000
2.	3604 - 00 – Compensation and Assignments to Local Bodies and Panchayat Raj Institutions – 200 – Other Miscellaneous Compensations and Assignments – State’s Expenditure – BP – Capital Grant Fund for Rural Local Bodies – 309 – Grants –in – aid-02 - Grants for Creation of Capital Assets. (DPC-3604 00 200 BP 30902)	27,53,00,000
	Total	91,75,00,000

8. The expenditure sanctioned in para 6 (i) above towards State Government funding to the tune of Rs.64,22,00,000/- will constitute an item of “New Service”. The approval of the Legislature will be obtained in due course pending approval of the Legislature the expenditure may initially be met from an advance drawn from the contingency fund. Order regarding this will be issued separately in Finance (BG-I) Department. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is requested to apply for sanctioning contingency fund in the prescribed Proforma along with the copy of this order to Government in Finance (BG-I) Department and to send necessary note for Supplementary Estimate for inclusion of this expenditure in the Supplementary Estimates for 2021-2022 without fail.

9. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is the Estimating, Reconciling and Controlling authority for the above said new head of account. The Pay and Accounts Officer / Treasury Officer concerned are directed to open the above new head of account in their books.

10. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is authorized to draw the amount sanctioned in para 6 above and disburse the same to the Districts and send the progress report on the implementation of the Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam during the year 2021-2022, to the Government.

11. Three stages photography of all works (i.e) before, during and after the works are mandatory.

12. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O. No. 54582/Fin (RD)/2021, dated 14.12.2021 and Additional Sanction Ledger No.1142 (One thousand one hundred and forty two)

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

**P.AMUDHA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Chennai-15.
All District Collectors (except Chennai) (through the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Chennai-15)
All Project Directors, District Rural Development Agencies.
(through the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Chennai-15).
The Commissioner of Treasuries and Accounts, Chennai-35.
The Principal Accountant General, Chennai - 9/18/35.
The Pay and Accounts Officer(Secretariat), Chennai-9.
The Pay and Accounts Officer(East), Chennai-8.
The Pay and Accounts Officer(North), Chennai-1.
The Pay and Accounts Officer(South), Chennai-35.
The Pay and Accounts Officer, Madurai.
All District Treasury Officers.
The National Informatics Centre, Chennai-9.

Copy to

Hon'ble Chief Minister's Office, Chennai-9.
The Special Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development, Chennai-9.
The Private Secretary to Chief Secretary to Government, Chennai-9.
The Principal Private Secretary to Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Chennai -9.
The Private Secretary to Principal Secretary to Government, School Education Department, Chennai-9.
Finance (BG-I/BG-II/RD/W&M-I) Department, Chennai - 9.

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

[Handwritten Signature]
14-12-2021
Section Officer
[Handwritten Initials]
14/12

G.O.(Ms) No.148, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT RAJ (SGS.1)
DEPARTMENT, DATED 14.12.2021

ANNEXURE

Guidelines for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) for the year 2021-2022

1. Introduction

The Article 243G, along with the XI Schedule of Constitution of India and Section 111 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act, 1994 empower the Village Panchayats to open and maintain Libraries / Reading rooms in the Villages. Accordingly, 12,618 Rural Libraries were established from 2006-07 to 2010-2011 under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam. The establishment Rural Libraries included construction of a New Library Building, provision of Furnitures and a comprehensive collection of New Books. Due to non-maintenance and disuse of the above libraries for the past 10 years, most of them are in unserviceable condition.

The basic objective of establishing Libraries was to create habit of reading and also to provide exposure to topics and books normally not readily available in rural areas. The world of books would enhance knowledge and enable critical thinking among the rural youth, which is important in their self-development. Further, this will also encourage rural youth to prepare for competitive exams like Civil Services, TNPSC, Railway recruitment, etc. In order to achieve the above objective and also to bring back the dormant Rural Libraries to functionality, it is proposed to revive all the 12,525 Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Rural Libraries within the Village Panchayats which are in dilapidated condition in the next three years i.e. from 2021-22 to 2023-24. The Rural Library Buildings will be repaired and renovated including provision of ramp and toilet, replacement of damaged furniture and provision of new/additional books.

For the year 2021-22, 1/3rd of the Libraries, i.e, 4116 Libraries which are in most dilapidated condition will be revived.

2. Renovation of Library Building (Civil Works)

The Rural Library Buildings are more than 10 years old and many of them in dilapidated condition. Hence, the Library Buildings will be repaired and renovated ensuring a proper facelift. The provision of ramp will be made for the differently abled and new Toilet facility will also be provided where there is no existing toilet.

- Repairs to RCC roof (in terms of putting up weathering course or taking up leak proofing etc.) along with provision for rainwater harvesting wherever the provisions are not available or damaged.
- Repair of cracks in building walls.
- Repair/replacement of damaged flooring.
- White washing/Colour washing of the buildings.
- Repair/replacement of doors and windows (durability and quality of the materials used should be ensured).

- Replacement of Electrical fixtures (from a company (brand) with proven durability record and with replacement warranty).

3. Provision of Furniture in Libraries

i) During 2006-2007 to 2010-2011 the Rural Libraries were provided with furniture including, Slotted Angle rack (6 Nos.), Reading Table (2 Nos.), Librarian Table (1 No.), "S" Type Chair (1 No.) and branded Plastic Chairs (14 Nos.) from a Company / brand with proven durability record. These furniture will be replaced with new furniture based on their existing condition.

ii) During 2021-2022, an amount of Rs.25,000/- will be allocated for each Library for purchase of new furniture to replace the existing unusable furnitures. The size of the table, book racks etc., should be carefully decided depending on the size of the building available.

iii) Due care must be taken to ensure that the furnitures supplied are durable and are supplied with 3 years replacement warranty.

4. New Books to the Libraries

During 2006-2007 to 2010-2011 varied categories of books including Children, Youth, Reference, Self Help, Great Authors, Eminent Personalities, Fiction, Non-Fiction, Classics Poem and Competitive Exams were provided in the Libraries.

Now during 2021-2022, new books / additional books will be provided to 4116 Libraries at a cost of Rs.50,000/- per Library.

a. Procurement of Books for Libraries

During 2021-2022, the new/additional books required for the Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries will be selected at the State Level by a Committee under the Chairmanship of Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and with following members:-

1.	Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department	Chairman
2.	Director, Tamil Development Department	Member
3.	Director, Directorate of Public Libraries	Member
4.	Additional Director of Rural Development (MGNREGS)	Member
5.	Additional Director of Rural Development (Panchayat Raj)	Member
6.	Librarian, Madras University	Member
7.	Librarian from an Academic Institution (To be nominated by the Director, RD&PR in consultation with the Principal Secretary, RD&PR Dept.,)	Member

In addition to the above, the Director, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj may co-opt any academician/expert to the above Committee as an invitee.

- b. The District Collector should also encourage donation of such used/new Books by Individuals, Schools and Colleges to the Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries, which are in useful condition by sending circulars / requests. However, Textbooks and Guides should be avoided.
- c. Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Rural Library Renovation funds are exclusively for the purchase of books and not for magazines and newspapers as such. However, the District Collectors should ensure that they get subscriptions of Standard Newspapers and magazines for 3 to 5 years from Corporate Houses, Service Organisations such as Rotary/Lions Club and Philanthropists for the Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries. Efforts can be taken by the Collectors to devise a mechanism by which Public / Private Institutions nearby Rural Libraries are able to supply a day old Newspaper.
- d. The World Map, Map of India, Map of Tamil Nadu and the District Map should be displayed prominently in a durable material properly latched and maintained within the Library Building.

5. Appointment of Honorary Librarians

Detailed Guidelines regarding the mode of appointment of Honorary Librarians in Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries were issued in G.O(Ms) No.177, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS-2) Department Dated:25.10.2007 and in G.O(2D) No.66, RD &PR (SGS-1) Dept., Dated:12.07.2013. If any vacancy arises in the post of Librarian then the Honorary Librarian may be engaged to the Village Panchayat Libraries are as follows:-

A. Eligibility Criteria:

Appointments of Librarians are ordinarily residents of that Village shall be considered for the post of Honorary Librarian of the AGAMT Libraries.

B. Order of Priority:

The order of Priority shall be considered in the selection of Librarians: (1) The retired Government / Private Librarians / Retired technical staff below the cadre of Librarian, (2) Retired Government Teachers, (3) Retired Private Teachers, (4) Retired Government Servants (other than Teachers), (5) Persons retired from private sector (other than teachers). Wherever the retired Government servants are not willing to take up the Honorary Librarian job, the functioning shall be done through Village Poverty Reduction Committee (VPRC) or Panchayat Level Federations (PLF) of Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihoods Mission (TNSRLM).

C. Qualification:

- (i) The Librarian should have qualification of VIII Standard passed or equivalent.
- (ii) The person applying for the post should not be Parent / Spouse / Son / Daughter of the Panchayat President. He should also not be a Ward Member of the Village Panchayat.

D. Age and Nativity:

- (i) The person applying should be of the age of 58 years and above (unless he / she is an ex-serviceman; even in such cases, he/she should be at least 50 years old).
- (ii) He / she should ordinarily be a resident of that Village.

E. Appointment:

The Village Panchayat President shall be permitted to engage Librarians from the retired persons on Honorary basis. And this post should be filled up only after the Library Building is fully renovated, furniture is replaced and books are provided for the Library.

F. Honorarium:

Owing to increased cost of living the Honorarium of Rs.1500/- shall be increased to Rs.2000/- per month for the Honorary Librarians from the date of issue of this order.

6. Selection and Finalisation of Works

With regard to the selection and finalization of works the following procedures have to be followed:

- A committee comprising of following Members should be constituted to list out the details of works to be done:-
 - (i) Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat)
 - (ii) Assistant Engineer/Union Engineer
 - (iii) Concerned Village Panchayat President
- The above committee should assess and list the repair works and requirement of Furnitures for each Library.
- A standard and Elaborate enabling capture of every minute details "Assessment sheet" will be communicated by the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and the details of renovation of Library Buildings shall be filled up for finalising the works.

7. Test Verification of the Works Proposed

It is imperative that ensure extensive field visits are undertaken for proper test checks at the stage of preparation of estimates itself which would facilitate in preparing exact estimates. During the test check, the following should be ensured:-

- (i) Any essential item of work has not been wrongly excluded.
- (ii) There should not be any inclusion of unnecessary and Non-permissible items of work.
- (iii) Site Specific and Detailed estimates should be prepared and Photographs also to be attached in the estimate. In no case, rough cost estimate should be prepared.
- (iv) If the cost of any Library Building is on the higher side it should be compulsorily verified on site by AEE (RD) concerned and testify the valid reasons.

The following officials shall carry out test verification of the Libraries as detailed below:-

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a) District Collector | : 10% |
| b) Additional Collector (Dev)/ Project Director, DRDA | : 20% |
| c) Executive Engineer (RD) | : 20% |
| d) Assistant Executive Engineer (RD) | : 50% |

8. Administrative Sanction

The Administrative Sanction shall be accorded by the District Collector after ensuring that every proposal for administrative sanction contains the following:-

- (i) "Assessment Sheet" duly signed by members of the Selection Committee.
- (ii) Required percentage of test check by the District Level Officials.
- (iii) Detailed estimates for each work technically approved by the Competent Authority.
- (iv) Photographs of dilapidated Library Buildings with all repair works attached with estimate. If Photographs are not enclosed, Administrative Sanction should not be given by the District Collector.

9. Technical Sanction

Technical sanction shall be accorded by the Competent Authority as per G.O.(Ms.)No.111, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (PR-1) Department, Dated: 21.08.2018.

10. Tendering Procedure

The works shall be executed through tendering process by adopting the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and Rules, 2000. All maintenance/repair/provision of ramp and toilet works in a Library Building shall be treated as one work and tender shall be invited for the same. The Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat) is the tender inviting authority for the repair works and tenders will be accepted as per the provisions in Sl.No.(3) of Table I of Notification II in the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Preparation of Plans and Estimate of works and mode and conditions of contracts) Rules, 2007.

The tenders for the supply of new furniture will be invited at the District Level and Project Director, District Rural Development Agency shall be the Tender Inviting authority and tenders will be accepted as per the provisions Table II of Notification II in the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Preparation of Plans and Estimate of works and mode and conditions of contracts) Rules, 2007.

11. Execution of Works

The measurements will be recorded by the Overseer/Union Engineer/Assistant Engineer and the Check Measurement will be done by the concerned Assistant Engineer/Assistant Executive Engineer (RD) respectively as the case may be.

12. Flow of Funds:

The District Collectors shall maintain a separate savings bank account and the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) shall maintain a separate savings bank account for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam. There is no need to open accounts for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam at the Village Panchayat level and it is enough if the District Collector and the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) maintain separate Bank Accounts for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam at District level and Block level respectively. In order to prevent mixing up of funds meant for one Village Panchayat with that of another, the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) shall maintain a Ledger with separate page(s) for each Village Panchayat to indicate the receipts and expenditure including interest amount.

13. Documentation

Proper documentation of the works should be done capturing various processes in the implementation of the scheme. Photographs of the site before undertaking the work, during execution of the work and after completion of the work should be taken and properly documented in Block level and District level.

The Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is empowered to modify the guidelines for Revival of Rural Libraries under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam whenever necessary, in consultation with the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

**P.AMUDHA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

//TRUE COPY//

H. Mahalingam/14-12-2014
Section Officer

By 20/12/14