

डा० विजय कुमार बेहेरा, आई.ई.एस.  
आर्थिक सलाहकार

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पंचायती राज मंत्रालय  
भारत सरकार  
टावर-II, 9वां तल  
जीवन भारती बिल्डिंग  
नई दिल्ली-110001  
**MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ**  
**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**TOWER-II, 9th FLOOR**  
**JEEVAN BHARTI BUILDING**  
**NEW DELHI-110001**

D.O. No.: J-11011/59/2020-Media

Date 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

As you are aware, various commemorative activities were planned to be carried out by Panchayati Raj Institutions across the Nation upto 15<sup>th</sup> August 2022 (India @ 75) as part of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav as a **Jan-Utsav** in the spirit of **Jan-Bhagidari** through outreach initiatives like **Jan-Samvaad** and **Jan-Jagran** about **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**. The activities **suggested for 75-weeks** included (i) 29 awareness campaigns in 29 weeks on 29 subjects/ matters listed under Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, (ii) 6 awareness campaigns in 6 weeks on localisation of six key goals under Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with critical Roles of PRIs, (iii) 5 regional/zonal conferences of Sarpanches on Jan Samvaad in 5 weeks, (iv) Commemoration of **National Panchayati Raj Day** falling on **24<sup>th</sup> April of 2021 and 2022**, (v) 6 Special Gram Sabhas in 6 weeks, (vi) 8 exposure visits in 8 weeks by the identified beacon PRIs, (vii) 3 Exhibitions in 3 weeks and (viii) 10 other miscellaneous activities in 10 weeks like wall painting, essay competitions, debates, heritage walk/tour/study tour, Swachhta activities etc.

2. Ministry has been sending advisories with suggestive activities to be carried out on weekly basis and also consistently been requesting States/UTs to provide reports on activities undertaken so far. Since reports have not been received from most of the States, it is presumed that due to spell of second wave of COVID-19 pandemic in most parts of the country, States/UTs **appear to have not organised the events during the thirteen weeks** or even if they did so are yet to send their reports. Details are as per **Annexure-I**.

3. A report on commemoration of **National Panchayati Raj Day** on **24<sup>th</sup> April 2021** as part of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** is also yet to be received as many award distribution functions / ceremonies were organised at State/District Headquarters level on **24<sup>th</sup> April, 2021** across the country after conclusion of the virtual national event addressed by Hon'ble Prime Minister.

4. Ministry has already shared week-wise suggestive activities upto **18<sup>th</sup> week**. But, it appears that majority of activities could not be organized owing to sudden increase in the intensity of the COVID-19 pandemic. In view of the above, it is suggested to organise the events during the ensuing week (Week No. 15) and forthcoming weeks upto **18<sup>th</sup> Week** as already advised *vide* D.O. letter of even no. dated 10/6/2021 (**Annexure-II**), and beyond that the some major activities skipped up to **13<sup>th</sup> week** may please be reorganised from the **19<sup>th</sup> Week** as per **Annexure-III**.

2/-

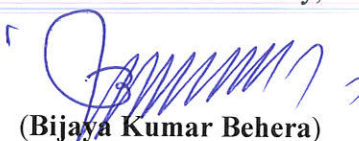
5. Further, I would like to reiterate that activities suggested by the Ministry can be revised/ customized according to their suitability/ convenience/ local circumstances. With regard to week-wise activities to be carried out by Panchayati Raj Institutions under guidance of States/UTs, the roles of the key stakeholders have been formulated and the same is at **Annexure-IV**.

6. I would like to request to involve and activate the **Beacon Panchayats** [75 Gram Panchayats, 75 Block Panchayats and 75 District Panchayats across the country from amongst Awardee (well-performing) Panchayats / Mission Antyodaya scores identified as “Agents of Change” or “Beacon Panchayats” to mark the 75th years of Indian Independence] in the awareness campaigns on India@75. The Ministry is contemplating to **extend token financial support to these Beacon Panchayats for carrying out several activities** in connection with India@75. The objectives behind selection of the **Beacon Panchayats / Role of Beacon Panchayats** is also given at **Annexure-V**.

7. All the suggested themes/ activities may be customised and activities may be carried out with strict adherence to the COVID-19 protocols/ guidelines/ appropriate behaviours, after taking into account the prevailing scenario arising out of the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic in the respective State/ UT/ District/ Block/ Gram Panchayat/ Villages. States/UTs may also like to conduct an intensive awareness campaigns on various aspects of **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** and integrate ongoing activities / initiatives with **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**.

8. In this regard, I would like to request all the **State/UT Departments of Panchayati Raj and State Institutes of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj** to (i) designate an Officer / Faculty-Member as **Nodal Officer for India@75** for better and smooth coordination with MoPR and PRIs for implementation of week-wise activities and provide their names and contact-details to the Ministry, (ii) call upon Panchayati Raj Institutions to integrate observance of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav with an amplified collective effort and renewed vigour & optimism to accelerate the pace of COVID-19 vaccination in rural areas, and (iii) provide the **report** regarding the activities undertaken on the occasion of **National Panchayati Raj Day on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021** (including **award distribution ceremonies / functions organised on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at different locations to hand over the National Panchayat Awards under different categories**). I would like to request all the States/UTs to provide the above information/ reports by **30<sup>th</sup> June 2021** at email: <ak.tiwari12@nic.in> with copy marked to <behera.bk@nic.in>.

Yours Sincerely,

  
(Bijaya Kumar Behera)

**Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary,**  
**Department of Panchayati Raj,**  
All States/ UTs, except Chandigarh and Delhi.

**Director,**  
**State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj,**  
All States.

## Annexure-I

### Details of Suggestive Activities under India @75 Celebration for the last Thirteen Weeks

Week No.	Duration	Theme Activity	Remarks
1	12.03.2021 to 18.03.2021	National Webinar for launching of <b>Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav</b> in Panchayats across the country	Participation of majority of States/UTs in the National Webinar organised on 12/3/2021. <b>No report</b> received from any State/UT, except Manipur
2	19.03.2021 to 25.03.2021	Regional/ Zonal Assembly of Sarpanches on <b>23 March 2021</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT, except Manipur
3	26.03.2021 to 01.04.2021	<b>Agriculture, including agricultural extension as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT, except Manipur
4	02.04.2021 to 08.04.2021	Localisation of SDG Goal 1 – <b>No Poverty</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT, except Manipur
5	09.04.2021 to 15.04.2021	Regional/ Zonal Assembly of Sarpanches on <b>13 April 2021</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT, except Manipur
6	16.04.2021 to 22.04.2021	<b>Land improvement, implementation of land reforms, land consolidation and soil conservation as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.
7	23.04.2021 to 29.04.2021	Commemoration of <b>National Panchayati Raj Day</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.
8	30.04.2021 to 06.05.2021	Awareness campaign on localisation of SDG Goal 2 - <b>Zero Hunger</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.
9	07.05.2021 to 13.05.2021	Regional/ Zonal Assembly of Sarpanches on <b>10 May 2021</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.
10	14.05.2021 to 20.05.2021	<b>Minor irrigation, water management and watershed development as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.
11	21.05.2021 to 27.05.2021	Localisation of SDG Goal 3 - <b>Good Health and Well-Being</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.
12	28.05.2021 to 03.06.2021	Exhibition of local tradition & culture to familiarise younger generations	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.
13	04.06.2021 to 10.06.2021	<b>Animal husbandry, dairying and poultry as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</b>	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT.

## Annexure-II

### Themes Suggested during 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Week of Celebration of India@75

Week No.	Duration	Theme Activity	Remarks
14	11.06.2021 to 17.06.2021	<b>Yuva Sanvad</b> to inform about scholarship schemes / skill development initiatives of the Central Government / State Government	<b>No report</b> received from any State/UT
15	18.06.2021 to 24.06.2021	Localisation of <b>SDG Goal 4 – Quality Education</b>	Celebration of <b>International day of Yoga</b>
16	25.06.2021 to 01.07.2021	<b>Fisheries as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</b>	
17	02.07.2021 to 08.07.2021	Exhibition on local products (Vocal For Local)	
18	09.07.2021 to 15.07.2021	Localisation of <b>SDG Goal 5 – Gender Equality</b>	

### Annexure-III

#### Details of Activities Skipped upto 13<sup>th</sup> Week under India @75 Celebration to be Clubbed from 19<sup>th</sup> Week Activities

<b>Week</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Theme/ Activity</b>	<b>Clubbed Theme/ Activity</b>
19	16.07.2021 to 22.07.2021	<b>Social forestry and farm forestry as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</b>	<b>Land improvement, implementation of land reforms, land consolidation and soil conservation as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India [Week 6]</b>
20	23.07.2021 to 29.07.2021	<b>Localisation of SDG Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation</b>	<b>Localisation of SDG Goal 2 – Zero Hunger [Week 8]</b>
21	30.07.2021 to 05.08.2021	<b>Minor forest produce as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</b>	<b>Minor irrigation, water management and watershed development as listed among 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India [Week 10]</b>
22	06.08.2021 to 12.08.2021	<b>Regional/ Zonal Assembly of Sarpanches on 9 August 2021</b>	<b>Regional/ Zonal Assembly of Sarpanches suggested for 10 May 2021 [Week 9]</b>



**Role of State/ UT Department Headquarters or Directorate / SIRD&PRs / PRIs in implementation of activities under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (India@75)**

<b>Role of State/ UT Department Headquarters or Directorate</b>	<b>Role of SIRD&amp;PRs</b>	<b>Role of PRIs</b>
<p>(a) Foremost, Nomination of <b>State/ UT Nodal Officers for India@75</b> and providing contact details to MoPR</p> <p>(b) Overall coordination of activities for India@75 under the aegis of Department / Directorate of Panchayati Raj</p> <p>(c) Weekly advisory to PRIs and collection of reports from PRIs and sharing with MoPR.</p> <p>(d) Coordination with CEOs of Zila Panchayats and District Panchayati Raj Officers for Regional/ Zonal Assembly of Sarpanches</p> <p>(e) Instructing the District authorities to compile information of conduct and activities and upload report with photographs on the designated portal or mail to Ministry of Panchayati Raj</p>	<p>(a) Designating <b>Nodal Officer for India@75</b>, working out detailed activities and developing awareness materials on suggested themes at Headquarters of SIRDs / SIRD&amp;PRs.</p> <p>(b) Informatory materials on localisation of SDGs and 29 subjects/ matters in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India</p> <p>(c) Conducting orientation training of Beacon Panchayats on priority and other Panchayats in batches for India@75.</p>	<p>(a) A banner (printed or projected on the screen/wall) titled <b>Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav</b> – India@75 with the theme/ topic and date &amp; week should be prepared for each programme.</p> <p>(b) Implementation of week-wise activities and providing information in an efficient &amp; timely manner to Blocks/Districts/State HQ etc.</p>

**Objectives behind selection of the Beacon Panchayats / Role of Beacon Panchayats**

- (i) These **Beacon Panchayats** to lead the campaign at grassroots level as brand ambassadors of exemplary development work in the rest of the State/country worth emulating;
- (ii) Panchayats from each State / UT will showcase how a model / well-performing Panchayat functions and ensures all-round development in their Panchayats
- (iii) These Panchayats have worked effectively to ensure physical infrastructure for efficient functioning and proper social & economic development, income generation, increasing Own Source Revenue (OSR) collection and solid initiatives towards making Panchayats self-reliant/ self-sufficient.
- (iv) These Panchayats would actually be a Role Model or Learning Centres for neighbouring Panchayats in the State/UT to emulate, and the Elected Heads or Functionaries of such Panchayats can be Brand Ambassadors for training other Panchayats to replicate the best practices.