

By

S.R. Lakha

I.A.S.

Secretary

Lucknow Date 24 November 2000

To,

Deptt. of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation Programme Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.

Sir,

I take this opportunity to thank your goodself for sparing time to address us on 13 th November, 2000, Indeed it was a rare chance for us to interact with our colleagues in Delhi as well as in other states.

We had put certain suggestions under Swarn Jayanti Shahan Rozgar Yojna before the House on 13.11.2000. Which were discussed at length by everybody, I want to bring the same to your notice again for consideration by Govt. India.

The State has launched a massive effort against poverty eradication under this scheme and the thrust on SJSRY has resulted in increased expenditure Against central funds of Rs. 84.86 crore, the State has spent an amount of Rs. 74.77 crore thus leaving a balance of Rs. 10.09 crore which is with Duda's in the State and likely to be spent in the current quarter Against an expenditure of Rs. 74.77 crore we have already spent Utilization Certificates for Rs. 61.30 crore. The remaining UC's are being collected and sent in next month's or so. We have raised the target under USEP from 16887 actual achievement last year to 50000 this year and 6550 persons have already been disbursed with 31333 applications pending on this current year We have few suggestions under this scheme which is for your consideration-

1. The bifurcation of money between various components of SJSRY should be left to the states to determine. However the Govt.. Of India can fix a ceiling under each head.
2. The minimum qualification prescribed for training under USEP should be relaxed to matriculation atleast as there are new fields like computer, electronics which would need some minimum under standing of language.
3. The upper limit for subsidy should be enhanced to 25% instead of 15% at present and the monthly limit be enhanced of Rs. 12,500/- instead of Rs. 7,500/- this would reduce the burden on the borrower and projects can become economically viable.
4. The amount for training per person which is Rs. 2000/- at present should be revised instead a ceiling of Rs. 10000/- per trainee can be fixed with average expenditure of Rs. 5000/- per trainee this would help to arrange training in modern trades and with better infrastructure etc.
5. The amount fixed for tool kit should also be enhanced from Rs. 600/- to Rs. 1000/- per unit in fact. There should be a separate scheme to provide modern tool kits to urban artisans with

subsidy of Rs. 500/- per person. The beneficiary can be charged Rs. 200/- At present the tool kit is being provided only to persons getting trained under this scheme.

6. The concept of Self-help Groups be encouraged under USEP minimum percentage should be prescribed as part of USEP.

7. There should be regular interaction between banker's/Govt. Of India officials/ State officials at Government of India level. As banker's are not very forthcoming despite cooperation for recovery by the state officials. We have started involving the banker's at the Selection Stage itself by constituting a task force at district level. The various components of Self-Employment Scheme have been made part of District Credit plan.

8. There is no specific provisions for providing revolving fund for Dwacua groups However, during discussions Shri Murthy Joint Secretary clarified that where ever Dwacua groups are also operating joint bank A/cs for a year. The principles of Thrift & Credit Societies can be given matching grant of Rs.25000/- per group.

9. The ratio of 60.40 for material and labour in wage Employment programme should also be relaxed.

10. To create employment opportunities for urban uneducated unemployed youth, it is suggested that a minimum 10% of the available wage employment Scheme funds may be earmarked for constructing shops in the smaller towns for allotment of these youths.

State Urban Development Agency. U.P.(SUDA) has taken up innovative steps I am enclosing a copy of details of these taken be SUDA for your perusal please.

With regards

Your's Sincerely

(S.R. Lakha)

Shri S. Chattopadhaya
Secretary Govt. of India
Ministry of Urban Development and
Poverty Alleviation
Encl: As above
New Delhi.

INNOVATIONS BY STATE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, U.P.

1. A comprehensive action plan to attack Poverty has been launched. The plan provides for housing, self-employment and social security for the family. The house is being provided by dovetailing the loan amount available under SHASHU/HUDCO and allocations available under NSDP for housing with contribution in form of labour by the beneficiary. Wherever LCS Scheme is operative, the toilet is provided under LCS Scheme. The couple is also simultaneously insured for 25,000/- for accidental death for next 10 years, which includes the insurance Cover for the houses as well. Wherever the couple is unemployed, one person of the family is being helped under USEP to get set-employment. (Example Barafkhana in Lucknow). The action plan shall be implemented in the Entire State.

2. To bring about coverage of social services and other welfare services for the urban poor, SUDA has started organizing 'Chaupal' every Second Friday in the State. The Chairmen by the Collector and officers of the following departments take part.

- i) Social Welfare Department for Various persons etc.
- ii) Health Deptt. For free health check-ups and immunization.
- iii) Municipal Corporation.
- iv) Food Department.
- v) Industries Deptt. For Self-employment programmes.
- vi) Revenue Department.
- vii) Police Department.

The Chairpersons of Community Development Societies organises, slum population to come to the Chaupal and take advantage of the above services.

3. Employment Card has been introduced to ensure strict enforcement of wage employment scheme. One member of each family living in the slum, where the development work under UWEP/NSDP is being undertaken, shall be employed to work. The Card is numbered and the number will be mentioned in the muster roll. The effort is to ensure wage employment for the slum dwellers as well as involve the stockholders in undertaking development work.

4. The members of Thrift and Credit groups have been linked with Insurance. The members and their spouse are being insured for next 10 years for accidental death. The scheme provided a subsidy of Rs. 60/- per month, SUDA has entered into an agreement with National Insurance Company to cover not only member but also her spouse for Rs. 25,000/- each for next 10 years for any accidental death. Presently there are 2100 Thrift and Credit groups operation out of which groups, Who have completed one year, shall benefit from this.

5. To bring about familiarity with the CDS workers, the names of the workers have been changed to more familiar names like the following:-

RCV - (Bahin Jee)

NHC - Chhoti Didi

CDS - Bari Didi

6. Community Development fund is being created with every CDS. So as to involve stake holders, as per directives under NSDP. SUDA/DUDA will contribute Rs. 5/- for every Rs. 1/- contributed by the society to run social services. in slums.
7. User's groups are being encouraged to take over the asset created under NSDP/ SJSRY Experiment has been done in Lucknow.
8. To augment water supply in slums an efforts has been made to dug up old unused wells. The scheme called "Indara Kup Yojna" under N.S.D.P. provides for locating unused old well, putting a submersible pumps and connecting the supply with the main supply to augment the existing quantity. Work on 100 such wells is going on in the State.
9. To provide the poor urban washerman with facilities to wash cloth, a scheme to construct Dhobighat has been started under NSDP, 25 such ghats are under construction. There is a request to include this under SJSRY(USEP Infrastructure head).
10. A unique experiment has been successfully done in Mashalachi tola in Lucknow It used to be Basti of 200 families. A sewerage system has been put connecting it to a digester which produce Biogas. This Biogas is supplied to the households for domestic use. The Biogas is also being used to run the tubewell in the area. There is a Scheme to replicate this in another 42 Slums of Lucknow.