

Minutes of the Meeting on the Letter of the Principal Accountant General, (Audit) regarding Social Audit held on 06.11.2010 in the Conference Room of the Chief Secretary (Block-C 3rd Floor).

List of Members present is given at Annexure-I.

1. Chief Secretary, Government of Assam presided over the meeting and welcomed officers of the concerned departments attending the meeting.
2. Shri R.S. Prasad, Commissioner & Secretary, Finance Department explained the purpose of the meeting. He said that Principal Accountant General (Audit), Assam vide his DO letter dated 08.09.2010 requested the Chief Secretary, Government of Assam to direct the concerned authorities for initiating process of social audit in the State to ensure grass root level accountability in respect of funds flowing to the autonomous agencies, societies and particularly local bodies from the Central Government and the State Government. He said that Principal Accountant General (Audit) pointed out two types of social audit – social audit conducted by Gram Sabhas/Panchyats or local level vigilance and other category of social audit conducted by Monitoring Committee as stipulated in the guidelines of various social sector programmes. State Government of Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have adopted social audit as a part of their monitoring systems through Gram Sabha and in partnership with consortium of NGOs.
3. Shri Arun Kumar, Principal Secretary, Panchayat & Rural Development Department said that there are guidelines for conduct of social audit under the schemes of NREGA. There is no clear concept for implementation of social audit in local bodies. Moreover, there is no proper infrastructure in PRIs for implementation of social audit. Most of the PRIs are facing

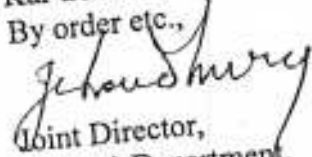
shortage of staff strength. He said that proposal for filling up of vacant posts in PRIs have been lying with the Finance Department.

4. Chief Secretary said that creation of separate directorate of social audit as mentioned by the Principal Accountant General (Audit) at this stage is not possible.
5. Chief Secretary decided in the meeting that a team of State Government Officials from Panchayat & Rural Development Department, Urban Development Department and Finance Department may be deputed to the State of Rajasthan for study of model of social audit adopted by Rajasthan Government. In this connection, Panchayat & Rural Development Department may move the proposal to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
6. Meeting ended with thanks from the Chair.

Sd/-
(N.K. Das)
Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Assam
Dated Dispur 18th December, 2010

Memo. No.FEA(SFC) 66/2009/148-A
Copy to:

1. The P.S. to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam for kind information of the Chief Secretary.
2. The Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam, Panchayat & Rural Development Department.
3. The Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam, Urban Development Department.
4. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Guwahati Development Department.
5. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Health & Family Welfare Department.
6. The Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, Agriculture Department.
7. The Secretary to the Government of Assam, Agriculture Department.
8. The Joint Secretary to the Government of Assam, Finance Department.
9. The Director of Audit (Local Fund), Assam, Kar Bhavan, G.S. Road, Dispur.

By order etc.,

Joint Director,
Finance (E.A.) Department.

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Annexure-I

List of Officers Present in the Meeting on Social Audit held on 06.11.2010 in the Conference Room of the Chief Secretary (Block-C 3rd Floor).

1. Shri Arun Kumar, Principal Secretary, P & R.D. Department.
2. Shri S. Prasad, Principal Secretary, U.D. Department.
4. Shri R.S. Prasad, Commissioner & Secretary, Finance Department.
5. Dr. A.K. Bhutani, Commissioner & Secretary, G.D. Department.
6. Shri J.C. Goswami, Commissioner & Secretary, Health & F.W. Department.
7. Shri Niraj Verma, Commissioner & Secretary, Agriculture Department.
8. Shri N.A. Hazarika, Secretary, Agriculture Department.
9. Shri M.S. Manivasnnan, Joint Secretary, Finance Department.
10. Shri A.K. Purakayastha, Director of Audit, (Local Fund), Assam

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