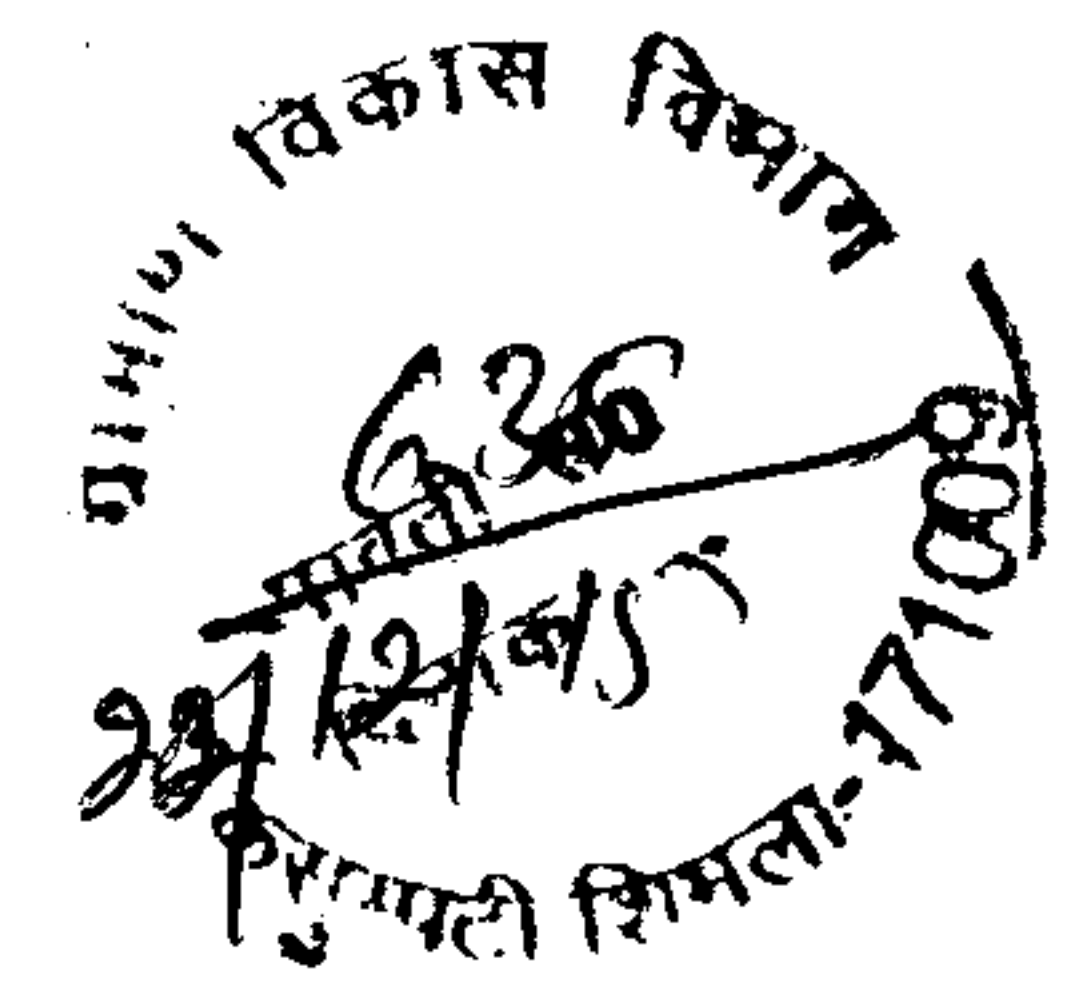


No. PLG -FC (F) 3-7/2015-16(Main)  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
Planning Department



From

Adviser (Planning)  
H.P. Shimla-2

To

1. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Animal Husbandry) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2
2. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Agriculture) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2
3. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Horticulture) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2
4. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Tourism) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2
5. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Urban Development) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2
6. The Secretary ( SCs, OBCs & Minority Affairs) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2
7. The Secretary (Rural Development) to the Govt. of H.P. Shimla-2
8. The Managing Director, Koshal Vikas Nigam, HP, Shimla-2

SS (RD)  
18/12/15

Dated Shimla-2, the 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

**Subject:**

**Regarding constitution of Task Force on Poverty Elimination and comments of the State Government on the points of the NITI Aayog.**

Sir/Madam,

DS (RD) - I  
19/12  
DUP/2015/SM  
19/12

I am directed to enclose a copy of letter No. SMH-01/2015-16-RDD-286 dated 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2015 alongwith enclosures received from Deputy Secretary (RD) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh on the subject cited above. In this regard, it is to inform you that the Task Force constituted by the State Government on "Poverty Elimination" has recommended/suggested certain initiatives which are required to be taken by different departments for poverty elimination (Item No.3 of the enclosed Task Force Report).

In view of above, you are requested to take necessary action on the points(s) pertaining to your department under intimation to the Rural Development Department as well as the Planning Department. You are also requested to propose initiatives based on Task Force recommendations in next financial year budget/ budget speech so that these recommendations are given a practical shape.

Yours faithfully,

(Akshay Sood)  
Adviser (Planning)  
Himachal Pradesh,  
Shimla-171002.

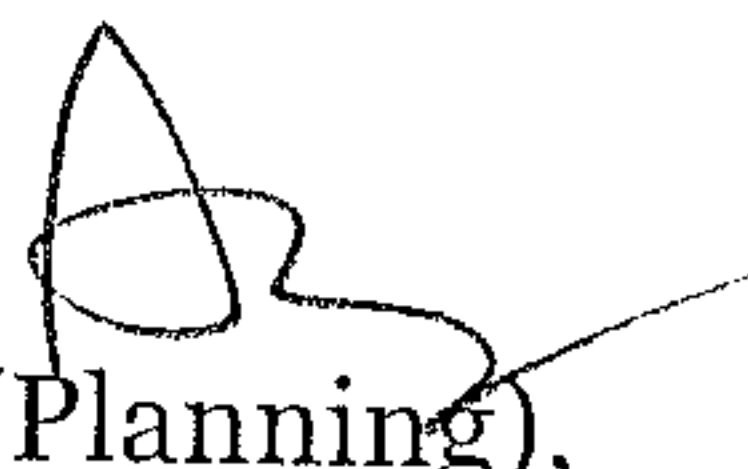
Endst. No As above Dated Shimla-2 the

18<sup>th</sup>

December, 2015

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Deputy Secretary (RD) w.r.t. his letter referred to above for information and further necessary action. He is also requested to upload the Task Force report on departmental website please.
2. Director, Animal Husbandry/Agriculture/Horticulture/Tourism/Urban Development/ SOMA/ RD/Adviser (Planning).

  
Adviser (Planning),  
H.P. Shimla-2.

Regd.

No.SMH-01/2015-16--RDD- 286  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
Rural Development Department

From:

The Secretary (RD) to the  
Government of HP, Shimla-2

To

The Chief Executive Officer  
NITI Aayog, Government of India  
Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

Dated Shimla-9

3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2015

Subject: -

Regarding constitution of Task Force on Poverty  
Elimination and comments of the State Government  
on the points of the NITI Aayog.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to your DO No.O-11013/O/2015-  
NI dated 17<sup>th</sup> March,2015 addressed to Chief Secretary to the Government of HO regarding above  
subject and to enclose herewith the consolidated views of the State Government on the points raised  
by you for favour of your information and necessary action please.

Encl : As Above

Yours faithfully.

(Jitender Sanjta)

Deputy Secretary (RD) to the  
Government of HP, Shimla-9  
Telephone No.0177-2623822  
e-mail : rddhimachal@gmail.com

Dated Shimla-9 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2015

Endorsement No. As Above 287

Copy forwarded to : The Principal Secretary (Planning ) to the Government of HP, Shimla-2 in reference  
to letter No. PLG-FC(F) 3-7/2015-16 ( Main) dated 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 and 22<sup>nd</sup>  
May, 2015 for information please.

(Jitender Sanjta)

Deputy Secretary (RD) to the  
Government of HP, Shimla-9  
Telephone No.0177-2623822  
e-mail : rddhimachal@gmail.com

28

No.SMH-01/2014-15-RDD-  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
Rural Development Department

**ORDER**

**Subject:**

**Constitution of Task Force at the State level under the Chairpersonship of Principal Secretary (RD) to the Government of HP as per requirement of NITI Aayog, Government of India.**

In pursuance to letter Number PLG-FC(F)3-7/2015-16(Main ) dated 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2015 and letter of even number dated 10<sup>th</sup> April,2015 issued by the Planning Department regarding constitution of the Task Force on the elimination of Poverty in the State on the analogy of similar task force constituted by the NITI Aayog ,Government of India at the National level , the State Level Task Force for Himachal Pradesh under the chairpersonship of Principal Secretary (RD) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh is constituted as below :

1. Principal Secretary (RD) to the Govt. of HP	<b>Chairperson</b>
2. Secretary , Agriculture or his/her representative	Member
3. Secretary, Horticulture or his/her representative	Member
4. Secretary , Animal Husbandry or his/her representative	Member
5. Secretary, Industries or his/her representative	Member
6. Secretary ,SJ&E or his/her representatives	Member
7. Secretary, Urban Development or his/her representative	Member
8. Secretary ,Labour & Employment or his/her representative	Member
9. Secretary, Tribal Dev. Deptt. or his/her representative	Member
10. Director, Agriculture Department	Member
11. Director, Horticulture Department	Member
12. Director, Animal Husbandry Department	Member
13. Director, Industries Department	Member
14. Director, SCs,OBCs & Minority Affairs Department	Member
15. Director, Women & Child Development Department	Member
16. Director, Urban Development Department	Member
17. Director, Labour &Employment Department	Member
18. Head of Department, Tribal Development	Member
19. Director-cum-Special Secretary (RD) to the Govt. of HP.	<b>Convenor-Member</b>

By Order

**Chief Secretary (RD) to the  
Government of HP, Shimla-2**

**The Terms of the above Task Force will be as follows:**

- i) To coordinate and develop synergy with the allied departments of the State Government who are involved in the implementation of anti-poverty programmes and activities.
- ii) To develop a working definition of poverty in the State.
- iii) To prepare a roadmap for elimination of poverty in the State.
- iv) To suggest strategies and anti-poverty programmes including reform of the existing ones.
- v) To identify successful anti-poverty programmes from where strategy for elimination of Poverty in the State can be adopted.
- vi) Any other relevant measures given in the meeting.
- vii) The Task Force will submit its report to the Planning Department before 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 .

PTO

282  
Ehdorsement No. SMH-01/2014-15-RDD-1671-87 Date Shimla  
Copy forwarded for information and necessary action:

26 th Ma 2015

1. The Secretary, Agriculture/Horticulture/Animal Husbandry/Industries/SJ&F /Urban Development /Labour &Employment /Tribal Development for information please.
2. The Director Agriculture/Horticulture/Animal Husbandry/Industries/SJ&E /Urban Development /Labour &Employment /Tribal Development for information please.
3. Guard File.

*bal*  
Special Secretary (RD) to the  
Government of HP, Shimla-2

**The World Bank Organization describes poverty in this way:**

*"Poverty is hunger. Poverty is lack of shelter. Poverty is being sick and not being able to see a doctor. Poverty is not having access to school and not knowing how to read. Poverty is not having a job, is fear for the future, living one day at a time.*

*Poverty has many faces, changing from place to place and across time, and has been described in many ways. Most often, poverty is a situation people want to escape. So poverty is a call to action -- for the poor and the wealthy alike -- a call to change the world so that many more may have enough to eat, adequate shelter, access to education and health, protection from violence, and a voice in what happens in their communities."*

Poverty is general scarcity or dearth, or the state of one who lacks a certain amount of material possessions or money. It includes social, economic, and political elements. Poverty is most of the time closely related to inequality. As a dynamic concept, poverty is changing and adapting according to consumption patterns, social dynamics and technological change. Absolute poverty or destitution refers to the deprivation of basic human needs, which commonly includes food, water, sanitation, clothing, shelter and health care. Relative poverty is defined contextually as economic inequality in the location or society in which people live.

In Indian context the **major causes of poverty** are :-

**1. Climatic factors:**

The hot climate of India reduces the capacity of people especially the ruralites to work for which production severely suffers. Frequent flood, famine, earthquake and cyclone cause heavy damage to agriculture. Moreover, absence of timely rain, excessive or deficient rain affect severely country's agricultural production.

**2. Demographic factors:**

- (i) Rapid growth of population
- (ii) Size of family:

**3. Personal causes:**

- (i) Lack of motivation:
- (ii) Idleness:

**4. Economic causes:**

- (i) Low agricultural productivity:
- (ii) Unequal distribution of land and other assets:
- (iii) Decline of village industries:
- (iv) Immobility of labour:
- (v) Lack of employment opportunities.

**5. Social causes:**

- (i) Education:
- (ii) Caste system:
- (iii) Joint family system:
- (iv) Social customs:
- (v) Growing indebtedness

### Poverty in Himachal Pradesh

If we look at poverty in Himachal Pradesh we would find that Absolute Poverty is very rare in Himachal Pradesh since Himachal Pradesh has been doing well in many areas such as sanitation, education, health, social welfare, horticulture, agriculture, tourism etc. However, Relative Poverty do exist because of various factors which have been mentioned <sup>earlier.</sup> above.

As far as identification of Poverty in the State is concerned it has been presently done on the basis of Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census, the status of which is given as under:

#### 1. BPL Census prior to the 10 th Five Year Plan

➤ During 1981-82, initially, the households having an annual income of Rs. 3500/- each were Included in the BPL list (Later on the annual income level for identification of households in the BPL list was revised to Rs. 4800/-) and a total of 303673 families were identified in the BPL list.

➤ During 1991-92, 2,59,175 (28.62%) households upto an annual income of Rs. 11000/- each were selected in the BPL list.

➤ During 1994-95, after a fresh survey, 258859 (26.69%) households having annual income up to Rs. 11000/ each were identified as below poverty line.

➤ During the 9<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (1997-98) the BPL Census was conducted on the basis of per Capita expenditure. The households having per capita



expenditure up to Rs. 289.31 were identified in the BPL List. On the basis of per capita consumption, identification of 2, 86, 447 (27.62%) households was done in the State during 1997-98.

## 2. BPL Census for the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan:

➤ The BPL Census for 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan was based on normative approach for identification of the rural poor. It introduces a "Score Based Ranking" on relative deprivation revealed by certain socio-economic indicators. The survey of all rural households was carried out to secure information on a range of 13 indicators on each of which every house hold is to be ranked on a 0-4 scale. In the Guidelines it was mentioned that the number of BPL persons should not exceed the number of BPL in the State estimated by the Planning Commission for the year 1999-2000. As per poverty estimates of Planning Commission, the maximum ceiling of BPL households in the State is 2, 82,370 households.

➤ State-wise figures were fixed by the Planning Commission.

➤ On the basis of District wise/Panchayat wise households identified through the BPL Census for 9<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan i.e. 1997-98; district wise/Panchayat wise figures were fixed by the State to the ceiling of 2,82,370 households (2,56,700 adjusted share + 25,670 an additional share of 10%) fixed by the Planning Commission.

- The door to door survey of 11,82,926 rural households was completed during May 2003 and the enumerators were mainly Gram Panchayat Awaraj Vikas

Decision of the G.O.I. to conduct fresh survey to identify B.P.L. Families for 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period i.e. SECC-2011 :-

Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India issued instructions to conduct Socio-Economic Caste Census for identification of BPL families for 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. BPL Families would be selected on the basis of Socio Economic Caste Census data. The Socio Economic Caste Census is being carried out both in Rural and Urban Areas jointly with the technical and Financial Support of the Ministry of Rural Development Department, Government of India in the State. In Himachal Pradesh Socio Economic Caste Census is in the Final Phase and is likely to be completed in a couple of months.

## Task Force on Elimination of Poverty

As per the recommendations of the NITI Ayog, a Task Force on Elimination of Poverty was constituted in the State of Himachal Pradesh on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The Task Force held its meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and discussed on the following four points:-

1. What do you think will constitute elimination of poverty in the State?
2. Successful Programmes in this area that the State would like to share with other States?
3. What initiatives would the State take for elimination of Poverty as defined above?
4. In what way can NITI assist the States in its endeavours?

The recommendations/Findings of the Task Force are as follows:-

1. What do you think will constitute elimination of poverty in the State?

• Since economy of Himachal Pradesh is basically rural and most of the rural families are associated with cattle, Improving cattle breeds and linking small holder livestock keepers to better paying markets is very important.

• As stated above most of the population is Rural based and are dependent on Agriculture, promoting off season vegetables and temperate fruits and bringing about changes through adoption of poly houses, organic farming and modern methods of agriculture can definitely help eradicate poverty.

• Himachal Pradesh has huge Tourism potential, taking the benefits of tourism activities to the rural and off beat areas of the state needs to be

Adhikaris (GPVAs), GPVAs under training, Takiniki Sahayaks, Panchayat Sahayaks, Anganwari Workers, Saksharta Volunteers and JBT Teachers.

➤ At district level, the DCs were the Coordinating Officers and at block level the BDO's did the Coordination job. A total 4,013 personnel were involved and an expenditure of Rs. 72.35 lacs was incurred on survey.

➤ The 13 parameters on which every household was ranked on 0-4 score are as under:

1. Size group of operational holding of land. 2. Type of house. 3. Average availability of normal wear clothing. 4. Food security. 5. Sanitation. 6. Ownership of consumer durables. 7. Literacy status of the highest literate adult. 8. Status of the household labour force. 9. Means of livelihood. 10. Status of Children. 11. Type of indebtedness. 12. Reason for migration from household. 13. Preference of assistance.

➤ The BPL Census process was stayed all over India by the Hon'ble Supreme Court during 2003 and the stay was vacated in 2006.

➤ During December 2006, in the cabinet meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2006, it was approved that the allocation of BPL families in each Panchayat be made in proportion to 1997-98 BPL families subject to a minimum of 10 BPL families in each Panchayat.

➤ As per decision of the Cabinet the instructions regarding approval of BPL lists by the Gram Sabhas in their meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2007 were given to all

the Deputy Commissioners. The list of surveyed households showing the position of score in ascending order was also provided to the Gram Sabha for finalization of the BPL families.

➤ It was also prescribed in the guidelines that the households of following categories would not be considered for identification in BPL List:

- The households having ownership of more than two hectare of un-irrigated land or more than one hectare irrigated land.
- The households having Pucca urban type big house.
- Income tax payer households.
- The households having four wheel vehicles like Car, Motor, Jeep, Tractor, Truck, Bus etc.
- The households earning regular monthly income more than Rs. 2500/ from salary, Pension, Honorarium, wages, profession etc.

### 3. Reviews of B.P.L. List:-

The BPL Lists have been revised from time to time keeping in view the changing circumstances . the BPL List has so far been revised 3 times as per details given below.

1st REVIEW OF BPL LIST on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

2<sup>nd</sup> REVIEW Of BPL LIST on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2011.

3<sup>rd</sup> Review of BPL List on 7.04.2013.

developed and the skills of its workforce /youth needs to be enhanced so as to give occupational opportunities to all sections of society .Development of infrastructure like roads ,telecommunications ,basic amenities ,cleanliness and sanitation etc in the state is essential for making the rural areas assessable to the tourists

- Horticulture plays an important role in the economy of Himachal Pradesh but because of small land holdings, providing self employment opportunities through adoption of ancillary horticulture activities that require little or no land such as Nursery production, Mushroom cultivation, green house cultivation of flowers can help eliminate poverty.

- Since most of the population is Rural based, focusing on employment generation activities, strong grass root level institutions like SHGs, federations, low cost housing, skill development for self employment and low interest financial support both in urban and rural areas will go a long way in elimination of poverty.

- Providing quality education at all levels is very important, therefore the schools and colleges need to be upgraded to modern standards. Availability of adequate teaching staff needs to be taken care of and opening of more institutes especially professional ones will also help a great deal in elimination of poverty.

- Providing quality and affordable healthcare facilities is also important for Poverty elimination.

2. Successful Programmes in this area that the State would like to share with other States?

**Animal Husbandry Department**

(i) The Cross Breeding programme which envisages improvement of local hilly cattle which is being implemented by the Himachal Pradesh Livestock and Poultry Development Board has resulted in increase in population of crossbred cattle in the State from 6.41 lakh in the year 2003 to 9.84 lakh in the year 2012, an increase of 50.5%. Population of indigenous cattle has decreased from 15.46 lakh in the year 2003 to 11.65 lakh in the year 2012, a decline of 24.6%. Similarly, milk production in the State has increased from 372.591 thousand tons in 2002-2003 to 1172.16 thousand tons in 2014-2015, an increase of 214.6%.

(ii) Sheep Development Programmes have resulted in increase in wool production from 1594 tons in the year 2003 to 1662 tons in the year 2012 despite the fact that sheep population has decreased from 9.06 lakh in the year 2003 to 8.05 lakh in the year 2012. Department has maintained four sheep breeding farms from where rams of exotic breeds Rambouillet and Russian Merino are being provided to sheep breeders for breed improvement. Apart from this, from Ram Centre Nagwain District Mandi, breeding rams are provided free of cost during breeding season only, so that the sheep breeder is saved from bearing cost of rearing these rams all through the year.

(iii) Department is implementing Backyard Poultry Development Scheme in the State and a good response to this scheme has been obtained which is evident from the fact that poultry population has increased from 8.09 lakh in the year 2007 to 11.04 lakh in the year 2012. Backyard Poultry is a potent tool for up-

liftment of the poorest of the poor, requiring hardly any infrastructure with bare minimum night shelter facility, the birds feeding on kitchen waste, thus enriching small farmer and landless labour families in terms of improvement of income and nutritional status.

#### **Agriculture Department**

(i) Kisaan Bagwan Samridhi Yojana –Part1 “Production of Cash Crops through adoption of Precision Farming (Polyhouses). Under this scheme under 160 Hac. Area has been brought under polyhouses and about 14300 farmers have been benefited.

(ii) Kisaan Bagwan Samridhi Yojana –PartII “ Diversification of Agriculture through Micro irrigation and other related infrastructure. Under this scheme 21000 hac. area has been brought under sprinkler/drip irrigation.

(iii) Organic Farming- organic farming is being promoted in the State and 18000 hac. area has been brought under organic farming and 30000 farmers have been registered as organic producers.

(iv) Soil Health Cards.

#### **Tourism Department**

Tourism Department in Himachal Pradesh has started various schemes like HP Home Stay Scheme ,2008 and has started various training programmes for unemployed youth like that for Tourist guides ,Taxi Cab drivers ,Dhabas/restaurant owners ,workers ,adventures ,sports etc.



### **Horticulture Department**

(i) Since MGNREGA is under implementation in whole of the state, efforts are being made for Convergence of MNREGA with Horticulture activities to provide 100 days guaranteed employment to the unemployed youths and BPL families at their door step.

(ii) Enhanced/ special incentives and subsidies for Small/ Marginal farmers to adopt popular horticulture activities like protected cultivation and micro-irrigation.

### **Rural Development Department**

Most of the Rural Development schemes are Government of India schemes which are already being implemented throughout the country. However under the sanitation programme the State has started some reward schemes of its own which caters to the different sections of the society. These schemes are as under

(i) Maharishi Valmiki Sampoorna Swachatta Puruskaar(MVSSP) :- This scheme has been started on the pattern of Nirmal Gram Puruskaar and the Panchayats under this scheme compete at various levels i.e. Block Level, District Level, and State Level.

(ii) Mahila Mandal Protsahan Yojna:- Under this scheme Mahila Mandals or Women Groups who have done good work in field of sanitation compete and the winners are rewarded.

(iii) School Sanitation Reward Scheme- This Scheme is for the school students so as to inculcate in them the habit of cleanliness. Under this scheme the schools compete at various levels and the good performing schools in the field of sanitation are rewarded.

The Government of India may also launch such competitive schemes so as to bring about a boost in the Sanitation Programme.

The Rural Development Department in the State has recently launched a scheme for Repair of Houses for General Category BPL families under which an assistance of upto Rs 25,000 would be provided for repair of houses. The Government of India may also launch such scheme under IAY for the repair of houses of BPL families.

### **Labour & Employment Department**

(i) Skill Development Allowance Scheme, 2013-Implemented by Department of Labour & Employment.

The Skill Development Allowance (SDA) Scheme 2013, known as Kaushal Vikas Bhatta Yojana has been notified by the Government of Himachal Pradesh vide Notification No: Shram(D)1-2/2013 dated 21.5.2013. The objective of the Scheme is to upgrade skill level of the unemployed youth and increase employability. Under this Scheme, an allowance of Rs. 1000 (Rs. 1500 to 50% or more permanent physically handicapped) is being given per month to the unemployed Himachali eligible youth for the duration of Skill Development Training subject to maximum 24 months.

One of the eligibility criteria of the Scheme is that family income of applicant should be than less Rs. 2 lacs per annum. Therefore, this Scheme is playing vital role in providing opportunities to the economically deprived unemployed youths, in their skill up gradation and enhancing employment/self employment opportunities, who fulfill other eligibility criteria, under the Scheme. From the date of launching of the Scheme till 30/04/2015 total number of 74720 candidates have been benefitted under the Scheme and an amount of

Rs.44.61 crores Skill Development Allowance have been disbursed to these beneficiaries.

### **Women and Child Development Department**

#### **(i) Self Employment to Women:-**

To eradicate the poverty amongst women the Department is providing grant of Rs. 2500/- for self employment to women whose income is less than Rs. 35000/- per annum. Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced to increase the grant from 2500/- to 5000/-. This grant may be increased to Rs. 10000/-, so that such women are able to sustain themselves after taking up economically viable activities. After assessing the needs of these self employed women additional funds are required for their training/capacity building/accounts keeping /exposure.

These self employed women are provided skill up gradation, self assessment and marketing of their products at the local level. Separate funds for skill up gradation, capacity building, exposure and monitoring need to be provided.

**(ii) Vishesh Mahila Uthan Yojana:-** Department is providing training in different trades viz garment making, beauty culture, basic computer fundamentals, cutting and tailoring, apart from this the new trades such as fabrication, basic electronics and production of pickles, bakery products and namkeen etc. have also been approved by the Government to start in the ITIs to those women who are in more danger under the scheme through different ITIs functioning in the State.

These women need capacity building, exposure so as to enable to start their own small business and further counselling. Funds for their capacity building monitoring and other guidance services are required from time to time

Apart from this Department is providing 10,000/- back end subsidy to these women, it should be enhanced upto Rs. 20,000/-.

#### **Education Department**

- (i) Free and Compulsory Education to all elementary classes ( 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> ) students as per RTE mandate
- (ii) As per RTE entitlements, free text books , free writing materials and free uniform from classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> are being provided .
- (iii) Mid -Day Meal is being served to all the elementary school students MDM scheme.
- (iv) Free transportation facility in HRTC busses to all school going children.
- (v) IRDP scholarship @ Rs.150/- per annum per student of IRDP category under State Scheme.
- (vi) Pre-Matric Minority Scholarship under 100% centrally sponsored scheme to the students of classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> @ Rs.1000/- ( minimum ) and Rs.5700 ( maximum ) per student per annum.
- (vii) Pre-Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupation of classes 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> @ Rs.1850/- per student per annum

#### **Scheduled Caste, Other Backward Classes & Minority Affairs Department**

Various Schemes such as Housing subsidy, Follow up programme, Training & Proficiency in Computer Applications and Allied activities, Integrated Scheme for Older Persons, Integrated Scheme for Persons with Disability, Social Security Pension to Old Age, Disabled, Widow and Lappers, Incentive for Intercaste

