

Government of Karnataka

NO :RDP: 28: RBL: 2000

Karnataka Government Secretariat,
Multistoried Buildings,
Bangalore, Dated 03/08/2000.

CIRCULAR

Sub: Resurvey for identification of bonded labourers.

The State Government had issued directions to the Deputy Commissioners to conduct a survey for identification of bonded labour vide letter No. RDP 15 RBL 99(P) dated 14/10/99. The survey was expected to be completed by the end of June 2000. Many districts completed the survey and submitted reports to the Government indicating the absence of bonded labour in their districts. The discovery of the practice of bonded labour in Mandya and some other districts subsequent to the completion of surveys leads to the conclusion that the methodology of the earlier surveys has not been effective and there is a need for a more systematic involvement of NGOs and senior officers at the field level in this task. The state Government has therefore decided to order a fresh resurvey of bonded labour in all the districts. The following procedure is to be followed in the conduct of the new survey:

1. The survey shall be conducted with the assistance of NGOs or reputed social research organizations like ISEC or Universities. NGOs with proven track record and credibility may be identified for this purpose.
2. The Deputy Commissioners may issue a notice in the local newspapers inviting organizations or individuals with any information on the existence of bonded labour to report such cases to the officer(s) designated by the Deputy Commissioner. Any information/complaint regarding the existence of bonded labour in any specific village or workspot shall be verified by the Assistant Commissioner of the Sub Division or where the number of cases is very large, by the Tahsildar of the taluk.
3. The questionnaire prepared on the basis of the report of Sri S.R.Sankaran, former Chief Secretary, Tripura and circulated by this office can be used for the purpose of the survey. The Deputy Commissioners can make required modifications to the questionnaire.
4. Training workshops are to be conducted to ensure that the individuals involved in the survey work are conversant with the definition of bonded labour and the type of questions to be posed to verify the existence or otherwise of bonded labour.
5. After the submission of the reports by the survey agencies, the Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners and the Tahasildars shall personally cross check the results of the survey. The Deputy Commissioners shall visit at least four villages per Taluk while the Assistant Commissioners shall visit at least ten villages in each Taluk. The Tahasildars shall visit at least 30 villages in their jurisdiction. The Deputy Commissioners may also utilize the services of other senior

officers of the district for this purpose. A detailed report shall be drawn up summarizing the results of such visits. These reports shall be a part of the final report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner to the State Government.

6. The Deputy Commissioner may prepare a list of units in each district where there is a likelihood of the incidence of Bonded Labour and Child labour, with the assistance of Sericulture, Mines and Geology and Labour departments. This list can be given to the agencies that are doing the survey.
7. The reports of the NGOs and those of officers shall be placed before the Sub-Divisional Vigilance Committee and the District Vigilance Committee and after discussion in the Vigilance Committee, these reports shall be sent to the Government with the comments of the committee on the findings of the survey.
8. The details of bonded labour identified during the survey shall also be computerized to facilitate systematic follow up during rehabilitation.
9. The survey shall be completed within a period of three months,
10. The Deputy Commissioners shall ensure that the survey is conducted with all seriousness. The Government will hold the Deputy Commissioners personally responsible if it is found that the survey has not been conducted thoroughly and cases of bonded labour have been overlooked during the survey.
11. The State Government will release Rs. two lakhs to each district to meet the expenditure on the survey.

Sd/
(V.Manjula)

Director,
Area Development Programmes and
E/o. Addl. Secretary to Government,
Rural Development and P. Raj Dept.

To:

1. All the Divisional Commissioners.
2. All the Deputy Commissioners in the State.
3. All the Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Panchayats.

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