MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 15030/14/07-K.V
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
Department of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs
K.VI Desk

North Block, New Delhi Dated 5th June 2008

To

The Chief Secretary Government of Jammu and Kashmir Srinagar

Subject: Round Table Conference on Jammu & Kashmir-Implementation of the recommendations of Working Group on 'Confidence Building measures in the State'.

Sir,

I am directed to convey the approval of the Government to the following proposals of the State Government:

(i) Employment and compensation to Next of Kin of victims of militancy

A dispensation providing for one-time compensation of Rs. 5.00 lakh to the next-of-kin of civilians killed in militancy related incidents in lieu of compassionate appointment has been approved to clear the backlog cases waiting for compassionate appointment. There would be no employment option in respect of families where no member fulfils the eligibility conditions for employment and, in respect of those who satisfy the eligibility conditions, an option may be given to take the lump-sum compensation in lieu of employment. The State Government has reported a backlog of about 3688 cases waiting for compassionate appointment, and it has been estimated that around 50% of the pending cases may opt for cash compensation in lieu of compassionate appointment. The financial requirements arising from the dispensation would be met by the Government of India

under the SRE (Relief & Rehabilitation) scheme of Jammu & Kashmir. The amount of lump-sum compensation would be kept in a three-year fixed deposit account and interest income will be paid to the family on a monthly/ quarterly basis. The State Government would make necessary amendments in the SRO-43 and send a specific proposal to the MHA in this regard. The Government has approved an estimated expenditure of Rs. 100.00 cr. for this purpose.

(ii) Pension to the widows of the civilians killed in militancy related violence

Enhancement in the quantum of monthly pension to widows who are victims of militancy from the present level of Rs. 500/- per month to Rs. 750/- per month. The additional expenditure of Rs. 1.90 crore per annum on account of enhanced pension rate would be funded from the SRE (Relief and Rehabilitation) scheme for Jammu & Kashmir State. The annual expenditure on pension at the existing rate of Rs.500/- per month would continue to be met from the funds of Rehabilitation Council.

(iii) Scholarship to orphans affected by militancy

Assistance @ Rs. 750/- per month per child upto the age of 18 years (extendable upto the age of 21 years in exceptional cases) with an additional Rs. 150/- per month for children undergoing vocational/technical training and extending the scholarship scheme of Rehabilitation Council of J&K for professional studies to all orphans without discrimination. Annual expenditure on these schemes is estimated to be around Rs. 5.00 crore. Both these schemes would be implemented by the Rehabilitation Council of J&K from their funds and will be supported by this Ministry through SRE (R&R) by way of strengthening corpus fund of the Rehabilitation Council.

(iv) Return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandit migrants

The total package involves an outlay of Rs. 1618.40 crore. The main components of the package are as under:

(a) Housing

- (i) Assistance @ Rs. 7.5 lakh for fully or partially damaged house.
- (ii) Rs. 2.00 lakh for dilapidated/ unused houses.

(iii) Rs. 7.5 lakh for purchase/construction of a house in Group Housing Societies for those who have sold their properties during the period after 1989 and before the enactment of "The J&K the period after 1989 and before the enactment of The J&K Migrant Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint of Distress Sale) Act, 1997" on 30.05.1997,

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- (b) Transit Accommodation: Construction of transit accommodation at three sites @ Rs. 20.00 crore each for total Rs. 60.00 cr. Alternatively, Rs. 1.00 lac per family towards rental and incidental expenses to those families who may not be accommodated in transit accommodation.
- (c) Continuation of Cash Relief to Migrants: Migrants families at Jammu and Delhi who are recipients of cash relief and free ration would continue to receive the same @ Rs.5000 per family per month (including rations) for a period of two years after their return to the Valley.
- (d) Students Scholarships: The children of migrants will be provided assistance on the lines of para (iii) above.
- (e) Employment: It has been decided to provide employment opportunities to 15,000 unemployed migrant youth. Out of which, 6000 youth will be accommodated in State Government jobs. To assist the State Government in providing such employment opportunities, the Central Government will bear the cost towards salary for 3000 youth till they are absorbed against regular posts in the State Government, within the specified time-frame.

Remaining 9000 unemployed youth would be facilitated to get financial assistance to come up with self-employment/business ventures. For this purpose one-time assistance of Rs. 5.00 lac in each case will be provided out of which 50% will be grant & 50% as loan.

- (f) Assistance to Agriculturists/Horticulturists: One-time financial assistance of Rs. 1.00 lac would be provided to those having agriculture holdings. Rs.5,000/- per kanal, subject to maximum of Rs. 1.5 lac would be provided for restoration of orchards.
- (g) Waiver of interest on loans: It has been decided to waive off the interest component of the loans taken by Kashmiri Pandits before migration from the Valley.

- 2. It has also been decided that where any Muslim or Sikh migrant families have also migrated, bag and baggage, after 1989, and have not been able to return back to the Valley, they may also be given all the incentives as per the package:
- 3. The expenditure incurred on account of return and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri migrants to the Valley would be met under Security Related Expenditure (R&R). The State Government is requested to forward separate proposals in respect of each component of the package giving full details including financial implication.
- 4. This is issued with the approval of Integrated Finance Division (IFD), MHA. Dy. No. 1170/Fin.-V/08 dated 28-05-08.

Yours faithfully,

(Rajeev Sharma) Director K.II Tel. No. 2309 4790

Copy to:

1. The Pay and Account Officer, Ministry of Home Affairs, C-I Hutments, Dalhousie Road, New Delhi.

2. The Director (Fin-Home), MHA, North Block, New Delhi.

3. K.I Desk, Deptt. of J&K Affairs, MHA.

(Rajeev Sharma)

Director K.II

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