

F. No. 1(27)/PFMS/2020
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
PFMS Division

North Block
New Delhi, 7th August, 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: "Just-in-Time" release of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) funds through SNA SPARSH model – clarifications reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Department's OM No. 1(27)/PFMS/2020 dated 13th July, 2023 and dated 18th July, 2023 on the abovementioned subject. In this regard a meeting was held with the officers of the Department of Higher Education and the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation on 27th July, 2023 followed by consultations with the officers of the aforesaid Departments and the Finance, Higher Education, and Rural Development Departments of the State Governments of Rajasthan, Odisha, Telangana, Karnataka, and Jharkhand on 31st July, 2023 in which certain clarifications were sought on a few provisions of the guidelines.

2. The matter has been examined in this Department and following clarifications are conveyed in regard to DoE's guidelines dated 13th July, 2023 –

- i. In line with the existing system, it will be the responsibility of the scheme Implementing Agencies of the State Government that the payment files are sent to Ministries/Departments after thorough checking of bills/claims/invoices/supporting documents and that the payment is proposed to be released to correct vendor/beneficiary as per extant scheme guidelines and Government of India's instructions. State Governments shall continue to enforce necessary checks as are applied in case of payments from treasuries. The responsibility of veracity of bills/claims/invoices/supporting documents shall rest with the Implementing Agencies of State Government concerned.
- ii. In the SNA SPARSH model, in addition to creating a mother sanction for each State and CSS, the Ministries/Departments are required to generate daily sanction equivalent to the Central share specified in the payment file received from the State Government/treasury. To clarify the technical steps involved in issue of the mother sanction and the daily sanction, O/o CGA will issue a User Guide and Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for Ministries/Departments.
- iii. For issuance of Mother sanction, as prescribed under para 3(vii) of DoE's guidelines dated 13th July, 2023, Ministries/Departments shall exercise all necessary checks prescribed in General Financial Rules (GFR), extant scheme guidelines, and DoE's instructions etc. as is being followed presently for release of CSS funds to States in installments.
- iv. The Ministries/Departments, while issuing daily sanction for a State Linked Scheme (SLS), on the basis of payment files from States, should ensure that fund sharing pattern mentioned in the master database on SNA SPARSH portal for the SLS is as per scheme guidelines; the

State Government has separately entered the 'top up' amount, if applicable; and the amount sanctioned is within the limit prescribed by the original/replenished Mother Sanction.

- v. The payment file will contain a summary information for the SCP, TSP, and 'Others' along with the classification of Capital (GIA – Capital), and Revenue (GIA-General and GIA-Salary) which will be prominently displayed to the Program Divisions in the SPARSH module. The Ministries/Departments will select applicable Central Government Budgetary Heads of accounts for daily sanction generation accordingly.
 - vi. In case the Ministries/Departments finds that a particular payment file is not as per the checks stipulated under para (iii), (iv), and (v) above, the same would be returned to the State Government.
 - vii. Once a scheme is on-boarded onto the SNA SPARSH platform, the funds available in the bank account of SNA concerned shall not be utilized for incurring expenditure under the scheme. To ensure uninterrupted flow of funds, Ministry/Department will issue a Mother sanction immediately after on boarding of the scheme in the new system.
 - viii. Ministries/Departments can issue Mother sanction of an amount upto 50% of the amount earmarked for the State for the CSS for the financial year in one go. The amount in the Mother sanction may be replenished subsequently as per requirement and utilization of funds.
 - ix. The issue of mother sanction should not be linked to the funds available in the bank account of SNA.
 - x. Instructions regarding return of funds available in the SNA account to the respective Consolidated Funds will be issued separately.
3. This issues with the approval of Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure).

Prateek Kumar Singh
7/8/23

(Prateek Kumar Singh)

Director (PFC-I)

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To,

1. Secretary, Department of Higher Education.
2. Secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
3. JS& FA, Department of Higher Education.
4. JS& FA, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
5. Pr. CCA, Department of Higher Education
6. Pr. CCA, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation

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1. Addl CGA, PFMS, O/o CGA