

C I R C U L A R

Whereas, it has again come to the notice of Divisional Administration that Government functionaries at various levels viz. Deputy Commissioner, ADC, SDM, BDO, Tehsildar and various district/divisional level officers continue to entertain development related and allied requests of village committees, Masjid/Mandir/Gurdwara Committees, Mohalla Committees and various self styled – unregistered Associations etc in a manner which amounts to undermine the PRI Institutions/SMC & Municipal Committees, its representatives and processes, and;

Whereas, as per the J&K Panchayat Raj Act, 1989 defined role, responsibility, powers and functions of the PRI's, followed by Order dated 16.10.2020 issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh Affairs, and;

Whereas, Municipal Corporation Act 2000/Municipal Committee Act 2000 also defined the role, responsibility, powers and functions of the Srinagar/Jammu Municipal Corporation/Municipal Committee including those of Mayor/Chairman, Corporators, Councillor, Ward members etc, and;

Whereas, the PRIs/Municipal Corporators/ Ward Members have been elected by public through Panchayat/Municipal elections and it is their mandate to prepare plans of development, get it approved and also execute it on ground subject to the provisions of Panchayat Raj Act/Municipal Corporation Act/J&K Municipal Committee Act. As being elected from public, they have legitimate authority/right to represent public at any formal forum including flag public grievances before Block/Tehsil or District level Officers.

Therefore, it is enjoined upon all Government employees/Officers starting from village level-VLW, Patwari, School Teacher etc to Block-District and Division level HOD's to entertain and accept the public grievances/ demands/ representations/ memorandums etc submitted by PRI Functionaries/Municipal Committees & Municipal Corporations like Panches, Sarpanches, Chairperson BDCs, Municipal Councillors, DDC Members, DDC Vice Chairpersons, DDC Chairpersons etc.

However, the representations/demands etc from registered Associations/Bodies etc to the extent to their objectives as may be incorporated in their bylaws, may also be accepted/ considered.

In all cases, efforts should be made to advise all such Delegations/Associations to bring with them the concerned PRI representative along. PRIs are new and learning, so it is our duty to nurture them in right perspective so that in true sense they know public issues, air public voice and redress public grievances, met public demands through various schemes for which these PRIs have been empowered.

Pandurang K. Pole IAS
Divisional Commissioner
Kashmir
Dated. 07.09.2021

No. DivCom/Dev/258/2021/2540-2562.
Copy to the:-

1. Chief Secretary J&K UT, Srinagar for favour of information.
2. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K, UT.
3. All Deputy Commissioners, of Kashmir Division.
4. All Head of Departments.
5. All Chief Engineers.
6. DIO Srinagar for inf. and n/a.