

**No.66(59)/PFC-II/2018**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Finance**  
**Department of Expenditure**  
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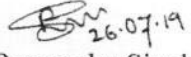
North Block, New Delhi  
26<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject:- Completion of third party evaluation for all the schemes-reg.**

Reference is invited to this Department's O.M No.66(59)/PFC-II/2018-Pt dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2019 forwarding final Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) Template for the Central Sector Schemes prepared by NITI Aayog in consultation with Department of Expenditure.

2. In this regard, it is requested to start evaluation process well in time so that the complete evaluation report may be readily available before the next EFC proposals are moved for appraisal for continuation of these schemes beyond March, 2020 in terms of DoE's O.M No.24(35)/PFC-II/2012 dated 05.08.2016 (para 11) and Cabinet Secretary's D.O letter dated 19.12.2017. However, in case, if any Ministry/Department needs any clarification or revision in the ToR circulated, it may approach NITI Aayog directly.
3. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

  
(Puspendra Singh)  
Deputy Director (PFC-II)  
Tel No: 23095640

To,

1. All Secretaries to the Government of India.
2. All Financial Advisers

Copy to: DG (DMEO), NITI Aayog, NITI Aayog Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.

No. 66(59) PFC-II/2018-Pt  
Government of India  
Ministry of Finance  
Department of Expenditure  
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North Block, New Delhi  
22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Sub: Sample ToR of Central Sector Schemes**

Please find enclosed final Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) Template for Central Sector Schemes prepared by NITI Aayog in consultation with Department of Expenditure as communicated vide their OM No. I-19011/33/2019-DME0 dated 16.5.2019. The first part of the template outlines the structure of the report and the second part is the explanatory memorandum. With the issue of this template which is generic in nature, individual vetting of each Central Sector scheme by NITI Aayog will not be required. However, in the opinion of the Ministry/Department, if any particular scheme so demands, the Ministry/Department may like to approach NITI for specific addendum or revision in this template.

2. This issues with the approval of Secretary (Expenditure).

*Harsha Dass*  
Harsha Dass 22/5/2019  
Director (PFC-II)  
Tel. No. 23092578

**Financial Advisors**  
All Ministries/Departments of Government of India

**Encl: As above**

Copy to:  
DG/DME0 w.r.t. OM Mo.I-19011/33/2019-DME0 dated 16.5.2019

**Template for Evaluation of Central Sector Scheme: [Scheme Name]**

**Name of Department / Name of Ministry**

**1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**2 OVERVIEW OF THE SCHEME**

**2.1 Background of the scheme**

- a) Brief write up on the scheme including Objectives, Implementation Mechanism, Scheme architecture / design
- b) Name of Sub-schemes / components
- c) Year of commencement of scheme
- d) Present status with coverage of scheme (operational / non-operational)
- e) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Served
- f) National Development Plans (NDP) Served

**2.2 Budgetary allocation and expenditure pattern of the scheme**

Sub-scheme / Component	[Year 1]			[Year 2]			[Year3]			[Year 4]			[Year 5]		
	BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	Actual

**2.3 Summary of past evaluation since inception of scheme**

Year of Evaluation	Agency hired for Evaluation	Recommendations made and accepted	Recommendations made but not accepted

**3. METHODOLOGY**

**3.1 Approach (Methodology adopted), Division of country into 6 Geographical Regions / Zones (North, South, East, West, North East and Central) as classified by NSSO.**

**3.2 Sample size and sample selection process, tools used: field study / questionnaire, primary and secondary data.**

**4. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

**4.1 Performance of the scheme based on the Output / Outcome indicators**

## 4.2 Additional parameters

### a) Coverage of beneficiaries

State				District			
Urban		Rural		Urban		Rural	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
SC/ST	SC/ST	SC/ST	SC/ST	SC/ST	SC/ST	SC/ST	SC/ST

### b) Implementation mechanism

### c) Training / Capacity building of administrators / facilitators

### d) IEC activities

### e) Asset / Service creation & its maintenance plan

### f) Benefits (Individual, community)

### g) Convergence with scheme of own Ministry / Department or of other Ministry / Department.

## 4.3 Gaps in achievement of outcomes

## 4.4 Key Bottlenecks & Challenges

## 4.5 Input Use Efficiency

## 5. OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Thematic Assessment

### 5.2 Externalities

## 6. CONCLUSION

### 6.1 Issues & challenges

### 6.2 Vision for the future

### 6.3 Recommendation for scheme with reasons

## 7. REFERENCES

## 8. APPENDICES

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

**2.1(a)** Latest guidelines of the scheme may also be annexed.

**2.1(b)** Sub-schemes/ components which have separate budgetary allocations either through budget line or through Detailed Demand for Grants(DDG) may also be listed along with component-wise budget allocation.

**2.1(d)** Details of number of states/districts/villages where the scheme is functional may be included.

**2.1 (e) & (f)** May be linked with objective of the scheme.

**2.2** If DDG makes allocations for certain items which are not shown as sub schemes/components, the same may be separately indicated along with allocation in the table.

**3.1** Complete list of states as classified by NSSO may be seen on its website.

**4.1** Output / Outcome Indicators as proposed/ prepared by NITI Aayog may be considered. In the absence of these, indicators as spelt out in SFC/ EFC memorandum during appraisal of the scheme may be utilized.

Output / Outcome Indicators ( numbers or percentage) must be compared with base year value at all time points (periodicity) as per monitoring mechanism framework, also defined in SFC/EFC Memorandums.

**4.2 (a)** Tabulated information up to Tehsil / Block Level and if possible, up to village level may be provided.

**4.2 (b)** Focus should be on clarity of instructions, availability of scheme or programme guidelines, clear definition of roles and responsibilities of functionaries and the number and nature of clarifications / additional instructions issued w.r.t. scheme guidelines.

**4.2 (c)** Details about training (PFMS /EAT Module, scheme's portal or any other) with number of interventions and levels at which these interventions were carried out may be included.

**4.2 (d)** Details about Stakeholders / Beneficiaries, details of campaigns, media, frequency, feedback etc. may be included.

**4.2 (g)** Details about apparatus-manpower office transport etc. may be included. If there is no convergence, NIL may be recorded.

**4.3** These gaps could be attributed to absence of interventions/ non-performance of existing interventions.

**4.4** Focus may be on Financial, Administrative, Project Management and any other Key Bottlenecks & Challenges.

4.5 Details of (a) requirement of funds as indicated in EFC / SFC in relation to actual allocation of funds including timelines of release (b) requirement and allotment of manpower in implementation of scheme / programme at various levels (PMU / Central / State) (c) Involvement of private players, volunteers, non-governmental organizations and local community etc. in the scheme may be provided.

5.1 Thematic assessment should focus on Accountability, Transparency, Employment generation (direct / indirect), Climate change and sustainability, Role of TSP/ SCSP, Use of IT, Behavioral change in stakeholder/beneficiary, R&D, Role, functions, involvement / support of State govts.

Cross cutting themes can be assessed both through secondary data as well as primary. While conducting meta-analysis of existing reports, the evaluator should actively review the cross-cutting themes. The primary data for cross cutting themes will be elicited through specific questions and responses during the key informant interviews and beneficiary surveys. For example, use of IT in scheme implementation, fund flow, monitoring and evaluation can be assessed from interaction with concerned ministries/departments as well as states officials. Similarly, gender mainstreaming can be assessed by introducing specific questions on changes in knowledge, attitude and practices pertaining to gender equality, attributable to the CS intervention at hand, through household surveys.

5.2 Details of best practices, innovations or scheme / projects where best practices were replicated may be provided.

6.3 It is essential to highlight the importance of recommendations made for the scheme. The evaluation agency may provide recommendation for the scheme in any of the following categories (a) Continue in existing form (b) Continue with some Modifications (suggest modifications) (c) scale up the scheme ( Financial/ Physical / both) (d) Scale down the scheme (Financial/ Physical/ both) (e) Close (f) Merge with another scheme as sub-scheme/component.

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