



सत्यमेव जयते

Parveen Mehta, IA &ASDeputy Comptroller & Auditor General
(Government Accounts) & Chairperson GASABभारत के नियंत्रक एवं महालेखापरीक्षक का कार्यालय
9, दीन दयाल उपाध्याय मार्ग,
नई दिल्ली - 110124OFFICE OF THE
COMPTROLLER & AUDITOR GENERAL
OF INDIAPocket 9, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg,
New Delhi - 110124D.O letter No. 307-335/NRA-SEEA/Sectt/77 -2021/Vol III
दिनांक / Dated06.08.2021.

Dear All,

Environmental accounting is an integral component in enabling India **meet its international obligations as signatory to the UN sponsored declaration on 'blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all (SDGs)**'. In this context, the Government Accounting Standards Advisory Board (GASAB) under the auspices of CAG has prepared a Concept Paper on Natural Resource Accounting (NRA) in India, released in July 2020 by Hon'ble Shri Babul Supriyo, the then Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. Given the significance of the subject, the Hon'ble MoS had referred the Paper to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, and PMO appreciated the endeavor. A copy of the Paper is enclosed for kind reference.

2. GASAB is dedicated to the cause of environmental accounting and to guide efforts by the Union and State Governments in implementing environmental accounting in the country. We have constituted an NRA Cell in GASAB headquarters involving important stakeholders like the Ministries of Mines, Statistics & Program Implementation, Environment Forest & Climate Change, Indian Bureau of Mines, ICAI besides stakeholders within the CAG's establishment, aimed at ensuring widespread stakeholder consultations for ensuring acceptability and facilitating implementation.

3. The concept paper envisages an Action Plan with appropriate timelines. In keeping with the federal structure of governance in India, where States hold equal ownership and control on the mineral resources, the Concept Paper envisions preparation of Asset Accounts on Mineral & Energy Resources in the States from the year 2021-22. onwards and then gradually moving towards the national level.

4. The tentative formats of the Asset Accounts were designed and have been successfully pilot tested in three States (Goa, Meghalaya and Rajasthan), thus preparing the model Asset Accounts on Mineral & Energy Resources in these States. The pilot studies were referred to members of the NRA Cell and have received a favourable response. Formats, as they stand now, are enclosed for ready reference.

5. In keeping with the action plan envisaged in the Concept Paper, we now plan to roll out the project for preparation of Asset Accounts on Mineral & Energy Resources in the States from the year 2021-22, across all States in September 2021. We are optimistic of replicating the efforts in three pilot states in other parts of the country as well, with support from the State Governments.

6. Accordingly, we would like to make a presentation on the project to you and to discuss the matter further virtually during the last week of August 2021. The presence of State Secretaries of Mines and Finance in the virtual meeting would be beneficial. The Accountants General of the State would also be present. This interaction will enable effective co-ordination. Please intimate your preference for scheduling this virtual meeting.

7. Given the importance of the project, I am confident of your commitment and of our mutual support in taking this initiative further; and ensuring a better world for our future generations.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

-sd-

(Parveen Mehta)

***Encl: (i) Concept Paper on
Natural Resource Accounting in India
(ii) Copy of tentative formats of Asset Accounts
on Mineral & Energy Resources.***

To,
All Chief Secretaries of the States