



D.O No. MD-SBM/FG/11/2017

1 March 2017

Respected Ma'am,

Subject: Amendment in the operational guidelines for direct sale of city compost by compost manufacturers to farmers in bulk under the policy of promotion of city compost of the Department of Fertilizers.

As one of the ways of scientific processing of municipal solid waste, the initiative taken by the Department of Fertilizers wrt. extension of market development assistance to compost manufacturers for sale of compost and very recently allowing direct sale of city compost by compost manufacturers will certainly help in increasing the volume of sale and improving the viability of many composting units in the country.

2. On discussion with the compost manufacturers (See Minutes of the meeting enclosed) and other stakeholders it was felt that certain changes are needed for operationalizing the compost policy. I am suggesting the following changes be made in the guidelines issued recently for its effective implementation.

- i. As per the proforma 'B2-CCD' of the appended operational guidelines for direct sale of city compost, the quality of compost has to be tested by taking samples from the plants and testing them in the State Government laboratory or from the laboratory designated by the State Govt. Since state governments have capacity related limitations to dispense quality certificates, which is proving to be a significant impediment in ULBs/manufacturers availing the subsidy, it is requested that the FCO norms be relaxed such that certificates from either State designated laboratories or NABL accredited laboratory are accepted.
- ii. Further, it is requested that the subsidy be transferred to the ULB who will be responsible for both providing the quality certificate and recording sales on the mFMS portal. On verifying the quality of the compost and acquiring necessary documents to ascertain the same from manufacturers, the ULB may transfer the subsidy to the compost manufacturer. Given that transactions between government bodies are easier, this seems like a more feasible approach that transferring the subsidy directly to the manufacturer.
- iii. As per the format of quality certificate for city compost mentioned in format B2-CCD, it is mandated that the certificate has to be issued by the Director of Agriculture. However for ensuring smooth release of compost subsidy it is proposed that the certificate can be issued by Director Agriculture or by any person nominated by him in this regard.

3. Apart from the above we also request that the budget towards direct subsidy payment be transferred to MoUD in lumpsum, so that the transfer of the same may be facilitated along with other transactions made by MoUD to ULBs on a periodic basis.

I request that the changes under Point 2 above may be made in relevant clauses within the operational guidelines for ensuring smooth implementation of the recent policy of direct sale of city compost.

Yours sincerely,



(Praveen Prakash)

To:

Ms. Bharathi Sivaswami Sihag, IAS

Secretary,
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(Fax No. 23387965)

CC:

- Mr Sushil K Lohani, Joint Secretary, Department of Fertilisers
- Mr. D.P. Srivastava, Director, Department of Fertilisers
- Mr. Saurabh Jain, Director & Additional Mission Director (SBM)

Enclosed:

- Meeting Minutes-Discussion with Compost Manufacturers held on 22 February 2017
- Copy of Guidelines for Direct Sale of City Compost dated 9.01.2017