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Concurrent audit of local bodies' accounts to begin from current fiscal

Madhya Pradesh is the first State in the country where concurrent audit of accounts is being started from current fiscal to ensure effective arrangements for accounting and audit. Guidelines of 13th Finance Commission and the Planning Commission regarding local bodies' accounting and audit have been effectively implemented in the State.

Additional Chief Secretary Panchayats & Rural Development Aruna Sharma chaired a meeting at Development Commissioner's office here today in which detailed directives were given pertaining to accounting and audit works.

Sharma informed that now audit and accounting of 3-tier panchayat raj institutions has been made compulsory. It has also been ensured that accounting and audit of last fiscal are completed by August 2013. She said that as per prescribed schedule, last year's audit of Gram Panchayats will be completed by June, Zila Panchayats by July and audit of accounts of Directorate of Panchayat Raj Institutions will be completed by August 2013. At the same time, concurrent audit accounts of all Gram, Janpad and Zila Panchayats and at the State Headquarters for current fiscal is done every month positively. Audit of Gram Panchayats will be concluded at Janpad level and Gram & Janpad Panchayats at Zila Panchayat level.

One CA agency each has been appointed at all divisional headquarters to ensure time-bound concurrent audit system in panchayat raj institutions. The agency equipped with all necessary resources will also set up district-level audit offices and appoint one CA each in every district. Similarly one intermediate pass CA each will be appointed at every Janpad Panchayat and one apprentice CA on cluster of every 15 Gram Panchayats.

The department will spend about `16 crore 50 lakh on effective implementation of concurrent audit. Now, all financial transactions will be made electronically in all panchayat raj institutions.

Through effective accounting and concurrent audit, now exact accounts of funds made available for various schemes to panchayat raj institutions will be available.

This will help in removing errors in financial transactions and capacity augmentation and better maintenance of accounts will be ensured.

At the meeting, detailed information was given about procedure of audit upto Gram Panchayat level to representatives appointed by CA agencies. Secretary Panchayats & Rural Development Rajesh Rajora, Commissioner Panchayat Raj Raghuveer Shrivastava, Deputy

General Manager e-Steps T Ganesh Kumar and senior finance officers were present on the occasion.