GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
ABSTRACT

Finance Department - Implementation of Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) Portal – Orders - Issued.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

G.O. Ms. No.6 /F3/2016-17   **Puducherry, dt.25.04.2016**

Read: (1) G.O.Rt.No.91/F2/A2/2011 dated 23.12.2011 of Finance Department, Puducherry.
      (2) D.O. Lr.No.3(84) 2009EG-II (Vol.I) dated 16.06.2014 received from the Joint Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, New Delhi – 110 003.
      (3) The I.D. Note No.13/DC/PA/2016 dt.08.03.2016 of the D.C.-cum-Secretary(Finance).

ORDER

The Treasury Mission Mode Project has been identified as one of the core infrastructure components by the Government of India under National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) to support Government receipt accounting, budgeting process more efficiently, improve cash flow management, promote real-time reconciliation of accounts, strengthen management information systems, improve accuracy and timeliness in accounts preparation, bring about transparency and efficiency in public delivery systems and for better financial management along with improved quality of governance in States and Union Territories.

2.   In the absence of computerized Receipt Accounting System, the Government faces difficulties in planning the Cash Management. As per the existing procedure, the Citizen has to visit the Government Office to get the challan prepared and signed by the Government Officer before remitting the money into Government Account. After remittance, the Citizen has to visit the Department for getting the services. The Departmental Officer needs to visit the Treasury for verification of the challan remittance. This manual procedure delays the service delivery to the Citizen. Further, the Departmental Cashiers receive the cash from the Citizen / Tax payer and remit it into Government Account after preparation of challans in the Department. The Departmental Officer has also visit the Treasury for verification of challan remittance and reconciliation. The daily scroll received from the Bank in the Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries along with challans are compiled head-wise and the monthly accounts are prepared. This delays the preparation of monthly accounts.

3.   The Government of Puducherry has, therefore, decided to implement the software **"Government Receipt Accounting System" (GRAS)** developed by the National Informatics Centre, Pune. The main objective of the Government Receipt Accounting System is to facilitate easy co-ordination among the Citizens / Tax payers, Revenue collecting / Service providing Departments, Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries, Drawing & Disbursing Officers and Head of Department through electronic Platform. The Government Receipt Accounting System gives facility to the Citizens / Tax payers to remit the Government dues / Tax online
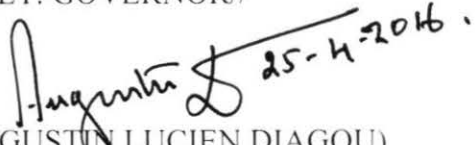
using the internet banking facility of the SBI and SBI e-pay in addition to the existing counter payment at the SBI. The Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with SBI e-pay for getting their services as payment gateway with user charges as communicated in the D.O. letter read (2). The operation of the GRAS system is as follows:-

(a) The Citizen / Tax payer can access the Government Receipt Accounting System portal and furnish the required details. The details may either be pre-fetched or selectable. Upon selecting the purpose and department, the head of account shall be automatically populated in the Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) portal. The new system enables the remitters to make on line payment using net banking facility of designated banks. The remitters no longer are required to visit treasury to get their challans verified by the Officer in Treasury. All electronic remittances will be carried out through an e-challan generated from Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) portal. The system will generate e-challan with an unique Government Reference Number (GRN). The payment can be made using Net Banking facility of the S B I o r Designated Bank by using the SBI-e pay facility. Upon conclusion of payment, another unique reference number viz. Bank Reference Number (BRN) will be generated. The payment confirmation will then be passed to Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) portal which will generate an e-acknowledgement to the remitter with both GRN & BRN. The SBI shall designate one nodal branch to carry out all electronic transactions through GRAS. The interactions between Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) and Nodal Branch of Agency Banks shall be done at fixed intervals through a predefined messaging format.

(b) The citizen / Tax payer who are not having net banking facility can make cash payment with the e-challan generated in the system in the SBI branches.

(c) Transactions shall be settled on T+1 and T+2 day basis for SBI and SBI e-pay respectively and single version electronic scroll shall be used between Treasury and Bank Systems using secured online channels. The Nodal branch of SBI Bank attached to Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) shall generate e-scrolls based on Electronic Receipts and digitally sign the scroll and share e-scroll with Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) and Reserve Bank of India in the predefined reporting formats. The Reserve Bank of India shall provide transaction level data of e-receipts on Government account to e-Treasury Officer through an automated online interface. Any error reported in e-scroll shall be resolved through Memorandum of Error Process defined separately. The e-Treasury Officer shall render accounts of all Electronic Transactions to stake holder Departments / Agencies in Electronic Form.

(d) The existing procedure for accepting Government Receipts of Commercial Taxes, Registration and State Excise Departments will continue as such till the same is integrated to the Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS). Further, those Departments which are having no e-payment system at present shall operationalize and integrate theire-payment system to Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) portal immediately.

(e) The Drawing and Disbursing Officers of the Departments shall also use the Government Receipt Accounting System (GRAS) as registered user for remitting the money collected by them manually in SBI along with the challan generated in the system of GRAS.

(f) This system (GRAS) will be available in the homepage of "**www.pudhuvaikosh.py.gov.in** under the URL **www.gras.py.gov.in** and the website will be under the control of Directorate of Account & Treasuries, Puducherry.

4.   (a) The Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries, Puducherry shall function as the Nodal Department for the implementation of the Government Receipt Accounting System and arrange for necessary training to the Drawing & Disbursing Officer of the Department in consultation and co-ordination with NIC, Puducherry.

(b) The Nodal Officer and Co-ordinating Officer to TMMP, appointed under I.D. Note 3rd read above shall continue to perform their duties till completion of implementation of the 1st phase of TMMP (BEAMS and GRAS) in co-ordination with Budget Section of Finance Department, Puducherry and Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries, Puducherry successfully.

(c)   An infrastructure centre exclusively for TMMP may be set up in the premises of DAT by utilizing the funds available under TMMP scheme.

5.   For the smooth implementation of the GRAS in TMMP and for the convenience of all the stakeholders and user departments, a detailed User Manual will be issued separately by the Director of Accounts & Treasuries, Puducherry. Further wider publicity on the availability of GRAS portal will also be provided through print/electronic media to create awareness among the general public.

6.   The Government Receipt Accounting System shall come into operation during the financial year 2016-17.

//BY ORDER OF THE LT. GOVERNOR//

25-4-2016.

(P. AUGUSTIN LUCIEN DIAGOU)
UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FINANCE)

To

The Director of Accounts & Treasuries, Puducherry – 2 Copies.

Copy to

1. The Principal Accountant General (C & RA), Chennai – 35
2. The Senior Deputy Accountant General, Office of the Accountant General, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry Branch, Kumaragurupallam, Puducherry.
3. The Director of Stationery & Printing – **for publication of the G.O. in the Gazette**.
4. The Budget Officer, Chief Secretariat, Puducherry
5. All Secretariat Departments.
6. All Heads of Departments/Heads of Offices
7. Drawing and Disbursing Officers.
8. The Central Record Branch, Puducherry.
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