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IMMEDIATE

No. VPM/ 1180/CM-623/CR-763/XXIII-F
Rural Development Department
Mantralaya, Bombay-400032.

Dated the 5th December, 1980

To

All Commissioners of Divisions.

Subject:- Establishment of village Panchayats.

The aim of Government is to establish a Village Panchayat for every village or group of Villages and investing them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of local self-government and of development activities in rural areas. However, it has come to the notice of Government that some of the village, situated outside the jurisdictions of Municipal Councils /Municipal Corporations are not covered either by independent Village Panchayats or group Village Panchayats. Since these villages are not covered by Village Panchayats, the basic amenities such as drinking water supply, street lighting etc. are not provided to the residents of these villages. They are, therefore, persistently approaching Government for establishment of Village Panchayats for their villages.

2. The powers of Government under section 4 of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1958 have been delegated to the Commissioners of Divisions. But it has been observed that the proposals of establishment of Village Panchayats for these villages are examined by the Commissioners in the context of the orders contained in Government Circular, Rural Development Department, No. VPM.1170/52388/E, dated the 3rd January 1973 and No. VPM-1176/3128/XXIII, dated the 29th May 1976 and turned down by them for the reason that the proposed Village Panchayats would not be financially viable.

3. In this connection it is pointed out that the proposals of splitting up of the existing Village Panchayats and establishment of separate Village Panchayats for the villages thereunder are to be examined and finalised by the Divisional Commissioners in accordance with the orders contained in the above mentioned Government Circulars. The Proposals of establishment of separate or group Village Panchayats for the villages which are not covered by the Village Panchayats will not come within the purview of the orders contained in the aforesaid Government Circulars and it will not, therefore, be appropriate to turn down such proposals for the reasons that the proposed separate Village Panchayats/group Village Panchayats would not be financially viable. You are, therefore, requested to ignore the condition of financial viability only in respect of the proposals of establishment of separate Village Panchayats/group Village Panchayats for the Villages where no panchayats have so far been established and finalise such proposals immediately.

(Wagh) (D. D. Wagh)
Desk Officer

Copy forwarded for information and immediate action- to-

All Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Parishads,

All Collectors (except the Collector of Bombay & Bombay Suburban District),

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by Chief Digi
VPC
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