

<u>ABSTRACT</u>

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) – Announcements (2014-15) – Announcement made by Hon'ble Chief Minister under Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rule 110 on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 08.08.2014 – Undertaking plantation activities under MGNREGS – Orders - Issued.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department

G.O. (Ms) No.110

Dated: 01.09.2014

Read:

- 1. G.O.(Ms)No.61, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department, dated 23.07.2012.
- 2. Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) Letter Roc.No.51707/2014/MGNREGS 1-1, dated 12.08.2014.

ORDER:

In the Government order first read above, orders have been issued approving the guidelines on Land Development activities and works on lands belonging to SC/ST, Small and Marginal farmers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme including Plantation activities.

2. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced the following announcement on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 08.08.2014 under Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rule 110:

"In order to ensure environmental protection in rural areas and to facilitate to get additional income to SC/ST, Small and Marginal farmers, who posses small agricultural lands in rural areas, 37.54 Lakh persondays will be generated at a cost of Rs.62.69 Crore to undertake the cultivation of Tree Saplings and Fruit Saplings in 4000 Acres land in convergence with Agriculture Department, Horticulture Department and Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA)"

3. The commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c), in the letter second read above, has stated that in Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi, Notification, Dated 21.07.2014 para 4(1) of Revised Schedule I of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act under "Works Relating to Natural Resources Management", Afforestation, tree plantation and horticulture in common and forest lands, road margins, canal bunds, tank foreshores and coastal belts and also to the households of SC/ST, Small and Marginal farmers have been permitted.

4. The commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) has also stated that during the year 2014-15, plantation activities will be undertaken in 4,000 Acres of lands belonging to SC/ST, Small and Marginal farmers to generate 37.54 lakh persondays at an expenditure of Rs.62.69 Crore in convergence with Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture and Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA) as detailed below :

SI. No.	Name of the Department	Extent of Land in Acres	Projected Expenditure	Projected Persondays (in Lakhs)
NO.	Department	Acies	(Rs. in Crores)	(III LAKIIS)
1.	Agriculture	988 (400 Hectares)	15.48	9.27
2.	Horticulture	2,470 (1,000 Hectares)	38.70	23.17
3.	Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency	542 (220 Hectares)	8.51	5.10
Total		4,000 (1,620 Hectares)	62.69	37.54

5. The commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) has further stated that with regard to identification of eligible farmers and survey of land, the responsibility lies with the line departments, i.e., Agriculture, Horticulture and Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA). A Committee comprising of District Collector, Project Director, District Rural Development Agency and the respective Joint Director will approve the list. The final list of farmers will be communicated to Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat) for undertaking plantation activities through Village Panchayat.

6. The commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) has added that Seedlings/saplings shall also be obtained from Agriculture farms, Horticulture farms and from Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA) Nurseries free of cost. In case, if the seedlings/saplings are being purchased, it may be booked under Material Component of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Further, Panchayats and Panchayat Unions are being encouraged to start nurseries in order to raise seedlings/saplings. Hence, the seedlings/saplings shall also be obtained from the nurseries of Panchayat/Panchayat Unions, free of cost. Funds for raising the nurseries in the Panchayat/Panchayat Union shall be met out from Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Fund.

7. The commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) has stated that the Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department will look after execution of plantation activities, such as pitting, planting and refilling, transportation of seedlings by head load, distribution of seedlings, watering, bunding and soil working etc. Rural Schedule of Rates finalised in G.O (Ms) No.26, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department, Dated 27.02.2014 shall be adopted. In case of any revision made in Rural Schedule of Rates in future, the same shall be adopted. The Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department may be empowered to fix the Rural Schedule of Rates for the various activities involved in the plantation activities, based on detailed Time and Motion study.

8. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) has also stated that the District-wise allocation of 4,000 Acres will be finalised after discussion with the Directors of Agriculture Department, Horticulture Department and Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA).

9. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) has therefore requested the permission of the Government for undertaking plantation activities in 4,000 Acres of lands belonging to SC/ST, Small and Marginal farmers to generate 37.54 lakh persondays at an expenditure of Rs.62.69 Crore in convergence with Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture and Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency based on the guidelines issued in G.O (Ms) No.61, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department, Dated 27.03.2012.

10. The Government, after careful examination of the proposal of the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c), permit the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) to undertake plantation activities in 4,000 Acres of lands belonging to SC/ST, Small and Marginal farmers to generate 37.54 lakh persondays at an expenditure of Rs.62.69 Crore in convergence with Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture and Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency (TAWDEVA) based on the guidelines issued in G.O (Ms)No.61, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department, Dated 27.03.2012.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

N.S. PALANIAPPAN, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To The Principal Secretary / Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (Training) / Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (Full Additional charge), Chennai – 15. All District Collectors (except Chennai) (Through the CRD & PR (i/c), Chennai – 15). All Project Directors, District Rural Development Agencies, (Through the CRD & PR (i/c), Chennai – 15). The Accountant General, Chennai – 6/18/35. <u>Copy to:</u> The Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi – 110 001. Chief Minister Office, Chennai – 9. Development, Law, Courts and Prisons), Chennai – 9. The Senior Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary to Government, Chennai – 9.

Finance (RD) Department, Chennai – 9.

The Senior Private Secretary to the Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Chennai – 9.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (OP.II) Department, Chennai – 9.

The National Informatics Centre, Chennai – 9.

Agriculture Department, Chennai-9.

//Forwarded by order//

SECTION OFFICER