



ABSTRACT

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) – Announcements (2014-15) – Announcement made by Hon'ble Minister (Municipal Administration, Rural Development, Law, Courts and Prisons) on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 01.08.2014 – Guidelines for Avenue Plantation activities on either sides of roads belonging to Highways Department under MGNREGS – Approved - Orders issued.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department

G.O. (Ms) No.115

Dated: 02.09.2014

Read:

Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) Letter
Roc.No.51901/2014/ MGNREGS.1-1, dated 12.08.2014.

ORDER:

Hon'ble Minister (Municipal Administration, Rural Development, Law, Courts and Prisons) made the following announcement, while moving the demand No.42 on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 01.08.2014:

“Avenue Plantation on the both sides of Roads belonging to Highways Department will be undertaken to a total extent of 500 Kms at an estimated cost of Rs.7.92 Crore to generate 4.74 lakh Persondays under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme”.

2. The Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c), in the letter read above, has stated that in Government of India's Notification No.19, Dated 03.01.2014 on Revised Schedule I of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 Paragraph 4 (1) I.Category-A: Public Works Relating to Natural Resources Management” provides for avenue plantation as provided hereunder: “(v) Afforestation, tree plantation and horticulture in common and forest lands, road margins, canal bunds, tank foreshores and coastal belts duly providing right to usufruct to the households covered in Paragraph 5”.

3. Based on the announcement of Honorable Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development, Law, Courts and Prisons and revised Schedule-I of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005, the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c) has sent the draft guidelines for Avenue Plantation activities on either sides of roads belonging to Highways Department and she has therefore requested the Government to issue necessary orders for implementation.

4. The Government, after careful examination of the proposal of the Commissioner of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (i/c), have decided to accept it and approve the guidelines for Avenue Plantation activities on either sides of roads belonging to Highways Department under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme as annexed to this order.

(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.

Copy to:

The Secretary,
Ministry of Rural Development,
Government of India, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi – 110 001.
Chief Minister Office, Chennai – 9.

The Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister (Municipal Administration, Rural
Development, Law, Courts and Prisons), Chennai – 9.

The Senior Private Secretary to the Chief Secretary, 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.
National Informatics Centre, Chennai – 9.

Highways and Minor Ports Department, Chennai – 9.

//Forwarded by order//

SECTION OFFICER

G.O (Ms) No. 115, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS.1) Department,
Dated 02.09.2014

ANNEXURE

MGNREGS - GUIDELINES FOR AVENUE PLANTATION ACTIVITIES ON EITHER
SIDES OF ROADS

1. Introduction :

In the 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 have been permitted. During the year 2013-14, Avenue Plantation activities had been undertaken on a pilot basis on both side of Panchayat Union Roads and Village Panchayat Roads with the objectives of making the entire area green, to provide clean and healthy atmosphere in rural areas and for generating additional income to Panchayats by planting perennial and fruit bearing trees.

2. Non-negotiables under MGNREGS :

The following conditions are to be fulfilled while executing the work on Plantation works on various types of Roads under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme :

- i) Projects/works shall be approved by the Gram Sabha;
- ii) No contractors or machinery shall be used in the execution of work;
- iii) Social Audits through Gram Sabhas will be an integral feature.
- iv) Watering of seedlings/saplings planted, shall be carried out for a **maximum period of six months** and the labour component shall be met from Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- v) While preparing the estimates, it should be ensured that all works involved in avenue plantation activities such as, pitting, planting and refilling, transportation of seedlings by head load, distribution of seedlings, watering, etc. has been included.

3. Implementation :

a) Selection of Work :

- (i) In case of Highways Road, the District Collector shall facilitate the identification of appropriate Roads by the Highways Department. Such list shall be handed over by the Highways Department to the Project Director, District Rural Development Agency. The list of roads to be taken up for avenue plantation should be finalized after field verification by concerned Assistant Executive Engineer (RD).

- (ii) Detailed proposal with list of roads should be submitted by the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat) to Project Director, District Rural Development Agency.
- (iii) After due verification by Project Director, District Rural Development Agency and Executive Engineer (RD) the list may be finalized.
- (iv) The District Collector/District Programme Co-ordinator shall accord administrative sanction.
- (v) While according administrative sanction, the lengthwise details of roads should be indicated Village Panchayatwise so as to ensure that the respective length of roads will be executed by the respective Village Panchayats.

b) Seedlings/Saplings and Tree Guards

- (i) With regard to provision of Seedlings/Saplings, at present, Panchayats and Panchayat Unions are being encouraged to start nurseries in order to raise seedlings/saplings. Hence, the seedlings/saplings shall be obtained from the nurseries of Panchayats/Panchayat Unions, free of cost. Care shall be taken to procure only seedlings / saplings which are of 6 months to 1 year old. Procuring seedlings / saplings which are less than 6 months old shall be avoided.
- (ii) Funds for raising the nurseries in the Panchayats/Panchayat Unions shall be met out from Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Fund.
- (iii) Further, seedlings/saplings shall also be obtained from Agriculture, Horticulture Farms and from Forest Department free of cost. In case, if the seedlings/saplings are being purchased, it shall be booked under Material Component of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- (iv) Live Tree guards may be provided with the available prosopis Juliflora in nearby areas. In case of non-availabiity of prosopis Juliflora, sincere efforts shall be made to get sponsors, i.e., Banks, Corporates, Industries, etc., for provision of tree guards made of bamboo/iron.
- (v) In case of non-availability of sponsors, as a last resort these may be provided from Village Panchayat General Fund/Panchayat Union General Fund.

b) Rural Schedule of Rates

- (i) The rates declared as per the Rural Schedule of Rate should be followed for various type of activities.

- (ii) 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.
- (iii) In case of any revision made in Rural Schedule of Rates in future, the same shall be adopted.
- (iv) 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 avenue plantation, based on detailed Time and Motion study.

c) Scheme Implementation :

- (i) The scheme will be implemented by the Village Panchayat.
- (ii) Nominal Muster Roll (NMR) will be issued by the President of Village Panchayat.
- (iii) Attendance, Monitoring the work and worksite management will be done by the Work Site Supervisor.
- (iv) Technical guidance, Pre-marking and Recording of Measurement will be done by the Union Overseer/Assistant Engineer.
- (v) Bill processing and Generation of Fund Transfer Order will be generated by the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayat)
- (vi) Payment of Wages will be done through eFMS.
- (vii) While planting the seedlings / saplings the following points should be adhered:
 - a. Seedlings / saplings should be planted based on the seasonal conditions and taking into account the period of South West Monsoon and North East Monsoon.
 - b. The preferential list of varieties that can be planted as avenue plantation is enlisted in annexure I. These varieties may be planted in consultation with local forest officials.
 - c. The planting of seedlings should be done on the road margins beyond the side berms at a safe distance, so as to avoid removal of the trees in case of expansion of roads.
 - d. The guidelines and illustrative diagrams including for plantation on the curvature of roads for such Avenue Plantation shall be provided by the Director, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj based on IRC SP 21 :2009.

e) Role of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department :

- (i) The activities like Nursery raising, Jungle Clearance, Pitting, Planting, Refilling of earth and Watering the plants etc., preparation of estimates, taking measurement of the works executed will be vested with the Panchayat Union Overseer/Assistant Engineer .

Note : Only Jobcard holders alone are eligible to work under MGNREGS. The expenditure on departmental Manpower (without jobcards) already available for certain identified works of the departments should not be booked under MGNREGS.

- (ii) Issue of Pre-printed NMRs, Preparation of Vouchers on receipt of filled up NMR along with M-Book, Fund Release Order by Block Development Officer (VP), Maintenance of Registers and disbursement of wages shall be done by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department as it is being done now.

f) Role of Highways Department :

Highways Department in Districts should prepare and handover the list of Roads that can be taken up for avenue plantation to the Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, concerned.

g) Maintenance of Avenue Plantation :

- i) Utmost care should be given to include provision of watering of plants for the period of requirement upto a maximum of six months, while preparing the estimates.
- ii) After the period of watering provided in the estimates, separate estimates should be prepared for watering and the maximum period for watering should be limited to three years from the date of planting.
- iii) As per para 3 (v) of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats (Procedure for Conducting Public Auction of Leases and Sales in Panchayats) Rules, 2001, the panchayat shall lease out or sell in public auction usufructs of trees on roads belonging to the Highways Department.

The above detailed guidelines shall also be adopted for undertaking plantation activities on the roads belonging to Village Panchayats, Panchayat Unions and on the roads laid under various schemes of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. In such cases, the list of roads has to be prepared by the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats).

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The Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is empowered to modify the guidelines, whenever necessary, in consultation with the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

N.S. PALANIAPPAN,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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SECTION OFFICER.

The Species recommended for Avenue Plantation

**(As per G.O.(Ms) No.18, Environment and Forests (F.R.6) Department,
dated 11.02.2014)**

1.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	வேம்பு
2.	<i>Bassia latifolia</i>	இலுப்பை
3.	<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i>	மந்தாரை
4.	<i>Bauhinia racemosa</i>	ஆத்தி
5.	<i>Bauhinia retusa</i>	மந்தாரை
6.	<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	மந்தாரை
7.	<i>Calophyllum inophyllum</i>	புன்னை
8.	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	மஞ்சள் கொன்றை
9.	<i>Cassia marginata</i>	கொன்றை
10.	<i>Erythrina indica</i>	முள் முருங்கை
11.	<i>Gousima tementosa</i>	நாட்டு ருத்ராட்சம்
12.	<i>Guaicum Officinale</i>	கரியிலை
13.	<i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i>	நாட்டு பூவரசு
14.	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	ஐகரெண்டா
15.	<i>Khaya senegalensis</i>	காயா
16.	<i>Kigelia pinnata</i>	சிவகுண்டலம்
17.	<i>Lagerstroemia speciosa (Flosregina)</i>	லெகஸ்டோமியா
18.	<i>Michelia champaca</i>	செண்பகம்
19.	<i>Millingtonia hortensis</i>	மரமல்லி
20.	<i>Mimusops elengi</i>	மகிழம்
21.	<i>Peltophorum ferrugineum</i>	இயல்வாகை
22.	<i>Samania saman</i>	தூங்குமஞ்சி வாகை
23.	<i>Spathodium companulatum</i>	ஸ்பெத்தோடியம்

24.	Tamarindus indica	புளி
25.	Tebubia rosea	தபிபியா
26.	Tecoma stans	தங்க அரளி
27.	Terminalia catapa	வாதுமை

N.S. PALANIAPPAN,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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