

No. F.23012/28/14-RD(NREGS)
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM
RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Dated Aizawl, the 3rd April 2014

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Guidelines for Horticulture Development through Convergence of MGNREGS and Horticulture Department in Mizoram

In pursuance to the amendments of Schedule I of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, gazetted on 3rd Jan 2014 by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India; Rural Development Department, Government of Mizoram and Horticulture Department, Government of Mizoram jointly issued Guidelines for Convergence of MGNREGA with Horticulture development for improving livelihoods through horticulture and farm forestry in the State.

1. Context

Horticulture has a great growth potential in the State and the Horticulture Department, being the nodal department for Horticulture Technology Mission and IWDP the MGNREGA works primarily deals with soil and water conservation, hence convergence between the two schemes can easily take off.

Convergence of the two schemes can lead a shift from wage employment to sustainable rural livelihood and increase in productivity can be achieved by converging MGNREGA and Horticulture Department on land holdings of small and marginal farmers.

2. Objective of the Convergence

To enhance rural livelihood security for small and marginal farmers of BPL families by providing 100% assistance to development horticulture plantation.

3. Implementation

Convergence of MGNREGA with Horticulture shall be undertaken by Rural Development Department and Horticulture Department

4. Scope of Convergence

As per amendment to MGNREGA (Schedule I Para (iv)), provision of irrigation facility, Horticulture plantation and land development facilities on land owned by households belonging to SCs, STs or BPL families or to the beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the IAY.

5. Constitution of Coordination Committee:

There shall be State Level Coordination Committee with Secretary, Rural Development Department as Chairman; Director, Horticulture Department, Joint Secretary, Rural Development Department, Joint Director, Horticulture Department as members.

In the District level, District Programme Coordinator will be the Chairman of District Level Coordination Committee and the District Programme Officer, District Horticulture Officer and Programme Officers will be members.

At the Block Level, Programme Officer along with line departments if any and Presidents of the Village Councils concerned where the scheme is being implemented and the concerned Village Level Administrative Assistant will form the Block Level Coordination Committee.

Horticulture Department shall appoint a Nodal Officer for convergence at the State level.

6. Selection of beneficiaries

- i) Small and marginal farmers, preference shall be given to STs, SCs and the poor rural families.
- ii) Land with irrigation source
- iii) Villages with proximity to markets and nurseries
- iv) Cluster approach
- v) Maximum limit for assistance is 5 acres per farmer
- vi) Assistance for only one fruit crop for one family

7. Non-Negotiables

- i) Only job cardholders will be employed for the unskilled part of work. It is necessary that the beneficiary is also a job card holder and work on muster as unskilled labour on his/her plantation. Target group shall be SC, ST, BPL families and beneficiaries of land reforms and IAY.
- ii) Cluster based approach
- iii) Approval of farmer list at the Gram Sabha
- iv) Adherence to seasonality for plantation, distribution and utilization of inputs
- v) Plantation with at least 75% survival at the end of 1st year shall be eligible for 2nd maintenance.

vi) At the end of 2nd year, at least 90% survival will be eligible for 3rd year maintenance or assistance.

ii) Muster Rolls will be maintained on the worksite by the implementing agency concerned with copies to the Gram Panchayat.

iii) Wage payments will be done only through banks/post office accounts unless exempted by MoRD

iv) No contractor and labour displacement machine will be deployed for raising horticulture plantations.

v) Record of employment generated under convergence will be maintained separately

vi) The individual household beneficiary in the cluster shall be a household eligible under MGNREGA for work on private land/homestead

vii) Every cluster will be treated as a MGNREGA project for the purpose of:

- a) Giving a unique work ID
- b) Entry in Works and Asset register
- c) Social Audit by Gram Sabha
- d) Evaluation by Vigilance and Monitoring Committee

viii) Each GP will maintain a complete list of all clusters with member beneficiaries with their Job Card number and activities related to horticulture development carried out by the clusters under MGNREGA or otherwise. In the asset register, the breakup of the assistance/subsidy utilized from Horticulture Department, beneficiary's own contribution and the expenditure from MGNREGA will be shown separately.

8. Assistance & Convergence of the two schemes

Sl.No	MGNREGA	Horticulture Department
1	Soil Testing	Soil Testing
2	Ploughing	Irrigation
3	Pit Digging	Manures and fertilizers
4	Live Fencing	Micro Nutrients
5	Compost Pits (1 pit per acre)	Plant Protection
6	Plant Material (25% of Material Component)	Plant Material (75%)
7	Filling of pits and Planting	Intercrop
8	Inter-cultivation including weeding, basin formation, soil working, application of manures, pesticides etc..	Pesticides
9	30% cost of drip irrigation including trench cutting	70% drip irrigation
10	Land Development/Terracing/Land leveling	Green Houses and other technology interventions
11	Micro irrigation	Micro Irrigation

9. Responsibilities in implementation

Sl.No	MGNREGA	Horticulture Department
1		Identification of farmers
2	Approval of proposal at Gram Sabha	Training of farmers
3	Administrative sanction	Technical Guidance to field staff and farmers
4	Preparation of Shelf of Work	Identification of nurseries
5	Issue of work order/work commencement	Supply of inputs
6	Maintenance of Muster Roll	
7	Payment	

10. Calendar of Works for Horticulture Crops (M. Orange)

Sl.No.	Name of Crop	Month	Activities to be taken up
1.	M.Orange	January	Land preparation
		Febuary	Pit digging
		March	Pi filling etc.
		April	Application of NPK/Manures
		May	Planting of Pollypotted seedlings
		June	Planting continued
		July	Weeding
		August	Weeding
		September	Weeding
		October	Application of manures/Fertilizer
		November	Prunning and training of the plants
		December	Mulching

11. Calendar of Works for Horticulture Crops (Dragon Fruit & Lemon)

Sl.No.	Name of Crop	Month	Activities to be taken up
1.	Dragon fruit & Assam Lemon	January	Land preparation
		Febuary	Pit digging
		March	Pi filling etc.
		April	Application of NPK/Manures
		May	Planting of Pollypotted seedlings
		June	Planting continued
		July	Weeding
		August	Weeding
		September	Weeding
		October	Application of manures/Fertilizer
		November	Prunning and training of the plants
		December	Mulching

12. Calendar of Works for Horticulture Crops (Grapes)

Sl.No.	Name of Crop	Month	Activities to be taken up
1.	Grape	January	Weeding & manuring earthing up
		Febuary	Pruning & application of dormancy

		breaking chemicals
	March	Training of new shoots
	April	Application of PP chemicals and manuring
	May	Interculture operation
	June	Harvesting Crops
	July	Harvesting Crops
	August	Weeding & application of PP chemicals
	September	Weeding & application of PP chemicals
	October	Earthing up
	November	Cultivation of inter-crop
	December	Cultivation of inter-crop

13. Monitoring & Report

i) Details of each work taken up under these convergence guidelines and all incidental details such as attendance, payment etc. from MGNREGA funds will be entered in NREGASoft just as for any other work. These works will fall in Category B/Category II works and should be entered accordingly.

ii) While filling up details of the work in “Work Module” it should be ensured that all details are filled correctly. Care needs to be taken to enter the area in specified units of dimension (hectare). In addition, all other details in respect of convergence such as (a) the scheme other than MGNREGA from which funds are being utilized and (b) the amount

iii) For the amount spent from MGNREGA, the accounts will be maintained in formats as for other works that are taken up from MGNREGA.

iv) NREGASoft will also provide a field for entering further details such as survival, health of the plant etc. at the end of each financial year.

v) As huge sums are being invested in these works, it is necessary that the progress is monitored periodically and jointly by officials of Horticulture Department and District Programme Officer and Programme Officer. It is suggested that quarterly meetings are held between these officials and progress of each cluster communicated to State Governmentt and Horticulture Department. State Govts will designate a nodal officer for this purpose.

vi) Each converging department shall carry inspection and verification as required and shall share the outcomes of the inspection and verification.

vii) Monthly Report on the progress of implementation of convergence will be sent to the Secretary, Rural Development Department and Director, Horticulture Department by two converging departments from the districts.

14. Activity to be piloted in Mizoram for FY 2014-15:

The following clusters will be introduced for convergence of MGNREGA with Horticulture Development in consultation with the two departments.

Sl.No	District	Block	Villages	Area covered	Name of Crop
1	Aizawl	Aibawk	Sateek	Chamte Ram	M.Orange
		Tlangnuam	Tlangnuam	Pharbawk	Dragon Fruit & Lemon
2	Champhai	Champhai	Hnahlan	23 Champhai North	Grape

15. Other issues

Both the Departments will adhere to any fresh instructions issued by Government of India or the State Government from time to time.

Sd/-L.TOCHHONG
Chief Secretary
Government of Mizoram

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Dated Aizawl, the 3rd April 2014

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Mizoram, for information
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister, Rural Development Department for information
3. PS to Hon'ble Minister, Horticulture Department for information
4. Sr PPS to Chief Secretary, Government of Mizoram for information
5. Secretary, Horticulture Department for information
6. Director, Rural Development Department for information
7. Director, Horticulture Department for information
8. District Programme Coordinator, MGNREGA for information and necessary action
9. District Programme Officer, MGNREGA for information and necessary action
10. Director, SIRD for information and necessary action
11. Director, SAU (MGNREGA) for information and necessary action
12. Project Director, SLMC & IAC for information
13. Block Development Officers for information and necessary action
14. District Horticulture Officers, Horticulture Department for information and necessary action.
15. Web Administrator, Rural Development Department for uploading at mizorural.nic.in and mizonrega.nic.in
16. Guard File



(L.TOCHHONG)
Chief Secretary
Government of Mizoram