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Government of Odisha
PANCHAYATI RAJ AND DRINKING WATER
DEPARTMENT

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COMPREHENSIVE GUIDELINES FOR PLANTATION ACTIVITIES
BY PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS UNDER MGNREGS.

Afforestation is a meaningful thrust to maintain the biodiversity and is necessary to combat issues like global warming & soil erosion and to ensure preservation of forest & upgradation of ecological balance and above all optimum utilisation of the nutritional value. Afforestation and plantation activities give several benefits to humanity by providing fruits, fodder, fuel wood, timber and enhance soil fertility by adding the bio mass to the fields. This strengthens agriculture, livestock, enhances green area, rural sustainable livelihoods and livestock support by promoting fodder plants.

All the Panchayati Raj Institutions were allowed to take up plantation works in the premises of public institutions such as Gram Panchayat, School and Anganwadi Centre, Avenue/Block Plantation and plantation in the orchard owned by the Gram Panchayats etc. vide this Department **Letter No. 8589 dated 25-05-2015.**

As per para 7.6.1 of the Annual Master Circular of MGNREGA, 2018-19 of Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, "afforestation, tree plantation and horticulture activities can be taken up under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA on the following lands and private lands (of households listed in para 5 of schedule – I).

i. Degraded Forest lands	ii. Waste land
iii. Public and community land, pasture land	iv. Along PMGSY roads and other road
v. Along riverside, canals and embankment	vi. Private land (block plantation or on bunds of agricultural fields)

In order to make the best use of natural resource management and to give impetus to the plantation activities to be undertaken by the PRIs under MGNREGS, the following instructions should be scrupulously followed:

1. Venue for Plantation, Choice of Species and Execution:

INSTITUTIONAL PLANTATION

I. Plantation in Government Educational Institutions of Rural Area (Primary, ME, High School, College, SC/ST Hostels):

- **Species for Plantation:** Traditional Mango, Guava, Almond, Jackfruit, Lemon, Papaya, Drumstick etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation shall be done on the surplus land available with the Educational Institutions	Concerned Block/ Gram Panchayat in consultation with Head of the Institution.

- **Outcome:** Should be utilised in the Mid-Day Meal programme to add nutritional value.
- **Periphery of Campus of the Educational Institution:**
Shady trees like Peepal, Banyan, Neem, Traditional Mango etc. shall be planted along the periphery.

II. Plantation in Anganwadi Centre:

- **Species for Plantation:** Mango, Guava, Almond, Jackfruit, Lemon, Papaya, Drumstick etc.
 - Green Fencing along the periphery of the AWC.

Execution	Executing Agency
Plantation shall be done on the surplus land within the periphery & green fencing along the periphery of AWC.	Concerned Gram Panchayat in consultation with the Supervisor/AWW of the AWC.

- **Outcome:** Should be utilised to add nutritional value to Supplementary Nutrition Programme.

III. Gram Panchayat Office:

- **Species for Plantation:** Traditional Mango, Guava, Almond, Jackfruit, Jamun (Black Plum), Tamarind, Neem, Karanja, etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation shall be done on the surplus land in the premises of GP Office.	Concerned Gram Panchayat.

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- **Outcome:** Will provide shade to visitors & beneficiaries under social security schemes & NFSA.

IV. Orchards owned by Gram Panchayat:

- **Species for Plantation:** Traditional Mango, Guava, Jackfruit, Jamun (Black Plum), Tamarind, Almond, Cashew, Green Banana, Custard Apple, Papaya, Lemon, Lichi, Chikoo (Sapeta) etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Block Planation shall be done in the Orchards owned by GP.	Concerned Gram Panchayat.

- **Outcome:** It will augment the internal resources of the GPs.

V. Gram Panchayat (Rural) Haats:

- **Species for Plantation:** Shady trees like Peepal, Banyan, Neem, Baula, Almond etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation shall be done in the periphery as well as at vacant surplus spaces in the GP Haat.	Concerned Gram Panchayat.

- **Outcome:** Will provide shade to the people in market place.

VI. Gram Panchayat Pond:

- **Species for Plantation:** Betel Nut, Baula, Coconut, Guava etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation shall be done on the ridge of the ponds.	Concerned Gram Panchayat.

- **Outcome:** Beautification of pond which can be converted into recreation park and also augment income of the GP.

VII. Periphery of Play Ground:

- **Species for Plantation:** Shady trees like Peepal, Banyan, Neem, Debadaru, Karanj, Almond, Baula.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation of variety of shady tree along the periphery of playgrounds.	Concerned Gram Panchayat.

- **Outcome:** For providing shade & protection of the playground.

VIII. Gochar Land:

- **Species for Plantation:** Fodder Cultivation.

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Execution	Executing Agency
Fodder Cultivation can be taken up as per extant guidelines of MGNREGS in the Gochar land with the permission of the concerned Tahashildar.	Gram Panchayat through SHGs on execution of an agreement.

- **Outcome:** SHGs shall be given responsibility which will be beneficial for cattle rearing and other animal husbandry activities. It will also augment resources of GP & SHG.

IX. Road Side (Linear/ Avenue) Plantation:

- **Species for Plantation:** Neem, Karanja, Tamarind, Peepal, Banyan, Chhatiara, Fruit bearing trees like Jamun, Traditional Mango etc.
- **Execution:** As per para 7.6.13 of Annual Master Circular of MGNREGA 2018-19, Roadside Plantation along PMGSY roads and other roads are to be taken up, on priority. A road which is completed should be taken up for roadside tree plantation. While carrying out roadside plantation, for the sake of road safety, the first and second row of plants should be planted with small to medium sized trees and the third row with tall and shade bearing trees. In rural roads where much space is not available, single row plantation may be done.
- **Executing Agency:** **Major Roads** (N.H./ S.H./ PWD/ RD/ PMGSY): Forest & Environment Department.
Other Roads (GP-PS Road and other village roads): Block/Gram Panchayat.
- **Outcome:** It will enhance natural resources management & provide shade to the people.

X. Canal bund Plantation:

- **Species for Plantation:** Banyan, Peepal, Almond, Coconut, Guava, Traditional Mango and other fruit bearing trees etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
The space available along the canal toes are to be taken up for this plantation.	Blocks in consultation with the Executive Engineer/ Assistant Engineer of the Water Resources Department.

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- **Outcome:** It will prevent soil erosion and strengthen the embankment and enhance the expenditure on NRM activities under MGNREGS.

XI. Plantation on the River Embankment:

- **Species for Plantation:** Neem, Karanja, Banyan, Peepal, Tamarind, Mango, Coconut etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
The space available along the river embankment are to be taken up for this plantation.	Gram Panchayat/ Blocks in consultation with the Executive Engineer/ Assistant Engineer of the Water Resources Department.

- **Outcome:** It will prevent soil erosion and strengthen the embankment and enhance the expenditure on NRM activities under MGNREGS.

XII. Private lands of HH listed in para-5 of schedule-I (Backyard Plantation):

Scheduled Castes	Women-headed households
Scheduled Tribes	Physically handicapped headed households
Nomadic Tribes	Beneficiaries of land reforms
Denotified Tribes	Beneficiaries of Indira Awaas Yojana
Other Families below Poverty Lines	Beneficiaries of under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006,
And after exhausting the eligible beneficiaries under the above categories on the lands of Marginal and Small farmers.	

- **Species for Plantation:** Mango, Guava, Jackfruit, Jamun (Black Plum), Coconut, Lemon, Papaya, Drumstick Lichi, Sapeta, Amla, Harida, Bhada, Bela (Wood Apple) etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation should be done on the land (backyard of houses) owned by households listed in para 5 of schedule- I of MGNREG Act. Material component for plantation shall be paid to the head of the HH through FTO. The beneficiaries can get the sapling free of cost from the nursery raised under MGNREGA or they may purchase form the Government approved nurseries, the cost of which will be reimbursed through FTO to the head of the household.	Concerned Households with the assistance of the GRS/ Mates.

- **Outcome:** Providing livelihood security to vulnerable groups.

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XIII. Plantation in the premises of Block Office (in rural areas):

- **Species for Plantation:** Tamarind, Mango, Guava, Jackfruit, Jamun (Black Plum) Tamarind, Neem, Karanja, Boula, Amla, Harida, Bahada, Debdaru, Coconut etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation shall be done on the surplus land in the premises of Block Office.	Concerned Block.

- **Outcome:** To provide green and salubrious environment in the Block Premises.

XIV. Plantation in the premises of PHC/ CHC (in rural areas):

- **Species for Plantation:** Herbal/Medicinal trees like Neem, Wood Apple (Bela), Karanja etc. and Shady trees like Banyan, Peepal, Boula etc.

Execution	Executing Agency
Planation shall be done on the surplus land in the premises of PHC/ CHC.	Concerned Block in consultation of the Head of the PHC/CHC.

- **Outcome:** To provide green and salubrious environment in the PHC/CHC Premises.

XV. Farm Forestry:

It involves planting of indigenous trees species along the perimeter of farm/ community land for timber, for protecting crop and improving the fertility of soil.

XVI. Horticulture:

Horticulture plantation provides assured income to the farmers every year. It brings uncultivable land to productive use. Locally available varieties like guava, mango, custard, apple, cashew, tamarind, black berry etc. can be taken up for plantation.

XVII. Block Plantation (School Campus/ Open Space/ Fallow Land etc.):

Block plantation is a method of plantation wherein single/ multiple species are planted in a patch of land available. This type of plantation is taken up mostly in common lands, government lands, panchayat lands to preserve biodiversity, improve the ecosystem & generate livelihood for people.

Species having timber, fuel wood, fodder, fruit bearing and medicinal value are chosen for such plantation.

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2. Procurement of planting materials:

Plants should be procured from:

- i. Nurseries raised under MGNREGS; by Blocks / SHGs.
- ii. Government nurseries of Forest & Environment Department/ Agriculture & Farmers Empowerment Department (Horticulture & Watershed Development Mission);
- iii. Approved private nurseries by DPC at rate fixed by Forest Department for various saplings.

3. Nurseries under MGNREGS:

As very few nurseries are keeping saplings of traditional & fruit bearing trees, BDOs & self-help groups/ can take up nursery works under MGNREGA. Technical support if required should be obtained from Forest & Environment Department. They should be properly trained for improving their skills in raising good quality nurseries.

Collector-cum-DPCs shall give priority to raise nurseries for indigenous (traditional) species such as Banyan, Peepal, Tamarind etc. and traditional fruit bearing species like Mango, Guava, Black plum (Jamun), Coconut, Lemon, Jackfruit etc.

4. Maintenance:

Removal of weeds and watering may be done under MGNREGA for forestry and horticulture plantations limited for a duration of 2-3 years. At the end of this period, the horticulture plants would become fruit bearing and thereafter, weeding, watering etc would become a part of normal operations. Likewise, at the end of the 2-3 years, the agro forestry plantation would attain sufficient height and should be able to survive.

[Para 7.3.4 of MGNREGA Operational Guidelines 2013]

5. Protection of plantations:

For the protection of Block Plantations, live fencing with local brush wood should be preferred and for protection of Individual plants, tree guards prepared from locally available plant material like Bamboo etc. should be preferred.

[Para 7.6.10 of Annual Master Circular of MGNREGA 2018-19]



6. Technical Support:

The PR institutions should seek for the assistance of technical personnel of the field level officials of Line Departments having expertise in plantation and will also follow the cost norm fixed by them.

7. Accountability at GP Level:

Services of the GRS and Mates shall be utilized to take up plantation activity in the GP. GRS/ Mates along with Sarpanch/ PEO will be accountable for the execution of plantation activity taken up the GP.

8. Co-ordination:

The BDO should liaison with the Block Level staff of Forest & Environment Department, Directorate of Horticulture & Watershed Development Mission to get technical input on plantation activities and capacity building of the PRI functionaries.

The plantation activities in Government institutions shall be carried with the coordination of respective heads of the institutions. viz. Head of PHC/CHC, Head of the Educational Institution, Supervisor for AWCs, Sarpanch for GP.

9. Accountability at Block Level:

For monitoring and supervision, one Officer of the Block (preferably AEE/ GPEO/ PA) shall be designated as Nodal Officer for Planation activities undertaken by GPs.

10. Coordination Committee:

A Block Level Coordination Committee should be constituted to co-ordinate plantation activities by PRIs under the Chairmanship of BDO-cum-Programme Officer with Forest Ranger/Forester, Block Level Officers of Horticulture and Watershed Mission, CDPO, BEO, Asst. Engineer, Irrigation & Nodal Officer (GPEO/PA/AEE) as members. AEE of the Block will be the member convenor.

11. Monitoring at District Level:

Collector-cum-DPC and PD, DRDAs shall review the progress of Planation Activities by PRIs of respective Districts and submit MPR to this Department.

12. Approval by Gram Sabha:



The selection of beneficiaries and approval of shelf of project shall be approved by Gram Sabha on priority during the Special Gram Sabha organised on 2nd October, 2018.

13. The Plantation activities shall be included in the Annual Action Plan of the year and shall be executed by GPs under the supervision of BDO-cum-Programme Officer of the respective Block.

Any clarification on the above provisions, may be solicited from Government in Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department.

This Guidelines supersede all previous instructions in this regard and is given effect to immediately.


18/9/2018
Principal Secretary to Government

Memo No 17947 /PR&DW date: 19.09.2018
17-NREG-11-9100 (pt.)

1. PS to ACS, F& E Department/ PS to Principal Secretary Agriculture & FE Department/ S & ME Department/ W& CD and MS Department/ H & FW Department for kind information of ACS, F& E Department/ Principal Secretary Agriculture & FE Department/ S & ME Department/ W& CD and MS Department/ H & FW Department.
2. OSD to Principal Secretary PR&DW Department for kind information of Principal Secretary PR&DW Department.
3. All Collector-cum-DPCs MGNREGA for information and necessary action.
4. All PD, DRDAs for information and necessary action.
5. All BDOs for information & necessary action.


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Director, Special Projects