

राजेश भूषण, आईएएस
सचिव
RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS
SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001

Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
Tel.: 91-11-23382230, 23384467
Fax: 011-23382408
E-mail: secyrd@nic.in

DO No.J-11060/4/2019-RE-VI (e-366816)

April 15, 2020

Dear Colleague,

Subject: Implementation of MGNREGS with respect to the consolidated guidelines of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for containing spread of Covid-19 dated 15.4.2020.

Reference: DO No.A-60022/03/22020-E.II March 27.3.2020 of Secretary, Department of Rural Development.

Please refer to the detailed advice to States/UTs provided by the aforesaid DO letter of the undersigned on 27th March, 2020, regarding implementation of Rural Development Programmes.

Ministry of Home Affairs vide letter dated 15.4.2020 has indicated selected additional activities that will be allowed with effect from April, 20, 2020. However, these additional activities will be operationalised by States/Union Territories (UTs)/District Administrations based on strict compliance to the existing MHA guidelines of lockdown measures. It has been reiterated by MHA that before operating these relaxations, States/UTs/District Administrations shall ensure that all preparatory arrangements with regard to social distancing as also other sectoral requirements are in place.

In this context, the following guidelines in respect of MGNREGS works, only in those areas/Districts which are outside the Containment Zones are prescribed. **It is reiterated, once again, that these guidelines will not apply in Containment Zones as demarcated by States/UTs/District Administrations.** It is also reiterated that if any new area is included in the category of Containment Zone, the MGNREGS activities allowed in that area till the time of its categorisation as a Containment Zone, will be immediately suspended.

1. MGNREGS works are allowed with strict implementation of social distancing and wearing of face mask/protective face cover (separate communication regarding use of protective face cover) have been issued vide this office letter F.No.J-11060/4/2019-RE-VI (e-366816) dated 11.4.2020.
2. Priority must be given under MGNREGS to irrigation and water conservation works such as construction of feeder canals/distributor canals/minor canal/sub-minor canal/water courses for the community, construction of various kinds of check dams for individuals and community, construction of irrigation open wells for individuals/community, construction of various kind of gully-plugs for individuals and community, construction of farm ponds, mini percolation tanks for individuals and community, construction of recharge pits for individuals and community, construction of water absorption trench for individuals and community, etc., in addition to such irrigation and water conservation works as are permitted under "Permissible Works List" of Schedule I of MGNREG Act, 2005.

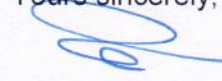
Contd...../-

3. Other Central and State sector schemes in irrigation and water conservation sectors may also be allowed to be implemented and suitably dovetailed with MGNREGS works.
4. All district and field level authorities must be sensitised to imperatives of maintaining social distancing, use of homemade protective face covers and repeated washing of hands with soap and water.

I sincerely hope that with your active support and collaboration we would be in a position to effectively implement MGNREGS in these challenging times.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,


(Rajesh Bhushan)

Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries in charge of RD and PR Departments in all States/UTs