

No. J-11017/40/2011-MGNREGA (UN) (Part file)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
(MGNREGA Division)

\*\*\*\*

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.  
Dated the 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2012

To  
The Principal Secretary/Secretary  
Department of Rural Development,  
All States/UTs.

Subject: Advisory on PMGSY roadside plantations

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, tree plantation on public lands is a permissible activity under MGNREGS. With the objective of greening the PMGSY roads in the rural areas, the following guidelines are issued for taking up avenue plantations along these roads:

Guidelines for Avenue Plantations:

1. Fruit trees, shade trees, timber trees and ornamental trees should be planted along the roadside. The species should be indigenous to the area. At least two rows of the saplings should be planted on each side of the road. Single row planting of saplings should be discouraged.
2. Saplings of at least 4 feet in height should be used for planting. The spacing between any two consecutive plants should be 4 feet in double row planting. In case block areas are available along the roadside, the spacing should be 3mx3m.
3. A dedicated nursery of suitable capacity may be raised for providing the saplings for the plantations.
4. If the land is a depression area on the side of road, ridge method of planting should be used.
5. Brushwood fencing or live fencing should be used to prevent the browsing of saplings by cattle. Brick and mortar fencing should not be used as it is expensive. Rather social fencing should be promoted in looking after these plantations.
6. Flowering trees should be selected in such a way that these flower at different times of the year.
7. Quality planting material should be used for planting.
8. The plantations will be maintained for three years from the year of planting. Vacancy filling/replacements will be carried out regularly from first year onwards.

Contd..2/-

9. The adjoining villages should have a stake in these plantations. Usufructs from the plantations may be shared among them in a fair, transparent and equitable manner. This arrangement should be formalized on paper with reciprocal commitments from the villagers. Since the plantations will invariably be raised by nearby MGNREGA workers, providing them stakes in the usufructs will instill a sense of belongingness in them and chances of survival will be higher. Disadvantageous sections of the society like old, handicapped, widows and female job card holders may be employed in maintaining the plantations.
10. Raising of avenue plantations should form an integral component of all PMGSY roads. Proper monitoring and evaluation of the plantations should be done as a follow-up.
11. The estimates/schedule of rates must take into account the pinch factors (low soil moisture due to absence of rainfall) for the plant survival.

Yours faithfully,

  
(S P Vashishth)

Director (MGNREGA)