

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. J-11060/3/2009-NREGA
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
(NREGA Division)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi 110114
29th June 2009

To

The Principal Secretary/Secretary(Rural Development)
Government of

Subject: Assessment of labour and works under NREGA in the event of deficient rainfall

The implementation of NREGS is being regularly monitored by both the Ministry of Rural Development and State Governments. State Governments are also expected to regularly assess the labour demands and keep sufficient works with technical and administrative approvals ready to respond to the labour demand.

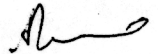
2. In the context of reports of deficient rainfall in certain areas of the country, special attention has to be given to the implementation of NREGS in these areas.
3. State Governments are advised to proactively initiate assessing the areas that have received significant deficient rainfall and where the demand for employment is likely to escalate in the absence of adequate alternative sources of livelihoods.
4. To meet the immediate demand for employment in such areas State Governments are advised to ensure that gram panchayats/implementing agencies are ready with sufficient shelf of projects to absorb the demand for employment. Special attention may be given to works like water conservation, water harvesting, restoration and renovation of water bodies so as to ensure harvesting every drop of water for drinking as well as for agricultural purposes.
5. The current trends of deficient rainfall may also necessitate revision of shelf of projects as well as labour budget estimates. Accordingly, State Governments are also

advised to take necessary action in this regard and wherever necessary proposals backed by empirical data may be submitted to the Ministry for additional budgetary requirements. However, while doing so, extant guidelines and provisions of the NREG Act may be kept in view.

6.. State Governments are also advised to closely liaise with Meteorological Department and Departments of Agriculture and Water Resources to provide special thrust on water conservation and water harvesting activities. They are also advised to ensure that adequate funds are available at each gram panchayat and district and adequate personnel are put in place to met the immediate additional demand.

7. Monitoring and review of NREGA at different levels may also be strengthened to ensure that implementation of NREGA is not adversely affected due to present trends of monsoon.

Yours faithfully,



(Amita Sharma)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India
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