



सत्यमेव जयते

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Ministry of Rural Development

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In a recent review of implementation of NREGA in drought affected and 33 Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected districts, it has been found that large number of rural households have not yet availed of 100 days of employment under NREGA. During 2008-09, only 3.2 % of the rural households have completed 100 days of employment in LWE Districts. It is imperative to intensify efforts to ensure that the rural households receive their due entitlements in accordance with the Act. Ministry has already enhanced the limit of administrative expenditure from 4% to 6% in order to strengthen the implementation machinery of NREGA. You may please ensure that the following steps are taken by the Implementing Agencies to ensure full enjoyment of rights by the rural households under NREGA:


- i. Campaign for awareness generation among rural households may be launched using multiple channels of communication, viz. wall writing, street plays, distribution of pamphlets and posters, use of radio and television, hoardings, etc.
- ii. If required, job cards may be issued to rural households who have not yet been provided job cards.
- iii. Along with awareness generation, concentrated effort should be made for collection of applications for work from the rural households.
- iv. Sufficient number of works should be available in the shelf of projects with ready estimates and due approval and sanction.
- v. At least one work should be opened in every village/habitation.
- vi. Cost of work tools may be provided to all the workers to avoid exclusion of assetless workers.
- vii. Measurement of work should be done not later than six days of work done and payment of wages should be done not later than a fortnight of work done.

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- viii. Helplines should be made operational in order to capture demand for job cards and employment and prompt action should be taken to remedy the grievances.
 - ix. Social audit should be undertaken to ensure the integrity of all the NREGA processes from registration of workers to grievance redressal.
 - x. Detailed Convergence Guidelines have been issued on convergence of NREGS with development schemes of the Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment & Forests, ICAR, Watershed Development and PMGSY. These guidelines may be accessed on Ministry's website www.nrega.nic.in. Planning for NREGA works in convergence with other development programme will enhance productivity as well as provide greater scope of work.
 - xi. Small and marginal farmers have been included in the eligible category of households on whose individual land NREGA works can be taken up. This is in addition to the existing provision of SC/ST/BPL households. You may make use of this provision for initiating development projects as per the Act on the individual lands of SC/ST/BPL/IAY and small and marginal farmers.
2. The arrangement made in order to ensure delivery of full benefits to NREGA workers should be reviewed at your level every month and any difficulty faced in this regard may be intimated to the Ministry.
 3. Please review the situation at your level and intimate me of the action taken.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Rita Sharma)

To Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, H.P., Jharkhand, Karnataka, M.P., Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, U.P., West Bengal.