



No. 11011/09/2014- RE-I
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
(Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Division)

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated: 25th August, 2014.

To

The Spl CSs/Prl Secretaries/Secretaries of Rural Development (In charge-
MGNREGS)

Subject: Clarification regarding use of machines in MGNREGS works

Sir/Madam,

As per Para 23 of Schedule-1, MGNREGA, "As far as practicable, works executed by the programme implementing agencies shall be performed by using manual labour and no labour displacing machines shall be used". This provision protects the basic objective of the Act i.e. provision of employment. However, there may be activities in executing works which cannot be carried out by manual labour, either due to the nature of the work or the timing for execution. Several State Governments have been requesting clarification in the matter so that the quality of execution of works should not suffer.

2. The matter has been considered in consultation with State Governments and it has been decided that where use of machine becomes essential for maintaining quality and durability of the works, machinery can be used subject to adopting the machine rate, as per the prevailing SOR of the line departments in the area (and not unskilled manual wage rate) in the estimate. A suggestive list of such tasks and type of machines to be used is enclosed.

3. Apart from the above, works which have to be executed within a very short period, where speed of execution is most critical (like the works in a flood prone area), the decision to use machines can be taken by the State Government while ensuring that the job card holders are not deprived of their work.

4. Further, all MGNREGS works in which machinery has been used shall be put through a mandatory Social Audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of Audit of Scheme Rules 2011. Any cases of deviation shall be dealt with seriously.

Yours faithfully

(R. Subrahmanyam)
Joint Secretary to Govt

