

From
Dr. Darez Ahamed, I.A.S.,
Commissioner,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
Panagal Building,
Saidapet, Chennai-15.

To
The District Collector / Chairman,
District Rural Development Agency,
All Districts.

Lr.No.16076/2023/MGNREGS-I-1, Dated:13.04.2023

Sir / Madam,

Sub: Mahatma Gandhi NREGS - RD & PR Department -
Announcements made by Hon'ble Minister of Rural
Development Department on the floor of Tamil Nadu
Legislative Assembly on 30.03.2023 - Raising of Moringa
saplings - Works to be taken up under MGNREGS during the
FY year 2023-24 - Executive instructions issued -
Regarding.

Ref : 1. MGNREG Act Schedule I: Notification No.19(E),
Dt.03.01.2014.
2. List of 262 approved works.
3. Annual Master Circular issued by Government of India,
Ministry of Rural Development for the implementation of
MGNREGS 2021-22.
4. Minutes of the Empowered Committee meeting of MoRD,
GoI held on 16.03.2023.
5. Gazette Notification No.S.O.1425 (E), dated.24.03.2023
issued by MoRD, Government of India.
6. Announcement made by Hon'ble Minister for Rural
Development Department on the floor of the
Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 30.03.2023.

I invite your attention to the references cited.

In the reference 4th cited, Government of India, Ministry of Rural
Development have approved Labour Budget of 25 Crore persondays under
MGNREGS to Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2023-24.

In the reference 5th cited, the Government of India have notified the wage
rate for the FY 2023-24 as Rs.294/- per day in respect of Tamil Nadu.

In the reference 6th cited, the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development has
made the following Announcements on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Legislative

Assembly 30.03.2023 during the Demand of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department.

- I. (5) ஊரகப் பகுதிகளில் இரத்த சோகையை குறைக்கும் பொருட்டு 21 இலட்சம் முருங்கை கன்றுகள் 137 கோடி ரூபாய் மதிப்பீட்டில், மகளிர் சுய உதவிக்குழுக்களால் வளர்க்கப்பட்டு, பத்து இலட்சத்து 50 ஆயிரம் சுய உதவிக்குழு உறுப்பினர்களுக்கு வழங்கப்படும்.

முருங்கை இலை மற்றும் காய்களில் அதிக இருப்புச்சத்துள்ளதால் இதனை பெண்கள் மற்றும் வளரிளம் பெண்கள் உட்கொள்வதால் இரத்தச்சோகை தடுக்கப்படும். அதற்காகவும் ஆரோக்கியமான ஊராட்சிகளை (Healthy Panchayats) உருவாக்கும் நோக்கிலும் 21 இலட்சம் முருங்கை நாற்றுகள் மகளிர் சுய உதவிக்குழுக்களால் நாற்றங்கால்களில் வளர்க்கப்பட்டு, பத்து இலட்சத்து 50 ஆயிரம் சுய உதவிக்குழு உறுப்பினர்களுக்கு வழங்கப்படும்.

The Schedule - I of the Act provide list of permissible works categorised into 4 parts viz Category A - Public Works Relating to Natural Resources Management, Category B - Individual Assets for Vulnerable Sections(Only for Households In Paragraph 5), Category C - Common Infrastructure for NRLM Compliant Self Help Groups, Category D Rural Infrastructure. Based on the various works mentioned in the Schedule, the Management Information System (MIS) has listed 45 categories of works covering 262 types of works permissible under the Programme. The above work is approved under MGNREGS as detailed below.

SI No	Name of the Work	Serial Number	Provision in MGNREG Act
1	Provision of Two Moringa Saplings to SHG women	177 (B -Individual Assets)	Paragraph 4.(1).I.(v) of Schedule - I, Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, permits for Afforestation, Tree Plantation, and Horticulture in common and forest lands, road margins, canal bunds, tank foreshores and coastal belts duly providing right to usufruct to the households covered in Para 5, of schedule-1, MGNREGA.

The above work in the announcement made by Hon'ble RD Minister is permitted under MGNREGS. Hence, it is proposed to raise 21 Lakh Moringa Saplings nurtured by SHG groups and distributed to 10.50 lakh SHG women to combat Anaemia in rural areas under MGNREGS during the FY 2023-24.

The above work is approved by the Empowered Committee, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India during the Empowered Committee Meeting held on 16.03.2023.

The Guidelines for Planning and execution of works during the year 2023-24 shall be followed as per the Annexure enclosed.

The District Collector should document various process of the Scheme implementation starting from selection of works to completion of works, documenting the works with photographs, video etc.,

Non-Negotiable Items:

1. Citizen Information Board shall be kept at the work site in 3 X 4 feet with all necessary information as per the framework given by the Government of India vide Ref No: k11023/1/1/2017 – MGNREGA (IV), MORD, Dated 07.04.2017. The cost of Citizen Information Board for community asset works will be fixed at **Rs.4,500/- per unit** and the cost of the Citizen information Board shall be included in the estimate itself.
2. Geo-Tagging of Assets at all three i.e before, during and after completion should be ensured.
3. In reference 5th cited, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India have notified the wage rate and the Rural Schedule of Rates has been prepared accordingly for all the estimate preparation. In case of any revision made in Rural Schedule of Rates in future, the same shall be adopted for the works.

In addition to the above said guidelines, the following shall also be adhered to during the execution of works;

- Resolution should be obtained for in the Gram Sabha for all the Selected Works/Beneficiaries Selected and it should be entered work wise in Register No.2 of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA of village panchayats concerned.
- Photographs shall be taken before execution, during execution and after completion of work.

- In the Year 2022-23, 21 lakh Moringa saplings were distributed to 10.50 SHG women identified by P.O. Mahalir Thittam. Similarly for the year 2023-24, also 21 lakh Moringa saplings are to be distributed to the remaining SHG women identified by P.O. Mahalir Thittam.

Funding pattern

The Labour cost is borne 100% by the GoI and the material cost is shared at the ratio of 75:25 by the GoI and the State Government and the detailed funding pattern is detailed below. The unit cost for all the works are prepared based on the standard type design and may differ based on the site condition. Detailed estimate for all the work is enclosed.

Hence, I request the District Collectors to accord Administration Sanction for raising and distributing 21 Lakh Moringa Saplings to 10.50 lakh SHG women to combat Anaemia in rural areas under MGNREGS during the FY 2023-24.

Encl:- Guidelines and Estimate.

Sd/- Darez Ahamed
Commissioner

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For Commissioner *→*

Copy to:

1. The Principal Secretary to Government,
Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department,
Secretariat, Chennai.
2. The Additional Collector (Dev.) / Project Director,
District Rural Development Agency,
All Districts.

13/4/2023

Estimate for Raising of 21,00,000 moringa saplings in existing 3500 Moringa Nurseries

S. No.	Category of Work	Source of Funds (In Lakhs)		
		MGNREGS	MGNREGS (Material)	Total
1.	Jungle Clearance	0.026	-	0.026
2.	Site Preparation	0.009	-	0.009
3.	Formation of Germination Bed	0.011	-	0.011
4.	Seed Procurement	-	0.01	0.01
5.	Polythene Bags	-	0.02	0.02
6.	Watering Germination Beds	0.068	-	0.068
7.	Silt/Gravel/Red earth cost	-	0.029	0.029
8.	Fertilizers/Pesticides Cost	-	0.04	0.04
9.	Silt/Gravel/Red earth Filling	0.005	-	0.005
10.	Soil Mixture	0.088	-	0.088
11.	Removal of Vizhal grass	0.05	-	0.05
12.	Watering	0.11	-	0.11
13.	Shifting container plants	0.005	-	0.005
14.	Loading and Unloading poly bags	0.018	-	0.018
15.	Mazdoor/watch ward	0.176	-	0.176
16.	Transportation Charges	0.01	-	0.01
17.	Citizen Information Board	0.045	-	0.045
18.	Other Lumpsum charges (GST,Photo and Contingencies)	0.40	-	0.40
	Total Expenditure	1.021	0.099	1.12

Sd/- Darez Ahamed
Commissioner

For Commissioner


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 13/4/2023
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Guidelines for Raising of Nursery

Introduction:

Tamil Nadu receives rainfall from North East Monsoon and South West Monsoon. Accordingly the saplings can be raised in the nursery for planting before the monsoon starts. The seedlings raised from April to September for planting in the North East monsoon period and from December to May for planting in the South West Monsoon period.

Formation of Germination beds:

- The plot where seed beds are to be prepared must be level and sloped (1 to 3%), depending upon the texture of soil (less slope for sandy soils),
- In the plains, beds of 10*1 m size and in the hills beds of 2*1 m are generally prepared.
- However, size can be changed depending on the availability of the area. Width of beds should not be more than 1.2 m otherwise weeding/ watering of seedlings; especially in the middle part of the bed shall be a problem.
- The beds should be oriented in **East - West direction in the plains** and should follow contours in the hills.
- It should be ascertained that the soil in the seedbed is light.
- If necessary, sand and soil (1:1) may be mixed so that the seedlings can break through when germinate
- The ideal nursery should have sandy loam to loamy texture. Soil should have pH 5.5 to 7.5, moderate fertility, with a minimum of 2.5% organic matter. It is not always possible to get good soil everywhere. Under such circumstances, one has to get extra soil, sand as well as farm yard manure from outside; therefore, location of nursery should be close to such areas. A layer of malathion should be used at the nursery bed so as to avoid termite infestation.
- 2 parts of red earth and 2 parts of Farm yard manure should be used for potting mixture

Raising of seedlings:

- Should use Azospirillum and Phosphobacteria for nutrient source or Panchakavya or Jeevamrudham should be used.
- Foliar spray of liquid bio-fertilizer may be resorted to avoid chemical fertilizer usage

Shifting and grading of plants:

- It is essential to provide adequate growing space in the beds for speeding up the growth of plants in the nursery.
- Therefore, the surplus plants should be removed carefully and planted in new beds.
- The beds should be irrigated before the shifting and grading operations.

Selection of seeds:

- Use KM1 PKM1, PKM 2 varieties purchased from reliable source (i.e.), TNAU /KVK.
- 1 Kg of seed will contain around 2500 seeds which should be used for raising nursery.
- Watering should be done twice a day till the seeds are germinated.
- Seeds must be treated with Pseudomonas and Tricoderma viridi for protecting the seedlings against possible contamination.
- There may be 10% germination loss which should be kept in mind for calculating the number of seedlings to be produced.

Seed Procurement:

- The quality seeds may be procured from the Government farms run by Horticulture and forest departments.
- The District Collector, based on the prevailing market rate and in consultation with the line Departments, shall issue the upper ceiling cost for the purchase of seeds every year.
- Procurement of Seeds may be done from private farms either by calling tender or by calling quotations, based on the value of procurement.

Seed Sowing:

- Sowing can be done either by broadcasting/scattering, or In lines along the width of the bed.
- Broadcasting method is used for minute seeds such as Eucalyptus.
- These are generally mixed with equal amount of fine sand to facilitate uniform seed distribution.
- The small and medium sized seeds are sown in lines or drills 5 to 10 cm apart, the seed is covered with sand or sieved soil and gently firmed.
- Sowing depth is crucial for the production of a uniform bed of seedling.
- Best germination is obtained in the case of small and medium sized seed, when they are sown as deep (0.3 to 0.6 cm) as necessary to cover them.
- The general rule is that the upper surface of the seed should be at a depth equal to the diameter of the seed.

Providing shades in the Nursery:

- Most of the trees species need shade in the early stage of germination while the seedlings are still tender.
- Dry grass, bamboo mat, palm leaves or wheat straw can be used as shading material but tin sheets should be avoided. Shade should be slanting towards **North-South** to protect the seedbeds or seedlings from the hot sun.

Mulching:

- Mulch refers to plant residues and other materials used as a covering for the soil to conserve moisture, reduce run-off and erosion, check weed growth, protect from winter climate or improve the soil.
- Mulching materials are usually cut grass, foliage or straw.

Direct Sowing of seeds in Polythene Bags:

- Sometimes seeds are directly sown in the polythene bags. In such cases the bags should be completely filled with dry soil and left standing for few days, so that the soil settles.
- The poly bag should be of size 22 cm x 10 cm, 200-gauge thickness with black colored, having holes for draining water.
- The age of the seedling should be at least one month as the premature seedlings will suffer handling loss.

- Seedlings should be re-arranged once the transplantation or transportation is delayed beyond 30 days.
- Space should be there between each bag on all the four sides for handling.
- Watering should be through rose can only as hose watering will damage the seeds and young seedlings.
- The bags should be watered well the day before sowing. Two seeds should be sown per bag and then covered with sand or with a mixture of sand and soil.
- Heavy soil should not be used for covering, as the germinating seeds may not be able to break through this hard covering.
- Seeds directly sown into bags normally attain more growth compared to pricked out seedlings and become ready for planting much earlier.
- After germination, only one healthy seedling per bag should be retained and the other be pricked out into vacant bags. **Vegetative Propagation** of plants such as cuttings, grafting and budding can also be adopted.

Preparation of Potting Mixture:

- The potting mixture should be prepared with meticulous care and control. A fine mixture of soil, sand and manure in the ratio of 6:1:3 should be prepared.
- Before mixing the soil and sand should be sieved and pebbles and other undesirable material separated.
- The manure should not be sieved but rubbed with hands to make it fine and twigs and other impurities should be removed.
- Insecticides in the prescribed proportion should be mixed in the mixture.
- The main characteristics of a good potting mixture are-
 - a) It must be light in weight.
 - b) It must be well drained and not hold too much water,
 - c) It must be free from insects, diseases and weed seeds,
 - d) It must not contain clay soil or large amount of ashes.
 - e) All materials must be well decomposed.

Filling of Polythene bags:

- The polythene bags should be punched with a sharp punching tool to make sufficient number of holes, to enable drainage of excess water.

- By using a pincer like punch, twenty or thirty bags can be punched together.
- A scoop can be used for filling the potting mixture into the polythene bags.
- After first fill, the bags should be struck on ground to let the soil settle in and firm in and then the pot should be filled again.
- If loosely filled, soil will settle later and make polybags limp, resulting in dislodgement of roots and heavy mortality of plants during handling.
- Atleast half to one inch from top of the pot should be kept empty to avoid spillage.

Transplanting of seedlings:

- As a general guide to transplanting age, 20 to 30 days (excluding germination period) is adequate for most of the species.
- For transplanting, a scoop may be used to lift a group of plants with soil.
- From this soil the individual plantlets can be separated and inserted into holes made in the polybag soil by thrusting a sharp punch.
- The depth of the hole should be equal to the length of the root of the seedling, so that the root does not bend while being pushed into the hole. After inserting the plantlet roots, the hole is closed over up to the collar of the plantlet.

Sustaining the nursery:

- Sustaining the Murungai nursery till distribution to all households in the village panchayat is completed.
- Diversification of crops in the nursery viz., papaya, custard apple, goose berry, etc., to sustain the effort for long.
- To plan to grow horticultural saplings of mango, banana suckers, lemon, curry leaf, etc.,
- Mid-term evaluation to be done at the block level to understand and improve nursery raising as economically viable activity to PLFs and SHGs

Transportation of Seedlings:


- Seedlings are very delicate and should be handled properly.
- The polybag seedlings should always be held by the bag and never by the plant itself.

- Seedlings should be watered thoroughly before carrying them to the field. Seedlings should be transported in the trays, boxes or baskets and not tied in bundles with strings or grass.
- In case of stumps, they should be bundled, wrapped with a wet sack and transported to the field.
- The plants should be kept in shade and plants not planted the same day should be sprinkled with water in the morning and evening.

Nursery Management System:

The nursery and saplings raised are assets of panchayats. In order to monitor the nursery maintenance, no of saplings available, plantation details and survival of plantation, Nursery app was developed and the progress is monitored in TNRD portal.

Sd/- Darez Ahamed
Commissioner


For Commissioner

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13/4/2023

**MGNREGS - 2023-24- Tentative Target for distribution of
21 lakh Moringa saplings**

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Existing Moringa Nursery (In Nos.)	NO. of Moringa saplings to be raised in existing nursery and to be distributed to SHG Women (in Nos)
1	2	3	4
1	ARIYALUR	54	32400
2	CHENGALPET	97	58200
3	COIMBATORE	63	37800
4	CUDDALORE	184	110400
5	DHARMAPURI	73	43800
6	DINDIGUL	87	52200
7	ERODE	70	42000
8	KALLAKURICHI	116	69600
9	KANCHIPURAM	73	43800
10	KANNIYAKUMARI	28	16800
11	KARUR	50	30000
12	KRISHNAGIRI	100	60000
13	MADURAI	115	69000
14	MAYILADUTHURAI	65	39000
15	NAGAPATTINAM	54	32400
16	NAMAKKAL	90	54000
17	PERAMBALUR	34	20400
18	PUDUKKOTTAI	139	83400
19	RAMANATHAPURAM	121	72600
20	RANIPET	79	47400
21	SALEM	116	69600
22	SIVAGANGAI	123	73800
23	TENKASI	60	36000
24	THANJAVUR	163	97800
25	THE NILGIRIS	0	0
26	THENI	38	22800
27	THOOTHUKKUDI	110	66000
28	TIRUCHIRAPPALLI	112	67200
29	TIRUNELVELI	61	36600
30	TIRUPPATHUR	63	37800
31	TIRUPPUR	79	47400
32	TIRUVALLUR	151	90600
33	TIRUVANNAMALAI	233	139800
34	TIRUVARUR	117	70200
35	VELLORE	67	40200
36	VILLUPURAM	189	113400
37	VIRUDHUNAGAR	126	75600
Total		3500	2100000

Sd/- Darez Ahamed
Commissioner


for Commissioner


12/11/2023

