From

Thiru. P. Ponniah, I.A.S., Director, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai-15. To

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

Rc.No.16075/2023/MGNREGS-I-1, Dated: 09.07.2024

Sir / Madam,

Sub: Mahatma Gandhi NREGS – RD & PR Department – Plantation – Procurement of Saplings- Formation of District Procurement Committee –Instructions Issued- Regarding.

Ref: 1. G.O. (MS) No.18, RD & PR (CGS.1) Department, dated.01.02.2024.

2. Annual Master Circular 2024-25.

I invite your attention to the reference cited.

In reference 1stcited, Government have issued order and guidelines for the plantation of 70 Lakh saplings under MGNREGS. It is instructed to undertake Massive Tree plantation in Public Lands, Avenue Tree plantation in either side of rural roads, plantation of Fodder/Horticulture plantation in the meikkal lands in rural areas, riverside plantation, mangrove plantation etc., as per the LB 2024-25 plan.

In this regard, it has been instructed to raise the saplings 5 to 6 feet in the 776 MGNREGS Block Nurseries to undertake the above plantation activities to ensure the survival rate of sapling planted. If 5 to 6 feet saplings are not available in RD Nursery, saplings with the height of 5 to 6 feet may be purchased from the Forest/ Government nurseries at Government rates.

As per para 7.6.8 of Annual Master Circular 2024-25, the Procurement of planting materials/ Plants should be procured from:

- 1. Free of cost from nurseries raised under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.
- 2. Forest/ Government nurseries at Government rates.
- 3. Government approved private nurseries at rates fixed by the committee headed by DPC.

For purchasing saplings from Government farms and open market, The following District Procurement Committee (DPC) under the chairmanship of District Collector will be formed. The committee shall be as follows.

SI.	Designation of the Official	Position in the committee
1	The District Collector	Chairman
2	Additional Collector (Dev) / Project Director, DRDA	Member & Convener
3	District Forest Officer	Member
4	Joint Director, Agriculture	Member
5	Joint Director, Animal Husbandry	Member
6	Executive Engineer, RD	Member
7	Executive Engineer, PWD	Member
8	Deputy Director, Horticulture	Member

All the saplings suitable to the agro climatic conditions of each districts shall be identified and rates shall be finalized. The rate finalized by the District Procurement Committee shall be followed by all the panchayats to procure following saplings as material following due procedures under MGNREGS.

The nursery distribution register as per the G.O. (MS) No.18, RD & PR (CGS.1) Department, dated.01.02.2024 shall be maintained in the village panchayat for the procurement of saplings from open market.

I request you to take necessary action to commence the District Procurement Committee and the meeting shall be conducted on or before 20.07.2024 to finalize the rate to purchase before the end of August to undertake the plantation activity during September and October 2024.

> Sd/- P. Ponniah Director

Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.
- 2. The Additional Collector (Dev.) / Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, All Districts.

