

E-mail

No.SMS-1/2025-26-MGNREGA- - 10493-10623
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Rural Development Department

From

The Director-Cum-Commissioner (MGNREGA)
Rural Development Department
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-9

To

1. All the Deputy Commissioners-Cum-District Programme Coordinators (MGNREGA) in HP.
2. All the Additional Deputy Commissioners-cum-Project Directors MGNREGA, HP.
3. The XEN, RDD HQ, Shimla, Kangra & Mandi in HP
4. All the District Development Officers in HP
5. All the Block Development Officers-Cum-Block Programme Officers (MGNREGA) in HP.

Dated Shimla-9 22 July 2025
Advisory on implementation of Land Development works

Subject: -
Sir/Madam,

I am refer to Ministry's letter no J-11017/2/2023-RE-VII (386093) dated 16th June 2025, vide which detailed guidelines for the implementation of Land Development works under MGNREGA has been issued.

It has been observed that land development activities are at times cultivable land such as works on already cultivable land are not permissible under the grass removal, wire fencing, building construction, earth filling in institutions and installation of interlocking tile roads – have been undertaken as primary works under some land development, which are not permissible under the scheme. Districts are advised to strictly adhere to the guidelines and detailed advisories issued in this regard as follows.

As per Para 7.5.7 of the Annual Master Circular, "*land development work aims to convert non-cultivable land into cultivable land through field bonding, leveling, shaping, terracing, etc. Activities such as removal of dry leaves, cutting of grasses, resizing of existing bunds, etc, should not be undertaken under land development, as they are not permissible under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS*".

The following actions are prescribed for land development works under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

- i. The already leveled land/field should not be taken up under land development for land leveling.

Road base preparation or other permissible works requiring land leveling should not be carried out under the land development work type. Such activities and works, if permissible, should be taken up under the correct work type.

- iii. The land proposed for 'land development' should be uncultivable, fallow, or wasteland. An undertaking to this effect must be uploaded by the concerned Panchayat Secretary in NregaSoft prior to the initiation of the work, i.e., before the creation of the Work Code. A template is enclosed at Annexure-A.

Necessary provision has already been made in the NregaSoft/ MIS to upload the same prior to the creation of land development work.

In case of individual beneficiary works, the above undertaking should clearly specify the following details:

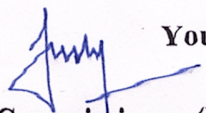
- The **type of individual beneficiary** (as defined under Para 5 of schedule I of the Act).
- The **total area of landholding** of the beneficiary.
- The **area proposed** to be taken up for land development, and
- The **type of land**, i.e., whether it is **non-cultivable, fallow, or wasteland**

These details must be included to ensure eligibility and alignment with the provisions of the Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act.

The implementing agency should conduct a transect walk to verify the status of the land at the field level. The area proposed for land development should be geo-mapped and geo-fenced before the commencement of work. Necessary provisions in this regard are being made in GeoMGNREGA.

As per the Ministry's directive vide letter no.J-L1017/39/2017-RE-VII (E-378816), not more than 20 ongoing works (excluding plantation-related maintenance works and ongoing PMAY-G/ State housing scheme works) shall be allowed in any Gram Panchayat at a time. While exemptions may be granted in exceptional cases through the DPC login, no such exemption shall be permitted for taking up additional new Land Development (LD) works. It is imperative that existing works are completed before initiating new ones.

You are therefore requested to adhere to the guidelines for the execution of Land Development works in letter and spirit.


Yours faithfully,
Director-cum-Commissioner (MGNREGA)
Rural Development Department
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-9

Annexure A

Undertaking for Land Development Work under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS
(To be uploaded in NREGASoft before creation of Work Code)

Gram _____
Block: _____
District: _____
State/UT: _____

Panchayat

Name: _____

Details of Gram Sabha Resolution:

- Sl. No. in Resolution: _____
- Page No.: _____
- Date of Gram Sabha Resolution: _____

Details of the Proposed Land Development Work:

- Type of Beneficiary: ☐ Individual ☐ Community
- Name of Beneficiary and Job Card Number (if individual): _____
- Total land holding (if individual) (in acres): _____
- Khata/Khasra No.: _____
- Area of Land proposed for Land Development (in acres): _____

Certification:

This is to certify that the above-mentioned land development work, approved by the Gram Sabha and recorded in its resolution at the details stated above, has been physically verified by the Gram Panchayat. Based on the verification:

- The land is ☐ waste / ☐ barren / ☐ fallow (tick as applicable).
- No development work has been undertaken on this land by any other department.
- The land is suitable to be developed for cultivation purposes.

Accordingly, the land is recommended for development under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

(Panchayat Secretary)