

F.No.J-11011/07/2016-RE.I(351427)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
[Office of Secretary (RD)]

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated the 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

To

The Addl Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary  
Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Deptt  
All States/UTs

Subject: **Mission Water Conservation - Draft Natural Resource Management Framework under MGNREGS within the overall framework of PMKSY**

*Dear Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary*

Enclosed please find draft for discussion titled Mission Water Conservation - Draft Natural Resource Management Framework under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) within the overall framework of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The need for drought proofing villages in water stressed regions has been felt for many years. Many State Governments started excellent initiatives for water conservation in 2015-16 and 2016-17 using MGNREGS resources. In 2015-16 nearly 45 lakh hectares of additional irrigation potential was created under MGNREGS. A similar or higher potential is likely to be created with the concerted thrust on water conservation in 2016-17. Considering the importance of water conservation, using all the scientific and technological advances at our command, the Department of Rural Development wants to ensure that MGNREGS funds are used in accordance with the best practices in the sector. The draft framework is an effort to ensure tangible drought proofing outcomes in selected Gram Panchayats over the next few years.

2. This is to request you for suggestions for improving the framework over the next 7 days so that we are able to finalise the framework well in time before the Gram Sabha meetings of 2<sup>nd</sup> October to prioritise the shelf of projects under MGNREGS. We look forward for an early response.

*Best wishes,*

*Amarjeet Sinha*  
[Amarjeet Sinha]  
Secretary (RD) 12/9/16

encl: as above