



**AmaJangalaYojana**  
CFPMP Cell  
Odisha Forestry Sector Development Society  
SFTRI Campus, Ghatikia, Bhubaneswar-751 003

Letter No- **555** /CFPMP Cell -60/2016

Date- **16/11/2016**

To

The DFO-cum-DMU Chiefs,

Part – 1 Division: Baripada/ Bonai / Deogarh/ Jeypore/ Keonjhar /  
Parlakhimundi / Rourkela.

Part-II Divisions: Angul / Balasore(WL) / Baliguda / Koraput / Rayagada /  
Phulbani.

Part-III Divisions: Barma (WL) / Bargarh /Bolangir/ Keonjhar (WL) / Khariar/  
Kalahandi (S) / Kalahandi (N) / Malkangiri/ Rairangpur /  
Sambalpur / Satakosia (WL).

Sub: **Operational Guideline for Entry Point Activities (EPA).**

Ref: 181/AJY-CFPMP Cell-60/16 date: 29.06.2016

In continuation to the letter under reference, please find enclose herewith the Operational Guideline for undertaking of Entry Point Activities (EPA) in Ama Jangala Yojana scheme.

The operational guideline may please be strictly followed while preparing and submitting the proposals and carrying out Entry Point activities under MGNREGS funding.

**Encl: As above**

**M.B.**  
Additional Project Director (AJY).

Memo No. **556** /AJY-CFPMP Cell-60/ 2016 Date: **16.11.2016**

Copy with enclosure forwarded to the field Director, STR and RCCF, Baripada and the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul/ Berhampur / Koraput / Rourkela / Sambalpur /Bhawanipatna for favour of information and necessary action.

**M.B.**  
Additional Project Director –AJY

# **Operational Guidelines for Entry Point Activities under Ama Jangala Yojana (AJY)**

## **1. Background of Guideline**

In order to ensure community participation and sustainability of interventions made under Ama Jangala Yojana, it is intended to introduce the comprehensive development initiatives to forest-fringes villages in the state. In addition to forest rehabilitation and biodiversity conservation, Entry Point Activity (EPA), Income Generating Activity (IGA) and Livelihood Improvement Activities (Basic needs) are proposed to be undertaken in the scheme which provide direct and immediate benefits to villagers in supporting their livelihoods.

Entry Point Activity (EPA) intends for community mobilization at the initial stage of project implementation which preferably should be taken up in the first year.

## **2. Objective of Entry Point Activity (EPA)**

The Objectives of Entry Point Activity (EPA) are:

- (a) To mobilize them for effective and participatory project implementation
- (b) To gain confidence of the target community on the project and their management skills
- (c) To endow tangible assets to target communities;
- (d) To provide short-term financial benefit and incentives to the villagers (wages);

## **3. Identification and Prioritisation of EPAs**

The Micro Plan working group would consult the General Body (GB) for identifying the need of Entry Point Activities with priorities. The set of activities which GB recommends should be seen in the perspectives of livelihood improvement of community. The creation of community assets/ infrastructure may be given most priority which can supplement people's livelihood (IGA), health and educational activities etc., thus facilitating villagers to meet their immediate requirements and benefits. The detail analysis done on socio economic profile, livelihoods and forestry development aspects during the process of Micro planning development can help to identify the right kind of EPAs necessary for Village. Interests of forest dependent people shall be given high priority. Since the fund for EPA is limited, available from MGNREGs and State Plan emphasis should be on

activity (ies) that can be fully completed from the available fund, instead of taking up part construction of several works. However, if VSS members agree to contribute cash or free labour to augment project support, then the size of EPA can be larger. The lower priority item nonetheless could be implemented if VSS can generate fund by way of marketing forest products, or on getting fund from other support. Preference may be given to those items that will eventually be gainfully utilized by the villagers.

#### **4. Funding and Cost**

The Entry Point Activities (EPAs) in different VSS is to be taken up as per the Micro Plan prepared in the VSS. The contribution from MGNREGS and contribution from line department (State Plan) on convergence basis will be spent for EPAs. **Regarding convergence of MGNREGS with other schemes of line Department as per the decisions taken at the Government level in a meeting held on 02.05.2016 under the chairmanship of Development Commissioner-cum-Additional Chief Secretary, Odisha as communicated to all DMUs vide PMU order no. 119/ CFPMP Cell-AJY-60/2016 dt. 26.05.2016 and subsequently order issued by PMU to DMUs for preparation and submission of proposals for taking of "Entry Point Activities" vide no 181/AJY -CFPMP Cell -06/2016 dt. 29.06.2016 shall be followed for deciding EPAs to be undertaken in MGNREGS funds.**

For each VSS, the provision of Rs. 1 .00 lakh has been earmarked for EPA under which Rs. 75,000/- for labour component would be funded by MGNREGS and the remaining Rs. 25,000/- for material component would be borne from State Plan. The preparation and submission of the proposals for taking of Entry Point Activities (EPA) for each VSS with funding for labour component for MGNREGS and material component under state plan will be carried out by the DMUs with the help of concerned FMU, P-NGO staff and VSS members. These proposals for each EPA will emerge from individual Micro Plans prepared by the VSS and approved by the Grama Sabha. The said proposals will then have to be submitted to the concerned District Collectors. The proposals are to be prepared and submitted in accordance with the procedural requirement of MGNREGS. The activities which are permissible under MGNREG Scheme are given in **Annexure-I** enclosed.

The details of the proposals to submit in respect of your division to the District Collector will be in the following format.

**Format for proposals submitted under MGNREGS for  
.....DMU.....District**

Sl. No.	State Code of VSS	Name of VSS	Type of EPA proposed to be taken up	Funds proposed		Total Fund
				From MGNREGS	From State Plan	

The remaining works identified under EPA in Micro Plan, which are not permissible to undertake in MGNREGS can be undertaken with other convergence sources.

**5. Monitoring**

- i. The monitoring of EPA works under AJY shall form an integral part of overall M&E activities of AJY and will be done in line with the stipulations of the OFSDS Operation Manual, VSS Management Manual and guideline of MGNREGS
- ii. Daily monitoring will be supported by the partner NGOs
- iii. Senior officers of FMU shall undertake at least one field inspection / validation of the progress of each EPA work.
- iv. After the completion of work, the senior officers of FMU again shall undertake a field inspection / validation to assess whether the work was completed by VSS appropriately or not. When it was found that the work was completed appropriately, DMU shall issue a certificate of completion on EPA. The completion certificate however shall be issued only after VSS completing the EPA maintenance plan. Within 10 working days after the field inspection / validation. DMU shall issue the completion certificate.
- v. When the work was found to be unfinished / unsatisfactory, DMU shall instruct VSS to undertake additional work. The additional cost that may require for the additional work shall be borne by the VSS/ Committee/ person assigned the responsibility of undertaking the works.

**6. Maintenance**

The maintenance of EPA works under AJY will be done in line with the stipulations of the OFSDS Operation Manual, VSS Management Manual and procedural requirement of MGNREGS when the work undertaken in MGNREGS funds.

## Annexure-I

**The focus of the MGNREG Scheme shall be on the following works as categorised below:**

### **1. (1) Categories of Works**

#### **I. Category: A PUBLIC WORKS RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT-**

- (i) **Water conservation** and water harvesting structures to augment and improve groundwater like underground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams, check dams with special focus on recharging ground water including drinking water sources;
- (ii) **Watershed management** works such as contour trenches, terracing, contour bunds, boulder checks, gabion structures and spring shed development resulting in a comprehensive treatment of a watershed;
- (iii) Micro and minor irrigation works and creation, renovation and maintenance of **irrigation** canals and drains;
- (iv) Renovation of **traditional water bodies** including de-silting of irrigation tanks and other water bodies;
- (v) **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 Paragraph 5; and
- (vi) Land development works in common land.

#### **II. Category B: INDIVIDUAL ASSETS FOR VULNERABLE SECTIONS (ONLY FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN PARAGRAPH 5)**

- (i) **Improving productivity of lands** of households specified in Paragraph 5 through land development and by providing suitable infrastructure for irrigation including dug wells, farm ponds and other water harvesting structures;
- (ii) **Improving livelihoods through** horticulture, sericulture, plantation, and farm forestry;
- (iii) **Development of fallow or waste lands** of households defined in Paragraph 5 to bring it under cultivation;
- (iv) Unskilled wage component in **construction of houses** sanctioned under the Indira Awaas Yojana or such other State or Central Government Scheme;
- (v) Creating infrastructure for **promotion of livestock** such as, poultry shelter, goat shelter, piggery shelter, cattle shelter and fodder troughs for cattle; and

(viii) **Maintenance** of rural public assets created under the Act; and

(ix) **any other work** which may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government in this regard.(2) The order of priority of works shall be determined by each Gram Panchayat in the meetings of the Gram Sabha keeping in view potential of the local area, its needs, local resources and in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 9.

1. (2) Works which are non-tangible, not measurable, repetitive such as, removing grass, pebbles, agricultural operations, shall not be taken up.
2. Works creating **individual assets** shall be prioritised on land or homestead owned by households belonging to the:
  - (a) Scheduled Castes
  - (b) Scheduled Tribes
  - (c) nomadic tribes
  - (d) denotified tribes
  - (e) other families below the poverty line
  - (f) women-headed households
  - (g) physically handicapped headed households
  - (h) beneficiaries of land reforms
  - (i) the beneficiaries under the Indira Awaas Yojana
  - (j) beneficiaries under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007), and after exhausting the eligible beneficiaries under the above categories, on lands of the small or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 subject to the condition that such households shall have a job card with at least one member willing to work on the project undertaken on their land or homestead.