

F.No-J-11060/2/2016-MGNREGA-V  
Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Rural Development

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

IS/BS  
status and this to all  
districts  
1/12/16

To  
The Principal Secretary  
Department of Panchayat and Rural Development  
Government of West Bengal  
Kolkatta

Commissioner  
MREGA.

Sub: Regarding re-excavation/renovation of farm pond on private land.

Sir,

A team of officials had visited West Bengal from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016. The team carried out examination of records relating to high spending GPs (FY 2015-16) and conducted field visit to verify works under taken. In the process, it has come to light that large scale re-excavation /renovation of farm ponds on private lands have been carried out under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

Such ongoing works should be stopped and may be completed through funds from other relevant schemes.

Schedule I para 4.II (i) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005, provides for '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'.

It is clear that the provision relates to creation of new farm ponds on private land. Re -excavation /renovation of farm pond is not listed as a permissible activity on private land and, hence, cannot not be undertaken.

You are, therefore requested to ensure that only those work / activities that are permitted under the Act are be undertaken. No works, other than permissible works under schedule 1 of the Act will be taken up under the programme.

This may kindly be brought to the knowledge of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

Aparajita Sarangi  
18/11

A342/SPB  
28/11/16