To
AllSpl Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries, Rural Development of State Governments (in charge of MGNREGS)
All Spl CS/Prl Secretaries/Secretaries of State Government (in charge of PMGSY)

Sub: Convergence Guidelines MGNREGS & PMGSY.

Madam/Sir,

With a view to improving the quality of assets taken up under MGNREGS, and to bring synergy between MGNREGS and PMGSY, and thereby ensure better all-weather rural connectivity guidelines have been issued for convergence of MGNREGS and PMGSY.

2. The functioning of this convergence has been reviewed in a meeting held on 09.10.2013 and the conclusions reached have already been communicated to all the States vide D.O. letter No. J-11060/1/2011-MGNREGA, dated 21st October, 2013 from Additional Secretary (RD), MORD, GOI. The convergence has been discussed in the meeting held with State RD Secretaries on 29th October 2013.

3. After considering the issue in detail and in continuation of Joint Convergence Guidelines issued vides Ministry letter number Dy. 178/SRD/09-MGNREGA, dated 9th February, 2009, additional Joint Convergence Guidelines MGNREGS and PMGSY are issued herewith.

4. All States are requested to constitute a convergence team consisting of senior officials of PMGSY and MGNREGS to operationalise these guidelines at the earliest.

Yours sincerely,

(R. Subrahmanyanam)

Enclosure: Additional joint convergence guidelines MGNREGS and PMGSY
ADDITIONAL JOINT CONVERGENCE GUIDELINES MGNREGS AND PMGSY

1. CONTEXT:

1.1 The National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA), Ministry of Rural Development was represented on the Task force on convergence with MGNREGA and was identified as an important partner to MGNREGA. Possibilities of convergence between MGNREGA and the PMGSY was discussed and based on these discussions, convergence areas and modalities were identified. Accordingly, the Joint Convergence Guidelines between MGNREGS and PMGSY was issued vide Ministry letter No. Dy. 178/SRD/09- MGNREGA, dated 9th February, 2009. In these guidelines, it was mentioned that since MGNREGA planning is decentralized, funds transferred are untied, and there are no physical and financial norms of works, therefore rural connectivity works under MGNREGA can be planned/structured and executed as per local specific requirements. MGNREGA thus becomes a significant entry point for convergence with PMGSY.

1.2 Under MGNREGS, large sums of public investments are being made and nearly 30% of total funds are being utilised in rural connectivity. It has been observed during field visits that most of the rural connectivity works are not being planned/structured and executed as per convergence guidelines and existing guidelines and norms of PMGSY. If convergence between MGNREGS and PMGSY are made systematically and properly, the quality of works carried out for rural connectivity to provide all weather access under MGNREGA will be better.

1.3 Ministry of Rural Development has issued a Vision document in the name of Rural Road Development Plan: Vision 2025 with the objective of connecting all habitations above 250 populations in the country by year 2021-2022. The convergence of MGNREGA and PMGSY may be instrumental in facilitating achievement of set goals of Rural Road Development Plan: Vision 2025 by Ministry of Rural Development.

1.4 In this context, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (RD) on 09.10.2013 to discuss operationalizing the convergence of MGNREGS and PMGSY. Having reflected on the issues in implementation of convergence between MGNREGS & PMGSY raised by the Secretaries of the Nodal Departments of the State Governments in the meeting, possibilities of convergence between both the programmes emerged. Accordingly, in continuation of Joint Convergence Guidelines issued vide
Ministry letter number Dy. 178/SRD/09- MGNREGA, dated 9th February, 2009, following additional guidelines for convergence between MGNREGA and PMGSY are issued.

2. THE CONVERGENCE BETWEEN MGNREGS & PMGSY WILL AT THREE LEVELS.

2.1 Pre-PMGSY Works, to support PMGSY,

2.2 Post-PMGSY works, for durability and value addition of PMGSY roads

2.3 MGNREGA Farm -net roads under MGNREGA with technical assistance from the line department implementing PMGSY in the area.

2.1 PRE-PMGSY WORKS:

2.1.1 In the instance of roads identified for convergence, the earth-work formation and compaction/consolidation works will be taken up and completed under MGNREGS as per PMGSY specifications one to two years prior to the taking up of such roads under PMGSY. This will help in further compaction/consolidation of roads by weathering effect and will help in speeding up the PMGSY implementation.

2.1.2 Construction of road is a specialized job, which requires use of machines and testing instruments etc., therefore, the implementing agency for such roads under MGNREGS will be the line department implementing PMGSY in the area. The District wise project (as per DRRP & Core Network), prepared by the PMGSY unit for such roads will be shared with the PO, MGNREGA who in turn would facilitate/ensure placing in the ensuing Gram Sabhas for approval and inclusion in the shelf of projects.

2.1.3 After one to two year of completing the works mentioned in Para 2.1.1 above, under MGNREGA, these roads will be taken up under PMGSY. The design, estimate and project report of these roads will be prepared after conducting required topographical survey/longitudinal section of such roads by PMGSY unit and accordingly work will be carried out under PMGSY post formation level.

2.2 POST-PMGSY WORKS FOR DURABILITY AND VALUE ADDITION TO PMGSY ROADS:

2.2.1 Maintenance work for durability of PMGSY roads under MGNREGA: After the expiry of the 5-year maintenance contract by the contractor, maintenance of PMGSY
roads will be carried out under MGNREGA in a project mode. The detailed project with
detailed estimates for the maintenance of PMGSY roads falling in a Gram Panchayat
after expiry of the 5-year maintenance contract by the contractor will be prepared by
the line department implementing PMGSY in the area. This project will be prepared
after conducting required survey and with a certificate by the line department
implementing PMGSY in the area that the required maintenance of PMGSY road by the
contractor has been made as contracted to him. The activities that can be taken up
from MGNREGA for routine maintenance of PMGSY roads are enumerated in
Annexure-I. The task of a MGNREGA worker to carry out activities for routine
maintenance of PMGSY roads will be worked out by carrying out time motion studies
and SOR will be prepared accordingly.

GP wise project report with relevant data for maintenance of PMGSY roads would be
shared with the MGNREGS engineers by PMGSY units for placing in the ensuing Gram
Sabhas for approval and inclusion in the shelf of projects

2.2.2 Value addition to PMGSY roads under MGNREGA:

2.2.2.1 Road side plantation on PMGSY roads will be taken up under MGNREGA
through GP or Forest Department. The prototype of road side plantation based on
Muzaffarpur model issued by the Ministry can be replicated in other areas. This will
be attempted in all the PMGSY roads that are already completed for 2014-15.
The GP wise data of completed PMGSY roads and to be covered under road side
plantation (along with the details of right of way, carriage way width, shoulder
width & type of trees to be planted) will be shared with the Project Officer
MGNREGA by PMGSY unit for preparing projects and placing in the ensuing Gram
Sabhas for approval and inclusion in the shelf of projects.

2.2.2.2 Water harvesting structures under MGNREGA will be constructed at the
outlet of the culverts, where plenty of water will be available. Water from these
WHS will be utilized for plantation work, irrigation and will recharge ground water.
Data of this would be shared with the MGNREGS engineers by PMGSY units
particularly in the context of cross drainages of PMGSY roads, for preparing
projects and placed in the ensuing Gram Sabhas for approval and inclusion in the
shelf of projects.
2.3 **MGNREGA FARM – NET ROADS UNDER MGNREGA WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE AGENCY IMPLEMENTING PMGSY IN THE AREA.**

All the kuchha roads linking farm production points to the existing/upcoming PMGSY roads will be demarked, digitized and frozen by the PO (MGNREGA) in consultation with PMGSY unit. All rural connectivity works under MGNREGS will be taken up only from these works. All these roads may be completed with gravelled or metalled road standards. Engineers of the line department implementing PMGSY in the area will assist the MGNREGS engineers at the block level in preparing projects and constructing the Farm-net roads.