

**DR. N. C. SAXENA, COMMISSIONER AND
HARSH MANDER, SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF THE SUPREME COURT
IN THE CASE: PUCL v. UOI & Ors. WRIT PETITION (Civil) No. 196 of 2001**

November 29th,2007

NREGA/519/all states.

To

Dr. Manjula Subramaniam

Chief Secretary

Government of Gujarat

Gandhi Nagar.

Sub: Absence of Worksite facilities under NREGA.

Dear Dr. Subramaniam,

As you are aware, we are monitoring the food and employment schemes in our capacity as Commissioners of the Supreme Court in the Writ Petition 196 of 2001 (PUCL Vs. Union of India and others).

We are writing to draw your attention towards the provisions of the NREGA Act which clearly states that “following facilities are to made available at the work sites : safe drinking water, shade for children and periods of rest, first-aid box with adequate material for emergency treatment for minor injuries and other health hazards connected with the work [Schedule II, Para 27].Further, in case the number of children below the age of six years accompanying the women working at any site are five or more, provisions shall be made to depute one of such women workers to look after such children [Schedule II, Para 28].And the person who is deputed to look after young children is entitled to the same minimum wage as other labourers [Schedule II, Para 28]”.The Operational Guidelines issued by the Central government, spell out the same provisions regarding the worksite facilities and clearly mention that worksite facilities are to be ensured by the Implementing Agency.

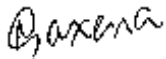
We have received number of reports and complaints regarding the absence of the facilities that are supposed to be available at the work sites. We believe these facilities are very important and

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encourage people to participate in the NREGA work. More importantly the provisions of shade and crèche/deputation of one women to look after the children in case the number of children under six accompanying women working at any worksite are five or more, facilitates the participation of women in NREGA work.

In this regard we would be grateful if you could kindly send us a detailed report about the work site facilities that are being provided in your state within ten days time. We would appreciate it if the information can be sent in the format provided in the annexure.

With regards,



Dr. N.C. Saxena



Harsh Mander

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Annexure: Format for Data.

S.No.	Type of facility.	No. of Worksites where such Facility is available.	Total no. of Worksites in Progress.
1	Drinking water.		
2	Medical facilities.		
3	Shade.		
4	Creches.		