

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Panchayats & Rural Development Department**  
**Joint Administrative Building**  
**Block HC-7, Sector –III, Salt Lake**  
**Kolkata-700 106**

No. 3771- RD/O/NREGA/18S-03/09 (pt-1)

Date: 19/07/2017

To:  
The District Magistrate and District Programme Coordinator  
South 24-Parganas

Sub: Clarification regarding eligibility for Maternity Leave for the VLEs/STPs.  
Ref: Your letter No.150/MGNREGS dated 26.05.2017.

Sir,

Kindly note that with effect from 01.04.2017 the VLEs and STPs have been given the status similar to those enjoyed by other contractual employees under MGNREGA. Naturally, with effect from 01.04.2017 any female VLE/STP will also be entitled for availing maternity leave as applicable to State Government employees and other contractually engaged personnel. However, for the period prior to 31.03.2017 when the system of regular monthly remuneration for either of the positions was not in vogue, there is no question of admissibility for maternity leave during that period. Even in case of VLEs the earlier arrangement of a minimum guaranteed monthly payment was actually a combination of fixed and variable incentive for the data entry job performed by the VLEs. Naturally, in relation to that period they too cannot be treated as at par with other contractually engaged personnel.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Dibyendu Sarkar)  
Commissioner, P&RD Department

No. 3771/1(23)-RD/O/NREGA/18S-03/09 (pt-1)

Date: 19/07/2017

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to the **Administrator, GTA, the District Magistrate & District Programme Coordinator (all), the Additional Executive Officer, Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad.**

  
Commissioner, P&RD Department