

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to include agriculture labour costs under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

**SHRI N. REDDEPPA (CHITTOOR):** MGNREGS has been a boon for rural people who are economically backward in the country which has helped them to earn their daily bread and butter. This scheme has wide acceptance in the country as it has helped in poverty alleviation to a great extent. Contrary to the direct benefit transfer schemes of the Government, NREGS promotes production and adds to the GDP. Non-remunerative prices of several crops have been the root cause of widespread agrarian distress. MGNREGS can be effectively applied to the agriculture sector to cut down cost as well as provide employment. Hence, the Government is requested to allow Agriculture labour costs to be included in MGNREGS.