

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:356
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2006
CONVERSION OF NFFWP INTO CFWP
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total expenditure including transportation charges being incurred in providing foodgrains worth rupees seventy to the beneficiaries under National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP);
- (b) whether the Government proposes to convert the said programme into Cash for Work Programme (CFWP) in view of the high expenditure; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of additional districts likely to be covered thereunder?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

- (a) o (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement as referred to in Reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question Number 356 due for reply on 17.03.2006.

(a) As per NFFWP guidelines, the State Governments will bear the transportation cost and other handling charges from their own resources. The foodgrains are paid to the workers at uniform BPL rate as part of wages. Since, the entire transportation and handling cost of foodgrains is borne by the State Governments from their own resources, it is not monitored at the Central level.

(b) & (c) In fulfilment of the commitment made by the UPA Government under NCMP, National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) was launched as an interim programme pending enactment of the Employment Guarantee Act to create immediate additional employment opportunities in rural areas. Since the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) has now come into force w.e.f. 2nd February 2006 in the notified districts, NFFWP has subsumed with the Act. Central assistance to NREGA is only in the form of cash. No budget provision for foodgrains has been made under NREGA. NREGA will cover 200 districts in its initial phase and thus includes 150 NFFWP districts. All districts of the country will be covered within a period of five years.