

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:124
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2007
INCREASE IN WORKING DAYS UNDER NREGS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any demand has been made to increase the period of employment to more than 100 days under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and decision taken by the Government thereon;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to substitute individual in place of family under the scheme; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Government of Rajasthan had made a demand for increasing the number of days for which employment is provided under NREGS from 100 days to 200 days for Udaipur, Dungarpur and Banswara districts in the State. The proposal of the State Government has not been agreed to due to the reason that from the reports furnished by the State for these districts, it was found that all households who had demanded employment during 2006-07 in these districts had not exhausted their legal right of 100 days of employment guaranteed under the Act.
- (c) & (d): No, Sir. NREGA envisages enhancement of the livelihood security of rural household by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household for doing unskilled manual work on demand. Therefore, the basic unit used under NREGA is household and not an individual. Members of the household may, however, avail other available employment opportunities in addition to the 100 days of guaranteed employment per household provided under the Act on demand.