

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4701

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2008

MODIFICATIONS IN NREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various States for modification in the norms prescribed for the implementation of the National Rural employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to include works done in plantations and field work of small and marginal farmers under the scheme; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir. No proposals have been received in the Ministry from States for modification in the norms prescribed for the implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): Drought proofing (including afforestation and tree plantation) is a permissible activity under para 1(ii) of Schedule I of NREG Act, 2005. No specific provision for field work of small and marginal farmers has been stipulated in the NREG Act. However, provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities on land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes or to Below Poverty Line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana of the Government of India have been made in para 1 (iv) of Schedule I of NREGA.