

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3867

ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010

EXPANSION OF MGNREGS

Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh;Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Kishor Shri Kamal ;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Mahato Shri Narahari;Raghavan Shri M. K.;Tirkey Shri Manohar;Venugopal Shri K. C.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of permissible activities under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) whether any discussions were held in the meeting of Central Employment Guarantee Council in August, 2009 for including new works thereunder;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has decided to widen the scope of this scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has received any requests from various quarters including public representatives/ individuals/ State Governments/ organisations etc. for inclusion of more activities/sections of people under MGNREGS since its inception;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;
- (g) whether a number of obstructions have arisen in widening the scope of MGNREGS and the Government has set up an expert committee to clear them; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to remove the same and implement the scheme effectively?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a): Activities which are permissible under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA have been given in their order of priority in para 1 of Schedule-I of the Act and are as given below:

- (i) water conservation and water harvesting;
- (ii) drought proofing (including afforestation and tree plantation);
- (iii) irrigation canals including micro and minor irrigation works;
- (iv) provision of irrigation facility, horticulture, plantation and land development facilities on land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or to Below Poverty Line Families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojna of the Government of India or that of the small and marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and debt Relief Scheme, 2008;
- (v) renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of tanks;
- (vi) land development;
- (vii) flood control and protection works including drainage in water logged areas;
- (viii) rural connectivity to provide all-weather access;
- (ix) construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra as village knowledge Resource Centre and Gram Panchayat Bhavan at gram panchayat level.
- (x) any other work which may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. In the meeting of Central Employment Guarantee Council held on 18th August, 2009, inclusion of new works as permissible activities under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA was discussed.

(d): Construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra as Village Knowledge Resource Centre and Gram Panchayat Bhawan at Gram Panchayat level has been included as a permissible activity in para 1 of Schedule I of the Act vide Notification dated 11.11.2009.

(e): Yes, Sir. Proposals have been received from a number of State Governments for inclusion of new works as permissible activities under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

(f): Details of works proposed by various States are given in the Annexure.

(g) & (h): Some of the members of the Central Employment Guarantee Council sought clarifications in this regard which were duly provided to them.