

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6006

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2010

IMPACT OF MGNREGS IN RURAL AREAS

Lal Shri Kirodi ;Mithlesh Shri ;Munda Shri Arjun ;Patel Shri R.K. Singh;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Yadav Shri Sharad

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of mandays generated in the country on account of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) since its inception, State-wise;
- (b) whether the quality of life of the labourers has improved as a result of the same;
- (c) if so, the details and extent thereof;
- (d) whether the Government/ professional institutions/private agencies have conducted any study to examine the impact of said scheme in rural areas and on migration of labourers from rural/tribal areas to urban areas in search of jobs;
- (e) if so, the details and the findings thereof; and
- (f) the follow up action, if any, taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a): State-wise details are given in Annexure-I.

(b) to (e): A number of professional institutions including IITs, IIMs and Agricultural Universities have conducted studies to assess the impact of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in rural areas. The studies conducted so far have revealed the following:

(i) Impact on wage rates and poverty: Employment opportunities and wage rates have gone up leading to significant dent in poverty in rural areas. At the National Level, the average wages paid under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA has increased from Rs.75 in 2007-2008 to Rs.90 in 2009-10.

(ii) Impact on Income and Purchasing Power: Increase in wage rate and employment opportunities in rural areas has increased the income of rural households. Earnings per households has increased from Rs.2795 in 2006-07 to Rs.3150 in 2007-08 to Rs.4060 in 2008-09. Increase in income has resulted in increase in ability of rural households to purchase food grains, other essential commodities, and to access education and health care.

(iii) Impact on natural resources: 40.98 lakhs works taken up during 2009-10, mostly (67%) relating to water conservation. Rise in water table in dry and arid regions as large number of water conservation and drought proofing works have been taken up under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

(iv) Impact on distress migration: Distress migration has come down. Instead of the whole family migrating, only the male members go in search of jobs and females alongwith children continue to live in the villages and work under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA

(f): The Ministry has commissioned 20 new studies in January 2010 to assess the impact of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.