

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:204
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2009
EMPLOYMENT UNDER NREGS
Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan;Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that 100 days of employment to an adult member of a rural household in a financial year, under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) is seldom observed in the States;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard to ensure guaranteed employment to the eligible?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. C. P. JOSHI)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement as referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 204 for answer on 17.7.2009

(a) & (b): NREGA is demand based. The Act provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Number of days of employment availed by a household depends on the number of days of employment demanded by the household.

Under NREGA, household is the basic unit for providing employment. As reported by the State Governments, number of households which completed 100 days of employment was 2142728 during 2006-07; 3601926 during 2007-08; 6510373 during 2008-09 and is 110910 during 2009-10 so far.

(c): To ensure guaranteed employment to the households, intensive IEC activities have been undertaken to generate greater awareness among rural households about their legal rights under the Act. It has been emphasized upon the States to employ dedicated staff in the implementing agencies. Salary of such dedicated staff is met out of the administrative expenditure admissible under the Act. The administrative expenditure admissible under the Act was enhanced from 2% to 4 % of the cost of the scheme with effect from 1.4.2007 and has now been further enhanced to 6% from 1.4.2009. States have been directed to ensure that adequate number of works are available to meet the labour demand.