

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:11
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010
GUARANTEED EMPLOYMENT UNDER MGNREGS
Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a difference between the number of families to whom job cards have been issued and the number of families who had demanded employment under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) since its inception;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to analyse this trend; and
- (c) the corrective action taken in the matter and also to provide guaranteed employment to a family under the Scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY 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. 11 for answer on 26.7.2010.

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. A Job card issued to a household under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is valid for a period of 5 years. Job card is issued to a household if one or more adult members of the household apply for it. Mere issuance of a job card, however, does not entitle the household for an employment under the Act. The adult members of the household who volunteer to do un-skilled manual work have to apply for work in writing. A job card holder may exercise his right for 100 days of guaranteed employment under the Act any time during a financial year. Further, while it is mandatory for a job seeker under MGNREGA to have a job card, it is not mandatory for a job card holder to take up employment under the Act in a particular financial year.

(c): 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 deploy adequate dedicated staff in the implementing agencies. Salary of such dedicated staff is met out of the administrative expenditure admissible under the Act. Central Government has enhanced the administrative expenses under the Act from 4% to 6%. States have been directed to ensure that adequate number of works are available to meet the labour demand.