

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3606
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010
FUNDS ALLOCATED UNDER MGNREGS
Saroj Smt. Sushila

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 27.67 per cent of the funds allocated under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) could not be spent during the year 2008-09;
- (b) whether only 48 days employment was provided per person, per family against 100 days employment under MGNREGS during 2008-09;
- (c) whether those persons who were not provided employment have been identified;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to take any action in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the break-up of the funds provided, utilized and unspent balance under the said scheme during the period from the financial years 2006-07 to 2009-10?

Answer

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

(a): Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based. The Act provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of wage employment to every rural household in a year on demand for doing unskilled manual work. A worker may avail the benefit of employment any time during the year subject to a ceiling of 100 days per household per year. Therefore, to meet any sudden rise in labour demand, funds under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA are kept upfront. Funds under the Act are non-lapsable. Un-utilized funds of a financial year are carried over to the next financial year. More funds are released to the State/districts on receipt of a proposal alongwith documents indicating utilisation of atleast 60% of the available resources.

(b): A wage seeker needs to apply in writing for getting employment under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. Number of days of employment availed by a household also depends on the availability of other employment opportunities in the area. Workers are free to avail any other employment opportunities available to them. National average for number of days of employment availed per household in 2008-09 is 48 days.

(c): Workers who apply for work under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, are provided employment as per the provisions of the Act.

(d): Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e): Details are given in Annexure-I.