

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1122

ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010

INCREASING OF WORK-DAYS AND ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Amlabe Shri Narayan Singh;Azad Shri Kirti (Jha);Gorakhnath Shri ;Ju Dev Shri Dilip Singh;Kashyap Shri Virender;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to cover some additional activities/works under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government for increasing the present number of work-days beyond 100 days;
- (d) if so, the details alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon;
- (e) whether physically disabled persons are also covered under MGNREGS; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): The Government has included small and marginal farmers under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA by an amendment made in para 1
- (iv) of the list of permissible activities provided in Schedule-I of the Act. The amendment made is as under:

‘Provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities to land owned by households belonging to the Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes or below poverty line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awaas Yojana of Government of India or that of the small farmers or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debit Relief Scheme, 2008.’

Construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra as Village Knowledge Resource Centre and Gram Panchayat Bhawan at Gram Panchayat level has also been included as a permissible activity in para 1 of Schedule I of the Act vide Notification dated 11-11-2009.

- (c) & (d): Yes, Sir. States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have requested the Union Government for increasing the number of work days beyond 100 days. Proposals received from these States have been examined in the Ministry and have not been acceded to. As per reports received, national average for number of days of employment availed per household was 43 days for 2006-07; 42 days for 2007-08; 48 days for 2008-09 and 54 days for 2009-10. Further, as per Section 3(4) of the Act, the State Government may, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make provisions for securing work to every adult member of a household under a scheme for any period beyond the period guaranteed under the Act. However, the Central liability of financial assistance would be limited to only 100 days of guaranteed employment per household.

- (e) & (f): Yes, Sir. Para 05-05-10 of Operational Guidelines of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA provides that if a disabled person applies for work, work suitable to his/her ability and qualifications will have to be given. This may also be in the form of services that are identified as integral to the programme. Provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and full Participation) Act, 1995 will be kept in view and implemented.