

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5308  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010  
SOCIAL PROTECTION UNDER MGNREGS  
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether there has been much progress in extending social protection through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which also helped in maintaining levels of consumption and poverty according to the report on Global Employment Trends 2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the comments of the Government thereupon?

**Answer**

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

(a)to(c): Independent assessment of MGNREGA made through studies conducted by various institutions and feedback from the field has suggested that MGNREGA has been an instrument for social and economic security. The multiplier effects of the programme include livelihood diversification in rural areas and increase in availability of work. The framework and provisions of the Act also contribute towards the larger objective of generating productive employment, empowering rural women and promoting social equity. Some of the outcomes of the programme are (i) Inclusive growth; (ii) Economic and social women empowerment through equal wages and greater work opportunities; (iii) increase in income of the households; (iv) increase in Agricultural minimum wages and wage earned per day; (v) financial inclusion; and (vi) reduction in distress migration.

The Programme has a high workforce participation of marginalized groups like SC/ST which was 56% in 07-08, 54% in 08-09 and 52% in 2009-10. Women workforce participation has also surpassed the statutory minimum requirement of one third participation. In 2007-08, women participation was 43%, in 2008-09 it was 48% and in 2009-10 it was 49%.