

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2419
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
ACTIVITIES UNDER MGNREGS
Anuragi Shri Ghansyam ;Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the funds allocated under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) are utilised for development of drought and flood-affected areas;
- (b) if so, the amount allocated and utilised by various States during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to construct/develop play-grounds in Gram Panchayats under the Scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the names of the States/districts in the country including Uttar Pradesh where such play-grounds are likely to be constructed/developed under the Scheme, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): The primary objective of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. The Act extends to all rural areas in the country. No separate funds are earmarked for development of drought and flood hit areas under MGNREGA. As employment is provided on demand, no targets for employment are fixed and no State/Union Territory wise upfront allocation is made. The details of expenditure incurred under the Scheme during the last three years and current year as reported by States/Union Territories on Management Information System (MIS) are given in Annexure.

(c)to(e): The focus of activities under MGNREGA for wage employment is laid down in Schedule – I of the Act. The choice of works suggested in the Act addresses causes of chronic poverty like drought, deforestation and soil erosion, so that the process of employment generation is maintained on a sustainable basis and durable assets are created in rural areas by strengthening the natural resource base. Addition of new activities/works in consultation with the State Governments for employment generation under MGNREGA from time to time, is a continuous process. Construction of play grounds in districts as identified by the Central Government for Integrated Action Plan has been included in Schedule I vide notification dated 21.10.2011. Section 16(1) of MGNREGA provides that Gram Panchayats shall be responsible for identification of projects in the Gram Panchayat area to be taken up under the scheme as per the recommendations of the Gram Sabha and Ward Sabhas. Section 13(1) of MGNREGA provides that the Panchayats at district, intermediate and village levels shall be the principal authorities for planning and implementation of the schemes made under the Act.