

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:226
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011
FARM WAGES
Sardinha Shri Francisco

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has impacted farm wages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of farm labourers particularly, in the farming seasons?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a)to(c): Studies conducted by Agro-Economic Research Centres of Ministry of Agriculture in the States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Harayana and Punjab indicate partial impact of MGNREGA on wage level in different regions. MGNREGA has put an upward pressure on wage levels in rural areas in these States.

Guidelines were issued to all State Governments for convergence of MGNREGA with different schemes in Agriculture in order to optimize synergies between MGNREGA and schemes of Ministry of Agriculture.