

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2507
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
STUDY ON MGNREGS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any systematic study on the impact of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) on Indian economy;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to include more works under the scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Government of India has supported institutions to conduct independent assessments of MGNREGA on different aspects of Indian Economy. The findings of such independent studies suggest 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 MGNREGA also contribute towards the larger objective of generating productive employment, empowering rural women and promoting social equity. MGNREGA also has contributed in improvement in ground water, improved agricultural productivity & cropping intensity and reduction in water, agriculture and livelihood vulnerability index.

(c)to(e): Addition of new activities/works in Schedule - I of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in consultation with the State Governments for employment generation under MGNREGA from time to time is a continuous process. Following amendments to para 1 of Schedule I of MGNREG Act have been carried out to enlarge the scope of works and activities that can be taken up:

(i) Irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities to land owned by small farmers or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 (included vide notification dated 22.7.2009).

(ii) Construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra as Village Knowledge Resource Centre and Gram Panchayat Bhawan at Gram Panchayat level (included vide notification dated 11.11.2009).

(iii) Irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities for the beneficiaries under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, (extended vide notification dated 22.9.2011).

(iv) Access to sanitation facilities in convergence with the Total Sanitation Campaign of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (included vide notification dated 30.09.2011)

(v) Construction of play grounds in districts as identified by the central Government for Integrated Action Plan (included vide notification dated 21.10.2011)