

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2040

ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012

LABOUR SCARCITY

Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh;Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias;Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been reports of labour scarcity affecting plantations and agricultural sector due to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to address the issue specially during peak agricultural seasons?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a)to(c): The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage-employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. No such report is available in Ministry of Labour and Employment suggesting that the Act has caused labour scarcity in plantation and agricultural sector. In fact, one of the activities covered under the Act is tree plantation. The Act has resulted in reducing distressed migration from rural to urban areas in some parts of the country.