

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5722
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2012
COVERAGE OF SC ST UNDER MGNREGS
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the coverage of Schedule Castes/Schedule Tribes and Women under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the country including Haryana during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether the coverage of said categories is as per the guidelines laid down under the Scheme; and
- (c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): The details of percentage of participation of SC and ST and women beneficiaries in terms of persondays generated under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) from the 2007-08 onwards during the 11th plan period as reported by the States/UTs are given in Annexure.

(b) & (c): The primary objective of 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 for doing unskilled manual work on demand to be made following a prescribed process. Proviso to para 6 of Schedule-II of MGNREG Act specifies that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work under the Act. MGNREGA does not provide for priority or preference for any other category of persons. The participation of women has been reported as less than one-third in certain States in some years during the 11th plan period. Such States have been advised from time to time in review meetings about the shortfall in women participation under MGNREGA, so that the provisions of the Act are implemented in letter and spirit.