

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:331

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012

EMPLOYMENT UNDER MGNREGS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Venugopal Shri P.;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government has requested the State Governments to prepare contingency plans to intensify the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to meet any shortfall in employment generation in the eventuality of deficit rainfall;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments thereto;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to revise labour budget for current year required to meet the increased demand;
- (d) whether the Union Government has advised the State Government to build water bodies, rain water harvesting, etc. under the Scheme to meet the drinking water requirement locally; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The provisions of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are effected as demand driven Schemes by the State Governments. Being aware of the fact that rainfall has been lower than normal in some parts of the country and that this may lead to an increased demand for employment under MGNREGA, the Union Rural Development Ministry has already written to the Chief Ministers of States to prepare a contingency plan for meeting increased demand for employment under MGNREGA. The States have been assured that in drought like conditions, the Central Government will be open to revision in the Labour Budget for the current financial year to meet the increased demand for employment. The State Governments have also been advised to prepare supplementary shelf of projects to meet increased demand for work with emphasis on water and soil conservation works so as to mitigate the impact of deficient rainfall.

(d) & (e): Para 1B of Schedule I of MGNREG Act as amended from time to time lists the category of works that any scheme formulated by the States under Section 4 of the Act to give effect to its provisions, shall focus upon. A large number of activities/works related to water conservation and irrigation, land development, plantation, environmental protection and conservation, etc. are included in para 1B of Schedule I of the Act and Gram Panchayats in meetings of Gram Sabha and Ward Sabha are to determine the order of priority of works listed in Schedule I of the Act.