

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1011

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012

WAGE DAYS UNDER MGNREGS

Karunakaran Shri P.;Kumar Shri P.;Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the work are not being allowed to undertake for small water channels of small farms belonging to small and marginal farmers and the farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Bihar and other States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government supervises the mechanism in order to undertake the constructions of water channels of small, marginal and STs/SCs farmers;
- (f) whether the Government is considering to give more thrust to sanitation under the scheme; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): Yes sir.

(b): The amendments to Sections 2(f), 6 (1) and 22(1)(a) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) proposed are to address subjectivity in interpretation of the term 'Household' in the Act and to give legal backing to the wage policy.

(c) to (e): The primary objective of MGNREGA is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households, by providing on demand up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every rural household for doing unskilled manual work. Creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor is also an important objective of the Act. Implementation of schemes formulated under Section 4 of MGNREGA is the responsibility of the States/ UTs. Schedule-I of MGNREGA as amended from time to time lists the category of works on which the Schemes formulated by State Governments under Section 4(1) of the Act for giving effect to the provisions of the Act shall focus upon. Irrigation canals including micro and minor irrigation works is a permissible work in Schedule I.

(f) & (g): Rural sanitation related works, such as, individual household latrines (IHHL), school toilet units, anganwadi toilets, solid and liquid waste management have been added to the list of permissible works in Schedule I vide notification dated 4th May 2012. Expenditure upto 20 days of unskilled labour and upto 6 days of semi skilled/ skilled labour can be incurred under MGNREGA for IHHL. However, Gram Panchayats, in meetings of the Gram Sabha and Ward Sabha are to determine the order of priority of works to be taken up.