GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:205
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2012
WOMEN WORKERS UNDER MGNREGS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of women out of the total number of persons provided employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) during the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether women's participation under the Scheme has increased after the advisories issued by the Government in this regard in review meetings;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the details of the States which failed to increase the participation of women workers as laid down in the Act; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)to(e): 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. The participation of women has been reported by States/UTs as about 48% during the last three years in terms of persondays generated. The details of percentage of women participation since the year 2006-2007, are given in Annexure. The coverage of women has been reported as less than one-third in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Mizoram, Nagaland, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh in some years. These 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.