

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1796
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009
EXPANSION OF NREGS
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is committed to protect the interests of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) while expanding the scheme under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof
- (c) the steps taken in this direction so far in each State; and
- (d) if not, the time by which it is likely to be implemented in each State?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Para 1
(iv) of Schedule-I of NREG Act, 2005 as amended from time to time provides as under:

‘Provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities to land owned by households belonging to the Schedule Castes (SCs) and Schedule Tribes (STs) or below poverty line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awaas Yojana of Government of India or that of the small farmers or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debit Relief Scheme, 2008.’

On 1st September, 2009, the State Governments have been requested to give priority to the works on the lands of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Detailed instructions are available on the website (www.nrega.nic.in).

(d): Does not arise.