

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:463
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME
Deora Shri Milind Murl;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to restructure the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has decided the NREGS to be named after Mahatma Gandhi;
- (d) if so, the objective sought to be achieved and details thereof; and
- (e) the success achieved so far by NREGS ?

Answer

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

- (a): There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to restructure NREGS.
 - (b): Does not arise.
 - (c): Yes, Sir. Government of India has decided to insert the words `Mahatama Gandhi` before National Rural Employment Guarantee Act to be renamed as `The Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005`.
 - (d) & (e): The objective of the Act is to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The association of the name of Mahatama Gandhi reinforces NREGA`s thrust towards equity and inclusiveness specially of the deprived groups and socio-economically marginalized communities. As the Act is premised on rural households volunteering to do unskilled manual labour, association of Mahatama Gandhi`s name with it underscores the dignity of labour.
- Under NREGA, 2.10 crore households were provided employment and 90.5 crore persondays generated during 2006-07, 3.39 crore households were provided employment and 143.59 crore persondays generated during 2007-08, 4.51 crore household provided employment and 216.32 crore persondays generated during 2008-09 and 3.52 crore households have been provided employment and 150.02 crore persondays generated during the current year up to October, 2009. The share of SC/ST was 61% and women 40% in total employment generation in 2006-07. Similarly, in 2007-08, the share of SC/ST was 56% and women 43%, in 2008-09, share of SC/ST was 54% and women 48% and in 2009-10 (October, 2009), share of SC/ST was 51% and women 51%. The average wage per personday has risen from Rs.65 in the year 2006-07 to Rs.88 in the current year.