

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:932  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012  
EMPLOYMENT IN DROUGHT AFFECTED AREAS  
Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias;Lal Shri Kirodi

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to appoint officers in the rural areas to promote employment schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of employment provided in drought affected areas under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Statewise;
- (d) whether a decline in employment provided under the Scheme has been registered in the drought affected areas of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) &(b): As per Section 18 of the Act, it is the responsibility of the State Government to make available to the District Programme Coordinator and the Programme Officers necessary staff and technical support as may be necessary for the effective implementation of the Scheme. Permissible administrative expenditure limit has also been enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for the purposes of MGNREGA. To ensure adequate man power and technical support to the district and sub-district levels for implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), the Central Government has suggested that States can deploy core professional staff namely Panchayat Development Officer and Junior Engineer in Gram Panchayats of the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected Districts.

(c) to (e): As per the information received from the states, blocks/talukas of 24 districts in Maharashtra, 16 districts in Gujarat, 5 districts in Rajasthan, 28 districts in Karnataka and 24 districts in Jharkhand have been notified as drought affected by the respective state Governments. The details of employment provided in terms of persondays of employment generated in these drought affected districts in the current year up to October, 2012 and during the previous year 2011-2012 are given in Annexure. 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 taken a decision to provide for additional employment up to 50 days over and above 100 days per household in notified drought affected talukas/blocks in the financial year 2012-13. The State Governments have 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.