

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3163
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013
WORKS UNDER MGNREGS
Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Singh Shri Ratan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made comparative assessment of the funds provided under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the ratio of works undertaken/projects completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the demand for work under MGNREGS is declining; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): As per information available with the Ministry and as reported by the States/UTs, Rs. 2,14,346.80 cr. has been utilised under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) since its inception i.e. 2006-7. Number of works taken up and completed, since inceptions are, 195.05 lakh and 108.45 lakh, respectively. Thus, on an average Rs. 1,09,884 was utilised against a work taken up and Rs.1,97,645 was spent on each completed work since 2006-07.

(c)&(d): No, Madam. MGNREGA is a demand driven wage employment programme. Being a self- selecting wage-employment programme, the increase or the decline in the demand for labour under MGNREGA may arise due to a myriad of factors external to the programme management viz. available of alternative and remunerative employment opportunities outside MGNREGA, rain fall pattern, prevailing unskilled wage rate in rural, semi-urban/urban areas, better connectivity to semi- urban/peri-urban/Urban areas etc. As per the information available with the Ministry, the year 2012-13 witnessed a better performance under the Act than the year 2011-12. The volume of wage-employment grew from 216.34 cr. person-days in 2011-12 to 228.16 cr. person-days in 2012-13. The average person-days per household and women participation rate were 43, 46 person-days and 48 per cent and 52 per cent during 2011-12 and 2012-13, respectively.

To ensure effective implementation of the provisions of the Act, Operational Guidelines have been issued from time to time, and last revised with effect from 01.04.2013. The Guidelines give detailed procedures on all aspects of the programme. The Operational Guidelines, inter alia, require the States to:

- # initiate appropriate IEC campaigns including wall writings for wide dissemination of the provisions of the Act;
- # carry out of door-to-door survey to identify needy and eligible households for registration under MGNREGA;
- # expand scope and coverage of the demand registration system to ensure that demand for work under MGNREGA do not go unregistered;
- # organise Rozgar Divas periodically to capture latent demand under the programme and to disseminate awareness about other provisions of the Act;
- # prepare development plans and shelf of projects by adhering to the timelines as defined in the Guidelines;
- # prepare realistic labour budgets after assessing appropriate quantum and timing of demand for works;
- # adhere to the time schedule for works` execution and monitor asset quality;
- # ensure timely payment of wages to the job seekers;
- # maintain proper financial records;
- # ensure transparency and accountability at each level of programme implementation and rolling out of a robust vigilance and grievance redressal system.