

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3711
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014
SHORTAGE OF AGRICULTURAL LABOUR
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is acute shortage of labourers in farming areas due to the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): No Madam. Studies on the impact of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) have shown that its implementation leads to reduction in distress migration from rural areas and substantial increase in rural wages. Government has initiated steps for better convergence between MGNREGA, agriculture and other development programmes. Operational guidelines of MGNREGA aim to strengthen the synergy between MGNREGA and rural livelihoods, particularly agriculture.