

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:349

ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009

EMPLOYMENT UNDER NREGA

Pratapsinh Shri Chauhan Prabhatsinh;Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of workers registered under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the workers who have been provided employment along with the number of days of their employment during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether certain State Governments have been lagging behind in the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme;and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(DR. C. P. JOSHI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement as referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 349 for answer on 14.12.09

(a): A household is the basic unit under NREGA. State-wise number of households registered and issued job cards during the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (up to October, 09) is given in Annexure-I.

(b): Number of households provided employment and average number of days of employment per household for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (up to October,09) is given in Annexure-II.

(c): Under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), there are no predetermined targets because NREGA is demand based. Employment is provided to a job card holding household when it demands work. Demand for work varies from State to State and also from district to district within a State. Thus, the pace of implementation of NREGA is different in different States. However, States need to pay more attention towards disposal of complaints, execution of works, social audit and timely reporting.

(d): The Ministry has taken the following corrective steps for proper implementation of NREGA:

(i) Permissible administrative expenditure limit has been enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for NREGA, strengthening of management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal and ICT infrastructure.

(ii) Payment through institutional accounts of NREGA workers has been made mandatory to infuse transparency in wage disbursement.

(iii) Instructions have been issued on 7.9.09 directing all States to appoint ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal.

(iv) Social audit: Modifications have been made in the Act on 31.12.08 for laying down the procedures for social audit.

(v) Independent appraisal by professional institutions including IITs and IIMs and Agricultural Universities

(vi) Independent Monitoring by NLM

(vii) Periodic reviews with State Governments.