GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3177 ANSWERED ON:31.07.2014 CONSTRUCTION OF FOODGRAIN GODOWN UNDER MGNREGS Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has revised the list of permissible works under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to include construction of food-grains godowns;

(b) if so, the number of such godowns proposed to be constructed in the country, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the funding pattern between the Union and State Governments fixed thereunder?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) Yes, Madam. The list of works permitted under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Act (MGNREGA) has been expanded in January 2014 and construction of food- grains godowns is included in the list of permissible works.

(b) MGNREGA is a demand-driven wage employment programme and no target on permissible works is fixed at the Central level. As per the provisions made in the Act, the permissible works including construction of food-grains godowns are to be identified, planned and prioritised by the Panchayat authorities concerned.

(c) Funding pattern under MGNREGA is governed by the provisions of Section 22 of the Act. The Central Government bears the entire expenditure on payment of wages. The cost of material component is shared between the Centre and States on 75:25 basis. The Central Government shares the entire administrative cost of the programme which is now fixed at 6% of the total wage and material expenses.