

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5176
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014
PROJECTS UNDER MGNREGS
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the State Governments are facing several problems in implementing the projects under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) due to the rigid nature of works to be taken up under the Scheme;
- (b) if so, the issues raised by the State Governments;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to relax the norms regarding selection of works under the Scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has received a proposal from Government of Kerala regarding inclusion of new areas of works under MGNREGS like paddy cultivation works, dairying etc.; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) There have been a number of suggestions from various States for including more works in the Schedule-I of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). These have been examined and the Central Government made modifications in the list of permissible works under MGNREGA and notified along with works in Para 4, Schedule-I of MGNREGA, 2005 on 03.01.2014. Details of permissible works under MGNREGA are at Annexure.

(e) & (f) The Ministry has received proposals from the Government of Kerala seeking inclusion of dairying, coconut husk collection mechanism, spinning of coiryarn, paddy cultivation, handloom works in the list of permissible activities under MGNREGA. Since the proposed activities are repetitive in nature and will not lead to creation of assets of prescribed quality and durability, the proposals submitted by the Government of Kerala have not been accepted.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5176 for 14.08.2014.

I. Category A: PUBLIC WORKS RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT:

(i) Water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment and improve groundwater like under ground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams, check dams with special focus on recharging ground water including drinking water sources; (ii) Watershed management works such as contour trenches, terracing, contour bunds, boulder checks, gabion structures and spring shed development resulting in a comprehensive treatment of a watershed; (iii) Micro and minor irrigation works and creation, renovation and maintenance of irrigation canals and drains; (iv) Renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of irrigation tanks and other water bodies; (v) Afforestation, tree plantation and horticulture in common and forest lands, road margins, canal bunds, tank foreshores and coastal belts duly providing right to usufruct to the households covered in Paragraph 5; and (vi) Land development works in common land.

II. Category B: COMMUNITY ASSETS OR INDIVIDUAL ASSETS FOR VULNERABLE SECTIONS (ONLY FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN PARAGRAPH 5):

(i) Improving productivity of lands of households specified in Paragraph 5 through land development and by providing suitable infrastructure for irrigation including dug wells, farm ponds and other water harvesting structures; (ii) Improving livelihoods through horticulture, sericulture, plantation, and farm forestry; (iii) Development of fallow or waste lands of households defined in Paragraph 5 to bring it under cultivation; (iv) Unskilled wage component in construction of houses sanctioned under the Indira Awaas Yojana or such other State or Central Government Scheme; (v) Creating infrastructure for promotion of livestock such as, poultry shelter, goat shelter, piggery shelter, cattle shelter and fodder troughs for cattle; and (vi) Creating infrastructure for promotion of fisheries such as, fish drying yards, storage facilities, and promotion of fisheries in seasonal water bodies on public land;

III. Category C: COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING FOR NRLM COMPLIANT SELF HELP GROUPS:

(i) Works for promoting agricultural productivity by creating durable infrastructure required for bio-fertilizers and post-harvest facilities including pucca storage facilities for agricultural produce; and
(ii) Common work-sheds for livelihood activities of self-help groups.

IV. Category D: RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

- (i) Rural sanitation related works, such as, individual household latrines, school toilet units, Anganwadi toilets either independently or in convergence with schemes of other Government Departments to achieve 'open defecation free' status. and solid and liquid waste management as per prescribed norms
- (ii) Providing all-weather rural road connectivity to unconnected villages and to connect identified rural production centres to the existing pucca road network; and construction of pucca internal roads or streets including side drains and culverts within a village;
- (iii) Construction of play fields;
- (iv) Works for improving disaster preparedness or restoration of roads or restoration of other essential public infrastructure including flood control and protection works, providing drainage in water logged areas, deepening and repairing of flood channels, chaur renovation, construction of storm water drains for coastal protection; (v) Construction of buildings for Gram Panchayats, women self-help groups' federations, cyclone shelters, Anganwadi centres, village haats and crematoria at the village or block level.
- (vi) Construction of Food Grain Storage Structures for implementing the provisions of The National Food Security Act 2013 (20 of 2013);
- (vii) Production of building material required for construction works under the Act as a part of the estimate of such construction works.
- (viii) Maintenance of rural public assets created under the Act; and
- (ix) any other work which may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government in this regard.