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Title: Need to include Alappuzha district in Kerala under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme - laid.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is extended to further 330 district of various states and an allocation of 12,000 crores is made for the proper implementation of the programme in the General Budget for the year 2007-08. The scheme envisages securing the livelihood of people in rural areas by guaranteeing 100days of employment in a financial year to a rural household.

Alappuzha district of Kerala state has a high rate of livelihood crisis and higher incidences of poverty. Bulk of the district fall in the coastal area and has highest density of population in the state. Alappuzha district is one which is badly affected by agrarian crisis. The decline in the per capita income of the workers and the marginal self employment in agriculture, coir, and fisheries have resulted in accentuation of poverty as the bulk of poor are employed in these sectors. Therefore, Alappuzha district also may be included and declared in the NREGS for the year 2007-08 which will be a great help to the thousands of rural unemployed in the district.