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Title: Need to amend the guidelines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to permit the beneficiaries available for agricultural work.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL) : The Union Government brought a Bill during the 14th Lok Sabha period regarding the most radical scheme of NAREGA. This was modified as Mahatma Gandhi National employment Guarantee Act. The main aim of this scheme is to provide employment opportunities of 100 days in a year per family in the rural area. It is providing opportunities to the landless poor people to earn their livelihood during non-agricultural days. Now the works are taken in the common places for constructing roads, for digging canals and water bodies. As the Government is offering more than Rs 100/- per day per work it is difficult for the agriculturist to get workers to work in their lands. Hence the Government should modify the rules so that workers can be employed in private lands the farmers who is getting labourers through this scheme may be asked to pay half of the wages and the remaining half of the amount may be cleared by gram panchayats. If it is implemented, one family can get 200 days of employment - half by the Government and half by agriculturists. These workers can be employed for the production of crops.