

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:404

ANSWERED ON:12.05.2006

IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT

Yadav Shri Baleshwar;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has initiated implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of the districts covered and the criteria fixed for their selection, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the number of rural households covered and the number of rural people given employment under it so far, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the wages and type of jobs being provided to them;
- (e) the year-wise funds provided and utilized since inception of the Act, State/UT wise;
- (f) the details and the nature of complaints/violations noticed under the Act alongwith the action taken thereon, if any; and
- (g) the steps taken to bring all States/UTs under the Act and to ensure transparency and accountability at all levels in its implementation?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (g) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.404 to be answered on 12.5.2006

(a) & (b) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been launched in the identified 200 districts. State-wise number of districts is at column 3 of Annexure-I. Out of the 200 districts identified for implementation of NREGA in the first phase, 150 districts are those districts which had been earlier identified for NFFWP and 50 new districts have been identified by the Planning Commission. These 150 districts were selected on the basis of an exercise conducted by the Planning Commission on the basis of three parameters SC/ST population, inverse of agricultural productivity per worker and inverse of agricultural wage rate. At least one district was selected from each State except Goa. For North Eastern States except Assam where data on above parameters was not available, districts were selected out of RSVY districts. Out of the 50 new districts selected, 45 districts are those districts which were covered under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) but not included in NFFWP. 5 districts have been identified by the Planning Commission to assess the impact of the programme in certain specific backgrounds.

(c) A statement giving details of the households registered under the Act and number of people who have been provided employment is at Annexure-II.

(d) The type of works which can be taken up under the Act have been given in Para (1) of Schedule-1 of the Act. Under the NREG Act, 100 days of wage employment is guaranteed only for the unskilled manual work. In terms of para 6(2) of the Act until such time a wage rate is fixed by the Central Government, the minimum wages fixed by the State Government under section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers, shall be the wage rate under NREGA.

(e) Funds provided to the States for implementation of the Act during the year 2005- 2006 and 2006-2007 are given in column 4 and 5 of Annexure-I.

(f) Complaints have been received regarding irregularities in the implementation of the Act in States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. In most of the complaints it had been indicated by the complainant that the States are implementing the Act as State schemes and the title of NREG Act has been totally omitted in the various documents printed for the implementation of the Act. Consequently, Ministry of Rural Development had issued instructions to all the States to print NREG Act on all the documents printed for its implementation. In a complaint received from Madhya Pradesh it had been mentioned that job cards are being issued to elite sections of society. The complaint has been referred to the State Government for examination.

(g) In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Act, necessary provisions have been made in the Act itself by providing for monitoring of Act at each level and also for Social Audit at the Gram Sabha level. Chapter 11 of Central Guidelines enlists the steps to be taken by the States and implementing agencies to ensure the transparency and accountability. An MIS has been prepared by Ministry of Rural Development and provided to all the States for furnishing of the information on a

continuous basis to the Central Government. NREGA Guidelines also provide for constitution of local vigilance and monitoring committees of beneficiaries as well as payment of wages through banks and post offices wherever practicable.