

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:199  
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2007  
WOMEN BENEFICIARIES UNDER NREGS  
Senthil Dr. Raman

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

- (a) whether the women workforce is very less than the men beneficiaries under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme(NREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any complaint has been received from women workers about their numbers in the workforce;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the number of women beneficiaries under the NREGS?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.199 to be answered on 24.08.2007

(a) & (b) No, Sir. Para 6 of Schedule II of the NREG Act, 2005 provides that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work under this Act. During the year 2006-07, a total of 90.51 crore persondays of employment was generated out of which 36.79 crore(40.65%) were for women. During 2007-08, out of a total of 29.8 crore persondays of employment generated up till June 2007, 14.53 crore (48.76%) have been for women. Thus, the percentage of women beneficiary under NREGA has been much higher than provided under the Act.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) At present, the percentage of women beneficiaries under NREGA is already much higher than provided under the Act.