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Title: Need to ensure basic minimum facilities to the beneficiaries of the Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the country.

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): The MGNREGA was introduced by the Union Government which has assured 100 days of job guarantee at a minimum of Rs. 160 per day to 53 million households and developing rural infrastructure in the country.

There are about 70,000 beneficiaries in my constituency alone under the MGNREGA and millions across the country. Beyond the normal 100 days, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries are jobless and unable to meet their family requirements.

It is of utmost importance for the Government to look after these poor people to meet their basic minimum needs. It is suggested that such MGNREGA beneficiaries should be provided at a subsidized rate in rice, wheat and cereals being purchased through BPL cards.

Similarly most of the people covered under the MGNREGA are shelter less. So is the case especially with elderly women due to the changed economic and social scenario.

I take this opportunity to request the Government that they should ensure that such persons are adequately protected and that initiatives should be taken to ensure that both these category of persons should possess at least 5 cents of land and a small dwelling and provide adequate healthcare.