

Ministry of Rural Development has also notified a minimum wage rate under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) subject to ceiling of Rs. 100/- per day by the Centre where BPL families are also covered.

Problem of agricultural labour in short supply

‡2104. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the problem of getting agricultural labourers for agricultural work is arising in rural areas after the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would try to find out the facts of this problem by conducting a survey through any institutions in case no such information has been received; and

(d) the measures being taken by Government to solve the problem of shortage of agricultural labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No reference has been received in the Ministry indicating difficulty in getting labourers for agricultural work after the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

NLUP in Mizoram

2105. SHRI LALHMING LIANA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposal received from the State Government of Mizoram for implementation of its flagship programme "New Land Use Policy" (NLUP);

(b) whether Government has approved Rs. 2416 crores for implementation of NLUP in Mizoram;

(c) if so, whether the fund has been released; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the proposed date of release of fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) With the objective of undertaking a comprehensive programme for inclusive development, the Government of Mizoram has submitted a revised proposal to take effective steps for proper management of two resources viz. land and water under the New Land Use Policy (NLUP). The basic objective of the programme is comprehensive and integrated development for

‡ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

inclusive growth by weaning away farmers from unsustainable jhumming practices and helping them to adopt sustainable on farm and off farm economic activities; keeping 60% of Mizoram's total area under rain forest cover; improving the income levels of urban and rural poor through sustainable farming activities, micro enterprises and cottage industries; introducing commercial farming; creating food security for all and restoration of ecological balance.

The programme targets to benefit 1,20,000 families, over 5 years for various livelihood options at a total cost of Rs.2,526.99 crores. The sectors included are agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, fisheries, animal husbandry, soil and water conservation, micro-enterprises, handloom and forestry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Not applicable in view of reply to (b) above.

(d) The proposal is still under examination. After approval of the programme, the funds will be released starting from the financial year 2010-11.

PMGSY in Kerala

2106. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) work in Kerala are progressing at snail's speed due to various constraints;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of works sanctioned and pending for consideration with the period of their pendency;

(d) whether the State Government of Kerala have requested for relaxation of PMGSY norms; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The progress of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in Kerala is relatively slow. Out of 953 road works sanctioned, the number of roads works completed upto January, 2010 is 455. Some of the reasons for slow progress of PMGSY in the State are as follows:-

(i) weak institutional structure at the State and District levels;

(ii) non-availability of technical officers at senior levels for supervision and professional implementation of the programme;

(iii) non-availability of land for proper geometrics; and

(iv) non-availability of local suitable soil along with the alignment of proposed road are the other factors responsible for slow process.

(c) The details of roads sanctioned under PMGSY for the State of Kerala is as under:-

Value of projects sanctioned	-	718.74 crore
No. of roads works sanctioned	-	953
Length sanctioned	-	2089.03 km.