

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) NREGA has been launched in rural areas of the country in a phased manner. In its first phase, the Act was implemented in 200 identified districts with effect from 2.2.2006. Out of the 200 districts selected for the first phase, 150 districts were those districts where National Food For Work Programme was in operation and these districts had a higher SC/ST population. The Act was subsequently launched in 130 districts during 2007-08 and has been extended to all the remaining rural areas in the country from 1.4.2008. Participation of beneficiaries under NREGA belonging to SC and ST category is as under:—

Category	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Scheduled Castes	25%	27%	29%	30%
Scheduled Tribes	36%	29%	25%	22%

(c) and (d) Under NREG Act, there is no special provision for reasonable participation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the works. However, sub-para (iv) of para 1 of Schedule-I of the Act, as amended from time to time, provides works on the individual lands of certain categories of beneficiaries. The provision is as under:—

“Provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities to land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or below poverty line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana of Government of India or that of the small farmers or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008.”

Land reforms

142. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee appointed by Government has found fault with entire process of land reforms, particularly dubious role of officialdom and calls for revisiting land ceiling limits and that too with retrospective effect;

(b) if so, what are other main recommendations by the committee;

(c) whether Government has considered their suggestions; and

(d) if so, by what time the process of land reforms is likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) to (d) The “Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms” constituted under the chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development to look into the unfinished task in land reforms has submitted its report. The Committee has, *inter alia*, made recommendations on land ceiling. As per the terms of reference of the Committee, the report of the Committee is to be placed before the ‘National Council for Land Reforms’ constituted under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister for its consideration and directions. However, it has been decided that the recommendations of the Committee may be examined by an appropriate

Committee of Secretaries (CoS) before they are placed for consideration of the “National Council for Land Reforms”. Accordingly, the Cabinet Secretariat has been requested to constitute the Committee of Secretaries for the purpose.

Enhancing the amount for building houses under IAY

143. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 25,000/- is made available to a Below Poverty Line (BPL) family for a house under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY);
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that in today's inflationary times, it is impossible to construct a house within Rs. 25000/-;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to enhance the amount of Rs. 25000/- to Rs. 50000/-;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (f) No, Sir. The unit assistance under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) has since been enhanced *w.e.f.* 1.4.2008 from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 35,000/- in the plain areas and from Rs. 27,500/- to Rs. 38,500/- in hilly/difficult areas. In addition, the Reserve Bank of India has been advised by the Ministry of Finance to include IAY houses under the Differential Rate of Interests (DRI) scheme for lending upto Rs. 20,000/- per housing unit, at an interest rate of 4%.

Target of IAY

144. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets set for providing shelters under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) since last three years, State-wise;
- (b) how far these targets have been achieved;
- (c) the percentage of women benefited by this programme, State-wise; and
- (d) how far this programme has been successful in tribal areas, especially in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Details showing the State-wise number of houses targeted, houses constructed and the percentage of women benefited under Indira Awaas Yojana during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (d) The overall performance of IAY in the country including tribal areas and Jharkhand is satisfactory. During the last three years, 1.59 lakh houses were constructed in Jharkhand against the physical target for construction of 1.38 lakh houses.