

(c) to (f) For implementation of PMGSY the State is considered as a Unit and funds are released to the State and not district-wise (except additional funds to be utilized in Integrated Action Plan covered districts). During current financial year funds amounting to Rs.695.73 crore have been released to State till January, 2011.

Revision of wage rates under MGNREGS

136. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has revised the wage rates under MGNREGS;
- (b) if so, whether the revised rates are at par with minimum agricultural wage rates in some States like Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) if not, what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Section 6 of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA provides for wage rate payable under the Act. In accordance with Section 6(1) of the Act, the Central Government notified the wage rate under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in respect of all States and Union Territories with effect from 1.1.2009 whereby the wages under the Act got de-linked with the Minimum Wages Act. *Vide* notification dated 14.1.2011, the Government has revised the wages for unskilled manual workers under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA by indexing the notified wage rate to the Consumer Price Index for agricultural labour.

Working group on MGNREGS wages

137. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the working group on wages demanded that Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) wages should be linked to inflation as well as the Minimum Wages Act, 1948;
- (b) whether the working group has also suggested effective grievance redressal mechanisms for those who are working under MGNREGS; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government in this regard?