(i) Due to renovation of ponds and use of canals, crop yields have improved.

(ii) Increase in the forest area reported in some districts covered in the studies, like Chitradurga, Kalahandi, Lalitpur West Medinipur and Bankura.

(iii) Substantial increase in the market wage rates of agricultural and non agricultural labourers.

(iv) Decline in incidence of out-migration.

(c) MGNREG Act provides for a legal guarantee for upto 100 days of wage employment to every rural household in every financial year for doing unskilled manual work on demand. The Act provides that work has to be provided to an applicant within 15 days of the demand failing which unemployment allowance becomes payable.

**Misplacement of files relating to various schemes under MGNREGA**

†1078. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several files related to various programmes being run under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in Orissa are missing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it is impacting the ongoing C.B.I. investigation in the State; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No such information has been reported to the Ministry so far.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such report has been received by the Ministry so far.

(d) Does not arise.

**Proposal for creation of Land Acquisition Dispute Settlement Authority**

1079. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any requests from certain quarters/State Governments for setting up of a Land Acquisition Dispute Settlement Authority for speedy resolution of disputes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) and (b) A draft Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2011 has been prepared which has been put in the public domain on July 29th, 2011 for discussion. It includes Establishment of Land Acquisition and Resettlement Dispute Settlement Authority for States and Centre. The State Governments and Ministries/Departments of Government of India have been requested to send their comments and suggestions on the draft Bill.

**Payment of wages through banks under rural development schemes**

1080. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of males and females engaged under rural development schemes, district-wise, in Andhra Pradesh for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010;

(b) the total number of officials suspended and facing various punishments in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise, for their corrupt activities with regards to implementation of rural development schemes during 2008, 2009 and 2010;

(c) whether wages to all labourers are paid regularly and exclusively through their personal accounts of their banks, in every district of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the details of labourers paid under banking and labourers not paid through banking system, during 2008, 2009 and 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing through the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations the major wage employment programme namely, Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in rural areas of all the States including Andhra Pradesh. A household is the basic unit of employment under MGNERGA. District-wise details of total number of household provided employment and total persondays of employment generated in Andhra Pradesh under MGNERGA during the last three years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development does not maintain information/data regarding the number of officials suspended and facing various punishment in Andhra Pradesh for their corrupt activities with regard to implementation of rural development schemes.

(c) Payment of wages has been made mandatory through workers' accounts in Post Offices/Banks by making an amendment in Para-31 of Schedule-II of the Act (Notification dated 19.02.2008).

(c) District-wise details of number of Bank account/Post Office Account opened and amount of wages disbursed through these accounts in Andhra Pradesh during 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 are given at Statement-II (A to C).