

- (d) whether these expenses would substantially impact the fiscal deficit; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the proposed action plan to mitigate this impact?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The provisions of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are effected as demand driven Schemes by the State Governments. Being aware of the fact that rainfall has been lower than normal in some parts of the country and that this may lead to an increased demand for employment under MGNREGA, the Union Rural Development Ministry has already written to the Chief Ministers of States to prepare a contingency plan for meeting increased demand for employment under MGNREGA. The States have been assured that in drought like conditions, the Central Government will be open to revision in the Labour Budget for the current financial year to meet the increased demand for employment. The State Governments have also been advised to prepare supplementary shelf of projects to meet increased demand for work with emphasis on water and soil conservation works so as to mitigate the impact of deficient rainfall. For this purpose, the Ministry has allowed funding the State Governments in accordance with the provisions of Section 22 of MGNREGA for providing up to 50 days of additional employment under MGNREGA in the financial year 2012-13 to households registered in drought notified Talukas/ Blocks.

(c) The MGNREGA is a demand driven programme and no earmarking of funds is made. So far, no claim towards expenditure on the additional person-days over and above 100 days have been received from the States/UTs, based on which central share of funds would be provided.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Implementation of PMGSY in Goa

434. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is being implemented in Goa;

- (b) if so, the targets achieved under the scheme since its implementation;
- (c) the financial assistance received by the State, so far; and
- (d) the connectivity achieved, if any, village-wise?

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

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) since the year 2000. Under the Scheme, as per the information last furnished by the State, 72 road works measuring length of 158.70 km have been completed.

(c) Under PMGSY, an amount of Rs. 10 crore has been released to Goa.

(d) The unit for the programme is a Habitation and not a Revenue Village. Project proposals for providing connectivity for 20 habitations have been cleared by the Ministry and as per the information last furnished by the State, 2 habitations have been connected.

Inclusion of agriculture under MGNREGA

435. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to include agriculture within the ambit of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) The provisions in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are effected through Schemes formulated by States under Section 4(1) of the Act. The Schemes made by the States are required to provide for the minimum features specified in Schedule I of the Act for which guidelines are issued by the Central Government. Schedule-I of MGNREGA as amended from time to time lists the category of works that any Scheme prepared by a State Government under Section 4 (1) of MGNREG Act shall focus upon. The list of activities at present included in Schedule-I of the Act is given in Statement (*See below*). With the objective of expanding and deepening the positive synergy between MGNREGA and agriculture, especially in the context of