

1	2	3	4	5	6
28	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	143.19	2.96	15.72	0.55
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR
31	Goa	114.65	0.00	20.83	0.00
32	Lakshadweep	18.46	87.36	4.09	13.50
33	Puducherry	1146.02	12.40	358.77	0.00
34	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR
TOTAL		940877.89	814108.03	296478.98	198654.30

**Impact of MGNREGA on improving ground water level**

123. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 80 per cent of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) works related to water resources had a significant impact on improving ground water levels, increasing water available for irrigation and enhancing drinking water availability;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it would be replicated in Maharashtra in view of acute scarcity of drinking water; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Apart from providing wage employment on demand, creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor are also important objectives of the Act. Schedule-I of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act list the category of works on which the schemes formulated by State Governments under Section 4(1) of the Act shall focus upon. These primarily include water harvesting and irrigation, flood

control and protection, land development, plantation, environmental protection and conservation, horticulture, livestock, water and soil conservation works, drought proofing, afforestation etc. Since inception of MGNREGA, about 52% of the works taken up were for works relating to Water conservation. Micro-level studies indicate that the water conservation structures, desilting of traditional water bodies, plantations and other works taken up under MGNREGA, have improved water percolation and helped recharge groundwater. This has also led to a rise in groundwater levels and water availability.

(c) and (d) 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. Panchayats have been given a pivotal role in the planning and implementation of projects under MGNREGA. Section 16(1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provides that Gram Panchayats shall be responsible for identification of projects in the Gram Panchayat area to be taken up under the scheme as per the recommendations of the Gram Sabhas and Ward Sabhas. Section 13(1) of MGNREGA provides that the Panchayats at district, intermediate and village levels shall be the principal authorities for planning and implementation of the schemes made under the Act. Hence, it would be the prerogative of the States including Maharashtra to decide on the nature of works to be taken up by them depending on their order of priority.

#### **Projects under SGSY**

124. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects/programmes being implemented under the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) across the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of new project proposals received from various State Governments and the status of these proposals, State-wise;

(c) the total funds allocated for these projects, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to make the SGSY more result oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT