

decline in the demand for labour under MGNREGA may arise due to a myriad of factors external to the programme management viz. available of alternative and remunerative employment opportunities outside MGNREGA, rainfall pattern, prevailing unskilled wage rate in rural, semi-urban/urban areas, better connectivity to semi-urban/peri-urban/urban areas etc.

#### **Expenditure on MGNREGA in Rajasthan**

†731. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of funds being spent everyday in Rajasthan under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and the number of people being given employment as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): As reported by the State Government of Rajasthan, during the financial year 2012-13, 2203.03 lakh persondays have been generated by providing employment to 42.17 lakh households. The total fund utilised during the same period was Rs. 326178.83 lakh. Therefore, on an average Rs. 893.64 lakh has been spent per day under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in Rajasthan. In the financial year 2013-14 (as on 07.08.2013), the reported average expenditure per day has been Rs. 783.23 lakh.

#### **Inclusion of region specific works/handicrafts under MGNREGA**

732. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would come forward to include region specific works/handicraft works/artisan works within the ambit of Section 4(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment guarantee Act (MGNREGA);

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received by Government in this regard and the details of the work included, so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Section 4(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi National

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.