

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 121
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2015

TRAINING TO BAREFOOT TECHNICIANS UNDER MGNREGA

121. DR. CHANDAN MITRA :

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to train barefoot technicians (BFTs) for supervising works under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to ensure creation of quality and sustainable assets under the Scheme especially in the most backward blocks across the country;

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a)&(b): The Ministry of Rural Development has initiated process of training Barefoot Technicians in 4 pilot States viz. Rajasthan, Kerala, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. 65 Trainers from the State Department, Civil Society Organisations and Project Implementing Agencies are undergoing a training of Trainers at National Institute of Rural Development from 20-30th November 2015.

The modules for the training have been co-developed by the International Labour Organisation and are available on the Ministry's website. The training for batches of Barefoot Technicians will start in their respective State Institute of Rural Development by 15th December 2015. The Project will be extended to other States.

(c): The fresh steps taken by the Government to ensure creation of quality and sustainable assets under MGNREGS, especially in most backward blocks across the country are as follows:

- i. Intensive Participatory Planning Exercise (IPPE)/ Mission Antyodaya by the Block Resource Teams trained by the Ministry is being carried out in all the backward blocks, so that in the annual labour budget & shelf of projects, being prepared for the year 2016-17, assets of durable & productive nature to generate lively hood are identified in the area.
- ii. Para 4(2) of Schedule-1, MGNREGA amended recently that, "District Programme Coordinator shall ensure that at least 60% of works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water & trees".
- iii. For more clarity, vide Ministry Circular No. J-11017/41/2012-MGNREGA (UN) (Pt II) dated 17th September, 2014, "clarification on MGNREGA works directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water & trees" have been issued.

- iv. 'SAMARTHYA' Technical Training Manual (MGNREGA) has been prepared by the Ministry & imparted technical training to 260 members of State Technical Resource Teams (STRTs) of 31 States/ UTs from 23rd March, 2015 to 11th September, 2015. STRTs are imparting technical training to District & Block Technical Resource Teams with the target to train all the engineers & technical persons implementing MGNREGS.
- v. In 207 backward blocks, Cluster Facilitation Teams have been created who are working in the blocks for creation of assets of good quality & durable nature.
