

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 329
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.07.2019

INTERLINKING OF MGNREGS WITH AGRICULTURE SECTOR

*329. SHRI KOMATI REDDY VENKAT REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to interlink the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) with Agriculture Sector in order to ensure proper implementation of the scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal from any State Government requesting interlinking of the MGNREGS with Agriculture Sector to achieve the desired results;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the stand of the Government on such proposal?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 329 for 16.07.2019

(a) & (b): The Schedule-I of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) lays down that the District Programme Coordinator shall ensure that at least 60% of the 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 and trees. There are 260 works which are permissible under MGNREGA of which 164 works relate to agriculture and allied activities. A large number of works is for improvement of productivity of land through land development, plantation, vermi-composting, food grain storage, bunding, dug-well etc.

(c) & (d): The State of Telangana has requested for integration of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) with agriculture sector to help the farmers to promote their agricultural activities.

(e): MGNREGA already lays emphasis that atleast 60% of works at district level in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to Agriculture and Allied Activities which include works related to water security like construction of farm ponds, wells, earthen check dam, field channels and other water harvesting structures. MGNREGS is for providing a fall back option for livelihood security to the rural poor and is not a regular employment scheme. The Act provides that works which are non-tangible, not measurable and repetitive such as removing grass, pebbles, agricultural operations shall not be taken up.
