



Message from His Excellency the Governor of Orissa Shri Rameshwar Thakur

The Government of India passed the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 on September 2005. The Act gives legal guarantee of a hundred days of wage employment in a financial year to adult members of a rural household who demand employment and are willing to do unskilled manual work.

The Objective of the Act is to enhance the livelihood security of the people in rural areas by generating wage employment through works that develop the infrastructure base of that area. The choice of works suggested addresses causes of chronic poverty like drought, deforestation, soil erosion. Effectively implemented, the employment generated under the Act has the potential to transform the geography of poverty.

The Act confers entitlements upon people and puts their demand center-stage. For people to know their Rights under the Act, it will be necessary that Communication and Publicity is ensured so that information about the Act and the Employment Guarantee Scheme is widely disseminated, specially in local languages.

The critical aspects of the Act like Registration, Application for work, entitlements of workers, social audit, grievance redressal, roles of different agencies must be communicated in clear and simple language.

The effectiveness of such a communication process would be evident in the extent to which people who need work under this Act come forth and register, local communities are actively involved in selecting works monitoring and evaluating their execution, workers receive their due entitlements.

I am happy to know that Panchayati Raj Department is taking all necessary steps so that this legislation becomes people's act.