GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3360 ANSWERED ON:16.03.2000 MISUTILISATION OF FUNDS AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by his Ministry in regard to misutilisation and diversion of funds allocated to States under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the action taken on these complaints ;

(c) whether Zila Parishads and District Rural Development Agencies are not keeping a watch on the activities of the Gram Pradhan or Sarpanches;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a committee of officers to look into the work being done under JRY; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA)

(a) & (b): The complaints are immediately forwarded to the concerned State Governments for enquiry and taking appropriate corrective/remedial action wherever any irregularity is noticed. The number of complaints received by this Ministry in regard to misutilisation and diversion of funds allocated to States under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during the last three years, State-wise are as under:

Year 1997-98 1998-99	Name of the State/UT Bihar Bihar	No. of complaints	01 06
Rajasthan Madhya Pradesh	01		
Orissa	02		
Uttar Pradesh 1999-2000 Bihar	01 Orissa 01		01

(c): The Centre has not received any specific complaint in this regard. As per JRY guidelines, the program was constantly monitored by the State Governments. Officers at the State Headquarters, District, Sub-division and Block level closely monitored all aspects of the program through visits to the work sites. The State Level-Coordination Committee for Rural Development in each State discussed and reviewed the progress of implementation of the rural development schemes, including JRY. Monitoring and Vigilance Committees had been set up at the State, district and block level in which elected representatives of the people had also been associated. Periodic review meetings with State Secretaries in charge of rural development and conferences of Project Directors of DRDAs were held to review the progress of implementation of the Scheme.

(d) & (e): Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has been restructured, streamlined and renamed as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana(JGSY) w.e.f. 01.4.1999. The primary objective of JGSY is creation of need based infrastructure facilities in rural areas. Under the new programme also officers at the district, sub-division and block levels are required to monitor the programme through visits to work sites in the interior areas. The district authorities are authorised to seize the accounts of the Gram Panchayats till a proper enquiry is completed in case of misappropriation/misutilisation of JGSY funds.