GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1657 ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010 DIFFICULTIES FACED IN IMPLEMENTATION OF MGNREGS Singh Shri Radha Mohan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that difficulties are being faced in implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) due to its failure in clearing the social audit;

(b) if so, the measures being taken to streamline the process; and

(c) the time by which a transparent policy is likely to be adopted to benefit the youths/citizens of rural areas in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a) to (c): Section 17(2) of MGNREGA provides that Gram Sabha shall conduct regular social audits of all the projects taken up under the Scheme. Accordingly, the Ministry has accorded utmost importance to the organization of Social Audits by the Gram Panchayats and issued instructions to the States to make necessary arrangements for the purpose. Modifications have been made in para 13 of Schedule-I of the Act to provide for procedures on conducting social audits. The Ministry has issued instructions to the State Governments for enforcement of the new social audit provisions under NREGA. All States have been directed to put up their district wise social audit calendar on the NREGA web site and conduct regular social audit of the projects taken up under the Act. As per reports available, 573 districts out of a total of 620 districts have put up their social audit calendar on the web site and 2.50 lakh social audits have been conducted in 1.94 lakh Gram Panchayats.