GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1782 ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010 HIGH RANKING STATES UNDER MGNREGS Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of States scoring high percentage of mandays in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and securing first to fifth position in all India ranking during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the name of the high ranking States in respect of quality of works and also completion of projects under MGNREGS during the said period;
- (c) whether the placement of first installment of funds from the Government got delayed for the year 2009-10 in certain States including Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expedite the completion of projects and improve the quality of works; and
- (e) whether the Government has separate shelf of projects for women workers under the MGNREGS and if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposed action in the matter?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based. The Act provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of employment in a Financial Year to every rural household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. Number of days of employment provided to a household depends upon the number of days of employment demanded by it. There are no predetermined targets under the Act and hence, States are not ranked on the basis of percentage of mandays, quality of works and completion of projects alone. The Government has introduced district level Award for Excellence in Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Administration from 2008-09. Under this scheme, 22 districts of various States were awarded for their overall performance in NREGA implementation during the year 2007-08 and 25 districts have been awarded for their performance during 2008-09.
- (c): The first installment of funds under NREGA for 2009-10 was released to those districts which had communicated their Opening Balance as on 1.4.2009 and settled their accounts up to 2007-08 through Utilisation Certificate and Audit Report. Rs. 1112.59 crore were released to various district of Uttar Pradesh on 29.4.09. More funds were released to the districts as and when they had met the requirements for release of funds. During 2009-10, the State Government of UP set up a State Fund and thereafter Rs. 2491.85 crore have been released in the State Fund. So far Rs.4726.87 crore have been released to Uttar Pradesh under MGNREGA. Funds to Andhra Pradesh during 2009-10 have been released in the State Fund set up by the State Government. Rs.914.37 crore had been released in the State Fund of Andhra Pradesh on 28-04-2009. More funds have been released in subsequent installments and Rs.3302.27 crore have so far been released to the State in its State Fund.
- (d): With a view to expedite completion of projects and improving the quality of works under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the following steps have been taken.
- (i) States have been asked to deploy dedicated staff, including the technical staff, with the implementing agencies for quick measurement of executed works. For doing this, administrative expenditure under the Act has been enhanced from 4% to 6% with effect from 01-04-2009.
- (ii) Proper planning of works has been insisted upon.
- (iii) Status of implementation of the Act is reviewed regularly in Performance Review Committee meetings held on quarterly basis and also in the State specific review meetings.
- (iv) National level Monitors (NLMs) and Area Officers are deputed to various States from time to time to oversee the performance of the Act. They also monitor the quality of works taken up under the Act.
- (e): No, Sir. Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act does not contain any provision for a separate shelf of projects for women workers.