

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3724
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010
UTILISATION OF FUNDS UNDER MGNREGS
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether controlling of funds meant for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by the sarpanches single handedly has altered the dynamics of Panchayati Raj system in the villages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/being considered by the Government to ensure scrupulous utilization of funds;
- (c) whether purchasing and hiring of `material` by sarpanches is leading to large scale manipulation and siphoning of funds; and
- (d) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Funds meant for Mahatma Gandhi NREGA are not controlled single handedly by the sarpanches. Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Operational Guidelines in para 8.5.1 provide that each Gram Panchayat will have a single bank account for the purpose of implementing NREGS works. This NREGS account will be operated jointly by the President and the Secretary of the Gram Panchayat.

To ensure scrupulous funds under the Act, the Ministry has taken the following steps:

- (i) ICT based MIS to make data available to public scrutiny, inclusive of job cards, employment demanded and allocated, days worked, muster rolls, shelf of works, funds available/spent and fund to various implementing agencies, social audit findings, registering grievances and generating alerts for corrective action.
- (ii) The progress of the implementation of the Act is regularly reviewed and monitors in Performance Review Committee meetings which are held on quarterly basis, State-specific reviews and visits by NLMs and Central Council members.
- (iii) Vigilance & Monitoring Committee has been set up at State and District level.