

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5000
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010
QUALITY OF ASSETS CREATED UNDER MGNREGS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has prescribed any norms to ensure quality of the assets being created under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these norms have been/are being followed in true sense;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the qualitative assets created under this scheme in each State since its inception;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for ensuring qualitative assets under MGNREGS?

Answer

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

(a)& (b): Operational Guidelines for Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, in para 10.1.2 provide that for every work sanctioned under the Scheme, there should be a local Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (VMC) to monitor the progress and quality of work while it is in progress. Para 10.3.1 of the Guidelines provide that 100% of works should be verified at Block level, 10% at district level and 2% at the State level. The Guidelines also provide for verification and quality audit by external monitors at the Central, State and District levels. In addition, State and District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are set up for monitoring of all rural development schemes including Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

(c): As reported by the State Government, during 2009-10 (up to February.10), out of the 42.95 lakh works taken up during the year, 32.24 lakh works had been inspected at block level and 4.08 lakh works had been inspected at the district level. The Ministry has issued guidelines for constitution of State and District level V&MC and has also nominated Chairman/Co-Chairman for 615 District level V&MC in the country.

(d)&(e):The primary objective of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing atleast 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. Creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor is also an important objective of the Act. The focus of activities permissible under the Act is on water conservation and water harvesting. All these activities address causes of chronic poverty like drought, deforestation, soil erosion so that the process of employment generation is on a sustainable basis. The year-wise break up of works taken up under the Act so far is as under: (Figures in lakhs)

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (up to February,10)
Total works taken up	8.35	17.88	27.75	42.95
Water conservation	4.51(54%)	8.73(49%)	12.79(46%)	21.71(51%)
Provision of irrigation facility on land owned by SC/ST/BPL/IAY beneficiaries	0.81(10%)	2.63(15%)	5.67(20%)	7.12(17%)
Rural connectivity	1.80(21%)	3.08(17%)	5.03(18%)	7.20(17%)
Land development	0.89(11%)	2.88(16%)	3.98(15%)	5.98(14%)

Any other activity 0.34 (4%) 0.56 (3%) 0.28 (1%) 0.92 (2%)

(f): Same as given in reply to parts (a), (b) and (c).