

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6071
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2010
SPECIAL VIGILANCE FORCE FOR MGNREGS
Abdulrahman Shri

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is considering to constitute a special vigilance force to watch over the entire spending of funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to constitute such forces at state level also;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has estimated the losses that have been incurred on payment of wages without any work; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): With a view to monitor the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA at the Central level, the following steps have been taken:

- (i) Central Employment Guarantee Council has been set up. Members of the Central Council periodically visit various districts in different States.
- (ii) National Level Monitors are deputed to various districts.
- (iii) Scheme of independent monitoring by Eminent citizens has been approved.
- (iv) A toll free national helpline has been set up

(c) & (d): Union Government has asked the State Governments to set up the following:

- (i) State Employment Guarantee Council
- (ii) District level Ombudsman for grievance redressal in a time bound manner
- (iii) State helplines

(e) & (f): Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, expenditure on payment of wages to unskilled workers is fully borne by the Central Government. Wages to the unskilled workers are paid in accordance with the out put of a worker. No wages are payable under the Act without performing any work. The Act, in Section 7(1), however, provides for payment of unemployment allowance to a job seeker who is not provided work within 15 days from the date from which work has been demanded. Since it is the duty of the State Governments to provide work to a job seeker within 15 days from the date of demanding work, failing which un-employment allowance becomes payable, such allowance is paid by the State Governments from their own resources.