

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5925

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2010

VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram; Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines directing the States and Union Territories to constitute District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees to supervise, exercise vigilance and monitor the implementation of all schemes under the Ministry of Rural Development;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including composition of the said Committees;
- (c) the States and Union Territories which have not constituted the said Committees till date alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the view of these committees would be binding in the implementation of the schemes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Sir. After the formation of XV Lok Sabha, the Ministry of Rural Development issued detailed guidelines for constituting the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (V&MCs) to monitor the implementation of Rural Development Programmes.
- (b): Details of the objective, composition of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee and the meetings to be held are given in the Annexure.
- (c): The Ministry has nominated Chairmen/Co-Chairmen for the district Vigilance and Monitoring Committees and the State/District authorities were asked to constitute the district V&MCs. As per the information available, no district V&MC meeting has been held during the year 2009-10 in the States/UTs of Goa, J&K, A&N Island, Lakshadweep and Puducherry.
- (d) & (e): For action on any points pertaining to the State Government, the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have to forward their observation/recommendation to the State Government. The Ministry of Rural Development is to be informed of any gross violation noticed.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5925 due for reply on 3.5.2010.

Guidelines for Vigilance and Monitoring Committees

1. Objective

The Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are constituted with a view to fulfilling the objective of ensuring quality of expenditure, particularly, in the context of large public funds being spent under all the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development. These Committees would keep a watch on the implementation of the Programmes as per the prescribed procedures and Guidelines. The objectives include providing a crucial role for the Members of Parliament and elected representatives of the people in State Legislatures and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the implementation of the Rural Development programmes and to put in place a mechanism to monitor the execution of the Schemes in the most effective manner and within the given time frame so that public funds are put to optimal use and Programme benefits flow to the rural poor in full measure. These Committees are also to effectively liaise and coordinate with the Ministry of Rural Development and State Governments. The Ministry may consider withholding releases to districts which do not hold regular meetings of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.

2. Composition

The District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committees would have the following composition:

I. Chairman: The Chairman of the District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee would be a Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) elected from the District or a Minister, nominated by the Ministry of Rural Development. The nomination would be done as per the following criteria:

(i) Where there are more than one Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) or Minister(s) representing a district, the Speaker (Lok Sabha), Deputy Speaker (Lok Sabha) or a Minister in the Union Council of Ministers or Leader of the Opposition shall be nominated as the Chairman.

(ii) If none of the Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) representing the district holds any office as referred to at (i) above, the senior-most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) shall be nominated as the Chairman.

(iii) Further, in case of same seniority, the Chairman shall be the Member of Parliament having the largest part of the district under the jurisdictions of his/her Parliamentary Constituency.

(iv) If the District has more than one Parliamentary constituency (Lok Sabha) as its segments and the senior-most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) is made Chairman of District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee in some other district, the next senior-most Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) shall be the Chairman.

(v) The other Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) representing the district shall be designated as Co-Chairman.

In the absence of the designated Chairman, Co-Chairman (if any), with consensus among the Co-Chairmen present, would preside over the meeting. If no Chairman / Co-Chairman is present, the Members who are present shall elect a Chairman from among themselves to preside over the scheduled meetings.

II. Member Secretary: The Member Secretary of the District level Village & Monitoring Committee would be the District Collector / District Magistrate/ Deputy Commissioner except in cases where specific exemption has been given by the Union Government.

III. Members: The other Members of the Committee shall be as follows:

(i) All MPs (Lok Sabha) of the District to be designated as Co-Chairman.

(ii) One Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) representing the State and exercising option to be associated with the District level Committee of that District (on first come basis), to be designated as Co-Chairman.

(iii) All member of the State Legislative Assembly belonging to the District.

(iv) One representative of the State Govt./UT Administration.

(v) Chairperson of the Zilla Panchayat.

(vi) All Chairpersons of Panchayat Samities.

(vii) Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Panchayat.

(viii) Project Director, DRDA.

(ix) One Member from a reputed NGO to be nominated by the Chairman in consultation with other Members of Parliament in the Committee.

(x) One Professional from the field of Social Work/ Social Science to be nominated by the District Collector.

(xi) One representative each of SC/ST and Women to be nominated by the Chairman in consultation with other Members of Parliament in the Committee.

3. Meetings of the Vigilance & Monitoring Committee are to be held at least once every Quarter, after giving sufficient notice to the Hon'ble MPs/MLAs and all other Members.

4. Member Secretary shall convene the meeting on the direction of the Chairman.