GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2938 ANSWERED ON:24.07.2009 IRREGULARITIES IN IAY Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausaheb

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of irregularities have come to the notice of the Union Government in the construction of houses for the poor under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the corrective steps taken/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 (c): Once the funds under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) Scheme are allocated and released in accordance with the pre-determined criteria, implementation of the scheme lies with the States/UTs. Accordingly, whenever, any complaint in respect of irregularities/ deficiencies in the implementation of the Scheme is brought to the notice of the Ministry, the matter is immediately taken up with the concerned State Government/UT for necessary action. In the case of complaints received from VIPs, National Level Monitors (NLMs) on the panel of this Ministry are asked to investigate the complaints. If irregularities are established, the State Governments are instructed to take appropriate corrective measures. The details of the irregularities noticed in this regard during the last three years and the current year and action taken thereon are given in the Annexure.

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2938 due for answer on 24.07.2009

List of cases of irregularities in the construction of houses for the poor under Indira Awaas Yojana and action taken thereon

1. Bihar

(a) A complaint was received on 12/4/2006 from the Shri Sita Ram Yadav, M.P.(Lok Sabha) forwarding the complaints of villagers of Gram Panchayat - Yujaar Madhya, Block - Katra, district-Muzaffarpur regarding irregularities in the implementation of IAY in Muzaffarpur district of Bihar. In the complaint, it was alleged that an amount of Rs.2000/- to Rs. 5000/- were charged from each and every beneficiary as bribe for allotment of the IAY house.

Action Taken

The matter was investigated by the NLM who found certain irregularities. The State Government of Bihar was requested on 14/6/2006 to look into the matter and to take corrective measures. Status Report is however awaited. Last reminder was issued on 19/1/2009.

(b) A complaint was received on 25/1/2007 from the Shri Ramvaran Prasad, Ex- Sarpanch and others, Gram Panchayat -Tettar, District-Gaya regarding misappropriation of funds in Gram Panchayat -Tettar, Gaya under Indira Awaas Yojana.

Action Taken

The matter was taken up with the State Government of Bihar. Status Report is still awaited in spite of the last reminder dated 19/1/2009.

(c) A complaint was received on 6/09/08 from the Shri Bali Ram Chaudhary, Dy. Surpanch, Gram Panchayat-Raj Sidhawal, Block-Husainganj, District-Siwan(Bihar) regarding irregularities and Misappropriation of funds under Indira Awaas Yojana Action taken

The complaint was forwarded to the State Government of Bihar for taking further necessary action in the matter.

(d) A complaint was received on 12/08/08 from the Shri Shankar Das Secretary of Bhartiya Jan Vikas Manch, Gautam Budh Nagar(Uttar Pradesh) regarding selection of non eligible candidate by representatives of Gram Panchayat under Implementation of Indira Awaas Yojana in village-Barna, Block-Kusheshar, District-Darbhaga, Bihar.

Action Taken

The complaint was forwarded to the State Government of Bihar for taking further necessary action in the matter.

2. Orissa

(a) A complaint was received from Shri Sitakanta Mohapatra, MLA on 11/6/2006 regarding misuse of funds meant for victims of super cyclone and high flood in Orissa.

Action Taken

Accounts relating to the cyclone funds of Puri district of Orissa were examined by a team of officers of this Ministry in November, 2006 when procedural lapses were noticed. Thereafter, accounts of all the districts are being examined by the Finance Division of this Ministry and out of 28 districts, the cases of 14 districts have since been closed after due verification. Examination of remaining districts is in progress.

(b) A complaint was received from Shri J.B. Patnaik, Leader of Opposition, and Orison Legislative Assembly on 3/8/2006 regarding misuse of funds meant for victims of super cyclone and high flood in Orissa.

Action Taken

As already stated in reply to (a) above, Accounts relating to the cyclone funds of Puri district of Orissa were examined by a team of officers of this Ministry in November, 2006 when procedural lapses were noticed. Thereafter, accounts of all the districts are being examined by the Finance Division of this Ministry and out of 28 districts, the cases of 14 districts have since been closed after due verification. Examination of remaining districts is in progress.

3. Rajasthan

A complaint was received from Dr. Chandrasekhar Braid, MLA on 7/6/2006 regarding irregularities in the implementation of IAY programme in the Churu district of Rajasthan.

Action Taken:

The matter was taken with the State Government of Rajasthan. As informed by Hon'ble Member, district authorities passed the order for recovery of IAY money from the beneficiary however no action was taken thereon and instead order for re-investigation by the junior officer was given. Accordingly an inquiry was again conducted by the CEO, Churu who found that the order for recovery of IAY money from the beneficiary was not correct.

In view of the above report, the case was closed by the State Government, as this was treated as IAY house and no irregularities were found.

4. West Bengal

A complaint was received on 25/9/2008 from Sh. Bhairab Saini and others villagers of Panchal Gram Panchayat, Block-Sonamukhi, District-Bankura, West Bengal regarding selection of non-eligible candidate under Indira Awaas Yojana. As per complaint Smt. Ammapurana Datta W/o Late Sh. Bhaskar Datta has received financial assistance under Indira Awaas Yojan. She has her own big house with eight rooms, Kitchen and toilet.

Action Taken:

The matter was taken with the State Government of West Bengal. Last Reminder was issued on 29/06/2009 but Action Taken Report is still awaited.