

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3006

ANSWERED ON:24.07.2009

UTILISATION CERTIFICATE UNDER RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government timely receives the utilisation certificates from the State Governments for the funds provided to them under various rural development schemes;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether complaints of diversion of funds meant for rural development projects to other spheres in some of the States have come to the notice of the Union Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The utilization certificates from the State Governments for funds provided to them under various rural development schemes are received in the Ministry in time, as this is a pre-condition for further release of funds. However, the utilization certificates from some State Governments/Union Territories were not received in time. The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Meghalaya, Andaman and Nicobar Islands have not sent Utilisation Certificates for some of the amount released during 2007-08 in respect of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY). The States of Jharkhand, Punjab and Daman and Diu have not sent Utilisation Certificate for some amount released during 2007-08 under District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) Administration Scheme.

(c) to (e): The report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (C&AG) for the year ended March, 2003 (No. 3 of 2003) pointed out some instances of diversion of funds under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in 19 States/UTs amounting to Rs. 58.39 crore. The report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (Report No. 13 of 2006), which is based on text check of records for the period 2000-2005 reported some instances of diversion of funds in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in 13 states.

The Ministry of Rural Development has evolved a comprehensive system of monitoring the execution of the programmes including utilisation of funds through monthly/quarterly progress reports received from States/UTs, field visits by Area Officers of the Ministry and discussion with the State Secretaries/ Project Director of the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) / Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Parishads and monitoring by independent National Level Monitors (NLMs). The Ministry has evolved a five pronged strategy comprising

- (i) creation of awareness about the schemes,
- (ii) transparency,
- (iii) people's partnerships,
- (iv) accountability and
- (v) strict vigilance and monitoring of the programmes. These measures help maximum utilisation of funds and completion of works/projects in time.