

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2373
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010
IRREGULARITIES IN ISSUING JOB CARDS
Manjhi Shri Hari

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding large scale irregularities in issuance of job cards under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the efforts being made to check it; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken for the proper implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) alongwith the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Complaints have been received in the Ministry regarding irregularities in the issuance of job cards under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. With a view to check such irregularities, awareness generation programmes through intensive IEC activities involving print as well as electronic media have been taken up to make the rural population aware about their legal rights and the procedure to avail these rights under the Act. Para 2 of Schedule-II of the Act has been amended providing the essential details of a registered household to be indicated on the job card issued to a household.

(c): With a view to ensure proper implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the following steps have been taken:

(i) Permissible administrative expenditure limit has been enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for NREGA, strengthening of management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal and ICT infrastructure

(ii) Payment through accounts of NREGA workers to infuse transparency in wage disbursement. To cover gaps in financial services and outreach and also to ensure greater transparency in wage disbursement, Rural ATM, hand held devices, smart cards, biometrics have been initiated.

(iii) Instructions have been issued on 7.9.09 directing all States to appoint ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal.

(iv) Independent appraisal by professional institutions including IITs and IIMs and Agricultural Universities

(v) Independent Monitoring by NLM and Eminent Citizens.

(vi) Visit by Central Council members

(vii) ICT based MIS to make data available to public scrutiny, inclusive of Job cards, Employment demanded and allocated, Days worked, Muster rolls, shelf of works, Funds available/spent and fund to various implementing agencies, Social Audit findings, registering grievances and generating alerts for corrective action.

(viii) Periodic reviews with State Governments