

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3616
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010
RESEARCH REPORT ON MGNREGS
Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Rural Development sponsored the B.B. Giri National Labour Institute has said in its research that there is rampant corruption in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) the concern of the Government for this research report and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether it has been stated in the report to form a monitoring committee for the successful implementation of the scheme;
- (d) the response of the Government on the said recommendation; and
- (e) the steps which the Government is going to take to check corruption prevalent in MGNREGS?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Ministry of Rural Development had commissioned the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute to study the Schedule of Rates prevailing in the States and also to examine the feasibility of a uniform Schedule of Rates in the States. The Institute has submitted its draft report. The Institute has been asked to conduct further study in the light of the revised wage policy announced by the Government.
- (c) & (d): In the draft report submitted by the Institute, it has been suggested that there should be a Monitoring Committee consisting of some members of civil society, alongwith the panchayat functionaries and beneficiary workers.
- (e): With a view to check corruption in the 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
 - (ix) The Ministry has set up six Working Groups on different aspects impacting the implementation of the Act.