

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1125

ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010

JOB CARDS UNDER MGNREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of families to whom job cards have been issued under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) since its inception;
- (b) whether the Government has come across any shortcomings in the implementation of MGNREGS;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the corrective measures 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): A household is the basic unit for issue of job cards and for providing employment under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. A total of 11.32 crore job cards have been issued since inception of the Act.
- (b) & (c): Shortcomings such as lack of awareness among the rural population about MGNREGA, delay in wage payment to the workers, issue of non-dated receipt for the application for demand of work, inadequate staff with the implementing agencies have been brought to the notice of this Ministry.
- (d): The Government has taken the following corrective measures in this regard:-
 - (i) Administrative expenditure limit under NREGA has been enhanced from 4% to 6% to strengthen and for capacity building of implementing agencies. Awareness generation through IEC activities have been taken up which include both print as well as electronic media.
 - (ii) ICT based MIS has been made operational to make data available to public scrutiny, inclusive of Job cards, Employment demanded and allocated, number of 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.
 - (iii) Payment of wages to MGNREGA workers has been made mandatory through their accounts in Banks/Post Office to infuse transparency in wage disbursement. To cover the gaps in financial services and outreach, rural ATM, hand held devices, smart cards and biometrics have been introduced.
 - (iii) State level and District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been set up for monitoring of rural development programmes including MGNREGA.
 - (iv) Independent Monitoring by National Level Monitors and Eminent Citizens.
 - (v) Periodic reviews with State Governments in the Performance Review Committee meetings. State specific reviews are also undertaken.
 - (vi) Visits by members of Central Employment Guarantee Council.