

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1138
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010
PAYMENT TO WORKERS UNDER MGNREGS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the workers working under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) are neither being paid as per the amount prescribed by the Government nor they are given timely payment on most of the occasions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith some steps taken to ensure timely payment of the workers working under the MGNREGA;
- (c) whether some representations have been received by the Union Government during the last three years and the current year in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (e) the other policies formulated to streamline MGNREGS and ensure timely payment to the workers?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, wages are mainly paid to the workers on task rate basis. Out put of a worker is measured and wages are paid in accordance with the Schedule of Rates fixed by the State Government. With a view to ensure timely payment of wages to the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers, instructions have been issued to the States for appointment of adequate dedicated staff, including engineers, with the Implementing agencies to ensure timely measurement of works leading to timely wage payment to the workers. In this regard, administrative expenses of the Act from which salary to such dedicated staff is paid, have been enhanced from 4% to 6%.

(c) & (d): The Ministry has received 38 complaints regarding delay in wage payment and 59 complaints regarding under payment of wages in some States. As implementation of the Act is done by the State Governments/UT administration in accordance with the Employment Guarantee Schemes formulated by them as per the provisions of the Act, all complaints received in the Ministry have been forwarded to the concerned States for taking appropriate action.

(e): To address the problem of poor infrastructure and outreach, role of Business Correspondent Model with ICT enabled innovations has been thought of. Business correspondent/facilitator model, hand held devices, smart cards, biometrics, mobile banking to encourage target branch expansion have been some measures for initiation. States have been issued a flow chart with time schedule for observance to reduce administrative delays and to ensure payment of wages within a fortnight to all workers. Ministry of Rural Development also proposes to use ICT devices, especially Biometrics and integration with UIDAI to introduce biometric attendance on site and to improve the overall delivery system in the implementation of MGNREGA by capturing all the processes like registration, demand for work, issue of dated receipt, allocation of work, attendance at worksite with GPS coordinates, measurement of work and wage payment.