

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2344
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
SOCIAL AUDITING
Singh Shri Dhananjay

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of operational guidelines of developmental schemes and citizen centric programmes for social audit mechanism;
- (b) the impact of the social audit mechanism in monitoring public service schemes;
- (c) the extent of financial assistance provided to conduct social audit, State-wise and UT- wise; and
- (d) the outcome of the social auditing of various flagship programmes of the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSION (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a): The Planning Commission in the year 2008 suggested that social audit mechanism can be included in the guidelines of monitoring of flagship programmes of the Government of India.

(b) to (d): A community based monitoring of health services under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) has been initiated through Advisory Group on Community Action (AGCA), a Standing Committee constituted by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Population Foundation of India (PFI) functions as the Secretariat for AGCA. A pilot project for community based monitoring of health services was done in nine states (Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu), and the findings recommended that the community based planning and monitoring was more effective than monitoring alone. The review highly endorsed scaling up community monitoring in the states and including the programmes in the state Annual NRHM Programme Implementation Plans.

The Ministry of Rural Development in order to check irregularities in the implementation of MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) has accorded utmost importance to the organization of social audits by the gram panchayats and issued instructions to the states to make necessary arrangements for the purpose. Modifications have been made in para 13 of schedule-I of the Act to provide for procedures on conducting social audits. The ministry has also issued instructions to the State Governments for enforcement of the new social audit provisions under MGNREGA.