

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2383
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2011
SOCIAL AUDIT FOR MGNREGS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of social audits conducted, vis-à-vis target set under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) since its inception State-wise;
- (b) the major findings of the social audit teams particularly in Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the total amount diverted/siphoned off, under the scheme as per findings of the social audit teams, State-wise;
- (d) the total amount recovered from the persons responsible particularly in Andhra Pradesh during the said period, State-wise; and
- (e) the measures taken or proposed to be taken for plugging various loopholes existing under the said scheme?

Answer

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

(a): Section 17(2) of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA provides that Gram Sabha shall conduct regular social audit of all the projects taken up within the Gram Panchayat. As such, no targets have been set for conduct of social audit under the Act. State-wise details are given in the Annexure.

(b): The major findings of the social audit teams in Andhra Pradesh are as under:

1. Block level Post Master making fake entries in the passbooks
2. Block level Post Master collecting money at the time of payments from workers
3. Field assistants not visiting the field
4. Field assistants collected money for issuance of passbook
5. Delay in wage payments
6. Job cards not distributed to the workers and kept in the Mandal office
7. Use of machinery
8. Wrong entries in the muster rolls
9. Wage slips not distributed to the workers for wage payment
10. Name of the workers not entered in the wage list but entered in the muster roll

(c): The audit teams did not notice any case relating to diversion/siphoning off of MGNREGA funds.

(d): Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e): With a view to plug various loopholes in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the Ministry has taken the following measures:

(i) ICT based MIS has been made operational to make data available to public scrutiny including Job cards, Muster rolls, Employment demanded and allocated, number of days worked, shelf of works, Funds available/spent and funds released to various implementing agencies, Social Audit findings, registering grievances and generating alerts for corrective action.

(ii) Payment of wages to MGNREGA workers has been made mandatory through their accounts in Banks/Post Office to infuse transparency in wage disbursement.

(iii) Rolling out Biometric based ICT enabled real time transactions of MGNREGA workers to eliminate fake attendance and false payments.

(iv) Periodic reviews in the Performance Review Committee meetings held on quarterly basis. State specific reviews are also undertaken

(v) Independent Monitoring and verification by National Level Monitors and Eminent Citizens.

(vi) Visit by members of Central Employment Guarantee Council.

(vii) State and district level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been set up.

(viii) States have been directed to appoint district level Ombudsman for redressal of grievances in a time bound manner.