

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:764

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011

CORRUPTION UNDER MGNREGS

Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane;Ram Shri Purnmasi

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some cases of irregularities/ corruption under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Orissa are being/ have been investigated by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the CBI has submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (e) whether Government has conducted any study in States to check the diversion of funds under MGNREGS;
- (f) if so, the finding of such study and action taken thereon; and
- (g) the details of the complaints received by the Government from Members of Parliament and others regarding irregularities under MGNREGS indicating the action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): A total of 58 complaints regarding irregularities, including corruption, in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in Orissa have been received in the Ministry. Out of these, 26 cases have been disposed off so far. The complaints mainly relate to cases of job cards not provided, misappropriation of funds, engagement of contractors, forgery of muster roll, manipulation in job cards, under payment of wages, non-payment of wages, corruption and other irregularities, use of machinery, delay in payments etc. On receipt of consent of the State Government of Orissa in April 2011, the Union Government ordered an investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into allegations of corruption and misappropriation of funds under MGNREGA in Orissa. CBI has not submitted its report in the matter.

(e) and (f): No separate study has been conducted to ascertain that MGNREGS funds are being used for the stipulated purposes. However, there are mechanisms of internal and social audits, visits by National Level Monitors and Eminent Citizens, etc in the scheme to ensure that funds are utilized for the purposes envisaged in MGNREG Act.

(g): A total of 2250 complaints regarding irregularities, including corruption, in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in the country have been received in the Ministry as on 26.7.2011. Out of these, 1003 cases have been disposed off. As implementation of the Act is done by the State Governments in accordance with the Schemes formulated by them as per the provisions of the Act, all complaints received in the Ministry are forwarded to the concerned state Governments for taking appropriate action as per law. In complaints of serious nature, the Ministry deposes National Level Monitors (NLMs) to investigate the complaints. Reports of the NLMs are shared with the concerned State Governments for taking corrective action.