

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3799

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2011

RECOMMENDATIONS BY NAC ON MGNREGS

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Kumar Shri Kaushalendra;Ramkishun Shri ;Roy Shri Arjun;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Advisory Council (NAC) has made series of recommendations on working of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details of each recommendation;
- (c) the recommendations accepted by the Government so far; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the effective implementation of these recommendations?

Answer

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

(a): Yes sir.

(b) to (d): National Advisory Council (NAC) while examining policy reforms and implementation of flagship programmes including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), recommended certain measures for effective implementation of MGNREGA. These included expeditious notification of Social Audit Rules, strengthening institutional and technical support in the Ministry and for Central Employment Council and providing technical support to States through resource groups on wage payment, transparency and accountability, grievance redressal, planning, natural resource management, convergence, expansion of permissible works, demand for work, capacity building, training, staff, management etc. The steps already taken by the Government on the above aspects for effective implementation of MGNREGA include the following:

- (i) Permissible administrative expenditure limit was enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for MGNREGA, strengthening of management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal and ICT infrastructure.
- (ii) States have been instructed to establish State Employment Guarantee Funds for greater flexibility in management of funds for MGNREGA.
- (iii) For convergence of MGNREGA with other development programmes of the Government which have similar target groups, convergence guidelines have been developed and disseminated by the Ministry for several other development schemes.
- (iv) Amendments to para 1 of Schedule I of MGNREG Act have been carried out from time to time to enlarge the scope of works and activities that can be taken up.
- (v) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) based MIS has been made operational to make data available to public scrutiny including job cards, muster rolls, employment demanded and number of days worked, shelf of works, funds available/spent, social audit findings, registering grievances etc.
- (vi) State Governments have been advised to make use of ICT enabled models like Business Correspondent, Rural ATM, handheld devices, smart cards, bio-metrics, mobile banking etc., for easy wage payments to MGNREGA workers.
- (vii) In consultation with the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, MGNREGA Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011 has been notified on 30th June, 2011.
- (viii) Instructions have been issued directing all States to appoint Ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal.