

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:472
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012
REFORM IN MGNREGS
Shantha J.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently decided to make reforms in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and also to increase the number of days of job guaranteed to Below Poverty Line households;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether proper audit of the funds released and utilized under the scheme have been undertaken;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Changes, modifications and amendments in various provisions of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in consultation with the State Governments and other reforms in the Act from time to time for improving its implementation, is a continuous process. There is, however, no proposal to increase the number of days of job guaranteed to Below Poverty Line households.

(c) to (e): Under MGNREGA, Financial Audit is mandatory. Funds are released by the Central Government to the States/UTs on receipt of Audit Report of the Chartered Accountant and Utilisation Certificate for the previous year showing utilisation of at least 60% of the available funds along with other necessary documents. As per Section 24 of the Central Government may in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, prescribe appropriate arrangements for audits of the accounts of the Schemes at all levels. The Ministry has, accordingly, in consultation with the CAG, notified on 30th June, 2011, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011.