

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:546

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012

IRREGULARITIES UNDER MGNREGS

Agarwal Shri Rajendra;Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant;Kataria Shri Lal Chand;Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar;Meghe Shri Datta Raghobaji;Namdhari Shri Inder Singh;Pal Shri Jagdambika;Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Punia Shri P.L. ;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B. ;Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Singh Shri Bhola;Singh Shri Uday Pratap;Sinh Dr. Sanjay;Thomas Shri P. T.;Tirkey Shri Manohar;Verma Smt. Usha;Virendra Kumar Shri ;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether serious irregularities and embezzlement/diversion of funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) have been reported from various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the current year, State and Union Territory wise;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct any inquiry in the matter including handing over the cases to CBI;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government including statutory audit by CAG so as to check such irregularities/ embezzlement of funds under the scheme?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry receives a large number of complaints about implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the country. The State - wise details of complaints received during the current year (up to 09.03.2012) are given in Annexure. 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. 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, including investigation, as per law.

(c) & (d): At the instance of the Supreme Court of India in the Writ Petition (PIL) No. 645 of 2007-Centre for Environment and Food Security, 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 already submitted its report to the Supreme Court in the matter. The Ministry of Rural Development has also requested for consent of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for enquiry by the CBI into irregularities in implementation of MGNREGA in Uttar Pradesh.

(e): As per Section 24 of MGNREGA 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 MGNREGA Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011. The Ministry has also requested for special financial and performance audits by CAG, to begin with, in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.