

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4435
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012
MALPRACTICES UNDER MGNREGS
Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and nature of irregularities, malpractice and corruption cases came to notice in the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) during the last two years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the details of social audit of the scheme, including the need and advantage, methodology and level at which these are to be conducted;
- (c) the salient features of the instructions issued to the State Government for enforcement of the social audit provision under the scheme;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to provide additional resources to the State Governments for meeting administrative expenses for carrying out such audits; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): The Ministry receives a large number of complaints of all types about implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the country. 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. The State-wise number of such complaints received during the last three years in the Ministry of Rural Development is given in Annexure.

(b) & (c): The Ministry of Rural Development has issued instructions to States to strengthen the process of social audit of MGNREGA. In consultation with the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, MGNREGA Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011 have been notified. All States have been asked to put in place a robust Social Audit Mechanism as outlined in these Rules. Section 17 of the Act requires that Gram Sabha shall conduct regular social audit of all the projects under MGNREGA. The steps involved in the Social Audit process are collection of information and records, checking of muster rolls and field verification, placing the findings in Gram Sabha meeting, follow-up action on the findings etc. The States have been asked to identify or establish an independent organization (Social Audit Unit) independent of project implementing agencies to facilitate conduct of Social Audit of works taken up under MGNREGA by Gram Sabhas as per Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011. Every Gram Panchayat (GP) will have at least one social audit every six months. Resource persons are to be drawn from primary stakeholders and other civil society organizations having knowledge and experience of working for the right of the people. Resource persons to be deployed for facilitating social audit in a GP will not be the residents of the same Panchayats.

(d) & (e): Expenditure for carrying out social audits under MGNREGA can be met out of 6% administrative expenses already being provided by the Central Government for implementation of schemes formulated by State Governments under Section 4 of MGNREG Act.