

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:275
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
SOCIAL AUDIT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Centrally sponsored schemes under the Ministry of Rural Development that have provisions for mandatory social audit;
- (b) whether the Government plans to extend mandatory conducting of social audit of all the schemes under the Ministry of Rural Development;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there is a cap on the overall State expenditure for conducting social audits;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether some of the State Governments have asked the Central Government to raise this cap;
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (h) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen the social auditing mechanisms?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Provision of social audit has been made in the programme guidelines of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) and National Rural livelihood Mission (NRLM). Under Indira Awas Yojana the social audit is inbuilt in the policy itself. The selection of beneficiaries is done by the Gram Panchayat from BPL lists/ Permanent IAY waitlists and the approval of the Gram Sabha is sought. In other schemes of rural development the utilization of funds is audited through authorized/certified Chartered Accountants, as mentioned in programme guidelines.

(d) to (g): No such caps, as per the provisions of the MGNREGA and Audit of Schemes Rules 2011.

(h): The following steps have been taken by the Government to strengthen the social auditing mechanism :

(i) Social Audit Manual has been prepared by NIRD, Hyderabad.

(ii) During Performance Review Committee (PRC) and Regional Review Meetings, State Governments are encouraged to cross-learn from the experiences where Social Audit has been institutionalized.

(iii) Audit of Scheme Rules, 2011 have been notified in June, 2011.