

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:619

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009

ATM MACHINES FOR NREGS WORKERS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Saroj Smt. Sushila

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce an ATM-like machine for National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) workers to reduce their dependence on Panchayat officials or administration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the names of the States where this scheme has been implemented; and
- (e) the extent to which it has helped to cope with the manipulation and mismanagement/corruption?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)to(e): ATM machines have already been introduced for payment of wages under NREGA in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu. ICT enabled financial transactions in rural areas by using Rural ATM, hand held devices, smart cards and bio-metrics has been introduced with the aim to maintain transparency and avoid manipulation in payment of wages to NREGA workers.