

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:836

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2013

IRREGULARITIES UNDER MGNREGS

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram; Choudhary Shri Harish; Devi Aswamedh; Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao; Dubey Shri Nishikant; Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal; Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh; Ramasubbu Shri S.; Shekhar Shri Neeraj; Singh Shri Yashvir; Tagore Shri Manicka; Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether a large number of complaints about irregularities in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) have been received by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) The details of funds released and utilized by the various States/UTs during the said period, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) The corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government including statutory and social audit by Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) to check such irregularities in the implementation of 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. Since the implementation of the Act is vested with 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. 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 number of complaints that have been received during each of the last three years and the current year at the Ministry level is indicated State-wise at Annexure I.

(c): The details of central funds released and utilized by the States/UTs during each of the last three years and the current year are at Annexure II.

(d): There is a comprehensive system of monitoring and review of the implementation of MGNREGA, which inter-alia include Periodic Progress Report, Performance Review Committee, Quarterly Regional Reviews, Area Officers' Scheme, National Level Monitors and Vigilance & Monitoring Committees at the State and District levels. Independent Monitoring and verification by National Level Monitors (NLMs) and Area Officers are also carried out in cases of specific complaints. The findings and reports of such review meetings and visits are shared with the concerned States/UT Governments for follow up action. Enquiry reports are analyzed at the central level and suitable advisories are issued to the State Governments for initiation of departmental inquiry, proceedings for disqualification/ termination in respect of elected officials, lodging of FIR against the delinquent official(s) in case prima-facie a criminal intent is established, recovery of amount misappropriated etc. Detailed instructions by way of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for dealing with complaints have also been issued to all States/UTs and have been displayed on website www.nrega.nic.in. Other important measures taken up under MGNREGA to ensure transparency and accountability are: # The Ministry has notified MGNREGA Audit of Schemes Rules 2011 in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. # On the request of the Ministry, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India have conducted performance audits of MGNREGA in 2007-08 and 2012-13. # With a view to ensuring timely payment, infusing transparency and enhancing the integrity of wage payment, Schedule II of MGNREG Act was amended to ensure wage disbursement to MGNREGA workers through institutional accounts in Banks or Post Offices (unless specifically exempted). # To reduce time required in payment of wages, State Governments have been instructed to roll-out electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS). # To strengthen the institutional outreach for wage disbursement, State Governments have been instructed to roll out the Business Correspondent Model to make wage payment through Banks with Biometric authentication at GP/village level. # Permissible administrative expenditure limit was enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for MGNREGA, strengthening management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure. # ICT based MIS has been made operational to make data available to public scrutiny including job cards, muster rolls, employment demanded and number of days worked, shelf of works, funds available / utilised, social audit findings, registration of grievances, etc. Uploading of Photographs of works has been instructed # Instructions have been issued for affixing photographs to the existing job cards. # States have been instructed to switch to e-Muster Rolls to check instances of tampering and misuse of muster rolls. # Instructions have been issued directing all States to appoint Ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal. # The State and district level Vigilance and

Monitoring Committees have been established for monitoring of the scheme.