

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2562
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014
SUICIDE BY WORKERS
Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many workers have committed suicide due to delayed payments of wages under Mahatma Gandhi national Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of workers committed suicide, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) No, Madam. As per the database, 2/3rd of wages are disbursed within the stipulated time of 15 days after closure of the muster roll. In all cases involving delays, payment of compensation has been made mandatory as per Schedule II of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. Further, system of implementation is being streamlined and adequate number of technical personnel are being positioned to avoid delays. However, there are some media reports alleging suicides by some MGNREGA workers in Jharkhand and in Maharashtra. The States concerned have been advised to take immediate action to enquire into matter and also conduct social audit so that the facts would come to light; and action can be taken on these reports.