

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1015  
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2014  
PROGRESS UNDER MGNREGS  
Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Roy Prof. Saugata

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the amount of funds released to various States/UTs and its utilization under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) during each of the last three years and the current year state/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the social audit of the work is mandatory under the scheme;
- (c) if so, whether the Government reviews the social audit conducted by the State Governments in Gram Sabhas; and if so, the details of the States where irregularities have been found during the last one year with regard to the social audit;
- (d) whether development in rural areas and the life standard of the jobcard holders has not been satisfactory despite heavy spending under the Scheme; and
- (e) if so, whether the Government proposes to review the scheme and include work of permanent nature under the scheme and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

- (a) Details of amount released and utilised by the States/UTs under the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) during the last three years and the current year are indicated in Annexure.
- (b) Yes, Madam. Social Audit of works undertaken under the MGNREGA is mandatory under the Audit of Scheme Rules 2011.
- (c) All Social Audit Reports that are prepared by Social Audit Units (SAUs) are hosted on the programme MIS (NregaSoft). The progress in social audits conducted by the States is reviewed by the Ministry in various meetings including Performance Review Committee meetings. In addition, all the social audit reports submitted by the SAUs are uploaded into the programme MIS to make these available for public scrutiny.
- (d) & (e) The Ministry of Rural Development had engaged Institutions like Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Indian Institute of Management (IIMs), Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) and other professional institutions to conduct studies and surveys on the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). Some major findings of such studies related to impact of MGNREGA works are:
  - (i) Increase in Agriculture wages and enhanced bargaining power of rural poor.
  - (ii) Creation of environmental friendly jobs.
  - (iii) Reduction in soil erosion and enhancement in soil organic matter
  - (iv) Improvement in ground water table, agricultural productivity and cropping intensity.
  - (v) Reduction in water vulnerability index, agriculture vulnerability, livelihood vulnerability
  - (vi) Reduction in distress migration.

The Ministry has initiated action to further improve the quality and sustainability of works being created under the Scheme.