

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3734

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015

ASSETS UNDER MGNREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criteria fixed and guidelines issued for construction of permanent social-economic assets and construction of metalled roads, market premises, ponds, etc. in rural areas of the country under rural employment scheme;

(b) whether some persons have been arrested for scam under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the country, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of the remedial steps taken by the Government to check the irregularities and corruption under rural employment scheme; and

(d) the details of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minority beneficiaries under the Scheme in the current year, separately, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a): Construction of metal roads, village markets, ponds are all approved works under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). However, the decision on which works to take up is to be taken by the Gram Panchayat, based on the recommendations of the Gram Sabha.

(b): As per the information available with the Ministry of Rural Development (as on 31.7.2014) criminal cases have been filed against 2023 persons for irregularities committed in execution of MGNREGS in various States/UTs are given in Annexure-I.

(c): There are following provisions in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to check the irregularities and corruption:-

(1) Social Audit: Social audit of all expenditure and all the works executed is a statutory commitment under the Act. In order improve the Social Audits, a Special Project is being implemented under which, the Ministry is funding the deployment of social audit resource personnel upto District level. The project will be operational during 2014-17 and will ensure the social audit of MGNREGS works is conducted as per Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011.

(2) Grievance Redressal Mechanism: The Act provides for establishment of Ombudsman at district level for expeditions redressal of grievances on the implementation of MGNREGS in the States/UTs. The Ombudsman can take suo moto cognizance of irregularities in the Scheme.

(3) State Quality Monitor (SQM): MGREGA Operational Guidelines provide for deployment of retired Chief/Executive Engineers for quality inspection of works implemented under the Scheme. SQM can make use of random sampling or stratified sampling in selecting the sample for quality inspection.

(4) National Level Monitors (NLM): If a complaint is prime-facie substantiated by documentary evidence, third party institutional NLMs are deputed to enquire into the allegations & issues raised in the NLM report are resolved through State Governments.

(d): State/UT-wise details of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes beneficiaries under the Scheme in the current year are given in Annexure-II.