

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3780

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015

ACTIVITIES UNDER MGNREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria for allocating/releasing funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) the parameters of reviewing/evaluating performances of various States/UTs regarding implementation of MGNREGS;
- (c) whether the Government is making the entire payment of wages to MGNREGS workers through their accounts in banks/post offices, if so, the number of accounts of MGNREGS workers which have been opened in banks/post offices till now, State wise; and
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to streamline the process of opening accounts in banks and post offices for the beneficiaries under the MGNREGS so that wages may be deposited in their accounts directly, if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Central funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) are released to the States/UTs on the basis of agreed to Labour Budget and taking into consideration the performance and utilization of available funds.

(b) During the review/evaluation of performances of MGNREGS in State/UTs, the implementation aspects/parameters that need strengthening are taken into account viz. prompt payment of wages, improvement in the quality of assets, establishment of strong demand management system, effective participatory grass-root level planning, and improvement in the overall monitoring of schemes.

(c)& (d) Wage disbursement through banks/ post office accounts has been made mandatory to ensure proper disbursement of wages to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) workers. Electronic Fund Management System has been introduced in this regard to curb delay and check pilferage. Besides, Business Correspondent model based on biometric/handheld device, cash payment in difficult areas etc. have also been adopted to strengthen the monitoring mechanism to ensure timely flow of funds to the workers under MGNREGA. Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance are in process to extend banking services to the entire geography of the country based on Sub Service Area (SSA). Banks have already initiated the process and as on 20.12.2014, 1.23 lakh Bank Mitras (BMs) have been deployed by them for universal banking access.

State/ UT-wise details of number of accounts of MGNREGS workers opened in banks/post offices are given in Annexure.