GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:843 ANSWERED ON:21.07.2016 Geo-Tagging the Assets created under MGNREGS Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar: Javavardhan Dr. Javakuma

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is not keeping proper track of assets built under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employee Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), if so, the details thereof; and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether his Ministry has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) for geo-tagging the assets created under the MGNREGS in every village, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objective behind the move;

(d) the time by which this programme for geo-tagging the assets will start;

(e) whether the quantum of money spent on the scheme is too high without achieving many results, and if so, the corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard; and

(f) the other steps taken by the Government for online monitoring of assets to check leakages and for effective mapping of terrain for future developmental works?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a): The Ministry has established a comprehensive system of monitoring and review mechanism for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The evaluation of works under MGNREGA is regularly done in the Performance Review Committee meetings, Video conferences and weekly meetings. State specific reviews of States are also undertaken from time to time. Officers of the Ministry and National Level Monitors also visit various districts to oversee the performance of MGNREGA.

(b): The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 24.06.2016 between the Ministry of Rural Development and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Department of Space for Geo-tagging the assets under MGNREGS in each Gram Panchayat. The MoU addresses specific components of geo-tagging the assets and creation of data base for online recording and monitoring.

(c): The objective behind the move is to ensure online recording and monitoring of assets to check leakages and for effective mapping of terrain for future developmental works.

(d): The programme for geo-tagging is scheduled to start from 1st September, 2016.

(e): MGNREGA is a demand driven programmes hence no State/UT- wise allocation of fund is made. The Central funds are released to the States/UTs on the basis of agreed to Labour Budgets and taking into consideration the performance and the pace of utilization of available funds.

MGNREGA has (i) reduced distress migration among rural poor, (ii) smoothened rural consumption in the lean season (iii) set high standards in transparency, (iv) addressed under-employment problem (v) created assets that improved livelihoods (vi) gave boost to the financial inclusion (vii) strengthened Gram Panchayats (viii) improved the wage levels in rural areas and thereby increasing the income levels of the poorest of poor (xi) set standards for decent working conditions and (x) helped in bringing fallow lands into cultivation.

(f): The major steps taken by the Government to improve the programme implementation under MGNREGA are given in the Annexure.
