

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2188  
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2014  
QUALITY OF ASSETS UNDER MGNREGS  
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**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been criticism regarding poor quality of assets created under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has also noticed implementation deficiencies under MGNREGS;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of MGNREGS?

**Answer**

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

- (a)&(b) A number of good quality assets have been created in many States under the programme. However, it has been recognized that more focus needs to be given on creation of quality assets alongside provision of wage employment. In order to facilitate this, Government is proposing to improve the quality of assets by better planning and technical supervision, greater facility for taking up larger and durable assets, including through convergence with other line departments.
- (c) & (d) Yes, Madam. Some of the major deficiencies/issues on the implementation of MGNREGA, inter-alia, include the following:
  - (i) Greater focus on creation of durable, productive and quality assets along with wage employment.
  - (ii) Outcome oriented planning for ensuring quality of assets.
  - (iii) Delay in payment of wages.
  - (iv) Greater transparency in execution of works and financial payments.
  - (v) Need for more robust grievance redressal system and monitoring and vigilance mechanism.
- (e) The steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of MGNREGA are as follows:
  - # At least 60% of the works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water and trees.
  - # The wage-material ratio for works taken up by agencies other than Gram Panchayats would be counted at the district level to facilitate taking more durable assets.
  - # The associated outcomes of each work would be estimated before taking up the work and the same would be measured after completion of the work – thereby bringing in more focus on outcomes.
  - # The quality of the assets is sought to be improved through better planning and closer technical supervision.
  - # States/UTs have been asked to operationalize the provision relating to compensation for delayed wage payments as per Para-29, Schedule II of MGNREGA 2005.
  - # States/UTs have been asked to strengthen Social audits of MGNREGS works in accordance with the provisions of the Audit of Schemes Rules 2011 issued in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
  - # With a view to avoid bogus attendance and to check instances of tampering and misuse of muster rolls, the e-Muster system has been introduced.
  - # For smooth fund flow, the electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS) has been introduced which would also reduce delays in payment of wages.
  - # All States have been requested to appoint Ombudsman at the district level for grievance redressal.
  - #The State and district level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees monitor the scheme. These are being reconstituted.