

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:66
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2014
VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEES
Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of gross irregularities in the implementation of the rural development projects and also non-holding of the meetings of the District-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees regularly in the country, especially in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the names of the Districts where such meetings were held regularly and the Districts where such meetings were not held regularly during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) whether the Government has taken action against the erring officials for not holding the meetings regularly, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.66 due for answer on 27.11.2014.

(a) Implementation of different schemes relating to rural development dealt by the Department of Rural Development is done through the State Governments/Union Territories. The State/UT Governments are required to take necessary action in case of violation of the guidelines of the Schemes or on detection of irregularities. In case of specific complaints with supporting details, the Department has an institutional mechanism of National Level Monitors (NLMs) who are deputed to make field visits and make necessary enquiries for remedial action.

It has come to the notice of the Department that meetings of district level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are not being held regularly in many districts. The Department has recently revised the guidelines for Vigilance and Monitoring Committees and stipulated specific days for holding such meetings such as last Saturday of May, first Saturday of August, first Saturday of November and first Saturday of February and, if for any reason, the meeting is not held on the given day, the meeting should be held within a month, as an adjourned meeting, on a date to be decided by the Member Secretary.

(b) The names of the Districts where such meetings were held regularly and the Districts where such meetings were not held regularly during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise are given at Annexure-I and Annexure-II.

(c) No, Madam. Main reasons for not holding regular meetings as reported by the States/ Districts include State/local elections, preoccupation of Chairman/Member Secretary, postponement of meetings due to inability of Chairman to attend, etc.