GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1129 ANSWERED ON 13/12/2022

CORRUPTION IN MGNREGS

1129. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received multiple complaints of rampant corruption practices in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has sent a team of senior officers to investigate the complaints;
- (c) if so, whether a large number of villages are found indulged in corruption in implementation of MGNREGS in West Bengal including Balurghat;
- (d) if so, whether financial penalties were imposed on these corrupt village panchayats;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (f) whether the Government is considering to carry out investigation of all funds spent during the last ten years under MGNREGS in West Bengal; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof including the other corrective action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to (g): Yes, sir. On receipt of complaints from public or public representative, the complaints are either gets enquired by the concerned State or by sending Central Team/ National Level Monitors to enquire into the matter. The complaint received from West Bengal has been dealt accordingly. The Government of India has sent Central Team to investigate the matter. On receipt of the report of the Central Team, the State Government of West Bengal was directed to submit Action Taken Report. State Government has made recovery and has taken disciplinary/legal proceedings against officials/functionaries for embezzlement/misutilization of funds. Balurghat district has not covered by the Central Team. District wise recovery amount as well as steps taken by the State Government of West Bengal against officials/functionaries is at **Annexure**.

Annexure referred in reply to part (a) to (g) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1129 dated 13.12.2022.

Sr. No.	Action Taken	District wise recovery amount as well as steps taken by the State Government of West Bengal against officials/functionaries			
1	FIR Lodged	So far FIR have been Lodged against 9 supervisors and 4 Govt. employees			
	Notice issued	Disciplinary proceedings, show cause notice, evidence collection and framing of article of charges are being done against 119 personnel, out of which Articles of charge have been framed against 16 persons and termination has been issued against 5 Supervisors.			
	Recovery made	Sl No.	District	Amount Recovered (Rs.)	
		1	Purba Medinipur	9,71,362	
		2	Bankura	3,63,170	
		3	Jhargarm	1,15,271	
		4	Dakshin Dinajpur	60,000	
		5	Pachim Medinipur	34,560	
3		6	Nadia	6,390	
		7	Dakshin Dinajpur	19,12,595	
		8	Alipurduar	3,16,242	
		9	South 24 Parganas	2,83,231	
		10	Uttar Dinajpur	1,15,213	
		11	North 24 Parganas	10,58,810	
	Schemes where criticize of estimate was done have been identified.				
	Disciplinary proceedings	Schemes where splitting of estimate was done have been identified and action has been started against 37 such Engineers/Technical personnel in the State. To avoid splitting of schemes a detailed advisory / direction has been issued to DPCs vide Memo No. 1001 dated 14.7.22. Orientation programmes and meetings have been held for engineers and Mahatma Gandhi NREGA officials on this issue.			
5	Termination	So far 57 supervisor and 3 Village Level Entrepreneurs terminated			