GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2486

TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2019

MISUSE OF MGNREGA FUNDS IN PUNJAB

2486. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL:

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding irregularities under MGNREGA and misuse of MGNREGA funds in Punjab, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has constituted any inquiry or has taken any action against the officials and people who perpetrated irregularities and misuse of MGNREGA funds in Punjab; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) to (c): The complaints regarding irregularities and misuse of funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) in States/UTs including Punjab are received in the Ministry. Since the responsibility of implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is vested with the State Governments/UTs, complaints received in the Ministry are forwarded to the concerned State Governments/UTs for taking appropriate action including investigation. The Ministry has constituted a committee to inquire into the complaint of Ex sarpanch, of village Sandhuwala, Tehsil & District Faridkot, Punjab alleging irregularities in implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in Faridkot district. The Ministry sent inquiry report to the State Government for appropriate action. The summary of recommendations of the report is as under:
- (i) Recovery (of Rs. 74.18 lakh) as proposed in the report shall be made by the State Government from the concerned officials and recovered amount shall be deposited in the State Employment Guarantee Fund (SEGC).
- (ii) The State government to conduct detailed independent investigation into the allegation of payment made to ghost beneficiaries as reflected through several affidavits, which are part of this report.