SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to use Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for funding most of the activities for rural development;
(b) if so, the facts thereof;
(c) whether the Government has identified the effective rural development schemes to improve rural economy;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the details of the new plans/schemes formulated for funding through MGNREGA?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): The core objectives of The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005 as per Schedule I, Para (3)

a. Providing not less than one hundred days of unskilled manual work as a guaranteed employment in financial year to every household in rural areas as per demand, resulting in creation of productive assets of prescribed quality and durability;
b. Strengthening the livelihood resource base of the poor
c. Proactively ensuring social inclusion; and
d. Strengthening Panchayat Raj Institutions

There are 261 combinations of works which are permissible under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. Out of this, 182 works are related to Natural Resource Management and 164 works are related to agriculture and allied activities. Mahatma Gandhi NREGS lays emphasis that atleast 60% of works at district level in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to Agriculture and Allied Activities which include works related to water security like construction of farm ponds, wells, earthen check dam, field channels and other water harvesting structures.

(c) & (d): In additional to Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the Ministry of Rural Development, inter alia, is implementing, Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyay – Gramin Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Skill development through Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs) to bring about overall improvement in the quality of life of the people in rural areas through employment generation, strengthening of livelihood opportunities, promoting self-
employment, skilling of rural youths and other basic amenities are aimed for improvement of rural economy. Each of the Schemes has separate budget allocations for their implementation.

The erstwhile Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) has been completely restructured as Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G) w.e.f 1st April, 2016 aims to provide “Housing for All” through provision of pucca house with basic amenities to all houseless households and households living in kutcha and dilapidated house in rural areas by 2022. 2.95 crore pucca houses are targeted for completion by 2022.

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention of the Government of India to improve rural infrastructure through construction of all weather roads to provide connectivity to eligible habitations. ‘Rural Roads’ being a State subject, the programme is being implemented by the respective State /UT Governments. Till date 98% of the eligible and feasible habitations have already been provided connectivity. A total of 6,21,058 Km road length has already been completed under PMGSY.

Under DAY-NRLM as on 31st January, 2020 more than 6.73 Crore Households have been mobilized into 60.82 lakh Self Help Groups (SHGs).

Under DDU-GKY and RSETI are also increasing employability in rural areas of the country. Under both the schemes, skill training is being imparted free of cost to the rural poor youths in various trades/job roles The number of the candidates trained and placed in jobs/settled under DDU-GKY and RSETI during the current financial year is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>DDU-GKY</th>
<th>RSETI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total no. of candidates trained</td>
<td>Total no. of candidates placed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>214187</td>
<td>137665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Till February, 2020)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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(e): New plans/schemes formulated for funding through Mahatma Gandhi NREGS are as following:

(i) **Project “UNNATI”:** The objective of the project is to upgrade the skill-base of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers and thereby improve their livelihoods by shifting from part time employment to full time employment. The training would be provided for one adult member (of age 18-45 year) of a household who has completed 100 days of work under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in FY 2018-19. The target is to train 2 lakh adult members of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers in 3 years. The candidate undergoing training will be paid stipend for a maximum period of 100 days and the household from which, the candidate will be selected for the training, will continue to get 100 days of work under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA in a financial year.

(ii) **Cluster Facilitation Project (CFP):** The Cluster Facilitation Project (CFP) will roll out from 1st April, 2020 for a period of 3 years. The objective of the project is to ensure effective implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the 250 blocks of 117 aspirational districts and 50 blocks in other backward areas through better planning coordination and monitoring by providing dedicated thematic experts from the fields of Geographic Information System (GIS), Natural Resource Management (NRM) and Agriculture and Allied at various levels - National, State, district, Block and sub block level. 100% cost of the project would be borne by the Ministry.