

O.I.H.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 51
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2021

SPECIAL SCHEMES DURING CORONA PANDEMIC.

51. SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE:
SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the special schemes run by the Government during the Corona pandemic and their present status including the schemes started for migrant workers returning to their homes;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to continue the said schemes in the near future, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any funds has been allocated for the said schemes and if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh; and
- (d) whether independent evaluation of these schemes is being done by any third party besides the department and concerned States and if so, the details thereof including in Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) Ministry of Finance, Government of India, on 26th March 2020, announced relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus. The relief package announced includes inter-alia one-time ex-gratia payment of Rs 500 per month for 3 months (April, May and June 2020) to women Jan Dhan Account holders. In pursuance of this, Ministry of Rural Development implemented the scheme of relief package of one-time ex-gratia payment of Rs 500 per month for 3 months (April, May and June 2020) to women Jan Dhan Account holders through various Banks. A total of Rs. 30956.97 crores has been released towards direct benefit transfers to Women beneficiaries of Jan Dhan account holders under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) @ Rs. 500/- each for three months.

Another component of the said PMGKY package was to provide ex-gratia of Rs.1000 in two instalments (Rs.500/- each) to the existing old age, widow and disabled/Divyangjan beneficiaries of the schemes of National Social Assistance Programme(NSAP). A total of Rs. 2814.50 crore as ex-gratia was released in two tranches in April and May, 2020 to States/UTs under PMGKY for the existing 282 lakh beneficiaries of NSAP schemes. It was also announced that limit for collateral free loan for SHGs would be enhanced from Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs.

Apart from this, the Garib Kalyan RojgarAbhiyaan (GKRA) was launched on 20th June, 2020 to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for returnee migrant workers and similarly affected citizens in rural area, in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic. The objectives of the Abhiyaan were to provide immediate employment & livelihood opportunities to the distressed, to saturate the villages with public infrastructure and creation of livelihood assets to boost the income generation activities and enhance long term livelihood opportunities by giving focus on 25 works in 116 selected districts across 6 States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The Abhiyaan has started with resource envelope of Rs.50,000 Crore with estimated employment generation of 40.34 Crore Persondays from 20th June, 2020 to 22nd October, 2020. The Abhiyaan is a convergent effort of ongoing schemes of 12 Ministries/Department of Central Government. The Abhiyaan had achieved an employment generation of 50.78 Crore Person-days with a total expenditure incurred of Rs.39,293 Crore.

(b) All the above mentioned special measures implemented by this Ministry are one time measures with reference to the Corona pandemic situation. There is no such proposal for their continuation.

(c) No separate State-wise allocation of funds including that of Uttar Pradesh under these measures has been made.

(d) There has been no third party independent evaluation for these special measures including that of Uttar Pradesh.
