GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1176 ANSWERED ON 03/12/2024

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND

1176. DR. BYREDDY SHABARI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the works undertaken in Andhra Pradesh under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any works under RIDF were taken for Nandyal region for FY 2023-24 or planned for FY 2024-25 and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any data regarding the payment made to beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whetherAadhaar seeding of beneficiaries of MGNREGS has been completed in the country and if so, the details of steps taken to ensure that the payments are made on time; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the number of working days and wages under MGNREGS and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a) & (b): Ministry of Rural Development was sanctioned NABARD loan of Rs 18,500 Crore in the year 2007-08 for construction/upgradation of rural roads under PMGSY. This loan was drawn in three installment from 2007-08 to 2009-10 (Rs. 4,500 Crore in 2007-08, Rs 7,500 Crore in 2008-09 and Rs. 6,500 Crore in 2009-10). This loan amount has been utilised as a source of consolidated pool amount for execution of PMGSY works. The said loan amount has been fully repaid by the Ministry. No works under PMGSY has been implemented using RIDF during the last five years.

- (c): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand-driven wage employment scheme. Wage payments are directly credited by the Central Government to the account of beneficiaries through the Direct Benefit Transfer protocol. In the current Financial Year 2024-25 (as on 29.11.2024) fund released to the State of Andhra Pradesh is Rs.5495.1316 Crores in wages category.
- (d): Yes, the Aadhar seeding of beneficiaries of MGNREGS has been completed in the country and 99.41% Aadhaar of Active workers have been seeded in NREGSoft as on 29.11. 2024. State/UTs have been requested to ensure 100% seeding of Aadhar numbers of NREGS beneficiaries into NREGASoft. In case States/UTs face any kind of issues or problems, concerning Aadhar seeding the same are resolved on a priority basis.
- (e): There is no plan to increase the minimum guaranteed days in a year to the workers under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. However, the Ministry mandates the provision of an additional 50 days of wage employment (beyond the stipulated 100 days) to every Scheduled Tribe Household in a forest area, provided that these households have no other private property except for the land rights provided under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.

In addition to this, there is a provision for up to an additional 50 days of wage employment in a financial year in drought/natural calamity-affected notified rural areas.

Further, as per Section 3 (4) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, the State Governments may make provision for providing additional days of employment beyond the period guaranteed under the Act from their own funds.

As per Section 6 (1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, the Central Government may by notification specify the wage rate for unskilled work for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate for every financial year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every financial year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL).

The overall % increase in wage rate for FY 2024-25 from FY 2023-24 is about 7 %.
