

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3172
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2016

MODE OF PAYMENT UNDER MGNREGS

3172. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
DR. RATNA DE (NAG):

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

- (a) whether the Government has started the use of Automated Handheld Devices for payments and verification of works being done under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the other steps taken/being taken to bring accountability and transparency in the above scheme?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

- (a) &(b): Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have started use of handheld devices/mobile phones for payment and verification of works under the Scheme.
- (c): The major steps taken by the Government to improve the programme implementation under MGNREGA are given in the **Annexure**.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3172 dated 04.08.2016

Major steps taken by the Government to improve the programme implementation under MGNREGA

Better planning and asset identification

- An Intensive Participatory Planning Exercise (IPPE) /Mission Antyodaya has been launched in 2569 most backward blocks. This exercise has helped in identifying better quality assets that need to be created.
- For improving convergence with the line departments, and thereby to improve the quality of assets, the State Convergence Plans have been formulated.

Improving the quality of works

- The associated outcomes of each work are being recorded before taking up the work, and the same is being measured after completion of the work-thereby bringing in more focus on outcomes.
- Ministry has conducted training of Technical Resource Persons from the States/UTs on different technical aspects of works which can be taken up under the scheme. States have been asked to train Block resource persons and district resource persons to form technical teams.
- The States/UTs have been asked to deploy State Quality Monitors to inspect the quality of assets created under the Scheme.
- States have been advised to engage technical assistants/barefoot engineers for better technical planning and supervision of works under MGNREG.

Better transparency, accountability and grievance redressal

- States/UTs have been asked to strengthen Social audits of MGNREGS works in accordance with the provisions of the Audit of Schemes Rules 2011 issued in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. Social Audit Action Plan has been formulated and shared with States.
- All States have been requested to set up an independent Social Audit Unit (SAU) and appoint Ombudsman at the district level for grievance redressal.
- The Ministry has established a comprehensive system of monitoring and review mechanism for MGNREGA, which, inter alia, include visits of the Officers of the Ministry and National Level Monitors.

- With a view to avoid bogus attendance and to check instances of tempering and misuse of muster rolls, the e-Muster system has been introduced.

Fund management and avoiding delays in payment

The Ministry has initiated Electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS) which directly credits the wages into the respective beneficiary's accounts using the core banking system. The Central Government has also started *National Electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS)* in 11 States (Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala Odisha Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and Uttrakhand) and launched Dashboard for tracking of pending Fund Transfer Orders, Public Fund Management System, electronic Fund Management System, Direct Benefit Transfer etc.

Monitoring and Review Mechanism

- The Scheme is regularly reviewed in the Performance Review Committee meetings, Video conferences and Regional Review meetings. State specific reviews are also undertaken from time to time. Officers of the Ministry and National Level Monitors also visit various districts to oversee the performance of MGNREGA.