

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 912
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2016

UNUTILISATION OF FUNDS UNDER MGNREGS

912. DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK":

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

- (a) the details of total amount not utilised under MGNREG Scheme in various States across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of instructions issued to the States by the Union Government for speedy utilisation of these unutilised funds;
- (c) whether these steps have been effective;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether any mechanism has been put in place to keep a vigil on financial and actual progress and to have coordination between Union Government and the State Governments in this regard?

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

(a)to(d): The Central share of programme funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is released to the States/UTs on the basis of labour demand projected in the respective labour budgets. Utilisation of funds under MGNREGA depends on the actual demand for wage employment in the implementing State/UTs. The funds are utilized by the States/UTs out of the total availability of funds which includes opening balance, Centre share, State share and miscellaneous receipts.

(e): The Ministry has established a comprehensive system of monitoring and review mechanism for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The evaluation of works under MGNREGA is regularly done in the Performance Review Committee meetings, Video conferences and weekly meetings. State specific reviews of States 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. During these reviews, the implementation aspects that need strengthening are identified including the areas for improvement in the quality of assets. The major steps taken by the Government to improve the programme implementation under MGNREGA are given in the **Annexure**.

Annexure referred in reply to part (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 912 dated 21.07.2016

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 MGNREGA.

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 Uttarakhand) and launched Dashboard for tracking of pending Fund Transfer Orders, Public Fund Management System, electronic Fund Management System, Direct Benefit Transfer etc.

Project LIFE – MGNREGA

- The Government has launched Project Livelihood in Full Employment-Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Project LIFE- MGNREGA). It

aims to plan and implement tailor-made livelihood interventions for rural households in convergence with National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and Deen Dayal Updhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojna (DDU-GKY) thereby, converting them into skilled persons.

- Focus on NRM and individual assets.

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.