

**Non-supply of documents for
audit on Nehru Rozgar Yojana**

*96. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE :
SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are not supplying documents for audit on Nehru Rozgar Yojana to the Audit Department ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing documents for audit ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL) : (a) and (b) The Ministry supplied the documents/information/material on the Nehru Rozgar Yojana as was requisitioned by the Audit during their Audit from June to September, 1993. However, Audit asked for certain minute details which were not being monitored and were not readily available with the Ministry. Such details had to be called for from States/UTs. Whatever information was received from the States/UTs, the same was supplied to Audit immediately on receipt. Full cooperation was extended to the Audit Party during this Audit.

**Construction of working women's
hostels in Delhi**

*97. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBAJIRAO SHINDE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a plan for construction of a number of working women's hostels in Delhi and New Delhi ;

(b) if so, the details indicating capacity and cost thereof ;

(c) the schedule of construction thereof ; and

(d) whether any policy guidelines have been laid down by Central Government about the need and desirability of working women's hostels in different cities and towns ; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has indicated that there is a plan to construct 4 additional Hostels for Working Women in Delhi/New Delhi. No proposal has yet been received by the Government of India.

(c) The Construction of Hostel Building for Working Women is required to be completed within a period of two years of its sanctioning.

(d) The Union Government assesses the need and desirability of working women's hostels on the basis of the periodic employment data on women obtained from the Directorate General of Employment and Training, and the recommendations made by State Government/ Union Territory Administrations.

Nehru Rozgar Yojana

*98. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study of the Nehru Rozgar Yojana by the Comptroller

and Auditor General, the Yojana suffer from several shortcomings ;

(b) if so, what are the main findings of the study and recommendations made if any ; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make it purposeful ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A gist of the main findings of the Study and steps taken by the Government are given in the enclosed statement. (See below) No recommendations as such were made by the Audit.

(c) The Yojana is very meaningful and purposeful as it is launched with the objective of generating self-employment and wage-employment opportunities for the urban ! poor. The Yojana is being monitored vigorously to ensure that the benefits reach the target group.

Statement

Summary of main queries/observations made in the review on implementation of Nehru Rozgar Yojana and the reaction of the Government thereto

Observation

. The target of one million Beneficiaries per year.

Reaction of the Government

The target was fixed keeping in view the allocation of funds from year to year. There has been gradual decline in the allocation of funds for the Yojana and it] would be difficult to maintain the tempo of implementation. Reduction ! in the allocation of funds leads to availability of only sub-critical

amounts at the level of Ucb Local Bodies thereby serving as disincentive. To combat the urban poverty on accelerated basis, it is necessary that allocation of funds needs to be raised.

Observation

2. Shortfall in the achievements.

Reaction of the government

The shortfall in achievement of targets is only under the Scheme of Housing & Shelter Upgradation (SHASU). The shortfall under this component is mainly due to the reluctance on the part of the beneficiaries to go in for loans for shelter upgradation as this is not an income-generating activity and of the State Governments to give Government guarantees for loans.

Observation

3. Non release of Central Share of funds -on the basis of urban population and incidence of urban poverty and some States getting less than their due, while others got funds in excess of what they were entitled to.

Reaction of the Government

Funds amongst the States/UTs were strictly allocated on the basis of urban population and incidence of poverty according to the accepted methodology. Minimum floor levels were also adopted to avoid sub-critical amounts. But at the time of releasing the first instalment of funds, performance as revealed the utilisation certificates/ progress reports/expenditure reported was also kept in view. The allocation was moderated due to non-performance and fund, were diverted to the better performing States/ UTs. Hence the variation from allocation initially intimated and also from the incidence of poverty criteria.

Observation

4. Non-utilisation of funds by States/UTs during 1989-90.

Reaction of the Government

The NRY was launched in October, 1989 and funds for 1989-90 were released in November 1989 and March, 1990. The guidelines were issued in November, 1989 and the recast guidelines were issued in March, 1990. Since the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) was to be implemented through Banks, the RBI issued necessary guidelines to the Scheduled/Commercial Banks in June, 1990 only. The guidelines became available to the implementing agencies in States/UTs only in September, 1990 or even later in some cases. The Yojana may thus actually be deemed to have essentially started in the last quarter of 1990-91.

Similarly, the Scheme of Housing & Shelter Upgradation was to be implemented through HUDCO, States/UTs were required to nominate single Nodal Agency for implementation of this particular scheme. HUDCO was to sanction subsidy funds on a project to project basis. It necessarily took some time for the State/UTs to nominate the State Nodal Agency for the purpose of obtaining loan from HUDCO and the State Nodal Agencies to formulate the Schemes for submission to HUDCO.

Observation

5. Partial utilisation of funds by majority of the States in the subsequent years.

Reaction of the Government

It took some time for the States/UTs to set up organisational structures for implementation of the Yojana as also to gear up the machinery. There were initial bottlenecks in the implementation of the Yojana, but the Yojana has

since gained momentum and the tempo of implementation has since increased, barring a few small States. All-out efforts have been made to impress upon the non-performing and slow performing States the importance and the benefits of the Yojana.

Observation

6. Delay in release of State Shares.

Reaction of the Government

Some States did not provide the required State Share of the NRY in time. Such States have been repeatedly reminded to make good the shortfalls in their shares. Several States/UTs have since done the needful and others are in the process of making up the shortfall.

Observation

7. Delay in processing of loan applications under the scheme of Micro Enterprises.

Reaction of the Government

Most of the States/UTs have been complaining about the abnormal delay in processing of loan applications by the Banks. At our instance, the RBI has more than once issued instructions to the banks to dispose of the applications in a time-bound manner and within 15 days of their receipt. Despite these clear instructions by RBI, the banks have been considerably delaying the processing of loan applications. On receipt of any specific reference from the States/UTs regarding abnormal delays, the matter is taken up with RBI, who, in turn, refer the matter to the Lead Bank and the applications are then disposed off quickly.

Observation

8. Special target group not fully covered.

Reaction of the Government

Guidelines provide that "it is expected that broadly 30% of the

beneficiaries under the Schemes of Micro Enterprises and Housing & Shelter Upgradation would be women and that with a view to ensuring adequate representation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the programme, funds proportionate to their share in the urban population should be earmarked for beneficiaries belonging to these social segments." In the event of these funds not being utilised for this category/segments, they can be used for the general category with the approval of the District NRY Committee."

Observation

9. Mis-utilisation of subsidy in some cases.

Reaction of the Government

The report has not given any specific instances of mis-utilisation of subsidy by the beneficiaries. Hence no comments can be offered in this regard.

Observation

10. Subsidy-loan ratio not maintained in some cases.

Reaction of the Government

It is observed that the banks are not sanctioning and releasing the loan amounts in many cases as per the guidelines of NRY. In most of the cases, the loan sanctioned is less than the amount provided for under the Scheme. The RBI has been addressed in this regard.

Observation

11. Employment of private contractors/agencies under the Scheme of Wage Employment.

Reaction of the Government

The guidelines do not permit the engagement of contractors and the works are to be executed de-

partmentally with a view to eliminating the contractors. However, petty contractors, who, themselves belong to the category of urban poor can be given supervision charges with the approval of Urban Local Body. All States are being reminded from time to time to refrain from the deployment of contractors in the execution of NRY schemes.

Observation

12. Material Labour Ratio not maintained under the Scheme of Urban Wage Employment.

Reaction of the Government

The material labour ratio of 60 : 40 for Urban Wage Employment Scheme to be maintained on an average at the district level. The review does not indicate the names of the Districts where this material labour ratio was not maintained.

Observation

13. Records of assets created not being maintained by some States under the Scheme of Urban Wage Employment.

Reaction of the Government

The Urban Local Bodies are supposed to maintain such records.

Observation

14. The Scheme of Urban Wage Employment implemented in Cities with population more than one lakh.

Reaction of the Government

The guidelines provide for implementation of the Scheme Urban Wage Employment in Cities with population less than one lakh, with the exception of NE Hill States and Sikkim, provides where any specific State is of the view that such application would reduce the pace of development in towns with a population of less than one lakh.

Observation

15. Implementation of the Housing & Shelter Upgradation in towns with less than one lakh population.

Reaction of the Government

The Scheme is applicable in all urban settlements with population between one lakh and 20 lakhs with the exception of NE Hill States and Sikkim and similar towns in the hill districts of other States (as defined by the Planning Commission) and newly industrialising townships. However, the Ministry considers the request from States on a case to case basis for permitting them the implementation of this component in cities with population below one lakh. Recently this Ministry has given permission for taking up 22 towns in Andhra Pradesh and 7 towns in West Bengal.

Observation

16. State level Monitoring Units not set-up.

Reaction of the Government

The report mentions that State Level Monitoring Committees have been, set-up only in 10 States. However, according to the information available in the Ministry, all States/UTs implementing NRY have since set up monitoring agencies.

Total Cultivated Land Area

- *99. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAT :
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total cultivated land area in the country during the last three years respectively

- (b) what has been the corresponding area under cultivation of

coarse foodgrain during these years; whether there has been any reduction in such area ; and

- (c) if so, the reasons thereof ?•

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) :
(a) The total cultivated land area in the country during the last three years ending 1990-(latest available) is as follows :-

(Million hectare)

Year	Cultivated land area
1988-89	155.9
1989-90	155.4
1990-91	156.0

(b) and (c) The cultivated area under coarse foodgrain crops during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 was estimated as 38.68, 37.69 and 36.32 million hectares respectively. The cultivated area under coarse foodgrains has shown declining trend over the years. The main reason for decline in area under coarse foodgrains is the expansion of irrigated area with which farmers shifted their area to other high yielding and more remunerative crops.

Increase in the prices of Aluminium

- *100. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether London Metal Exchange (LME) price of aluminium has increased considerably since January, 1992 ;

(b) whether increased exports has created an acute shortage of steel in the country ; and