

Performance of NREGA

405. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a study "Evaluating performance of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA)" conducted by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and Public Interest foundation (PIF) revealing that the programme has achieved only 50 per cent success and several cases of data manipulated with fudging of muster rolls reported;

(b) whether it is a fact that the new minimum wages, which have been notified were being paid at the earlier dates; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government to above mentioned stinging critique from a respectable institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN):

(a) and (c) Yes, Sir. As NREGA is not a target based programme, it is not correct to say that only 50% success has been achieved. NCAER-PIF report does not reflect any original estimate of survey done by the organization. Hence, the findings mentioned in the report is not based on its own survey. It refers to selective portions of studies conducted by various other institutions *e.g.* Centre for Environment and Food Security (CEFS) and organizations that may differ in time frame and survey methodology. The findings of CEFS report has been got verified by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh. In most of the cases the findings were not found true. The study conducted by NCAER-PIF mainly highlights the findings of the CAG report on the performance audit conducted by CAG which was for the period 2006-07, the first year of the NREGA implementation. The CAG report has been examined in this Ministry. This report does not highlight any cases of data manipulation. However, the report has mainly focused on the procedural gaps and record maintenance by the implementing agencies because of inadequate staff. Specific instances of anomalies pointed out in CAG report have been shared with the State Governments for corrective action.

(b) Central Government has notified Wage rate under Section 6(1) of NREGA with effect from 1.1.2009. It takes into account the minimum wages for agricultural labourers as notified by the respective States under Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act 1948 prior to that date.

Utilisation of funds in Orissa

406. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released by his Ministry to Orissa during the last three years, scheme-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the percentage of utilisation of Central Government fund by Orissa during the last three years, scheme-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development implemented the major schemes namely, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) during the last three years *i.e.* 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09. Scheme-wise Central Share of funds released by this Ministry to Government of Orissa and percentage utilisation of funds by the Government of Orissa is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

*Central Share of funds released to Govt. of Orissa and
percentage of utilization of funds*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
		Central Release	% Utilisation	Central Release	% Utilisation	Central Release	% Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA)	78380.49	82.39	53695.69	71.46	87843.67	53.40
2	Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY)	6724.76	99.59	10036.40	87.83	12132.09	86.29
3	Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar* Yojana (SGRY)	11931.45	85.09	4492.37	89.64	*	*
4	Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)	15042.66	92.62	20280.02	113.97	46082.19**	38.87
5	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)	64178.00	\$90.81	54683.00	\$123.87	125138.00	\$92.94
6	Integrated Watershed Development Programme (IWDP)	2062.00	\$	1794.00	\$	3354.00	46.24\$
7	Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)	1481.00	\$	2393.00	\$	2513.00	56.11\$

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)	9722.58	61.75	17194.55	100.00	29868.00	56.29
10	Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)	5465.48	64.04	5858.40	94.02	7204.33	55.05

* SGRY subsumed into NREGA *w.e.f.* 1.4.2008. Percentage utilisation is out of the available funds which include opening balance + central and State releases + miscellaneous receipts.

** Including amount of Rs. 3706.00 lakh, allotted to 5 Naxal affected district of Orissa for a target of construction of 28236 houses.

\$ The percentage utilisation in PMGSY is on the basis of central releases.

\$\$ Percentage utilisation in IWDP and DPAP is on the basis of the cumulative expenditure of last three years.

Implementation of NREGA in Assam

407. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of job cards, issued under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) in Assam since its implementation till January, 2008 and number of man-days and wages granted to each of the card holders in the backward districts year-wise during the period;

(b) the total allocation made under NREGA for Assam and amount actually utilized during the period; and

(c) proposed target and allocation made for 2008-09 and 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) NREGA is demand driven. Employment is provided to a registered household having a job card on demand. Up to January, 2008, 9.25 lakh households were provided employment. District-wise expenditure incurred on payment of wages is given the Statement. Details of wages paid to each household are available at the official website of NREGA *i.e.* www.nrega.nic.in. Up to the Financial Year 2007-08, 13 districts of Assam had been covered under the Act. Details of job cards issued, number of households to whom employment was given, total person-days of employment generated and expenditure incurred on wages to such households are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) NREGA is demand based. The Central Government releases funds to the districts based on labour demand. Central funds released, total available funds and funds utilized by Assam during 2006-07 and 2007-08 (up to Jan., 2008) are as under:

Funds released (Rs. in lakh)		Total Available funds (Rs. in lakh)		Funds Utilised (Rs. in lakh)	
2006-07	2007-08 (Up to Jan., 08)	2006-07	2007-08 (Up to Jan., 08)	2006-07	2007-08 (Up to Jan., 08)
26550.85	49817.01	70769.1	72435.85	59252.93	34223.44

(c) A sum of Rs. 95872.16 lakh were released during 2008-09 and Rs. 16177.71 lakh have so far been released during 2009-10.