(b) and (c) ONGC started making payment of Royalty at post-discount price from 1.4.2008 (due on 31.5.2008) in line with provisions of ORDA, 1948 and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas's decision on the subject.

(d) and (e) The State Government of Gujarat has represented to the Union Government for payment of royalty as per pre-discount prices. On examination of the issues raised by Government of Gujarat, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has clarified to the Government of Gujarat that royalty payments made by ONGC is on the basis of crude oil price actually realized *i.e.* post-discount price.

Job cards issued under NREGS

†1342. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that job cards were given to 1,06,35,840 villagers in Uttar Pradesh and 1,12,60,859 villagers in Madhya Pradesh in the year 2009-2010 but only 15,38,544 and 24,07,128 villagers respectively were provided with employment;

(b) if so, whether this is the reason for a large number of villagers migrating towards towns in search of employment;

(c) the reasons for providing employment to less number of people; and

(d) whether Government would obtain information from other States also about providing employment under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) A job card issued to a rural household under NREGA is valid for a period of 5 years. As per latest reports received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, cumulative number of job cards issued since inception of the Act is 1,06,83,969. Number of households provided employment in the State was 28,66,349 during the year 2006-07; 43,46,916 during 2007-08; 52,07,665 during 2008-09 and 28,61,505 during 2009-10 (up to October, 09). In Uttar Pradesh, 1,09,38,138 job cards have been issued. Number of households provided employment was 25,73,245 during 2006-07, 40,96,408 during 2007-08; 43,36,466 during 2008-09 and 32,27,258 during 2009-10 (up to October,09).

NREGA is demand based. Employment is provided to the job card holding rural households only when the apply for it. During the current year (2009-10 upto Oct.'09) in Madhya Pradesh, 2866252 households have demanded employment against which 2861505 households have been provided employment and in Uttar Pradesh, 3228631 households demanded employment out of which 3227258 households have been provided

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

employment. Employment under NREGA is to be provided within 15 days from the date from which employment has been demanded. Hence, at a particular point of time, there may be a gap between the employment demanded and employment provided.

NREG Act only provides a guarantee for 100 days of employment in a year per household on demand. The workers are free to avail alternative forms of employment.

(d) All State Governments furnish information on the status of implementation of NREGA through Monthly progress Reports (MPRs). This information is available on web site ***www.nrega.nic.in.***

Implementation of NREGS in Punjab

1343. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the actual allotment made for the financial years 2008-09 and 2009-10 for Punjab under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);

(b) the actual amount utilized for the year 2008-09, district-wise, and the number of house-holds benefited thereby, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that the funds under the Scheme actually reach the needy house-holds, registered under the Scheme and are not taken up by the intermediaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) NREGA is demand based programme. Central Government releases funds to the States for implementation of NREGA based on labour demand at the field level. A sum of Rs.67.75 crore was released to Punjab during 2008-09 and Rs.53.97 crore has been released in the current year so far.

(b) District-wise utilization of funds and number of households provided employment for the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto Oct.'09) is given in the Statement (see below).

(c) With a view to monitor the use of funds under NREGA to ensure that the funds actually reach the beneficiaries, the following steps have been taken by the Ministry:-

(i) A web enabled MIS has been operationalised which tracks the funds released by the Centre to the States/districts up to the various implementing agency level.

(ii) The States/districts are required to submit Audit Reports and Utilisation certificates for the previous year, bank reconciliation statement, implementing agency-wise expenditure statement for each block and fund non-diversion certificate while submitting their proposal to the Centre for release of funds.