

(d) On the basis of DMU reports, the PMO raises issues from time to time and guides the Ministry for further improvements in the implementation of the Act.

Total Sanitation Campaign in Rajasthan

1335. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts covered under the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) in Rajasthan;

(b) the sanitation coverage in Rajasthan as per census 2001 data;

(c) the present coverage and how does it compare with all India percentage coverage;

(d) the total number of villages yet to be covered under TSC in the State; and

(e) the reasons for slow pace of implementation of TSC in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI AGATHA SANGMA): (a) All 32 districts of Rajasthan have been covered under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC).

(b) Rajasthan had rural sanitation coverage of 14.61% as per Census 2001 data.

(c) Rajasthan at present has rural sanitation coverage of 45.45% as per progress reported by the State through online monitoring system of Department of Drinking Water Supply. The rural sanitation coverage of the country is 62.41% as per progress reported by all the States.

(d) Total Sanitation Campaign is a demand driven, project based programme taking district as a unit. The district project includes all Gram Panchayats in the district requiring sanitation facilities as per the TSC guidelines.

(e) The rural sanitation coverage in the State of Rajasthan has increased from 14.61% in 2001 to 45.45% that is an increase of 30.84 per cent points over a period of nine years.

Electronic payment system in NREGS

1336. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it takes about a month for National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) payments to reach the actual beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is considering a plan to introduce a smart card-based Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system to pay wages to beneficiaries of the NREGS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Section 3(3) of MGNREGA provides that the disbursement of wages shall be made on weekly basis or in any case not later than a fortnight after the date on which such work was done. All State Governments are required to make wage payment to the beneficiaries in accordance with the provisions of the Act. However, instances of delayed payment of wages have been brought to the notice of the Ministry.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is at present under consideration of the Government. Wage disbursement to MGNREGA workers through Banks/Post Office accounts has been made mandatory to ensure proper disbursement of wages to MGNREGA workers. The innovative financial inclusion models alongwith ICT enabled financial transactions in rural areas can increase outreach of financial services and provide easy access for MGNREGA workers. Business correspondent/facilitator models, Rural ATM, hand held devices, smart cards and biometrics, mobile banking are some of the measures for initiation.

Fresh survey for BPL families

1337. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a fresh survey of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families has been carried out by his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the criteria adopted to identify the poor and by when the survey is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, Sir.

Special attention for SC/ST population village

1338. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan for special attention for development of the villages having more than 50 per cent SC/ST population; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Rural Development has no plan for special attention for development of the villages having more than 50 per cent SC/ST population.