

Contract of MNREGS work

2733. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States including Orissa are using heavy machinery in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) work instead of using Card holder workers;

(b) whether there is also some allegation of merging MNREGS work in various State Government projects, MLALAD fund and MPLAD fund to reduce the importance of MNREGS work; and

(c) whether contractors can also be engaged in MNREGS works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) In accordance with para 12 of Schedule-I of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, use of machinery is not allowed under the Act. The Ministry has however, received complaints regarding use of machinery under the Act in some States. One such complaint has been received in respect of Orissa.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Para 11 of Schedule-I of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA provides that the Scheme shall not permit engaging any contractor for implementation of the projects under it.

Deep bored hand pumps

†2734. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to install the deep bore hand pumps to provide water to the people of Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI AGATHA SANGMA): (a) and (b) A memorandum for the integrated development of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh had been presented to Hon'ble Prime Minister, signed by a number of Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly. The request was for financial assistance for the development of the region through a comprehensive package. The

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.