

| Priority | Population size of habitations being connected |
|----------|--|
| I | 1000+ |
| II | 500-999 |
| III | 250-499 (in respect of the Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand) and the Desert Areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) as well as Tribal (Schedule-V) areas. |

Similarly, Comprehensive Upgradation Priority List (CUPL) is prepared for upgradation of roads in the districts. The State Governments prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for construction of roads as per CNCPL and CUPL, which are approved by the Ministry of Rural Development. The roads are constructed by the State Governments.

(d) There has been a delay in the execution/completion of some of the packages/road works in the given districts. Out of the 182 number of road works (Banda — 52, Chitrakut — 62, Jalaun — 18, Lalitpur — 17, Jhansi — 18, Mahoba — 15) which have been taken up in the financial year 2009-2010, 24 road works are running as per the time schedule and the remaining are delayed to due to various reasons.

NREGS works in Orissa

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

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government of Orissa is deducting 26 per cent as royalty from the NREGS earth and machine works, even of the road and village Task belonged to the same village and is utilising the same fund for other State Government sponsored schemes; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government of Orissa internally merging the NREGA work on MP-MLA local fund works as State Government sponsored work to dilute the NREGA's importance on the work is being carried by big contractors utilizing heavy job machines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No, Sir. As per report received from the State Government of Orissa, the State Government is not deducting 26% royalty from Mahatma Gandhi NREGA earth works. The State Government is collecting royalty in all schemes implemented in Orissa as per the Orissa Minor Mineral Concession Rules. Rate of royalty collected under these rules is as under:—

| Item | Unit | Rate |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Earth | Per cubic meter | Rs. 14.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Murum | Per cubic meter | Rs. 14.00 |
| Sand | Per cubic meter | Rs. 14.00 |
| Stone product | Per cubic meter | Rs. 50.40 |
| Laterite stone | Per cubic meter | Rs. 70.00 |

No amount towards royalty is being deducted for earth work in renovation of tanks/water bodies.

(b) No, Sir. State Government is not merging the MGNREGA work with MP MLA LAD fund work.

Budgetary allocation for NREGS

148. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the budget provision for 2009-10 Government has made for implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);

(b) the amount allocated and released to the State of Himachal Pradesh for implementation of NREGS for 2009-10;

(c) whether some State Governments including Himachal Pradesh are facing financial crisis in meeting the increasing cost of wages under the NREGS;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government proposes to increase the financial allocation to these States under NREGS;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the way Government has adopted or plan to adopt to get Himachal Pradesh Government come over these financial crises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) A budget provision of Rs. 39,100 crore has been made for the Financial Year 2009-10 for implementation of NREGA.

(b) NREGA is demand based. Funds are released to the States based on the labour demand arising at the field level. The Ministry has so far released a sum of Rs. 33177.61 lakh in the State Employment Guarantee Fund of Himachal Pradesh during 2009-10.

(c) Under NREGA, Central Government is committed to bear the entire cost of wages to unskilled workers as per wage rate notified by the Centre. No reference indicating financial crisis in meeting the cost of wages in Himachal Pradesh has so far been received in the Ministry of Rural Development.

(d) Does not arise.