

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received in the Ministry regarding irregularities in implementation of NREGS in both the States. All cases when brought to the notice of the Ministry are sent to the concerned State Governments for investigation of the matter and taking action in accordance with the provisions of the Act. In addition, National Level Monitors (NLMs) are also deputed by the Ministry to enquire into the specific complaints.

#### **Performance of NREGA**

136. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States scoring high percentage of mandays in National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and coming first to fifth position in all India ranking during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10;

(b) the names of the high ranking States in respect of quality of works and completion of projects under NREGA during the years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010;

(c) whether the placement of 1st instalment of funds from the Centre got delayed for the year 2009-2010, particularly in Tripura;

(d) what steps Government is taking to expedite the completion of projects and improve the quality of works; and

(e) whether Government has a separate shelf of projects for women workers under NREGA and whether Government would make a review of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based. The Act provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of employment in a Financial Year to every rural household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. Number of days of employment provided to a household depends upon the number of days of employment demanded by it. There are no predetermined targets under the Act and hence, States are not ranked on the basis of percentage of mandays, quality of works and completion of projects alone. The Government has introduced district level Award for Excellence in Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Administration from 2008-09. Under this scheme, 22 districts of various States were awarded for their overall performance in NREGA implementation during the year 2007-08 and 25 districts have been awarded for their performance during 2008-09.

(c) The first installment of funds under NREGA for 2009-10 was released to those districts which had communicated their Opening Balance as on 1.4.2009 and settled their accounts up to 2007-08 through Utilisation Certificate and Audit Report. 2 districts of Tripura, namely West Tripura and North Tripura had met the requirements for release of funds and part of

1st installment to these districts was released on 29.4.2009. After meeting the requirement, district Dhalai was released funds on 26.5.2009 and South Tripura on 13.7.2009 on the basis of Vote on Account. Balance of 1st installment was released to all 4 districts of Tripura on 7.8.2009 after passing of the regular budget by the parliament.

(d) With a view to expedite completion of projects and improving the quality of works under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the following steps have been taken.

- (i) States have been asked to deploy dedicated staff, including the technical staff, with the implementing agencies for quick measurement of executed works. For doing this, administrative expenditure under the Act has been enhanced from 4% to 6% with effect from 1.4.2009.
- (ii) Proper planning of works has been insisted upon.
- (iii) Status of implementation of the Act is reviewed regularly in Performance Review Committee meetings held on quarterly basis and also in the State specific review meetings.
- (iv) National level Monitors (NLMs) and Area Officers are deputed to various States from time to time to oversee the performance of the Act. They also monitor the quality of works taken up under the Act.

(e) No, Sir. Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act does not contain any provision for a separate shelf of projects for women workers.

#### **Average job days under NREGA**

137. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the average job days provided under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) fell short of the targeted 100 days in many States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the reasons for the shortfall in providing the guaranteed job days under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based. The Act provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of wage employment in a Financial Year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Therefore, number of days of employment provided to a household depends on the number of days of employment demanded by the household. State-wise details of number of days of employment provided under NREGA during the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto January, 10) are given in the Statement.