Achievements under poverty alleviation programmes

†1013. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of various poverty alleviation programmes in the country has brought about sufficient change in living standard of people living the Below Poverty Line (BPL);

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

(c) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the number of persons living Below Poverty Line, especially in Jharkhand who have been brought Above Poverty Line during last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development implements the major scheme *viz.*, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) as wage employment and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY)/National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) as self employment programme for employment generation and poverty alleviation in all the rural areas of the country through State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. In addition to these schemes, the Ministry of Rural Development also implements other schemes namely, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Integrated Weatershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Total Sanitation Programme (TSC) for overall improvement in living standard of rural households.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development has not monitored/maintained State-wise number of persons crossed the poverty line during the last three years.

ATM like machines for MGNREGS workers

1014. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry at National level is testing an ATM like machines for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers to reduce their dependence on panchayat officials or administration, where uncontrollable frauds are taking place;

(b) if so, what are the various remedial measures undertaken at National level to make the scheme as a successful venture to eradicate poverty in rural areas;

(c) whether ATM like machines shall be introduced at every village level for successful implementation of the scheme; and

(d) if not, the reasons for non-implementation of ATM like machines at every village level for proper implementation of the MGNREGS?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Payment of wages to Mahamta Gandi NREGA workers has been made mandatory through their accounts in banks/post offices by making an amendment in para 31 of Schedule-II of the Act. To cover gaps in financial services and outreach, Rural ATMs, hand held devices, smart cards, biometrics and business correspondent models have been initiated by some State Governments.

Assistance under IAY Scheme

1015. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:
PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has finalised the definition of dwelling unit under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) suitable for a healthy living in consultation with the Ministry of Health;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the enhanced amount of assistance under IAY is too low as per the existing cost of materials and construction;

(d) if so, the steps taken to enhance the assistance amount; and

(e) the number of persons provided assistance under IAY and those still awaiting assistance under IAY in Gopalganj district, Bihar and by when the remaining persons will be provided assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The IAY guidelines provide that the plinth area of a IAY house should not be less than 20 square metres. The layout, size and type design of IAY dwelling units depend on the local conditions and the preference of the beneficiary. The houses are to be designed in accordance with the desire of the beneficiaries, keeping in view the climatic conditions and the need to provide ample space, kitchen, ventilation, sanitary latrine facilities, smokeless chulhas etc. Although Ministry of Health has not been consulted in the matter, a Task Force set up in the Ministry in July, 2009 for examining various issues related to construction of houses under IAY, had recommended, *inter alia*, that efforts should be made to ensure that the house is a pucca one with permanent walls and permanent roofing, the permanent nature of the walls and roofing to be determined in a manner that the house is:—

(i) able to withstand the weather conditions of the place throughout the year;