

employment generation, dwelling units, rural connectivity and infrastructure and for providing basic amenities in rural areas of the country. These schemes help to check migration of rural population. Some of the studies conducted under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) indicate decrease in distress migration.

(c) to (e) The suggestions received from State Governments and public representatives are examined and appropriate modifications are made in the respective programme guidelines. Recently, under MGNREGA, the benefits of works on individual lands have been extended to small and marginal farmers by amending Para I (iv) of Schedule I of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). This is intended to provide of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities to land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes or Below Poverty Line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) of the Government of India or that of small farmers or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme 2008. Further, construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra (BNRGSK) has been included as a permissible activity in Para I of Schedule I of the Act. Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), cost of bridges upto 50 meter under PMGSY will be borne by the Government of India instead of 25 meter in earlier cases and habitations having population of 250 and above in Left Wing Extremist (LWE) areas identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Complaints regarding functioning of MGNREGS in Rajasthan

†1532. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred daily in Rajasthan under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) alongwith number of people being provided employment thereunder;

(b) whether the Central Government has received several serious complaints about the functioning of this scheme, from the States; and

(c) the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the Ministry maintains month-wise data regarding

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

expenditure incurred and number of households provided employment. As reported by the State Government of Rajasthan, during the current financial year (up to September, 2010), 4502558 households had been provided employment and an expenditure of Rs. 1548.50 crore had been incurred.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has received some serious complaints about the functioning of MGNREGA. As implementation of the Act is done by the State Governments/UT Administration in accordance with the Employment Guarantee Schemes formulated by them as per the provisions of the Act, all complaints received in the Ministry have been forwarded to the concerned States/UTs for taking appropriate action. The Ministry has also deputed National Level Monitors to the concerned districts to enquire into some of the complaints of very serious nature. State Governments have also been advised that in cases of mis-appropriation and embezzlement of Government funds, not only disciplinary action should be taken against the guilty officials but simultaneously criminal persecution should also be initiated under Indian Penal Code and Prevention of Corruption Act, besides recovering the amount involved from the persons concerned in accordance with law.

Access to safe drinking water to all

1533. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has ensured that all people are provided with access to safe drinking water;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has considered providing community-based water-purifier plants;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Government is on track to meet the Goal 7 of UN Millennium Development Goal (provision of clean drinking water); and
- (g) if not, the steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI AGATHA SANGMA) : (a) to (c) As on 1.4.2010, under Bharat Nirman there were 376 uncovered and 1,44,064