

(TSC) in rural areas of the country, through State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. An amount of Rs. 39957.48 crore, Rs. 60509.13 and Rs. 82187.26 crore respectively was spent during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 under MGNREGA, SGSY/NRLM, IAY, PMGSY, NRDWP and TSC. The cumulative expenditure under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Watershed Development Programme (IWDP) is Rs. 1648.94 crore, Rs. 1332.87 crores and Rs. 1726.54 crore during the last three years (i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10). DPAP, DDP and IWDP have been merged into IWMP now.

(c) The Ministry of Rural Development has put in place a comprehensive system of monitoring the implementation of the programmes including utilization of funds through Periodical Progress Reports, Performance Review Committee, Area Officer's Scheme, Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at the State and District Levels and National Level Monitors. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been advised to adopt a five-pronged strategy to improve the implementation of the rural development schemes consisting of (i) creation of awareness about the schemes, (ii) transparency, (iii) people's participation, (iv) accountability, social audit and (v) vigilance and monitoring of rural development programmes at all levels to achieve maximum success rate.

Linking of MGNREGS wages with CPI

1538. SHRI N. K. SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the intention of Government to link the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) wages to Consumer Price Index (CPI) for agricultural labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is reviewing the need to revise the MGNREGS wages due to high inflation in the past one and a half years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) to (d) An Expert Committee has been set up to suggest appropriate indexing of wage rate under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. The Committee has not yet submitted its report.

Payment of unemployment allowance

1539. SHRI MANGALA KISAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: