

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (d) Projects for short term skill development/ training of rural youth Below Poverty Line (BPL) for their placement in entry level jobs in growing sectors of the economy, were being taken up since 2005-06, under the Special Project component of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY). This initiative is proposed to be further strengthened under National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). So far, 116 such projects have been sanctioned and these projects will cover more than 9 lakh rural BPL beneficiaries. As against this, till January, 2011, 2.67 lakh beneficiaries have been trained and about 2.03 lakh have been given placements. The major trades or skills covered in these projects include apparel, leather, retail, industrial trades, construction, security, facility management, hospitality, health-care, computer based accountancy, IT related services, Domestic BPO services, etc. This is a demand driven skill development programme with placement of rural BPL beneficiaries after training as the outcome. The target for coverage of beneficiaries and skills or trades to be imparted in these projects is determined by placement opportunities in that sector.

Release of second tranche of MGNREGS funds

1375. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the conditions for release of the second tranche of MGNREGS funds include the progress with the construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendras (BNRGSK);

(b) if so, what are the other conditions for release of the funds under the scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that involvement of private contractors in the construction of BNRGSKS is permitted when the construction involves the use of MGNREGS funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Action taken on construction of BNRGSK is one of the pre-requisite for release of the second installment of funds under the Act. States/districts have to spell out the action taken as per the guidelines in this regard.

(b) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based legislation. Central Government releases funds to the States as per the projections made in the approved labour budget which is based on physical and financial performance of the State in the previous financial

year. As per prescribed norms, the States are required to submit district and month-wise projections as agreed to in the labour budget. First installment is released in April/May subject to a minimum of 50% of agreed labour budget after adjusting the opening balance available with the State/districts. For second installment, the States are required to submit their release proposals alongwith audit report and utilisation certificate showing utilisation of atleast 60% of the available resources. If the actual performance matches with the month-wise projections in the labour budget the balance requirement of fund for a State/district for the entire year are released in one go.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Audit and accountability of MGNREGS expenditure

1376. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no audit has been carried out at any level towards the funds released of Rs. 1.08 lakh crore to States under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) since February, 2006;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the principle and method adopted by Government to release the fund and its accountability over its expenditure occurred under the MGNREGS, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No, Sir. Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, Financial Audit is mandatory.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand driven legislation. Central Government releases funds to the States as per the projections made in the approved labour budget which is based on physical and financial performance of the State in the previous financial year. As per prescribed norms, the States are required to submit district and month-wise projections as agreed to in the labour budget. First installment is released in April/May subject to a minimum of 50% of agreed labour budget after adjusting the opening balance available with the State/districts. For second installment, the States are required to submit their release proposals in prescribed format alongwith Audit Report of the Chartered Accountant and Utilisation Certificate showing utilisation of atleast 60% of the available funds.