

श्री नमो नारायण मीणा: सभापति जी, कुछ सेक्टर्स मेंने रिप्लाय में भी दिये हैं और MSME is one of the sectors. But some of the affected sectors are the power sector, the steel sector and the aviation sector.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Percentage-wise!

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: If you want to know the percentage-wise details, in the aviation sector, the outstanding loan was Rs.39,000 crores and the NPA is Rs. 741 crores. In the power sector, the outstanding in September 2011 was Rs.1,21,000 crores and the overdue amount was Rs. 446 crores. In the steel sector...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, the Minister can furnish the percentage-wise details later on.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Okay, Sir.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, there are some telecom companies whose licenses have been cancelled, as directed by the Supreme Court, How much outstanding amount are these telecom companies having with the nationalized banks?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I do not have the figures just now. I will supply these figures to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question No. 83.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, yesterday, I have given a zero hour notice...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Zero hour notice is a separate matter.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: This is a very important issue. They are cutting down the audit of banks. On the one hand the NPAs are going up by 50 per cent...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take it up with the hon. Minister.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: The Government is proposing to reduce the audit of PSU banks. It is a very important issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have a point. But please take it up separately...
(Interruptions) Question No. 83.

Utilization of MGNREGS funds

*83. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released to various State Governments under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), in 2011-12 upto 31 January, 2012. State-wise;

(h) whether Government has conducted any inspection of each of these States in 2011-12;

(c) whether it is a fact that 97 per cent of such funds were spent on roads and other earth digging schemes; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to stop wastage of funds on schemes with a very limited value and duration?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A Statement showing Central funds released under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), State/UTs-wise during 2011-12 up to February 2012 is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) There is a comprehensive system of monitoring and review of the implementation of all the programmes, including MGNREGA, which *inter-alia* include Periodic Progress Report, Performance Review Committee, Area Officers' Scheme, National Level Monitors and Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at the State and District levels. Independent Monitoring and verification by National Level Monitors (NLMs) and Area Officers is also carried out in cases of specific complaints. The findings and reports of such review meetings and visits are shared with the concerned States/UT Governments for follow up action as implementation of MGNREGA is done by the States/UT Governments in accordance with the Schemes formulated by them as per provisions of the Act.

(c) and (d) The primary objective of MGNREGA is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. Creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor is also an important objective of the Act. Schedule-I of the Act lists the category of works in the order of their priority which shall be included in the Schemes to be formulated by the State Governments under Section 4(1) of the Act. These primarily include water and soil conservation works, afforestation, works relating to augmenting natural resource base for improving rural economy, rural connectivity etc.

To improve the quality of works under MGNREGA following steps have been taken by the Ministry.

- (i) Technical Manuals on Watershed development, Natural Resource Management (NRM), Forestry and MGNREGA Works Field Manual have been prepared and circulated to all the States. Manual on labour intensive road for giving required technical input in execution of works.
- (ii) For gap filling, value addition and convergence of MGNREGA with other development programmes of the Government which have similar target groups, convergence guidelines have been developed and disseminated by the Ministry.

Statement*Details of funds released under MGNREGA, State/UT-wise during 2011-12*

Sl. No.	State	Central Release (Rs. in lakhs) 2011-12 upto Feb, 2012
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	46084.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5280.8
3.	Assam	34304.1
4.	Bihar	121573.4
5.	Chhattisgarh	145684.5
6.	Gujarat	25329.0
7.	Haryana	23991.5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	29538.2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	61896.8
10.	Jharkhand	93153.7
11.	Karnataka	65856.9
12.	Kerala	77747.6
13.	Madhya Pradesh	253434.3
14.	Maharashtra	76963.1
15.	Manipur	51237.4
16.	Meghalaya	22308.7
17.	Mizoram	31196.0
18.	Nagaland	57387.3
19.	Odisha	78042.5
20.	Punjab	10829.4
21.	Rajasthan	131769.6
22.	Sikkim	7874.2
23.	Tamil Nadu	259752.2
24.	Tripura	89072.7
25.	Uttar Pradesh	404748.0
26.	Uttarakhand	32669.4
27.	West Bengal	232503.2
28.	Andaman and Nicobar	1602.5

1	2	3
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100.0
30.	Daman and Diu	0.0
31.	Goa	259.6
32.	Lakshadweep	35.0
33.	Puducherry	0.0
34.	Chandigarh	0.0
TOTAL:		247225.6

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, the basic objective of MGNREGA is really highly appreciable and laudable. But, in its implementation, there are a lot of loopholes. Till date, these mud-digging schemes, building of mud roads, etc., have not been banned. Now the hon. Minister has talked about modification in the Scheme. I would like to know from him as to whether he is going to make it more inclusive by including widows and children of those farmers who have committed suicides. Why has the MGNREGA closed doors for those families whose sole bread-owner has committed suicide? Is there any proposal to treat them as a specially deprived category?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the hon. Member has put two different sets of supplementaries. One relates to the type of works that are undertaken under MGNREGS. I want to assure the hon. Member that close to 70 per cent of the expenditure under the Mahatma Gandhi NREG, over the last six years, has been on water conservation and land development-related structures. It is true that in the initial years those State Governments took up road connectivity under NREGS.

That is but natural, because the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has certain types of norms, and habitations, which do not fall under those norms, were taken up under the NREGA. But, on the whole, about 70 per cent of the expenditure relates to water conservation and land development. Sir, a Committee was set up under the chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah, Member of the Planning Commission, to examine whether additional works can be included under NREGA. The Report of the Committee has been submitted. It has been made public; it is on our web site. It has been shared with all the State Governments. Comments from the State Governments have been received. Thirty additional works have been recommended for inclusion under NREGA, out of which twenty-eight relate to agriculture, livestock and fisheries-related works. And I am glad to say that from the 1st of April, our endeavour will be to ensure that the schedule of works expands. Sir, the second supplementary which he has put...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only one supplementary to be answered at one time.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: But he has put two supplementaries. Sir, he has

asked whether NREGA is excluding certain people. NREGA does not exclude anybody. It is a self-selecting programme. In respect of people, who report for work, who demand work, we are legally bound to give them work. And, it is not true to say that widows or children of farmers who have committed suicides have been excluded under NREGA. But it is true that there is no special focus, and I take the hon. Member's suggestion that in those areas where farmers' suicides have taken place, there should be a more pro-active effort in including those dependents, and I would, certainly, look into this suggestion.

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA; Sir, my second supplementary is this. Diverse complaints have been made on various irregularities, and they have appointed certain officers and monitors to go into all these details. But, till now, not even a single case has been registered. So, is it only a cover-up and is it only to show that they are appointing some committees and monitors? In Andhra Pradesh, it appears that half the money which is being given to NREGA workers directly goes to liquor shops. Some research groups have pointed this out. It is specific to our State. So, what sort of action has the Minister taken till now about all these specific complaints which have been received in respect of various irregularities?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, in the specific case of Andhra Pradesh which the hon. Member is referring to, a social audit has been conducted across the State. In fact, Andhra Pradesh was the first State to take social audits very seriously. And, according to the information that I have, about Rs.130 crores worth embezzlement, leakage, etc. was discovered through the social audit process, and about Rs.130 crores have actually been recovered from the officials.

And a number of officials who were found to be a part of this embezzlement process have actually been suspended.

Sir, the general problem, which is not only in Andhra Pradesh but which is there in all States, is that there are, undoubtedly, instances where money is being spent in a manner that is not in consonance with the objectives of the law. That is why, we have now said that there will be a CAG audit, a Performance Audit, in the 12 high-spending States, and this will become institutionalized. The Social Audit now is being made compulsory. The Gram Sabha has to conduct the Social Audit at the Gram Panchayat level, at least, twice a year, and it is through these processes that instances of malfeasance or embezzlement will come out.

Sir, in certain cases, we have been directed by the Supreme Court; in the case of Orissa, we had a CBI inquiry. But, as hon. Members know, the CBI enquiries cannot take place without the concurrence of the State Government.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, in view of the hon. Minister's confession in the statement given in his reply of gross under-utilization of the potential for MNERGA releases and, in view of the fact that States with the highest levels of rural unemployment are amongst the lowest in terms of the share of rural

households securing 100 days' employment under MNERGA, and virtually no State paying any unemployment allowances under Section 7 of the Act, would the hon. Minister kindly clarify, (a) whether MNERGA is, indeed and in fact, demand-driven, as originally envisaged, or whether it is, in fact, mired in supply side inefficiencies; and (b) whether States have made adequate budgetary provision to pay section 7 unemployment allowances and if not, will the Centre make up this deficiency?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, there are a large number of questions, very important questions, that the hon. Member has asked and I would try to respond to them as quickly as possible.

Sir, it is true that when you look at the poverty ratios, there does not seem to be any co-relation between the labour Budgets and the poverty ratios. Jharkhand, Odisha and Bihar should *prima facie* have very high labour Budgets. Unfortunately, Sir, the total labour Budget of Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar is less than the labour Budget of Andhra Pradesh. So, it is a fact that in the poorest States of the country NREGA has really not taken off to the extent that it should have.

Now, as far as the other point is concerned, Sir, that it is a demand-driven programme, it is a programme which is critically dependent on the capacity of the Gram Panchayats who prepare a shelf of projects and execute those projects. In Jharkhand, for example, one of the reasons why NREGA has just taken off is because elections were held in the panchayat institutions after a long gap of 32 years and it is only in the last year or a year-and-a-half that panchayat institutions have created the capacity for dealing with NREGA. But, on the whole, Sir, it is a fact and this remains a matter of concern that in the poorest States of the country, the labour Budgets do not reflect the poverty ratio.

But I must also admit here that very often the States inflate their labour Budgets. We have not yet come into a system where the State Governments are realistic in the preparation of labour Budgets. To give you an example, Sir, in the year 2011-12, the total labour Budget as estimated by all the State Governments amounts to Rs. 60,000 crores whereas the actual expenditure on NREGA is unlikely to cross Rs. 38,000 crores. So, one of the basic problems that we have to address, and this is a recommendation of the Mihir Shah Committee, is how do you prepare realistic labour Budgets, how do you ensure that the panchayati raj institutions, particularly the Gram Panchayats, are in a position to estimate the works that they want, both in terms of their physical nature as well as their expenditure. Sir, these are structural problems that still plague NREGA and I would be glad to share with the hon. Member the report of the Committee which we have accepted and the recommendations will be put into place by the first of April this year. Sir, no State has paid unemployment allowance because of the simple fact that there is no recording of work. At the entry level itself, the record of work does not take place. There are major improvements that are needed to be done when people come and record for their work. It is because of the lack of a paper trade that we do not have

the unemployment allowance that has been paid. However, let me say, Sir, that every job card holder, who completes 15 days of employment, is entitled to health insurance. This is a very major step forward that the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana is becoming applicable to all those workers who have completed just 15 days of employment under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, the question on section 7 has not been answered. Can we have a half-an-hour discussion?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give a notice for it.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Sir, through you, I would like to, firstly, point out to the Minister that the creation of durable assets was one of the major objectives of the original National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. Sir, is the fact that there has been virtually no creation of durable assets the main reason why the off take of MNREGS funds by the States, in this current financial year, has been only 54 per cent of what was allocated? Does it mean that the States are losing interest in this whole scheme? Unless it is revised drastically and unless building of durable assets is made a major thrust area of MNREGS, is this scheme going to gradually peter-out?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the hon. Member is mistaken on both counts. The creation of durable assets was not – I repeat ‘not’ – the primary objective of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. (Interruption) I can do no better than to read out the Act. I have some association with the formulation of the Act. So, I too should know what I am speaking. The objective of the legislation is to enhance the livelihood security of poor households in rural areas in the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment to every poor household, whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work, etc., etc. So, the creation of durable assets was one of the objectives of the programme. It was expected that through this manual work programme, durable assets would get created. I can do no better than to request the hon. Member to visit some of the States ruled by his own political party and see the durable assets that are being created on the ground. I would request the hon. Member to visit Madhya Pradesh and see what durable assets have been created on the ground.

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: सभापति महोदय, ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय का बहुत बड़ा बजट तीन प्रकार से खर्च किया जाता है - ग्राम प्रधान के द्वारा, क्षेत्र पंचायत के द्वारा, जिला पंचायत के द्वारा और डिस्ट्रिक्ट बोर्ड के द्वारा। सर, प्रायः यह देखने में आया है कि ये तीनों एजेंसीज अर्थ वर्क में, मिट्टी के कार्य में, बहुत विश्वास करती हैं। मैं इस बात को पूरी गम्भीरता के साथ और जिम्मेदारी के साथ कहना चाहूंगा कि अगर आप मॉनिटरिंग करें तो पाएंगे कि 'ए' स्थान से 'बी' स्थान जाने के लिए ग्राम पंचायत के द्वारा मिट्टी की एक सड़क बनाई गई और थोड़े ही दिनों बाद उसी सड़क पर ब्लॉक के द्वारा भी कार्य किया गया। सर, यह बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट है और अरबों रुपए की बर्बादी को रोकने के लिए सवाल है। सर, उसके थोड़े ही दिनों के बाद डिस्ट्रिक्ट बोर्ड के द्वारा भी, जिला पंचायत के द्वारा भी उसी सड़क पर अर्थ वर्क किया गया।

यह भी देखने में आया है कि विधायक के द्वारा भी विधायक निधि से उसी स्थान पर अर्थ वर्क के लिए प्रस्ताव लिख दिया गया और उसके थोड़े दिनों बाद सांसद निधि से भी उसके बारे में लिख दिया गया। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है...

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल क्या है?

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: सर, मेरा सवाल बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट है। सर, एक गांव से दूसरे गांव जाने के लिए मिट्टी की एक सड़क पर ग्राम प्रधान के द्वारा, बी.डी.ओ. या ब्लॉक के लोगों के द्वारा, डिस्ट्रिक्ट बोर्ड के द्वारा, विधायक निधि से और सांसद निधि से काम हो गया। कुल मिलाकर पिछले पांच, सात या दस सालों में दो गांवों के बीच में मिट्टी की सड़क पर इतना ज्यादा पैसा खर्च हो गया है कि उतने से वहां सीमेंट की सड़क बन जाती...(व्यवधान)...मार्बल की सड़क बन जाती। सूचना के अधिकार के माध्यम से अगर यह पूछा जाए, तो पता चलेगा कि एक ही सड़क पर छः एजेंसीज के द्वारा अर्थ वर्क किया गया है।

श्री सभापति: आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जब ग्राम प्रधान के द्वारा एक कार्यकाल में खड़जे को बनाया गया, फिर उखाड़ा गया, फिर दोबारा बनाया गया और फिर उखाड़ा गया, तब क्या इस पर "मनरेगा" में काम रोका जाएगा? अगर आप मजदूरों को रोजगार गारंटी योजना के तहत काम देना चाहते हैं, तो उनको पक्के कामों में भी लगा सकते हैं। "मनरेगा" ने अर्थ वर्क को और बढ़ावा दिया है, लेकिन इससे कुछ नहीं मिला, कोई कंक्रीट वर्क नहीं हुआ।...(व्यवधान)...मेरा सवाल यह है कि पिछले 20 साल में अरबों रुपए मिट्टी में बह गये...(व्यवधान)...उसका ऑडिट भी नहीं हो सकता है।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, आपने सवाल पूछ लिया, अब आप बैठ जाइए। कृपया आप बैठ जाइए।...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: महोदय, मेरा सवाल यह है कि क्या मजदूरों को अर्थ वर्क में लगाने की जगह कुछ कंक्रीट वर्क में रोजगार दिया जाएगा?

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, जाहिर है कि माननीय सदस्य ने उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में सवाल उठाया है, इसीलिए मैंने भूतपूर्व मुख्य मंत्री को कई बार खत लिखा था कि उत्तर प्रदेश के सन्दर्भ में जिस ढंग से "मनरेगा" कार्यक्रम लागू होना चाहिए था, वह नहीं हुआ है। कई गलत कामों में...(व्यवधान)...

श्री वृजलाल खाबरी: सर, पूरे देश में इसका यही हाल है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: कृपया आप लोग बैठ जाइए।

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, मुझे सवाल का जवाब देने का मौका दीजिए। इन्होंने सवाल उठाया है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री वृजलाल खाबरी: सर...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: सर...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: कृपया आप लोग बैठ जाइए। अगर आप जवाब सुनना चाहते हैं, तो कृपया आप बैठ जाइए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात उठाई है।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute, please.

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात उठाई है कि सिर्फ मिट्टी के कामों पर पैसा खर्च हो रहा है, यह गलत है। मैं यह कबूल करता हूँ कि करीब 20 या 25 प्रतिशत खर्चा सड़कों पर हो रहा है। "महात्मा गांधी नरेगा" के तहत एक महत्वपूर्ण काम **road connectivity** का लिया जा रहा है और हम इस पर कोई प्रतिबंध नहीं लगा सकते हैं, क्योंकि इसके अलावा और कोई कार्यक्रम नहीं है। प्रधान मंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना के जो नॉर्म्स हैं, उनका **relevance** छोटी-छोटी बसावटों के लिए नहीं होता है, इसीलिए "मनरेगा" के तहत कई राज्यों ने सड़कों का काम लिया है।

माननीय सदस्य जो बार-बार कह रहे हैं कि सारा खर्चा सिर्फ मिट्टी के काम पर हो रहा है, यह बात गलत है। पहली बार छोटे, आदिवासी, दलित किसान या कोई भी छोटा किसान, **small and marginal farmer** की खुद की जमीन पर पानी तथा जमीन से संबंधित काम लिए गए हैं और मैं ऐसी कई मिसाल दे सकता हूँ कि हर एक राज्य में बंजर भूमि उपजाऊ बनाई गई है। इसलिए यह कहना बिल्कुल गलत है कि इसमें सिर्फ मिट्टी का काम लिया जा रहा है।

जहां तक घोटाले का सवाल है, मैंने बार-बार कहा है कि **CAG** की ऑडिट होगी। हम स्वतंत्र संस्थाओं से भी ऐसे विश्लेषण करवा रहे हैं, परन्तु केन्द्र सरकार के हाथ बंधे हुए हैं, क्योंकि कार्रवाई करने की जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकारों की होती है। इसमें जो अफसर दोषी पाए जाते हैं, उनके खिलाफ कार्रवाई करना राज्य सरकारों की जिम्मेदारी है। हां, यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि केन्द्र सरकार पैसा रोक सकती है। हम कह सकते हैं कि हम पैसा नहीं देंगे, पर मैं इसके बिल्कुल खिलाफ हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि संघीय ढांचे पर यह हमारा अतिक्रमण होगा।

Financial assistance to zoos in the country

***84. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is giving financial assistance to zoos in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (c) the amount spent so far, project-wise and State-wise, during the Plan period; and
- (d) the future action plan prepared to protect the zoos across the country in coordination with the local people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Zoo Authority, a statutory body of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, provides some financial assistance to zoos in the country.
- (b) The State-wise details of funds released in the Eleventh Five Year Plan are given at Statement-I (*See below*).
- (c) The details of amount spent so far project-wise and State-wise for the Eleventh Plan period are given at Statement-II (*See below*).