

have already told earlier that in the next ten years, our programme will be to ensure that all the 2,60,000 Gram Panchayats become open defecation free.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Applications pending with NACO

*185. SHRIMATI. NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for grant-in-aid with the National Aids Control Organization (NACO) in the country, especially from the North Eastern States;

(b) the number of such applications, disposed of, so far; and

(c) by when, the remaining cases are likely to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Under the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), NACO releases grants-in-aid to State AIDS Control Societies for implementing approved activities. For this purpose, no applications for Grants-in-aid are sent by the State AIDS Control Society (SACS). Instead, the process of releasing grants to states is as follows:

- * Annual Action Plan for each State is prepared in consultation with State AIDS Control Societies.
- * Under this Plan, physical targets are assigned for each state and fund requirement calculated for achieving the same. Each activity is budgeted as per prescribed costing norms.
- * Grants-in-aid are then released to State AIDS Control Society (SACS) for undertaking activities approved under Annual Action Plan (AAP) taking the cash balances and pace of utilization into account, in compliance with General Financial Rules (GFR).

As such, no application for grant is invited from any state, including the North Eastern states or is pending with NACO. In addition to States, NACO has released grants-in-aid to the following three Agencies:

1. Voluntary Health Services (VHS), Chennai
2. AVERT, Maharashtra
3. Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT), Karnataka

These are the only three NGOs with whom NACO has project in the current year. As per our records, no application for release of grant is pending in respect of either of these agencies.

In addition, NACO releases grants to various government institutes such as

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), National AIDS Research Institute (NARI) etc. for conducting activities like sentinel surveillance and research in HIV/AIDS. No applications for release are pending in respect of these agencies.

Annual allocation of funds under MGNREGS

†*186. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which is operated by the Union Government to provide employment in the rural areas of the country, during 2009-10 to 2011-12 have not been the same every year;

(b) if so, the total funds allocated every year during the aforementioned period and funds actually released every year; and

(c) the parameters set to allocate funds for the scheme every year?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Central Plan Budget Estimates and Revised Estimates made for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and funds actually released to States/UTs during 2009-10 to 2011-12 (as on 22.03.2012) are in table below:

(Rs. in crore)			
Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Release
2009-2010	39100.00	39100.00	33539.38
2010-2011	40100.00	40100.00	35841.49
2011-2012	40000.00	31000.00	28723.57*

* as on 22.03.2012

(c) MGNREGA is a demand driven wage employment programme. Funds are released to States/UTs based on advance projection of labour demand by the States/UTs and performance in the generation of actual persondays vis-a-vis projected labour demand.

Relief to farmers for taking loan from private money lenders

*187. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated to different States under the Debt Waiver Scheme, 2008 covering all agricultural loans disbursed by commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative credit institutions to farmers and the number of beneficiaries in each State;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.