

in backward districts to improve the programme delivery as well as to develop a cadre of Development Facilitators, who will be available as a ready human resource for rural development activities over a long-term.

- (iii) Fellows are selected through a competitive process with the help of Tata Institute of Social Sciences.
- (iv) Fellows will be paid stipend during the Fellowship.
- (v) Every Fellow shall be required to undergo a course in Post Graduate Degree Programme in Development Practice in Tata Institute of Social Sciences, during the fellowship period.

Corruption in MGNREGA

433. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are serious allegation of corruption and diversion of funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in Odisha, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and CBI has been entrusted with the responsibility to investigate these cases; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the investigation and the action been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Complaints received from various sources on irregularities in the implementation of MGNREGA are forwarded to the State Governments, being the implementing authority, for appropriate action/investigation. Serious complaints warranting an investigation by the CBI are also done depending on the nature of the complaint.

In the case of Odisha, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 12.5.2011 had ordered a CBI enquiry on a Writ Petition (C) No. 645 of 2007, into allegations of corruption and misappropriation of funds under MGNREGA in Odisha, filed by the Centre for Environment and Food Security on 14.11.2007. The CBI has submitted its report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter is under discussion in the Hon'ble Apex court.

The Central Government had requested the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to consider a CBI enquiry into allegations of corruption in the implementation of MGNREGA in 7 districts of Uttar Pradesh. No serious irregularities were found in the enquiry conducted by the Economic Offences wing of Uttar Pradesh Government. The State Government has not given their consent for a CBI enquiry.

As far as Jharkhand is concerned, no CBI enquiry has been ordered on any complaint of irregularity in implementation of MGNREGA.

Schemes for poverty alleviation in rural areas

434. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in rural areas;
- (b) how far these programmes have been successful in reducing poverty in the rural areas, State-wise and especially in Jharkhand;
- (c) whether any evaluation has been carried out by Government of these programmes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing through State Governments and Union Territory Administrations the major schemes namely the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) for poverty alleviation through wage and self employment in rural areas of the country. MGNREGA aims at to enhance the livelihood security of rural households by providing on demand *upto* at least 100 days guarantee of wage employment in a year to the adult members of every rural household who is willing to do unskilled work. The NRLM aims at reducing poverty by enabling poor households to access gainful self-employment/skilled wage employment for ensuring appreciable improvement in their livelihoods on a sustainable basis.

(b) Poverty reduction is due to both macro and micro-factors, including the impact of schemes/projects.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Rural Development engaged Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) and other professional Institutions to conduct studies and survey on MGNREGA. The major findings reveal that the programme has reduced distress migration and facilitated creation of green jobs, improvement in ground water, improved agricultural productivity and cropping intensity, etc. The evaluation of NRLM has not yet been conducted, as this programme has been launch recently in a phased manner.