

**Implementation of MGNREGA**

103. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received many complaints regarding high levels of fund flow and inefficient fund utilisation under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to address leakages in implementation and delay in payments under MGNREGA;

(d) whether Government has any plans or method to ensure that social audits of the schemes are carried out as per rules and there is effective implementation of the provisions of the delay compensation system; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) and (b) There have been no complaints about high levels of fund flow. However, with a view to streamlining the fund flow to the field level, an electronic Fund Management System (eFMS) has been prescribed in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. eFMS is an online, real time fund flow mechanism that allows adequate availability of funds as per requirement, thereby reducing delays and bringing in greater transparency and efficiency.

(c) to (e) With a view to effectively address the issues of delays in payment of wages and misuse of money, a concrete action plan has been formulated consisting of:

- Introduction of the system of payment of compensation for delays, under which compensation @ 0.05% per day of delay beyond the fifteenth day since the closure of the muster roll, would be paid to the wage seekers. The States have been advised to ensure compliance with this provision.
- States have been asked to universalise the operationalisation of electronic Fund Management System to ensure smooth flow of funds from the State to the wage seekers and to eliminate delays in payment of wages.
- To control irregularities in implementation, the States and UTs have been asked to implement Social Audits more vigorously and in a manner that allows greater transparency and public scrutiny.
- States have been requested to put in place Ombudsmen in every district to hear and resolve grievances. The Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted at the District and State levels to monitor the scheme.