

Similarly, more than 1.6 crore of bogus ration cards were detected and deleted from the Public Distribution System.

Reduction in central assistance to States

960. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has reduced the amount of assistance being provided to States for the Central schemes like Indira Awas, MGNREGA, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) whether the amount meant for Jharkhand has also been reduced heavily as a result of which the public works are getting delayed there; and

(c) if so, the details therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): (a) On the recommendations of the Sub Group of Chief Ministers on Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes constituted by NITI Aayog, it has been decided that (i) the funding pattern of certain core of the core schemes including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) remain unchanged; (ii) funding of core schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (Gramin) (erstwhile Indira Awas Yojna) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) is: (a) 90:10 for the 8 North Eastern and 3 Himalayan States; (b) 60:40 for all other States, unless a sub-scheme/ component has a central funding pattern lower than this level. With the change in funding pattern of schemes like PMGSY, PMAY(G), more funds are available for the beneficiaries under PMAY(G) as central allocation has increased in absolute term despite a dip in ratio. The allocation under MGNREGA has been increased from ₹ 33700 crore in 2015-16 (BE) to ₹ 38500 crore in 2016-17 (BE). After increase in devolution in the share of divisible pool of taxes to States from 32% to 42% based on the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission, the States have been given significantly more untied resources. They have greater voice in how the funds of these schemes are utilized and have the flexibility to adapt to the local circumstances.

(b) and (c) MGNREGA is a demand driven scheme. PMGSY resources are allocated to meet connectivity needs of eligible habitations. Annual allocation under PMGSY for the State has been increased from ₹ 865.00 crore in 2015-16 to ₹ 868.00 crore in 2016-17. PMAY (Gramin) allocations are made to meet housing needs of eligible beneficiaries identified through the Socio Economic Caste Census-2011. An amount of ₹ 1292.33 crore (including administrative cost) has been allocated to Jharkhand state for construction of

1,72,588 houses under PMAY(G) during 2016-17, which is higher in comparison to the allocation of ₹ 183.02 crore for construction of 41,901 houses in Jharkhand during 2015-16.

Decline in customs revenue as a ratio of GDP

961. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that customs revenue as a ratio of GDP has been declining in last two years;
- (b) whether custom revenue of ₹ 20,808 crore demanded up to March, 2015 was not realised by the Department at the end of Financial Year 2015; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir. The Customs Revenue as a ratio of GDP during FY 2013-14, FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 was 1.53%, 1.51% and 1.55% respectively.

(b) and (c) The Customs arrears pending as on 1.04.2015 (*i.e.* at the end of 2014-15) was ₹ 21,316 crore. The arrears pendency at end of financial year 2014-15 include mainly on account of litigation, cases where appeal period is not over, unit closed/defaulters not traceable.

Recovery of NPAs of PSBs fraudulently transferred abroad

962. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Governments' attention has been drawn to the view expressed by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) that a significant part of NPAs of public sector banks may never be recovered as a significant part of it could have been obtained fraudulently as advances and may have been transferred abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Governments reaction thereto; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to strengthen the regulatory system to check effectively such frauds in the banking sector; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The office of Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), has indicated that, they do not audit banks, and the views expressed were in general context of recent media reports on the Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in Public Sector Banks (PSBs).