

of forest land falling on the proposed road alignment and legal disputes regarding land being claimed by private persons, falling on the proposed road alignment. For the roads, where physical work is going on but the completion has been delayed some of the reasons for delay, as reported by the State include (i) inadequate execution capacity and contracting capacity, (ii) less working season and adverse weather condition (iii) non-availability of the construction materials etc.

(c) The State Government has informed that the link roads Jalwari-Kailu (7 Km. of length) and Thana-Dhauldhar road (3.5km. of length) are being constructed under State budget during the current financial year 2016-17. In so far as link road to Jangla and Nandla is concerned State Government has informed that the Jangla and Nandla are already separately connected by road. This road does not qualify for PMGSY and also this road is not covered under any state budget scheme. It is also informed by State that neither of above roads is covered under National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABRD) or Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

Increase of MGNREGA wages

2036. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to increase wages paid under MGNREGA;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard and by when enhanced wages would be provided to the beneficiaries and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Mahendra Dev Committee set up in this regard has given its report to Government and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is planning to implement the recommendations of the Committee and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has taken the views of States in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) wage rate is linked to State-wise CPI-AL which is revised on yearly basis and implemented during the Financial Year in States/UTs. Wage rates for workers under the MGNREGA are notified and revised annually by the Central

Government in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(1) of the Act. The wage rate for 2017-18 has already been notified on 28-02-2017.

(c) to (e) The Mahendra Dev Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 25-01-2014. The report was examined in consultation with Ministry of Finance and it was decided not to consider for change in the Base Wage Rate in the present context. During the consideration of the report, no consultation was undertaken with the States. However, the Ministry of Rural Development has constituted a Committee on alignment of MGNREGA wages with minimum agricultural wages under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Rural Development) on 3rd March, 2017.

Decrease in job cards issued under MGNREGA

2037. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of job cards issued under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the country has decreased during current year;

(b) if so, the details of job cards issued during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has any plan to increase work days in drought affected States and drought like situations under MGNREGA during current year; and

(d) if so, the details of such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Governments/UTs have been advised to get the registered households verified through Panchayat functionaries to ensure correctness in the database of the programme. State/UT-wise details of job cards issued under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during the financial years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 (as on 16.03.2017) are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Rural Development provides 50 days of additional employment in notified areas of drought affected States under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) on recommendation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

Accordingly, a provision of additional employment of 50 days over and above 100