

Unemployment allowance in MGNREGA

106. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is facing challenges while implementing the MGNREGA across the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether unemployment allowance is paid, if the work is not provided within fifteen days of applying for work;

(d) if so, number of cases where unemployment allowance has been paid or is being paid and details thereof; and

(e) details of stringent steps being taken to check corruption in the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) and (b) Timely payment of all wages, more improvement in technical capability of supervising engineers for ensuring creation of quality asset, generating more and more awareness among the stakeholders etc. are some of the challenges faced in implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). Improvement in programme implementation is a continuous process. Government is alive to such challenges. Monitoring and supervision of all aspects of the programme have been strengthened for improving the implementation of the MGNREGS.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. As per provision of the Act, the unemployment allowance is to be paid by the States/UTs. As per information made available in NREGASoft (MIS), a sum of ₹ 307.86 lakh has been paid by the State Governments as unemployment allowance in the F.Y. 2017-18.

(e) The Government has taken stringent steps to check corruption in the scheme. These include:—

- (i) Implementation of National electronic Fund Management System (Ne-FMS) and focus on Aadhaar Based Payment system, streamlining fund flow mechanism, and monitoring of timely payment of wages to workers.
- (ii) Monitoring framework developed and advisories issued for inspection of MGNREGA works by State, District and Block level officials and National Level Monitors.
- (iii) The Ministry has initiated Job Cards (JCs) verification of MGNREGA workers to weed out the bogus and duplicates JCs.

- (iv) Auditing Standards have been issued and States have been advised to establish independent Social Audit Units, conduct Social Audit as per Audit of Scheme Rules, training of Village Resource Persons for conducting Social Audit etc.
- (v) A path breaking initiative for improved planning, effective monitoring and greater transparency with the use space technology for geo-tagging of MGNREGA assets was launched.

MGNREGA in Gujarat

†107. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are cases in districts of Gujarat, where people did not get jobs for the entire year, even after applying for jobs in MGNREGA;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that partiality is being done while providing employment under MGNREGA; and
- (d) steps taken by Government to stop this arbitrary approach?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 provides at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

Release of funds for MGNREGA

108. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of MGNREGA funds sanctioned/released to the State Governments during the last three years, State/year-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that inadequate funds are released by the Central Government to the State Government in these years;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.