STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT& PANCHAYATI RAJ

(2022-2023)

29

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2023-24)

TWENTY-NINTH REPORT

सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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(2023-24)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 14.03.2023

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 15.03.2023

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

March, 2023/Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ

(2022-2023)

Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi -- *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

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3. Shri A.K.P Chinraj
4. Shri Rajveer Diler
5. Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey
6. Shri Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuria
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30. Shri Bashistha Narain Singh
31. Shri Ajay Pratap Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri D.R.Shekhar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram - Director
3. Shri Inam Ahmed - Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson (Acting) of the Standing Committee on Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (2022-2023) having been authorised by the Committee [as per Rule 277(3) of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha] to submit the Report on their behalf, present the Twenty-Ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development).

2. Demands for Grants have been examined by the Committee under Rule 331E (1) (a) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) on 09 February, 2023.

4. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 13 March, 2023.

5. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officials of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development) for placing before them the requisite material and their considered views in connection with the examination of the subject.

6. The Committee would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI;
13 March, 2023
22 Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)

NARANBHAI J. RATHWA
Chairperson (Acting),
Standing Committee on Rural Development & Panchayati Raj

REPORT

PART - I

NARRATION ANALYSIS

CHAPTER - I - INTRODUCTION

1.1 Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj is one of the sixteen Departmentally Related Standing Committees of the Lok Sabha primarily entrusted with the mandatory task of examination of Demands for Grants for each financial year sought by the Ministry/Department under its purview while also scrutinizing the schemes under the administrative control of the concerned Ministry/Department. The present Report is on the examination of the Demands for Grants of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) for the ensuing financial year 2023-24 under Rule 331E(1)(a) of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

1.2 **Brief of the Ministry of Rural Development**

The Department of Rural Development which came into existence in October, 1974 as a part of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture was converted into a new Ministry of Rural Reconstruction on 18th August, 1979. The Ministry was renamed as the Ministry of Rural Development on 23rd January 1982. The Ministry of Rural Development was again converted into a Department in January 1985, under the Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development. The Department was again upgraded as the Ministry of Rural Development on July 5, 1991. Another Department viz. Department of Wasteland Development was created under this Ministry on 2nd July 1992. The Ministry was renamed in March 1995 as the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment with three departments namely Department of Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Rural Development and Wasteland Development.

1.3 The Ministry was again renamed as the Ministry of Rural Development in 1999 with three Departments i.e. Department of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources and Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation was separated from this Ministry on 13th July, 2011.

1.4 At present, the Ministry of Rural Development consists of two Departments, namely, (I) Department of Rural Development, and (II) Department of Land Resources.

Objectives of Department of Rural Development

The main objectives of the Ministry are classified as:

i. Uplifting the deprived rural households through multidimensional support including for assets, livelihoods, infrastructure and services. Adopting a saturation approach and ensuring resilience to the families and communities.
ii. Convergence of programmes and schemes. iii. Raising institutions of poor and forging partnerships with PRIs and other drivers of transformation. iv. Integrated and sustained monitoring of measurable outcomes.

1.5 The vision and mission of the Ministry is sustainable and inclusive growth of rural India through a multipronged strategy for eradication of poverty by increasing livelihoods opportunities, providing social safety net and developing infrastructure for growth. This is expected to improve quality of life in rural India and to correct the developmental imbalances, aiming in the process, to reach out to most disadvantaged sections of the society.

Major Programmes of Department of Rural Development

(i) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)
(ii) Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G)
(iii) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
(iv) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)
(v) National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)
(vi) Saansad Aadarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)

1.6 **The Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Rural Development were laid in Lok Sabha on 7th February, 2023. An allocation of Rs. 1,57,545 Crore has been made in the Budget Estimates of Demand No. 87 for the year 2023-24. This allocation is 15.89% more than BE of 2022-23 and 13.01% less than RE of 2022-23. The Committee have examined in-depth the Demands for Grants of the Department of Rural Development for the Financial Year 2023-24 and the same is dealt with in the succeeding Chapters of the Report. The Committee expect the**

Ministry to take all necessary steps for proper and timely utilisation of funds ensuring implementation of their schemes and projects in a time-bound manner. The Committee expect the Department of Rural Development to take Committees' Observations/Recommedations positively and act on them expeditiously and furnish Action Taken Replies in respect of Observations/Recommendations made in the Report within three months from the date of Presentation of this Report.

CHAPTER – II
Examination of Demands for Grants 2023-24

(i). Detailed Demands for Grants of the Department of Rural Development (2023-24)

2.1 A summary of the detailed Demands for Grants, 2023-24 pertaining to the Department of Rural Development is given below:-

Statement - A

Brief summary of the Detailed Demand for Grants of the Department of Rural Development

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Major Head of Account	Budget Estimates, 2022-2023	Revised Estimates, 2022-2023	Budget Estimates 2023-2024 Revenue	Capital/ Loan	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	SCHEMES						
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT							
1	Aajeevika-National Rural Livelihood Mission(NRLM)	2501	3089.42	3089.42	3910.64	..	3910.64
		3601	8762.01	8762.01	8592.01	..	8592.01
		3602	201.34	201.34	264.00	..	264.00
TOTAL - SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT			12052.77	12052.77	12766.65	...	12766.65
RURAL EMPLOYMENT							
2	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)	2505	52645.41	64125.41	41474.51	..	41474.51
		3601	20131.69	25051.69	18302.59	..	18302.59
		3602	222.90	222.90	222.90	..	222.90
	TOTAL - Rural Employment		73000.00	89400.00	60000.00	..	60000.00
HOUSING							
3	Rural Housing (PMAY)	2216	4082.43	4082.43	4069.48	..	4069.48
		3601	13778.53	41296.20	44068.80	..	44068.80
		3602	139.00	1043.33	900.00	..	900.00
	Interest Subsidy	2216	0.01	0.01	0.01	..	0.01
	TOTAL - Rural Housing (PMAY)		17999.97	46421.97	49038.29	..	49038.29
OTHER RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES:							
4	Grants to National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD)	2515	121.91	38.75	38.33	..	38.33
5	Management Support to RD Programme & strengthening district planning process	2515	202.19	126.22	102.14	..	102.14
6	BPL Survey	2515	0.01	0.00	0.00	..	0.00
7	RURBAN Mission	2515	80.02	0.00	0.00	..	0.00
		3601	389.98	988.91	0.00	..	0.00
		3602	20.00	0.00	0.00	..	0.00
	TOTAL - OTHER RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES		814.11	1153.88	140.47	..	140.47
ROAD & BRIDGES							
8	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana	3054	250.80	250.80	258.02	..	258.02
		3601	15349.20	15349.20	15341.98	..	15341.98
		3602	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	..	1500.00
	(PMGSY) - Rural Roads		17100.00	17100.00	17100.00	..	17100.00
9	National Social Assistance Programme	2235	22.56	61.67	21.23	..	21.23
		3601	8534.38	9002.60	9026.92	..	9026.92
		3602	130.15	129.90	130.34	..	130.34
	TOTAL- NSAP		8687.09	9194.17	9178.49	..	9178.49

....Contd...

Statement A -contd.

(Rs. In crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Major Head of Account	Budget Estimates, 2022-2023	Revised Estimates, 2022-2023	Budget Estimates 2023-2024		
					Revenue	Capital/ Loan	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	Provision for North Eastern Region and Sikkim						
	1. Aajeevika-National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)	2552	1283.65	1283.65	1362.52	..	1362.52
	2. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)	2552	0.00	0.00	0.00	..	0.00
	3. Rural Housing (PMAY)	2552	2000.03	2000.03	5448.71	..	5448.71
	4. Grants to National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD)	2552	13.55	75.84	76.67	..	76.67
	5. Management Support to RD Programme& strengthening district planning process	2552	10.00	0.00	11.35	..	11.35
	6. BPL Survey	2552	0.00	0.00	0.00	..	0.00
	7. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) - Rural Roads	2552	1900.00	1900.00	1900.00	..	1900.00
	8. National Social Assistance Programme	2552	965.22	457.83	457.83	..	457.83
	9. RURBAN Mission	2552	60.00	0.00	0.00	..	0.00
	TOTAL - NE Region		6232.45	5717.35	9257.08	..	9257.08
	TOTAL - SCHEME EXPENDITURE		135886.39	181040.14	157480.98	..	157480.98
	NON-SCHEME EXPENDITURE						
	1. Headquarter's Establishment of Department of Rural Development	3451	57.90	81.66	64.02	..	64.02
	TOTAL - NON-SCHEME		57.90	81.66	64.02	..	64.02
	GRAND TOTAL (SCHEME + NON- SCHEME)		135944.29	181121.80	157545.00	..	157545.00

Statement-B

Statement showing percentage increase in various Schemes / Programmes during last 3 years

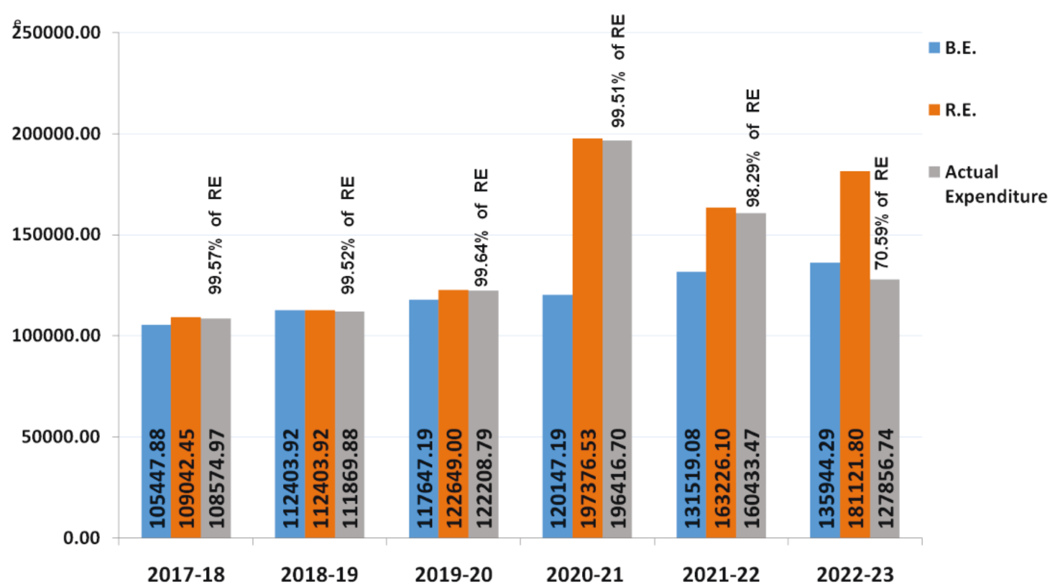
(Rs. in crores)

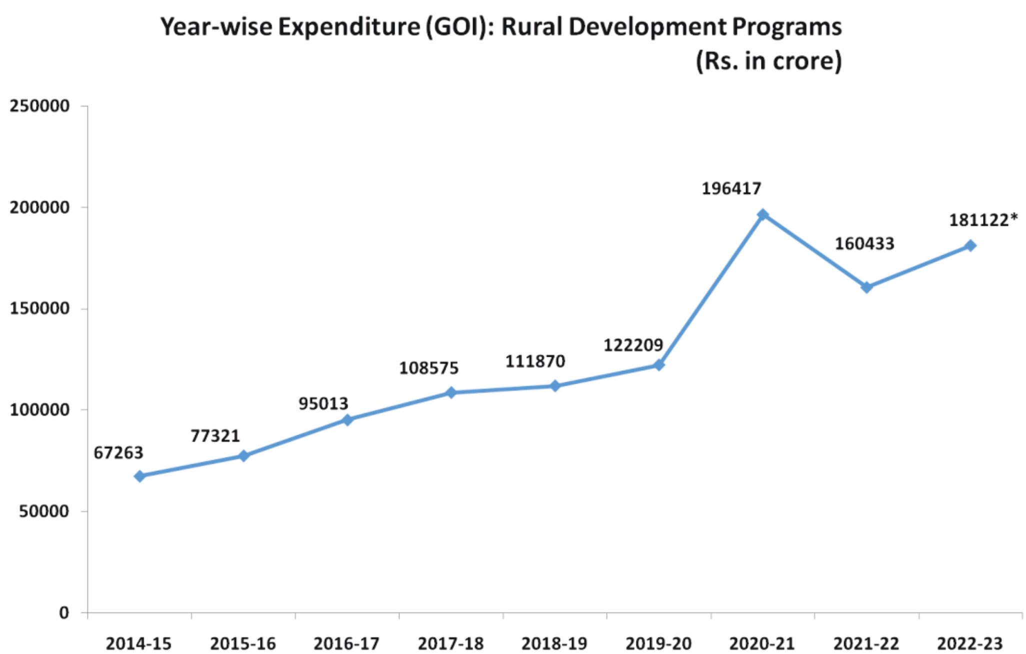
Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2019-20	2020-2021		2021-22		2022-23		2023-2024	
		Outlay	Outlay	% increase over 2019-20	Outlay	% increase over 2020-21	Outlay	% increase over 2021-22	Outlay	% increase over 2022-23
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Aajeevika-National Rural Livelihood Mission	9024.00	9210.04	2.06%	13677.61	48.51%	13336.42	-2.49%	14129.17	5.94%
2	Mahatma Gandhi National for Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme	60000.00	61500.00	2.50%	73000.00	18.70%	73000.00	0.00%	60000.00	-17.81%
3	Rural Housing (Indira Awaas Yojana)	19000.00	19500.00	2.63%	19500.00	0.00%	20000.00	2.56%	54487.00	172.44%
4	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana	19000.00	19500.00	2.63%	15000.00	-23.08%	19000.00	26.67%	19000.00	0.00%
5	National Institute of Rural Development-Panchayati Raj	100.00	124.00	24.00%	124.00	0.00%	135.46	9.24%	115.00	-15.10%
6	Council for Advancmant of People's Action & RuralTechnology (CAPART)	24.00	0.00	-100.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
7	Management support to RD programmes and strengthening district planning process	350.62	367.46	4.80%	364.38	-0.84%	212.19	-41.77%	113.49	-46.51%
8	BPL Survey	1.00	0.01	-99.00%	0.01	0.00%	0.01	0.00%	0.00	-100.00%
9	National Social Assistance Programme	9200.00	9196.92	-0.03%	9200.00	0.03%	9652.31	4.92%	9636.32	-0.17%
10	RURBAN Mission	800.00	600.00	-25.00%	600.00	0.00%	550.00	-8.33%	0.00	-100.00%
11	Non Scheme Sectt.	47.57	48.76	2.50%	53.08	8.86%	57.90	9.08%	64.02	10.57%
12	Grameen Vikas Bhawan	100.00	100.00	0.00%	0.00	-100.00%	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
	TOTAL - RURAL DEVELOPMENT	117647.19	120147.19	2.12%	131519.08	9.46%	135944.29	3.36%	157545.00	15.89%

The above data clearly indicates that there is a 15.89% hike in the total Budgetory allocation of the Department of Rural Development for the financial year 2023-24 amounting to Rs. 1,57,545.00 Crore, up from Rs. 1,35,944.29 Crore of the Financial Year 2022-23. Further, there is 172.44% increase in the budget of PMAY-G to Rs. 54,487 Crore from Rs. 20,000 Crore, MGNREGA sees a drop of 17.81% in its budget, NSAP witnesses a drop of 0.17% while PMGSY's allocation is the same as that of previous year.

(ii). **<u>Review of the utilization of the Budgetory Allocation for the Financial Year 2022-23</u>**

BE, RE and Actual expenditure from 2017-18 to 2022-23 (till 31.01.2023)





Department of Rural Development **Statement-C**

Statement showing Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure from 2020-21 to 2022-23 and BE 2023-2024

(Rs. In crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Annual Plan 2020-21			Annual Plan 2021-22			Annual Plan 2022-23			B.E. 2023-24
		B.E.	R.E.	Actual Expenditure	B.E.	R.E. +supplementary	Actual Expenditure	B.E.	R.E.	Actual Expenditure Upto 09.01.2023 with Authorization	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Centrally Sponsored Schemes										
1	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme	61500.00	111500.00	111169.55	73000.00	99117.53	98441.36	73000.00	89400.00	66718.91	60000.00
2	National Rural Livelihood Mission- Aajeevika	9210.04	9210.04	9201.77	13677.61	10813.89	9378.13	13336.42	13336.42	5735.59	14129.17
3	Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana	19500.00	19500.00	19269.08	19500.00	30057.15	30051.03	20000.00	48422.00	28279.12	54487.00
4	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana	19500.00	13706.23	13687.49	15000.00	14000.01	13991.66	19000.00	19000.00	11908.83	19000.00
5	National Social Assistance Programme	9196.92	42617.22	42443.10	9200.00	8730.00	8151.69	9652.31	9652.00	7101.97	9636.32
6	Shyama Prasad Mukherjee RURBAN Mission	600.00	372.33	369.29	600.00	153.69	150.10	550.00	988.91	351.32	0.00
	Central Sector Schemes										
7	Grants to National Institute of Rural Dev.	124.00	80.50	80.43	124.00	124.00	105.48	135.46	114.59	84.65	115.00
8	Management support to RD Programmes and										
	strengthening district planning process	367.46	341.44	134.47	364.38	144.66	91.95	212.19	126.22	40.68	113.49
9	SECC Census	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01		0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	**119998.43**	**197327.77**	**196355.18**	**131466.00**	**163140.94**	**160361.40**	**135886.39**	**181040.14**	**120221.07**	**157480.98**

Department of Rural Development — Statement-C Cont..

Statement showing Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure from 2020-21 to 2022-23 and BE 2023-2024

(Rs. In crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Annual Plan 2020-21			Annual Plan 2021-22			Annual Plan 2022-23			B.E. 2023-24
		B.E.	R.E.	Actual Expenditure	B.E.	R.E. +supplementary	Actual Expenditure	B.E.	R.E.	Actual Expenditure Upto 09.01.2023 with Authorization	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	NON SCHEME EXPENDITURE										
1	Headquarter's Establishment of										
	Department of Rural Development	48.76	48.76	61.53	53.08	85.16	72.07	57.90	81.66	65.22	64.02
	Total (Non Scheme Expenditure) (RD)	48.76	48.76	61.53	53.08	85.16	72.07	57.90	81.66	65.22	64.02
2	Grameen Vikas Bhawan (Capital Section)	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total (Capital Section) (RD)	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL- RURAL DEVELOPMENT	120147.19	197376.53	196416.71	131519.08	163226.10	160433.47	135944.29	181121.80	120286.29	157545.00

Trend of Expenditure during 2022-23

2.2 The data provided by the Department revealed that a substantial amount of Rs. 45,177.51 Crore was increased at the RE stage during the Financial Year 2022-23. Queried upon the reasons for such increased requirement at the RE stage, the Department in their written replies have submitted as under:-

> **MGNREGA**:-Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven Scheme. RE is based on anticipated demand for wage employment based on current pace of demand. Additional funds may be sought from Ministry of Finance depending upon the change in demand of wage employment from the beneficiaries.
>
> **PMAY-G**:-Based on the approval of Cabinet for continuation of PMAY-G beyond March, 2021 upto March,

2024, the total financial implication for the current Financial Year i.e. FY 2022-23 is Rs. 48,422 crore. Out of which, the BE was Rs. 20,000.00 crore. While approving the continuation of PMAY-G beyond March, 2021, it was decided by the Union Cabinet to phase out Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) and provision of entire scheme fund through Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) shall be decided in consultation with Ministry of Finance. The MoF is now providing funds through GBS only from the Financial Year 2021-22 onwards. Accordingly, the RE approved for PMAY-G for the FY 2022-23 is ₹ 48,422.00 crore through the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants 2022-23.

SPMRM:-For the Financial Year 2022-23, the budgetary allocation has been increased from Rs. 550 crore to Rs. 988.91 crore under SPMRM. The reason for the same is as under-

Vide OM dated 28th March 2022, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance had declared 31st March 2022 as the sunset date for the Mission and allocation under SPMRM could not be utilized for 2022-23 until specific approval was obtained from Department of Expenditure (DoE). Vide communication dated 12th July 2022 and 21st December 2022, Department of Expenditure (DoE) has given one time permission for release of funds under the Mission upto 15th March 2023, towards the ongoing work liability as on 31st March 2022. As the Mission has not been granted further extension, all the funds for ongoing work liability has to be released by the said date. Hence the increase in RE for FY 2022-23 and Nil provision for BE 2023-24."

(iii) <u>Reasons for Slow Expenditure</u>

2.3 On being asked the reasons for the slow expenditure to the tune of Rs. 1,20,286.29 Crore as on 09.01.2023 despite an increase at RE stage to Rs. 1,81,121.80 Crore, the Department have furnished their replies as below:-

MGNREGA:-Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven Scheme and release of funds to the States/UTs is a continuous process. An amount of Rs.89400 crore has been provided by the Ministry of Finance at RE stage. An amount of Rs. 69804.72 crore (78.08%) has been released as on 25.1.23. Release of funds depends upon the demand for wage employment from the rural households.The enhanced allocation will be utilized by the ministry as per the demand provided by the States/UTs.

PMAY-G:-An amount of ₹ 48,422.00 crore is fixed at RE Stage (which includes ₹ 3,824.10 crore as interest payment to NABARD). An amount of ₹ 28,279.12 crore has already released to various States/UTs under PMAY-G, which is 58.40% of RE. Efforts are being made to release the remaining funds of RE to State/UTs as per the revised targets given by the Ministry to States/UTs during the FY 2022-23.

PMGSY:-The budget allocation for the PMGSY for FY 2022-23 at RE stage is Rs. 19,000 Crore out of which Rs. 11,908.82 Crore has been released to States/ UT as on 20.01.2023. The expenditure plan for available fund of Rs. 7,091.18 Crore is given as below:

Month	Targeted Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)
January	2,800
February	2,800
March	1,491.18
Total	7,091.18

As per the above expenditure plan the budget allocation of PMGSY for 2022-23 is likely to be utilized in full.

DAY-NRLM:-Latest expenditure under DAY-NRLM is Rs.6091.74 Crore. Reason for slow expenditure was due to the strict compliances of DoE, Ministry of Finance‘s new procedure for release of funds. However, now most of the States are complied with the conditions and issue of ‗Check/lock‘ in PFMS also being getting resolved. The programme activities have also now been picked up. Therefore, it is expected the pace of expenditure will be higher and can be fully utilized the RE budget provision in the last quarter.

NSAP:-Under NSAP, around 76% of the total allocated funds (RE) has been utilized till 24.01.2023. Keeping in view the fund requirement of States/UTs for the fourth quarter, the remaining amount will be utilized accordingly.

SPMRM:-Against the RE for FY 2022-23 of Rs. 988.91 crore under SPMRM, Ministry has released Rs. 351.32 crore as on 31.12.2022. The Mission has witnessed a major setback after the recommendation of EFC in its meeting held on 26th August 2021, for discontinuation of the scheme. Post EFC meeting, the Ministry was not permitted to release funds to the States. Ministry was granted permission to release funds only vide DoE communication dated 22nd March 2022 for releases till 31st March 2022 i.e. nine (09) days. The States started FY 2022-23 with the unspent balance from the funds released in the last nine days of the previous financial year 2021-22 after permission of DoE. Therefore States had Rs. 887.16 crore unspent balance of previous years. (this includes Rs. 211.64 crore (central + state share) worth funds released in the last week of FY 2021-22).

Vide OM dated 28th March 2022, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance has declared 31st March 2022 as the sunset date for the Mission. Allocation under SPMRM could be utilized for 2022-

23 on specific approval from Department of Expenditure (DoE). Vide DoE communication dated 12th July 2022 and 21st December 2022, one time permission has been granted for release towards the ongoing work liability as on 31st March 2022. Permission for release is only upto 15th March 2023. Ministry is closely following up with all States / UTs for submitting the release proposals and completion of ongoing works by 31st March 2023. Ministry will be able to achieve the fund release target by the deadline for the Mission.

NIRD&PR:-In respect of NIRD&PR, it is mentioned that the total Revised Allocation of Funds for the FY 2022-23 is 114.59 crore. An amount of 84.64 crore has already been released. In respect of SIRDs/ETCs/OTC (MSRDP), it is to mention that the total Revised Allocation of Funds for the FY 2022-23 is 60.50 crore. An amount of 22.34 crore has already been released.This division has started releasing the funds in the month of November, due to implementation of CNA (Central Nodal Agency), so the above achievement is made in only 2 month, so we expect to release the remaining amount in the remaining period of this Financial Year."

(iv) Inflationary Effect on Expenditure

2.4 The aspect of inflationary effect on the expenditure pattern also came to fore. On this issue of the impact of inflation on the performance of the scheme, the Department in their written replies have submitted as below:-

"**MGNREGA**:-The Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every year for States/UTs as per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005.

As per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005 by notification specify the wage rate for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year.

Statement showing the outlays for successful implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during last three years: (Rs. in Crore)

Sl No.	Year	B.E.	R.E.	Released
1	2019-20	60000.00	71001.81	71687.71
2	2020-21	61500.00	111500.00	111170.86
3	2021-22	73000.00	98000.00	98467.84

PMAY-G:- PMAY-G is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments to provide benefits of housing to eligible beneficiaries. PMAY-G is being implemented with effect from 1st April, 2016 to provide assistance to eligible rural households with overall target to construct 2.95 crore pucca houses with basic amenities. The minimum unit size of house is 25 square metres including a dedicated area for hygienic cooking. The unit assistance of Rs.1.20 lakh in plains and Rs.1.30 lakh in hilly states, difficult areas and IAP districts. The fund sharing pattern under PMAY-G between Central and State Government is in the ratio of 60:40 except in case of the UT of Jammu & Kashmir, North-Eastern States and Hilly States, wherein the sharing pattern is 90:10. In respect of UTs (including Ladakh), 100% funding is by the Central Government. An assistance (Rs.12,000/-) is provided for construction of toilets through convergence with Swacch Bharat Mission–Gramin (SBM-G), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) or any other dedicated source of funding. There is a provision of 90/95 persondays of un-skilled labour wage under MGNREGA for construction of house, over and above the unit assistance. In convergence with other Government Schemes for provision of basic amenities viz., toilet, drinking water, electricity, clean & efficient cooking fuel, treatment of social and liquid waste etc. The focus is on construction of quality houses by the beneficiaries using local materials, appropriate designs and trained masons. The details of Funds earmarked and Funds released under PMAY-G and physical progress during the last three Financial Years is given below:-

Year	B.E (in crore)	RE (in crore)	Actual release (Rs. in crore)	Physical target allocated (units in Nos.)	House completion (units in Nos.)
2019-20	19,000.00	18455.00	28,930.63	57,92,335	21,28,854
2020-21	19,500.00	19500.00	39,268.96	43,08,398	33,99,507
2021-22	19,500.00	30057.15	30,056.87	71,50,439	42,41,557

PMGSY:-States prepare Detailed project Reports (DPRs) based on the prevailing schedule of rates (SoR). Accordingly, Ministry sanction the proposals based on the cost estimate arrived at by the states based on the SoR. These SoRs are revised from time to time keeping in view the existing market trends. Once project is sanctioned, there is no provision for payment of cost escalation on account of time overrun under the scheme as there is fixed timeline for completion of projects sanctioned under PMGSY. Budgetary allocation to the Ministry each year is based on the cost estimates, arrived at the time of the approval of the scheme.

If cost increases on account of time overrun, state has to bear the extra cost. Hence, the rising cost of material and logistics do not impact the initial budgetary requirement envisaged for the scheme. The expenditure (including state share) on PMGSY works over the years is on increasing trend. Details are as under-

Year	Expenditure including state share (Rs. in crore)
2019-20	21,730
2020-21	23,940
2021-22	27,833
2022-23 (as on 20.01.2023)	18,108

It could be seen that despite the budgetary support at a constant level of Rs.19000 crore per year, expenditure is showing a rising trend due to regular disbursal of funds from the Ministry as per the value of projects sanctioned to States/ UTs.

DAY-NRLM:-Considering the impact of inflation, the following revision of cost for expenditure has been made with the approval of CCEA:

- Institution building cost under NRLM (ie. formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs)) has been increased from Rs.10,000/- per SHG to Rs.15,000/- per SHG.
- Revolving Fund (RF) has been increased from Rs.10,000/- – Rs.15000/- per SHG to Rs.15,000/- to Rs.20,000/- per SHG.
- Infrastructure grant towards cost of construction of RESET has been increased from Rs.1.00 Crore per RSETI to Rs.2.00 Crore per RSETI.
- Ceiling of maximum expenditure per Block under SVEP has been increased from Rs.597.77 lakh to Rs.650.00 lakh.

NSAP:-There is no impact of inflation over the budgetary expenditure of NSAP as NSAP schemes are not linked to inflation.

SPMRM:-SPMRM has a fixed outlay for each cluster as either Rs. 15 crore or Rs 30 crore, over the Misison period. Therefore there is no impact due to inflation over the budgetary expenditure.”

(v) Allocation vis-à-vis expenditure during 2022-23

2.5 A scheme-wise breakup of allocation vis-à-vis expenditure during the current financial year is produced below:-

Department of Rural Development
Statement showing Budget Estimates 2022-23, Revised Estimates 2022-23 and Actual Expenditure upto 20.01.2023.

(Rs. In crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2022-23		
		B.E.	R.E.	Actual Expenditure Upto 20.01.2023 with Authorization
	1	2	3	4
	Centrally Sponsored Schemes			
1	**Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme**	73000.00	89400.00	68844.83
2	**National Rural Livelihood Mission-Aajeevika**	13336.42	13336.42	5751.19
3	**Pradhan MantriAwaasYojana**	20000.00	48422.00	28279.12
4	**Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana**	19000.00	19000.00	11908.83
5	**National Social Assistance Programme**	9652.31	9652.00	7209.09
6	**Shyama Prasad Mukherjee RURBAN Mission**	550.00	988.91	362.16
	Central Sector Schemes			
7	**Grants to National Institute of Rural Dev.**	135.46	114.59	84.65
8	**Management support to RD Programmes and strengthening district planning process**	212.19	126.22	41.52
9	**SECC Census**	0.01	0.00	0.00
	Total- Scheme Expenditure	**135886.39**	**181040.14**	**122481.39**
10	**Secretariat Services (Non-Scheme-exp.)**	57.90	81.66	65.98
	Total- RD(Scheme+Non-Scheme)	**135944.29**	**181121.80**	**122547.37**

(vi). Unspent Balances

Breakup of unspent balances against each scheme, State/UT-wise as provided by the Department of Rural Development is at **Annexure I** of the Report.

2.6 When asked about the reasons for the accrual of such amounts and the strategy to avoid such occurrence, the Department of Rural Development submitted their reply as below:-

> MGNREGA : Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment Scheme. Funds release to the States/UTs is a continuous process depending upon the demand on the ground. Funds released towards Material & Admin component of the programme particularly in the terminal month of the financial year becomes unspent balance in some States, due to delayed availability of funds to the State Govt. through RBI, subsequent delay in release by State Finance Department to Bank Account of Implementing Agency at State, some technical issues come up during the fund transfer order generation at field or administrative issues at field. Ministry adjusts such unspent balance, if any, at the time of subsequent release in the beginning of next financial year. Ministry ensures the liquidation of last release prior to the subsequent release.
>
> **PMAY-G**:-The reasons for accumulation of unspent balances are as under:-
>
> i. Usually the States release central government share as well as state share towards the end of the year leading to higher unspent balance at the beginning of the financial year.
>
> ii. Expenditure is also dependent on the season. In this season, there was an early onset and prolonged monsoon due to which the expenditure was a little slow.
>
> As per the guidelines received from Dept of Expenditure vide their O.M dated 23.03.2021 & 30.06.2021 it is mandatory for States/UTs to show 75% utilization for making them eligible for future instalments. Further the unspent balances with the States are taken into consideration while considering proposals of further release of funds to avoid parking of funds. The States are advised to increase the pace of construction of houses and liquidate the available unspent balance.
>
> PMGSY:-The main reason for accrual of unspent balances are delay in release of Central and State share from state treasury to single nodal account of the agency. Further, unspent balance also has some component of previous releases which were not utilised by the States due to various reasons such as slow progress of works, works held up due to forest clearances, land acquisition, legal issues etc. For preventing the parking of funds, during every release, the State Governments are directed to transfer these funds along with corresponding State Share to single nodal account of agency within a maximum period of 21 days and 40 days respectively from the date of

receipt of these funds. In case of non-transfer further central share is not released until the matter is resolved. Further, Ministry has been regularly reviewing the position of unspent balances with the States in various monthly review meetings. States are not being released further central funds unless they spend the funds already available with them upto a reasonable limit which is 75%. States are also being encouraged to speed up the pace of works so that funds available with them are utilized in a time bound manner. Letters have been written from Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development to Chief Ministers of States to speed up the work and complete all pending works. With all these efforts, the unspent balance in respect of PMGSY has been reduced to a large extent. The effective unspent balance is only Rs. 2,269.631 crore.

DAY-NRLM:-Considering the implementation process which requires fund flow from State to District and Blocks, the programme guidelines allow retention of around 40% of the allocated funds by permitting release of 2nd installment after utilization of 60% of available funds. This has been the reason for accrual of unspent balances.

With the implementation of fresh guide which limits the release to 25% of the allocation and spending of 75% to be eligible to submit proposal for next instalment, liquidation of unspent balances lying with the State/s and implementing agencies is certain and unspent balance getting accumulated will be minimised.Further with the implementation of Single nodal bank account concept the parking of funds will not be arise.This will lead to minimise the accrual of unspent balance.

DDU-GKY Skills:-

Reasons for underutilization under DDU-GKY:-

- Underutilization of funds released in the previous financial years leading to considerable unspent balance at State level
- DDU-GKY training centers were closed from 16th March 2020 till 15th January 2021. After this too mobilization was slow and candidates were hesitant to return to the training centres.
- In March 2021, new guidelines for Single Nodal Agency (SNA) were announced, DDU-GKY wrote many letters to the MoF to get exemption on grounds of the difficulties at the Project Implementing Agency (PIA) level, but eventually in October 2021, it was decided to follow the guidelines.
- This meant getting back money from more than 2200 PIA accounts into the SRLM account. To get most of the States on-boarded it took around 4-5 months.
- DDU-GKY being a sub-scheme of NRLM had to cross many hurdles to create a separate SNA account at State/UT level as the PFMS architecture did not allow sub-schemes. Till date most PFMS reports don‘t show segregated balances for DDU-GKY or RSETI. Maximum reports are at NRLM level.

- Cash sttrapped PIAs had to suffer as PFMS did not have the technical scope to accommodate out of State PIAs on the PFMS portal. This was resolved on 27th August 2022 after vigorous follow up with Department of Expenditure and PFMS.
- In the month of January 2022 QP changes happened (deactivation of active trades) and PIAs were not allowed to commence any new training under deactivated trades.
- Sanction of new projects were stopped since January 2022 and also allotment of additional targets was stopped during the year.
- Bottlenecks due to IT issues

  Under DDUGKY, funds are released based on PIA's placement achievements, but due to non-commencement of the trainings as per the above cited reasons PIAs were not able to achieve the placement targets so release of funds at State level was very slow.

  RSETI:-Shortfall due to non-compliance of DoE's guidelines by States/UTs. Concerted efforts are being made continuously to impress upon the States/UTs to complete the compliances. Concerted efforts include regular follow-up with States and Banks on phone calls, emails, VCs, etc.

NSAP:-The funds are released in advance to the States/UTs for providing central assistance to the beneficiaries identified under NSAP after following the due procedure. The release of funds to the States/ UTs in the last installment mainly constitutes the unspent balance. The States/UT normally report the expenditure of the last installment along with the release proposal of next installment. States/UTs disburse the pension to the beneficiaries on time however, the time gap between making expenditure and reporting the same to this department is the reason for reflecting unspent balance lying with States/UTs.

In pursuance of the revised procedure for release of funds issued by Department of Expenditure, the following strategy is followed by this department for better fund management:-

(i). Funds are now being released to the States/UTs in four equal installments in a financial year in place of two installments.

(ii). Funds for next installment are released to the States/UTs only when PFMS confirms that funds have been transferred from State treasury to SNA of the implementing department and expenditure of 75% thereof.

SPMRM:-At present the States are utilizing the unspent balance available with them for continuing the ongoing works. Any further releases are done strictly in line with the Guidelines issued by the Department of Expenditure in March, 2021 and March 2022, for the release of funds under Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

A Detailed Analysis of the Demands for Grants 2023-24.

Scheme-wise BE 2023-24

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	NAME OF THE SCHEME	BE 2022-23	RE 2022-23	BE 2023-24
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	MGNREGA	73,000.00	89,400.00	60,000.00
2	PMAY-G	20,000.00	48,422.00	54,487.00
3	PMGSY	19,000.00	19,000.00	19,000.00
4	NSAP	9,652.31	9,652.00	9,636.32
5	DAY- NRLM	13,336.42	13,336.42	14,129.17
6	SPMRM	550.00	988.91	0.00
7	MSRDP	212.19	126.22	113.49
8	NIRD-PR	135.46	114.59	115.00
9	SECTT. SERVICE	57.90	81.66	64.02
	TOTAL	1,35,944.29	1,81,121.80	1,57,545.00

There is an increase of 16% in BE 2023-24 as compared to BE 2022-23.

2.7 A substantial rise to Rs. 1,81,121.80 Crore at the RE stage for the financial year 2022-23 is being reflected. However, the BE for 2023-24 is Rs. 1,57,545.00 Crore. When asked from the Department of Rural Development to justify the allocation when the expenditure for the current Financial Year is much higher, the written replies by the Department has clarified as follows:-

-**MGNREGA**:-Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven Scheme and release of funds to the States/UTs is a continuous process. Ministry seeks additional funds for implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS from the Ministry of Finance as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground.

There was a budget provision of Rs.73,000 crore at BE stage during 2022-23 under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA scheme. An amount of Rs.89400 crore has been provided by the Ministry of Finance at RE stage. An amount of Rs.69804.72 crorecrore has been released as on 25.01.2023.

PMAY-G:-As per the Cabinet note for continuation of PMAY-G the total financial implication for the Current Financial Year i.e. FY 2022-23 is Rs. 48,422 crore. Out of which at BE was Rs. 20,000.00 crore. Accordingly, the RE approved for PMAY-G for the FY 2022-23 is ₹ 48,422.00 crore.
PMGSY:-There is no variation in the allocation of funds for PMGSY.

DAY-NRLM:-The provision for DAY-NRLM in RE 2022-2023 is Rs.13336.42 Crore. The provision of Rs.14129.17 Crore in BE 2023-24 is considered to be adequate to meet the programme requirement of the DAY-NRLM for the year 2023-2024.

NSAP:-Under NSAP schemes, the allocation at RE stage for FY 2022-23 is Rs. 9652 crore while the BE for 2023-24 is Rs.9636.32 crore. The allocation made for 2023-24 appears to be sufficient to meet the requirement. However, in case of any shortage, the same would be taken up at RE stage or through supplementary demands.

SPMRM:-Under SPMRM, the proposed allocation in BE 2023-24 is Zero, while the allocation for the Financial Year 2022-23 has been increased from Rs. 550 crore to Rs. 988.91 crore under SPMRM. Vide OM dated 28th March 2022, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance had declared 31st March 2022 as the sunset date for the Mission and allocation under SPMRM was not permitted for utilization until specific approval was obtained from Department of Expenditure (DoE). Vide communication dated 12th July 2022 and 21st December 2022, DoE has given one time permission for release of funds under the Mission upto 15th March 2023, towards the ongoing work liability as on 31st March 2022. As the Mission has not been granted further extension, all the funds for ongoing work liability has to be released by the said date. Hence the increase in RE for FY 2022-23 and Nil provision for BE 2023-24."

(vii) <u>Demand and Allocation of Funds for the Department</u>

2.8 It has been further submitted that the total fund including both Scheme and Non-Scheme proposed/demanded by the Department of Rural Development for BE 2023-24 was Rs. 1,97,233.34 Crore against which Rs. 1,57,545.00 Crore were allocated by Ministry of Finance.

Department of Rural Development

Statement showing B.E. (2023-24)-Proposed by DoRD and B.E. (2023-24) allocated by Ministry of Finance

(Rs. In crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2023-24	
		B.E. (Proposed by DoRD)	B.E. (Allocated by MoF)
	1	2	3
	Centrally Sponsored Schemes		
1	**Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme**	98000.00	60000.00

2	**National Rural Livelihood Mission- Aajeevika**	15680.01	14129.17
3	**Pradhan MantriAwaasYojana**	54487.00	54487.00
4	**Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana**	19000.00	19000.00
5	**National Social Assistance Programme**	9652.31	9636.32
6	**Shyama Prasad Mukherjee RURBAN Mission**	0.00	0.00
	Central Sector Schemes		
7	**Grants to National Institute of Rural Dev.**	148.25	115.00
8	**Management support to RD Programmes and strengthening district planning process**	201.75	113.49
9	**SECC Census**	0.00	0.00
	Non Scheme Expenditure		
10	**Secretariat Services**	64.02	64.02
Total -Rural Development		**197233.34**	**157545.00**

2.9 The Secretary, DoRD during the course of evidence, stated the following on proposed vs allocated funds:-

> —.in certain programmes the amount has been enhanced but in certain others it has been reduced. As I explained in the beginning, under NREGA, as and when the need arises, we get those funds under the RE. Budgetary provisions are made based on the discussions that we hold with the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure. On the basis of the discussion, some cuts are made. That is how it happens."

(viii) Plans to Achieve Targets

2.10 The comparison between the BE of 2022-23 versus the BE of 2023-24 reveals that 15.89% hike has been witnessed for the next financial year. In this wake, on being queried upon as to how the Department of Rural Development plans to meet the challenging demands realizing the targets of schemes under them, the Department of Rural Development in their written replies have submitted as mentioned below:-

> **—MGNREGA:-**Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven Scheme and release of funds to the States/UTs is a continuous process. Ministry seeks additional funds for implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS from the Ministry of Finance as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground.
>
> There was a budget provision of Rs.73,000 crore at BE stage during 2022-23 under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA scheme. An amount of Rs.89400 crore has been provided by the Ministry of Finance at RE stage. An amount of Rs.69804.72 crore has been released as on 25.1.2023.

PMAY-G:-The BE for Financial Year 2023-24 is Rs.54,487.00 cr. (includes Rs.4,000.00 crore as interest payment to NABARD). The total target for year 2023-24 is 57,33,953 houses. While approving the continuation of PMAY-G beyond March, 2021, it was decided by the Union Cabinet to phase out Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) and provision of entire scheme fund through Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) shall be decided in consultation with Ministry of Finance. Accordingly, the MoF is providing funds through GBS only from the Financial Year 2021-22 onwards.

PMGSY:-As per the estimation done by the Ministry budgetary support to the tune of Rs. 19,000 crore (Central Share) per annum would be required during 2023-24 to 2024-25 to complete all the ongoing interventions/verticals of PMGSY. Accordingly Ministry has got Rs. 19000 crore for PMGSY.

DAY-NRLM:-As far as DAY-NRLM is concerned, the provision of Rs.14129.17 Crore in BE 2023-24 is considered to be adequate to meet the programme requirement for the year 2023-24. If any additional demands arise during the year, the same will sought at the stage of RE for the year 2023-24 or through Supplementary Demands for the Grants.

NSAP:-Under NSAP schemes, the BE 2023-24 for NSAP scheme is Rs. 9636.32 crore which is almost same to the BE for the FY 2022-23 of Rs. 9652.31 crore. In NSAP, there is ceiling in number of beneficiaries to be covered and this is almost fully utilized hence allocated BE will be sufficient for the requirement for the FY 2023-24. Hence, the allocation made for 2023-24 appears to be sufficient to meet the requirement.

SPMRM:-The allocation for BE 2023-24 is Zero. As the Mission has not been granted further extension, all the funds for ongoing work liability has to be released by 15th March 2023.

NIRD&PR:- The amount allocated to Training Division in respect of NIRD & PR and SIRD/ETC (under MSRDP) are enough the meeting the requirement in the next financial year."

CHAPTER - III

Analysis of Schemes

A. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) was notified on September, 2005.

Mandate

The mandate of the Act is to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

Objectives

The core objectives of the Scheme are as below:

- Providing not less than one hundred days of unskilled manual work as a guaranteed employment in a financial year to every household in rural areas as per demand, resulting in creation of productive assets of prescribed quality and durability.
- Strengthening the livelihood resource base of the poor;
- Proactively ensuring social inclusion and

Thus, Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a powerful instrument for ensuring inclusive growth in rural India through its impact on social protection, livelihood security and democratic empowerment.

Coverage

The Act was notified in 200 districts in the first phase with effect from February 2nd 2006 and then extended to an additional 130 districts in the financial year 2007-2008 (113 districts were notified with effect from April 1st 2007, and 17 districts in Uttar Pradesh (UP) were notified with effect from May 15th 2007). The remaining districts have been notified under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA with effect from April 1, 2008. Thus, the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA covers the entire country with the exception of districts that have a hundred percent urban population.

1. Funding Pattern

1.1 Section 22(1) and (2) speaks of the funding pattern of the Schemes taken up under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. As per Section 22(1), the Central Government shall meet the cost of following namely:-

(a) The amount required for payment of wages for unskilled manual work under the Scheme;
(b) Up to three-fourths of the material cost of the Scheme including payment of wages to skilled and semi-skilled workers subject to the provisions of Schedule II;
(c) Six percentage of the total cost of the Scheme towards the administrative expenses.

As per Section 22(2), the State Government shall meet the cost of the following, namely:-

(a) The cost of unemployment allowance payable under the Scheme.
(b) one-fourth of the material cost of the Scheme including payment of wages to skilled and semi-skilled workers subject to the provisions of Schedule II.
(c) The administrative expenses of the State Council.

2. Financial performance

Last 5 Years' and Current Year's Achievement

Indicators	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (As on 03.02.2023)
Person-days Generated (in crore)	233.74	267.96	265.35	389.10	363.24	248.08
Central release (Rs. in crore)	55706.06	61829.56	71687.71	110351.82	96812.25	71858.37
Total Works Completed (In Lakhs)	62.63	90.22	74.67	86.86	89.69	78.61
Total Households worked (in crore)	5.12	5.27	5.48	7.55	7.26	5.78
New Job Cards issued (in lakh)	77.03	62.37	69.53	191.44	127.51	54.95

Financial progress:

Indicator	FY 2022-2023 *	FY 2021-2022	FY 2020-2021	FY 2019-2020
Total Expenditure [In Cr]	76,222.89	1,06,356.81	1,11,719.55	68,265.97
Expenditure on Wages [In Cr]	50,132.19	75,092.67	78,016.86	48,847.94

***As on 31.12.22**

Statement showing budget estimates, revised estimates and actual expenditure for the past three years and budget estimates for the current year showing

separately capital and revenue expenditure for each of the Schemes/programmes under the Department.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl No.	Year	B.E.	R.E.	Released	Expenditure by the States*
1	2019-20	60000.00	71001.81	71687.71	68265.97
2	2020-21	61500.00	111500.00	111170.86	111719.55
3	2021-22	73000.00	98000.00	98467.84	106356.81
4	2022-23 (As on 31.12.2022)	73000.00	89400.00	66315.42	67001.65

* As per MIS

Actual expenditure, revised estimates alongwith amount surrendered during the last three years in respect of each of the Schemes of the Department.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl No.	Year	R.E.	Released	Expenditure by the States*
1	2019-20	71001.81	71687.71	68265.97
2	2020-21	111500.00	111170.86	111719.55
3	2021-22	98000.00	98467.84	106356.81

* As per MIS

2.2 The BE for the Financial Year 2022-23 was Rs. 73,000 crore, which was substantially raised to Rs. 89,400 crore at the RE Stage. However, the BE allocated for the year 2023-24 is Rs. 60,000 crore, 17.81% less than the ongoing fiscal. When asked about this steep reduction, in a major scheme aimed at rural populace in detail, particularly when the proposed BE from the Department of Rural Development was Rs. 98,000 crores, the Ministry in their written replies stated as under:-

> "Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven Scheme and release of funds to the States/UTs is a continuous process. Ministry seeks additional funds for implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS from the Ministry of Finance as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground."

2.3 During the course of evidence, on the concern of reduced allocation to the MGNREGA, the Secretary submitted the following:-

> “The basic idea is that it is a demand driven scheme. There was an increase in the allocation in previous two-three years because of the abnormal situations created because of COVID, Ukraine war, and inflation. It was felt that, it is in the Economic Survey as well, now the situation has normalized a bit. Just before COVID, in fact in 2020-21 the original budget was Rs.61,000 crore. Since it is a demand driven scheme, when the need arose it was enhanced to Rs.1,10,000 crore. Since it is a demand driven scheme whenever there is a need for extra money we go to the Finance Ministry and they allocate extra money for this. There is no dearth of money if the demand arises for wage employment.”

2.4 Unspent balance under MGNREGS during the last three years was Rs. 2,913.32 crore (2019-20), Rs. 5,270.76 crore (2020-21) and Rs. 6,454.87 crore (2021-22). When asked about the reasons for huge unspent balances during the last three years and whether the Ministry will be able to utilize the current year‘s unspent balance of Rs. 744.18 Crore before 31.03.2023, the Ministry‘s written reply is produced below:-

> “Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment Scheme. Funds release to the States/UTs is a continuous process depending upon the demand on the ground. Funds released towards Material & Admin component of the programme particularly in the terminal month of the financial year becomes unspent balance in some States, due to delayed availability of funds to the State Govt. through RBI, subsequent delay in release by State Finance Department to Bank Account of Implementing Agency at State, some technical issues come up during the fund transfer order generation at field or administrative issues at field. Ministry adjusts such unspent balance, if any, at the time of subsequent release in the beginning of next financial year.
>
> Ministry ensures the liquidation of last release prior to the subsequent release.”

2.5 On being asked to justify the increase in RE from Rs. 73,000 crores to Rs. 89,400 Crores during the current Financial Year in detail highlighting the States where the demand has increased, the Ministry have replied as under:-

> “Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven program. Currently, agreed to Labour Budget is 256.86 crore so far. Till date, as per the surge in demand for works in the field, the agreed to Labour Budget of

> Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, H.P, Kerala, M.P, Nagaland, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana & U.P have already been revised upwards. Being a demand driven scheme, the requirement of funds is based on anticipated demand on the basis of current pace of demand for works.”

2.6 When asked to bring to the fore non-performing States in the context of implementation of MGNREGA particularly in terms of fund releases, timely submission of muster rolls and other mandatory formalities, the Ministry have stated in their replies the following:-

> “Under the scheme, there is no scope of targeting the demand from the beneficiaries . So only an anticipation for demand of wage employment is made by the state/UT keeping in view the pattern of demand in the last 2-3 years. If there is more demand than the anticipated labour budget, in such cases revision of agreed to labour Budget is done.
>
> Labour budget revision for 11 States have been done. Labour budget revision for more states is in process. As there is no targeted allocation of Labour Budget as well as funds, so previous years‘ performance of the scheme in a state has no relation with any financial outlays for current FY or future FY.”

2.7 On the query of the reasons for continuous reduction in labour budget under the scheme, the Ministry of Rural Development have replied as under:-

> “Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven program. Currently, agreed to Labour Budget is 256.86 crore so far. Till date, as per the surge in demand for works in the field, the agreed to Labour Budget of Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangna, Assam, Nagaland, Bihar and Kerala have already been revised upwards. Being a demand driven scheme, the requirement of Labour budget is based on anticipated demand.”

3. Physical Performance

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Mahatma Gandhi NREGA during FY Employment Guarantee during 2022-23

(As on 31.12.2022)

S.No	State	Cumulative No. of HH issued job cards				Employment Provided		
		SCs	STs	Others	Total	Household	Persons	Total Persondays
1	Andhra Pradesh	2276070	745913	6571538	9593521	4296345	7045269	188223939
2	Arunachal Pradesh	35	288287	16386	304708	236131	246766	8451466
3	Assam	317737	885001	4928700	6131438	2053376	3033228	63511780
4	Bihar	4317600	360468	18121728	22799796	4357739	5016839	192709654
5	Chhattisgrah	428327	1331525	2322257	4082109	1926356	3306654	60380865
6	Goa	813	10444	23848	35105	2804	2951	65692
7	Gujarat	268074	1715116	2594450	4577640	908257	1438487	37613515
8	Haryana	484623	0	764975	1249598	261379	367053	7098516
9	Himachal Pradesh	368787	86851	984542	1440180	575651	762389	23294100
10	Jammu & Kashmir	85793	158337	1106228	1350358	540721	711068	17257608
11	Jharkhand	648942	1824701	3687772	6161415	1701126	2049189	62580984
12	Karnataka	1393785	700531	5833342	7927658	2688349	4821198	189668659
13	Kerala	537703	129515	3484449	4151667	1468878	1645918	67789396
14	Ladhakh	0	37689	4	37693	31845	36012	1526538
15	Madhya Pradesh	1269814	2503135	4594168	8367117	4137579	6876603	189674830
16	Maharashtra	955545	1495570	8303007	10754122	1840960	3210855	62260036
17	Manipur	15639	257507	321033	594179	219546	228916	3360424
18	Meghalaya	4096	596253	46300	646649	415185	521137	16251739
19	Mizoram	41	212169	1958	214168	214683	217533	15238402
20	Nagaland	0	450560	5863	456423	418853	485697	18046217
21	Odisha	1298026	2165970	4568035	8032031	2976771	4591733	148329989
22	Punjab	1307683	579	754269	2062531	775984	918338	25214608
23	Rajasthan	2356631	2229288	7134435	11720354	5490005	7397221	239144742
24	Sikkim	4743	35850	46706	87299	55639	63968	2345185
25	Tamilnadu	2559426	158853	6545644	9263923	6261369	7135292	246527837
26	Telangana	1228965	943467	3501278	5673710	2566921	4233866	105433661
27	Tripura	113629	279632	280670	673931	538403	769905	27137677
28	Uttar Pradesh	6383728	205304	15485256	22074288	6360481	7544965	262349462
29	Uttarakhand	217593	44772	939819	1202184	426537	570275	15402503
30	West Bengal	3783074	1080394	10768136	15631604	1620989	2008444	37377658
31	Andaman & Nicobar	0	4143	29117	33260	3544	4055	73769
32	DN Haveli andD DD	1	3496	52	3549	0	0	0
33	Lakshadweep	9	7956	92	8057	69	70	2625
34	Puducherry	20442	165	53322	73929	38988	41495	631138
	Total	**32647374**	**20949441**	**113819379**	**167416194**	**55411463**	**77303389**	**2249772740**

4. <u>Wage Pendencies</u>

4.1 The Ministry were asked about the current status of pendency in terms of wage liabilities and material share of Centre, they have provided the State/UT-wise details as produced below:-

Pending Liability as on 25.01.23 (In Rs. Crore)			
Sl No.	**States/UTs**	**Wages**	**Material**
1	Andhra Pradesh	209	786
2	Arunachal Pradesh	80	30
3	Assam	0	110
4	Bihar	0	301
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0
6	Goa	0	0
7	Gujarat	0	0
8	Haryana	15	17
9	Himachal Pradesh	27	25
10	Jammu and Kashmir	173	22
11	Jharkhand	0	220
12	Karnataka	0	631
13	Kerala	0	132
14	Ladakh	13	1
15	Madhya Pradesh	467	352
16	Maharashtra	48	200
17	Manipur	0	83
18	Meghalaya	0	96
19	Mizoram	29	0
20	Nagaland	216	94
21	Odisha	401	166
22	Punjab	0	30
23	Rajasthan	759	73
24	Sikkim	0	4
25	Tamil Nadu	924	380
26	Telangana	88	219
27	Tripura	23	6
28	Uttar Pradesh	0	927
29	Uttarakhand	0.0	0
30	Andaman & Nicobar	0.0	0
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	0.0	0.0
32	Lakshadweep	0.0	0.01
33	Puducherry	0.34	0
34	West Bengal	2757	2709
	Total	**6231**	**7616**

4.2 The Secretary, DoRD during the course of evidence on the issue of delay in payment under MGNREGA, deposed as below:-

> —.at the beginning of 2022, the Finance Ministry had given certain directions and it was directed that all the releases will be made through the PFMS portal. There are certain other conditions also in which it has been given that we can release the fund when the State utilizes the 75 per cent of the fund available with it. It was also directed that fund should be released in four instalments. It should not be more than 25 per cent in one instalment. It was also directed that States should also release their State's share in correspondence to the Central share we have released to them.
>
> So, these are certain conditions at the beginning of the financial year. So, a lot of things are also required to be done because all the State schemes have to be mapped on the PFMS portal and States have taken a lot of time on that. It is because certain States have to also create the budget lines for which they have to take permission from their legislative assemblies. So, in the first two quarters, there was some problem. That is why the releases were affected. Now, everything is set right. There is no issue in releasing funds."

4.3 He further added:-

> —.we will ensure because all those issues of mechanics are now taken care of. We will ensure that the fund flow happens instantaneously."

5. <u>Compensation for delay in payment of Wages</u>

5.1 ―As per the provisions mentioned in Schedule-II of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 wage seekers are entitled to receive payment of compensation for the delay at the rate of **0.05%** of the unpaid wages per day for the duration of delay beyond the sixteenth day of closure of muster roll. As per Para 29 (1) of Schedule-II of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, 2005 lays down that:

(1) In case the payment of wages is not made within fifteen days from the date of closure of the muster roll, the wage seekers shall be entitled to receive payment of compensation for the delay, at the rate of 0.05% of the unpaid wages per day of delay beyond the sixteenth day of closure of muster roll.
   - (a) Any delay in payment of compensation beyond a period of fifteen days from the date it becomes payable, shall be considered in the same manner as the delay in payment of wages.
   - (b) For the purpose of ensuring accountability in payment of wages and to calculate culpability of various functionaries or

agencies, the States shall divide the processes leading to determination and payment of wages into various stages such as –

i. Measurement of work;
ii. Computerizing the must rolls;
iii. Computerizing the measurements;
iv. Generation of wage lists, and
v. Uploading Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs)‘

and specify stage-wise maximum time limits along with the functionary or agency which is responsible for discharging the specific function.

(c) The computer system shall have a provision to automatically calculate the compensation payable based on the date of closure of the muster roll and the date of deposit of wages in the accounts of the wage seekers.
(d) The State Government shall pay the compensation upfront after due verification within the time limits as specified above and recover the compensation amount from the functionaries or agencies who is responsible for the delay in payment.
(e) It shall be the duty of that District Programme Coordinator or Programme Officer to ensure that the system is operationalised.
(f) The number of days of delay, the compensation payable and actually paid shall be reflected in the Monitoring and Information System and the Labour Budget.

The payment of the compensation is made by the State Government upfront after due verification. Ministry has issued Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) on Timely Payment and as per this SoP the timely payment process has been divided into two stages namely Stage-I (FTO generation within 8 days by State Government) and Stage-II (process of FTO at Central Level by different stake holders). The entire system is designed such that the wages are credited within the stipulated time. Sometimes the Stage-I may overshoot its prescribed time but Stage-II may finish earlier resulting in overall timely payment of wages and vice-versa and also in some cases PFMS fails to send the FTO to the bank for payment.

5.2 The Ministry were asked about the State/UT-wise breakup of the amount paid as delay compensation under MGNREGA during the last three Financial Years (including the ongoing fiscal as on date), upon which they have provided the following figures:-.

Sl No	States/UTs	Delay compensation paid (Rs. in lakh)			
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (as on 24.01.23)
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	0	0	280.71	0
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	0.55	1.64	0
3	ASSAM	0.92	0	8.06	0
4	BIHAR	81.47	46.06	7.61	0
5	CHHATTISGARH	0	0	0.01	0
6	GOA	0.01	0.23	0.68	0
7	GUJARAT	10.26	0.91	0.2	0
8	HARYANA	0.34	0.77	0.04	0.04
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1.14	0.85	0.9	1.01
10	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	0.23	0	0	0
11	JHARKHAND	0.24	0.03	0	0
12	KARNATAKA	1.23	2.16	4.57	0
13	KERALA	0.59	2.4	1.35	0.23
14	LADAKH	0	0	0	0
15	MADHYA PRADESH	22.16	9.41	10.25	0
16	MAHARASHTRA	17.11	13.04	54.81	156.68
17	MANIPUR	0	0	0	0
18	MEGHALAYA	0	0	0	0
19	MIZORAM	0.04	0	0	0
20	NAGALAND	0	0	0	0
21	ODISHA	0.21	0.28	0.26	0.03
22	PUNJAB	2.73	0.93	0.3	0
23	RAJASTHAN	2.6	0.83	0.24	0
24	SIKKIM	0.28	0.11	0.23	0
25	TAMIL NADU	0.03	0	0	0
26	TELANGANA	0	0	0	0
27	TRIPURA	0.11	0.02	0.09	0
28	UTTAR PRADESH	0	0.14	2.73	0.45
29	UTTARAKHAND	0.02	0.04	0.23	0.02
30	WEST BENGAL	147.61	81.87	56.82	0
31	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR	0	0	0	0
32	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0	0
33	PUDUCHERRY	0	0	0	0
34	DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	0	0	0	0
	Total	**289.33**	**160.63**	**431.73**	**158.46**

Source of the data:- MIS of the scheme

6. Notified Wage Rates at Present

6.1 The Ministry were asked to provide the list of notified wage rate under MGNREGAState/UT-wise as on date, upon which they have provided the following:-

Sl No	States/UTs	Notified wage rate FY 2022-23
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	257
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	216
3	ASSAM	229
4	BIHAR	210

5	CHHATTISGARH	204
6	GOA	315
7	GUJARAT	239
8	HARYANA	331
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	Non-scheduled Areas 212- Scheduled Areas 266
10	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	227
11	Ladakh	227
12	JHARKHAND	210
13	KARNATAKA	309
14	KERALA	311
15	MADHYA PRADESH	204
16	MAHARASHTRA	256
17	MANIPUR	251
18	MEGHALAYA	230
19	MIZORAM	233
20	NAGALAND	216
21	ODISHA	222
22	PUNJAB	282
23	RAJASTHAN	231
24	SIKKIM	222
25	TAMIL NADU	281
26	TELANGANA	257
27	TRIPURA	212
28	UTTAR PRADESH	213
29	UTTRAKHAND	213
30	WEST BENGAL	223
31	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR	ANDAMAN 292- NICOBAR 308
32	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	
	DAMAN & DIU	278
33	LAKSHADWEEP	284
34	PUDUCHERRY	281

6.2 The Department of Rural Development were asked about their view on proposal to increase the wages and number of guaranteed days of work under MGNREGA, the Department have replied in their written notes as under:-

> ―The Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every year for States/UTs as per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005.
>
> As per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005 by notification specify the wage rate for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every year based on change in Consumer Price

Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year. However each State/UT can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government.

Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to each household in rural areas whose adult members volunteers to do unskilled manual work. In addition to this, there is a provision of additional 50 days of unskilled wage employment in a financial year in drought/natural calamity notified rural areas As per Section 3(4) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005, the State Governments may make provisions for providing additional days beyond the period guaranteed under the Act from their own funds."

7. Disparity in Wages

7.1 The Department were asked about the steps that are proposed/being taken to end the disparity in wages under MGNREGA in different States and also to provide details of the current point of view of Department of Rural Development regarding linkage of MGNREGA wage with suitable inflationary index, to this query the Department of Rural Development has responded in their written replies as below:-

"The Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every year for States/UTs as per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005.

As per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005 by notification specify the wage rate for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year. However each State/UT can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government."

8. Monitoring and Attendance System

8.1 When enquired about the latest attendance system being employed at ground level under MGNREGA for greater accountability and transparency, the Department in their written replies have submitted as below:-

"With a view to ensure more transparency in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, a provision of capturing of real-time

> attendance at worksite through a mobile app (National Mobile Monitoring System App: NMMS) with two time-stamped & geotagged photographs of the workers in a day has been started 21" May 2021, which increases citizen oversight of the programme and ease of governance.With the experience of applicability of NMMS, now, the ministry has decided that States/UTs shall ensure capturing of attendance for all the works (except Individual Beneficiary Scheme/Project) through NMMS with effect of 1st Jan, 2023."

8.2 The Secretary, DoRD during the course of evidence further deposed about the attendance app in MGNREGA as produced below:-

> ―Within NREGA, we have made some innovations. For example, there is a National Mobile Monitoring System which digitally captures all the real-time attendance with geo-tagged photographs of the workers. This is applicable for all the works, except individual beneficiary, projects, and schemes."

B. Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G)

1. Overview

Pradhan MantriAwaasYojana — Gramin (PMAY-G) is one of the flagship schemes with Government's commitment to provide "Housing for All" by 2024. The scheme Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana — Gramin (PMAY-G) came into effect from 1st April 2016. The aim of PMAY-G is to provide a pucca house with basic amenities to all houseless and households living in kutcha/ dilapidated houses in rural areas of the country. To achieve the objective of "Housing for All" the target number of houses to be constructed under the schemes is 2.95 crore. The target set is to be achieved in phases and in the 1st phase 1.00 crore houses and in the 2nd phase 1.95 crore houses are being taken up for construction.

(a) Assistance Component

Under PMAY-G, assistance of Rs.1,20,000/- in plains and Rs.1,30,000/- in hilly states, difficult areas and IAP districts is provided for construction of the house. The assistance includes Rs.12,000/- for construction of toilet under Swachh Bharat Mission (G), MGNREGS or any other dedicated financing source and support of 90 person days in plain areas and 95 person-days in hilly states, difficult areas and IAP districts under MGNREGA through convergence.

(b) <u>Identification of Beneficiaries</u>

Identification of beneficiaries in the scheme is based on the housing deprivation parameters as per Socio-Economic Caste Census — 2011. Accordingly, under PMAY-G all rural houseless and households living in zero, one or two room kuchha houses, subject to the exclusion criteria as per SECC and duly verified by Gram Sabha are provided assistance for construction of houses.

Further, to provide benefit of the scheme to the left out eligible households the Ministry decided to identify such households through the State Governments for Inclusion in the PWL. Accordingly, a module was developed to capture such data on MIS AwaaasSoft and a mobile application Awaas+ was developed to capture such households who though eligible but could not be included in the PWL of PMAY-G. The Awaas+ survey were then accordingly conducted by States/UTs on directions of the Ministry. The targets from Awaas+ lists would be in the range of 80-85 lakh houses within cumulative target of 2.95 crore houses under PMAY-G. The State/UTs after exhausting the existing PWL from SECC were eligible to receive targets from Awaas+. A target of 83.86 lakh houses have been allocated from finalized Awaas+ lists as per the recommendations of the expert committees.

2. <u>Key Features</u>

The minimum unit (house) size enhanced from 20 sq. mt. (under IAY) to 25 sq. mt, including a dedicated area for hygienic cooking.

The cost of unit (house) assistance is shared between Central and State Governments in the ratio 60:40 in plain areas and 90:10 for North-Eastern and 2HillStates (Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) and UT of Jammu and Kashmir. In respect of other Union Territories, 100% cost is borne by the Government of India.

The beneficiaries of PMAY-G, in addition to being provided financial assistance, are also offered technical assistance in the construction of quality house.

If the beneficiary so chooses, he/she will be facilitated to avail loan of up to Rs.70,000/- from Financial Institutions.

Focus on construction of quality houses by the beneficiaries, encouraging use of locally available construction materials and appropriate house design typologies and trained rural masons.

Bouquet of house design options with disaster resilience features according to local conditions, using appropriate technology suitable to their region are made available to the beneficiaries.

The programme is being implemented and monitored through end-to-end e-governance solutions, viz. AwaasSoft and AwaasApp.

3. Financial Progress

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Budget Allocation			Funds Released		
	G.B.S	E.B.R Approved	Total	G.B.S	E.B.R	Total
2016-17 to 2021-22	1,27,557	61,975	1,89,532	1,25,583	48,819	1,74,402
2022-23	48,422	-	48,422	28,520	-	28,520
Total	1,75,979	61,975	2,37,954	1,54,103	48,819	2,02,922

Year	Target (in lakh)	Completed (in lakh)	Central Share Released (Rs. in crore)	Utilization* (Rs. in crore)
2016-17	42.27	0.02	16,074.37	4,654.61
2017-18	31.54	38.15	29,901.72	53,466.35
2018-19	25.13	44.72	29,986.93	46,454.02
2019-20	57.92	21.28	28,930.63	42,460.32
2020-21	43.08	34.00	39,269	49,106
2021-22	44.09	42.39	30,057	42,806
2022-23	52.78	32.47	28,520	43,621

* includes State share

The details of Funds earmarked and Funds released under PMAY-G during the last three Financial Years is given below:-

Year	B.E (in crore)	RE (in crore)	Actual release (Rs. in crore)
2019-20	19,000.00	18455.00	18,119.63 +10,811.00 *
2020-21	19,500.00	19500.00	19,269.14 + 19,999.82*
2021-22	19,500.00	30057.15	30,056.87
2022-23	20,000.00	48422.00	28,279.12

3.2 On being enquired about the reasons for the upwards revision of BE for 2022-23 from Rs. 20,000 crores to Rs. 48,422 crores at RE stage and to justify the hike, the Department of Rural Development has stated as below:-

> "The total cost to Govt. of India for completion of 52,78,547 houses under PMAY-G during 2022-23 is ₹ 48,422.00 cr. (includes interest payment to NABARD). While approving the continuation of PMAY-G beyond March, 2021, it was decided by the Union Cabinet to phase out Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) and provision of entire scheme fund through Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) shall be decided in consultation with Ministry of Finance. Out of which, the BE was Rs. 20,000.00 crore. The MoF is now providing funds through GBS only from the Financial Year 2021-22 onwards. Accordingly, the RE approved for PMAY-G for the FY 2022-23 is ₹ 48,422.00 crore through the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants 2022-23."

3.3 The Department of Rural Development was asked to state reasons for slow progress along-with plan of Department of Rural Development for utilizing the full amount in remaining period of time, to which they have replied has under:-

> "As per the approval of First Batch of Supplementary Demand For Grants an amount of Rs. 48,422 is fixed as RE Stage. As per the proposals pending with this division an amount of Rs. 28279.12 crore is released under PMAY-G which is 58.40%. The additional funds of Rs. 28,422 crores is received as per the approval of First Batch of

> Supplementary Demand ForGrants during Q3 of the Current Financial Year. Keeping in view of the paucity of funds and the pending proposals from State Governments, an amount of Rs. 13,000 crores is received as Advance from Contingency Fund of India. Against the B.E of Rs. 20,000 crores an amount of Rs. 18,414.16 crore had already released under PMAY-G which is 92.07%."

3.4 Responding to a query on PMAY-G Allocation, the Secretary, DoRD made the following submissions during the course of evidence:-

> ―In PMAY-G the revised estimate is Rs.48,000 crore. We have been given an extra allocation of Rs.28,000 crore because we have to complete the houses which have already been sanctioned. Since this allocation came late, we have spent about 59 per cent but we expect that we will be able to utilise the entire amount in this head also."

3.5 There has been a huge increase in the Budgetary Allocation for the Financial Year 2023-24 as compared to the BE of 2022-23, i.e. from Rs. 20,000 crores to Rs. 54,487 crore a hike of 172.44%. The Department was further enquired about the reasons for huge increase, to which DoRD have submitted the following reply:-

> ―The BE for Financial Year 2023-24 is Rs.54,487.00 cr. (includes Rs.4,000.00 crore as interest payment to NABARD). The total target for year 2023-24 is 57,33,953 houses. While approving the continuation of PMAY-G beyond March, 2021, it was decided by the Union Cabinet to phase out Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) and provision of entire scheme fund through Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) shall be decided in consultation with Ministry of Finance. Accordingly, the MoF is providing funds through GBS only from the Financial Year 2021-22 onwards. At the onset of the Financial Year, the Annual Financial Allocation (Program and Admin Fund) would be decided for each State/UT on the basis of previous year's performances - houses pending for completion and utilization of available funds & targets allocated in the current year. The Annual Financial Allocation would be part of the Annual Action Plan (AAP) and would be approved by the Empowered Committee chaired by Secretary (RD)."

4. <u>Unspent Balances under the Scheme; Reasons and Remedy</u>

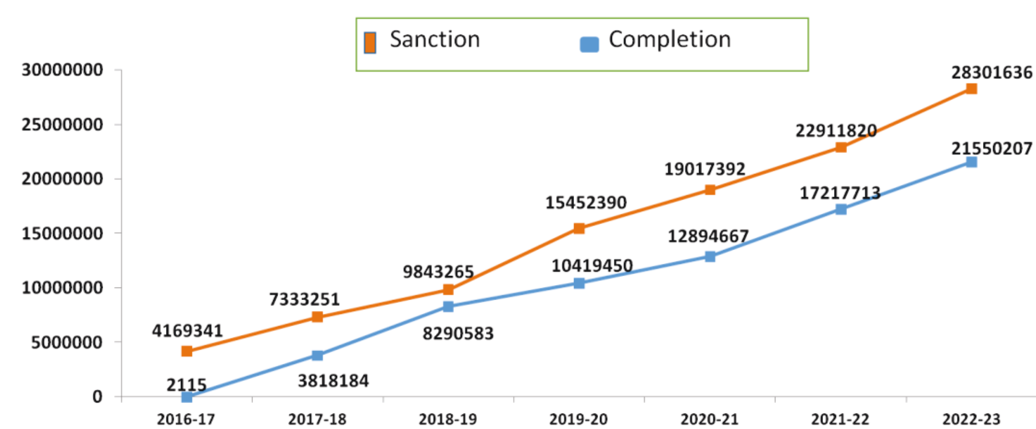
The Department were asked to provide details of unspent balances accrued so far along-with reasons thereof and to furnish separately the unspent balance liquidation methods being adopted, to this query the Department has responded as under:-

> “The Physical and Financial Progress under PMAY-G is being monitored through an online comprehensive monitoring database Awaassoft wherein States/UTs report the Progress time to time. As reported by States/UTs on Awaassoft against the Central Share of Rs. 28,279.12 crore, a total of Rs.42,031.87 crore is the expenditure reported (which includes State Share of Rs. 10,368.03 crore). Rs.15,508.78 crore is the Unspent Balance reported by States. Huge amount of Unspent Balance is due to release of Central share amounting to Rs. 9,864.96 crore during the later part of Q3 FY 2022-23. Liquidation of Unspent balance have an indirect impact in progress of the scheme. To minimize the Unspent Balances & ensuring better implementation of the scheme, the following steps are being taken by this ministry:-
>
> I. Micro monitoring of house sanction and completion using latest IT tools and technologies.
> II. Continuous review at the levels of Secretary/ AS and JS level.
> III. Focus on completion of those houses where 3rd or 2nd installment of funds has been released.
> IV. Separate review of States with high target, poor performing States and delayed houses
> V. Timely release of funds as per requirements of States/UTs
> VI. Continuous follow-up with States / UTs on providing land to landless beneficiaries of PMAY-G.”

5. Physical Progress

PMAY-G: Physical Progress (Cumulative)	
Target	Completion of 2.95 crore houses by 31st March 2024. Target Allocated so far : 2.94 Crore

Houses sanctioned: 2.83 crore **Houses completed: 2.15 crore** (as on 07.02.2023)



5.2 The Department of Rural Development was asked about the steps ensured to mitigate the delay in the completion of houses and also provide an in-depth status of the lacuna vis-à-vis non-timely submission of mandatory formalities by the State Authorities, the Department in their written submission have stated as below:-

> ―The achieving of target of ―Housing for All” by 2022 has been affected by certain unforeseeable circumstances. During the period of Covid-19 pandemic induced nation-wide lockdown, all construction activities including construction of houses under PMAY-G were also affected which retarded the pace of construction of PMAY-G houses. Besides, the delays are also due to cases of unwillingness of beneficiaries, migration, disputed succession of deceased beneficiaries, delay in allotment of land to landless beneficiaries by the States/UTs and at times also due to General, Assembly and Panchayat elections in various States. The Ministry is taking the following initiatives to ensure timely completion of the houses under PMAY-G for achieving the target of Housing for all:
>
> i. Regular review of progress at the level of Ministry to ensure timely completion of targeted houses.
> ii. The States/UTs have been requested to expedite the completion of houses approved under PMAY-G with specific focus and priority of houses for which 2nd and 3rd instalments have been released.
> iii. Daily monitoring on various parameters like Gaps in sanction of houses, cleaning of PWL of PMAY-G and release of Central Share/State Matching Share from treasury to SNA.
> iv. Timely allocation of targets to the States/UTs and release of adequate funds at the level of the Ministry.
> v. Promotion of eco-friendly & innovative technologies for house construction.
> vi. Regular follow ups with the States to ensure release of central and state share of the scheme and provision of land to landless beneficiaries in rural areas.
> vii. Expeditious resolution of technical issues and other constraints faced by the States.
> viii. Steps are being taken to increase the coverage of Rural Mason Training (RMT) programme which would increase the availability of trained masons leading to faster construction of quality houses.
> ix. Awards to the best performing States/UTs, Districts based on performance index dashboard, thereby creating healthy competition and motivation among the States/UTs for achieving the set targets.”

5.3 On being asked about the view regarding the other eligible beneficiaries identified as per Awaas Plus Survey in respect of allotment of houses, the Department of Rural Development stated the following:-

> "The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th December, 2021 has approved the continuation of PMAY-G beyond March, 2021 till March, 2024 for completion of remaining houses within the cumulative target of 2.95 crore houses under PMAY-G. The beneficiaries under PMAY-G are identified on basis of the housing deprivation parameters of Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011 and gaps within the cumulative target of 2.95 crore houses to be met from the finalized Awaas+ lists.
>
> At present, the Ministry is focused on achieving targets of 2.95 crore houses by March, 2024 and no proposal is for covering the remaining households in finalized Awaas+ lists over and above the targets of 2.95 crore houses."

5.4 During the course of evidence, the Secretary, DoRD on Awaas+ instructions from Centre stated the following:-

> "Regarding Awaas+, there is no instruction from the Centre to make lists for houses in the future."

6. Landless Beneficiaries

The Department were asked about the number of landless beneficiaries in each State/UT and the steps being taken to impress upon the States to provide such beneficiaries with lands, the Department have provided the following details State/UT-wise:-

Based on the data furnished by State/UT on various events, the list of number of landless beneficiaries in each State/UT is as below:

S.N.	State/ UT	Landless beneficiaries	Provided land/ assistance	Yet to be provided land/ assistance
1	And & Nic	652	652	0
2	Andhra Pr.	1888	1888	0
3	Arunachal Pr.	0	0	0
4	Assam	69,513	28150	41363
5	Bihar	20763	3820	16943
6	Chhattisgarh	6207	6153	54
7	D & N H	88	32	56

8	D & D	0	0	0
9	Goa	0	0	0
10	Gujarat	7921	6713	1208
11	Haryana	7	0	7
12	Himachal Pr.	32	24	8
13	J and K	204	0	204
14	Jharkhand	2935	2006	929
15	Karnataka	15436	11560	3876
16	Kerala	7288	1428	5860
17	Ladakh	0	0	0
18	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
19	Madhya Pr.	37519	36155	1364
20	Maharashtra	156170	55526	100644
21	Manipur	0	0	0
22	Meghalaya	713	631	82
23	Mizoram	0	0	0
24	Nagaland	0	0	0
25	Odisha	57932	39842	18090
26	Pondicherry	NA	NA	NA
27	Punjab	204	194	10
28	Rajasthan	55405	48330	7075
29	Sikkim	0	0	0
30	Tamil Nadu	100544	5749	94795
31	Telangana	NA	NA	NA
32	Tripura	126	126	0
33	Uttar Pr.	1993	1993	0
34	Uttarakhand	1116	844	272
35	West Bengal	3400	2642	758
	Total (National)	548056	254458	293598

Providing land to the landless PMAY-G beneficiaries for the construction of the houses is of utmost importance and receiving serious attention of the Government. It is the responsibility of the States/UTs to provide land to landless beneficiaries. Therefore, the Govt. of India has been working assiduously with the States/UTs to ensure land for the landless HHs in the PWL. The issue of providing land to remaining landless beneficiaries is being monitored at various levels regularly with the States/UTs.

A provision has been made in the MIS of the Scheme i.e. AwaasSoft to remand the cases of landless beneficiaries under PMAY-G who are unwilling to shift to the land provided by the State government for house construction.

Further, important recent communications regarding availing land to landless beneficiaries are detailed below–

S.N.	Letter No	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Level of issuance
1	D.O.No.13011/05/ 2013-LRD	05/09/2018	Minister of RD
2	D.O.No.J-11060/07/2018-RH(M&T)	04/01/2019	Joint Secretary (RH)
3	J-11060/07/2018-RH(M&T)	16/09/2019	Minister of State for RD
4	M-12018/2/2016-RH(M&T)	20/07/2020	Under Secretary (RH)
5	M-12018/2/2016-RH(M&T)-Part-I	16/11/2020	Deputy Secretary (RH)
6	DO# J-11014/01/2016-RH	09/04/2021	Secretary (RD)
7	J-11014/01/2016-RH	30/04/2021	Minister of RD
8	M-12018/2/2016-RH(M&T)-Part-I	10/08/2021	Deputy Secretary (RH)
9	M.12018/2/2016-RH(M&T)-Part-I	31/01/2022	Dy. Director General (RH)
10	D.O.M.12018/2/2016-RH(M&T)-Part-I	25/11/2022	Dy. Director General (RH)
11	D.O.No.M.12018/2/2016-RH(M&T)-Part-I	06/12/2022	Dy. Director General (RH)

6.2 During the course of evidence, the Secretary, DoRD stated the following on landless beneficiaries:-

> —.regarding the problem of landless people, we are in constant dialogue with the States on this. In fact, we had given them a deadline till when the land was to be made available. But unfortunately, it could not be done. Some States provided it, but most of the States have failed to do so. So, we have given them time till 31st of March this year. After that we will have to take a call on that because these people should have houses. So, we will see as to how we can go about it."

7. <u>Increase in unit assistance under PMAY-G</u>

The Department of Rural Development were asked to submit their view regarding the demands for increase in the per unit assistance under PMAY-G, the following reply have been submitted by them:-

> —The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th December, 2021 had approved the continuation of PMAY-G beyond March, 2021 till March, 2024 as per the existing norms of PMAY-G to complete the remaining houses within the cumulative target of 2.95 crore houses. At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry for enhancing the unit assistance."

8. Monitoring Mechanism

When asked to furnish an exhaustive detail of all types of monitoring mechanism including real time monitoring being employed for ensuring transparency and accountability under PMAY-G, the Department have replied as under:-.

> "A robust monitoring mechanism has been adopted to monitor performance as well as the processes under PMAY-G. Performance monitoring is done through real time capture of progress using workflow enabled transactional data in AwaasSoft. The data generated from the transactions in AwaasSoft are collated as system generated reports for monitoring different parameters of performance. Further, Ministry of Rural Development has developed Performance Index Dashboard to monitor the performance of the States / UTs, Districts, Blocks and Panchayats on different pre-determined parameters and nationally rank the States, Districts and Blocks accordingly. This has been done to facilitate continuous monitoring of progress, both on the selected parameters and also geographically, while ensuring healthy competition among the states. Additionally, for process monitoring mechanisms like inspection by central teams (Area Officers and NLM), monitoring by District Development Coordination and Monitoring (DISHA) Committee headed by Member of Parliament, Social Audit, Internal Audit and through State Level PMU are adopted.
>
> Monitoring under PMAY-G is conceived to be multi-level and multi – agency with profuse use of technology. Monitoring is done at the level of Government of India, State/UT Governments with emphasis on quality and timely completion of house and adoption of green materials and technologies as far as possible. The details are also given as under:-
>
> At level of Government of India:
>
> - IT enabled e-governance platform including Dedicated Micro Monitoring Dashboard, Performance Index Dashboard, as well as through ground verifications by different agencies like Area Officers, National Level Monitors and DISHA. The end-to-end execution of the scheme from the selection of beneficiaries, disbursal of assistance to beneficiaries, verification of progress in construction, release of funds etc. is conducted through workflow enabled transaction-based MIS – AwaasSoft.
>
> - The physical progress of stage-wise construction on ground is verified and monitored through geo-referenced, date and time stamped photographs captured by inspectors or by beneficiaries using the mobile based application - "AwaasApp" and uploaded on AwaasSoft. The quality of houses constructed under PMAY-G will be monitored through a quality monitoring module developed in the mobile application "AwaasApp".

- National Level Monitors and Area Officers of the Ministry shall also visit PMAY-G houses to assess the progress and processes followed under the scheme during their field visits. The DISHA Committee at the district level, headed by an Hon'ble Member of Parliament, will also monitor progress and implementation of PMAY-G.

At level of State Government/UT Administration: Following provisions are present in the FFI of PMAY-G for monitoring at State/UT levels:

- Officers at the Block level should inspect as far as possible 10% of the houses during construction.
- District level officers should inspect 2% of the houses during construction.
- Every house sanctioned under PMAY-G to be tagged to a village level functionary including Government employees (Gram RozgarSahayak, AwaasSahayak, AwaasMitra or any other village level worker)and SHG functionaries who shall facilitate and follow-up with the beneficiary till the completion of a house.
- Implementation parameters will be monitored by the officials through the Performance Index Dashboard and Dedicated micro-monitoring dashboard.
- The PMUs at various levels shall monitor all the activities for monitoring the scheme implementation and quality supervision at different levels

In addition to above monitoring mechanism, the scheme is also monitored through Community/Participatory monitoring, Auditing of the bank accounts / State Nodal Account, and also through Social Audit mechanism. The Ministry has already released guidelines for Social Audit under PMAY-G."

C. <u>Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)</u>

1. <u>Brief Outline</u>

Government of India, as the part of poverty reduction strategy, launched the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY-I) on 25th December, 2000 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the states through ―Rural Roads".

The primary objective of the PMGSY is to provide connectivity, by way of an all-weather road with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures, which is operable throughout the year, to eligible unconnected habitations in rural areas. Habitations with a population of 500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-Eastern and Himalayan states, Desert areas, Tribal (Schedule V) areas and selected tribal and backward districts as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/ Planning Commission as per Census, 2001 were to be covered under the scheme, so that these habitations can have access to basic health services, education and markets for their produce. In the critical Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected blocks (as identified by MHA), additional relaxation has been given to connect habitations with population of 100+ (Census 2001). The Scheme had also an element of upgradation (to prescribed standards) of existing rural roads in districts where all the eligible habitations of the designated population size have been saturated with all-weather road connectivity, though this objective was not central to the scheme (PMGSY-I).

As the programme unfolded, a need was felt for consolidation of the existing Rural Road Network to improve its efficiency not only as a provider of transportation services, but also as a vehicle of social and economic development. Accordingly, in the year 2013, PMGSY-II was launched for upgradation of selected Through Routes and Major Rural Links (MRLs) with a target to upgrade 50,000 Kms in various states and Union Territories. Subsequently, in 2016, Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA) for construction/ upgradation of strategically important roads was launched as a separate vertical under PMGSY. In the year 2019, Government launched PMGSY-III for consolidation of 1,25,000 Km Through Routes and Major Rural Links connecting habitations, inter-alia, to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals.

Since inception more than 7,20,000 Km road length has been constructed under various interventions/verticals of PMGSY with an investment of more than Rs. 2,90,000 crore, including State Share.

2. Funding Pattern

The scheme was started as 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme. PMGSY-II was started in the year 2013, on sharing basis between the Centre and the States / UTs (75:25 for the plain areas and 90:10 for North-Eastern States and hill areas). Subsequently, on the recommendation of the Sub-Group of Chief Ministers on Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, the fund sharing pattern of PMGSY was changed to 60:40 between the Centre and States for all States except for 8 North Eastern and 3 Himalayan States (Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, the then Jammu & Kashmir) for which it was decided to be 90:10 with effect from the financial year 2015-16. It is 100% central share for Union Territories (UT) except UT of Jammu and Kashmir. .

3. PMGSY – Timeline & Progress (as on 31.01.2023)

Name of Vertical	Targets (Km)	Sanctioned (Km)	Completion (Km)	Expenditure (₹ in Cr.)	Completion Timeline
PMGSY-I	-	6,45,607	6,21,148 (96.24%)	2,33,039	September 2022
PMGSY-II	50,000	49,884	48,383 (97.01%)	27,634	September 2022
RCPLWEA	11,320	12,100	6,729 (55.61%)	6,459	March 2023
PMGSY-III	1,25,000	96,950	49,283 (51.02%)	26,956	March 2025

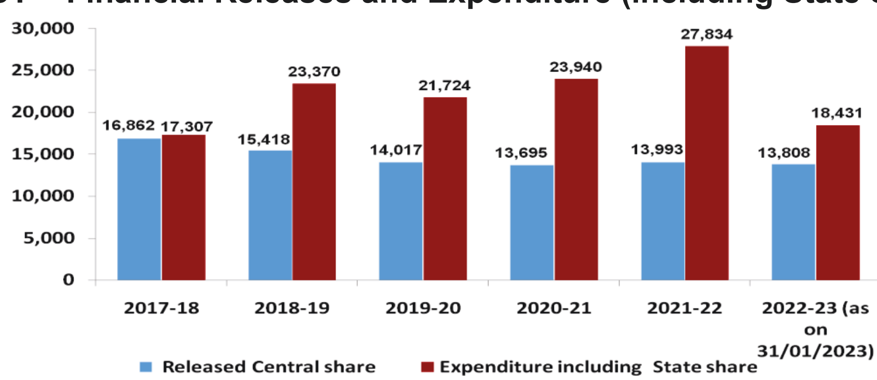
4. Financial Progress

The achievement in respect of financial targets is given below:-

Year	Financial [Rs. in Cr]			Percentage Achievement
	B.E.	R.E (Target)	Actual funds released (Achievement)	
2019-20	19,000	14,070.07	14,017.48	99.63%
2020-21	19,500	13,706.23	13,694.99	99.92%
2021-22	15,000	14,000.01	13,993.92	99.96%
2022-23*	19,000	19,000	11,908.82	62.68%

* as on 31.12.2022 No parameters have been set by the current Finance Commission as well as the previous Finance Commission regarding road construction.

PMGSY – Financial Releases and Expenditure (including State Share)



BE/RE for 2022-23-Rs.19,000 crore.

The details of unspent balance under PMGSY during the last three years and upto 31st December, 2022 during the current year are as under:-

Year	**Unspent Balance@**
2019-20	**11,439.51**
2020-21	**9,071.92**
2021-22	**6,217.82**
2022-23 (as on 31.12.2022)	**7,402.34**

@including State Share

The unspent balance during 2022-23 is partly on account of release of funds to the States during the IIIrd quarter. The working season has commenced in several States for road construction and the unspent balance will be reduced.

4.2 The Department of Rural Development were asked about their vision on the achievement of targets under different verticals of PMGSY with the similar amount of funds as previous year and whether the rising cost of construction have been taken into account of in seeking funds for the scheme, the Department have elaborated in their written reply as under:-

–At the time of last extension for PMGSY-I, II and RCPLWEA, the requirement of funds to complete the ongoing interventions/ verticals of PMGSY was projected in the CCEA Note as under:-

Year-wise requirement of funds

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Financial year	Central Share	State Share	Total
i.	2021-22	20,875	10,138	31,013
ii	2022-23	20,350	9,882	30,232
iii	2023-24	17,530	8,513	26,043
iv.	2024-25	16,915	8,216	25,131
Total		75,670	36,749	1,12,419

Vertical-wise requirement of funds during FY 2022-23 to 2024-25

(Rs. in crore)

<table>
<tr><td>Name of intervention/vertical</td><td>Requirement of funds</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>PMGSY-I</td><td>20,818</td><td rowspan="3">33,822</td></tr>
<tr><td>PMGSY-II</td><td>6,029</td></tr>
<tr><td>RCPLWEA</td><td>6,975</td></tr>
<tr><td>PMGSY-III</td><td>78,597</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Total</td><td>1,12,419</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

Accordingly, Budgetary support to the tune of Rs. 19,000 crore (Central Share) per annum would be required during 2023-24 to 2024-25 to complete all the ongoing interventions/verticals of PMGSY.

As per the PMGSY guidelines, no extra funds are provided by the Central Government on account of time and cost overrun as well as tender premium. Timeline has been clearly laid down for completion of roads/ bridges in the guidelines and the same has to be adhered to by the states. If cost increases on account of time overrun, State has to bear the extra cost. Hence, the rising cost of material and logistics do not impact the initial budgetary requirement envisaged for the scheme."

4.3 The Department were enquired about their plan to utilize the unspent balance as on 09.01.2023, the Department of Rural Development have replied as under:-

"Ministry has been regularly reviewing the position of unspent balances with the states in various monthly review meetings. States are not being released further central funds unless they spend the funds already available with them upto a reasonable limit which is 75%. States are also being encouraged to speed up the pace of works so that funds available with them are utilized in a time bound manner. Letters have been written from Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development to Chief Ministers of States to speed up the work and complete all pending works.

Due to all these efforts, the unspent balance as on 20.01.2023, stands at Rs. 6,809.23 crore (including State share & excluding Security Deposit). Out of Rs 6,809.23crore, which is outstanding balance as on 20.01.2023, Rs. 2,816.19875 crore has been released as a central share to the States/UTs in the month of December, 2022, Matching State Share of which is 1,723.40 crore. After reducing, the central share and state shares of the month of December, the unspent balance comes to Rs. 2,269.631crore.

Further, The budget allocation for the PMGSY for FY 2022-23 at RE stage is Rs. 19,000 Crore out of which Rs. 11,908.82 Crore has been released to States/ UT as on 20.01.2023. The expenditure plan for available fund of Rs. 7,091.18 Crore is given as below:

Month	Targeted Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)
January	2,800
February	2,800
March	1,491.18
Total	7,091.18

Ministry is optimistic to utilise the entire amount because many states are engaged in construction of works sanctioned under PMGSY-III where pace of construction is much faster in comparison to other verticals particularly PMGSY-I & RCPLWEA where works are held up as it involve new construction where land and forest clearance issues come in. Accordingly pace of expenditure also is at faster pace. Also, State do not have cushioned funds of previous release's as unspent balances are at minimum level."

5. Physical Progress

Physical Achievement during last 5 years

Year	Length [km]		Habitation [No.]	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
2017-18	51,000	48,730	15,000	11,548
2018-19	57,700	49,043	15,000	10,484
2019-20	50,097	27,302	9,721	4,156
2020-21	46,164	36,674	3,273	2,588
2021-22	50,000	41,969	2,025	1,216
2022-23 (as on 31.01.2023)	47,171	20,966	1,736	536

The reasons for short achievement can be attributed to the following reasons:-

(i) The habitations remaining to be connected are mostly in remote areas;
(ii) Short working season in hilly and NER States;
(iii) Inadequate deployment of execution and contracting capacity;
(iv) Difficult terrain in hilly and NER States;

The Ministry is reviewing the position continuously and States are provided requisite assistance to achieve the physical target set out in each year.

The physical progress alongwith shortfalls under different verticals of the scheme separately State/UT-wise is produced at **Annexure II.**

5.2 The Department of Rural Development was asked to elucidate the role of States in the successful implementation of the Scheme, they have responded as below:-

―As per PMGSY guidelines Rural Roads is a State subject and the responsibility of execution of road works and their maintenance under PMGSY lies with the State Governments, who are the implementing authorities of the scheme. Timely clearance of the projects depends upon how well the DPRs are prepared by the States and timely compliance of the observations of Pre-EC and EC by the state. Timely award of works is also one of the major factor in ensuring timely completion of works which is done by states. It is also the responsibility of the States to ensure that good quality roads are constructed under the scheme by ensuring strict quality monitoring at various level by way of carrying out inspection of each and every road and establishing field laboratories on each package."

5.3 The Department of Rural Development were asked to provide the details of the bottlenecks being faced by the scheme owing to the slow approach of the States in the completion of mandatory formalities, the Department in their written replies have responded as below:-

"While implementing PMGSY-I & II scheme in the states/UTs, issues such as land acquisitions, forest clearance, poor contracting capacity of states, lack of response to tenders, law and order issues, financial capability of states to release funds on time both central and states share, execution capacity of states/ SRRDAs impacted the overall progress of the scheme in general. For North-Eastern and hill states, some additional issues like adverse climatic conditions, tough terrain, short working season etc. also came in the way which compounded the challenges. The works under RCPLWEA have not progressed as per plan mainly due to law and order situation, forest clearance issues and many times, non-availability of contractors in the states implementing RCPLWEA.

The States/UTs which are lagging behind or in other words have the most amount of balance works to complete after the deadline of September, 2022 (as on 20.01.2023) under PMGSY I and II are Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir Manipur, Meghalaya and Uttarakhand.

The progress of implementation of rural roads under PMGSY/RCPLWEA is regularly monitored by way of Regional Review Meetings (RRMs), Performance Review Committee (PRC), Meetings, Pre-Empowered/Empowered Committee Meetings, Video Conference with the State. At District level, the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) headed by a Member of Parliament monitors the implementation of various schemes of Government of India including PMGSY. In addition to this, special review meetings are also held by Home Secretary, GoI for RCPLWEA and Secretary/ Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary of Ministry of Rural Development with Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of the States. Necessary guidance and hand holdings are done to resolve the issues coming in the way of progress of works."

5.4 On the issue of delay in PMGSY scheme, the Secretary, DoRD during the course of evidence stated as below:-

> “सर, पीएमजीएसवाई-1 और 2 सितंबर, 2022 में खत्म हो गई है। पूर्वोत्तर राज्य या जो पर्वतीय राज्य हैं, वहां पर कुछ काम बचे हुए हैं। उसके लिए थोड़ी समय सीमा बढ़ाने का विचार चल रहा है। वर्तमान में जो पीएमजीएसवाई-3 चल रही है, इसका कार्यकाल मार्च, 2025 तक का है। यह मार्च, 2025 में खत्म होगी।

5.5 On being further enquired about the targets of PMGSY consisting of Centre and States' ratio, the Secretary during the course of evidence stated as below:-

> “सर, पीएमजीएसवाई-3 का समय मार्च, 2025 तक का है। उसके अंतर्गत पूरे देश को जो टारगेट दिए गए हैं, वह एक लाख 25 हजार किलो मीटर के दिए गए हैं। उसी टागरेट को हर स्टेट में वितरण किया गया है। अभी इसके आगे कोई स्कीम विचाराधीन नहीं है।"

5.6 On the issue of Stone Laying, the Secretary, DoRD during the course of evidence submitted the following reply:-

> “There was this issue related to foundation-stone laying and inauguration which is getting delayed because of various reasons. We will look into this."

5.7 The Secretary further added on the concern of Inspection Teams:-

> “….will ensure that the hon. MPs are informed when such things are there."

6. <u>Forest Clearance Issues</u>

On being asked about the current status of the pending projects under PMGSY due to Forest Clearance issues, the Department have provided the following detail of the steps being undertaken:-

> “Total 266 no. of projects under various verticals of PMGSY are pending due to Forest Clearance.
>
> Rural road is a state subject and providing land for the construction of roads is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. However, the issue of forest clearance in some cases was

not flagged by the respective states at the DPR stage, particularly in respect of PMGSY-I & RCPLWEA. Taking cue out of the past experiences, Ministry has made it mandatory for the States to give in writing in case of PMGSY-III roads, if forest clearance issue is involved for the roads proposed to be sanctioned to the particular state under PMGSY-III at the DPR stage itself. Moreover, Ministry is coordinating with state governments and other central agencies for faster disposal of pending forest clearances."

7. Quality of Construction

During the course of evidence, the Secretary, DoRD stated the following on PMGSY quality of construction:-

—.With regard to the Sadak Yojana, we will make every effort to ensure that the quality is good in PMGSY-III and the remaining roads which are to be built under PMGSY-I and II and RCPLWEA."

8. Maintenance of Roads Post-completion

The Department was enquired about addressing the issue regarding the maintenance of roads post-completion, they have shared the following information:-

―PMGSY roads are constructed by the State Governments with a design life of at least 10 years. As per PMGSY guidelines, maintenance of roads constructed under the programme is the responsibility of the State Governments. All PMGSY road works are covered by initial five-year maintenance contracts to be entered into along with the construction contract, with the same contractor, as per the Standard Bidding Document. Maintenance funds to service the contract are required to be budgeted by the State Governments and placed at the disposal of the State Rural Roads Development Agencies (SRRDAs) in a separate maintenance account. On expiry of this 5-year post construction maintenance, PMGSY roads are required to be placed under Zonal maintenance contracts consisting of 5-year maintenance including renewal as per cycle, from time to time. Further under PMGSY-III, Ministry signs MoU with the States for providing maintenance funds for 10 years. This will make states duty bound to provide maintenance funds for the entire design life of the road.

National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) in collaboration with ILO has prepared a Policy Framework for the development of rural roads maintenance policy. The Policy Framework along with a Guidance Note for the States has been shared with the States since Rural Roads Maintenance Policy needs to get adopted and notified at state level. The policy and guidance note would be helpful for the road agencies of the States to have a clear understanding about expectations for rural road maintenance and intentions of States to sustain the created network of rural roads.

With effect from the financial year 2016-17, financial incentives are given to best performing States, which show higher achievement on the basis of set-parameters. The funds released as financial incentives are used for periodic maintenance of rural roads already constructed under PMGSY. Financial incentives amounting to Rs. 1076.49 crore, Rs. 842.50 crore, Rs. 804 crore, Rs. 738 crore and Rs. 662 crore were awarded in fiscal year 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21 respectively for periodic maintenance to best performing States.

Further, as a measure of further enhancing the focus on maintenance of roads during the defect liability period and also streamlining the delivery of routine maintenance of PMGSY roads, Electronic Maintenance of Rural Roads (eMARG) has been introduced, which is conceptualized on Performance Based Maintenance Contracts (PBMC). Payment to the contractor is now made through eMARG which is based on the minimum condition of road, its cross drainage works and traffic assets. Payments are based on how well the contractor manages to comply with the performance standards or service levels defined in the contract, and not on piece work.”

9. <u>Monitoring</u>

The Committee enquired about the monitoring mechanism of the scheme in detail as applicable on date with focus on real-time monitoring features, to which the Department have provided the following reply:-

“Real time monitoring of projects sanctioned under PMGSY is now being done with the help of Project Management Information System (PMIS) which is a newly introduced module at OMMAS and is aimed at bringing in a waterfall project management methodology for tracking the construction/ upgradation of roads under PMGSY. The module enables the Programme Implementation Unit (PIU) staff to define project plans (with timelines) for their roads. Once the plan is formulated and finalized, the PIU is required to continuously report progress against the planned activities. The tracking gives a sense of the overall progress versus the original plan and any corrective actions can be taken proactively to finish the work without delays.”

10. New Technology usage

On being asked about the latest technology other than usage of alternative/green technologies, the Department in their written reply have stated as below:-

> Full-Depth Reclamation (FDR): FDR with cement is a type of Soil-Cement and pavement rehabilitation method that involves recycling an existing deteriorated asphalt surface and its underlying base, subbase, and/or subgrade materials into a new stabilized base layer. FDR saves money and reduces the carbon footprint of roadway construction projects

D. The Deendayal Antodaya Yojana — National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)

1. Introduction

The Deendayal Antodaya Yojana — National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) is a flagship programme of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) that seeks to alleviate rural poverty through building sustainable community institutions of the poor. The centrally sponsored programme, seeks to mobilize about 10 crore households into SHGs and link them to sustainable livelihoods opportunities by building their skills and enabling them to access formal sources of finance, entitlements and services from both public and private sectors. It is envisaged that the intensive and continuous capacity building of rural poor women will ensure their social, economic and political upliftment.

The Mission seeks to achieve its objective through investing in four core components viz., (a) social mobilization and promotion of sustainable community institutions of the rural poor; (b) financial inclusion of the rural poor; (c) sustainable livelihoods; and (d) social inclusion, development and convergence.

2. Key Features

a) **Universal Social Mobilization**: At least one female adult member from each identified rural poor household is brought under Self Help Group (SHG) and its federated institutions in a time bound manner.

b) **Identification of Beneficiaries**: The target group under DAY-NRLM is determined by a well-defined, transparent and equitable process of participatory identification of poor (PIP), anchored by the members of the target communities.

c) **Funds to the community as Resources in Perpetuity**: DAY-NRLM provides Revolving Fund and Community Investment Fund (CIF) as Resources in Perpetuity to the institutions of the poor to strengthen their institutional and financial management capacity and build their track record to attract mainstream bank credit.

3. <u>Key Components and sub-schemes of DAY-NRLM</u>

a) Institution Building and Capacity Building Promotion of community institutions and their capacity building is one of the core components of DAY-NRLM. The community institutions provide a collective platform for the rural poor to overcome poverty through access of financial, technical and marketing resources. These institutions require continuous and intensive capacity building and training The Mission provides multiple funds to these community institutions such as Revolving Fund (RF), Community Investment Fund (CIF) etc. to strengthen their financial base and help them leverage additional funds.

b) <u>Financial Inclusion</u>

SHG Bank Linkage Financial inclusion is primarily being facilitated by enabling each SHG to be linked to banks and to access all financial services including loans.

<u>Interest Subvention</u>

The rural poor need credit at low rate of interest and in multiple doses to make their ventures economically viable. In order to ensure affordable credit, DAY-NRLM has a provision for subvention on interest rates.

c) Livelihoods

Farm Livelihoods Farm Livelihoods: DAY-NRLM promotes sustainable agriculture, livestock and NTFPs in intensive blocks through MKSP project and State-led Livelihoods Annual Action Plans (AAPs).

Non-Farm Livelihoods: Non-Farm Livelihoods under DAY-NRLM are primarily implemented through the various components of the SVEP sub-scheme.

d) Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP): Launched in 2010-11, the primary objective of MKSP is to empower women in agriculture and Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) by making systematic investments to enhance their participation & productivity in agriculture as well as NTFP based livelihoods and building the capacity around sustainable harvesting, post-harvesting techniques. **(AR pg 23, first 8 lines under the heading)**

e) Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP): Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP), the sub-scheme under DAY-NRLM develops an eco-system for supporting small businesses in rural areas.

4. Financial Performance

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Year	Central Allocation (R.E)	Central Release	% Release
1	2019-20	9,024.00	9,023.51	100.00
2	2020-21	9,209.53	9,208.76	99.99
3	2021-22	10,813.89	9,384.22	86.78
4	2022-23	13,336.42	5,689.82*	42.66

*As on 31.12.2022

Year wise BE/RE and actual expenditure for the years2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and BE 2022-23 (Capital and Revenue expenditure) are given below (Rs. in Crore):

Sl.No.	Year	B.E		R.E		Actual Expenditure	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
1	2019-20**	9024.00	0.00	9024.00	0.00	9023.51	0.00
2	2020-21***	9210.04	0.00	9209.53	0.00	9208.76	0.00
3	2021-22 ****	13677.61	0.00	10813.89	0.00	9384.22	0.00
4	2022-23*	13336.42	0.00	13336.42	0.00	5689.82*	0.00

*As on 31.12.2022

**This includes Rs.245.00 Crore for DRDA Administration and Rs. 1.00 Crore for PMRDF.
***This includes Rs.245.00 Crore for DRDA Administration.
****This includes Rs.245.00 Crore for DRDA Administration

4.2 The Department were asked about the reduction in BE for 2023-24 by the Ministry of Finance in their proposed allocation in implementation of the Mission, the Department have submitted in their written reply as under:-

> “As far as DAY-NRLM is concerned, the provision of Rs.14129.17 Crore in BE 2023-24 is considered to be adequate to meet the programme requirement for the year 2023-24. If any additional demands arise during the year, the same will sought at the stage of RE for the year 2023-24 or through Supplementary Demands for the Grants.”

4.3 The Department of Rural Development was enquired about the reason for such slow financial progress of the scheme, to which they have submitted their reply as below:-

“The major reasons for slow pace of expenditure are as follows:

- Introduction of new procedure for release of funds by DoE, Ministry of Finance namely:
- Implementation of SNA in the States/UTs
- Release of funds in tranches of 25% of allocation instead of 50% of allocation
- Increase of minimum expenditure limit to claim next instalment from 60% to 75%.
- Reflection of previous releases in the PFMS otherwise submission of Undertaking from Finance Secretary of the State/UT.
- Introduction ‘Check/Lock’ in PFMS
- Delay in receipt of funds by the SRLMs from the State Government/Treasury.”

4.4 The Department of Rural Development were asked about their plan to utilize the full allocation of funds in the limited period of time left before the completion of current Financial Year and achieve the Physical Target, they have replied as under:-

> “Reason for slow expenditure was due to the strict compliances of DoE, Ministry of Finance‘s new procedure for release of funds. However, now most of the States are complied with the conditions and issue of ‘Check/lock‘ in PFMS also being getting resolved. The programme activities also have now been picked up the momentum after the setback of Covid-19 in most of the States. Therefore, it is expected the pace of expenditure will be higher and can be fully utilized the RE budget

provision in the last quarter."

4.5 When asked about the reasons for unspent balance of Rs. 1,429.67 Crore during 2021-22 and what measures were proposed to be taken by the Department to make the budget realistic one so as to avoid accumulation of such unspent balance, the Department have responded as below:-

"The following were the main reason for savings of funds during 2021-22:

- Introduction of new procedure for release of funds by DoE, Ministry of Finance namely:
- Implementation of SNA in the States/UTs
- Release of funds in tranches of 25% of allocation instead of 50% of allocation
- Increase of minimum expenditure limit to claim next instalment from 60% to 75%.
- Closure of training centers under DDU-GKY due to spread of Covid-19.
- Slow social mobilization under NRLM due to Covid-19 etc.

The annual action plan(AAP) for the State/UTs is being prepared and approved in consulation with the State/UTs before the start of Financial Year. These AAP will be scutrnizes more critically before approval.Further , the effort will also be made for timely release of funds(central share+State Share) from the States tresauray so that the State can lift all the allocated fund in the finacialyear.The expenditure will also be monitored on weekly basis through PFMS.In addition ,the Ministry has started the implementation of e-FMAS(electronic fund management and accounting system) to do expenditure and monitoring of all component of expenditure for optimum utilization of resources".

5. Physical Progress

Year	No. of SHGs to be promoted/brought into the NRLM fold (Target)	No. of SHGs promoted/brought into NRLM fold	%
2019-20	9.36 lakh	9.76 lakh	104.3%
2020-21	6.46 lakh	6.02 lakh	93%
2021-22	7.8 lakh	6.02 lakh	77%

Indicators	Target FY 22-23	Progress Jan'23	Cum. Progress up to Jan. '23
Number of new blocks	99	104	7054
Number of SHGs promoted (in lakh)	8.26	6.21	81.61
Number of Households mobilized into SHGs (in lakh)	106.77	57.46	879.74
Capitalisation support provided to SHGs (Rs. in Cr.)	8,127.89	5,660.42	28,283.58
SHGs Loan Disbursement (Rs Cr)	1,39,606.80	1,12,578.78	6,14,104.46*
Number of Mahila Kisan covered under Agro-Ecological Practice (AEP) interventions (in lakh)	69.71	52.19	221.81
Number of Producer Groups Promoted	35,187	26,358	1,33,141
Number of Enterprises supported under SVEP	36,678	26,904	2,30,553

5.2 The Committee enquired about reasons for under performance of the key indicators viz. number of households mobilized into SHGs (50%), amount of bank credit accessed (68%), number of MahilaKisans Supported (65%) and number of entrepreneurs supported (66%) and what measures were proposed to be taken to further improve performance under these indicators, the Department in their written notes have replied as under:-

~~(~~A) number of households mobilized into SHGs (50%),As on December 2022, a total of 87.53 lakh HHs has been mobilized against a target of 10 crore which comes around 88 %. By March it is expected to mobilise another 15 lakh HH taking the saturation to above 90 %. For 22-23, a total of 106.77 lakh HH target was taken for mobilization into SHGs. Against this, till December 22, a total of 53.05 lakh HH which is 50%. The primary reason for the slow progress –

- The NRLM MIS consider the SHGs only when their Bank account is opened. As the bank account opening of SHGs are pending in states like Rajasthan, Maharashtra,MP, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal, West Bengal etc low progress reported.
- In Uttar Pradesh, mobilisation work came to complete halt for almost six months due to SRLM staff strike. UP contributes around 22 % of the plan target.
- Saturation, in most of the states, is in last phase, hence the pace is slow.

Measures taken for expediting mobilization -

1. NMMU has been monitoring the progress continuously though monthly review meeting on the Coverage and Mobilization aspects with all the SRLMs focusing the laggard states. Specific direction and letters to respective SMD/Secretary of the states is being sent to improve the performance.

2. SRLMs has been directed to bring the NRLM compliant SHGs promoted by other Government agencies and Voluntaryorganizations

3. SRLMs has been directed to plan month wise and Block wise for mobilization.

4. The Village organizations and CLFs has also been given responsibility to bring left out households under SHGs fold.

5. Social Mobilization campaign. A social mobilization campaign was organised from 7th September to 20th September, 2022 in order to expedite the process of social mobilization for bringing left out eligible rural poor households into Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the SHG fold of DeendayalAntyodayaYojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). Later, on request of State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLMs), the campaign period was expanded till 30th September, 2022. During this campaign 16,25,286 households were mobilized into 1,29,493 SHGs.

(B) Number of entrepreneurs supported (66%).The lowerachievement in SVEP scheme is because of the reason of the delay in fund release. As per the Department of Expenditure (DoE) guidelines, 25% funds can only be released and thus supporting entrepreneurs with CEF becomes difficult.

States are suggested to use other funds available (CIF/Bank loan etc) with the SHGs for the SVEP entrepreneursso that the scheme performance can be improved. In Q4 of 2022-23, the remaining targets shall be achieved under the SVEP scheme.

(C) amount of bank credit accessed:The performance under bank credit accessed has increased to 79.83%.

(D) number of MahilaKisans Supported (65%)The progress mentioned in the report is till 5th December 2022, which covers the mahilakisans participated during Kharif season only. As we are progressing towards Rabi and Zaid season, more mahilakisans will be covered till March 2023. Regular Review Mechanism is in progress to gear up the activities."

6. <u>Self-Help Groups – Progress in detail</u>

6.1 The Department were asked to provide details of the progress made so far State/UT-wise and specifically during the ongoing Financial Year in terms of target set/achievement made regarding the creation of SHGs for the upliftment of rural women, they have shared the following details in their written replies:-

~~-~~State wise details of the progress made in Coverage and Institution Building for the FY 22-23 till Dec22 -

Sl No	State	HH mobilized			SHG Formed		
		Annual Plan FY 22-23	Achievement (Q1+Q2+Q3)	Cum Achievement	Annual Plan FY 22-23	Achievement (Q1+Q2+Q3)	Cum Achievement
1	Andhra Pradesh	126500	9163	8311402	12717	642	820642
2	Assam	763250	271075	3628224	13881	18306	327247
3	Bihar	20202	238760	11851142	3000	20610	1023750
4	Chhattisgarh	240000	409557	2656114	25000	37732	246953
5	Gujarat	2160000	52854	2686406	18000	10052	269230
6	Jharkhand	170000	116595	3446912	10000	10128	277850
7	Karnataka	441000	242345	2948218	15000	26859	246396
8	Kerala	58000	26496	3644669	5000	4131	254191
9	Madhya Pradesh	1200000	525485	4629766	92310	53091	416807
10	Maharashtra	816000	293340	5925551	80000	37639	592223
11	Odisha	540000	199126	5442834	35000	26896	526610
12	Rajasthan	1120723	404406	2769994	47476	41268	250486
13	Tamil Nadu	125000	195938	3675989	10000	25866	316350
14	Telangana	320	192226	4593800	32	19473	437847
15	Uttar Pradesh	2209548	806551	7029636	200868	85399	674279
16	West Bengal	1438610	795010	10738575	143003	98968	1047555
17	Haryana	165000	30107	563459	15000	3751	54337
18	Himachal Pradesh	50400	62156	338103	6300	7727	41775
19	Jammu & Kashmir	185900	86137	587174	18590	12262	72047
20	Punjab	148920	63286	382144	12410	6661	37960
21	Uttarakhand	210000	108185	392987	20000	15993	52613
22	Arunachal	50240	6804	45547	6250	1063	5533
23	Manipur	118187	20172	59441	9761	2012	5574
24	Meghalaya	28480	32067	420276	3777	3780	43161
25	Mizoram	16000	7808	73765	1600	1384	9054
26	Nagaland	6214	3978	114480	740	702	13196
27	Sikim	1600	1361	50779	160	162	5417
28	Tripura	107000	92316	399872	11300	10612	44431
29	Andaman	7863	486	10805	784	51	1090
30	Goa	2160	2943	46271	180	230	3591
31	Ladakh	260	707	4315	350	105	519
32	Lakshadweep	600	134	3704	60	14	325
33	Puducherry	9720	6629	52762	766	611	4132
34	Daman DIU and NH	3750	1302	8889	375	133	835
	Total:	10677916	5305505	87534005	826690	584313	8124006

6.2 On being enquired about the status of SHGs evolving into the dairy collectives, farmer organizations, producer enterprises, producer Groups, NTFP Cooperatives etc. across the country, the Department gave the following reply in their written notes:-

> ~~-~~Farm value chain development strategy has been adopted under DAY-NRLM to support the women farmers accessing better market for their producer on a sustained manner. Under the strategy, producer collectives viz. Producer Enterprise (formal registered entity of women

producers) and Producer Groups (informal entity) are being promoted by SRLM (State Rural Livelihoods Mission) across the country. As of now a total of 389 women owned Producer Enterprises/Farmer Producer Organisations have already been promoted covering 4.86 lakhs women producer members have been covered . Out of the total, 206 FPOs are promoted under the central sector scheme ―Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs" of Ministry of Agriculture. Around 1.32 lakhs Producer Groups are promoted out of which around 40,000 Producer Groups are into aggregation and marketing of agri produces.

For dairy/ milk products nine Producer Enterprises have been promoted in five States namely Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh covering 1.42 lakh women members. For NTFP products like Tasar and Lac, 12 no. of Producer Enterprise/FPOs have been promoted by NRLM covering 43, 697 members into these."

7. <u>Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs)</u>

7.1 In 1982, Canara Bank, erstwhile Syndicate Bank, and SDME Trust, Dharmasthala pioneered the unique concept of Rural Development and Self-Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI) to address the problem of unemployed amongst the rural youth in the Country. Looking at the successful model of RUDSETI, the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), GOI took the initiative to replicate the RUDSETI model throughout the Country and advised Banks to establish one RUDSETI-type institution known as Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) in each of their Lead District in the Country and accordingly the responsibility of opening of RSETIs has been assigned the Lead Bank in the respective Districts.

7.2 The Department were asked to provide details of the grant provided by the Department of Rural Development for the construction/setting up of RSETIs so far and in the current Financial Year State/UT-wise, they have shared the following:-

―Under RSETI, there is no state-wise allocation. The funds under RSETI are allocated for all States together and are released on demand basis. Further, the details of the grant provided by the Department of Rural Development for the construction/setting up of RSETIs so far and in the current Financial Year, in tabular format, is outlined below:

FY	Building Grant (Rs. in Crores)
2011-12	50.0000

2012-13	50.0000
2013-14	30.0000
2014-15	26.0000
2015-16	21.3600
2016-17	72.0000
2017-18	32.5000
2018-19	8.7600
2019-20	11.1590
2020-21	9.4837
2021-22	1.3750
2022-23	30.0000
Total	342.6377

7.3 The Committee wanted to know the salient features of proposed RSETI 2.0 as well as current Provisions/achievements made by RSETIs, the Department responded as under:-

> "RSETI 2.0 is to set out and prepare a roadmap for the future vision of RSETIs. It's aimed to evaluate the existing provisions and align the same with the contemporary aspirations of its targeted rural unemployed youth. Following are the broad contours on which RSETI 2.0 is envisaged:
>
> - Extending the horizon for mobilization of rural poor to be trained
> - Updating of training programs offered by the RSETIs
> - Use of blended forms of training delivery
> - Industry collaboration in training
> - Expanding the ambit of funding to trained candidates through onboarding of Fintech companies
> - Holistic tracking and handholding Post training support"

7.4 The Committee enquired about whether the target is adequate to train the deserving youths in rural areas of the entire country and if not, what steps are proposed to be taken to fix a higher target and train more rural youth under the scheme, the Department have replied as below:-

> "As on today, there exist 590 RSETIs in 572 Districts of the country and based on the capacity available in these RSETIs target fixation is done on bottom-up approach. With a mix of training programms of different durations i.e; 10 days, 30 days and 45 days RSETIs at present are given a training target of 760 candidates in a District. The target per RSETI can be further enhanced in the future.

> The total number of districts in the country is 766, against which, 890 RSETIs are functioning in 572 districts. Hence, as per the requirements received from various State governments and sponsoring banks, the number of RSETIs can suitable be increased to meet the enhanced demand to train deserving youth in rural ares of the entire country."

8. <u>Deendayal Upadhyay Grameen Kausalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)</u>

8.1 Deendayal Upadhayaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), the skill training and placement program of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) launched on the 25th September, 2014, aims to provide wage placement linked programs of global standards. The program contributes to the Prime Minister's ‗Make in India' campaign to position India as the globally preferred manufacturing hub, while dovetailing its efforts to significantly contribute in other flagship programs of the nation. DDU-GKY is critical to the national skills agenda and to the 430 million young people in the country in the age group of 15-35 years, close to 70% of whom live in rural areas. The scheme has a great potential to transforming the nation's demographic surplus to the much needed ―demographic dividend" through building the productive capabilities of the rural youth. DDU-GKY is designed to not only provide high quality skill training opportunities to the rural poor, but also to establish a larger ecosystem that supports trained candidates secure a better future. DDU-GKY is currently being implemented in 27 States and 4 UTs. As on 31st December 2022 DDU-GKY has over 2369 Training Centres in 1891 projects, in partnership with over 877 Project Implementing Agencies conducting training across 37 sectors, and over 616 job-roles. Due to lock down and containment measures Training activities were affected during first and second wave of pandemic and Training Centers were closed during this period. The training activity has resumed and currently 1763 Training Centres are operational and a total of 105,546 candidates are under training. A total of 13.30 lakhs candidates have been trained and 8.10 lakhs have been placed till December 2022.

8.2 The details about the Financial and Physical progress of DDU-GKY so far since inception and separately for the current Financial Year has been provided by the Department in their written replies as below:-

Year-wise BE, RE and Fund release status of DDU-GKY
(as on 31.12.2022)

Rs. in Lakhs

FY	B.E	R.E	Funds Released
2014-15	72800	57149	56903.8
2015-16	54000	58784.1	58066.3
2016-17	60000	79295.7	79266.8
2017-18	85000	81155.26	80341.05
2018-19	120000	121530.6	121528.94
2019-20	184999	187217.3	187197.65
2020-21	199621	107685.2	107666.72
2021-22	200000	2189.11	1304.28
2022-23* [As on 31st Dec 2022]	100000	-	932.79
Total	1076420	695006.3	693165.77

Progress physical-since inception under DDU GKY a total of 13.30 lakh candidates have been trained and 8.01 lakh candidates have been placed till 31.12.2022.

During the current FY 2022-23 a total of 1,32,923 candidates have been trained and 63,570 candidates have been placed till 31.12.2022."

8.3 On being enquired about the realization aspect of Prime Minister‘s ‗Make in India‘ campaign so far through DDU-GKY, the Department have provided the following data:-.

> ―DDU-GKY promotes PM‘s ―Make in India" Campaign through Industry Internships supported through joint partnerships between industry and DDU-GKY. 24 sectors out of 37 Sectors are Contributing to Make in India. So far, in these sectors 3.9 Lakh candidates have been trained."

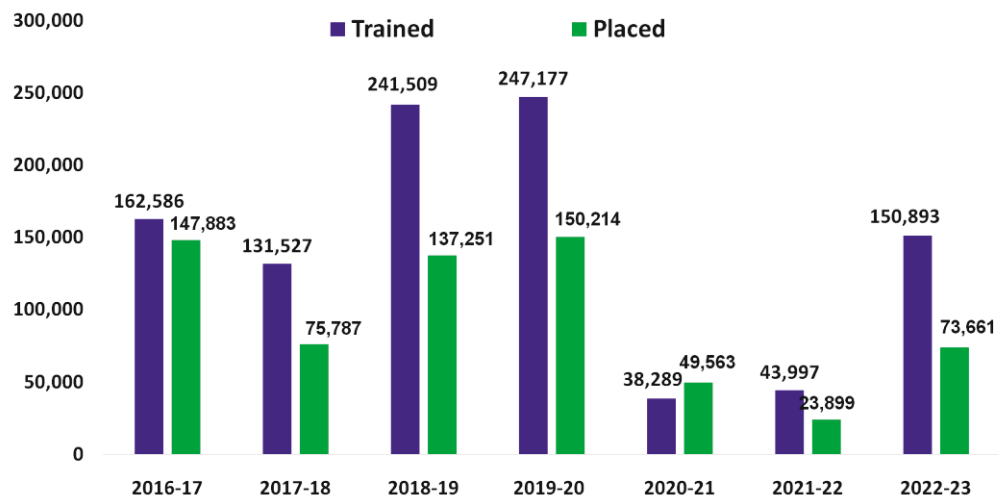
8.4 The Committee wanted to know about details of the unspent balance against DDU-GKY so far in total and during the current Financial Year separately and the steps taken for eradication of unspent balance, the Department have replied as under:-

2018-19	Rs. 1144.81 Crores
2019-20	Rs. 1823.50 Crores
2020-21	Rs. 2552.66 Crores

2021-22	Rs. 2856.60 Cores
2022-23*	Rs. 2713.84 Crores [As on 31st Dec 2022

(The total unspent balance under DDU-GKY as shown above includes Central funds, State share, interest earned and miscellaneous receipts relating to DDU-GKY scheme as available with the SRLM/ SSM. It does not include funds lying with State Treasury)."

8.5 **Achievement of DDU-GKY during the last 6 Years**



8.6 The Secretary, DoRD during the course of evidence stated the following on placement in abroad due to skilling under DDU-GKY:-

"From Tamil Nadu, we have sent 34 people, out of which 22 are in Qatar and 14 in Dubai. In Kerala, it is quite a lot because it is quite prevalent there. The number is 440 for Kerala. They are in Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Sharjah, Spain, UAE, and Germany. From Mizoram, we have five in Singapore. From Uttarakhand, we have six in Saudi Arabia, four in Dubai. Recently, in Nagaland, one poor girl has got a job of cabin crew in the Saudi Airlines with a monthly stipend of Rs. 3 lakh."

E. **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)**

1. **Background**

The Directive Principles of State Policy of the Constitution of India enjoin upon the State to undertake within its means a number of welfare measures, targeting the poor and the destitute in particular. Article 41 of the Constitution of India directs the State to provide public assistance to its citizens in the case of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement as well as in other cases of undeserved wants, within the limit of State's economic capacity and development. Social security, invalid and old age pensions figure as Items 23 and 24 of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India in the Concurrent List. It is in compliance of these guiding principles, that the Government of India introduced on Independence Day, 1995 the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) as a fully Centrally Sponsored Scheme targeting the destitute, defined as any person who has little or no regular mean of subsistence from his/her own source of income or though financial support from family members or other sources, to be identified by the States and UTs, with the objective of providing a basic level of financial support. The programme has undergone many changes in the composition, eligibility criterion and funding patterns over the years.

2. Components of NSAP

The NSAP at present includes five sub-schemes as its components: -

a. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS): Under the scheme, assistance is provided to person of 60 years and above and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India. Central assistance of Rs. 200/- per month is provided to person in the age group of 60-79 years and Rs. 500/- per month to persons of 80 years and above.

b. Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS): Under the scheme, Central assistance @ Rs.300/-per month is provided to widows in the age group of 40-79 years and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India. Central Assistance of Rs. 500/- per month is provided to the beneficiaries of age of 80 years and above.

c. Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS): Under the scheme, Central assistance @ Rs.300 per month is provided to persons aged 18-79 years with severe and multiple disabilities and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India. Central Assistance of Rs.500/- per month is provided to the beneficiaries of age of 80 years and above

d. National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS): Under the scheme, BPL household is entitled to a lumpsum amount of money on the death of the primary breadwinner aged between 18-59 years. The amount of assistance is Rs.20,000/-.

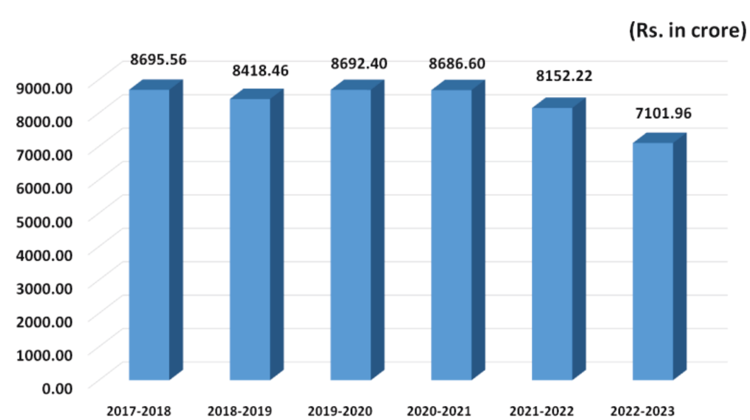
e. Annapurna Scheme: Under the scheme, 10kg of food grains per month are provided free of cost to those senior citizens who, though eligible under IGNOAPS, are not receiving old age pension.

3. Financial Achievement

(Rs in crore)

Year	Amount allocated (BE/RE)	Amount spent	% Target Achieved
2019-20	BE-9200.00/RE-8692.40	8692.40	100%
2020-21	BE-9200.00/RE-8686.69	11660.25*	More than 100%
2021-22	BE-9200.00/ RE-8730.00	8152.23	93.38%
2022-23 (as on 31.12.2022)	9652.31	7101.96	73.58%
Total			

*On 26.03.2020, Government had announced Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus. One of the components of said package was to provide ex-gratia of Rs.1000 in two installments (Rs.500/- each) to the existing old age, widow and disabled/Divyangjan beneficiaries of the schemes of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). The NSAP Division released a total of Rs. 2814.50 crore as ex-gratia to States/UTs in April, 2020 as first tranche and in May, 2020 as second tranche under PMGKY for the existing 282 lakh beneficiaries of NSAP schemes.



3.2 The reasons for the slow progress of the scheme was reflected by the actual expenditure of Rs. 7,101.97 crores upto 09.01.2023 as against the revised allocation of funds at Rs. 9,652 crores at the RE stage in 2022-23. The Committee enquired about the details as to how the Department plans to utilize the funds fully in the remaining period of time left in the ongoing Financial Year, the Department have replied as under:-

―The current release position under NSAP as on 24.01.2023 is placed below :

Year	Amount allocated (BE/RE)	Amount spent	% of amount released
2022-23	BE-9652.31/RE-9652.00	7295.67 (as on 24.01.2023)	75.59 %

It may be seen that as on 24.01.2023, almost 76% of the budget allocation has been utilized. Against the QEP target upto the third quarter of Rs.6950 cr., funds to the tune of Rs.7101.96 crore were released. Efforts are on to utilize the balance amount within this financial year.”

3.3 The Committee wanted to know whether the Department of Rural Development plan to re-propose for the revamp of NSAP and the future roadmap of the Department of Rural Development in regard to upward revision of assistance amount under different sub-schemes of NSAP and the relaxation of eligibility criteria, the Department replied in a written note as under:-

―Based on various recommendations and evaluation studies, the Department submitted the proposal for revamp of NSAP. The Cabinet considered the revision proposal while deciding the continuation of the NSAP for the 15th Finance Commission cycle (2021-26). The Cabinet, however, approved continuation of NSAP in its present form. Hence, no proposal in regard to revamp of NSAP is under consideration of the Govt. at present.”

3.4 On being asked to provide breakup of the current assistance amount being provided under NSAP, sub-scheme/programme-wise along-with the reasons for providing a meager amount as assistance under various sub schemes of the scheme and whether any suggestions/demands have been received for increasing quantum of assistance under various sub-schemes, the DoRD in their written replies have furnished as below:-

-Currently, NSAP comprises of five distinct schemes. Details of the eligibility criteria and amount of financial assistance provided under each of these schemes are as follows:

Scheme	Amount of Assistance	Eligibility criteria
Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	Rs.200	BPL senior citizens of age group of 60-79 years
	Rs. 500	BPL senior citizens of age group of 80 years and above
Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	Rs.300	BPL widows of age group of 40-79 years
	Rs.500	BPL widows of age group of 80 years and above
Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	Rs.300	BPL persons with 80% disability in age group 18-79 years
	Rs.500	BPL persons with 80% disability in age group of 80 years and above
National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)*	Rs. 20,000/-	To survivor head of BPL families on the death of primary breadwinner aged 18-59 years
Annapurna*	10 kg of food grains p.m.	To BPL senior citizens not receiving old age pension

*NFBS and Annapurna are demand-based schemes.

The programme has undergone many changes over the yearsin terms of the composition, eligibility criterion and amount of assistance since its launch on 15th August, 1995. Apart from the central assistance, the States/UTs are also encouraged for providing Top-up amount atleast equal amount to the central assistance. At present, the States/UTs are adding Top-up amount ranging from Rs.50 to 3200 per month per beneficiary. NSAP caters to 3.09 crore BPL beneficiaries with a scheme-wise ceiling/ cap for each State/UT on the number of beneficiaries (fixed in Nov., 2012 and recently revised in Sept, 2022). In case there are more eligible beneficiaries in the State, the State has option to give assistance to them from their own resources.

Intermittent demands were received from MPs/States on increase in the amount of assistance provided under pension schemes of NSAP. Details of demands/ suggestions received in this regard and replies given by the Department during 2022 are as under:

Sl. No.	Details of reference	Details of reply
1.	Reference dated 17.01.2022 received from Shri TikaramJully, Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of Rajasthan	Reply was given vide DO letter dated 21.02.2022 from Hon'ble MRD.
2.	Reference dated 02.12.2022 received from Shri Karti P. Chidambaram, Hon'ble MP (LS)	Reply was given vide DO letter dated 30.12.2022 from Hon'ble MRD.
3.	Matter raised by SmtManjulataMandal, Hon'ble MP (LS) on 15.12.2022 during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha	Reply was given vide DO letter dated 27.12.2022 from Hon'ble MoS (RD).

Task Force under Dr. Mihir Shah (2012), Expert Group under Sumit Bose (2016), evaluation studies by NITI Aayog (2020) and DoRD (2021) also emphasized on the need to enhance the pension amounts. Based on various recommendations and evaluation studies, the Department submitted the proposal for revamp of NSAP. The Cabinet considered the revision proposals while deciding the continuation of the NSAP for the 15th Finance Commission cycle (2021-26). The Cabinet, however, approved continuation of NSAP in its present form. Hence, no proposal in regard to revamp of NSAP is under consideration of the Govt. at present."

4. Unspent Balances

The Committee wanted to know the details of the unspent balances accrued so far alongwith their reasons and steps being taken to liquidate the fund, the DoRD have provided the following:-

―State/UT-wise details of unspent balance under NSAP schemes is as under:-

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Unspent Balance in FY 2022-23 (as on 24-01-2023) (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00
2	Bihar	13185.87
3	Chhattisgarh	0.00
4	Goa	0.00
5	Gujarat	0.00
6	Haryana	4947.55
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.00
8	Jharkhand	0.00
9	Karnataka	13488.00
10	Kerala	0.00

11	Madhya Pradesh	13096.37
12	Maharashtra	10342.80
13	Odisha	0.00
14	Punjab	191.79
15	Rajasthan	5792.48
16	Tamilnadu	6974.00
17	Telangana	0.00
18	Uttar Pradesh	14101.57
19	Uttarakhand	0.00
20	West Bengal	0.00
	Sub Total	82120.44
NE States		
21	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00
22	Assam	0.00
23	Manipur	0.00
24	Meghalaya	988.11
25	Mizoram	8.00
26	Nagaland	0.00
27	Sikkim	150.27
28	Tripura	0.00
	Sub Total	1146.38
Union Territories		
29	A&N Islands	134.35
30	Chandigarh	8.99
31	D&N Haveli and D&D	91.68
32	NCT Delhi	0.00
33	J&K	0.00
34	Ladakh	31.71
35	Lakshadweep	2.84
36	Puducherry	0.00
	Sub Total	269.57
	GRAND TOTAL	83536.39

Funds are released in advance to the States/UTs for providing central assistance to the beneficiaries identified under NSAP after following the due procedure.The release of funds to the States/ UTs in the last installment under the programme mainly constitutes the unspent balance. The States/UT normally reports the expenditure of the last installment along with the release proposal of next installment. States/UTs disburse the pension to the beneficiaries on time however, the time gap between making expenditure and reporting the same to this department is the reason for reflecting unspent balance lying with States/UTs.

In pursuance of the revised procedure for release of funds issued by Department of Expenditure, the following steps are being taken to liquidate this unspent balance and for better fund management:-

(i) Funds is now being released to the States/UTs in four equal installments in a financial year in place of two equal installments.

(ii) Funds for next installment are released to the States/UTs only once PFMS confirms that funds has been transferred from

State treasury to SNA accounts of the implementing department and 75% expenditure thereof."

5. Physical Progress

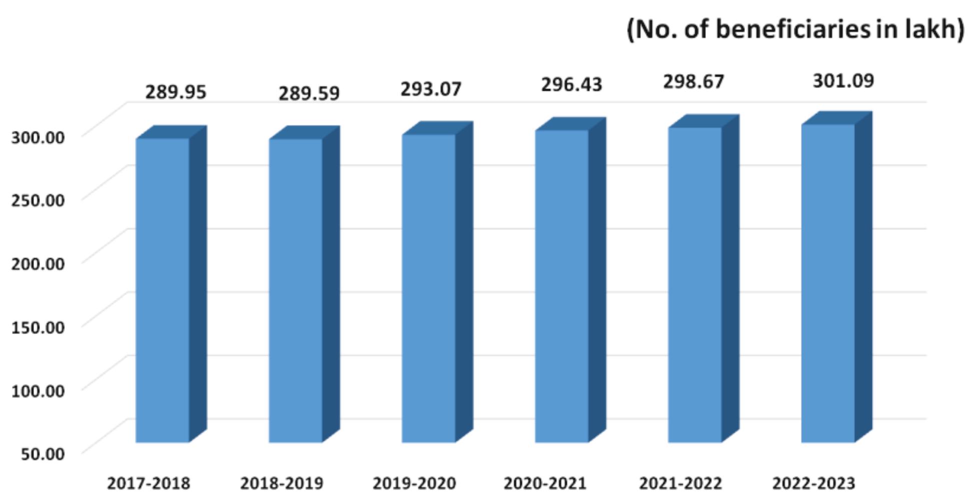
On being enquired about the reasons for the slow progress of the scheme reflected by the actual expenditure of Rs. 7,101.97 crores upto 09.01.2023 as against the revised allocation of funds at Rs. 9,652 crores at the RE stage in 2022-23 and to provide details as to how the Department plans to utilize the funds fully in the remaining period of time left in the ongoing Financial Year, the DoRD have shared the following details:-—

"The current release position under NSAP as on 24.01.2023 is placed below :

Year	Amount allocated (BE/RE)	Amount spent	% of amount released
2022-23	BE-9652.31/RE-9652.00	7295.67 (as on 24.01.2023)	75.59 %

It may be seen that as on 24.01.2023, almost 76% of the budget allocation has been utilized. Against the QEP target upto the third quarter of Rs.6950 cr., funds to the tune of Rs.7101.96 crore were released. Efforts are on to utilize the balance amount within this financial year."

NSAP Physical Achievement



6. Monitoring Mechanism

The Committee enquired about the monitoring mechanism of the programme in detail alongwith the role played by States in the implementation of this scheme, the DoRD have provided the following reply:-

> The States/UTs have to designate a Nodal Secretary at the State level to report the progress of implementation by coordinating with different departments concerned with the implementation of the schemes. The progress of implementation of the schemes is to be reported online by the State Nodal Department in a given monitoring format by the 15th of every month. Non-reporting of the physical and financial progress reports is construed as lack of progress and therefore, may result in the non-release of additional central assistance. At the central level the scheme is monitored through periodic Performance Review Committee (PRC) meetings, Nodal Officers Meetings, Visits of Area Officer and regular and special monitoring by the National Level Monitors (NLM).

F. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission

1. Brief

In the Budget Speech of 2014-15, the Finance Minister announced the launching of Shyama Prasad MukherjiRurban Mission (SPMRM) to ensure delivery of integrated project based infrastructure, development of economic activities and skill development in rural areas. Union Cabinet approved it on 16th September 2015. The Mission follows the vision of ―Development of a cluster of villages that preserve and nurture the essence of rural community life with focus on equity and inclusiveness without compromising with the facilities perceived to be essentially urban in nature, thus creating a cluster of ―Rurban villages". The objective of the Mission is to stimulate local economic development, enhance basic services, and create well planned Rurban clusters.

Larger outcomes envisaged under this Mission are – a) Bridging the rural-urban divide viz: economic, technological and those related to facilities and services. b) Stimulating local economic development with emphasis on reduction of poverty and unemployment in rural areas. c) Spreading development in the region. d) Attracting investment in rural areas.

As per the Note for Cabinet, the Implementation period for Shyama Prasad MukherjiRurban Mission (SPMRM) was for a periofupto March, 2020. The Mission was granted interim extension till September 2021 by Ministry of Finance. However, on assessment of the current progress, the Mission sought extension upto March 2024 for completing the projects. The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), in its meeting held on 26th August 2021 has recommended for discontinuation the scheme. Further, vide OM dated 28th March 2022, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance has declared 31st March 2022 as the sunset date for the Mission. In line with DoE OM dt. 12.07.2022 and 30.11.2022, permission has been granted only for completion of ongoing work committed liability as on 31.03.2022.

2. Financial Progress

Financial Progress (Amount Rs. in Crore)				
Milestone	**2019-20**	**2020-21**	**2021-22**	**2022-23 (as on 31.12.2022)**
Revised Estimate (RE)	300	372.33	375	988.91
Released (Central share)	303.59	371.82	150.11	351.32 (as on 31.12.2022)
% of achievement	101.20	99.86	40.03	35.52
Convergence Expenditure	**2669.17**	**3118.74**	**3785.16**	**713.93**
CGF Expenditure (including Central and State share)	**600.21**	**713.05**	**710.28**	**512.92**

Financial Progress Status of SPMRM till 24th January, 2023(₹ crore)

	Fund Releases	**Critical Gap Funds (₹ crore)**	**Convergence (₹ crore)**	**Total (₹ crore)**
Total Outlay	5142.08	6792.38	20923.81	27716.19
Progress as on 24.01.2023	2807.17 (54.59%)	3338.52 (49.15%)	14277.64 (68.24%)	17616.16 (63.56%)
Ongoing work committed liability as on 31.03.2022	956.762* (central share of funds yet to be released)	2176.529*(total pending liability against ongoing works)	-	-

* as per assessment of ongoing committed liability

3. Physical Progress

Physical Progress of SPMRM till 24th January 2023

Number of Clusters Target	Number of Integrated Cluster Action Plans (ICAPs) approved	Number of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) approved	Number of Clusters notified for planning	Physical work status		
				Total proposed works:	Completed no. of works	Ongoing no. of works
300	291	283	269	75999	38882 (51.16%)	14432 (18.98%)

3.2 On being asked about is the current status of Scheme since no amount has been earmarked for fiscal 2023-24, the DoRD have replied as under:-

> “Mission sought extension for the Mission till March 2023. But the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) in its meeting held on 26th August 2021 recommended for discontinuing the scheme SPMRM. The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance had declared 31st March 2022 as the sunset date for the Mission. In line with DoE OM dt. 12.07.2022 and 30.11.2022, permission has been granted only for completion of ongoing work committed liability as on 31.03.2022. The latest communication dated 21st December 2022 from DoE, which has given one time permission for release of funds under the Mission upto 15th March 2023.”

During the course of evidence, the Secretary, DoRD further elaborated as under:-

> “Total 3 clusters completed as on 31.01.2023 [Ravapar, Gujarat; Vevaji, Maharashtra; Aibawk, Mizoram, Cluster completion targets (cumulative): Feb 2023: 83; March 2023: 270.”

3.3 During the course of evidence, the Secretary deposed the following on SPMRM budgetary allocation:-

> “SPMRM is the Rurban Mission. This scheme has ended. We have to allocate funds for the projects that were taken under this scheme up till 31st March, 2022. Time limit for allocating funds is 15th March this year. For completing the schemes which had begun before 31st March, 2022, we were given an extra allocation of Rs.438 crore over and above the original Rs.550 crore. We expect that a substantial portion of this amount will be spent.”

3.4 The Committee further enquired about the case of non-continuance of the scheme bringing to fore the remaining targets and their future and whether the Department of Rural Development plan to meet the objective of the scheme planned at the initiation, the DoRD have replied as under:-

"After the decision of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for discontinuing the scheme, the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance communication declaring 31st March 2022 as the sunset date for SPMRM, and the DoE order allowing only the ongoing works as on 31st March 2022 for continuation; the non-started activities as on 31.03.2022 can no longer be supported by the Mission funds.

However, Cluster development is a continuous ongoing process. After completion of the projects, O&M will be managed by the concerned departments/ agencies. States have been advised to explore other convergence avenues for completion of balance works. The vision set for the clusters will be carried forward by the respective District and PRI functionaries."

3.5 On being enquired about the plans of Department of Rural Development to carry out remaining projects with convergence method, the DoRD have provided as below:-

"Ministry has already written to States/UTs that for balance works, States/ UTs may like to arrange funds from their own sources other than the SPMRM funds i.e. convergence funds. Cluster development is a continuous ongoing process. The vision set for the clusters will be carried forward by the respective District and PRI functionaries."

4. Unspent Balances

On being enquired about the fund utilization in SPMRM, the Secretary, DoRD stated during the evidence as produced below:-

"….coming to SPMRM, there was an EFC meeting in August, 2021 where EFC observed certain drawbacks in the implementation the way the scheme was being implemented. They said, it is a very small ticket size because all that the scheme gives is critical gap fund of Rs.15 crore or Rs.30 crore depending on where the State is geographically located. So, they said that the expenditure is poor. They said that it is a very thin spread of resources, and it is an overlap with other Central sector schemes. There was a poor coordination and convergence because the scheme relies heavily on convergence with other schemes. So, they said that since it is not off-taking so well, they decided to discontinue the scheme. Anecdotally, even when we speak with the States, there is gross variation. Some States took great ownership and they did a lot of work under the scheme. But there were certain States which were just not interested stating that the ticket size is too small, which is why the scheme failed to take off. However, that said, whatever were the ongoing works as on 31st March 2022, we calculated the liability and informed the Ministry of Finance. We have got money to complete all

> those works which were ongoing. It is just that some States are more enthusiastic in taking that money and they have taken both tranches of their money. But some States are still lagging behind. But the effort is on to ensure that we utilise every bit of the money that has been given to us."

G. <u>National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR)</u>

A brief on the current utility and contribution of NIRD&PR country-wide in terms of its objective envisaged at initiation. The preamble and objects for which NIRDPR was formed is as follows.

The NIRDPR will be an apex Institute of Training and Research in the field of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. It is to be a centre of excellence and to provide the necessary support to the national and state governments, other agencies and NGOs concerned with rural development in the areas of policy programme initiatives. Implementation training, capacity building, research documentation and dissemination of and act as a formulation, catalyst for promotion/ transfer/ strategies / dissemination of technology for the evaluation, development of rural areas, promotion and information marketing for rural products and training for such activities.

In accordance with above objectives, NIRDPR has been functioning as an autonomous Institute of the Ministry of Rural Development, conducting research and research-driven capacity building programmes, for the government functionaries and elected representatives. The core areas of interventions have been as follows.

- Capacity building of Intermediate functionaries of various institutions of State Governments / other agencies thereby enabling them to effectively utilize the large outlay of Govt. funds allocated to rural development activities.
- Acting as a think tank in creating knowledge, evidence based policy advocacy and helping in formulation of government strategy for effective implementation at filed level
- Undertakes research focusing on contemporary issues related to rural development in keeping abreast with the rural development scenario in the country which has policy implication.
- NIRDPR action research aims to solve grass-root-level problems and design development models based on exposure and experiences

1.2 The Committee wanted to know about the reasons for the reduction of funds from Rs. 135.46 Crore to Rs. 114.59 Crore at RE stage while the actual expenditure has been only Rs. 84.65 crores, the DoRD have stated the following in their reply:-

~~-~~As against the BE 2022-23 of Rs.135.46 crores, the RE for 2022-23 has been reduced to Rs.114.59 crores, considering the pace of expenditure upto October 2022, which was Rs.47.18 crores. As on 25th January, 2023, Rs 84.65 crores has been released by MoRD to NIRDPR. Efforts are being made to utilize the RE of Rs.114.59 crores by 31st March 2023, by increasing the pace of expenditure for NIRDPR."

H. Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana SAGY

1. Objective and Implementation

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) was launched on 11 October 2014 with the aim of creating holistically developed model Gram Panchayats across the country. Primarily, the goal is to develop three Adarsh Grams by March 2019, of which one would be achieved by 2016. Thereafter, five such Adarsh Grams (one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024. These 'Adarsh Grams' serve as 'nucleus of health, cleanliness, greenery and cordiality' within the village community and, becoming schools of local development and governance, inspiring neighboring Gram Panchayats. The role of Members of Parliament is that of a catalyst. They identify the Gram Panchayat to be developed into Adarsh Gram Panchayat, engage with the community, help propagate the values of the scheme, enable the initiation of start-up activities to build up the right environment and facilitate the planning process. The District Collector is the nodal officer for implementing SAGY.

2. Present Status

A detailed status report of SAGY villages adopted so far and results achieved in them State/UT-wise.

The status of GPs identified under SAGY and its status of Village Development Plan implementation progress, State/UT-wise given as below;

Sl.No.	State / UT	No of GPs identified under SAGY	No. of GPs Uploaded VDP	Total Number of Projects	No. of Projects Completed	No. of Projects In-Progress	Percentage of Projects Completed
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	8	4	405	212	50	52.35
2	Andhra Pradesh	168	152	3056	1105	230	36.16

3	Arunachal Pradesh	13	5	266	37	27	13.91
4	Assam	50	39	2892	631	473	21.82
5	Bihar	145	68	5262	1907	588	36.24
6	Chandigarh	2	2	31	15	2	48.39
7	Chhattisgarh	114	104	5923	3817	272	64.44
8	Delhi	13	0	0	0	0	0.00
9	Goa	15	5	714	147	33	20.59
10	Gujarat	211	200	79385	60379	172	76.06
11	Haryana	91	91	3301	1966	235	59.56
12	Himachal Pradesh	40	37	2012	1042	68	51.79
13	Jammu And Kashmir	42	40	1636	649	113	39.67
14	Jharkhand	96	83	6893	3338	761	48.43
15	Karnataka	125	116	14889	10142	664	68.12
16	Kerala	162	145	8179	5540	678	67.73
17	Ladakh	4	4	194	75	3	38.66
18	Lakshadweep	2	1	79	29	36	36.71
19	Madhya Pradesh	118	104	4381	2410	326	55.01
20	Maharashtra	252	177	10579	3815	863	36.06
21	Manipur	30	30	1792	816	373	45.54
22	Meghalaya	18	6	338	100	75	29.59
23	Mizoram	13	10	701	407	49	58.06
24	Nagaland	8	3	134	44	23	32.84
25	Odisha	90	60	2025	905	258	44.69
26	Puducherry	10	3	97	67	8	69.07
27	Punjab	59	43	1045	343	151	32.82
28	Rajasthan	179	168	8336	4498	488	53.96
29	Sikkim	13	11	405	291	64	71.85
30	Tamil Nadu	352	302	10286	8875	627	86.28
31	Telangana	83	75	54251	22524	72	41.52
32	Tripura	14	12	682	307	58	45.01
33	UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	8	2	87	58	16	66.67
34	Uttar Pradesh	507	446	10255	9656	358	94.16
35	Uttarakhand	36	29	1514	1089	142	71.93
36	West Bengal	10	1	61	0	0	0.00
	Total	3101	2578	242086	147236	8356	60.82

IV. District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committees (DISHA)

District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committees known as ‗DISHA' has been formed by the Ministry in June, 2016 under the chairmanship of Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) with a view to fulfill the objective of ensuring better coordination among all the elected representatives in Parliament, State Legislatures and Local Governments in monitoring the progress of major projects aimed at socio-economic transformation at the district level.

In the year 2019-20, separate detailed heads under Major head ‗Management support to RD Programme' (MSRDP) was allocated to DISHA monitoring system. Under DISHA Monitoring System funds are provided to States/Districts as a reimbursement to conduct DISHA Committees meetings. Further, manpower cost is paid to National Institute for Smart Governance (NISG) which has engaged the DISHA Project Management Unit (PMU) for developing and managing DISHA Dashboard.

Funding Pattern: Under DISHA scheme 100% funds are released by Ministry of Rural Development to the States/UTs as reimbursement for conducting DISHA Committees meetings and for payment to NISG to pay salary to PMU personnel.

2. Physical Achievement

State wise DISHA Meetings detail from 2016-17 to 2022-23

S.N.	State	Total Districts	Total Meetings						
			2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019 - 20	2018 - 19	2017 - 18	2016 - 17
1	Andaman & Nicobar Island	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
2	Andhra Pradesh	13	6	10	4	9	5	5	11
3	Arunachal Pradesh	25	23	5	1	15	9	8	16
4	Assam	33	39	37	20	27	29	33	41
5	Bihar	38	54	16	26	8	13	19	49
6	Chandigarh	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	27	36	48	40	19	41	73	70
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
9	Daman & Diu	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0
10	Goa	2	3	3	3	1	3	3	0
11	Gujarat	33	45	60	47	41	52	46	50
12	Haryana	22	37	44	40	17	23	38	40
13	Himachal Pradesh	12	11	11	18	5	6	13	17
14	Jammu & Kashmir	20	20	8	7	1	6	3	6
15	Jharkhand	24	25	22	19	13	33	50	44

S.N.	State	Total Districts	Total Meetings						
			2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019 - 20	2018 - 19	2017 - 18	2016 - 17
16	Karnataka	30	42	55	47	37	55	51	50
17	Kerala	14	30	39	26	23	47	43	31
18	Ladakh	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
19	Lakshadweep	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	51	58	79	96	42	48	46	74
21	Maharashtra	36	18	23	25	18	33	54	55
22	Manipur	9	7	0	1	3	1	3	2
23	Meghalaya	7	6	3	6	0	2	13	8
24	Mizoram	8	13	11	6	1	14	23	15
25	Nagaland	11	10	2	1	0	3	0	1
26	NCT of DELHI	11	6	7	12	1	1	0	0
27	Odisha	30	31	21	31	17	21	36	36
28	Puducherry	2	2	4	2	2	1	1	0
29	Punjab	23	15	8	16	8	15	21	9
30	Rajasthan	33	45	44	28	12	31	56	72
31	Sikkim	4	4	6	2	3	5	3	4
32	Tamil Nadu	37	63	41	31	29	26	8	1
33	Telangana	31	16	15	28	9	12	17	16
34	Tripura	8	14	7	3	6	5	6	10
35	Uttar Pradesh	75	135	77	105	84	108	112	94
36	Uttarakhand	13	26	18	21	13	30	35	22
37	West Bengal	21	0	0	0	0	3	3	6
	Grand Total	713	844	726	714	464	685	822	852

2.2 The Committee enquired about how far the DISHA meetings have served their purpose of monitoring in terms of their regular holding across States/UTs, the DoRD have replied in their written note as under:-

> ―As per the Department‘s guidelines, the District and State Level DISHA meetings are expected to be conducted once every quarter and once in six months, respectively. They perform the important function of extending oversight on functioning of various Government programmes through involvement of public representatives and government functionaries. As a result of regular follow up with States, the convening of DISHA meetings has become more regular and frequent. Highest number of District DISHA meetings were conducted in FY 2022-23. The details are provided below:

Year	District DISHA Meetings	State DISHA Meetings
2019-20	464	0
2020-21	713	5
2021-22	747	3
2022-23	937*	10*

*As on 30th January,2023”

2.3 During the course of evidence, the Secretary, DoRD replied as below on a query about increased number of DISHA meetings:-

> “This year, there has been record number of meetings as compared to 747 last year. This year, till now we have had more than 950 meetings. So, the situation is improving. So, it is not as per the mandate of holding one meeting per quarter across all the States, but the number of meetings is increasing. There is a meeting reporting system in which the agenda of the meetings and the minutes of meetings and action taken is also recorded. We have also written to the States to hold regular meetings and to ensure that the Member Secretary convenes the meeting regularly.”

3. **Monitoring**

The Committee enquired as to how does Department of Rural Development take a follow-up of the developments of DISHA meetings and steps being taken by them to ensure active holding/participation of Officers in the DISHA meetings, the DoRD have replied in their written note as below:-

> “The Department through regular communication at the level of Hon‘ble Minister of Rural Development and Secretary (RD) urges States/UTs to convene DISHA meetings on a regular basis. Letters have been written to Chief Secretaries/Administrators of all States/UTs on 06 June, 2022 and 31 August, 2022 by Secretary, Department of Rural Development (DoRD) for directing the District Collectors/ Magistrates and other concerned officials for holding regular DISHA Committee meetings at the District level as per the DISHA Guidelines. On 7 December, 2022, Secretary, DoRD has also reminded the Chief Secretaries/Administrators of all States/UTs about the utmost importance of holding DISHA meetings regularly for extending Parliamentary oversight over implementation of schemes and for constitution of State level DISHA Committees and holding regular meetings.
>
> Moreover, to enhance monitoring, Members of Parliament from time to time have been requested to proactively nominate non-official members to DISHA Committees. As a result, based on recommendations from Hon'ble Members of Parliament, 307 distinguished persons have been nominated as non-official members to District Level DISHA Committees and 50 distinguished persons have been nominated in State Level DISHA Committees.
>
> Further, to strengthen DISHA monitoring mechanism, a state of the art DISHA Dashboard has been developed by the Department. This Dashboard, aims to create a data driven governance solution for elected

representatives for planning, monitoring and evaluating multiple parameters of various schemes under DISHA.

Also, to support the operations of DISHA Committee, facilitate structured and effective meetings, a web portal called ‗Meeting Reporting Module' (https://rural.nic.in/en/disha) has been developed for State Level DISHA meeting. It has salient features such as Notice Board, Proceedings of Meeting (PoMs), Action Taken Report and Summary for state and district level meetings which contains schedules meeting date, time, venue, and agenda, meeting notices and minutes and assign action points.

To ensure effective utilization of the above, States/UTs have been instructed to direct all District Collectors/ Magistrates and CEO Zilla Parishads to include ATRs on the decisions and recommendations of last DISHA meeting in the agenda of the scheduled DISHA meeting as the first item and also make comprehensive and correct entries with respect to PoMs in the designated portal after the meeting."

PART – II

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

Demand Number 87 of the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Rural Development was laid in the Lok Sabha on 07.02.2023. In exercise of the powers conferred upon the Departmentally Related Standing Committees, Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj have thouroughly scrutinized the Demands for Grants of the Department of Rural Development keeping in view primarily the previous and ongoing financial/physical performance and in light of their findings have made the following Observations/Recommendations:-

1. Need for Increased Budgetory Allocation

The Committee note that the Department of Rural Development (DoRD) under the aegis of the Ministry of Rural Development have been entrusted with a huge responsibility of implementing and overseeing plethora of schemes of the Government of India which are aimed at the upliftment of rural masses of our country. It is pretty evident that vast population of our country still reside in the villages among which a substantial quantum belongs to marginalised and economically downtrodden section of our society. Thus, it becomes imperative on the part of the Department of Rural Development to ensure that the visionary flagship schemes of the Government of India are not left in the lurch for want of better manoeuvering and are provided with ample fuel power in terms of finances for keeping the schemes healthy and running. The Committee find that Rs. 1,57,545 Crore have been allocated to the Department of Rural Development

at the BE stage for 2023-24 which, although is 15.89% more than the funds at BE stage in Financial Year 2022-23, it is still much lower than the funds allocated at RE stage of 2022-23, i.e. Rs. 1,81,121.80 Crore. Moreover, the Department of Rural Development demanded an amount of Rs. 1,97,233.34 Crore for allocation at BE stage of 2023-24, which has been reduced by a substantial volume to the present allocation of Rs. 1,57,545 Crore at BE Stage by the Ministry of Finance. It has also been observed the fund for a Major Scheme like MGNREGA has been drastically reduced and barring PMAY-G, fund for other schemes by and large is kept static. Even in terms of GDP, the share of Rural Development stands at 0.8% at BE stage for 2023-24 which is less than the actual expenditure reported in 2020-21 (1.1% of GDP), 2021-22 (1.0% of GDP) and at the RE stage of 2022-23 (0.9% of GDP). Role of the Department of Rural Development is very vital for the holistic development of rural areas of the country and for that purpose adequate budgetary allocation is necessary particularly when the popular schemes like PMGSY, PMAY-G are also not immune to the inflation and rising cost of raw materials involved. More often than not, the reasons cited for stalling of Projects under various schemes emanate due to the shortage of funds generally by the second quarter of the Financial Year. By the time the funds are replenished to a certain extent, the Schemes and the beneficiaries suffer from delays. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Department of Rural Development should chalk out quarterly and monthly expenditure plans well in advance in consultation with Stakeholder particularly the State Governments in respect of all of its schemes/programme and should undertake all possible measures for the adequacy of fund at each stage of the scheme implementation and ensure

that no shceme of rural development gets hampered due to shortage of fund while also keeping a close monitoring on the availability of funds so as to raise supplementary demands or re-appropriate at opportune moment in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance.

(Recommendation Serial No. 1)

2. <u>Better Financial Prudence</u>

The Committee note with concern the omnipresence of unspent balances across all the schemes of rural development. The huge volume of unspent amount that has accrued so far under PMGSY (Rs. 2,269.631 Crore), DAY-NRLM (Rs. 4,717.56 Crore), NSAP (Rs. 83,536.39 Lakh), SPMRM (Rs. 664.35 Crore) PMAY-G (Rs. 15,50,898.91 Lakh) among others throws a dismal picture of the financial prudence of the Department of Rural Development. The storyline has been similar over the period of years and a robust mechanism for handling such piquant situation is yet to be seen. The Committee take note of the fund sharing pattern between the Centre and State in the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes which has its own pitfalls, *viz*. dependency on timely submission of Utilization Certificates and other mandatory paperworks for release of tranches of money, non-timely release of State Share et. al. Although the Committee acknowledge the gradual reduction in the unspent balances over a period of time, still non-liquidation and accrual of huge sums does not augur well for the smooth implementation of schemes for desired results. Therefore, the Committee, while expecting Department of Rural Development to come out with 'out of the box' and innovative strategies recommend them to devise a

more pragmatic approach and a much better fiscal prudence to tide over the issue of Government money getting tied up and remaining unspent.

(Recommendation Serial No. 2)

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)

3. Reduction of Funds in MGNREGA

The Committee are concerned to note that the Budget Estimates for MGNREGS has been reduced by Rs. 29,400 Crore for 2023-24 when compared to Revised Estimates of 2022-23. The Act governing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme provides 'Right to Work' to such deprived sections of the rural populace who are willing to work. It is a last resort of succor for the jobless section who don't have any other means to feed them and their family members. The role and importance of MGNREGA was visible during the corona pandemic times when it acted as a ray of hope for the needy in times of distress. The importance of the scheme itself got highlighted through the substantially huge increment at the RE stage in 2020-21 and 2021-22 from Rs. 61,500 Crore to Rs. 1,11,500 Crore and Rs. 73,000 Crore to Rs. 99,117.53 Crore respectively to meet the increase in demand of work during corona pandemic. Even during the ongoing Financial Year 2022-23, the funds for MGNREGA has been increased to Rs. 89,400 Crore at RE stage from Rs. 73,000 Crore at the BE stage. However, for the Financial Year 2023-24, at the starting stage itself, MGNREGA has been allocated Rs. 60,000 Crore against the proposed demand of Rs. 98,000 Crore by the Department of Rural Development. The Committee are unable to comprehend the rationale for reduced allocation of fund under

MGNREGA. Since it is very much necessary that adequate Budgetary Allocation ought to be made for the effective implementation of the Scheme, the Committee strongly feel the requirement for the matter of decreased fund allocation to be looked afresh. It is an established procedure that MGNREGA being a demand driven scheme, the funds can be raised at RE stage accordingly. However, Ministry of Finance should have been impressed upon as to how the Department of Rural Development arrived at the calculation of Rs. 98,000 Crore at proposal level for MGNREGA. Had it not been the projections received at the 'agreed to Labour Stage', such proposal would not have been mooted at the outset by the Department of Rural Development. Therefore, the Committee strongly recommend that the Department of Rural Development apprise themselves of the still existing high demand for job under MGNREGA at the ground level more realistically and utilise their communications and administrative skill to press upon the Ministry of Finance for increased allocation to MGNREGA.

(Recommendation Serial No. 3)

4. Pending liability of Wages & Material

The Committee are concerned to note the continuous pendency in disbursement of Centre's share of funds under wages and material components of the Scheme in respect of many States/UTs. Through the information received from the Department of Rural Development it has been observed that as on 25.01.2023, Rs. 6,231 Crore in wages and Rs. 7,616 Crore in Material component is pending liability on the Centre's Part. The Committee find accrual of such liabilities as severe impediments hampering the beneficiaries' plight. The Committee take into account the plausible reasons that have been time and

again cited by the Department of Rural Development for such types of pendencies such as non-receipt of documents etc.. However, a scheme of such huge proportion like MGNREGA which caters to the nook and corners of the country and has millions of beneficiaries enrolled as job card holders, such delay in wage payments and material fund release would only deter the needy person from availing the benefits under MGNREGA and would also cause them further turpitude for non-receipt of money when the sole intent of the scheme was to provide timely relief to poor in times of duress. Hence, the Committee beseech upon Department of Rural Development to ensure timely release of Centre's Shares in wages and materials through effective measures and better coordination with States. The progress made in dismantling liabilities of the Centre towards wages and material components in respect of each State/UT should be furnished to the Committee within three months.

(Recommendation Serial No. 4)

5. Payment of Delay Compensation

The Committee are also constrained to note that the non-adherence to the provision of delay compensation has cropped up frequently. The provision entailed in the MGNREG Act is legally binding and should be mandatorily complied with. In this context, the Committee, through their experiences of ground reality and the facts and figures apprised to them during study visits are seized of the situation that the State Machinary has time and again failed in providing the delay compensation due to being late in the payment of wages to the beneficiaries. Schedule II, Para 29 of the MGNREG Act categorically outlines

the provisions for the wage payments and speaks about compensation factor in cases of delay in the payment of wages after 15 days from the closure of muster roll. Since such delays in timely payment of wages to the beneficiaries defeat the very objective of the Act, the Committee strongly recommend that timely and hassle free wages to MGNREGA beneficiaries should be ensured by the Department of Rural Development. Moreover, the Department should ensure stricter execution of the provision of payment of compensation in case of delay in the payment of wages and bring onboard all the stakeholders for the compliance in 'letter and spirit'.

(Recommendation Serial No. 5)

6. Modification in Attendance System

The committee note that, in their constant endeavour to usher greater transparency and weed out alleged malpractices associated with the process involving attendance of genuine beneficiaries under MGNREGA, the Department of Rural Development have implemented a new provision of capturing of real time attendance at worksite. This is being done through a Mobile App (national Mobile Monitoring System App: NMMS) with two time-stamped and geo-tagged photographs of the workers in a day. The Committee is not oblivious to the facts surrounding the necessity felt by the Department of Rural Development for the introduction of a new real-time attendance capturing app and are in consonance with the intention of the Department of Rural Development in bringing in much required improved governance of the scheme. However, the flip side of the innovatory exercise should not remain unnoticed and unaccounted or else the

intended relief to the beneficiaries may not reach them. The entire exercise of capturing two real-time photographs in a day hinges upon few key factors such as availability of smart-phones, proper internet connectivity and the presence of MGNREGA workers on both stipulated times for proverbial 'in' and 'out' attendance. Needless to say that the MGNREGA beneficiaries belong to extremely deprived sections of the society, belonging to different linguistic milieu. Expecting the MGNREGA workers to be well versed with the functioning and language of app or for that matter even depending upon a nodal human intervention perhaps adds to their woes. Moreover, often the fluid timings of work site necessitate the workers to keep on waiting there even after the completion of work for their image capturing. Adding to this conundrum is the issue of availability of internet connectivity at far flung locales of MGNREGA work site. In view of the foregoing, and with utmost concern, the Committee urge upon the Department of Rural Development to review the implementation of attendance app holistically while taking into consideration the ground reality and challenges being faced by MGNREGA workers and come out with an acceptable provision at the earliest.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 6)

7. <u>Increase in Wages and bringing Parity in Wages</u>

The Committee note that in accordance with the Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every year for States/UTs. For providing cover against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every year

based on the change in the Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The Committee take into account the modalities enumerated under the MGNREG Act, 2005 and have also gone through the notified wage rate for the Financial Year 2022-23. It has been observed that there is no uniformity in the wages across the States/UTs and the rate differs from Rs. 204 in Chattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh to Rs. 315/- and Rs. 331/- in Goa and Haryana respectively. The Committee on earlier occasion also have observed categorically about the utmost necessity to increase the wage rate commensurate with the inflation and rectify the disparity in wages by notifying a uniform wage rate across the country. The stance of Department of Rural Development as evinced on these issues have pretty much remained the same as produced here that "However each State/UT can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government". Such responses are adept at typically passing the onus on the State Governments, while over a period of time it has been witnessed that the wage rates under MGNREGA have hovered on an average betweenRs. 200/- to Rs. 300/- per day in the different States/UTs. It is necessary that the Department of Rural Development examine this issue with humane approach and initiate measures for increasing the wages in an appropriate manner befitting the rising cost of living. Moreover, linkage with the CPI-AL perhaps does not serve the purpose of ascertaining the real effect of inflation and the index for calculation needs to be changed on an urgent basis for looking at the real picture. It is also unfathomable as to why the Ministry is not able to notify a unified wage rate under MGNREGA across the country to end the disparity across States/UTs for good, particularly when the Scheme is mostly funded by

the Centre. Therefore, the Committee strongly recommend that the Department of Rural Development should increase the wage rates under MGNREGA by linking it to a suitable pricing index and explore the feasibility of notifying a uniform wage rate under MGNREGA for the entire country.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 7)

8. <u>Increase in Number of Days of Guaranteed Work under MGNREGA</u>

The Committee note the another pertinent demand, that has been time and again made, is that of increasing of days of guaranteed work under MGNREGA from the existing 100 days. The Committee are seized of the sentiments of MGNREGA beneficiaries and resonate with the pressing need felt by them for increasing the number of guaranteed days of work under MGNREGA equitably. MGNREG Act was notified in 2005 and the entire country was covered by April, 2008. Almost 15 years have passed since the full implementation of the Act and "much water has flown under the bridge" by now. With each passing year, the need for change has been felt in the Act so as to keep pace with the changing demands of the time. The burgeoning population of the country with majority residing in the villages and a huge number of rural populace still trying to fulfill the basic necessity, guaranteed days of work, perhaps, is a huge solace for such class of society. The Committee also find during the examination of Demands for Grants 2023-24 that Government of India has constituted a Committee under Shri Amarjeet Sinha to study the performance of States and the governance issues under MGNREGS, which in itself is a clear cut indicator that review of basic features of MGNREGS is a long felt demand. Increasing the

number of days of work at the Central level itself will certainly go a long way in providing a stable source of income to such poor and destitute class of beneficiaries who don't have any other resort but to take up unskilled work under MGNREGA for their survival. Hence, the Committee, with utmost empathy, recommend that the Department of Rural Development should relook into the possibility of increasing the number of guaranteed days of work under MGNREGA and come out with some concrete measures in this regard.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 8)

9. Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) : Increase in unit assistance

The Committee note that PMAY-G is one of the marquee scheme of the Government of India with the commitment to provide "Housing for All" by 2024. To fulfill the objective, under PMAY-G, assistance of Rs. 1,20,000/- in plains and Rs. 1,30,000/- in hilly States, difficult areas and IAP districts is provided for the construction of the house. The scheme has been extended beyond March, 2022 till March, 2024 to complete the remaining houses within the cumulative target of 2.95 Crore houses. It has also been observed that 2.15 Crore houses have been completed as on 07.02.2023 and still large number of houses are to be completed by the target date. In this context, the Committee have been frequently enlightened about the ground reality during their course of examination that the unit assistance provided under the scheme is not sufficient and is also one of the reasons for the non-completion of houses within time. The inadequacy of assistance component comes under the lens more so, due to the rising cost of raw materials and infrastructure logistics required for construction

of house. It is not a hidden fact that inflation does have a telling effect on cost factors and severely hampers the budget of beneficiaries under PMAY-G. Thus, it becomes all the more imperative to take into account the requirement of increasing the unit assistance under PMAY-G. The Committee also find that the hilly terrains are even more challenging for construction works and transportation costs are an additional burden at such places. Moreover, till the time assistance was rendered under PMAY-U, the amount totalled around Rs. 2.5 Lakh which reflected non-parity between assistance component of PMAY-G and PMAY-U, and belied any logic for such difference in rural and urban sectors. Keeping all the considerations under view and taking into account that still a large chunk of house is to be constructed, the Committee recommend that the Department of Rural Development should revise the per unit assistance under PMAY-G to such tune which would cover the rising cost of construction in present times.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 9)

10. Leftover Beneficiaries

The Committee note that the Department of Rural Development at present is focussing on achieving the target of 2.95 Crore houses by March, 2024. For the remaining households in the finalized Awaas+ lists over and above the target of 2.95 Crore houses, there is no proposal now. The Committee find such reply devoid of any empathy and future vision on the part of Department of Rural Development. Awaas plus Survey was carried out to ascertain the quantum of leftover eligible beneficiaries and no roadmap planned for such households

would indeed serve as a deterrent in realising the actual objective of "Housing for All''. Since the scheme started with an initial goal of 2.95 Crore houses, realisation of such target would theoretically complete the scheme but the future of remaining leftover households would be left undecided. The Committee are of the view that since the scheme has already received extension to March, 2024 from earlier date of March, 2022, it would be perhaps appropriate if efforts are remodelled and strategies revisited to include the leftover households also in the ambit of target so that the grievances of leftover households are also met. Therefore, the Committee recommend that Department of Rural Development should recalibrate their target in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and other Stakeholders for the timley inclusion of leftover eligible beneficiaries so that the real objective of "Housing for All" is achieved.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 10)

11. Ascertaining Genuine Eligibility

The Committee note that a common grievance associated with PMAY-G which keeps on cropping up through the ground level experiences of the Members and observations during the study visits of the Committee, is that of selection of wrong/ineligible beneficiaries under PMAY-G. The base upon which the beneficiaries under PMAY-G were identified was the housing deprivation parameters of Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC), 2011. Much time has elapsed since the base year and it has been widely observed that many eligible beneficiaries have become ineligible while a whole lot of eligible beneficiaries

have surfaced. Inordinate delay in the completion of target of the scheme within the deadline would definitely give rise to such precarious situations which would challenge the administrative acumen and farsightedness of the Department of Rural Development. Alleged instances of arbitrariness at the Gram Panchayat level on issues ranging from fiddling with the definition of 'Kuccha' & 'Pucca' houses on flimsy and whimsical grounds for partiality in allotment to the possession of equipment of basic needs as exclusion criteria begets anomalies in the inclusion of genuine beneficiaries. Such complaints are galore at the ground level and should not be left unheard. The Committee opine that there is still ample time-left for the Department of Rural Development to iron out the rough patches in the implementation of PMAY-G and create a robust mechanism for the redressal of grievances associated with the identification of genuine beneficiaries at ground level. Hence, the Committee recommend that the Department of Rural Development should adopt stricter measures to earnestly examine the issues surrounding eligibility of beneficiaries under PMAY-G so that genuine beneficiaries do not remain deprived of the benefits of such a visionary scheme of the Government of India.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 11)

12. Issue of Landless Beneficiaries

The Committee are perturbed to find that even at this juncture when the scheme is approaching its last stage after getting extension to March, 2024, there are still 2,93,598 beneficiaries remaining to get land/assistance from the State/UT to construct their house under PMAY-G. It has been highlighted by the

Department of Rural Development that it is the responsibility of the States/UT to provide land to landless beneficiaries and that the Department of Rural Development has been in constant touch with the States/UTs for ensuring availability of land to the landless. Despite the efforts of Department of Rural Development being cited in the replies to the Committees, the Committee find the pace of reaching a logical culmination to such issue quite slow. Not much time is remaining for the scheme to reach its deadline and impediment of such nature needs to be taken care of as early as possible for the successful realisation of the target of the scheme. The 'need of the hour' is to further press upon the State Machinery with a sense of greater clarity and increased coordination with all the Stakeholders for expediting the mitigation of pendency. Thus, the Committee urge Department of Rural Development to increase their momentum of persuasive efforts with the concerned States/UTs on 'war footing' for attaining timely resolution of the issue of allocation of land to the landless beneficiaries under PMAY-G.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 12)

13. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) : Better Implementation of FDR Technology

The Committee note that Full Depth Reclamation (FDR) Technology is one of the new initiatives being undertaken by the Department of Rural Development in the construction of roads under PMGSY in order to achieve the twin target of being economical and reduction in carbon footprint of road construction projects. The Committee further note that 7,669 km of roads have been

sanctioned under FDR technology in which 5,459 km is alloted to U.P. alone. Other States are also gearing up for the use of this technology. Rural road is a State Subject and PMGSY roads are constructed by the State Governments. Although, the role played by State Governments in carrying out PMGSY works is paramount, however, PMGSY, being a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the role of Centre goes beyond only the issuance of notification and guidelines. The Committee have been apprised during the course of their deliberations that usage of FDR technology at ground level is extremely poor owing to various shortcomings such as unavailability of sufficient number of machines and inordinate delay in the soil testing procedures employed under the said technology. The concept envisaged for FDR technology was never meant to stall the projects under PMGSY but to hasten the completion of road construction projects by the usage of a new and innovative method. Department of Rural Development need to have a hawkish mode of surveillance on the actual implementation of their methods and technique and not remain satiated only by theorising new concepts. Therefore, the Committee strongly recommend that the Department of Rural Development should ensure that the usage of FDR technology takes place as envisaged, and does not remain unimplemented due to lack of intent and wherewithal required for availing the benefits of new technology so as to ensure speedy completion of road construction projects under PMGSY.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 13)

14. <u>Increased Load-Bearing Roads and Plying of Heavy Vehicles</u>

The Committee note that PMGSY roads are generally low volume roads and were never meant to bear the load of heavy vehicles. The specifications which govern the construction of roads under PMGSY did not fathom that heavy vehicles plying on NHAI roads would also use the PMGSY roads as last mile connectivity to meet the ever growing needs and expansion of industrial projects to the rural areas as well. The Committee have taken the cognizance of such changing scenario wherein it is almost a necessity for even the heavy vehicles to utilise the PMGSY roads. Thus, it becomes absolutely essential to devise measures to protect the PMGSY roads from getting damaged due to the heavy vehicles that ply on them. Either suitable modification of the specifications of PMGSY for constructing heavy load bearing roads is done at the earliest or the provision of getting the damaged roads repaired by the NHAI authorities is ensured to be strictly complied with, else the PMGSY roads would keep on getting damaged and will get non-transportable, defeating the intent of the Yojana. The Committee also find from the reply of the Department of Rural Development that Ministry of Road Transport and Highways have been communicated in this regard on 2nd November, 2022 but response from their end is still awaited and any further action would be taken by Department of Rural Development on the receipt of reply from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. The Committee are not at all satisfied with the existing situation and lack of concrete action being taken/planned by the Department of Rural Development as the ongoing practice of plying of heavy vehicles on PMGSY

roads would keep on damaging the PMGSY roads as reported from different quarters. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Department of Rural Development should take serious view of this matter and come out with some concrete and effective solution at the earliest to protect the PMGSY roads from getting damaged by heavy vehicles.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 14)

15. <u>Selection of Roads in consultation with the Members of Parliament</u>

The committee is fully aware of the mandatory inbuilt mechanism in PMGSY for consultation and consideration of the suggestions of the concerned Members of Parliament during the finalization of road plans. Despite the strong theoretical provision laid down under PMGSY, the Committee find themselves gripped with regular complaints from the Members of Parliament regarding the non-compliance of the consultative procedures in 'letter and spirit'. Various type of aberrations are noticed which inter-alia comprises of blatant floundering of norms at certain places involving non-consultation to merely completion of formalities by obtaining consent of the Members without providing proper details/inspections of the ground locations. Members of Parliament are single point source of remedy for the grievances of local population at the grass root level in constituencies and are fully equipped to provide valuable insight and apprise public demands to the nodal authorities who construct the roads under PMGSY. Thus, it becomes all the more important to ensure that Members of Parliament are always kept informed and their suggestions, even at a latter stage for inclusion of new roads are required to be considered on merit gauging

the local needs/demands. Therefore, the Committee in all earnest recommend that the Department of Rural Development should ensure the strict compliance of all the consultative provisions with MPs while finalizing the road projects under PMGSY by impressing upon the States the necessity of the same.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 15)

16. Foundation Laying and Inauguration Ceremonies

The Committee are concerned to note that the non compliance with the provision of inviting all elected representatives of the concerned area to the foundation laying and inauguration ceremonies of PMGSY roads. Reportedly, the explicit guidelines that the foundation stone for a PMGSY road should be laid and the road should also be inaugurated by the Members of Parliament (LokSabha) does not seem to be adhered to by the concerned authorities at many-a-times. The Committee are of the firm view that the presence of Member of Parliament at such events are one of the means of ensuring accountability of the executing authorities of projects of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme like PMGSY which are aimed at public welfare and are constructed through the Government coffers. Representing sentiments of large masses of public, the Members of Parliament should never be by-passed or neglected. The role of State Government is no doubt much more in ensuring non-deviation from the protocol provisions mandated under PMGSY, but, the Yojana being a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the nodal implementing body, Department of Rural Development cannot shy away from their responsibility. In view of the ongoing deviation from extant provision, the Committee recommend that the Department

of Rural Development should go beyond citing theoretical provisions and look into the matter with utmost seriousness so that Members of Parliament are given due recognition befitting their privileges.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 16)

17. <u>National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)</u>

<u>Increase in Assistance Amount under NSAP</u>

The Committee note that National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is a 100% Centrally Funded Centrally Sponsored Scheme which has been continued for 15th Finance Commission Cycle (2021-26) also. NSAP caters to 3.09 Crore BPL beneficiaries with a scheme-wise ceiling/cap for each State/UT on the number of beneficiaries (recently revised in September, 2022). Termed as a Social Security Programme coming to the aid of old aged, widows, disabled persons and bereaved families on death of primary bread winner, the amount of assistance in the Components of Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) ranging from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 500/- per month lefts much to be desired. The meagre assistance amount has been a cause of concern to the Committee for a long period of time and the Committee find this abysmally low amount, when the cost of living has increased substantially, not acceptable at all. It is beyond comprehension as to how can such low assistance provide any sort of relief to beneficiaries who belong to extremely marginalised and economically distressed section of the society. From the replies of the Department of Rural Development, the Committee also observe that Task Force under Dr. Mihir Shah (2012), Expert

Group under Sumit Bose (2016), Evaluation Studies by NITI Aayog (2020) and Department of Rural Development (2021) have also emphasized on the need to enhance the Pension amounts and a proposal was submitted to the Cabinet for the revamp of NSAP, however, the approval for continuation of NSAP in its current form was given. The Committee feel that there is an urgent requirement of the upward revision in the assistance component of NSAP and all efforts should be taken for carrying out revamp of the programme. Therefore, with deep concern, the Committee recommend that the Department of Rural Development should submit a new proposal for the consideration of the Cabinet and also utilise their convincing ability in coordinating with the Stakeholders involved so that the sentiments of needy beneficiaries do not remain unheard of and an upward revision of assistance under all the components of NSAP is materialised.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 17)

18. Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)

Increase in Self Help Groups (SHGs) Creation and Picking up Pace of DAY-NRLM

The Committee note that one of the key components of the DAY-NRLM is the creation of Self Help Groups of women for the achievement of Universal Social Mobilization of rural poor households. The idea of SHGs is indeed a very noble one at core with upliftment and empowerment of rural women being the target. However, the Committee note that during the ongoing financial year 2022-23, the number of households mobilized into SHGs upto December, 2022 stands

at 50% of the annual target and the other key performance indicator like number of MahilaKisans Supported (65%), amount of bank credit accessed (68%), number of entrepreneurs supported (66%) are also observed to be lagging behind. The Committee is aware of the importance of the objectives of DAY-NRLM and desire that a scheme of such importance does not fall back, rather, picks up the momentum and move forward in achieving the target of Social Inclusion and human development. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Department of Rural Development should spruce up their efforts and ensure that all corrective methods are taken for expediting the performance of the scheme so that the noble aim of development of rural women keep on marching forward.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 18)

19. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission (SPMRM)

Completion of Pending Projects under SPMRM

The Committee acquainted during the course of examination of Demands for Grants (2023-24) that the reason for zero allocation at BE level to SPMRM for 2023-24 is that the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance had declared 31st March, 2022 as the closing date for the Mission and as per the DoE OM dated 12.07.2022 and 30.11.2022, permission has been granted only for the completion of already committed liability as on 31.03.2022 through one time permission for the release of funds till 15th March, 2023. At this point, the Committee reminisce that SPMRM was launched in 2016 to develop 300 Clusters in 28 State and 6 UTs which would act as rural growth centres having urban amenities and services. However, only 3 clusters have been completed as on

31.01.2023 (Revapar, Gujarat; Vevaji, Maharashtra and Aibawk, Mizoram) while 270 cluster completion target is to be achieved till March, 2023. The Committee are not happy with the manner with which the Department of Rural Development is handling such a visionary programme that there is a probability of vast majority of the clusters remaining incomplete. It seems extremely difficult to complete the pendency within such short span when the funds are available only till 15th March, 2023. It is a matter of concern that the goals for which the Scheme was mooted remain unfulfilled. Thus, the Committee feel that the Department of Rural Development should take concrete steps for the completion of targets. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department of Rural Development to act on 'war footing' for the utilisation of funds against SPMRM while also initiating their diplomatic channels for obtaining some extra time for the completion of projects.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 19)

20. Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) Villages

The Committee are concerned to note that only 60.82% of the projects are shown to be completed under SAGY. The primary reason has been stated to be loss of interest in the programme due to lack of special funding and that of district administration being not so proactive in the implementation of the programme. The Committee note that SAGY was launched on 11 October, 2014 with the aim of creating developed model gram panchayats across the country which would act as a guiding light for the other gram panchayats to follow, leading to a holistic development across the country. No special funding

mechanism was envisaged for this Yojana as it has to be run through prioritising and convergence of already applicable welfare schemes of the Government of India. The Committee have been highly impressed with the concept of SAGY and are surprised to observe the sort of bottlenecks being faced by the Yojana. Such futuristic vision which incorporates dovetailing of various ongoing schemes and expedites their prioritisation,needs to be actively pursued with,so that a definite Gram Panchayat develops into a model one without any extra funding. In view of the foregoing, the Committee urge upon the Department of Rural Development to increase their effort for revitalizing the concept of SAGY through effective coordination of all Stakeholders involved at State/District level and also try to popularise the concept even further for the concrete utilisation of Government fund of different Schemes through prioritisation in a specific channel.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 20)

21. <u>DISHA Meetings</u>

The Committee are aware of the fact that the District and State level DISHA meetings are to be conducted once in 3 months and 6 months respectively to keep an hawkish eye over the implementation of various schemes of the Government and to have a close-up of their progress through the interaction of public representatives and the Government Officials. The sole aim of such meetings is overseeing the effective utilisation of Government money for the welfare of the commons masses and as such these meetings assume paramount importance and a tool of great value. However, on umpteen

occasions, the Committee have been made aware of the glaring irregularity and casual approach elicited by the District/State authorities in the mandated regular holding of DISHA meetings. The Members of Parliament are left 'high and dry' on various occasions as their repeated plea for holding DISHA meetings and their effective follow up falls on 'deaf ears'. Moreover, concerned Officials also bypass these meetings and instead send junior level officers in their place who are not much aware of the developments around the schemes being implemented in the area. As on 30th January, only 937 meetings at District Level, while as low as only 10 meetings at the State level have been conducted for the year 2022-23. Since it is very much necessary the Members of Parliament review the status of implementation of schemes of the Government of India in their constituencies, the Committee strongly recommend that the Department of Rural Development should devise a robust mechanism for holding of DISHA meetings on regular basis with the attendance of concerned Officers and accountability may be fixed on the errirng officials.

(Recommendation Sl. No. 21)

NEW DELHI;
13 March, 2023
22 Phalguna, 1944 (Saka)

NARANBHAI J. RATHWA
Chairperson (Acting),
Standing Committee on Rural Development
& Panchayati Raj

Annexure I

Breakup of unspent balance against each Scheme State/UT-wise:-

MGNREGA:-

(Annexure 1 = Annexure C of RLoP, pg 170-176)

Total unspent balance under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the current year (up to 31.12.2022) are given as under:

Total unspent balance under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the FY 2022-23 (as on 31.12.2022) are given as under (Rs. in crore)-:		
Sl No.	**States/UT**	**Unspent Balance ***
1	Andhra Pradesh	5
2	Bihar	4
3	Chhattisgarh	63
4	Gujarat	219
5	Odisha	40
6	Rajasthan	193
7	Uttar Pradesh	165
8	Uttarakhand	55
	Total	**744**

*For 8 States/Uts only, Information for remaining States/Uts is being collected

Now from the FY 22-23 , if unspent balance is more than 25% of the total of Central release and State share , in such no further Central funds is being released to the State/UTs.

PMAY-G:-

Financial Progress under PMAY-G and Unspent Balances during Current Financial Year i.e. FY 2022-23			
			(Rs. In Lakh)
S.No	**State**	**Central share funds released**	**Unspent Balance**
1	**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**	33.75	2985.24
2	**ASSAM**	426975.00	227251.78
3	**BIHAR**	742631.79	268222.51
4	**CHHATTISGARH**	34422.99	59636.85
5	**GOA**	0.00	658.25
6	**GUJARAT**	45587.25	79050.27
7	**HARYANA**	1485.09	8992.63

8	**HIMACHAL PRADESH**	3785.59	1111.92
9	**JAMMU AND KASHMIR**	79538.90	40651.45
10	**JHARKHAND**	64573.53	66944.09
11	**KERALA**	7029.12	4941.85
12	**MADHYA PRADESH**	479916.45	32289.40
13	**MAHARASHTRA**	83803.60	122507.49
14	**MANIPUR**	16113.96	9330.48
15	**MEGHALAYA**	10643.65	11399.94
16	**MIZORAM**	786.32	4496.31
17	**NAGALAND**	5250.00	5573.80
18	**ODISHA**	0.00	97640.24
19	**PUNJAB**	7100.50	2430.71
20	**RAJASTHAN**	161813.75	48695.80
21	**SIKKIM**	0.00	11.10
22	**TAMIL NADU**	133491.40	119370.19
23	**TRIPURA**	95330.53	47835.54
24	**UTTAR PRADESH**	167807.19	159838.88
25	**UTTARAKHAND**	6500.00	7521.27
26	**WEST BENGAL**	0.00	114307.35
27	**ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR**	0.00	317.21
28	**DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI**	0.00	4280.56
29	**DAMAN AND DIU**	0.00	0.00
30	**LAKSHADWEEP**	0.00	0.00
31	**PUDUCHERRY**	0.00	0.00
32	**ANDHRA PRADESH**	0.00	0.00
33	**KARNATAKA**	0.00	2605.81
34	**TELANGANA**	0.00	0.00
35	**LADAKH**	150.00	0.00
	Total	**2574770.36**	**1550898.91**

PMGSY:-

The details of unspent balance as on 20.01.2023 State-wise under PMGSY are as follows:-

S. No.	State & Name of Agency	Unspent Balance excluding Security Deposit (Rs. in crore)
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	14.13
2	Andhra Pradesh	124.79
3	Andhra Pradesh RCPLWE	153.5925
4	Arunachal Pradesh	-230.02
5	Assam	248.92
6	Bihar (Incl. NEAs)	564.89
7	Bihar-RCPLWE	103.88
8	Chhattisgarh	463.285
9	Chhattisgarh RCPLWE	66.14

10	Gujarat	-51.175
11	Haryana	76.58451
12	Himachal Pradesh	426.95
13	Jammu And Kashmir	373.28
14	Jharkhand (Incl. NEAs)	363.275
15	Karnataka	357.98
16	Kerala	60.17
17	Ladakh	11.4422
18	Madhya Pradesh	1000.321
19	Maharashtra	531.554
20	Maharashtra-RCPLWE	43.033
21	Manipur	29.42
22	Meghalaya	-32.51
23	Mizoram	-107.428
24	Nagaland	-10.872
25	Odisha RCPLWE	45.15
26	Odisha	481.16
27	Punjab	46.6199
28	Puducherry	12.36075
29	Rajasthan	227.336
30	Sikkim	-71.808
31	Tamilnadu	-57.53
32	Telangana	84.935
33	Telangana-RCPLWE	58.7
34	Tripura	75.49
35	Uttar Pradesh	838.105
36	Uttarakhand	292.89
37	West Bengal	194.19
	TOTAL	**6,809.23**

DAY-NRLM:-

STATE-WISE ALLOCATION RELEASE UNDER NRLM DURING 2022-2023 (Rs. in Cr)				
Sl. No.	**State/UT**	**Central Allocation**	**Central Release (As on 31.12.22)**	**Unspent Balance up to 31/12/2022***
1	Andhra Pradesh	251.73	62.93	155.68
2	Telangana	179.81	44.95	114.38
3	Bihar	1026.58	513.29	668.64
4	Chattisgarh	228.01	57.00	24.18
5	Goa	7.50	3.75	4.29
6	Gujarat	162.44	81.22	114.10

7	Haryana	95.57	47.78	62.75
8	Himachal Pradesh	40.25	20.12	3.34
9	Jammu & Kashmir	180.17	90.08	66.43
10	Jharkhand	387.08	290.31	227.81
11	Karnataka	325.87	81.47	143.58
12	Kerala	146.22	73.11	97.33
13	Madhya Pradesh	488.46	244.23	306.44
14	Maharashtra	644.01	322.01	401.12
15	Odisha	493.59	370.19	257.05
16	Punjab	46.44	23.22	26.61
17	Rajasthan	247.45	123.72	110.69
18	Tamil Nadu	381.57	190.79	357.98
19	Uttar Pradesh	1477.94	738.97	896.49
20	Uttarankhand	77.81	58.36	32.00
21	West Bengal	548.53	137.13	207.13
22	A&N Islands	9.00	0.00	0.10
23	Daman & Diu and D&N Haveli	6.00	0.00	0.19
24	Lakshadweep	2.39	1.19	1.22
25	Ladakh	13.19	0.00	0.62
26	Pondicherry	17.00	8.50	6.40
	Total (Non NE)	7484.61	3584.34	4286.56
	NORTH EASTERN STATES			
1	Arunachal Pradesh	132.26	33.06	57.83
2	Assam	381.36	95.34	121.19
3	Manipur	125.38	31.35	42.88
4	Meghalaya	169.28	84.64	49.47
5	Mizoram	156.72	0.00	34.02
6	Nagaland	177.94	0.00	7.79
7	Sikkim	66.49	16.62	18.96
8	Tripura	241.62	60.41	98.86
	Total (NE)	1451.05	321.42	431.00
	Grand Total	**8935.66**	**3905.76**	**4717.56**

*out of Rs 4717.56 Cr(opening balance+Central Share+ State Share) , Rs 2866.42 Cr(Central Share+State Share) is yet to be released by State Treasuries to SRLMs(implementing agencies)

DDU-GKY Skills:-No State-wise annual allocation is done for DDU-GKY as the scheme is a demand driven scheme.

RSETI:-Under RSETI, there is no state-wise allocation. The funds under RSETI scheme are allocated for all States together and are released on demand/actual performance basis on reimbursement mode. A tabular analysis regarding unspent balance during the current FY as on 27.01.2023 is outlined below:

(Amount in Crore)

FY	BE/RE	Actual	Unspent Balance
2022-23	**250.00**	**94.63**	**155.37**

NSAP:-State/UT-wise details of unspent balance accrued upto 24.01.2023 are as under:

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Unspent Balance in FY 2022-23 (as on 24-012023) (Rs. in lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00
2	Bihar	13185.87
3	Chhattisgarh	0.00
4	Goa	0.00
5	Gujarat	0.00
6	Haryana	4947.55
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.00
8	Jharkhand	0.00
9	Karnataka	13488.00
10	Kerala	0.00
11	Madhya Pradesh	13096.37
12	Maharashtra	10342.80
13	Odisha	0.00
14	Punjab	191.79
15	Rajasthan	5792.48
16	Tamilnadu	6974.00
17	Telangana	0.00
18	Uttar Pradesh	14101.57
19	Uttarakhand	0.00
20	West Bengal	0.00
	Sub Total	**82120.44**
NE States		
21	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00
22	Assam	0.00
23	Manipur	0.00
24	Meghalaya	988.11
25	Mizoram	8.00
26	Nagaland	0.00
27	Sikkim	150.27
28	Tripura	0.00

	Sub Total	**1146.38**
Union Territories		
29	A&N Islands	134.35
30	Chandigarh	8.99
31	D&N Haveli and D&D	91.68
32	NCT Delhi	0.00
33	J&K	0.00
34	Ladakh	31.71
35	Lakshadweep	2.84
36	Puducherry	0.00
	Sub Total	**269.57**
	GRAND TOTAL	**83536.39**

SPMRM:-

In Rs crore

SL No	**State**	**Central Share**	**State Share**	**Total CGF with States**	**Expenditure reported by States/UT in MIS as on 24.01.23**	**Unspent balance**
1	A&N Islands	22.490	0.000	22.490	6.080	16.410
2	Andhra Pradesh	113.400	75.600	189.000	165.090	23.910
3	Arunachal Pradesh	18.900	2.100	21.000	17.460	3.540
4	Assam	81.420	9.047	90.467	64.490	25.977
5	Bihar	59.400	39.600	99.000	40.110	43.007
6	Chhattisgarh	185.105	123.403	308.508	266.220	42.288
7	Dadra & Nagar and Daman Diu	18.000	-	18.000	5.350	9.320
8	Goa	5.400	3.600	9.000	0.000	9.000
9	Gujarat	116.265	77.510	193.776	136.100	57.676
10	Haryana	103.747	69.164	172.911	133.600	39.311
11	Himachal Pradesh	53.122	5.902	59.025	39.630	19.395
12	J & K	16.200	1.800	18.000	9.140	3.014
13	Jharkhand	88.932	59.288	148.219	113.800	34.419
14	Karnataka	61.270	40.847	102.117	92.980	9.137
15	Kerala	127.790	85.193	212.983	205.810	7.173
16	Ladakh	8.550	0.412	8.962	6.300	0.129
17	Lakshadweep	9.000	-	9.000	0.850	0.420
18	Madhya Pradesh	106.650	71.100	177.750	125.230	52.520
19	Maharashtra	103.062	68.708	171.769	169.030	2.739
20	Manipur	41.850	4.650	46.500	37.300	9.200

21	Meghalaya	35.825	3.981	39.806	36.750	3.056
22	Mizoram	53.120	5.902	59.022	51.760	7.262
23	Nagaland	12.150	1.350	13.500	13.500	0.000
24	Odisha	92.220	61.480	153.700	125.370	1.013
25	Pondicherry	33.280	-	33.280	17.670	15.610
26	Punjab	118.460	78.973	197.433	169.020	28.413
27	Rajasthan	118.180	78.787	196.967	179.480	17.487
28	Sikkim	40.480	4.498	44.978	38.990	5.988
29	Tamil Nadu	167.590	111.727	279.317	267.080	12.237
30	Telangana	172.221	114.814	287.035	215.830	71.205
31	Tripura	108.290	12.032	120.322	95.340	24.982
32	Uttar Pradesh	279.781	186.521	466.302	405.430	60.872
33	Uttarakhand	84.375	9.375	93.750	86.110	7.640
34	West Bengal*			0.000	0.000	
Total		**2656.525**	**1407.363**	**4063.888**	**3336.900**	**664.349**

* As per Ministry directive, West Bengal had returned the funds to Consolidated Funds of India.

Annexure II

The details of Physical Progress of PMGSY-I as on 20.01.2023 is as under:

S. No.	Name of State/ UT	Sanctioned			Completed			Balance		
		No. of roads	Road Length (in Km)	No of Bridges	No. of roads	Road Length (in Km)	No of Bridges	No. of roads	Road Length (in Km)	No of Bridges
1	Andaman And Nicobar	67	103.28	0	25	53.33	0	42	49.15	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	4,438	13,768.10	254	4,417	13,231.66	247	21	101.3	7
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,308	13,833.06	230	1,184	12,662.19	166	124	1,140.34	64
4	Assam	8,365	26,942.91	1,333	8,259	26,723.20	1,260	106	74.89	73
5	Bihar	17,565	55,138.00	1,212	17,313	52,576.75	1,096	252	697.53	116
6	Chhattisgarh	7,825	34,671.88	346	7,536	32,493.18	340	289	1,025.76	6
7	Goa	70	155.85	0	70	155.33	0	0	0	0
8	Gujarat	4,413	11,535.32	48	4,413	11,397.03	48	0	0	0
9	Haryana	426	4,572.10	0	426	4,565.22	0	0	0	0
10	Himachal Pradesh	3,466	20,603.34	103	3,285	19,578.14	93	181	715.06	10
11	Jammu And Kashmir	3,094	18,373.77	232	2,660	17,130.57	168	434	924.75	64
12	Jharkhand	7,237	25,546.97	499	7,171	24,761.85	471	66	167.47	28
13	Karnataka	3,277	16,359.37	36	3,277	16,357.16	36	0	0	0
14	Kerala	1,374	3,308.37	1	1,357	3,224.64	1	17	56.35	0
15	Madhya Pradesh	18,950	75,945.10	658	18,928	72,926.71	608	22	70.62	50
16	Maharashtra	5,610	24,782.81	685	5,593	24,145.30	666	17	69.4	19
17	Manipur	1,858	11,347.94	208	1,666	10,288.69	121	192	1,051.31	87
18	Meghalaya	1,080	4,265.23	100	925	3,684.01	68	155	561.23	32
19	Mizoram	345	4,288.48	0	296	4,178.31	0	49	93.71	0
20	Nagaland	343	4,154.45	48	321	4,070.11	41	22	84.7	7
21	Odisha	15,826	61,122.41	525	15,775	58,566.17	503	51	172.82	22
22	Punjab	1,050	6,937.21	0	1,050	6,912.44	0	0	0	0
23	Rajasthan	16,804	66,045.98	26	16,804	63,772.67	25	0	0	1
24	Sikkim	961	4,794.50	99	870	4,488.88	52	91	246.19	47
25	Tamilnadu	7,678	16,319.53	97	7,678	16,168.40	97	0	0	0
26	Tripura	1,361	4,931.29	63	1,310	4,571.51	52	51	187.97	11
27	Uttar Pradesh	17,577	50,331.53	0	17,575	49,427.03	0	2	9.7	0
28	Uttarakhand	2,298	19,371.45	361	2,013	18,264.58	166	285	918.46	195

29	West Bengal	7,002	34,523.54	36	6,897	33,976.59	30	105	243.37	6
30	Telangana	2,924	10,191.86	284	2,895	9,825.95	275	29	142.55	9
31	Ladakh	129	1,128.12	2	113	935.56	2	16	172.49	0
	Total	**164,721**	**645,393.77**	**7,486**	**162,102**	**621,113.12**	**6,632**	**2,619**	**8,977.10**	**854**

2. The details of Physical Progress of PMGSY-II as on20.01.2023 is as under:

S.No.	Name of State/ UT	Sanctioned			Completed			Balance		
		No. of roads	Road Length(in Km)	No of Bridges	No. of roads	Road Length(in Km)	No of Bridges	No. of roads	Road Length(in Km)	No of Bridges
1	Andaman and Nicobar	48	96.66	0	0	0	0	48	96.66	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	174	1,330.95	2	174	1,290.42	2	0	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	80	550.91	7	75	508.75	7	5	37.83	0
4	Assam	250	1,721.48	65	221	1,714.26	48	29	7.11	17
5	Bihar	345	2,456.47	103	333	2,425.70	89	12	19.91	14
6	Chhattisgarh	179	2,240.71	0	179	2,200.54	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	109	1,180.31	40	109	1,171.81	40	0	0	0
8	Haryana	88	1,042.24	18	88	1,015.74	18	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	112	1,251.16	1	84	1,156.18	1	28	89.69	0
10	Jammu And Kashmir	121	679.55	7	94	651.24	5	27	17.58	2
11	Jharkhand	165	1,641.81	6	165	1,633.19	5	0	0	1
12	Karnataka	314	2,241.18	11	314	2,218.16	11	0	0	0
13	Kerala	149	582.89	3	137	547.61	1	12	30.28	2
14	Madhya Pradesh	374	4,984.50	245	368	4,884.52	235	6	15.85	10
15	Maharashtra	385	2,618.91	108	384	2,585.91	108	1	1.61	0
16	Manipur	55	325	3	31	240.21	1	24	84.67	2
17	Meghalaya	94	489.96	12	57	386.21	1	37	100.58	11
18	Mizoram	6	194.25	0	1	63	0	5	130.75	0
19	Nagaland	13	227.6	5	2	104.7	4	11	122.9	1
20	Odisha	636	3,672.39	30	633	3,648.06	29	3	4	1

21	Pondicherry	45	106.13	0	0	28.51	0	45	77.62	0
22	Punjab	123	1,342.82	7	123	1,330.80	7	0	0	0
23	Rajasthan	401	3,464.26	6	401	3,468.63	6	0	0	0
24	Sikkim	34	120.99	0	20	110.5	0	14	9.66	0
25	Tamilnadu	860	2,940.42	34	860	2,936.47	34	0	0	0
26	Tripura	42	307.23	1	23	220.01	0	19	85.41	1
27	Uttar Pradesh	963	7,614.28	2	963	7,508.67	2	0	0	0
28	Uttarakhand	112	905.83	7	99	887.6	0	13	14.1	7
29	West Bengal	291	2,518.25	22	280	2,466.21	8	11	38.78	14
30	Telangana	114	944.08	17	114	896.02	17	0	0	0
31	Ladakh	13	79.33	1	11	77.84	1	2	1.6	0
Total		**6,695**	**49,872.54**	**763**	**6,343**	**48,377.45**	**680**	**352**	**986.58**	**83**

3. The details of Physical Progress of RCPLWEA as on 20.01.2023 is as under:

S.No.	**Name of State/ UT**	**Sanctioned**			**Completed**			**Balance**		
		No. of roads	**Road Length (in Km)**	**No of Bridges**	**No. of roads**	**Road Length (in Km)**	**No of Bridges**	**No. of roads**	**Road Length (in Km)**	**No of Bridges**
1	Andhra Pradesh	194	1,557.99	45	124	935.9	14	70	603.73	31
2	Bihar	153	1,980.80	82	85	1,439.60	46	68	526.05	36
3	Chhattisgarh	386	3,093.73	88	197	1,781.83	11	189	1,298.56	77
4	Jharkhand	303	2,407.96	207	79	1,211.34	66	224	1,194.35	141
5	Madhya Pradesh	37	346.15	46	3	48.89	14	34	296.21	32
6	Maharashtra	46	619.68	108	14	251.01	71	32	368.67	37
7	Odisha	52	528.85	2	27	371.34	0	25	156.13	2
8	Uttar Pradesh	25	541.3	11	19	372.33	3	6	168.5	8
9	Telangana	146	1,023.70	112	3	306.89	21	143	716.05	91
Total		**1,342**	**12,100.14**	**701**	**551**	**6,719.12**	**246**	**791**	**5,328.25**	**455**

4. The details of Physical Progress of PMGSY-III as on 20.01.2023 is as under

S.No.	**Name of State/ UT**	**Sanctioned**			**Completed**			**Balance**		
		No. of	**Road Length**	**No of Bridges**	**No. of**	**Road Length(in**	**No of Bridges**	**No. of**	**Road Length**	**No of Bridges**

		roads	(in Km)		roads	Km)	(in Km)	roads	(in Km)	
1	Andhra Pradesh	298	2,308.58	2	188	1,461.30	0	110	801.45	2
2	Assam	584	3,755.96	56	251	2,417.55	0	333	1,333.73	56
3	Bihar	712	6,000.67	195	9	349.17	1	703	5,651.06	194
4	Chhattisgarh	534	5,605.61	112	463	5,530.17	9	71	51.7	103
5	Gujarat	304	3,015.37	0	158	1,857.25	0	146	1,125.86	0
6	Haryana	259	2,496.33	0	182	1,942.36	0	77	535.93	0
7	Himachal Pradesh	45	440.18	0	0	0	0	45	440.18	0
8	Jammu And Kashmir	155	1,272.44	0	0	0	0	155	1,272.44	0
9	Jharkhand	444	4,085.48	143	0	93.95	0	444	3,991.53	143
10	Karnataka	826	5,607.85	116	446	4,146.65	61	380	1,394.28	55
11	Kerala	143	686.23	0	7	71.1	0	136	612.78	0
12	Madhya Pradesh	1,077	12,364.56	606	543	9,322.97	180	534	2,952.22	426
13	Maharashtra	842	5,477.56	0	3	89.96	0	839	5,386.39	0
14	Odisha	1,408	9,400.08	92	358	4,251.23	3	1,050	5,106.12	89
15	Punjab	206	2,083.99	16	33	646.2	0	173	1,434.95	16
16	Rajasthan	643	6,156.45	6	559	5,559.56	2	84	544.93	4
17	Tamilnadu	1,154	4,448.54	0	826	3,042.08	0	328	1,386.25	0
18	Tripura	32	231.64	0	0	0	0	32	231.64	0
19	Uttar Pradesh	2,507	18,563.01	4	834	7,068.32	4	1,673	11,384.16	0
20	West Bengal	144	857.26	0	0	0	0	144	857.26	0
21	Telangana	356	2,395.84	100	78	1,073.82	0	278	1,303.62	100
Total		**12,673**	**97,253.63**	**1,448**	**4,938**	**48,923.63**	**260**	**7,735**	**47,798.46**	**1,188**

(RLoP 95 Tables, Pg 106-110)

Annexure III

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ (2022-2023)

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, THE 09th FEBRUARY, 2023

The Committee sat from 1600 hrs. to 1730 hrs. in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe Building, (PHA), New Delhi.

PRESENT

Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi -- *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri A.K.P. Chinraj
3. Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey
4. Shri Narendra Kumar
5. Shri Janardan Mishra
6. Shri Talari Rangaiah
7. Smt. Gitaben Vajesingbhai Rathva
8. Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah
9. Dr. Alok Kumar Suman
10. Shri Shyam Singh Yadav

Rajya Sabha

11. Shri Dineshchandra Jemalbhai Anavadiya
12. Smt. Shanta Chhetri
13. Shri Iranna Kadadi
14. Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa

Secretariat

1. Shri D. R. Shekhar	-	Joint Secretary
2. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram	-	Director
3. Shri Vinay P. Barwa	-	Deputy Secretary

Representatives of the Department of Rural Development

(Ministry of Rural Development)

1.	Shri Shailesh Kumar Singh	:	Secretary
2.	Dr Ashish Goel	:	Addl. Secretary (RD) & DG (NIRD&PR)
3.	Dr G. Narendra Kumar	:	DG (NIRD&PR)
4.	Shri Charanjit Singh	:	Additional Secretary (RL)
5.	Shri K.R. Meena	:	Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor
6.	Shri Praveen Mahto	:	Chief Economic Advisor
7.	Shri Amit Shukla	:	Joint Secretary
8.	Shri Amit Kataria	:	Joint Secretary
9.	Shri Naveen Kumar Shah	:	Joint Secretary
10.	Ms Nita Kejrewal	:	Joint Secretary
11.	Shri Karma Zimpa Bhutia	:	Joint Secretary
12.	Ms Smriti Sharan	:	Joint Secretary
13.	Shri Gaya Prasad	:	Deputy Director General
14.	Shri R.D. Chouhan	:	Chief Controller of Accounts
15.	Ms Kalyani Mishra	:	Economic Advisor

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for taking the evidence of the representatives of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants (2023-24) relating to Department of Rural Development.

[Witnesses were then called in]

3. After welcoming the witnesses, the Chairperson drew the attention of the Department that the discussions held here would be treated as confidential and not to be made public till the Report of the Committee is presented to Parliament. The Chairperson then broadly mentioned about the scheme-wise funds allocation of the Department for the year 2023-24 and requested the Secretary to brief about the

variations in the budgetary allocation as compared to previous financial year alongwith other issues afflicting the implementation of the schemes. Thereafter, the Secretary, Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) made a Power Point Presentation *inter-alia* highlighting allocations viz. utilisation of funds in different years so far alongwith the budgetary allocation for the year 2023-24 and the progress made under different schemes like MGNREGA, PMGSY, DAY-NRLM, PMAY-G, etc.

4. Thereafter, the Members raised queries on issues, ranging from adequacy of budget for different schemes/projects, its impact on the implementation of the schemes and the progress made by the Department for the attainment of targets under various schemes which were responded by them.

5. The Chairperson then thanked the representatives of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development) and asked them to furnish written information on points raised by the Members on which the replies were not readily available within three days, to this Secretariat.

[The Witnesses then withdrew]

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

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Annexure IV

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ (2022-2023)

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, THE 13 MARCH, 2023

The Committee sat from 1530 hrs. to 1555 hrs. in New Committee Room No.'1', Parliament House Annexe Extension Building, Block - 'A' (PHA-Ext. 'A'), New Delhi.

Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa -- *Chairperson (Acting)*

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri A.K.P. Chinraj
3. Shri Rajveer Diler
4. Dr. Mohammad Jawed
5. Shri Narendra Kumar
6. Shri Janardan Mishra
7. Smt. Gitaben Vajesingbhai Rathva
8. Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah
9. Shri Vivek Narayan Shejwalkar
10. Dr. Alok Kumar Suman
11. Shri Shyam Singh Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

12. Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla
13. Shri Dineshchandra Jemalbhai Anavadiya
14. Smt. Shanta Chhetri
15. Shri Ram Shakal
16. Shri Ajay Pratap Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri D. R. Shekhar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram - Director
3. Shri Vinay P. Barwa - Deputy Secretary

2. At the outset, in the absence of Chairperson, the Committee under Rule 258 (3) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha chose Shri Naranbhai J. Rathwa, MP to act as Chairperson for the sitting. The Acting Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee convened for consideration of following three Draft Reports of the Committee:-

(i) Draft Report on Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development);

(ii) XXX XXX XXX XXX

(iii) XXX XXX XXX XXX

3. Draft Reports were taken up for consideration one-by-one and after discussion; the Committee adopted the above Draft Report without any modifications. The Committee then authorized the Acting Chairperson to finalize the aforesaid Draft Reports and present the same to the Parliament at the earliest as the concerned Ministries have been listed in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha for discussion.

The Committee then adjourned.

XXX Not related to the Draft Report