

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3173

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2014

ACTIVITIES UNDER MGNREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the activities undertaken under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme;
- (b) whether some States have requested the Union Government to include more activities such as construction of houses under National Gramin Awaas Mission, restoration of lakes, water harvesting etc., if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce quality parameters for works undertaken under the Scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the mechanism put in place to monitor the works undertaken under the Scheme and the steps taken by the Government to remove implementation deficiencies including corruption there under;
- (e) whether the Government has asked the States to focus on rainwater harvesting/ roof-top rainwater harvesting structures under the Scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

(a) & (b) Details of permissible works under Schedule 1 of MGNREGA, 2005 are given in Annexure. This list has been modified for considering various suggestions received from the States and other stakeholders.

(c) Quality parameters for works undertaken under MGNREGA are incorporated in Chapter 14 of MGNREGS operational guidelines 2013 as one of the desired objectives of the implementation of MGNREGS. Further, the States/UTs have been asked to deploy State Quality Monitors (SQMs) to inspect the quality of assets created under MGNREGS. The reports of SQMs are to be uploaded on the program website www.nrega.nic.in.

(d) Works undertaken under MGNREGA are periodically reviewed in the PRCs, labour budget meetings, performance review meetings and regional review meetings.

The steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of MGNREGA are as follows:

At least 60% of the works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water and trees.

The wage-material ratio for works taken up by agencies other than Gram Panchayats would be considered at the district level to facilitate taking more durable assets.

The associated outcomes of each work would be estimated before taking up the work and the same would be measured after completion of the work – thereby bringing in more focus on outcomes.

The quality of the assets is sought to be improved through better planning and closer technical supervision.

States/UTs have been asked to operationalize the provision relating to compensation for delayed wage payments as per Para-29, Schedule II of MGNREGA 2005.

States/UTs have been asked to strengthen Social audits of MGNREGS works in accordance with the provisions of the Audit of Schemes Rules 2011 issued in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

With a view to avoid bogus attendance and to check instances of tampering and misuse of muster rolls, the e-Muster system has been introduced.

For smooth fund flow, the electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS) has been introduced which would also reduce delays in payment of wages.

All States have been requested to appoint Ombudsman at the district level for grievance redressal.

The Ministry has established a comprehensive system of monitoring and review mechanism for MGNREGA, which, inter alia, include visits of Area Officers of the Ministry and National Level Monitors and Vigilance & Monitoring Committee meetings at the State/ District levels.

To facilitate states to engage technical assistants/barefoot engineers for better technical planning and supervision of works under MGNREGA, guidelines have been issued to allow their establishment cost as a part of material cost of works instead of administrative cost.

Formulation of State Convergence Plan in 21 States.

(e) & (f) The Government from time to time has issued guidelines/ advisories with a view to give special focus on rainwater harvesting/ roof-top rainwater harvesting structures, the latest of which has been issued on 7th August 2014.

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a)&(b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3173 for 11.12.2014.

I. Category: A:PUBLIC WORKS RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT –

(i) Water conservation and water harvesting structures to augment and improve groundwater like underground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams, check dams with special focus on recharging ground water including drinking water sources;

(ii) Watershed management works such as contour trenches, terracing, contour bunds, boulder checks, gabion structures and spring shed development resulting in a comprehensive treatment of a watershed;

(iii) Micro and minor irrigation works and creation, renovation and maintenance of irrigation canals and drains;

(iv) Renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of irrigation tanks and other water bodies;

(v) Afforestation, tree plantation and horticulture in common and forest lands, road margins, canal bunds, tank foreshores and coastal belts duly providing right to usufruct to the households covered in Paragraph5; and

(vi) Land development works in common land.

II. Category B: INDIVIDUAL ASSETS FOR VULNERABLE SECTIONS (ONLY FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN PARAGRAPH 5)

(i) Improving productivity of lands of households specified in Paragraph 5 through land development and by providing suitable infrastructure for irrigation including dug wells, farm ponds and other water harvesting structures;

(ii) Improving livelihoods through horticulture, sericulture, plantation, and farm forestry;

(iii) Development of fallow or waste lands of households defined in Paragraph5 to bring it under cultivation;

(iv) Unskilled wage component in construction of houses sanctioned under the Indira AwaasYojana or such other State or Central Government Scheme;

(v) Creating infrastructure for promotion of livestock such as, poultry shelter, goat shelter, piggery shelter, cattle shelter and fodder troughs for cattle; and

(vi) Creating infrastructure for promotion of fisheries such as, fish drying yards, storage facilities, and promotion of fisheries in seasonal water bodies on public land;

III. Category C: COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NRLM COMPLIANT SELF HELP GROUPS

(i) Works for promoting agricultural productivity by creating durable infrastructure required for bio-fertilizers and post-harvest facilities including pucca storage facilities for agricultural produce; and

(ii) Common work-sheds for livelihood activities of self-help groups.

IV. Category D: RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

(i) Rural sanitation related works, such as, individual household latrines, school toilet units, Anganwadi toilets either independently or in convergence with schemes of other Government Departments to achieve 'open defecation free' status. and solid and liquid waste management as per prescribed norms.

(ii) Providing all-weather rural road connectivity to unconnected villages and to connect identified rural production centres to the existing pucca road network; and construction of pucca internal roads or streets including side drains and culverts within a village;

(iii) Construction of play fields;

(iv) Works for improving disaster preparedness or restoration of roads or restoration of other essential public infrastructure including flood control and protection works, providing drainage in water logged areas, deepening and repairing of flood channels, chaur renovation, construction of storm water drains for coastal protection;

(v) Construction of buildings for Gram Panchayats, women self-help groups' federations, cyclone shelters, Anganwadicentres, village haats and crematoria at the village or block level.

(vi) Construction of Food Grain Storage Structures for implementing the provisions of The National Food Security Act 2013 (20 of 2013); (vii) Production of building material required for construction works under the Act as a part of the estimate of such construction works.

(viii) Maintenance of rural public assets created under the Act; and

(ix) any other work which may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government in this regard.