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STARRED QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY SHRI T.D. SHIRA, MLA, DURING THE BUDGET SESSION OF THE MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2011.

*7. Will the Minister in-charge Community & Rural Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a road from Rongronghat to Gra village and from Gra to Gabil village under Rongrong and Gabil G.S. Circle of Songsak Block has been constructed with the help of a machine like J.C.B through a contractor ?

STARRED QUESTION TO BE ASKED BY SHRI T.D. SHIRA, MLA, DURING THE BUDGET SESSION OF THE MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2011.

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REPLY:

<p>*7. Will the Minister in-charge Community & Rural Development be pleased to state:-</p> <p>Whether it is a fact that a road from Rongronghat to Gra Village and from Gra to Gagil Village under Rongrong and Gabil G.S. Circle of Songsak Block has been constructed with the help of a machine like J.C.B. through a Contractor?</p>	<p>No Sir.</p>
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SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE

1. No machines were used.
2. No contractors were engaged.
3. No report in this regard has also been brought to the notice of the Block Development Officer, Songsak Community & Rural Development Block, either from the field staff of the Office or the Public.

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Secretary
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly

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Meghalaya Legislative Assembly

ENQUIRY REPORT

Enquiry regarding the Starred Assembly Question on the 'use of J.C.B. for construction of road from Rongrong to Gra village and from Gra to Gabil village.

Date of Enquiry : 10th March, 2011.
Place : Gabil Village.

Findings

On enquiry, the following findings were obtained :

1. Both the roads mentioned above had been constructed by the job-card holders of MGNREGS in the form of unskilled manual labour in the month of July and August, 2010.
2. Payments had been made accordingly to all the workers as wages for unskilled manual labour.
3. It was only after the completion of these roads under MGNREGS, that 2 (two) bamboo traders/businessmen, namely Shri Bashim Husain and Shri Chep Sangma of Bajendoba, approached the village people of Gra and Gabil villages, and only after obtaining permission from the respective AECs and VECs of Gra and Gabil, brought the J.C.B. and used it on the same roads constructed under MGNREGS, to widen them and also to remove big boulders and rocks that could not be removed by manual labour, on their own expense, so as to enable movement of bamboo-laden vehicles on these roads.
4. No payment was made for the J.C.B. from MGNREGS funds.

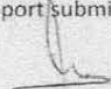
Conclusion

It was ascertained that the roads were indeed constructed by the job-card holders of MGNREGS, in the form of unskilled manual labour, and paid accordingly, from the MGNREGS funds, after submission of Muster Rolls. But, no payment was made from the MGNREGS funds for use of the J.C.B. or any such machine.

It was also ascertained that only after completion of these roads under MGNREGS, a J.C.B. was indeed used on the same roads, but it was brought by the two bamboo traders on their own expense, so as to enable movement of their bamboo-laden vehicles, only after consultation with the AECs and VECs of Gra and Gabil and after obtaining permissions from them.

Enclosed : *Statements of AEC President and Secretary, duly signed by the Sardar and witnesses, Gram Sevak of Gabil Gram Sevak Circle.*

Report submitted by



(M. R. Marak)
Block Development Officer
Songsak Development Block
East Garo Hills.

Supplementary notes on Assembly question asked by Shri T.D. Shira regarding use of JCB

1. What action has been taken against those who have violated the guidelines by using JCB for the roads constructed under Songsak Block?

The matter has been inquired into and the report has been received. It is reported by the District programme Officer that the physical verification was carried out and confirmed that construction of road from Rongronghat to Gra village and from Gra to Gabil village was constructed by jobcard holders of the said Village Employment Councils. In due course of time, the same road constructed under MGNREGA was improvised and widened with machinery like JCB by local bamboo traders viz Shri Chep Sangma and Shri Bassim Hussain with their own expenditure. No payment was made for the JCB from MGNREGS funds.

2. Was the permission of the VEC functionaries taken prior to use of JCB?

Yes, prior permission was obtained by bamboo suppliers.

3. What does the guideline say regarding implementation of works under MGNREGA?

Guidelines say that works prescribed under Schedule I of the Act should be taken up and minimum 60:40 ratio of wage and material ratio should be followed. This should be made applicable at the Gram Panchayat (AEC), Block, and district level.

50% of the work in terms of costs should be executed by the Gram Panchayat (AEC) and 100% of works should be allotted to Gram Panchayat (AEC). Other implementing agencies may be District or Block Panchayats, Govt Departments, Cooperative Societies, SHGs or reputed NGOs identified by DPC depending on the resources and expertise of the agency.

No machinery should be used and no contractors should be engaged for the work. All works should be executed by workers having jobcards and who have demanded for work. Muster rolls should be maintained and each work should have unique number to avoid duplicacy.

To ensure sustainable assets are created and a holistic approach to planning, a project approach should be adopted towards defining a work. No person below the age of 18 should be permitted to work under MGNREGA.

4. Who supervise the work at the village to ensure quality of work and participation of jobcard holders?

For supervision of work and recording attendance of work, a Mate should be designated for each work. For maintaining quality of works, Technical Assistants and Junior Engineers are responsible.

5. Is there any provision under MGNREGA for maintenance of assets?

The maintenance of assets created under the scheme (including protection of afforested land) is considered as permissible work under MGNREGA. The same applies to the maintenance of assets created under other programmes but belonging to the sectors of works approved under Schedule I of the Act.