GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1422 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02/08/2024

FUNDS ALLOCATION UNDER MGNREGS

1422 SHRI AJIT KUMAR BHUYAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government acknowledges that the funds allocated for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) being lower than the previousyear thereby causing many States to run into a negative account;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by Government to address the delaysin payments to the workers; and
- (c) the details of the MGNREGS funds allocated to the State of Assam, district-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a)&(b): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand-driven wage employment scheme. Funds release to States/UTs is a continuous process and the Central Government is committed to making funds available to States/UTs for the implementation of the Scheme as per the demand for work on the ground.

The allocation of fund for Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the FY 2023-24 at Budget Estimate (BE) stage was Rs. 60,000 crore, which was enhanced to Rs. 86,000 crore at the Revised Estimate (RE) stage. Final release during the Financial Year 2023-24 to the States/UTs under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS was an amount of Rs. 88,554.76 crore.

For the financial year 2024-25, budget allocation of Rs. 86,000 crores for Mahatma Gandhi NREGS has been provided, which is the highest-ever allocation under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS at the BE stage.

The Ministry seeks additional funds for the scheme from the Ministry of Finance as and when required to meet the demand for work on the ground. It is also submitted that while Material expenditure is shared between Centre and State in the ratio of 75:25, the wage expenditure is fully funded by Central Govt. and is transferred directly into the account of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers.

(c): There is no State/UTs-wise allocation of funds under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS and funds are released to the State, not individual districts.

Details of funds released to the State of Assam under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the last five financial years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 and current Financial Year 2024-25 (as on 29.07.2024) are given below:

Central fund released to the State of Assam (Rs. in lakh)	
2019-20	168752.5
2020-21	260233.5
2021-22	222026.01
2022-23	205234.8
2023-24	222138.4
2024-25	68050.37
