

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2364
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/12/2025

PENDING PAYMENT UNDER MGNREGS

2364 Smt. Rajani Ashokrao Patil:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) number of wage payments pending under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) states with highest pendency under MGNREGS;
- (c) reasons for delays;
- (d) steps to ensure timely fund release; and
- (e) measures for transparency in payment systems?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand-driven wage employment scheme.

Under the Scheme, the Wage payments are directly credited by the Central Government to the accounts of the beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer protocol. Sanctions for Wage payments are issued daily by the Ministry through the Public Finance Management System (PFMS) based on fund transfer orders received from the States/ UTs after following due procedures. At the beginning of each financial year, admissible pending liabilities of the previous years, if any, are duly reimbursed by the Government of India. Accordingly, all due and admissible pending wage liabilities upto FY 2024-25 have already been cleared (except in case of State of West Bengal).

With regard to Material and Admin components, States/UTs are required to furnish fund release proposals to the Government of India. The Central Government releases funds periodically in two tranches with each tranche consisting of one or more installments, keeping in view the “agreed to” Labour Budget, demand for works, opening balance, pace of utilization of funds, pending liabilities, overall performance and subject to submission of relevant documents by the States/UTs.

Under the Scheme, in the current financial year 2025-26 (as on 14.12.2025), an amount of Rs. 71,140.75 crore has been released to the States/Union Territories, which includes Rs.59,983.78 crore for Wage component and an amount of Rs.11,156.96 crore for Material and Admin Components. As Sanction for payment of Wages are issued by Ministry on a daily basis through PFMS (Public Finance Management System), after receipt of funds transfer orders from States/UTs after following the due procedures, the fund release status keeps updating on a daily basis.

The pending liabilities for the wage component under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, as on 15.12.2025, are Rs. 1,766.35 crore.

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of pending liabilities for Wage under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS as on 15.12.2025 are given at **Annexure**.

(d) & (e): To ensure timely release of funds and transparency in payment system under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, the Ministry has undertaken several measures as detailed below:

1. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT): Under the Scheme, wage payments are directly credited by the Ministry into the bank accounts of workers through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) protocol. In respect of Material and Admin components, funds are released to States/UTs through the SNA-SPARSH system.
2. Public Financial Management System (PFMS): This Ministry is using the PFMS platform to monitor and ensure the efficient and timely transfer of funds to the States & UTs. This system helps in real time tracking of the fund flow and its utilization.
3. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Wage Payments: as per the provisions of the Act, beneficiaries are entitled to receive wage payments within 15 days of work completion. In order to ensure timely payment, the Government of India has issued a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to all States/UTs, which defines fixed timelines for each stage of the wage payment process from muster roll uploading to FTO approval. The Ministry along with the States/UTs has been making concerted efforts for improving the timely payment of wages. States/UTs have been advised to generate pay orders in time.
4. Regular Monitoring and Reviews: The Ministry conducts continuous monitoring through regular review meetings with States/UTs and relevant stakeholders including banks, PFMS, and NIC-DRD to identify bottlenecks and facilitate timely transfer of funds.
5. Strengthening Transparency and Accountability: Several technology-driven initiatives have been implemented, including Geo-tagging of assets, National electronic Fund Management System (Ne-FMS), National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS), Aadhar Payment Bridge System (APBS), and the Software for Estimate Calculation using Rural rates for Employment (SECURE). Further, National Level Monitors (NLMs) and regular Social Audits also enhance transparency.
6. Social Audits: As per Section 17(2) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Act, 2005, Gram Sabhas are mandated to conduct regular Social Audits of works executed under the Scheme. The Ministry has emphasized establishing institutional structures at the State/UT level for facilitating social audits in all Gram Panchayats at least twice a year. As a result, 27 States and 1 UT have established Independent Social Audit Units.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2364 dated 19.12.2025.

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of pending liabilities for Wage under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS as on 15.12.2025. (Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory (UT)	Pending Wages
1.	Andhra Pradesh	425.23
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.26
3.	Assam	5.31
4.	Bihar	18.80
5.	Chhattisgarh	8.31
6.	Goa	0.00
7.	Gujarat	82.85
8.	Haryana	0.87
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2.15
10.	Jammu And Kashmir	70.38
11.	Jharkhand	16.93
12.	Karnataka	10.50
13.	Kerala	419.32
14.	Ladakh	1.03
15.	Madhya Pradesh	207.56
16.	Maharashtra	14.55
17.	Manipur	12.56
18.	Meghalaya	4.25
19.	Mizoram	5.91
20.	Nagaland	24.79
21.	Odisha	20.78
22.	Punjab	1.69
23.	Rajasthan	10.26
24.	Sikkim	0.22
25.	Tamil Nadu	365.72
26.	Telangana	1.16
27.	Tripura	1.80
28.	Uttar Pradesh	24.13
29.	Uttarakhand	1.75
30.	West Bengal**	**
31.	Andaman And Nicobar	0.00
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	2.27
33.	Lakshadweep	0.00
34.	Puducherry	0.00
	Total	1766.35

Note: There is no pendency for the previous years under Wage Components.

**The proposal for upward revision of the Labour Budget for FY 2021-22 for the State of West Bengal was not approved by the Empowered Committee of the Department of Rural Development due to non-compliance with the directives issued by this Department. Subsequently, the release of funds to the State of West Bengal under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) was also stopped with effect from 09.03.2022 by invoking the provisions of Section 27 of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, owing to continued non-compliance with the directives of the Central Government by the State. Therefore, as per NREGASoft, the pending liability pertaining to the State of West Bengal (as on 08.03.2022) stands at ₹1457.22 crore under the wage component. The admissibility of this liability is subject to verification by the Central Government.
