

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2543**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/03/2026

**DELAYED WAGE PAYMENTS UNDER MGNREGA IN BIHAR**

2543 Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) district-wise data on the percentage of MGNREGA wage payments delayed beyond the statutory 15-day mandate, in Bihar during financial year 2023-24 and financial year 2024-25;
- (b) total quantum of delayed compensation legally owed to workers in the State under Section 3(3) of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) versus the amount actually disbursed;
- (c) specific administrative and technical bottlenecks, including Aadhaar-Based Payment System (ABPS) mismatch errors, contributing to these persistent payment delays; and
- (d) timeline for clearing all pending wage and statutory compensation arrears to mitigate rural distress and curb forced out-migration from the State?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (d): 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 West Bengal). Here it is also stated Govt. of India is committed to making sufficient funds to the States/ UTs for meeting the demand for employment at the field level subject to timely submission of required document by the concern States/UTs.

Further as per the provisions mentioned in Schedule-II of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 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. The State Government shall pay the compensation upfront after due verification within the time limits specified above and recover the compensation amount from the functionaries or agencies responsible for the delay in payment.

District wise percentage of Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs) generated within T+15 days of muster roll closure in Bihar under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) during the last two financial years is given at **Annexure**.

(b): Details of the delay compensation approved amount and delay compensation paid in Bihar under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS (as per information available on NREGASoft) during the last two financial years is given below:

2023-24		2024-25	
Delayed compensation amount approved	Delayed compensation amount paid [In Rs.]	Delayed compensation amount approved	Delayed compensation amount paid [In Rs.]
132532	34981	124706	53641

As per NREGASoft

(c): To ensure timely payment of wages to the beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS and to address the issues arising due to frequent changes in bank account numbers of the beneficiaries and subsequent non-updation, it was decided to implement Aadhar Payment Bridge System (APBS). This has been made mandatory with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

APBS helps in improving the transparency and accountability of wage distribution under the scheme and ensure faster crediting of wages in the account of beneficiaries. Aadhar Authentication also reduces leakage and corruption and ensures that only legitimate beneficiaries with verified identities receive wages. In case of failure in payment through APBS, an alternative route to make payment is available through account-based payment that is National Automated Clearing House. Currently, against total of 12.10 crore active workers Aadhaar seeding of 99.69% have already been completed. State/UTs are continuously being monitored by the Central Government for achieving 100% Aadhaar Seeding and APBS conversion in NREGASoft. As and when any issue is flagged by the State/UT or any other stakeholders, the same is resolved on priority basis.

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**Annexure**

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2543 dated 13.03.2026.

District wise percentage of Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs) generated within T+15 days of muster roll closure in Bihar under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the last two financial years.

SI. No.	District of Bihar	2023-24	2024-25
1	Araria	99.82%	99.77%
2	Arwal	96.22%	94.14%
3	Auranagabad	99.95%	97.42%
4	Banka	99.79%	98.59%
5	Begusarai	96.41%	93.59%
6	Bhagalpur	98.06%	92.91%
7	Bhojpur	99.05%	98.34%
8	Buxar	99.71%	98.91%
9	Darbhanga	94.13%	89.67%
10	Gayaji	97.99%	95.74%
11	Gopalganj	98.19%	98.46%
12	Jamui	100.00%	99.69%
13	Jehanabad	99.70%	99.20%
14	Kaimur (Bhabua)	98.09%	95.34%
15	Katihar	99.95%	99.26%
16	Khagaria	98.40%	98.53%
17	Kishanganj	100.00%	99.97%
18	Lakhisarai	99.95%	99.82%
19	Madhepura	99.85%	99.72%
20	Madhubani	94.56%	93.45%
21	Munger	98.80%	99.40%
22	Muzaffarpur	95.68%	95.69%
23	Nalanda	99.81%	98.36%
24	Nawada	99.36%	98.28%
25	Pashchim Champaran	96.59%	93.17%
26	Patna	87.93%	93.62%
27	Purbi Champaran	99.23%	96.41%
28	Purnia	99.95%	99.06%
29	Rohtas	97.41%	95.39%
30	Saharsa	100.00%	99.77%
31	Samastipur	99.56%	97.69%
32	Saran	99.10%	97.90%
33	Sheikhpura	96.45%	99.10%
34	Sheohar	96.25%	90.99%
35	Sitamarhi	99.72%	98.45%
36	Siwan	97.59%	97.13%
37	Supaul	100.00%	99.87%
38	Vaishali	98.18%	97.04%
	Average	98.32%	97.17%

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