

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3346
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/03/2026

**STEPS TAKEN TO IMPROVE FUND ALLOCATION UNDER ERSTWHILE
MGNREGA**

3346 Shri Sanjay Yadav:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) whether developed States like Tamil Nadu with 1 per cent and Kerala with 0.1 per cent of country's poor received nearly 15 per cent and 4 per cent of Central fund allocation under erstwhile MGNREGA, respectively;
- (b) State-wise details of central fund allocation of last three years under MGNREGA;
- (c) whether it is a fact that this employment guarantee scheme has been reduced to a discretionary scheme by Government to decide the States and time of implementation of the scheme; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to improve the fund allocation to poor and backward States such as Bihar?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment scheme. There is no State/UT-wise allocation of funds under the scheme. The Central Government releases funds to States/UTs keeping in view the “agreed to” Labour Budget, demand for employment at field level opening balance, pace of utilization of funds, pending liabilities, overall performance and subject to submission of relevant documents by the States/UTs. Here it is stated that in case of wage, payment are directly credited by Central Government into the account of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) protocol based on fund transfer order generated by States/UTs.

State/UT-wise (including Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Bihar) details of funds released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the last three financial years are given at **Annexure**.

In the current financial year 2025-26 (as on 15.03.2026), an amount of Rs. 82,129.18 crore has been released to the States/Union Territories, which includes Rs.66,020.63 crore for wage component and an amount of Rs.16,108.55 crore for Material and Admin.

Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, 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 employment at field level. During the current Financial Year (FY) 2025-26 (as on 16.03.2026), 99.81% of the eligible rural households have been offered employment against the demand for the employment under the scheme, reflecting effective implementation of the scheme.

Here it is also stated that, based on the need for wage employment for the workers of Bihar and the demand projected by the State accordingly, an initial agreed to labour budget of 20 Crore Person days was provided to Bihar for the FY 2025-26, which was the highest agreed to labour budget for any State/UT in the country. Further, the initial agreed to labour budget decided in the beginning of financial year is subject to revision subsequently based on demand for employment at the field level.

The Ministry also undertakes regular reviews with the States/UTs to assess fund requirements and seeks additional funds from the Ministry of Finance, as and when required, to meet the demand for employment under the Scheme.

The Ministry continues to closely monitor the implementation of the scheme and provides necessary support to States to ensure that all eligible rural households are able to access employment as per their demand under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3346 dated 20.03.2026.

State/UT-wise details of funds released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the last three financial years. (Rs. in crores)

SI. No.	States/UTs	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23
1	Andhra Pradesh	7707.21	7353.67	8008.81
2	Arunachal Pradesh	560.70	427.35	578.32
3	Assam	1929.70	2221.38	2056.49
4	Bihar	6715.83	6200.03	6402.23
5	Chhattisgarh	3354.85	2895.12	3420.39
6	Goa	3.70	0.88	5.05
7	Gujarat	1540.54	1802.26	1694.60
8	Haryana	590.19	477.87	373.99
9	Himachal Pradesh	1203.28	1000.96	1164.85
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1151.20	921.60	1051.00
11	Jharkhand	2705.64	2922.27	2719.03
12	Karnataka	5709.90	5431.67	6218.59
13	Kerala	3136.44	3532.57	3830.97
14	Madhya Pradesh	6252.03	5891.65	5707.47
15	Maharashtra	4420.32	3041.48	2545.89
16	Manipur	581.99	0.95	1086.63
17	Meghalaya	1155.09	913.86	1118.77
18	Mizoram	611.65	507.96	540.40
19	Nagaland	287.85	641.50	839.76
20	Odisha	3763.80	4906.78	4707.52
21	Punjab	1331.61	1169.84	1182.14
22	Rajasthan	7581.87	8683.98	9648.65
23	Sikkim	97.57	112.19	92.71
24	Tamil Nadu	7585.49	12616.53	9745.72
25	Telangana	3825.31	3520.87	2992.21
26	Tripura	1041.70	1043.59	925.34
27	Uttar Pradesh	9721.48	9844.25	10650.64
28	Uttarakhand	626.43	553.81	792.66
29	West Bengal *	0.00	0.00	1.33
30	Andaman & Nicobar	4.44	0.00	9.60
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu	9.02	2.21	0.00
32	Lakshadweep	0.32	0.00	24.95
33	Puducherry	40.56	58.77	69.00
34	Ladakh	85.98	62.64	1.62
	Total	85333.70	88760.50	90207.30

* Release of funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) to the State of West Bengal has been stopped since 09th March, 2022, as per the provisions of Section 27 of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, due to non-compliance with the directives of the Central Government.
