GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1763 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2017

PAYMENT OF DUES UNDER MGNREGS

1763. SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN:

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether only about 32 per cent of payments are credited within the stipulated 15 days of completion of a work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) at present and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the delay compensation is not being paid fully to the workers due to the manipulation of calculating the delay period by the authorities and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a): No Sir. 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. This has resulted in considerable improvement in the status of timely generation of pay order and leading to improvement in actual time taken to credit wages in the workers account. During the FY 2017-18 (as on 26.12.2017), 44% payments are credited in the bank account of workers within 15 days of closure of Muster Roll. The timely payment (Pay order generation) status for the last three years and the current years is given below:

Financial year	2017-18 (as on 26.12.2017)	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15
Timely generation and submission of Pay orders	85.28%	43.64%	36.92%	26.85%

- (b): As per the provisions in Schedule-II of the Act, wage seekers are entitled to receive payment of compensation for the delay, at the rate of 0.05% of the unpaid wages per day for the duration of delay beyond the sixteenth day of closure of muster roll. The MIS in NREGASoft automatically calculates the compensation amount. The Programme Officer (PO) has been authorised to verify the claims. Upon approval, the payment of compensation for delay in payment of wages are to be made upfront by the State Government. As reported by the State Governments, a sum of **Rs.75.89** crore has been paid as compensation towards delay in payment of wages, so far.
- (c): Efforts have been made by the Ministry to reduce the delay in payment of wages to the MGNREGA workers viz., timely release of funds, payment through National Electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS) for direct payment of wages into workers account, issued guidelines for monitoring of timely payment and payment of delay compensation, enabling appropriate provisions in NREGASoft to monitor timely payment of wages and payment of delay compensation. The Ministry is in constant engagement with the State Governments/ UTs through review meetings, video conferences, Mid Term Review, SMS based monitoring etc.
