

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2189
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.03.2018

WAGE PAYMENT UNDER MGNREGS

2189. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) the total percentage of delayed wage payments under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) out of the total wage payments for the financial year 2015-16, 2016-17 and the latest information for the financial year 2017-18;
- (b) the details of total compensation payable for delayed wage payment till date;
- (c) whether the entire compensation amount payable for delayed wage payments has been credited to the accounts of respective MGNREGS workers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government since 13.05.2016 when the Supreme Court delivered its judgment in Swaraj Abhiyan vs. Union of India case to expedite the wage payment process under MGNREGS?

ANSWER

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

(a): 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 orders leading to improvement in actual time taken to credit wages in the workers account.

Financial year	2017-18 (As on 05th March, 2018)	2016-17	2015-16
% of pay orders generated in time	85.73%	43.58%	36.92%
% of pay orders delayed	14.27%	56.42%	63.08%

(b) to (d): As per the provisions under Para 29 (1) of Schedule-II of the MGNREG Act, provisions have been enabled in the NREGASoft to automatically calculate the compensation payable for delay in payment of wages. This has been made operational since 3rd January, 2014. A sum of Rs. 1917 crore has been estimated as payable compensation, out of which Rs. 88.46 crore has been approved for payment of compensation after due verification. Out of the approved compensation, Rs 77.77 crore has been paid. A sum of Rs. 289.57 crore is pending for verification by the Programme Officers at the Block Level. The Ministry has been monitoring the progress of payment of compensation on daily basis.

(e): With a view to increase the timely payment, the Ministry has taken following steps:

- (i) Upscaling of National Electronic Fund management System (Ne-FMS) in 24 States and 1 UT.
- (ii) Four days intensive consultation with State Governments to strategize timely payment of wages, verification of pending compensation claims etc.
- (iii) Standard Operating Procedure for monitoring of timely payment and payment of compensation issued.
- (iv) Video conferences with States/ UTs reviewing the status of timely payment and payment of delay compensation on monthly basis.
