GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 184
ANSWERED ON 20/12/2022

IMPACT OF BIFURCATION IN RELEASE OF CENTRAL FUNDS

*184. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is true that an ombudsman report for Ernakulam district in Kerala has found that the delay in disbursement of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) wages is disproportionately affecting Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the general categories of workers due to bifurcation of the Central funds release to them; and
(b)   if so, the action taken by the Union Government for common fund release to all categories of workers uniformly in the country?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) & (b):   A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 184 for 20.12.2022

(a):   Yes, Sir. As per information shared by the State Government of Kerala the Ombudsperson, Ernakulam district had given a report in the previous financial year 2021-22 to the State Government stating that the disbursement of wages to the workers, particularly Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) categories, were delayed due to the bifurcation of the central fund release. This was examined by Central Government and necessary favorable order was issued in this regard.

(b):   In the previous financial year 2021-22, category-wise (SC, ST and Others) Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs) for the release of wage component under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme were generated. The same was done to accurately reflect the budgetary flows for the SC & ST categories. However, based on the assessment of the performance of the new system and representations received on the subject, the same has been revised to the earlier system of single FTO for all categories from the current financial year 2022-23 (April, 2022).

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