GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 226 ANSWERED ON 19/12/2023

MGNREGS IN BIHAR

*226. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds allocated and released under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) during each of the last five years in the country, State and UT-wise particularly Bihar;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to cover agricultural activities in the farms of the Small and Marginal farmers under the said Scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the wages and bring uniformity in wages thereunder;
- (d) whether the Government has paid the outstanding amount to Bihar under this Scheme, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government has formulated any plan to link the accounts of small and marginal farmers under the said Scheme and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 226 for 19.12.2023.

(a): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme. The details of funds allocation at Budget Estimate stage, Revised Estimate stage and fund released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS are given below:

			(Rs. in crore)
Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Release
2018-19	55,000.00	61,830.09	61,829.55
2019-20	60,000.00	71,001.81	71,687.71
2020-21	61,500.00	1,11,500.00	1,11,170.86
2021-22	73,000.00	98,000.00	98,467.84
2022-23	73,000.00	89,400.00	90,810.99

State/UT-wise details of funds released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the financial years from 2018-19 to 2022-23 are given at Annexure.

- (b): No, Sir. However, under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, there are 266 permissible works out of which 150 works are related to Agriculture & Allied Activities, which in-turn supports the farmers who are eligible for benefit of the scheme. As per para 4(3) of Schedule-I of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, "works which are non-tangible, not measurable, repetitive such as, removing grass, pebbles, agricultural operations, shall not be taken up".
- (c): As per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the Central Government may by notification specify the wage rate for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate every financial year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every financial year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year. However each State/UT can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government.
- (d): Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, States/UTs furnish funds release proposals to Government of India. The Ministry releases funds periodically in two tranches with each tranche consisting of one or more installments, keeping in view the "agreed to" Labour

Budget, demand for works, opening balance, pace of utilization of funds, pending liabilities, overall performance and subject to submission of relevant documents by the States/UTs.

Funds release to States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is committed to making funds available to States/UTs for the implementation of the Scheme as per the demand for work on the ground.

During the current financial year 2023-24 (as on 11.12.2023) an amount of Rs.4,252.73 crore has been released towards wage, material & administrative contingency to the State of Bihar under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

As on 11.12.2023, an amount of Rs. 46 crore is pending liability for wage component and Rs. 341 crore is pending liability for material component in respect of State of Bihar under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

(e): Under the scheme, wage payment for unskilled works is made directly into the Bank/Post office account of the beneficiaries (which includes small and marginal farmers, if they have worked as an unskilled workers).

Annexure referred in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 226 dated 19.12.2023.

State/UT-wise details of funds released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the financial years from 2018-19 to 2022-23 (Rs. in lakh) SI. States/UTs 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 No. 1 **Andhra Pradesh** 657110.67 | 720472.46 | 1030509.79 | 718267.16 798909.30 2 Arunachal 19800.64 21020.01 34027.69 45374.43 57757.99 Pradesh 3 Assam 103097.37 | 168752.49 | 260233.46 222026.01 205234.84 4 Bihar 281936.01 325093.78 728423.57 540736.96 639528.76 289476.07 264031.92 5 Chhattisgarh 394347.98 389433.98 338355.40 Goa 48.83 216.76 356.91 3.81 511.53 7 Gujarat 102449.67 74758.23 147812.01 161524.32 169207.36 34829.10 33812.58 76355.62 72267.99 37398.62 Haryana Himachal 75090.72 | 59748.12 94833.37 97575.08 115747.62 Pradesh 10 Jammu and 79334.12 118370.31 115231.99 95013.74 105061.12 Kashmir 11 Jharkhand 149989.63 127292.89 342408.42 306382.91 270863.73 12 Karnataka 297813.10 | 546271.17 550099.46 | 602807.73 622528.20 13 Kerala 234048.78 352016.95 428677.68 355193.00 381842.70 14 Madhya Pradesh 452909.74 471894.15 908672.51 847908.76 570213.49 15 Maharashtra 194892.31 167066.42 160025.70 205645.71 254973.07 16 Manipur 28698.66 | 61074.66 | 130673.85 56310.74 108663.26 78903.38 102443.59 17 Meghalaya 128416.59 112166.07 111691.95 18 Mizoram 39783.58 52507.57 59045.38 54891.55 53871.87 19 Nagaland 19322.98 33044.70 48382.14 56945.51 89744.90 20 Odisha 216328.30 | 243278.38 | 521529.26 | 568015.17 463836.25 21 Punjab 57826.49 74886.26 123913.55 125759.36 118213.27 22 Rajasthan 524471.10 726747.87 892076.25 986774.85 966299.14 23 Sikkim 8269.34 11016.55 11241.97 9255.39 9586.17 24 Tamil Nadu 488286.16 | 555969.31 | 878881.54 963813.22 970662.48 25 Telangana 295817.48 | 222132.13 | 411121.10 410519.85 298868.14 26 Tripura 43543.49 73113.77 119498.53 98888.29 92203.45 27 Uttar Pradesh 530494.79 | 601701.90 | 1201410.42 | 850956.51 | 1062900.83 28 Uttarakhand 59004.61 45580.30 88626.63 64203.24 79284.44 29 West Bengal 718525.61 | 850761.08 | 1145405.21 | 750780.15 @0.00 30 Andaman and 960.42 761.93 583.78 485.89 763.16 Nicobar Islands 31 Lakshadweep 15.97 23.82 0.00 30.05 0.00 32 Puducherry 1461.29 1691.87 1307.28 2494.55 2683.69 33 Ladakh 0.00 0.00 2248.57 5904.39 6893.31 Dadra and Nagar 484.00 0.00 0.00 34 Haveli 0.00 161.87 0.00 Daman & Diu 0.00 0.00

@Release of funds to the State of West Bengal has been stopped as per provision of Section 27 of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 due to non-compliance of directives of Central Government.