GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 348 ANSWERED ON 05/12/2023

DELAY IN MGNREGS WAGES

348. SHRI RAHUL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the lack of timely release of funds to the states has impacted job creation under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds released during each of the last four years, State-wise;
- (d) the details of additional funds released by the Finance Ministry during the said period;
- (e) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to address the issue of delay in wage payment due to inadequate fund allocation; and
- (f) whether the Government has assessed the impact of delay in MGNREGS wage payment on rural households and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a)&(b): Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven scheme. This is a fall-back option in absence of Regular Employment. A total of 221.60 crore persondays has been generated so far (as on 30.11.2023), which is more than the persondays generated during the same period in the last financial year i.e. 208.74 crore persondays (as on 30.11.2022).

(c): State/UT-wise details of funds released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the financial years from 2019-20 to 2022-23 are given at Annexure.

(d): The details of funds allocation at Budget Estimate stage, Revised Estimate stage under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS are given below:

		(Rs. in crore)
Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate
2019-20	60,000.00	71,001.81
2020-21	61,500.00	1,11,500.00
2021-22	73,000.00	98,000.00
2022-23	73,000.00	89,400.00

(e): Fund release to the States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is committed to making funds available keeping in view the demand for work. The Ministry seeks additional fund for implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS from the Ministry of Finance as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground.

(f): No Sir. Mahatma Gandhi NREGS beneficiaries are entitled to receive wage within 15 days of completion of work, failing which they are entitled to get delay compensation as per the provisions of the act. Delay compensation is calculated automatically in NREGASoft.

Delay compensation mechanism has been devised to ensure timely generation of fund transfer order (FTO) for wage payment. The delay compensation is paid by the State Government upfront and subsequent recovery is made from defaulting officials.

The delay compensation entitled to the concerned beneficiary, ensures that beneficiary is fairly compensated for any inconvenience caused due to the delay, and the allowances is paid in addition to the regular wage payment.

* * * * * * * *

Annexure referred in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 348 dated 05.12.2023.

State/UT-wise details of funds released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the financial years from 2019-20 to 2022-23 (Rs. in lakh)

financial years from 2019-20 to 2022-23 (Rs. in lakh)					
SI. No.	States/UTs	2019- 20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Andhra Pradesh	720472.46	1030509.79	718267.16	798909.30
2	Arunachal Pradesh	21020.01	34027.69	45374.43	57757.99
3	Assam	168752.49	260233.46	222026.01	205234.84
4	Bihar	325093.78	728423.57	540736.96	639528.76
5	Chhattisgarh	264031.92	394347.98	389433.98	338355.40
6	Goa	216.76	356.91	3.81	511.53
7	Gujarat	74758.23	147812.01	161524.32	169207.36
8	Haryana	33812.58	76355.62	72267.99	37398.62
9	Himachal Pradesh	59748.12	94833.37	97575.08	115747.62
10	Jammu and Kashmir	118370.31	115231.99	95013.74	105061.12
11	Jharkhand	127292.89	342408.42	306382.91	270863.73
12	Karnataka	546271.17	550099.46	602807.73	622528.20
13	Kerala	352016.95	428677.68	355193.00	381842.70
14	Madhya Pradesh	471894.15	908672.51	847908.76	570213.49
15	Maharashtra	167066.42	160025.70	205645.71	254973.07
16	Manipur	61074.66	130673.85	56310.74	108663.26
17	Meghalaya	102443.59	128416.59	112166.07	111691.95
18	Mizoram	52507.57	59045.38	54891.55	53871.87
19	Nagaland	33044.70	48382.14	56945.51	89744.90
20	Odisha	243278.38	521529.26	568015.17	463836.25
21	Punjab	74886.26	123913.55	125759.36	118213.27
22	Rajasthan	726747.87	892076.25	986774.85	966299.14
23	Sikkim	8269.34	11016.55	11241.97	9255.39
24	Tamil Nadu	555969.31	878881.54	963813.22	970662.48
25	Telangana	222132.13	411121.10	410519.85	298868.14
26	Tripura	73113.77	119498.53	98888.29	92203.45
27	Uttar Pradesh	601701.90	1201410.42	850956.51	1062900.83
28	Uttarakhand	45580.30	88626.63	64203.24	79284.44
29	West Bengal	850761.08	1145405.21	750780.15	\$0.00
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	583.78	485.89	763.16	960.42
31	Lakshadweep	23.82	0.00	30.05	0.00
32	Puducherry	1691.87	2683.69	1307.28	2494.55
33	Ladakh	0.00	2248.57	5904.39	6893.31
34	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	161.87
	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.