GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 438 ANSWERED ON 04/02/2025

BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS FOR THE MGNREGS

438. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that budgetary allocations for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) have consistently fallen short of the demand projected by the Government, if so, the reasons for these budgetary shortfalls;
- (b) the details of the budget allocations, revised estimates and actual expenditures for MGNREGS during the last five years in the country;
- (c) the total amount of pending wage payments under MGNREGS, State-wise including Bihar;
- (d) the reasons for delay in wage disbursement under MGNREGS and the average duration of these delays during the past year; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to ensure timely payment of wages of MGNREGS workers and to address the funding gaps in MGNREGS?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a)& (b): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme and Government is committed to making sufficient fund available in order to meet the demand for work at ground. For the financial year 2024-25, budget allocation of Rs. 86,000 crores has been made at Budget Estimate (BE) stage, which is the highest ever allocation under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS at the Budget Estimate (BE) stage since inception. The details of funds allocation at the Budget Estimate stage, Revised Estimate

stage and fund released under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the last five financial years and current financial year 2024-25 (as on 28.01.2025) are given below:

			(Rs. in crore)
Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Release
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
2023-24	60,000.00	86,000.00	89,268.30
2024-25 (As on 28.01.2025)	86,000.00		82,421.05

- (c): State/UT-wise (including Bihar) details of pending liabilities for wage component under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS as on 27.01.2025 are given at Annexure.
- (d)&(e): As per the provision of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, the beneficiaries are entitled to get wage payment within 15 days of closure of Muster Roll of the work. Government of India has also issued a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to the States to ensure timely wage payment. 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. The Ministry has taken various steps to ensure timely payment of wages to workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). These include:
- (i) Upscaling of National Electronic Fund Management System (Ne-FMS)
- (ii) Intensive consultation with State Governments and other stakeholders to strategise timely payment of wages, verification of pending compensation claims etc.
- (iii) Formulation of Standard Operating Procedure for monitoring of timely payment and payment of compensation.

(iv) During Annual Action Plan finalization meeting, Mid-Term review meeting, Labour Budget revision meeting, Monthly review meeting, as well as State/UT visit by senior officers, the issue of the status of timely payment of wages and payment of delay compensation is also reviewed.

These initiatives have helped in timely generation of Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs) within 15 days from the closure of muster rolls. The details of FTOs generated within 15 days during last three financial year and current financial year (as on 29.01.2025) is given below:

Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs) generated within 15 days from the closure of muster rolls under Mahatma Gandhi NREG during the last three financial year and current financial year (as on 29.01.2025).

Financial Year	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
% Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs) generated within 15 days	98.47	97.91	92.5	96.54

(As per NREGASoft)

Annexure referred in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 438 dated 04.02.2025.

State/UT-wise details of pending liabilities for wage					
component under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS as on 27.01.2025					
(Rs. in c	rore)				
SI. No.	States/UTs	Pending liabilities for wage component			
1	Andhra Pradesh	67.35			
2	Arunachal Pradesh	28.65			
3	Assam	140.34			
4	Bihar	670.01			
5	Chhattisgarh	175.86			
6	Goa	0.33			
7	Gujarat	62.67			
8	Haryana	26.06			
9	Himachal Pradesh	89.60			
10	Jammu and				
10	Kashmir	72.13			
11	Jharkhand	117.45			
12	Karnataka	140.41			
13	Kerala	485.99			
14	Madhya Pradesh	261.50			
15	Maharashtra	278.61			
16	Manipur	48.00			
17	Meghalaya	65.74			
18	Mizoram	17.73			
19	Nagaland	3.73			
20	Odisha	118.22			
21	Punjab	64.71			
22	Rajasthan	472.54			
23	Sikkim	3.24			
24	Tamil Nadu	1652.45			
25	Telangana	15.46			
26	Tripura	114.59			
27	Uttar Pradesh	1214.85			
28	Uttarakhand	22.26			
31	Puducherry	1.09			
32	Ladakh	2.37			
Total		6433.95			
