

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2568
ANSWERED ON 16/12/2025**

PENDING WAGES UNDER MGNREGS

2568. Dr. T Sumathy Alias Thamizhachi Thangapandian:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received representations from the Government of Tamil Nadu regarding large pending wage dues under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) including the communication made by the State's Finance Minister in January 2025 flagging unpaid arrears of approximately 1,635 crore from late 2024 onwards;**
- (b) if so, the reasons for the delay in releasing these funds and the number of workers affected;**
- (c) the total amount of MGNREGS wage and material liabilities currently pending for Tamil Nadu; and**
- (d) the timeline by which the Ministry proposes to clear these dues and ensure uninterrupted wage payments for rural workers in the State?**

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. Funds release to States/UTs is a continuous process. Under the Scheme, the wage payments are directly credited by the Central Government to the accounts of the beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer protocol. Sanctions for wage payments are issued daily by the Ministry through the Public Finance Management System (PFMS) based on fund transfer orders received from the States/ UTs after following due procedures. At the beginning of each financial year, admissible pending liabilities of the previous years, if any, are duly reimbursed by the Government of India. Accordingly, all due and admissible pending wage liabilities

upto FY 2024-25 have already been cleared (except in case of State of West Bengal).

Ministry has received representations from the Government of Tamil Nadu regarding pending wage dues under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

During financial year 2024-25, an amount of Rs. 5,984.03 crore has been released to Tamil Nadu for wage component under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

With regard to Material and Admin components, States/UTs are required to furnish fund release proposals to the Government of India. The Central Government 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.

Under the Scheme, in the current financial year 2025-26 (as on 11.12.2025), an amount of Rs. 6,497.06 crore has been released to Tamil Nadu, which includes Rs. 5,836.20 crore for wage component and an amount of Rs.660.86 crore for Material and Admin. As Sanction for payment of wages are issued by Ministry on a daily basis through PFMS (Public Finance Management System), after receipt of funds transfer orders from States/UTs after following the due procedures, the fund release status keeps updating on a daily basis.

(c) & (d): As on 10.12.2025, the total pending liabilities of wage payment in respect of State of Tamil Nadu are Rs. 304.8 crore and an amount of Rs. 622.21 crore is pending liability for material component. Central government is committed to release admissible pending liabilities to the State as per established procedure.
