GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1151 ANSWERED ON 03/12/2024

RELEASE OF FUNDS UNDER MGNREGS 1151. SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENTbe pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount allocated for Jharsuguda and Bargarh districts in Odisha under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS); and
- (b) whether the Government has taken any step to ensure timely release of funds to meet local employment demands?

ANSWER

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

(a): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand-driven wage employment scheme. Wage payments are directly credited by the Central Government to the account of beneficiaries through the Direct Benefit Transfer protocol.

Details of expenditure incurred in Jharsuguda and Bargarh districts of Odisha under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the three financial years from 2022-23 to 2024-25 (as on 28.11.2024) are given below:

Total Expenditure (Rs. in crore)			
District of Odisha	2024-25 (as on 28.11.24)	2023-24	2022-23
Jharsuguda	23.94	54.91	56.36
Bargarh	64.20	156.41	165.33

(As per NREGASoft)

During the current financial year 2024-25 (as on 28.11.2024) an amount of Rs. 3,031. 49 crore has been released towards wage, material & administrative contingency to the State of Odisha under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

(b): The Ministry has made concerted efforts to reduce delays in payment of wages. A Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) on timely payment process for direct payment into the account of beneficiaries was issued and its implementation by the States/ UTs is being monitored on a regular basis. In addition, use of platforms such as PFMS/NeFMS has enabled real-time monitoring of the payments. The Ministry has taken various steps to ensure timely payment of wages to workers under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. These include:

(i) Implementation of National Electronic Fund Management System (Ne-FMS). It has been implemented in all States and 3 Union Territories.

(ii) Intensive consultation with State Governments and other stakeholders to ensure timely payment of wages, verification of pending compensation claims etc.

(iii) Formulation of Standard Operating Procedure for monitoring of timely payment of wages and payment of delay compensation.

(iv) States/UTs are regularly requested to ensure the timely regeneration of rejected transactions and correction of invalid accounts as per information provided by PFMS.

(v) Aadhaar Based Payment System (ABPS) has been made mandatory since January 1, 2024, to ensure faster, safer, and timely wage disbursement to beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

(vi) Capturing of real-time attendance through the National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS).

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