Regarding MNREGS in Tamil Nadu

SHRI K. ESWARASAMY (POLLACHI): Hon Chairman Sir, thank you for this opportunity. Majority of the marginalized people who are below poverty line are the beneficiaries of 100-day employment guarantee scheme, MNREGA in Tamil Nadu. They are totally dependent on the daily wages that they would earn by doing work under MNREGA. The livelihood and daily needs are totally dependent on MNREGA wages for such people. But the Union Government has kept pending the dues to Tamil Nadu under MNREGA to the tune of RS 4034 Crore for the last four and half months. I urge that this due amount should be immediately released to Tamil Nadu. On behalf of people of Tamil Nadu and on behalf of MPs from Tamil Nadu, I urge that this pending amount be released to Tamil Nadu.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Whatever he said, I think so, you need not repeat. You must associate yourself.

SHRI K. ESWARASAMY: In order to protect the livelihood of the people of Tamil Nadu the amount delayed under MNREGA should be released.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Same issue. You are raising the same issue.

***SHRI K. ESWARASAMY:** If we see the approved labour budget under MGNREGA for the year 2024-2025 by the Union Government, it is 50 percent less than the approved labour budget for the Year 2023-2024 under MNREGA by the Union Government.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: What is your demand? What is demand from the Government of India? What is the demand?

*SHRI K. ESWARASAMY: Since there is a deficit in the approved labour budget, it has created a situation unable to extend work to the beneficiaries of MNREGA in Tamil Nadu throughout the year. I therefore urge that the labour budget for man days should be as approved earlier during the year 2023-2024.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: It is a demand-driven Scheme. If state will demand. I think so, it is not a Scheme which is target-based.

***SHRI K. ESWARASAMY:** Sir, if you give money, why would we ask for? You have kept it pending for the last four and a half months. People are agitated. People demand their wages that is due to them. These people are marginalized and even those belonging to Scheduled castes.

I therefore urge the Union Government to immediately release all the wages dues to all the people under MNREGA to Tamil Nadu.

Thank you.