GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4608 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019

DELAYS IN RELEASE OF WAGES TO WORKERS

4608. SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a)whether it is true that there are significant delays in release of wages to workers under various Government schemes;
- (b)if so, the details thereof, Statewise and year-wise since 2014; and
- (c)whether the Government has developed a Central Monitoring System to ensure regular and timely release of wages to scheme workers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (c): No sir, The Payment of Wages Act, 1936 has been amended by Payment of Wages (Amendment) Act, 2017 (effective from 28.12.2016) to enable the employers to pay wages to their employees by (a) cash or (b) cheque or (c) crediting to their bank account. The amendment in the Act also enables the appropriate Government to specify the industrial or other establishment, by notification in the Official Gazette, the employer which shall pay to every person employed in such industrial or other establishment, the wages only by cheque or by crediting in his bank account.

For the Government schemes like MGNREGA, Government has been making all efforts to pay wages in time. States/UTs have been advised to generate pay orders in time. This has resulted in considerable improvement in the status of timely generation of pay order and leading to improvement in actual time taken to credit wages in the workers account. During the current financial Year 2019-20 (as on 18.07.2019), 98.03% pay orders have been generated within 15 days. The delay in payment of wages are due to implementation issues in the States which include inadequate staffing, non-timely recording and reporting of attendance, measurement, data entry, generation of wage list, Fund Transfer Order (FTO), etc.
