

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:93

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013

MGNREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds demanded and released and utilized by the States/UTs under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of the persondays generated under the Scheme during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints regarding nonpayment/delay in payment of wages under MGNREGS;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor during each of the last three years and the current year along with the amount of such wages involved in the complaints, State/UT-wise;
- (e) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure timely payment of wages;
- (f) the present wage rates prevailing in various States/UTs under the Scheme, State/ UT-wise; and (g) the details of average wage days per worker provided under the Scheme during the said period, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a): The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a demand driven wage employment programme. Central funds are released to the States/UTs on the basis of agreed to Labour Budgets and taking into consideration the performance and utilization of available funds. The State/UT-wise details of central release and expenditure under MGNREGA during each of last three years and current year, are at Annexure-I.

(b): Details of persondays generated under the scheme during the last three years and current year are at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d): The Ministry receives a large number of complaints including misuse of funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the country including non-payment/delay in payment of wages. Since the implementation of the Act is vested with the State Governments in accordance with the Schemes formulated by them as per the provisions of the Act, all complaints received in the Ministry are forwarded to the concerned state Governments for taking appropriate action including investigation, as per law. The State wise number of complaints that have been received during each of the last three years and the current year at the Ministry level are indicated at Annexure-III.

(e): Measures taken up under MGNREGA for timely payment of wages are:

With a view to ensuring timely payment, infusing transparency and enhancing the integrity of wages payment, Schedule II of MGNREG Act was amended to ensure wage disbursement to MGNREGA workers through institutional accounts in Banks or Post Offices (unless specifically exempted).

To reduce time required in payment of wages, State Governments have been instructed to roll-out electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS).

To strengthen the institutional outreach for wage disbursement, State Governments have been instructed to roll out the Business Correspondent Model to make wage payment through Banks with Biometric authentication at GP/village level.

Various advisories have been issued to States/UTs to check delays in payments. A time schedule for payment of wages has been suggested to the States/UTs to reduce administrative delays.

Permissible administrative expenditure limit was enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for MGNREGA, strengthening management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure.

(f): The present wage rates prevailing in various States/UTs under the MGNREGA are given in Annexure-IV.

(g): The State/UT wise details of average days per households under MGNREGA during last three years and current year are given at Annexure-V.