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Title: Need to ensure timely release of funds under MGNREGA to Odisha.

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important issue concerning my State of Odisha.

I would like to mention that the funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in respect of the financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15, have not been released yet. In spite of repeated requests made by the State, the Ministry of Rural Development had sanctioned only Rs. 757 crore instead of the due amount, that is, Rs. 1,364 crore. Due to non-receipt of the remaining amount under this scheme, the State Government of Odisha has been facing difficulties in paying the wages and other liabilities.

Hence, I would request the Minister concerned to ensure timely release of funds to Odisha along with the pending balance of the financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15. Thank you.