

No. J-11011/09/2016-RE-I (351523)
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
(MGNREGA Division)

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110114
15th November, 2016

1/11

To

The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary
Rural Development Department
(Incharge MGNREGS)
All States/UTs

Subject: Mahatma Gandhi NREGS-Delay in payment of Wages to workers - reg.

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware timely payment of wages within a fortnight of the date of closure of the muster roll is mandated by Section 3(3) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, 2005. Para 29(1) of the Schedule- II of the Act stipulates that in case the payment of wages is not made within fifteen days from the date of closure of the muster roll, the wage seekers shall be entitled to receive payment of compensation for the delay, at the rate of 0.05% of the unpaid wages per day beyond the sixteenth day of closure of muster roll. Further, any delay in payment of compensation beyond a period of fifteen days from the date it become payable, shall be considered in the same manner as the delay in payment of wages.


2. Despite necessary directives to the States/ UTs from time to time, the delay in payment of Wages continues to be alarming. In this regard, latest advisory was issued on 6th September, 2016 (*Annexure-I*) urging for regular reviews at the State level for ensuring timely payment of wages to the MGNREGA workers.

3. However, review of the MIS Report for the period from 5th to 10th November, 2016 reveals that though there is slight improvement in 15 States but overall, the percentage of delayed payment has increased from 45.6% to 51% (*Annexure-II*).

4. It is once again requested to take appropriate measures to ensure timely payment of wages to the workers within the stipulated time period. You are also requested to share your strategies in this matter with the Ministry by 25th November, 2016.

Yours faithfully,

Encl.: As above


(Aparajita Sarangi)
Joint Secretary to the Government of India
Tele-fax: 23383553

अमरजीत सिन्हा
AMARJEET SINHA



सचिव ANNEXURE - 1
भारत सरकार
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001
SECRETARY
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development
Department of Rural Development
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
Tel.: 91-11-23382230, 23384467
Fax: 011-23382408
E-mail: secyrd@nic.in

DO # Secy(RD)/Misc/2016

September 6, 2016

Subject: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
(MGNREGS) - Ensuring timely payments

I am writing to you on a very important subject of ensuring timely payment of wages under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). Section 3(3) provides for disbursement of wages under MGNREGS for work done not later than a fortnight after the date on which such work was done. The NREGASoft-MIS also tracks the percentage of payments made within 15 days. Enclosed please find the status of delay in wage payment in Financial Year 2016-17, as on September 2016, which clearly brings out how States like Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Telangana and Tripura have managed to ensure nearly 75 per cent payments within 15 days. At the other end we have States like Chhattisgarh, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh with extremely high percentage of delayed payments. This is clearly not acceptable under the programme and requires a review at your level with the State Rural Development Department.

2. The Department of Rural Development has been making sincere efforts to provide funds on time under the MGNREGS to States. Provision of funds are made on anticipated demand based on the Labour Budget. However, on account of large demand for work in drought conditions, there are a few occasions when the provision of additional funds may take a few days. The release of funds is also dependent on the compliance to the checklists of Internal Finance Division (IFD) of the Ministry by the State Governments' Department of Rural Development. Since, compliance to the checklist developed on the basis of the General Financial Rules (GFR) is mandatory, I would like to request State Governments to kindly ensure that proposals for fund release are fully in accordance with the stipulated requirements of the General Financial Rules.

3. On account of the factors mentioned above, there may be a few days delay in release of funds by the Central Government, in spite of budget being available. Many State Governments, notably Jharkhand, have created a special fund from State budget to tide over such situations to ensure timely payment of wages. While the Central Government will make sincere efforts to ensure timely availability of funds, it depends largely on the submission of all documents as per financial requirements by the State Governments.

4. Poor households depend on MGNREGS wages and we would like to ensure 100 per cent payments within 15 days as mandated by Section 3(3) of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005. Please take periodic review at your level to ensure that we are able to achieve the desired goals. The performance of the State is readily available on the NREGASoft-MIS in the public domain. Ensuring timely wage payment will go a long way in creating greater credibility for the programme.

O/c

Yours sincerely,

sd/-

[Amarjeet Sinha]

encl: as above

To Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs

Copy to:

All Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary of Department of Rural Development.


[Amarjeet Sinha]
08/16

MGNREGA: Status of delay compensation (as on 10/11/16)

S.No.	State	Total Transactions Paid	Transactions Paid with delay	% of Transactions with Delay
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	30238154	2733276	9%
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	92371	63005	68%
3	ASSAM	3440173	1115223	32%
4	BIHAR	3162101	2298738	73%
5	CHHATTISGARH	11042217	9800221	89%
6	GOA	13557	5795	43%
7	GUJARAT	3522443	2130515	60%
8	HARYANA	651150	269791	41%
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	895024	494770	55%
10	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	117925	85455	72%
11	JHARKHAND	7092398	1773809	25%
12	KARNATAKA	6346195	3701359	58%
13	KERALA	7128299	1481476	21%
14	MADHYA PRADESH	9583812	6063159	63%
15	MAHARASHTRA	8657747	4763539	55%
16	MANIPUR	1109172	119204	11%
17	MEGHALAYA	356700	279664	78%
18	MIZORAM	216312	71876	33%
19	NAGALAND	443575	423878	96%
20	ODISHA	7690429	4824172	63%
21	PUNJAB	1657745	842905	51%
22	RAJASTHAN	15936571	3676317	23%
23	SIKKIM	144660	36080	25%
24	TAMIL NADU	45529942	39888946	88%
25	TELANGANA	16721991	2434579	15%
26	TRIPURA	3790138	941622	25%
27	UTTAR PRADESH	15161492	11346711	75%
28	UTTARAKHAND	1369887	349037	25%
29	WEST BENGAL	8326668	5864918	70%
30	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR	0	0	
31	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	
32	PUDUCHERRY	124904	124312	100%
	Total	210563752	108004352	51%