

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1229**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/12/2021

**INCREASING WAGES AND DAYS UNDER MGNREGA**

1229 SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to increase the daily wage and number of days of MGNREGA in the light of increasing unemployment and financial stress amongst the poor in rural and urban India; and
- (b) whether Government is considering for an urban employment guarantee act/program similar to MGNREGA?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) As per section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), the Central Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for unskilled work for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies wage rate under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA every financial year for unskilled workers. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rates every financial year based on Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourer (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> April of each financial year.

So far as the enhancement of guaranteed days of employment is concerned, the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to each household in rural areas whose adult members volunteers to do unskilled manual work. In addition to this, there is a provision for additional 50 days of unskilled wage employment in a financial year in drought/natural calamity notified rural areas. As per Section 3 (4) of the Act, 2005, the State Governments may make provision for providing additional days beyond the period guaranteed under the Act from their own funds.

(b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005 is applicable for Rural Areas and its implementation in Urban area is beyond the purview of the Act. As per information shared by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs there is no such proposal under consideration.

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