

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 85**  
ANSWERED ON 14/12/2022

INCREASE OF WORK DAYS FOR WOMEN UNDER MGNREGA

85 SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are lack of alternative source of income for women workers;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to increase the number of employment days from 100 to 150 days for women under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA); and
- (c) if not, whether Government proposes to set up 100 days of employment under MGNREGA on the basis of gender, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**  
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement in reply to Parts (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 85 for 14.12.2022.**

(a): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme which provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. It provides livelihood security, i.e. fall back options for livelihood for the rural households, when no better employment opportunity is available.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, requires that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work. Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a gender neutral scheme which promotes participation of women by providing wage parity with men, provision of separate schedule of rates of wages for women, facilities for crèche, work-side sheds for children, and child care services. In convergence with National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), women mates have also been introduced, which again facilitate the participation of women. The Scheme also endeavours to provide works near the residence of the beneficiaries.

The rate of participation of women (women person-days out of total in percentage) in Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the last three financial years and current financial year 2022-23 (as on 07.12.2022) is given below:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
Women participation rate (%)	54.78	53.19	54.71	55.70

(b)&(c): No, Sir.

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