

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2505**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22/03/2023

**REDUCTION IN BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR MGNREGS AND ITS IMPACT ON  
LABOUR**

2505 SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the COVID period, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) provided wages to the labourers at their homes and villages, which helped them in their sustenance;
- (b) the year-wise details of budget provisions for the scheme during the last five years;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the budget allocation under MGNREGS has been reduced in the year 2023-24; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Central Government is making wage payments directly into the Bank/Post office accounts of the beneficiary as per the DBT protocol through a National Electronic Fund Management System (Ne-FMS) for the States/UTs under Ne-FMS under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS).

During the financial year 2020-21, a total of 389.09 crore person-days had been generated and a total of 1.91 crore new job cards were issued under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

During the financial year 2021-22, a total of 363.22 crore person-days had been generated and a total of 1.22 crore new job cards were issued under the Scheme.

(b): The details of funds allocation under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS at Budget Estimate stage and Revised Estimate stage for the last five financial years from 2017-18 to 2021-22 is given below:

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate
1	2017-18	48,000	55167.06
2	2018-19	55,000	61830.09
3	2019-20	60,000	71001.81
4	2020-21	61,500	1,11,500
5	2021-22	73,000	98,000

(c) & (d): There is a budget allocation of Rs. 60,000 crores at Budget Estimate stage for Mahatma Gandhi NREGS for financial year 2023-24.

Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand-driven wage employment scheme. Funds release to States/UTs is a continuous process and Central Government is committed to making funds available to States/UTs for the implementation of the Scheme as per the demand for work on the ground.

The Ministry seeks additional funds under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS from the Ministry of Finance as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground.

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