

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 750
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023

INCREASE IN WAGE RATE NOTIFIED UNDER MGNREGS FOR PUNJAB

750 Shri Sanjeev Arora:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that wage rate notified under MGNREGS for Punjab is ₹ 303/day as compared to its neighbouring State of Haryana which is at ₹ 357/day; and
- (b) steps taken by Government to bridge the rate disparity?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): The notified wage rates of unskilled workers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in financial year 2023-24 for the State of Haryana is Rs. 357 and for the State of Punjab is Rs. 303.

(b): As per Section 6 (1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, the Central Government may by notification specify the wage rate for unskilled work for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate for every financial year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The index is different for different States/UTs as notified by Labour Bureau, Shimla. If the calculated wage rate of any State/UT is coming lower than the wage rate of previous financial year, it is being protected by maintaining the previous financial year wage rate. The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year. However State Governments can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.
