

O.I.H.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1215**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/12/2023

**MGNREGS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

1215 SHRI RAMBHAI HARJIBHAI MOKARIYA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total value of works completed under MGNREGS during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) the number of workers who have been provided employment under it;
- (c) whether there is a provision of work to MGNREGS workers within a radius of 5 kilometers; and
- (d) if so, whether there is a provision for additional payment if the work is provided beyond the radius of 5 kilometers?

**ANSWER**

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

(a)&(b): 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.

A total number of 84.35 lakh works were completed in the financial year 2020-21 under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during COVID-19 pandemic. As per NREGASoft, a total of Rs.1,11,719 crore was the total expenditure made during COVID-19 pandemic in the Financial year 2020-21.

A total number of 11.19 crore workers availed employment in the financial year 2020-21 under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during COVID-19 pandemic.

(c)&(d): Para 18 and 20 of Schedule II of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, envisages that as far as possible, employment shall be provided within a radius of five kilometres of the village where the applicant resides at the time of applying and in case the employment is provided outside the said radius, the labourers shall be paid ten per cent of the wage rate as extra wages to meet additional transportation and expenses for living.

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