

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 597**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2024

**GROUND WATER RECHARGE RELATED WORKS IN PUNJAB**

597 SHRI VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of ground water recharge related works carried out under the 139 Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme(MGNREGS) during the last three years and ongoing works during this current year in Punjab;
- (b) the total amount allocated, released and spent under various programmes mentioned above during the last three years;
- (c) the number of works started and remained incomplete under various MGNREGS projects in Punjab along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the incomplete/ongoing works are likely to be completed?

**ANSWER**

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

(a)to(d): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme, with an objective to provide not less than one hundred days of unskilled manual work as a guaranteed employment in every financial year to every household in rural areas as per demand, resulting in creation of productive assets of prescribed quality and durability.

The details of financial allocation made under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS at Budget Estimate (BE) Stage and Revised Estimate (RE) Stage and funds released in last three financial years is given below:

| (Rs. in crore) |                 |                  |             |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|
| Year           | Budget Estimate | Revised Estimate | Release     |
| 2020-21        | 61,500.00       | 1,11,500.00      | 1,11,170.86 |
| 2021-22        | 73,000.00       | 98,000.00        | 98,467.84   |
| 2022-23        | 73,000.00       | 89,400.00        | 90,810.99   |

As per Schedule I of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), public works relating to Natural Resource Management: (i) water Conservation and water harvesting structures to augment and improve ground water like underground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams, check dams and roof top rain water harvesting structures in Government or Panchayat buildings with special focus on recharging ground water including drinking water sources are permissible activities under the Scheme.

Detail of water conservation and water harvesting works completed and its expenditure in the State of Punjab under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the financial years 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 (as on 02.02.2024) is given below:

| Detail of water conservation and water harvesting works completed and its expenditure in the State of Punjab under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the financial years 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 (as on 02.02.2024). |                           |                 |                           |                 |                           |                 |                           |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 2020-21  |                           | 2021-22         |                           | 2022-23         |                           | 2023-24         |                           |
| Completed works  | Expenditure (Rs. in lakh) | Completed works | Expenditure (Rs. in lakh) | Completed works | Expenditure (Rs. in lakh) | Completed works | Expenditure (Rs. in lakh) |
| 596  | 1411.8                    | 736             | 1462.94                   | 650             | 1330.88                   | 843             | 541.77                    |

In the financial year 2023-24 (as on 02.02.2024), there are 2,383 water conservation & water harvesting works ongoing in the State of Punjab under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

The completion of works is a regular process and more emphasis is given by the Ministry for completion of incomplete works through regular review meetings and continuous monitoring.

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