

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2265**  
ANSWERED ON 20/12/2022

**DECENTRALIZATION OF MGNREGS**

2265. SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE:  
SHRI TIRATH SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is going to decentralize Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) at the grass root level in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly Maharashtra;
- (c) whether diversification will be accorded priority in place of permissible works, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons for delay; and
- (d) whether the Government has proposed to increase the rate of MGNREGS wages in many States which is much lesser than market rates?

**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.

Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment scheme with bottom up planning. The works are identified, approved and prioritized out of shelf of work by the Gram Panchayat, recommended by Gram Sabha in each State/UT as per the provision of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA). Accordingly, the works are approved and taken up by Panchayat as per the demand. The planning of works is done as per the estimated person days to be generated for the work in a financial year at the time of assessment of labour budget.

(c) As per Schedule 1 of Act, 265 works are permissible under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. As per Section 29 of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, Central Government may add new works in the permissible list of works under Schedule 1 of the Act. Adding new works under Schedule I of the Act is a regular exercise and new works are added on the basis of merit in alignment with focus and objectives of the Act. Also, the list of permissible works is reviewed annually by a Committee of Central Government having different States as member of the Committee.

(d): As per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the Central Government may by notification specify the wage rate for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate 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 financial year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> April of each financial year. However each State/UT can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government.

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