

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 65
ANSWERED ON 07/02/2023

WAGE RATES UNDER MGNREGS

*65. SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the wage rates for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers are highly fluctuating in the States and UTs;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is considering any measures to adopt a uniform wage rate in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that nominal wages under MGNREGS discourage beneficiaries to register and instead encourage them to migrate to urban areas in search of work;
- (e) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps for making the wages more fair by indexing MGNREGS wages to Consumer Price Index (CPI) -Rural as opposed to CPI-Agricultural Labour; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to Parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 65 for 07.02.2023

(a) to (c) As per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (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 1st April of each financial year. However each State/UT can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) & (f) Does not arise.
