

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4550**  
ANSWERED ON 28/03/2023

**APPOINTMENT OF MORE WOMEN AS MGNREGS MATES**

4550. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that mate positions in the worksite who control the funds and decision making under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) are mostly men;
- (b) whether the Government would be amenable to the proposal to appoint more women as MGNREGS mates; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to increase the participation of women under MGNREGS?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment Scheme. Men and women mates are deployed under the Scheme. Also, in convergence with National Rural Livelihood Mission, women mates have been introduced.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, requires that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work.

Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a gender neutral scheme which promotes participation of women by providing wage parity with men, provision of separate schedule of rates of wages for women, facilities for crèche, work-side sheds for children, and child care services.

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