

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2655
ANSWERED ON 19/12/2023**

**EMPLOYMENT DAYS FOR WOMEN UNDER
MGNREGS**

2655. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are lack of alternative sources of income for women workers;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Union Government proposes to increase the number of employment days from 100 to 150 days for women under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?**

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 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. In convergence with National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), women mates have also been introduced, which again facilitate the participation of women. The Scheme also endeavours to provide works near the residence of the beneficiaries.

The rate of participation of women (percentage of women person-days out of total in percentage) in Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the last three financial years and current financial year 2023-24 (as on 14.12.2023) is given below:

Financial Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Women participation rate (%)	53.19	54.82	57.47	59.26

(As per NREGASoft)

(c): No, Sir.

(d)&(e): Does not arise.
