

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2721  
ANSWERED ON 19/12/2023**

**GENDER WAGE GAP UNDER MGNREGS**

**2721. SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:**

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is gender wage gap under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in different States;**
- (b) if so, the reasons for difference in wage rate between women and male labourers holding job cards thereunder;**
- (c) whether MGNREGS rates will be made uniform in all the States by equalizing the wage rates between women and men;**
- (d) whether there is a difference in the cost of houses under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) and Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U), whereas the cost of construction of houses in rural areas is higher than in the city;**
- (e) if so, whether the cost of one house in both the yojanas will be the same;**
- (f) whether the work of connecting revenue villages has been done under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) but many revenue villages are yet to be connected under this yojana; and**
- (g) if so, whether the Government would issue instructions to connect the remaining revenue villages?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a)to(c): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a gender-neutral Scheme. As per the provision of the Act, the State Government shall link the wages, without any gender bias, with the quantity of work done. Currently, 59.28% of the persondays have been generated by Women Beneficiaries.**

**(d)&(e): In order to achieve the target of “Housing for All” in rural areas, the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G) with effect from 1st April, 2016 to provide assistance to construct 2.95 crore pucca houses with basic amenities by March, 2024. Out of the overall mandated target of 2.95 crore houses allocated to States/UTs under the PMAY-G, more than 2.94 crore houses have already been sanctioned to the beneficiaries and over 2.51 crore houses have already been completed as on 14.12.2023.**

**Under PMAY-G, Cabinet has approved the financial Assistance of Rs.1.20 lakh in plain areas and Rs.1.30 lakh in hilly States (including North Eastern States and UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh), difficult areas and Integrated Action Plan (IAP) districts. Additional assistance of Rs.12,000/- is extended for construction of toilets through convergence with Swacch Bharat Mission – Gramin (SBM-G), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) or any other dedicated source of funding. Further, it is mandatory to provide support of 90/95 person days unskilled wage employment at the current rates to a PMAY-G beneficiary for construction of his /her house in convergence with MGNREGS. The PMAY-G households are also provided water, LPG and electricity connections in convergence with other respective central government schemes.**

**As per the information shared by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), they are implementing Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban (PMAY-U) since June 25, 2015 to provide pucca house with basic amenities to all eligible urban beneficiaries. Government of India is providing its fixed share as Central Assistance of ₹1.5 lakh for Beneficiary Led Individual House Construction or Enhancement (BLC) vertical of PMAY-U. Average cost of construction of houses under BLC vertical of PMAY-U is ₹3.72 lakh (ranging from 3.00 to 6.00 lakh) with average State contribution of ₹0.84 lakh (ranging from ₹0.16 to 2.00 lakh) and average beneficiary contribution of 1.35 lakh (ranging from ₹0.50 to 3.75 lakh).**

**(f)&(g): The primary objective of the PMGSY is to provide connectivity, by way of an all-weather road with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures, which is operable throughout the year, to eligible unconnected habitations in rural areas. Habitations with a population of 500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-Eastern and Himalayan states, Desert areas, Tribal (Schedule V) areas and selected tribal and backward districts as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/ Planning Commission as per Census, 2001 were to be covered under the scheme, so that these habitations can have access to basic health services, education and markets for their produce. In the critical Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected blocks (as identified by MHA), additional relaxation has been given to connect habitations with population of 100+ (Census 2001).**

**The mandate of the scheme was subsequently widened and new interventions viz. PMGSY-II and PMGSY-III were added for up-gradation of the existing rural road network which connect habitations to the various facilities and services.**

**Against 1,78,184 eligible habitations of 250+ and 500+ population size identified for coverage under the scheme, 16,086 habitations have been provided connectivity by the States out of their own resources and 4,868 habitations have either been dropped or have not been found feasible. Out of the balance 1,57,230 habitations sanctioned for providing connectivity under the PMGSY, 1,56,516 have already been covered. Thus, as on 13.12.2023, 714 habitations remain to be connected.**

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