

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1511
ANSWERED ON 20/09/2020

REFORMS IN MGNREGS

1511. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the need and basis for reforms in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by the Government;
- (b) the details of provisions the Government is considering for positive changes in terms of different provisions under it;
- (c) whether any speedy mechanism been made for redressal of problem of delay in payment and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether wages (Rs. 178.44) recommended by the panel is even less than half of the National Minimum Wages(Rs. 375) , if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether any provisions have been made to solve the technical problems faced by the labourers in this and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a)&(b): The Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is constantly evolving Scheme based on the monitoring and evaluations carried out by the Ministry through National Level Monitors, Common Review Missions, Mid Term Reviews, Third Party evaluations as well as the feedback and guidance received from the Committees of Parliament, Central Employment Guarantee Council and the requests/feedback of the Ministries, State Governments and others. Modifications are made to guidelines, structures and processes in light of above factors for serving the objectives of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act more efficiently and effectively on a sustainable & sustained basis.

(c): The Ministry along with the States/UTs has been making concerted efforts for improving the timely payment of wages. National electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS) is implemented in 25 States and 2 Union Territory wherein payment of wages is being credited directly to the bank/post office accounts of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers by the Central Government through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The Ministry has issued Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) on timely payment process for direct payment into the account of beneficiaries. States/ UTs have been advised to generate pay orders in time. This has resulted in considerable improvement in the status of timely generation of pay order leading to improvement in actual

time taken to credit wages in the workers account. During the current Financial Year 2021-21 (as on 16.09.2020), around 98.58% pay orders have been generated within 15 days from the date of closure of the Muster Roll.

(d): No such panel has been constituted by this Ministry in this regard. As per section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (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 year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every 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. The wage rate for the States/UTs for the Financial Year 2020-21, notified on 23rd March, 2020 is at **Annexure-I**.

(e): The mandate of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA) is to assure upto 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult member volunteers to do unskilled manual work.

The responsibility for implementation of the Scheme is with the States/UTs. The Ministry is in constant engagement with the States/UTs through review meetings, video conferences, Mid Term Review etc. and officers of the Ministry visit to States at regular interval to review implementation of the programme. After the field visits, the findings/shortcomings including technical problems and recommendations are shared with the States for appropriate action at their end. Monitoring and supervision of all aspects including technical problems of the programme have been strengthened for improving the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

Annexure-I referred in reply to part (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1511 dated 20.09.2020

State wise wage rates as per Gazette Notification 2020

No.	Name of the State	2020-21
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	237
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	205
3	ASSAM	213
4	BIHAR	194
5	CHHATTISGARH	190
6	GUJARAT	224
7	HARYANA	309
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH - NON SCHEDULED AREA	198
8a	HIMACHAL PRADESH - SCHEDULED AREA	248
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	204
10	Ladakh	204
11	JHARKHAND	194
12	KARNATAKA	275
13	KERALA	291
14	MADHYA PRADESH	190
15	MAHARASHTRA	238
16	MANIPUR	238
17	MEGHALAYA	203
18	MIZORAM	225
19	NAGALAND	205
20	ODISHA	207
21	PUNJAB	263
22	RAJASTHAN	220
23	SIKKIM	205
23a	SIKKIM(3 Gram Panchayat namely Gnathang, Lachung, Lachen)	308
24	TAMIL NADU	256
25	TRIPURA	205
26	UTTAR PRADESH	201
27	UTTARAKHAND	201
28	WEST BENGAL	204
29	GOA	280
30a	ANDAMAN	267
30b	NICOBAR	282
31	D&N HAVELI	258
32	Daman & DIU	227
33	LAKSHADWEEP	266
34	PUDUCHERRY	256
35	TELANGANA	237