

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 470
ANSWERED ON 05/04/2022

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS UNDER MGNREGS

*470. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the total expenditure of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in 2020-21 was Rs. 1,11,443 crore and the Government decided to slash the budget for the scheme around Rs. 71,000 crore for 2021-22 and has not increased the funds in the current year;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that MGNREGS budget was fully utilized during 2021-22;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the details of less allocation while expecting demand of the scheme on the same lines as of 2022-23;
- (d) whether the fund is likely to be infused by supplementary demands in the coming days or States are to empty their coffers for this scheme; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to give grants to States till the alternative arrangements are made to fund the scheme?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH)

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

Statement in reply to Parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 470 for 05.04.2022

(a)to(e): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment programme which provide 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.

The Central Government had enhanced the financial allocation under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS for previous financial year 2020-21 from Rs. 61,500 crore at Budget Estimate (BE) stage to Rs.1,11,500 crore at Revised Estimate (RE) stage.

In the current financial year 2021-22, the budget provision at Budget Estimate (BE) stage was Rs. 73,000 crore. The Ministry had requested for additional budget allocation which has been enhanced to Rs. 98,000 crore at the Revised Estimate (RE) stage as per the requirement of funds. The Ministry seeks additional funds under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS from Ministry of Finance as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground.

Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, States submit fund release proposals to Government of India. Fund release to the States is a continuous process and Central Government is committed to making fund available to States for the implementation of the Scheme. The Ministry releases funds periodically in two tranches with each tranche consisting of one or more installments, keeping in view the “agreed to” Labour Budget, demand for works, opening balance, pace of utilization of funds, pending liabilities, overall performance and subject to submission of relevant documents by the State.

During the current financial year 2021-22 (as on 29.03.2022), an amount of Rs. 95,433.37 crore has been released by Central Government to the States/UTs under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.
