

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2413
ANSWERED ON 10/12/2024**

**DISCRIMINATION FACED BY VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES UNDER
MGNREGS**

2413. SMT. HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken actions against discrimination faced by women and poor people under the schemes like MNREGS in Punjab and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government monitor compliance with anti-discrimination laws across various sectors;**
- (c) the details of outreach programmes aimed at educating marginalized groups about their rights, State-wise; and**
- (d) the manner in which community feedback mechanisms to improve service delivery targeting vulnerable communities, women and poor people?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)**

(a) & (b): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) provides for enhancement of livelihood security of the households in the 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. It is a demand driven wage employment scheme and no discrimination is made on the basis of caste, religion and gender etc. However, in case of individual beneficiary works, there is provision for giving priority to certain categories such as women headed households, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes etc. Further, as per Schedule II Para 15 of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Act, 2005, 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. In the current financial year 2024-25(as on 06.12.2024), the participation of Women in the State of Punjab is 69.6%. As per the information shared by the Government of Punjab, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS), there is no discrimination against women, and poor. Also, priority is given for providing them work based on the demand on ground under the scheme.

(c): In rural areas, beneficiaries are being educated about their rights through initiatives such as Rozgar Diwas, Gram Sabha meetings and dissemination of awareness through IEC activities such as Wall paintings, Booklets and informative Job Cards.

(d): People from villages actively participate in Gram Sabha meetings, programs/events to give their feedback and also share the issues being faced by them in Rozgar Diwas, which is scheduled on the last Friday of every month. Further, there is a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for redressal of grievances of beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, which includes (i) registration of complaints on CPGRAM portal, (ii) raising of grievances during Social Audit conducted at Gram Panchayat level, (iii) Lodging of complaint with Ombudsperson and (iv) Lodging of complaints through JANMANREGA App etc.
