

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3944**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2022

**REDUCTION OF FUND ALLOCATION UNDER MGNREGA**

3944 SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government deliberately lowered the allocation under MGNREGA to ₹ 73,000 crore from the estimated actual expenditure of ₹ 1,11,170 crore during 2020-21;
- (b) whether Government is aware that pending bills may consume over ₹ 20,000 crores, which would further reduce the actual allocation in 2022-23 to about half the number of mandays created in the recent past; and
- (c) Government's response to West Bengal's request to increase the approved creation of 27 crore mandays for the year 2021-22 to 35 crore mandays?

**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 programme. The Central Government had enhanced the financial allocation under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS for 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 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 States.

During the 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.

(c): Empowered Committee on Labour Budget deferred the revision of Labour Budget proposal of State Government of West Bengal for the financial year 2021-22.

\*\*\*\*\*