

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1235
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022

WORK DEMANDED BY HOUSEHOLD UNDER MGNREGS

1235 SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of households demanding work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has shot up to 3.07 crore, the highest since inception of the scheme in May, 2022;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether work demanded by households in May, 2022 was 43 percent higher than the five-year average during the pre-pandemic years (2015-2019);
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to create employment in rural areas in the last three years?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment scheme, 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.

Details of the household demanded employment during the month of May in Year 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS are given below:

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of households demanded employment during the month of May (in crore)	1.64	2.53	2.57	2.08	2.48	3.73	2.66	3.07

(e) There are multifarious steps taken by the Government to create employment in rural areas in the last 3 years. Some of the notable initiatives are listed below:

- (i) Project 'UNNATI', launched in December 2019 by Government of India, is a skilling project that intends to upgrade the skill base of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers, and thereby improve their livelihoods, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full employment.

(ii) There are two skill development programme for rural youth under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), namely, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Rural Self Employment Training institutes (RSETIs). Both these programmes are aimed at increasing employability of rural youth, either for wage employment or self employment.

(iii) Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) under DAY-NRLM programme supports the Self-Help Groups and their family members to set-up small enterprises in to non-farm sector.

(iv) The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has launched the Rural Mason Training (RMT) program under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G) to address the issue of insufficient number of skilled masons for construction of quality PMAY-G houses. The initiative additionally generates livelihood opportunities for the rural workforce.

(v) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is implementing Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) under Skill India Mission for skill based training of the youth across the country (including youth belonging to rural areas) under Short Term Training (STT) courses. Under PMKVY, STT is linked to placement.

(vi) At present, third phase of PMKVY i.e. PMKVY 3.0 is being implemented. PMKVY 3.0 is a demand driven scheme with bottom-up approach and District Skill Committees (DSCs) have been entrusted with the task of identifying local demand, based on which training has been arranged in the district which strengthens the local skill capability including in the rural areas.

(vii) Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) was launched on 21st February 2016 with attempts to make the selected rural areas in form of the cluster, socially, economically and physically sustainable regions by providing economic, social and infrastructure amenities, thus leading to sustainable and balanced regional development in the country. The Mission focuses on holistic development of 300 Rurban clusters.
