

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 915
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2022

INTRODUCTION OF FLEXIBILITY AND DECENTRALISATION IN MGNREGA

915 SHRI ARUN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the employment days provided under MGNREGA in tribal areas can be increased in accordance with the recommendations made on the basis of internal study report; and
- (b) whether Government has plans to decentralise the works done under MGNREGA and make it flexible by shifting the responsibility of determining the works at the level of Gram Sabha or Panchayat keeping in view the local requirements?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, is an Act to 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 Ministry mandates the provision of additional 50 days of wage employment (beyond the stipulated 100 days) to every Scheduled Tribe Household in a forest area, provided that these households have no other private property except for the land rights provided under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.

In addition to this, there is a provision for up to additional 50 days of wage employment in a financial year in drought/natural calamity affected notified rural areas.

As per Section 3 (4) of the Act, the State Governments may make provision for providing additional days of employment beyond the period guaranteed under the Act from their own funds.

(b): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment scheme with bottom up planning. The works are identified, approved and prioritized out of shelf of work by the Gram Panchayat, recommended by Gram Sabha in each State/UT as per the provision of the Act. Accordingly, the works are approved and taken up by Panchayat as per the demand. The planning of works is done as per the estimated person days to be generated for the work in a financial year at the time of assessment of labour budget.