

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3012**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2024

**ENHANCEMENT OF WAGES AND WORKING DAYS UNDER MGNREGA**

3012 SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to enhance the working days and wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme;
- (b) the wages given by each State under MGNREGA scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount allotted to Kerala under the scheme in last five years including arrears, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the workers under MGNREGA scheme will be covered under the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) scheme?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) provides for 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. Further, the Ministry mandates the provision of an 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 providing upto an additional 50 days of wage employment in a financial year in drought/natural calamity-affected notified rural areas.

As per Section 3 (4) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, the State Governments may make provision for providing additional days of employment beyond the period guaranteed under the Act from their own funds.

(b): Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, provides that the Central Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for unskilled work for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate for every financial year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every financial year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). State/Union Territories –wise notified wage rates for unskilled workers under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS from current FY 2024-25 are at **Annexure**.

(c): Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand-driven wage employment scheme. There is no State/UT-wise (including Kerala) allocation of funds under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

Details of funds released to the State of Kerala under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the last five financial years from 2019-20 to the current financial year 2024-25 (as on 16.12.2024) are given below:

Financial Years	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Central fund released to the State of Kerala (Rs. in crore)	3,520.17	4,286.78	3,551.93	3,818.43	3,513.48	2,938.29

In the beginning of every financial year, due and admissible pending liabilities if any of the previous financial year are reimbursed by the Government of India to concerned States/UTs. Accordingly, due and admissible pending liability up to FY 2023-24 has been released.

(d): Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment Scheme which provides 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. It is not a regular/contractual employment but a fall back option for livelihood for rural households when no better employment opportunity is available. Workers under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS are not covered under the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) scheme.

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**Annexure referred in reply to part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3012 dated 20.12.2024.**

State/UT-wise wage rates for unskilled workers under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS for the current financial year 2024-25. (in Rs.)			
Sl. No.	State/UT		2024-25
1	Andhra Pradesh		300
2	Arunachal Pradesh		234
3	Assam		249
4	Bihar		245
5	Chhattisgarh		243
6	Goa		356
7	Gujarat		280
8	Haryana		374
9	Himachal Pradesh (Non-Scheduled Areas)		236
	Himachal Pradesh (Scheduled Areas)		295
10	Jammu And Kashmir		259
11	Ladakh		259
12	Jharkhand		245
13	Karnataka		349
14	Kerala		346
15	Madhya Pradesh		243
16	Maharashtra		297
17	Manipur		272
18	Meghalaya		254
19	Mizoram		266
20	Nagaland		234
21	Odisha		254
22	Punjab		322
23	Rajasthan		266
24	Sikkim		249
	Sikkim (Three Gram Panchayats named Gnathang, Lachung and Lachen)		374
25	Tamil Nadu		319
26	Telangana		300
27	Tripura		242
28	Uttar Pradesh		237
29	Uttarakhand		237
30	West Bengal		250
31	Andaman and Nicobar	Andaman District	329
		Nicobar District	347
32	Dn Haveli & Daman & Diu		324
33	Lakshadweep		315
34	Puducherry		319

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