

## Revamping of MGNREGS

**Prelims** - Indian Polity and Governance-Constitution, Public Policy.

**Mains (GS II)** - Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

### Why in news?

The recent report by Parliamentary Standing Committee on rural development and Panchayati raj chaired by Congress MP Saptagiri Sankar recommended to revamp MGNREGS.

#### MGNREGA

- **MGNREGA** - The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment (MGNREG) is the largest public employment program in the world.
  - **Implementation** - By Ministry of Rural Development.
  - **Legal provision** - The scheme is legally backed by **MGNREGA Act, 2005** which committed to provide right to work.
  - **Aim** - To enhance livelihood security of people by guaranteeing 100 days of wage-employment in a financial year to rural household.
- To know more about this, click [here](#)

### Key recommendations of the parliamentary panel

- **Increasing guaranteed workdays** - The panel recommended to increase the guaranteed working days from **100 to 150**.
- For climate mitigation and disaster relief, the panel recommended increasing work limit from 150 to 200 days under the Drought Relief Provision.

*The Drought Relief Provision under MGNREGA Act allows for an increase in guaranteed working days from the standard 100 to 150-200 days in drought-affected areas.*

- The committee recommended extending work limit for Scheduled Tribe households living in forest areas from 150 to 200 days under the Forest Rights Act.

*The provision of additional 50 days of wage employment (beyond the stipulated 100 days) to Scheduled Tribe Household was mandated by the Ministry of rural development from 2014.*

- **Revision of wages** - The panel expressed concern over wage payments not keeping

pace with inflation and stressed to raise wages to at ***least Rs 400 per day***.

- **Establish social audit Calendar** – More frequent social audits to ensure transparent and proper implementation of the scheme.
- **Independent national survey** - To assess its effectiveness and determine whether it needs revamping in light of emerging challenges.
- **Compensation for delayed wages** – The report noted *chronic delays in wage payments* and recommended increasing compensation for delayed wages.
- The committee recommended introducing a system for *manual verification and corrections to prevent eligible workers* from being removed from the program.
  - Approximately 5 million job cards were deleted in 2021-22 due to spelling errors or Aadhaar mismatches.

## Reference

[Financial Express](#) | [Revamp of MGNREGS](#)

