

: -Kumari Selja Urges Government to Reconsider New Rural Employment Scheme, Flags Risk to MNREGA.

: -The Centre Must Not Dilute MNREGA Framework: -Kumari Selja

: -Any Weakening of MNREGA Against Rural Poor: -Kumari Selja

Chandigarh / 29th, June.

The General Secretary of All India Congress Committee, CWC Member, Sirsa MP and Former Union Minister Kumari Selja expressed serious concern over the Centre's proposed rural employment scheme VB-G RAM G, scheduled to be implemented from July 1. Kumari Selja said that if the new scheme leads to additional financial burden on states, weakens workers' rights, or affects guaranteed employment opportunities, the government must immediately reconsider its decision. She said the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) has been a critical support system for millions of rural families, providing employment security,

strengthening rural livelihoods, reducing migration and supporting the rural economy.

Kumari Selja added that any structural changes to such an important welfare scheme without broad consensus could adversely affect vulnerable sections of society who depend on it for survival. She noted that objections raised by several states regarding financial sharing, wage structure and employment guarantees reflect a lack of consensus on key provisions of the proposed scheme. The Centre, she said, must take these concerns seriously. Kumari Selja further stressed that wages under rural employment programmes must be revised in line with inflation to ensure dignified living conditions for workers. She also suggested that employment provisions during agricultural seasons should remain flexible based on local requirements.

Kumari Selja urged the Centre not to rush implementation and called for wide-ranging consultations with state governments, Panchayati Raj institutions, labour organisations and experts. She reiterated that the Congress party remains committed to

safeguarding the rights of rural workers, farmers and marginalised communities.

Box:

**:-Kumari Selja Seeks Rehabilitation First for Long-Settled Poor Families in Haryana**

Chandigarh / 29th, June.

The General Secretary of All India Congress Committee, CWC member and Sirsa MP Kumari Selja has said that any action against long-settled poor families in Haryana, including those in Bhuna (Fatehabad) and other areas, must be preceded by proper and dignified rehabilitation.

Kumari Selja said that families who have been living in these settlements for 40–50 years have built their lives, raised children and depended on these areas for livelihood. Removing them without alternative arrangements would be unjust and inhumane. She said that if government land needs to be cleared for any reason, it is the responsibility of the administration to first ensure alternative

housing, basic facilities and livelihood security for the affected families.

Kumari Selja urged the state government to engage in dialogue with the affected families and find a humane and just solution. She said that development and rule of law are important, but protecting the rights, dignity and shelter of the poor is equally essential. She reiterated that eviction, if unavoidable, must always follow rehabilitation and not precede it.

Photo:-Kumari Selja.