

Bill No. 141 of 2022

THE MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT
GUARANTEE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

By

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN, M.P.

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further to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (Amendment) Act, 2022.

Short title and
commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date, as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Amendment of
schedule I.

2. In Schedule I of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, in para 4, in sub-para (1), after entry (viii) under the heading 'IV Category D RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE', the following entry shall be inserted, namely:—

42 of 2005.

"(viiia) work relating care of the elderly persons in rural areas;".

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has been helping to uplift the rural economy and the scheme is very popular in every nook and corner of the country.

The country has been witnessing an increase in the number of our senior citizens and many of them are finding and facing difficulties to pull on their remaining part of life due to many reasons. In many of the cases, it is the desertion by their daughters or sons and in many cases their daughters or sons were working abroad or staying far away from them. In many cases their daughters or sons are not able to look after them due to pathetic economic conditions. It is a regular phenomenon that we see a lot of elderly people camping in front of religious places or on the main street of towns without any help and depending upon the mercy of the people who come across them.

There are many aged people in the country who are infirm owing to illness. There is no mechanism to care for them or address their problems.

Various demands have been raised that care of the elderly people should be included in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act as this problem can be addressed to an extent if elderly care were to be included in it.

The Bill, therefore, seeks to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, with a view to provide elderly care in the rural areas.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
5 July, 2022

V. K. SREEKANDAN

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 2 of the Bill provides for covering work relating to care of elderly persons in rural areas under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005. The Bill, therefore, if enacted would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is estimated that recurring expenditure of about rupees one hundred crore per annum is likely to be involved from the Consolidated Fund of India.

No non-recurring expenditure is likely to be involved.

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT
GUARANTEE ACT, 2005

(ACT No. 42 OF 2005)

Schedule I

See section 4(3)

MINIMUM FEATURES OF A RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

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4. (1) The focus of the Scheme shall be on the following works as categorised below:

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IV. Category D: RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

* * * *

(viii) Maintenance of rural public assets created under the Act; and

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further to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

(Shri V. K. Sreekandan, M.P.)