

Bill No. 69 of 2024

THE MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT
GUARANTEE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

By

SHRI HIBI EDEN, M.P.

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BILL

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

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (Amendment) Act, 2024.

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.

42 of 2005. 2. After section 5 of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), the following sections shall be inserted,—

Insertion of new section 5A.

Timely payment of wages under the Scheme, etc.

“5A. The Central Government or the State Government may, within the limits of their jurisdiction ensure that the persons employed under the Scheme,—

(a) are paid their wages on time;

(b) are not imposed any technological change and innovations without proper consultation and training; and

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(c) are not made to suffer due to paucity of funds.”.

Amendment of Section 25.

3. In section 25 of the principal Act, for the words, “which may extend to one thousand rupees”, the words “which shall not be less than rupees ten thousand but which may extend upto rupees one lakh” shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is a flagship programme of the Government of India aimed at providing employment to rural households in the country. The success of the programme depends on the efficient functioning of its employees. However, person employed under the MGNREGS are often subject to payment delays, technological impositions, and paucity of funds, which affect their efficiency and morale.

The need is to protect the persons employed under the MGNREGS from payment delays, technological imposition, and paucity of funds. It is the responsibility of the Central Government and the State Governments concerned to take necessary steps to ensure that the persons employed under the MGNREGS are paid their wages on time, technological changes and innovations are not imposed on the employees without proper consultation and training, and there is no paucity of funds for the implementation of MGNREGS. It is also required to have a requisite penalty for non-compliance for timely payment to the persons employed under the MGNREGS.

The Bill therefore, seeks to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 with a view to put an obligation on the Central Government and the State Governments for the timely payment of wages to the persons employed under the Scheme, etc.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
July 9, 2024.

HIBI EDEN

ANNEXURE

[EXTRACTS FROM THE MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT
GUARANTEE ACT, 2005]

(ACT NO. 42 OF 2005)

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Penalty for
non-compliance

25. Whoever contravenes the provisions of this Act shall on conviction be liable to a fine which may extend to one thousand rupees.

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LOK SABHA

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Guarantee Act, 2005.

(Shri Hibi Eden, M.P.)