

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2346**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2022

**LOKPAL APP FOR MGNREGA**

2346 SHRI BRIJLAL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently launched a Lokpal App for MGNREGA, if so, the main features of the App;
- (b) whether Government has decided to stop the disbursement of funds set to be made under MGNREGA next year onwards to the States which have not appointed MGNREGA Lokpal in more than 80 per cent districts thereof; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): Ombudsperson App was launched by the Central Government on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Ombudsperson App is a big step towards e-governance, transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. This App works for smooth reporting, categorization of grievances by Ombudsperson based on complaints received from various sources viz. physical, digital and mass media, publication of awards and quick disposal of complaints. This app will enable easy tracking and timely passing of awards by Ombudsperson on each case as per the guidelines. Ombudsperson can also easily upload the quarterly and annual reports on the website through the app.

Smooth disposal of the grievances in a time-bound manner with minimal support of further human resources will be possible through the app.

(b)&(c): Section 4, Subsection 3 of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act read with Para 30 of Schedule I requires placement of an Ombudsperson for every district. These are mandatory minimum provisions applicable since 2014, which every State/UT, implementing the Scheme needs to comply with. In order to ensure the same, and thereby, bringing further improvement in transparency and accountability in implementations under the Scheme in State/Uts, as an interim measure, it has been decided that presence of ombudspersons in at least 80% districts would be insisted as a precondition for the approval of Annual Action Plan and Labour Budget for FY 2022-2023 under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

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