

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1583
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/08/2025

JOB CARDS DELETED UNDER MGNREGA

1583 Smt. RanjeetRanjan:
Shri NeerajDangi:
Shri HarisBeeran:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of job cards deleted under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) due to Aadhaar-linking failures, State-wise and year-wise since 2023;
- (b) the quantum of wages pending for more than 30 days under MGNREGA as of March 2025, State-wise;
- (c) the steps undertaken by the Ministry to address the increased demand for work under MGNREGA, the details thereof;
- (d) the measures undertaken by Government to address unemployment among semi-rural youth, the details thereof; and
- (e) the total amount of pending wage payments under MGNREGA to the State of Kerala?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a): To ensure timely payment of wages to the beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) and to address the issues arising due to frequent changes in bank account numbers of the beneficiaries and subsequent non-updation, it was decided to implement Aadhar Payment Bridge System (APBS). This has been made mandatory with effect from 1st January 2024. It is a mode of payment of wages under the scheme.

The Job cards are not deleted due to reason of non-linking of Aadhaar with bank accounts.

The responsibility of implementation of the scheme is vested with the Government of concerned States/UTs. Verification of Job Card is a regular exercise conducted by the concerned State/UT. To streamline the process of deletion of Job cards, Ministry of Rural Development has issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) vide letter dated 25.01.2025 to all States/Union Territories, with clear guidelines for deletion and restoration of job cards. The SOP ensures compliance with the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS guidelines, promotes transparency, protects the rights of workers by defining conditions for deletion, setting up a grievance redressal mechanism, and ensure the settlement of pending liabilities, if any, before deletion/cancellation. The SOP emphasizes the importance of due process, including the publication of draft lists of job cards marked for deletion, verification at Gram Sabhas, and the right of appeal for affected workers. These measures are aimed at preventing misuse of job cards while ensuring that genuine beneficiaries are not excluded. The Ministry is committed to maintaining the integrity of

Mahatma Gandhi NREGS and ensuring that the benefits of the scheme reach eligible rural households.

The Ministry continues to monitor its implementation and takes necessary measures to address any challenges faced by workers in receiving their entitlements. As and when any issue is flagged by the State/UT or any other stakeholders, same is resolved on priority basis.

(b): Under the scheme, fund release to the States/UTs is a continuous process. Wage payments are directly credited by the Central Government to the account of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer protocol.

In the current Financial Year (as on 28.07.2025), an amount of Rs. 47,567 crore has been released to the States including 100% of pending wage liabilities of FY 2024-25. As sanction for payment of wages are issued by Ministry daily through PFMS (Public Finance Management System), after receipt of fund transfer orders from States after following the due procedures, the fund release status keeps updating on a daily basis.

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of pending liabilities for wage component under Scheme as on 28.07.2025 are given at **Annexure**.

(c)& (d): Ministry of Rural Development closely monitors the demand for employment at the ground level and seeks additional funds from the Ministry of Finance as and when required. The release of funds is a continuous process, and the Government of India remains committed to providing funds as per actual demand for employment under the scheme.

During the current Financial Year (FY) 2025-26 (as on 28.07.2025), 99.80% of the eligible rural households have been offered employment against who have demanded the employment under the scheme, reflecting effective implementation.

In order to upgrade the skill base of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers, Government of India launched “Project UNNATI” in December 2019. By upgrading skill base of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers, the project intends to improve their livelihoods, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full-time employment through either self employment or wage employment. The Project aims to enhance the skill base of 2 lakh Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers. The total achievement till 31st March 2025 is 90,894 candidates.

(e): As on 28.07.2025, the total pending liabilities of wage payment in respect of State of Kerala is Rs. 280.85 crore.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1583 dated 01.08.2025.

State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of pending liabilities for wage component under Scheme as on 28.07.2025 (Rs. in crore)		
Sl No.	States/UTs	Pending liabilities for wage component
1	Andhra Pradesh	1684.39
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1.90
3	Assam	132.46
4	Bihar	893.57
5	Chhattisgarh	12.92
6	Goa	0.36
7	Gujarat	4.37
8	Haryana	11.43
9	Himachal Pradesh	4.93
10	Jammu & Kashmir	12.69
11	Jharkhand	57.76
12	Karnataka	86.89
13	Kerala	280.85
14	Madhya Pradesh	180.70
15	Maharashtra	206.06
16	Manipur	2.43
17	Meghalaya	6.41
18	Mizoram	0.85
19	Nagaland	0.18
20	Odisha	15.23
21	Punjab	103.08
22	Rajasthan	302.06
23	Sikkim	0.02
24	Tamil Nadu	297.24
25	Telangana	456.31
26	Tripura	4.49
27	Uttar Pradesh	694.76
28	West Bengal	#3038
29	Uttarakhand	3.53
30	Andaman & Nicobar	0.00
31	Lakshadweep	0.00
32	Puducherry	11.90
33	Ladakh	0.45
34	Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	0.00

Note: There is no pending liability for previous years for wage component in case of any States/UTs, except in case of State of West Bengal.

Pending liability in case of State of West Bengal includes wage, material and admin component. Release of fund to the State of West Bengal has been stopped since 9th March, 2022 as per provision of section 27 of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 due to non compliance with directives of Central Government.
