

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2387
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08/08/2025

EMPLOYMENT UNDER MGNREGA IN ODISHA

2387 Shri Muzibulla Khan:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of persons employed under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in Odisha last year;
- (b) the wage payment status and delays, if any;
- (c) whether material component utilization is as per prescribed norms;
- (d) the districts with highest demand for work; and
- (e) the new initiatives to improve job quality under MGNREGA?

ANSWER

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

(a): During the financial year 2024–25, a total of 33.77 lakh workers availed employment in the State of Odisha under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS).

(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. Sanctions for wage payments are issued daily by the Ministry through the Public Finance Management System (PFMS) based on fund transfer orders received from the States after following due procedures.

In the current Financial Year (as on 04.08.2025), an amount of Rs. 1648.03 crore has been released to Odisha for wage component, including 100% of pending wage liabilities of FY 2024-25. In addition to this an amount of Rs. 236.41 crore has been released under the material component and Rs 43.84 crore under the Admin component.

In the financial year 2025-26 (as on 04.08.2025), 99.88 % Fund Transfer Orders (FTOs) are generated within 15 days from the closure of muster rolls in the State of Odisha under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

(c): Under the provisions of the scheme, 100% of expenditure of the wage and administrative component is borne by the Central Government. Whereas 75% of the expenditure under the material component is borne by central Government and 25% is shared by the States/UTs. Further out of total expenditure, upto 40% can be spent on material component. This limit is applicable at district level.

Percentage of expenditure under material component in Odisha under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the financial year 2024-25 and financial year 2025-26 as on 04.08.2025 is given below:

Financial Year	2025-26	2024-25
Material (%)	20.03	29.98

(As per NREGASoft)

(d): District of Mayurbhanj had the highest demand for employment by households in financial year 2024-25 under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS followed by Ganjam, Sundargarh, Koraput and Kalahandi.

(e): Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment Scheme which provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. It provides livelihood security, i.e. fall back options for livelihood for the rural households, when no better employment opportunity is available.

To improve the quality of employments under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, the Government has undertaken several new initiatives. These include:

- i. **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system in wage payment has been adopted under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS). The payment of wages to the bank/ post office accounts of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers is through National Electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS)/Electronic Fund Management System (eFMS).
- ii. **National Mobile Monitoring Service (NMMS):** It enables capturing of attendance of workers at Mahatma Gandhi NREGA worksites (except for individual beneficiary works) along with geo-tagged photograph twice in a day. This app aids in increasing citizen oversight of the programme. This is one more step towards transparency and accountability.
- iii. **GIS based plan– Use of Space Technology:** GIS based GP level plan (ridge to valley approach) preparation using Remote Sensing technology in a saturation mode for all the GPs of the country.
- iv. **SECURE – Software for Estimate Calculation for using Rural Rates for Employment :-** Application is being used to estimate the cost of works to be undertaken under the scheme.
- v. **JANMANREGA app:** this app helps in proactive disclosure of information to its citizens in reference to the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. Citizen awareness is a key to efficient, effective, and transparent execution of the scheme.
