

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1584
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12/12/2025

MGNREGA WORKERS IN ASSAM

1584 Ms. SushmitaDev:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of MGNREGA workers in Assam before the introduction of mandatory e-KYC and the number after its implementation;
- (b) the total number of workers deleted from the MGNREGA database in Assam due to failure to complete e-KYC, biometric mismatch, Aadhaar authentication errors, or other technical reasons;
- (c) whether Government has verified if the workers deleted from the database were genuine job card holders, and if so, details of the verification process undertaken; and
- (d) total number of workers who have been added or re-added to the MGNREGA database in Assam after completing e-KYC since the system was introduced?

ANSWER

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

(a): Job card verification is a continuous process, as job card renewal is required to be done once in 5 years under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. To simplify and support these statutory processes, States/UTs have been requested to utilize the e-KYC feature already available in the NMMS app (National Mobile Monitoring System) for job card verification and subsequent renewal after following extant processes. This is intended to assist States/UTs in carrying out job card verification in a timely, transparent, and efficient manner. As 99.67% active workers' Aadhaar have already been seeded, e-KYC feature could be used as a simple, reliable, accurate and efficient way of verification of job cards. States have been advised to take necessary measures to make the process as smooth as possible by resolving issues like network connectivity etc. e-KYC can be done anywhere as decided by the State such as- at worksite, special camps organised by the Gram Panchayat etc. This is a progressive step aimed at strengthening transparency, efficiency, and ease of service delivery under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. The ground level functionaries have been adequately oriented, sensitized and trained through various fora to make the verification process as smooth as possible.

Verification of job cards using e-KYC started from 01.09.2025. Before the implementation of e-KYC, the total number of registered workers in Assam was 109.49 lakh; which is 116.84 lakh as on 08.12.2025. Here it is stated that process of e-KYC is still going on and in case of Assam e-KYC of 25.09% of Active workers has so far been completed.

(b) & (c): As mentioned above, the updation/deletion of Job Cards is a regular exercise conducted by the States/UTs under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. However, job card/ name of the

workers cannot be deleted due to reasons of failure to complete e-KYC, biometric mismatch, Aadhaar authentication errors, or other technical reasons. To streamline the process of deletion/addition of Job cards, Ministry of Rural Development has recently 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. It also mandates the linking of job cards with Aadhaar to eliminate duplicate and fraudulent entries. These measures are aimed at preventing misuse of job cards while ensuring that genuine beneficiaries are not excluded under the scheme.

(d): Total workers added in Assam under the scheme since start of e-KYC is 7.52 lakhs.
