

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2363
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/12/2025

EMPLOYMENT GENERATED UNDER MGNREGS

2363 Shri C. Ve. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of Rural Development be pleased to state:

- (a) the total person-days of employment generated under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the country during each of the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) whether the digital monitoring systems have been issued to prevent corruption in the implementation of MGNREGS;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to improve MGNREGS including wage rate revisions, increased workdays or skill-based employment?

ANSWER

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

(a): Year-wise details of persondays generated under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) during the last five financial years are given below:

Sl. No.	Persondays generated (in crore)	
1	2020-21	388.67
2	2021-22	363.09
3	2022-23	295.51
4	2023-24	312.16
5	2024-25	290.60

(As per NREGASoft)

(b) & (c): Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is implemented on an end-to-end integrated transaction-based Management Information System (MIS) platform called NREGASoft. Through this, all aspects relating to planning, administrative and technical approval of the scheme, issue of job cards, acceptance of demand, issue of muster roll, measurement of work, approval of payment and finally payment to the beneficiary through a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)-Public Financial Management System (PFMS) platform are monitored.

Transparency and accountability are the prime focus of the scheme. Ministry of Rural Development has adopted robust process for ensuring transparency and accountability in the implementation of the scheme across the States/UTs. A brief note on the various monitoring and

evaluation arrangements, including technological interventions made for ensuring proper utilization of the funds released under the scheme is given at **Annexure**.

(d): As per Section 6 (1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, the Central Government may by notification specify the wage rate for unskilled work for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate for every financial year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour(CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year.

Using the present methodology of wage rate calculation, the central government has notified the wage rate and it has increased by around 5% (average) over the last year and around 29% (average) in the previous 5 years. However, State Governments can provide wages over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government from its own sources.

With regard to increasing the number of working days, it is submitted that the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, is an Act to provide 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.

The Ministry mandates the provision of an additional 50 days of wage employment (beyond the stipulated 100 days) to every Scheduled Tribe Household in a forest area, provided that these households have no other private property except for the land rights provided under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006.

In addition to this, there is a provision for providing up to an additional 50 days of wage employment in a financial year in drought/natural calamity-affected notified rural areas. Further, as per Section 3(4) of the Act, the State Governments may make provision for providing additional days of employment beyond the period guaranteed under the Act from their own funds.

With regard to skill-based employment, it is submitted that the project “UNNATI” intends to upgrade the skill-base of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers, and thereby improve their livelihoods, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full employment. This project was launched in the FY 2019-20 and aims to enhance the skill base of 2 lakh Mahatma Gandhi NREGS beneficiaries in five years i.e., upto March, 2025. The total achievement till 31st March 2025 is 90,894 candidates. The project has been further extended for a period of 01 year, till 31st March 2026.

Annexure referred to in the reply to parts (b) & (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2363 dated 19.12.2025.

- 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 made 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 photographs twice in a day. This app aids in increasing citizen oversight of the programme. This is one more step towards transparency and accountability.
- iii. **Area Officer Monitoring Visit Application:** This App facilitates the officials of the State/UT to record their field visit findings online. The App also allows the officials to record time-stamped and geotagged photographs for all the schemes launched by the Department of Rural Development. Also, this App helps in developing hassle-free reporting of the field visits. This app records the field visit findings and views the field visit outcome report by the senior officials.
- iv. **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.
- v. **Yuktdhara : GIS based planning tool** – To simplify the GIS based planning at GP level under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA “Yuktdhara” a Geospatial planning portal is developed in collaboration with ISRO-NRSC.
- vi. **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.
- vii. **GeoNREGA:** the app has been developed by using Space Technology to track the creation of assets by geotagging it, at “Before”, “During” and “After” stages of the asset creation.
- viii. **JALDOOT App:** JALDOOT app has been developed to enable monitoring of ground water tables across the country. The Jaldoot app enables Gram Rojgar Sahayak (GRS) to measure the water level of selected wells twice a year (pre-monsoon and post-monsoon).
- ix. **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.
- x. **Ombudsperson App-** An Ombudsperson App has been developed for smooth reporting and categorization of grievances received from various sources viz. physical, digital and mass media related to the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, easy tracking and timely passing of awards on each case as per the guidelines and easy uploading of quarterly and annual report on the website.
- xi. **Social Audit:** As per the mandate of the Act, the Ministry has laid emphasis on the setting up of an institutional structure at the States/UTs level for facilitating social audits of all the Gram Panchayats at least twice a year. With the consistent efforts by Ministry, a total of 27 States and 1 UT have established Independent Social Audit Units.

Further, monitoring by National level monitors, regular and special monitoring, monitoring by team of central government officers, monitoring visits by Common review Mission teams, monitoring through use of Area Officers app is being conducted for better implementation of the programme. State/UT specific reviews are also undertaken from time to time.
