GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3329
ANSWERED ON 21/03/2023

RURAL-URBAN DIGITAL DIVIDE UNDER MGNREGS

3329.　SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
　　　　SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

　　　Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)　　whether the Government has been testing software for the newly introduced National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS) application that requires workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to geotagged photos in order to mark their attendance;

(b)　　if so, the details of progress made and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c)　　whether the Government is aware of the rural-urban digital divide and if so, the reasons for the implementation of digitised process of attendance; and

(d)　　whether the Government has a concrete strategy to reduce the gap of gendered and geographical digital divide in the country and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a)&(b):　A field visit to the Alwar district of Rajasthan was made for pilot testing of National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) App and after checking its applicability, the NMMS App was launched.

(c):　　To ensure more transparency in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) in the States/UTs, a provision for capturing of attendance at worksite through National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) App with geo-tagged time stamped photographs of the worker in a day has been started on 21st May 2021, wherein muster rolls were issued for 20 or more workers. This increases citizen oversight of the programme besides potentially enabling faster processing of payments.

　　　Government of India has decided that from 16.05.2022, the workers attendance will be captured only through NMMS App for all the worksites where muster rolls are issued for 20 or more beneficiaries based on the feedback and suggestions from States/UTs. One year time, thus, has been provided as transition period.

　　　Now, the Ministry has decided that States/UTs shall ensure capturing of attendance for all the works (except Individual Beneficiary works) through NMMS App from 1st January 2023.

(d):　　NMMS App is used to capture the attendance of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers. There is no requirement for having gender-based registration in the NMMS App.

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