

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2632
ANSWERED ON 19/12/2023**

DIGITAL ATTENDANCE UNDER MGNREGS

2632. SHRI ADALA PRABHAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has identified the negative impact of shifting from muster rolls to digital attendance on Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware that it has affected women workforce as women generally do not own a smartphone and are therefore dropping out from the employment scheme;**
- (d) whether the Government is also aware that due to delays caused, while registering attendance in rural areas with patchy internet connection, workers lose out on time and consequently money as part of their daily wages leading them to leave the scheme and pursue other work at lower wages; and**
- (e) if so, the steps taken to retain workers under the scheme?**

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

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): A beneficiary does not require any smartphone for work at worksite. Mobile phone is used by mate supervisor to capture attendance.

(d): To ensure more transparency in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) in the States/UTs, the Ministry has decided that States/UTs shall ensure capturing of attendance at worksite through National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) App with geo-tagged, two time-stamped photographs of the workers in a day for all the works (except individual beneficiary works) w.e.f 1 January, 2023. This increases citizen oversight of the Scheme besides enabling faster processing of payments.

Worksite supervisors are responsible for capturing attendance along with geo-tagged photographs of the workers through the NMMS App.

NMMS application has been modified to capture second photograph just after the 4 hours from capturing the first photograph. The morning attendance along with the first photograph and the second photograph can be captured in offline mode also and to be uploaded once device comes in network areas. In case of exceptional circumstances due to which attendance could not be uploaded, the District Programme Coordinator (DPC) has been authorized to approve the manual attendance. In case States/UTs faces any kind of issues or problems, the same are resolved on a priority basis.

(e): Does not arise.
