

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 316
ANSWERED ON 19/07/2022

DISCONTINUANCE OF MANUAL ATTENDANCE UNDER MGNREGS

316. SHRI V.K.SREEKANDAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has issued an order to discontinue manual attendance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) work sites with more than 20 workers by replacing it with a mobile phone based application;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that many organizations have said that the said order is a violation of the MGNREGS law and also flagged a series of technical and sociological issues with the app;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the app has been designed completely in English and there is no technical help provided to redress problems;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that having a Smartphone is now mandatory for mates to record attendance which most of them do not have the same; and
- (f) if so, whether the Government is considering withdrawing the said order and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS) App is a big step towards bringing transparency and proper monitoring of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Government of India has decided that, from May 16, 2022, the workers' attendance will be captured only through the National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) app for all the worksites wherein muster rolls are issued for 20 or more beneficiaries.

(c) There is no violation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) There is a widespread availability of smartphones in the rural areas as per **Annual Status of Education Report (Rural) 2021** of ASER Centre, which reported that 67.7% surveyed rural households have at least one smartphone. Similar data has been reported by other agencies. Thus, it is not a major bottleneck.

(f) No, Sir.
