

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 350  
ANSWERED ON 25/03/2025**

**PAYMENT OF WAGES UNDER MGNREGS**

**\*350. SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:**

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is no statistically significant difference either in timely payment of wages or payment rejections between the Aadhaar Based Payment System (ABPS) and the standard bank account based methods adopted under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that many workers of MGNREGS have repeatedly complained that their wage payments have been misdirected due to the ABPS while the names of many workers have been deleted because of a mismatch between details in their job cards and Aadhaar;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the problems with account based payments can be resolved locally through the block level computer operator whereas rejections due to ABPS are centralized and harder to resolve, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and**
- (d) whether the Government has any plans to revert back to the previous pattern of payment and attendance, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)**

**(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 350 for 25.03.2025**

**(a): To ensure timely payment of wages to the beneficiaries under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) and to address the issues arising due to frequent changes in bank account numbers of the beneficiaries and subsequent non-updation, it was decided to implement Aadhar Payment Bridge System (APBS). This has been made mandatory with effect from 1st January 2024. Payment of wages through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode has had positive impact on the livelihood of the beneficiaries as it ensures that the payment reaches directly into the accounts of the intended beneficiaries. Also, the rejection of the wage transactions has been minimised after making APBS mandatory compared to the National Automated Clearing House (NACH) payment mode in the category of reasons such as "Account closed" and "No such account." The details of total transactions for wage payments & transactions rejected for both the reasons since APBS has been made mandatory may be seen below:**

<b>Period January, 2024 to February, 2025</b>			
<b>Sl.No.</b>		<b>APBS</b>	<b>NACH</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Total transactions</b>	<b>44,67,50,519</b>	<b>1,63,39,229</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Rejected</b>	<b>43,789</b>	<b>8,98,829</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>% Rejection</b>	<b>0.0098%</b>	<b>5.50%</b>

**(b)to (d): APBS helps in improving the transparency and accountability of wage distribution under the scheme and ensure faster crediting of wages in the account of beneficiaries. Aadhar Authentication also reduces leakage and corruption and ensures that only legitimate beneficiaries with verified identities receive wages. In case of failure in payment through APBS, an alternative route to make payment is available through account-based payment that is National Automated Clearing House. Currently, against total of 13.58 crore active workers Aadhaar seeding of 99.50% have already been completed. State/UTs are continuously being monitored by the Central Government for achieving 100% Aadhaar Seeding and APBS conversion in NREGASoft. As and when any issue**

**is flagged by the State/UT or any other stakeholders, the same is resolved on priority basis.**

**Updation/deletion of Job Cards under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a regular exercise conducted by the States/UTs. Job card cannot be deleted for non-linking of Aadhaar with bank account. To streamline the process for deletion and addition of Job Cards, Ministry of Rural Development has issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) vide letter dated 25.01.2025 to all States/UTs, with clear guidelines regarding deletion and restoration of job cards. The SOP ensures compliance with the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS guidelines, promotes transparency and protects the rights of workers by defining conditions for deletion.**

**In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Ministry has decided that States/UTs shall ensure capturing of attendance at the worksite through National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) App with two-time stamped, geo-tagged photographs of the workers in a day for all the works (except Individual Beneficiary Work) through NMMS w.e.f 1st January, 2023.**

**Further, in order to avoid any inconvenience to the workers due to NMMS, it has been decided that in case any worksite is not located in network covered area or attendance could not be uploaded due to any other network issue then attendance can be captured in offline mode and can be uploaded once the device comes into network covered area. In case of exceptional circumstances owing to which attendance could not be uploaded, the provision for exemption also exists which has been further decentralized to the level of Block administration.**

**The implementation of the NMMS application has significantly improved the attendance management system and the overall efficiency of the process. NMMS boosts the credibility of attendance data and fosters trust in the overall process.**

**The NMMS application enables the generation of FTOs on the same day, thereby immensely helping in timely payment of wages.**

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