GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1367 ANSWERED ON 11/02/2025

PENDING WAGES

1367. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

PROF. SOUGATA RAY:
ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:
ADV GOWAAL KAGADA PADAVI:
SHRI HARISH CHANDRA MEENA:
SHRI K SUDHAKARAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set a timeframe, as stipulated by Section 27 of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREG) Act, 2005, to revoke the order dated March 9, 2022 under section 27 and to restart work in West Bengal;
- (b) the time by which the Government intend to pay all pending wages and material dues to West Bengal;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to implement MGNREGS properly after stopping funds;
- (d) the mechanism followed by the Government to assess the number of workers unable to register their attendance due to issues with the National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) attendance app;
- (e) the guidelines followed by the Government to ensure that no worker is denied wages due to issues with digital attendance recording on the NMMS app;
- (f) the total number of complaints filed regarding issues with the NMMS app and details of action taken, State-wise; and
- (g) the total number of attendance discrepancies between the NMMS app and physical muster rolls between April 2023 and October 31, 2024, State-wise including Rajasthan?

ANSWER

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

(a)to(c): As per the provisions of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act, 2005, it is the responsibility of the State Government to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of the scheme. In case of the State of West Bengal, based on central teams' inspection reports highlighting the implementation issues such as financial misappropriation, execution of non-permissible activities, splitting of works, lack of transparency & accountability, the Ministry sent several communications to the State for rectification of the same. However, no noticeable improvements were observed. Consequently, release of funds to the State of West Bengal has been stopped since March 9, 2022, under Section 27 of the Act due to non-compliance with Central Government directives. The latest Action Taken Report has been received from the State vide letter dated January 14, 2025.

(d) &(e): To ensure more transparency in the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the States/UTs, the Ministry has decided that States/UTs shall ensure capturing of attendance at the worksite through National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) App with geo-tagged two-time stamped photographs of the worker in a day for all the works (except Individual Beneficiary Scheme/Project) through NMMS w.e.f 1st January, 2023.

In case 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.

(f): State-wise number of complaints received on the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAM) related to the issues with NMMS app is given below:

	Number of
State	complaints
Bihar	15
Rajasthan	1
Uttar Pradesh	1
Madhya	
Pradesh	1

Odisha	1	

Appropriate action has been taken by the respective States on these complaints and action taken reports have been uploaded on the portal.

(g): There have been no reported cases of attendance data discrepancies between the NMMS app and physical muster rolls.
