GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4940 ANSWERED ON 01/04/2025

BENEFICIARIES IDENTIFICATION UNDER MGNREGS

4940. ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of mechanisms are in place to prevent bureaucratic inefficiencies, corruption, and misallocation of funds in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS); and
- (b) the manner in which the Government ensures accurate beneficiary identification and timely delivery of benefits?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme. The Scheme is implemented on an end-to-end integrated transaction-based Management Information System (MIS) platform called NREGASoft. Through this, all aspects relating to planning, administrative and technical approval of the scheme, issue of job cards, acceptance of demand, issue of muster roll, measurement of work, approval of payment and finally payment to the beneficiary through a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)-Public Financial Management System (PFMS) platform are monitored.

Transparency and accountability are the prime focus of the scheme. Ministry of Rural Development has adopted robust process for ensuring transparency and accountability in the implementation of the scheme across the States/UTs. A brief note of the various monitoring and evaluation arrangements made for ensuring the proper utilization of the funds released under the scheme is given at Annexure. Annexure referred to in reply to parts (a)&(b) of LokSabhaUnstarred Question No. 4940 dated 01.04.2025.

- i. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT): Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system in wage payment has been adopted under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS). The payment of wages to the bank/ post office accounts of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS workers is through National Electronic Fund Management System (NeFMS)/Electronic Fund Management System (eFMS).
- ii. National Mobile Monitoring Service (NMMS): It enables capturing of attendance of workers at Mahatma Gandhi NREGA worksites (except for individual beneficiary works) along with geo-tagged photograph twice in a day. This app aids in increasing citizen oversight of the programme. This is one more step towards transparency and accountability.
- iii. Area Officer Monitoring Visit Application: This App facilitates the officials of the State/UT to record their field visit findings online. The App also allows the officials to record time stamped and geotagged photograph for all the schemes launched by Department of Rural Development. Also, this App helps in developing hassle-free reporting of the field visits. This app records the field visit findings and views the field visit outcome report by the senior officials.
- iv. GIS based plan– Use of Space Technology: GIS based GP level plan (ridge to valley approach) preparation using Remote Sensing technology in a saturation mode for all the GPs of the country.
- v. Yuktdhara : GIS based planning tool To simplify the GIS based planning at GP level under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA " Yuktdhara" a Geospatial planning portal is developed in collaboration with ISRO-NRSC.
- vi. SECURE Software for Estimate Calculation for using Rural Rates for Employment :-Application is being used to estimate the cost of works to be undertaken under the scheme.
- vii. GeoNREGA: the app has been developed by using Space Technology to track the creation of assets by geotagging it, at "Before", "During" and "After" stages of the asset creation.
- viii. JALDOOT App: JALDOOT app has been developed to enable monitoring of ground water tables across the country. The Jaldoot app enables Gram RojgarSahayak (GRS) to measure the water level of selected wells twice a year (premonsoonand post-monsoon).

- ix. JANMANREGA app: this app helps in proactive disclosure of information to its citizens in reference to the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. Citizen awareness is a key to efficient, effective, and transparent execution of the scheme.
- x. Ombudsperson App-An Ombudsperson App has been developed for smooth reporting and categorization of grievances received from various sources viz. physical, digital and mass media related to the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, easy tracking and timely passing of awards on each case as per the guidelines and easy uploading of quarterly and annual report on the website.
- xi. Social Audit: As per the mandate of the Act, the Ministry has laid emphasis on the setting up of an institutional structure at the States/UTs level for facilitating social audits of all the Gram Panchayats at least twice a year. With the consistent efforts by Ministry, a total of 27 States and 1 UT have established Independent Social Audit Units.

Further, monitoring by National level monitors regular and special monitoring, monitoring by team of central level officers, monitoring visits by Common review Mission teams, monitoring through use of Area Officers app is being conducted for better implementation of the programme. Also, State/UT specific reviews are also undertaken from time to time.

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