GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2366 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025

WORKING CONDITIONS OF RURAL LABOURERS

2366. DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a)whether there are any plans to introduce new regulations aimed at improving the working conditions of rural labourers;
- (b)if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether the Government maintains data on the average number of workdays available to rural labourers annually and if so, the details thereof;
- (d)the details of the facilities and benefits currently being provided by the Government to rural labourers; and
- (e)whether the Government proposes to consider the establishment of a monitoring mechanism, such as labour tribunals at the block levels to address labour-related grievances in rural areas and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (e): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme which provides for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. It provides livelihood security, i.e. fall back options for livelihood for the rural households, when no better employment opportunity is available.

Details of average days of employment provided per household under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the last five financial years are given below:

Financial Year	Average days of employment provided per Household
2024-25	50.23
2023-24	52.08
2022-23	47.83
2021-22	50.07
2020-21	51.52

(As per NREGASoft)

The welfare measures to workers at the worksite under Schedule II of the Act are given at Annexure.

The implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is the responsibility of the respective State/UT Governments. The Ministry has a comprehensive system of monitoring and review mechanisms for the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. It regularly reviews the performance of the scheme's implementation in States/UTs through various means, such as Mid-Term Reviews, Labour Budget meetings, Labour Budget revision meetings, and programme review meetings. National Level Monitors, Common Review Missions, and officials from the Ministry visit States/UTs at regular intervals to assess the implementation of the scheme. Additionally, Social Audit and the Ombudsperson mechanism have been established to redress grievances and ensure the scheme is implemented as per the provisions of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005.

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Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 2366 for 04.08.2025.

The welfare measures to workers at the worksite under Schedule II of the Act are given below:

- (i) If any personal injury is caused to any person employed under the Scheme by any accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, he shall be entitled to such medical treatment as required, free of cost.
- (ii) Where hospitalisation of the injured worker is necessary, the State Government shall arrange for such hospitalisation including accommodation, treatment, medicines and payment of daily allowance which is not less than half of the wage rate.
- (iii) If a person employed under the Scheme meets with death or becomes permanently disabled by accident arising out of and in the course of employment, he or his legal heirs, as the case may be, shall be paid by the implementing agency an ex gratia as per entitlements under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana or as may be notified by the Central Government.
- (iv) If any personal injury is caused by accident to a child accompanying a person who is employed under the Scheme, such person shall be entitled to medical treatment free of cost; and in case of death or disablement of the child due to the said accident, ex gratia shall be paid to the legal guardians as determined by the State Government.
