

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1674
ANSWERED ON 10/02/2026**

DISABLED PEOPLE REGISTERED UNDER MGNREGS

1674. Smt. June Maliah:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that West Bengal had the highest number of disabled people registered under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that none of the disabled people were able to avail work under MGNREGS;**
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court and Calcutta High Court had ordered resumption of MGNREGS in West Bengal;**
- (d) the date by which Union Government with clear all dues to the state of West Bengal under MGNREGS/VB-G RAM G; and**
- (e) the total number of workers under MGNREGS/VB-G RAM G who could not connect to Aadhaar Based Payment System?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme. It provides livelihood security, i.e. fall back options for livelihood for the rural households, when no better employment opportunity is available. The responsibility for implementation of the Scheme is vested with the Governments of the concerned States/UTs. Details of disabled persons registered and number of persons who availed employment in West Bengal under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS during the financial year 2021-22 is given below :

Financial Year	Number of Persons Registered	Number of persons who availed employment
2021-22	409149	71196

As per NREGASoft

Here it is stated that the release of funds to the State of West Bengal under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) was stopped with effect from 09.03.2022 by invoking the provisions of Section 27 of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, owing to continued non-compliance with the directives of the Central Government by the State.

However, in compliance with the order of the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court dated 18.06.2025, this Department has issued orders dated 06.12.2025 for the resumption of the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS in the State of West Bengal, which is subject to mandatory compliance with the special conditions, so as to facilitate the effective and lawful implementation of the Scheme in the State. Accordingly, State Government has been requested to submit the Labour Budget proposal for the current Financial Year 2025-26 for consideration of the Empowered Committee, Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, which is still awaited.

As per NREGASoft, the total pending liability pertaining to the State of West Bengal (as on 08.03.2022) stands at ₹3082.52 crore, comprising ₹1457.22 crore under the wage component, ₹1607.68 crore under the Material component, and ₹17.62 crore under the Administrative component. The admissibility of this liability is subject to verification by the Central Government.

(e): 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.

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. As of now out of total of 12.17 crore active workers in the country Aadhaar seeding of 99.67% have already been completed and APBS conversion has been completed for 98.35% workers. State/UTs are continuously being monitored by the Central Government for achieving 100% Aadhaar Seeding and APBS conversion in NREGASoft.
