

Need to restore deleted job cards under MGNREGS - laid

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN (PALAKKAD): Over 5 crore job cards have been deleted in 2022-23 and 7.4 million so far during this financial year as per the Management Information System of MGNREGS and a reply given to a Starred Question in Lok Sabha on 25.07.2023. The main reason for the deletion of such a large number of job card holders was due to the non linkage of job cards with Aadhaar initiated by the Union Government for wage payment and digital attendance and not largely because of the reasons cited in the said reply. It is a well-known fact that net connectivity in rural areas is an issue. During Covid-19 several young children suffered education online due to poor net connectivity in rural areas. Rural masses should not be punished for lack of net connectivity which prevented them from linking job card with Aadhaar. The prime objective of MGNREGS is to take care of rural areas where everything lacks, including internet connectivity. MGNREGS is a right of rural people and not a consideration. Therefore, I request the Government to revert back to the method as existed earlier in respect of Aadhaar and wage payment and restore job cards of those whose names have been deleted urgently.