

NEWSLETTER

31 January, 2026



Saving **MGNREGA**



The Congress has launched a nationwide campaign against the Modi government's anti-poor VB-GRAM-G Act, which dismantles and replaces MGNREGA. Rahul Gandhi and the Congress party stand shoulder to shoulder with MGNREGA workers across the country, whose hard-won right to work is being taken away. MGNREGA is not charity – it is a guarantee of dignity, security, and survival for India's poorest.

The Congress party has reaffirmed its resolve to fight this injustice on the streets and in Parliament, until MGNREGA is restored.



Join the Fight!



MGNREGA: Gandhi Ji's Living Dream



- **Right to Work:** Made employment a legal right, ensuring dignified work for all.
- **Rural Transformation:** Raised rural wages, reduced distress migration, and strengthened Bahujan livelihoods.
- **Women's Empowerment:** Guaranteed equal wages for equal work, with women forming over 55% of the workforce.
- **Grassroots Democracy:** Strengthened Gram Sabhas and Panchayats to plan and monitor local works.
- **Justice & Security:** Ensured equal access to work to all communities and acted as a lifeline during crises and economic shocks.



Robbing Workers of Their **Right to Work**

Rahul Gandhi reiterated that MGNREGA is not merely a scheme but a right of the poor. He highlighted how it expanded rural employment and reduced rural distress. He met workers from across the country, who shared how MGNREGA improved access to education, healthcare, and secure livelihoods. Women workers spoke about how the scheme opened a path to financial independence. After listening to their experiences, **Rahul Gandhi warned that the Modi government's agenda is to dismantle this right, by**

replacing it with a system controlled by middlemen.



WATCH THE INTERACTION WITH MGNREGA WORKERS HERE



BJP is Trying to Weaken Panchayats



Rahul Gandhi said MGNREGA was conceived so development schemes were run directly by panchayats rather than from Delhi. By empowering local institutions, the scheme strengthened democracy and ensured that development was shaped by workers themselves.

Rahul Gandhi observed that the Modi Government is recentralising control, weakening panchayats, and transferring authority to contractors and middlemen. **He warned that the BJP's move risks pushing India back toward a feudal order reminiscent of an age of kings rather than citizens.** Calling for unity among workers, he reaffirmed that MGNREGA can only succeed if it remains with the Panchayats and not distant authorities at the centre.

[WATCH THE MGNREGA BACHAO MORCHA HERE](#)

An Attack on Federalism



In a joint letter with Mallikarjun Kharge to Gram Pradhans, Rojgar Sevaks, and workers, Rahul Gandhi identified a conspiracy to attack the federal structure through the VB-GRAM-G Act.

He explained how the Centre is quietly shifting its responsibilities onto the states.

While the Central government earlier bore the full cost of wages under MGNREGA, the new law forces states to shoulder 40% of the expenditure. Rahul Gandhi argued that this financial burden will severely limit states' ability to provide work, weakening the scheme from within. He also raised concerns that this restructuring opens the door to political discrimination, with opposition-ruled states at risk of being denied funds.

[READ THE LETTER HERE](#)



Snapshot Showcase

January in Brief

Meeting with the families of those who **lost their lives due to contaminated water** in Bhagiratpura, Indore.



Talking about school life with the bright students of St.Thomas English High School, Gudalur, Tamil Nadu.



Congratulating Congress-UDF workers on their excellent performance in the local body elections in Kochi.



Honouring renowned author Dr. M. Leelavati with the Priyadarshini Sahitya Award - even at 98, her discipline and writing continue to inspire.



Inaugurating the Raebareli Premier League held at Rajiv Gandhi Stadium.



Discussing the severe impact of the 50% US tariff and uncertainty on India's textile exporters in Manesar, Haryana



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