

MGNREGA workers demand regular jobs

Members of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) Employees Union, who have been demanding regularisation of jobs, staged a protest for the fourth day today in front of the office of the Block Development and Panchayat Officer.

These employees have been working for the last eight years.

They also gave an ultimatum to the state government to meet their demands till July 15, failing which they would intensify their agitation.

They have also been demanding a meeting with the Chief Minister. They claim that despite the fact that there had been numerous vacancies in the Rural Development and Panchayat Department, the jobs of MGNREGA employees were not being regularised by the government while it was done in Haryana.

Union leader Sukhdeep Singh said around 1,200 MGNREGA workers had been working on different posts in various departments in the state for the past seven years.

“Every year their contract is extended till March 31 despite the fact that they were recruited through a proper procedure of advertisement and interviews. The department was now advertising for posts lying vacant instead of regularising our jobs,” he said.

“The state government was not keen on regularising the jobs of MGNREGA workers since it was exploiting the employees by paying them meagre salaries but making them do much work,” Sukhdeep added.