

Status of MGNREGA in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract:

The study examined the performance of MGNREGA scheme. The study considered the secondary data and examined national, state and district perspective. The study also examined the role played by MGNREGA scheme at sector wise and segment wise. The study following are the observations were derived based on the data. It can be inferred that there has been a decrease in the number of job cards issued under the MGNREGA scheme in India and Andhra Pradesh in recent years. However, West Godavari has maintained a consistent number of job cards issued over the same period. The percentage change for India is -0.98% and for Andhra Pradesh is -0.19%. The study observed that the availability of funds has gradually increased in India, Andhra Pradesh, and West Godavari district from 2017-2024. The highest percentage increase in funds was observed in Andhra Pradesh with 23.94% in 2020-2021 and in West Godavari district with 10.77% in 2018-2019. This indicates an overall improvement in the financial situation in these regions over the years. The study found that the total expenditure in India increased at a percentage of 13.15% from 2017-2024. Andhra Pradesh's expenditure increased at a higher percentage of 17.55% during the same period, while West Godavari District's expenditure increased at a percentage of 10.16%. Although the growth rate of West Godavari District was lower than the state's, it still showed a positive trend, indicating overall growth and development. The study observed that the number of completed households in India has steadily increased from 650.28 in 2017-2018 to 1148.45 in 2023-2024, with a percentage value of 12.61%. Andhra Pradesh had a lower percentage value of 2.79%, while West Godavari district had a slightly higher percentage of 6.02%. However, these regional variations may be due to factors such as economic growth, population density, and local conditions. It has been found that the average number of days of employment provided to workers increased at a percentage of 3.27% in India during the period 2017-2024, with Andhra Pradesh showing a slightly higher percentage of 3.87%, while the West Godavari district had a lower percentage of 1.13%. This indicates a steady increase in employment opportunities in India, with some regional variations that may be due to factors such as economic development and industrialization.?

Keywords: MGNREGA, Andhra Pradesh, Poverty, Job Cards, Employment

1. Introduction

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme has been a flagship program of the Government of India since its inception in 2006. The scheme is aimed at providing employment to rural households in order to promote inclusive growth and reduce poverty in rural areas. Here are some views of the Indian government on the MGNREGA scheme. The Indian government views the MGNREGA scheme as a success story in achieving its goals of providing employment to rural households and reducing poverty. The scheme has created a safety net for rural households, providing them with a minimum level of income and preventing distress migration to urban areas. The government also views the MGNREGA scheme as an important tool for empowering women in rural areas. The scheme provides equal wages

to men and women, and has enabled women to participate more actively in the workforce and in decision-making processes at the local level. The government also recognizes the role of the MGNREGA scheme in promoting rural infrastructure development.

The scheme has been used for the construction of roads, bridges, and other community assets, which has improved connectivity and access to markets in rural areas. The government also views the MGNREGA scheme as an important tool for building climate resilience in rural areas. The scheme has also been used for the development of water conservation and management practices, and has helped in reducing the vulnerability of rural households to climate change. While the government views the MGNREGA scheme as a success story, it also recognizes the need for reforms in order to make the scheme more effective and efficient. The government has taken several steps to improve the implementation of the scheme, including the use of technology and the simplification of administrative processes. The Indian government views the MGNREGA scheme as an important tool for promoting inclusive growth and reducing poverty in rural areas. While acknowledging its achievements, the government also recognizes the need for reforms in order to make the scheme more effective and efficient.

Role of MGNREGA Schemes in Indian States

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme has been implemented across all states and Union Territories in India. However, some states have benefited more from the scheme than others, depending on various factors such as the level of poverty, population, and demand for rural employment. Here are some of the states that have benefited the most from the implementation of the MGNREGA scheme:

Rajasthan: Rajasthan has been one of the largest beneficiaries of the MGNREGA scheme, with a high demand for rural employment due to the state's high poverty levels and limited employment opportunities. The state has consistently ranked among the top states in terms of the number of households provided employment under the scheme.

Tamil Nadu: Tamil Nadu has also been a major beneficiary of the MGNREGA scheme, with a high demand for rural employment due to the state's large rural population and limited employment opportunities. The state has used the scheme to promote rural infrastructure development, such as the construction of check dams and water harvesting structures.

West Bengal: West Bengal has also benefited significantly from the MGNREGA scheme, with a large number of households provided employment under the scheme. The state has used the scheme to promote rural infrastructure development, such as the construction of roads, bridges, and other community assets.

Uttar Pradesh: Uttar Pradesh has been one of the largest beneficiaries of the MGNREGA scheme, with a high demand for rural employment due to the state's large rural population and limited employment opportunities. The state has used the scheme to promote rural infrastructure development, such as the construction of ponds and irrigation canals. The MGNREGA scheme has benefited all states in India, but some states have seen greater benefits than others, depending on various factors such as the level of poverty, population, and demand for rural employment.

MGNREGA Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh has been one of the states that have benefited significantly from the implementation of the MGNREGA scheme. The scheme has played a vital role in addressing the high level of poverty and unemployment in the state's rural areas. Here are some ways in which the MGNREGA scheme has played a role in Andhra Pradesh compared to other states. According

to the Ministry of Rural Development, the total number of households provided employment under the MGNREGA scheme in Andhra Pradesh during 2020-21 was 82.29 lakhs, which is the highest among all states in India. The state also provided the highest number of person-days of work (279.98 crore) during the same period. The MGNREGA scheme has provided income support to a large number of households in Andhra Pradesh. In the financial year 2020-21, the average wage rate under the scheme in the state was Rs. 218, which is higher than the national average of Rs. 202.

Andhra Pradesh has used the MGNREGA scheme to create a range of assets, including rural roads, bridges, and water conservation structures. In 2020-21, the state created 14,263 water conservation structures, 15,417 rural roads, and 1,966 culverts and bridges under the scheme. The MGNREGA scheme has been successful in increasing women's participation in the workforce in Andhra Pradesh. As per the Ministry of Rural Development, the percentage of women employed under the scheme in the state was 52.69% in 2020-21, which is higher than the national average of 50.71%. The MGNREGA scheme has provided livelihood support to a large number of landless and marginal farmers in Andhra Pradesh. In 2020-21, the state provided employment to 32.47 lakh agricultural laborers and 10.13 lakh marginal farmers under the scheme. The MGNREGA scheme has played a crucial role in improving the socio-economic status of rural households in Andhra Pradesh. The scheme has provided employment, income support, and livelihood opportunities to a large number of households, especially landless and marginal farmers. It has also helped in creating rural assets, promoting women's empowerment, and improving the availability of water for agricultural activities.

2. Objective of the Paper:

To examine its performance, one can evaluate the implementation and impact of the scheme, including the number of jobs created, the quality of the work provided, and the socioeconomic outcomes for the rural population.

3. Methodology:

The paper is based on the secondary data, such as data collected from Ministry of Rural Development of India and Statistical Abstract of Andhra Pradesh

Result from the secondary data

MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) is a government scheme in India aimed at providing employment opportunities to the rural population. To examine its performance, one can evaluate the implementation and impact of the scheme, including the number of jobs created, the quality of the work provided, and the socioeconomic outcomes for the rural population. Analysis of the program's effectiveness can also include factors such as budget allocation, program administration, and the involvement of local communities. To measure the additional employment generated through MGNREGA, one would need to compare the number of people employed through the scheme with the number of people employed in the absence of the scheme. The analysis would provide insights into the effectiveness of MGNREGA in creating employment opportunities for the rural poor. The study has been divided into two sections. Section-1 examines the performance of MGNREGA Scheme in India. Section-2 analyses the extent of additional employment generated through MGNREGA to the rural poor.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is a flagship social welfare program launched by the Government of India to provide employment opportunities to rural households in the country. The program aims to provide at least 100 days of wage employment

in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The district of West Godavari in the state of Andhra Pradesh has been actively involved in implementing the MGNREGA program, and it has shown significant progress in creating employment opportunities for rural households and creating durable assets. To measure the effectiveness of MGNREGA implementation in West Godavari district Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are used.

KPIs are metrics used to evaluate the performance of a program or initiative against specific goals or objectives. In the case of MGNREGA, KPIs can help determine the program's success in achieving its intended outcomes. Some of the KPIs that can be used to measure the effectiveness of MGNREGA implementation in West Godavari district compared to India include the number of job cards issued, availability of funds, total expenditure, number of households completed 100 days, person days generated, average days employment provided, and average wage rate. These KPIs can help in evaluating the impact of MGNREGA on the rural households in West Godavari district compared to the rest of India. This analysis can provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of MGNREGA implementation in a specific region and help identify areas for improvement.

Number of Job Cards Issued

This KPI refers to the total number of job cards issued under the MGNREGA program in a specific district or region. Job cards are issued to eligible households to provide them access to employment opportunities under the program. The table shows the number of job cards issued under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for the years 2017-2018 to 2023-2024 for India, Andhra Pradesh (a state in India), and West Godavari district (a district in Andhra Pradesh). MGNREGA is a social welfare scheme that guarantees a certain number of days.

Table – 1 Number of Job Cards Issued under the MGNREGA Scheme
To calculate the year-wise percentage growth and CAGR for each region, we can use the following table:

Financial Year	India Job Cards Issued	Percent Growth	India CAGR	AP Job Cards Issued	Percent Growth	AP CAGR	WG Job Cards Issued	Percent Growth	WG CAGR
2017-2018	1180.69	-	-	126.39	-	-	7.69	-	-
2018-2019	1093.05	-7.41	-1.52	109.05	-13.80	-2.74	7.7	0.13	0.13
2019-2020	1222.18	11.83	2.30	108.59	-0.42	-0.42	7.7	0.00	0.00
2020-2021	1302	6.54	1.28	116.27	6.78	1.65	7.71	0.13	0.13
2022-2023	1367.02	5.00	0.98	112.52	-3.23	-0.66	7.71	0.00	0.00
2023-2024	1332.97	-2.49	-0.51	111.46	-0.94	-0.19	7.71	0.00	0.00

Source: Ministry of Rural Employment 2024

The table shows the number of job cards issued under the MGNREGA scheme in India, Andhra Pradesh, and West Godavari from 2017-2018 to 2023-2024. The number of job cards issued has decreased in India and Andhra Pradesh in recent years. West Godavari has had a consistent

number of job cards issued. The percentage value for India is 0.98%, while Andhra Pradesh's is - 0.19%. West Godavari has had no change in the number of job cards issued over the period.

Availability of Funds

This KPI refers to the availability of funds for the implementation of the MGNREGA program in a specific district or region. Adequate funding is essential for the effective implementation of the program and to ensure that employment opportunities are provided to rural households.

Table – 2 Availability of Funds

Financial Year	India	Percent	Andhra Pradesh	Percent	West Godavari District	Percent
2017-2018	3,469.50	-	1744.34	-	5426	-
2018-2019	3,850.00	10.97	1770.41	1.49	6855	7.84
2019-2020	4,800.00	13.01	1981.67	12.04	8227	8.23
2020-2021	5,500.00	11.67	2458.63	23.94	8094.2	-0.16
2022-2023	6,000.00	10.00	2990.47	21.58	9000	10.77
2023-2024	7,100.00	15.03	3863.04	22.57	9574.8	6.39

Source: Ministry of Rural Employment 2022

The table shows the availability of funds in India, Andhra Pradesh, and West Godavari district for the financial years 2017-2020. The funds available have gradually increased over the years, with the highest percentage increase seen in Andhra Pradesh with 23.94% in 2017-2018 and the West Godavari district with 10.77% in 2023-2024. This indicates an improvement in the financial situation in these regions over the years.

Total Expenditure

This KPI refers to the total amount of expenditure incurred in implementing the MGNREGA program in a specific district or region. This includes expenses on wages, materials, and administrative costs incurred during the implementation of the program

Table – 3 Total Expenditure

Financial Year	India	CAGR Percent	Andhra Pradesh	CAGR Percent	West Godavari District	CAGR Percent
2017-2018	3,469.71	-	1744.14	-	4566.14	
2018-2019	3,850.00	10.96	1770.41	1.50	5851.5	14.06
2019-2020	4,798.69	21.67	1981.52	11.96	7131.45	11.00
2020-2021	5,498.53	14.58	2458.59	23.40	7119.56	-0.17
2022-2023	5,999.60	8.99	2990.45	20.97	7808.43	9.67
2023-2024	7,100.00	18.33	3863.04	23.11	8658.85	10.90

Source: Ministry of Rural Employment 2022

The table represents the Total expenditure in India increased at a percentage of 13.15% from 2017-2024. Andhra Pradesh's expenditure increased at a higher percentage of 17.55% during the same period, while West Godavari District's expenditure increased at a percentage of 10.16%. The district's growth rate was lower than the state's, Despite the slightly lower growth rate of West Godavari District compared to the state, the fact that it still shows a positive trend is an indication of its overall growth and development.

Number of Households Completed 100 Days

This KPI refers to the number of households that have completed 100 days of employment under the MGNREGA program in a specific district or region. The program aims to provide 100 days of employment to eligible rural households, and this KPI indicates the success in achieving this objective.

Table – 4 NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS COMPLETED 100 DAYS

Financial Year	INDIA	CAGR percent	ANDHRA PRADESH	CAGR percent	WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT	CAGR percent
2017-2018	650.28	-	74.28	-	1.84	-
2018-2019	704.68	8.35	77.02	3.69	2.15	14.07
2019-2020	799.93	17.45	78.63	2.08	2.32	7.91
2020-2021	873.01	10.20	80.69	3.09	2.4	3.23
2022-2023	1006.77	15.29	83.1	3.00	2.46	2.36
2023-2024	1148.45	13.88	83.76	0.79	2.5	2.03

Source: Ministry of Rural Employment 2024

The table shows the number of households in India, The number of completed households in India has shown a steady increase from 650.28 in 2017-2018 to 1148.45 in 2023-2024. The percentage value for India during this period was 12.61%. Andhra Pradesh had a lower percentage value of 2.79%, while the West Godavari district had a slightly higher percentage of 6.02%. However, the lower percentage of Andhra Pradesh may be due to regional variations in terms of economic growth, population density, and other factors. The higher percentage of West Godavari district could be due to better implementation of government schemes or more favourable local conditions. This indicates that the overall trend of completed households is positive and growing in India, with some regional variations.

Person Days Generated

This KPI refers to the total number of days of employment generated under the MGNREGA program in a specific district or region. This includes the number of days of employment provided to eligible rural households and is an important indicator of the program's impact on the local economy

Table – 5 Person Days Generated

Financial Year	INDIA	CAGR percent	ANDHRA PRADESH	CAGR percent	WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT	CAGR percent
2017-2018	1115.39	-	8746.17	-	70.48	-
2018-2019	1113.93	-0.13	8532.4	-2.45	84.45	19.79
2019-2020	1250.35	12.21	9050.17	6.04	100.66	19.19
2020-2021	1523.56	19.49	10663.63	16.50	107	6.07
2022-2023	2218.83	31.68	11576.25	8.57	120.19	12.33
2023-2024	2696.11	17.89	13904.06	17.52	135.15	12.43

Source: Ministry of Rural Employment 2024

The table shows the person-days generated in India and Andhra Pradesh, along with their respective percentages, from 2017-18 to 2023-24. The West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh had a higher percentage than the state's overall value. The increase in person-days generated in Andhra Pradesh and West Godavari district can be attributed to the government's focus on promoting economic growth and employment opportunities in the region. Additionally,

the government may have provided incentives to companies that set up operations in the state, further boosting employment. Overall, this emphasis on economic development and job creation has led to an increase in person-days generated in the state and the district.

Average Day’s Employment Provided

This KPI refers to the average number of days of employment provided under the MGNREGA program in a specific district or region. This indicates the duration of employment opportunities provided to eligible rural households and can help evaluate the effectiveness of the program in providing sustainable livelihoods.

Table – 6 Avg. Days employment provided

Financial Year	INDIA	CAGR percent	ANDHRA PRADESH	CAGR percent	WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT	CAGR percent
2017-2018	45	-	44	-	48	-
2018-2019	47	4.44	45	2.27	48	0.00
2019-2020	49	4.30	48	7.14	50	4.08
2020-2021	52	5.75	50	4.17	50	0.00
2022-2023	54	3.77	51	1.96	51	1.96
2023-2024	54	0.00	53	3.92	52	2.04

Source: Ministry of Rural Employment 2024

The above table provides information on the average number of days of employment provided to workers under the scheme. On average, the number of days of employment provided in India increased at a percentage of 3.27% from 2017-2018. In Andhra Pradesh, the percentage was 3.87%, while in the West Godavari district it was 1.13%. The table shows a steady increase in employment opportunities in India, with Andhra Pradesh experiencing a slightly higher growth rate than the district of West Godavari. In Andhra Pradesh, the growth rate could be influenced by the state's focus on developing industries such as IT and tourism, which have created job opportunities. On the other hand, the West Godavari district may have had a slower growth rate due to factors such as its reliance on agriculture and limited industrial development.

Average Wage Rate

This KPI refers to the average wage rate paid under the MGNREGA program in a specific district or region. This indicates the level of income support provided to rural households and can help evaluate the effectiveness of the program in reducing poverty and improving the standard of living in the region.

Table – 7 Avg. Wage rate of MGNREGA

Financial Year	INDIA	CAGR percent	ANDHRA PRADESH	CAGR percent	WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT	CAGR percent
2017-2018	137	-	153	-	152.5	-
2018-2019	151	10.26	159	3.92	158.95	4.23
2019-2020	164	11.53	164	3.15	168.19	5.68
2020-2021	175	9.80	175	6.71	172.34	2.49
2022-2023	182	4.13	184	4.89	177.66	3.08
2023-2024	201	10.44	194	5.22	183.52	3.29

Source: Ministry of Rural Employment 2024

The table shows the average wage rate provided under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for different years in India, Andhra Pradesh, and West Godavari district. The average wage rate of MGNREGA in India has increased at a percentage of 8.7 percent from 2017-2018 to 2023-2024. Andhra Pradesh has seen a slightly lower percentage of 5.2 percent, while the West Godavari district has experienced a higher percentage of 3.7 percent. This suggests that the implementation and impact of MGNREGA on wage rates may vary at the district level. The higher CAGR in West Godavari district may indicate better implementation and uptake of MGNREGA in the district, leading to a greater impact on wage rates. The table also suggest that MGNREGA has been successful in increasing average wage rates in India, but the impact may vary at the regional and district level.

4. Conclusion

The study examined the performance of MGNREGA scheme. The study considered the secondary data and examined national, state and district perspective. The study also examined the role played by MGNREGA scheme at sector wise and segment wise. The study following are the observations were derived based on the data. It can be inferred that there has been a decrease in the number of job cards issued under the MGNREGA scheme in India and Andhra Pradesh in recent years. However, West Godavari has maintained a consistent number of job cards issued over the same period. The percentage change for India is -0.98% and for Andhra Pradesh is -0.19%. The study observed that the availability of funds has gradually increased in India, Andhra Pradesh, and West Godavari district from 2017-2024. The highest percentage increase in funds was observed in Andhra Pradesh with 23.94% in 2020-2021 and in West Godavari district with 10.77% in 2018-2019. This indicates an overall improvement in the financial situation in these regions over the years. The study found that the total expenditure in India increased at a percentage of 13.15% from 2017-2024. Andhra Pradesh's expenditure increased at a higher percentage of 17.55% during the same period, while West Godavari District's expenditure increased at a percentage of 10.16%. Although the growth rate of West Godavari District was lower than the state's, it still showed a positive trend, indicating overall growth and development. The study observed that the number of completed households in India has steadily increased from 650.28 in 2017-2018 to 1148.45 in 2023-2024, with a percentage value of 12.61%. Andhra Pradesh had a lower percentage value of 2.79%, while West Godavari district had a slightly higher percentage of 6.02%. However, these regional variations may be due to factors such as economic growth, population density, and local conditions. It has been found that the average number of days of employment provided to workers increased at a percentage of 3.27% in India during the period 2017-2024, with Andhra Pradesh showing a slightly higher percentage of 3.87%, while the West Godavari district had a lower percentage of 1.13%. This indicates a steady increase in employment opportunities in India, with some regional variations that may be due to factors such as economic development and industrialization.

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