



DOI: [10.5947/2454-9827.2021.00009.4](https://doi.org/10.5947/2454-9827.2021.00009.4)

## THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MGNREGS: A STUDY OF CHENNE KOTHAPALLE MANDAL OF ANANTHAPURAMU DISTRICT

**\*GM. VIJAYA KUMAR REDDY**

*\*Research Scholar, Department of Rural Development and Social Work, Sri Krishnadevaraya University,  
Ananthapuramu*

### **ABSTRACT**

*India is predominantly rural. Large number of people is living in rural areas. In rural India, unemployment, underemployment, poverty, lack of infrastructure facilities is common. To mitigate these problems, the Government of India has identified several rural wage employment programmes. Bit, the most of such programmes failed to yield desired results. A Special National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was formally launched in February 2006 in Ananthapuramu District of Andhra Pradesh by Prime Minister Mr. Manmohan Singh. The scheme was renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009, in honour of father of nation Mahatma Gandhi, who declared India lives in villages. As the study area is located rain shadow area, famines are quite common. Keeping in view of this the present study was taken in one of the drought prone Mandals of in Ananthapuramu District. **KEY-WORDS:** Households, Wage Seekers, Job Card, Rural, Famine*

## INTRODUCTION

Enactment of MGNREGA was a historic step in the Indian context. MGNREGA is visualized as a *first* step towards the realization of the economic right to work as envisioned in the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution of India. It recognizes Article 39 of the Constitution, according to which the State must ensure that “citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means to livelihood” and Article 41 whereby “the State, shall within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing Right to Work.

The potential of the MGNREGA to lead the economy towards a labour-intensive growth path needs to be emphasized in this context. The wage-work programme needs to be seen in a long-term perspective, with a strong planning component, dovetailing it with the ongoing development efforts, incorporating decentralised planning and implementation, skill training, maintenance of public assets and eventually absorbing wage-earners into mainstream employment. The path towards full employment lies in strengthening the sectors where the poor are located and stabilizing their incomes, improving their asset base, constructing basic socio-economic infrastructure at the local level, enabling access to paid work opportunities and exerting an upward pressure on market wages. MGNREGA as a programme is expected to create conditions for realization of several outcomes.

According to some recent studies, the performance of MGNREGA varies significantly across the States. There are some States where MGNREGA has managed to achieve its key outcomes very well and which have indeed innovated in many respects. In others, performance; has been unimpressive and lack lustre. Given that the overall framework for MGNREGA is similar across the States, the variations in performance, depend on factors such as political and administrative’ will of the governments, historical background of the state as well as the nature of civil society and public actions around MGNREGA State Governments have the responsibility of framing the rules as well as overseeing the actual implementation of the scheme on the ground. There is a lot of scope for State Governments to innovate and adapt the scheme according to the local requirements. State-specific experiences are important sources for innovations which in turn provide valuable lessons for replication. The relative success of the scheme in some regions, and failure in others highlights the need to properly understand the reasons for inter- and intra-state variations and to replicate and adopt features of implementation of the better performing states. MGNREGA was notified on September 7, 2005. The Act came into force on February 2, 2006. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is a landmark initiative in providing 100 days guaranteed employment on demand to every rural household at the minimum wage whose adult members (both male and female) would like to do unskilled manual work. Participation of community in NREGS is one of the pre-

requisites to enforce the ‘rights and entitlements’ envisaged and make it community-oriented and demand-driven scheme.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Dkhar D.S., (2017) conducted a study in East Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya to see the impact of the programme on Livelihood improvement of rural households. The study found that there was 27.43 per cent increase in the income of beneficiaries after joining in MGNREGA approved activities. The beneficiaries have realized 19.66 per cent higher income as compared to that of non-beneficiaries in the study area. It was also found that, average monthly expenditure on food and non-food items of beneficiaries have increased by 5.20 per cent and 14.23 per cent, respectively after working in MGNREGA. The average monthly expenditure of beneficiaries on food items has increased 12.72 per cent and similar result was also found in non-food items where the expenditure increased 21.19 per cent as compared to that of non- beneficiaries.

Nagaraja J and N Honnurswamy (2021) in their paper briefly explain the progress made in the Ballari district in the implementation of the MGNREGS. As per the study 6 per cent of the respondents are highly satisfied, 15.34 per cent are satisfied, 42.67 per cent are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 28.66 per cent are dissatisfied, and 7.33 per cent are highly dissatisfied. The overall analysis shows that majority of the respondents i.e., 47.33 per cent are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied about the MGNREG scheme.

Arup Das (2021) in their study made an attempt to examine the impact of MGNREGA on employment generation in the Dhemaji district of Assam. The study shows that MGNREGA has provided employment opportunities to the vulnerable section of the society. The MGNREGA has provided employment to vulnerable sections of rural areas of Assam so in Dhemaji too like SCs, STs and women. SCs and STs both together got nearly forty percent of total workdays in Dhemaji. However out of these two STs got more employment in Dhemaji. Again participation of STs in Dhemaji is higher than the state average. It is because Dhemaji is a tribal dominated district of Assam. The participation of women of Dhemaji in MGNREGA is much higher than the state average. The higher participation of women of Dhemaji in MGNREGA indicates awareness of the act among the women of Dhemaji. Higher participation of women also reveals any discrimination of gender.

## MGNREGS IN CHENNE KOTHAPALLE MANDAL

Chenne Kothapalle Mandal is also called as C.K.Palli. It is one of the remote Mandal of Ananthapuramu District. The total geographical area of the Mandal is 267.8 Sq.Kms and it has 14 revenue villages and 21 hamlets. The Mandal is located between 77<sup>0</sup>-37 and 44.25” longitudes and 14<sup>0</sup>-16’and 18.95” latitudes. According to 2011

census the total population of Mandal is 44,351 out of which 22,679 are men (51.14 percent) and 21,672 are women (48.86 percent). Among the total population, the number of Scheduled Castes is 5914 (13.33 percent) and the Scheduled Tribes is 1636 (3.69 percent). Among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes the women population constitute 49.71 percent and 47.92 percent respectively. It is 46.4 kms from district head-quarters (Ananthapuramu). The MGNREGS scheme was launched in Chenne Kothapalle Mandal along with district in 2005. The progress of the scheme is detailed below.

**Table-1**

**Wage Seekers Registered under MGNREGS in Chenne Kothapalle Mandal**

S. No	Category	Job Cards	Wage Seekers	PDs Generated 2021-22*	Wage Expenditure 2021-22*
1	Others	10177	20081	614883	139064243
2	SC	1561	3096	86978	19758860
3	ST	391	716	18684	4097241
4	<b>Total</b>	<b>12129</b>	<b>23893</b>	<b>720545</b>	<b>162920344</b>
5	Women	-	11881	368820	82769544
6	Men	-	12012	351725	80150800

Source: MCC, MPP, Chenne Kothapalle

It is evident from table 1 that in Chenne Kothapalle Mandal a total of 12, 129 job cards were issued to the wage seekers. Among them 84.05 per cent of job cards were issued to other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The share of Scheduled Caste's in total job cards issued in the Mandal constitutes 12.87 per cent. The remaining 3.22 per cent of job cards were issued to Scheduled Tribe households in the Mandal. With regard to wage seekers a preponderant majority of i.e. 84.05 per cent belongs to Backward Class and Forward Castes. Among the job seekers 12.96 per cent and 3 per cent belongs to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Table 2

## Year Wise Job Cards Issued in Chenne Kothapalle Mandal

S. No	Category	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	No. of Job cards issued (since inception)	9672	10203	10707	11702	12129
2	No. of individuals in Job cards (since inception)	19359	20291	21284	23198	23893
3	No. of Job cards issued (in this year)	564	531	504	995	427
4	No. of individuals in Job cards (in this year)	945	932	993	1914	695
5	No. of wage seekers added in existing Job card	258	321	390	669	174
6	No. of Inactive Wage seekers made active in this year	758	1180	1515	1818	682

Source: MCC, MPP, Chenne Kothapalle

It is evident from table 2 that in 2020-21 highest number of job cards were issued in the Chenne Kothapalle Mandal. Lowest number of job cards was issued in the present year (2021-22) as on January 31st 2022. The number new wage seekers joined the MGNREGS stream is highest in 2020-2021. The average number of wage seekers per job card by the end of January 2022 is 1.97 per sons. Besides, adding new members in the job cards, additional wage seekers were rejoining the MGNREGS stream in Chenne Kothapalle Mandal. In this way 5, 953 wage seekers were added to the scheme by activating old job cards during 5 years of study.

## CONCLUSION

In the study area, migration of labour is common due to prevailing dry weather conditions. The introduction of MGNREGS is considered as a boon for rural labourer irrespective of their social status. The percentage of registered households, participating in the programme works is different in different social categories as well as in different years. But there is gradual increase in the participation rates.

## REFERENCES

1. Dkhar D.S., A.K. Tripathi, A. Roy S.M. Feroze R. Saravanan and N.U. Singh, “MGNREGA: A Paradigm Shift in Employment and Income Generation in Meghalaya”, Indian Journal of Hill Farming, June 2017, Vol. 30, No. 1, pp. 110-115.
2. Nagaraja J and N Honnurswamy, “Role of MGNREGA in Rural Development in Karnataka: A Case Study of Koppal District” International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research, Vol.:10, No: 1(7), January 2021, pp.132-139.
3. Arup Das, “The Role of Mgnrega in Rural Development”, IOSR Journal of Economics and Finance, Vol. 12, No. 2, March –April 2021, pp.54-57.
4. Jayati Ghosh., “Paying for Employment Guarantee”, Frontline, Vol.XXV, October, 2004. p.48.
5. Reetika Khera., “Employment Guarantee Act” Economic and Political Weekly ,Vol. XIII (33) October, 2008. pp 8-12
6. Sudarshan, Ratna (2008)., “Impact of NREGA on Rural Labour market in Kerala: Preliminary Findings on Women’s Work”, International conference on NREGA in India: Impacts and Implementation Experiences, (New Delhi) 16-17 September,2009.
7. “NREGA 2005 Operational Guidelines”, Ministry of Rural Development, (New Delhi) 2006.
8. Yamini Aiyar and Salimah Samji, “Improving the Effectiveness of National Rural Employment guarantee Act” Economic and Political Weekly, vol. (4), 2006. pp. 320-326.