



STUDY ON THE PROGRESS AND PERFORMANCE OF MGNREGA IN CHITTOOR DISTRICT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted during the year 2018-19 in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh in which 4 mandals were selected on the basis of highest average man days per household per year. Using the same criteria from each mandal, 2 villages were selected from each village, 10 households covered under MGNREGA were selected randomly. Thus the total sample size of the study constitutes to 80. Compound annual growth rates of person days generated through MGNREGA in Chittoor district from the year 2006-07 to 2018-19 for total beneficiaries was 0.72, for women also it was 0.79, but for SC and ST people it was -1.22 and -1.48. The work completion rate was decreasing. Growth rates of total available funds at national level was 4.37, the funds released from the centre was 5.53, for the expenditure of funds it was 6.31 and the per cent utilization of funds was varying. Growth rates of total available funds for Andhra Pradesh was 1.13, the funds released from the centre was -1.47, for the expenditure of funds it was 3.41 and the per cent utilization of funds was varying. The growth rates of the households issued with job cards was 2.92. The households demanding and provided with employment were same with a growth rate of -0.23 and the percentage of total job card holding household which got employment -3.06. The number of households completed 100 days of work was showing a growth rate of 5.38.

KEYWORDS: Compound annual growth rate, employment, MGNREGA, utilization of funds

INTRODUCTION

Poverty and unemployment are the two major stumping blocks of developing countries. Nearly 72.22 percent of population live in rural areas and majority of them are suffering from seasonal unemployment, under-employment and disguised unemployment, even though the labour force in India is increasing numerously. Government of India passed National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) on August 25th, 2005 to empower the rural labourers to get 100 days of employment per household per year during off-season. The act has been launched on February 2nd, 2006 in Ananthapur district of Andhra Pradesh and it came to effect from April 1st, 2006. Further the Government of India renamed its premium rural job guarantee programme- National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) on 2nd October, 2009.

Since the implementation of the programme in India, 14.61 crore job cards were issued, 3102.7 crore person days were generated till 2019-20 with the total

expenditure of Rs. 619716.29 crore. The total number of active workers were 14.01 crore. Total person days generated were 268.24 crore, average days of employment provided per household were 41 with the average wage rate given per day per person was Rs. 200 for the year 2019-20. (www.nrega.nic.in) The current scenario of AP-MGNREGA is that the total number of job cards issued were 6397284 till 2019-20. Over all 6514235 individuals were provided with employment in the year 2019-20 with the generation of 200792978 person days of employment. The average wage rate per day per person was Rs. 203 which is more than the national average of 200 and the average number of days employment provided per household was 50. (www.nrega.ap.gov.in, 2020). Since the performance of the AP-MGNREGA is much better in terms of wage rate earned, (Srinivas and Pandyaraj, 2017) this study was initiated to assess the progress and performance of MGNREGA in the study area.

METHODOLOGY

The list of all 66 mandals of Chittoor district, was prepared and four mandals *viz.*, Pulicherla, Rompicherla, Chinnagottigollu and Vadamalapeta were selected for the

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present study based on the highest average number of mandays. All the villages in selected mandals were listed out and two villages from each selected mandals were selected based on the criterion of highest number man days thus the total sample villages to eight. The selected villages were Pathapeta, Devalampet, Bandakindapalle, Ganugachintha, Kotabylu, Thippireddygaripalle, Appalayagunta, Lakshammakandriga. All the farmers in selected villages were listed out. From each village, 10 wage seekers of MGNREGA were selected at random. Thus, the total sample constitutes 80 respondents.

TOOLS OF ANALYSIS

Estimation of compound growth rate

Growth of any variable indicates its past performance. The analysis of growth is usually used in economic studies to find out the trend of a particular variable over a period of time. It clearly indicates the performance of the variable under consideration and hence it can be very well used for making policy decisions.

The growth rate was estimated using the exponential growth function of the form

$$Y = a \cdot b^t + u$$

where,

Y = Dependent variable for which growth rate was estimated

a = intercept

b = regression coefficient

t = time variable

u = disturbance term

The compound growth rate

$$r = (b-1) \cdot 100$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

PROGRESS AND PERFORMANCE OF MGNREGA

To assess the progress and performance of MGNREGA, the employment generated to different categories of people, work completion rate and financial performance of the programme in the study area is undertaken.

Employment of MGNREGA workers

To assess the progress and performance of MGNREGA, person days generated for SC, ST and for women were taken and presented in the Table 1 and Fig. 1. For that, the data of total person days generated was taken from the year 2006-07 to 2018-19 in the study area.

From the table, it is observed that the number of person days generated were increased from the year 2006-07 to 2018-19. The same is also observed with all the sectors. When the compound annual growth rate was calculated it is observed that there is a positive growth rate with total person days generated (0.72), others (1.80) and women (0.79). The share of SC people is 31.54 and for ST people is 4.16 per cent as the programme is also aimed to achieve strong social net for the vulnerable groups. The employment share for women is 58.35 per cent, equal and non-discriminatory wages to both men and women, no need of special knowledge, work timings and work within 5 kms helped women to participate in the work more actively than men. More participation of women was also confirmed by Gulzar *et al.* (2016). There was a negative growth rate with SC (-1.22) and ST (-1.48). Similar results were observed in the study of Ranjithumar (2018).

Works undertaken and their completion rate under MGNREGA

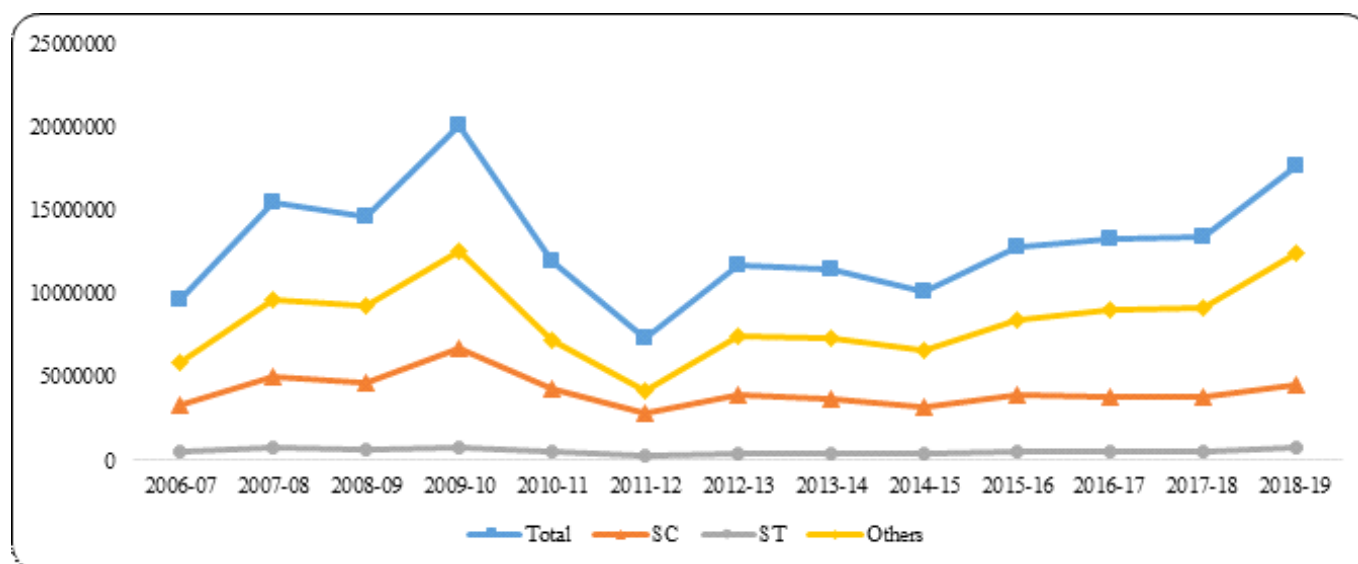
From the Table 2 and Fig. 2, it is observed that the number of works undertaken is showing a positive growth of 12.23 as the works undertaken by MGNREGA for each year were increasing for creation of assets. And the number of works in progress were increased and the number of works completed also showing a positive growth of 9.8 whereas the work completion rate is showing a negative growth of -2.15 and it is only 76.14 and 67.50 per cent work completion rate for the years 2017-18 and 2018-19 which is showing under capability of MGNREGA programme to develop into an asset creation programme. Due to the slack attitude of both workers and officials towards the programme, there was less work completion rate in the study area. The results were in conformity with the study of Ranjan (2016).

The same trend was observed at A.P state and all India level.

Table 1. Extent of employment of MGNREGA workers

Financial year	Total person days generated				
	Total	SC	ST	Others	Women
2006-07	9626275.5	3258863	500665	5866747.5	5446482.5
2007-08	15401125	4964406.5	771984.5	9664734	9345717.5
2008-09	14583228	4641020	696071	9246137	8455870.5
2009-10	19997726.5	6704984	813567.5	12479175	11621664
2010-11	11964821.5	4239583.5	504255.5	7220982.5	6930631.5
2011-12	7304052	2857041	300058.5	4146952.5	4249512.5
2012-13	11697691	3882206	422426	7393059	6688238
2013-14	11400856	3706875.5	409242.5	7284738	6607987.5
2014-15	10096334.5	3151348.5	368402	6576584	5854750.5
2015-16	12814656	3922781	471279	8420596	7521187
2016-17	13299400	3742398	552276	9004726	7712442
2017-18	13386893	3770663	529716	9086514	7966450
2018-19	17565817	4500581	703557	12361679	10288702
Grand total	169138876 (100)	53342751 (31.54)	7043500.5 (4.16)	108752624.5 (64.30)	98689635.5 (58.35)
CGR	0.72^{NS}	-1.22^{NS}	-1.48^{NS}	1.80^{NS}	0.79^{NS}

NS : Non- Significant

**Fig. 1. Extent of employment of MGNREGA workers.**

Progress and performance of MGNREGA in Chittoor District of A.P.

Table 2. Works undertaken and their completion rate under MGNREGA

Year	Total no. of works undertaken	No. of works in progress	No. of works completed	Work completion rate in terms of no. of works undertaken
2006-07	30811	4	30,807	99.98
2007-08	16678	9	16,669	99.94
2008-09	18296	9	18,287	99.95
2009-10	57584	9	57,575	99.98
2010-11	29921	9	29,912	99.96
2011-12	25927	36	25,891	99.86
2012-13	66411	49	66,362	99.92
2013-14	39857	115	39,742	99.71
2014-15	25370	258	25,112	98.98
2015-16	32117	969	31,148	96.98
2016-17	119406	4,207	1,15,199	96.47
2017-18	79895	19,063	60,832	76.14
2018-19	104289	33,799	70,490	67.59
CGR	12.23**	114.67**	9.81*	-2.15*

* : Significance at 5 per cent level

** : Significance at 1 per cent level

NS : Non- Significant

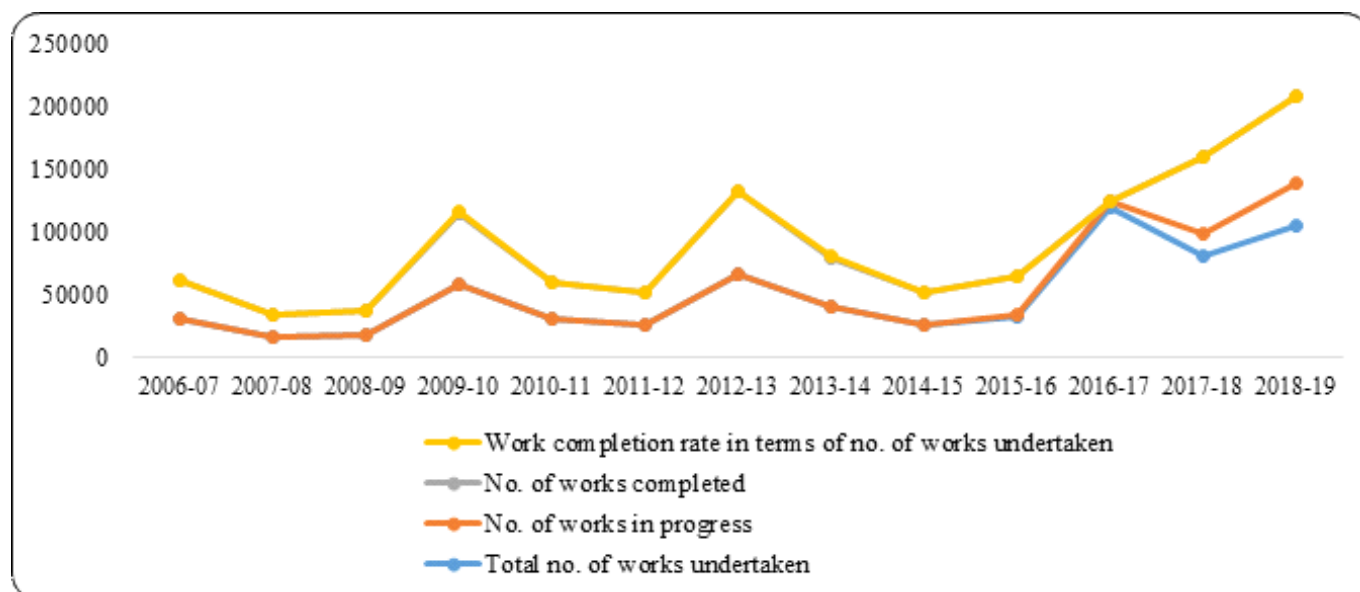


Fig. 2. Works undertaken and their completion rate under MGNREGA

CONCLUSION

Growth rates of person days generated through MGNREGA in the study area for total beneficiaries and women were positive. But for SC and ST people it was negative. Growth rates of total number of works undertaken, number of works in progress and number of works completed were highly positive. But the work completion rate was in decreasing order. It can be concluded that, the programme is showing an over all good performance in the study area except for the focus on work completion through the programme. In addition to creating medium term assets, long term asset creation and completion might be the need of the hour.

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