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## Community wise participation in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh

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### Abstract

The MGNREGS was launched to provide 100 days of employment to rural households irrespective of caste, community, creed and gender. The programme has become the ray of hope for the rural masses to earn some amount at the time of lean agriculture seasons. It is also helpful to create some kind of community assets, which will be helpful for the rural society. The necessity of this programme is very much realized in the drought prone areas like Ananthapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh, where frequent reports of migration of rural labour is reported. In this paper an attempt is made to analyze the participation of various communities in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh.

**Keywords:** Community wise participation, MGNREGS

### Introduction

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) aims at enhancing the livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage-employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The objective of the Act is to create durable assets and strengthen the livelihood resource base of the rural poor. The choice of works suggested in the Act addresses the causes of chronic poverty like drought, deforestation and soil erosion, so that the process of employment generation is maintained on a sustainable basis.

The Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, is a legal guarantee and implementation in all the states and UTs of India, it is the largest workfare program in the world. The Indian Parliament legislated on this landmark Act, with a strong consensus across the political spectrum. This Act, therefore, reflects the will of the citizens of India and their fellowship with the most vulnerable and marginalized. Through the legislation of the landmark Act, the citizens of India recognize the rights of all workers, including the agriculture and the landless workers. They reiterate the dignity of labour and reaffirm the principles of decent work, through the provisions of the Act.

Ananthapuramu District, which is located in the Rayalaseema region, is the biggest and driest of all the drought prone districts of A.P. In this district it is clearly estimated that the droughts visits at least thrice in a decade. The Irrigation Commission and other Central Commissions have been identified the whole district as drought prone. A single dry crop i.e. ground nut is raised under rain fed conditions in most parts of the district. Agriculture is the main source of economy of the district. The work force engaged in agriculture is more than three fourth's of the total work force. The demand for labour in agriculture sector is highly uncertain and seasonal. This is leading to migration of labour in a large scale to the nearest cities. The drought conditions are creating an ecological imbalance and converting the district into a desert. Drought prone areas are more vulnerable to denude the forests and exhaust the natural resources like water, soil, minerals etc. By result the rivers and other streams dry up. Consequently the underground water levels vanish and the area under irrigation is declined. The instant result is the decrease in agriculture production. This is leading to food problem. All these uneven conditions are making the lives of agricultural labourer and farmers rigorous and not bearing. As a result the district has witnessed a number of farmers' suicides.

Keeping all the above facts in view the Government of India has decided to implement the ambitious MGNREGS in this district in the first phase itself.

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In spite of many other schemes under taken for the betterment of rural poor, it is the only programme that has mobilized the rural folk involvement.

### Objectives

1. To understand the prime intention behind the launching of MGNREGS.
2. To analyze the participation of various social categories in the MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh.

### Review of Literature

Keshlata and Syed Nadeem Fatmi (2015) <sup>[1]</sup> assessed the impact of MGNREGA on poverty alleviation and rural development in Madhya Pradesh' Sheopur district. Under Physical progress of MGNREGS a declination was seen from previous Financial Years (before 2013-14) in terms of the person days, employment generated for the Scheduled Tribes. Under Financial Progress the number of social audit, total available funds and total cumulative expenditure again declined during current Financial Years than previous Financial Years.

Rahul Bahuguna *et al.* (2016) <sup>[2]</sup> carried out a study in the disaster affected areas of Rudraprayag with beneficiaries as respondents It was found from the study results that MGNREGA had clear-cut objectives to provide job opportunities for rural masses. The study revealed that the programme has done a great job in improving the economies of rural areas by raising their socio-economic status. The study also revealed that there is a need to amend the structure of the programme by introducing more transparent and responsible system and to make it objective specific and

goal oriented. The results found the MGNREGA has significantly improved their social and economic well being. Roshni Pandey (2017) <sup>[3]</sup> made an attempt to present the Planning Commission data on poverty and MGNREGA for employment data. As per the study the state-wise releases made by the ministry showed that four states (Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh) accounted for 50 % of the total expenditure made under the scheme. It was also seen that three states, viz. Bihar, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh accounted for 46% of the rural poor but utilized about 20 % of the funds and consequently only 20% of total households were provided employment under the scheme. This indicates that there was little correlation between poverty level in a state and the implementation of MGNREGA.

Vigneswar V and Kirubakaran K (2018) <sup>[4]</sup> in their study examined the unemployment and economic insecurity in rural areas. The authors analyze the impact of MGNREGA prior to and later than implementation. As per the study the works executed under MGNREGS in the study area are improper and pathetic conditions and they did the work for namesake not for development sake, it is hazardous sign to the development of our nation. According to authors in terms of creating durable assets and promoting grassroots democracy, the scheme's outcomes are much less encouraging.

### Working Status of Scheduled Tribes

As per 2011 census the Scheduled Tribes constitutes 3.78 per cent of total population in the Ananthapuramu district. Table 1 gives the clear picture of Scheduled Tribe people's participation in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district.

**Table 1:** Working Status of Scheduled Tribe Household in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu District

S. No	Year	ST-No of regd. HHs	ST-No of working HHs	% of ST HH working	ST-Total wage (Rs in Lakhs)	ST-Days worked	Average No. of Days STs Worked
1	2010-11	24093	17147	71.17	1351.06	1298936	75.75
2	2011-12	24093	12768	52.99	1246.92	1182056	92.58
3	2012-13	24093	13713	56.92	1100.78	926483.5	67.56
4	2013-14	24093	13257	55.02	1012.12	795742	60.02
5	2014-15	24093	12642	52.47	956.61	692001	54.74
6	2015-16	24093	14087	58.47	1588	1086990	77.16
7	2016-17	59736	13328	22.31	1414.95	855324	64.17
8	2017-18	59940	13268	22.14	1320.4	749677	56.50
9	2018-19	60437	14519	24.02	2106.79	1027797	70.79

**Source:** <http://www.nrega.ap.gov.in/Nregs/FrontServlet?requestType=AnalysisReportsRH&Page=AnalysisReports>

It can be found from table 1 that the number of registered Scheduled Tribe households in the district remained constant during the first 6 years of the study. Thereafter it constantly increased and stood at 60, 437 by the end of March 2019. The actual number of Scheduled Tribe households working under MGNREGS in the Ananthapuramu district is not evenly distributed. In the same way the per cent of Scheduled Tribe households

working among the registered households is also unevenly distributed. The average number of working days of Scheduled Tribe is fluctuating between 54.74 days to 92.58 days in particular financial year.

### Working Status of Backward Classes

Figure 1 gives the clear picture of Backward Classes' participation in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district.



Source: <http://www.nrega.ap.gov.in/Nregs/FrontServlet?requestType=AnalysisReportsRH&Page=AnalysisReports>

Fig 1: Working Status of Backward Class Household in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu District

According to figure1 the number of registered Backward Class households in the district remained constant during the first 6 years of the study. Thereafter it constantly increased and stood at 725,894 by the end of March 2019. The actual number of Backward Class households working under MGNREGS in the Ananthapuramu district is not evenly distributed. In the same way the per cent of Backward Class households working among the registered households is also unevenly distributed. The average number of working days

of Backward Class is fluctuating between 53.85 days to 76.89 days in a particular financial year.

**Working Status of Scheduled Tribes**

As per 2011 census the Scheduled Castes constitutes 14.29 per cent of total population in the Ananthapuramu district. Table 2 gives the clear picture of Scheduled Caste people’s participation in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district.

Table 2: Working Status of Scheduled Caste Household in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu District

S. No	Year	SC-No of regd HHs	SC-No of working HHs	% of SC HH working	SC-Total wage (Rs in Lakhs)	SC-Days worked	Average No. of Days SCs Worked
1	2010-11	96374	69298	71.91	4969.43	4826219	69.64
2	2011-12	96374	53733	55.75	5369.42	5044010	93.87
3	2012-13	96374	58926	61.14	5012.83	4160486	70.61
4	2013-14	96374	57934	60.11	4452.51	3526302	60.87
5	2014-15	96374	53957	55.99	3869.71	2851164	52.84
6	2015-16	96374	57492	59.66	5882	4163618	72.42
7	2016-17	238786	53431	22.38	5091.79	3200623	59.90
8	2017-18	239571	50879	21.24	4739.3	2804067	55.11
9	2018-19	241162	54784	22.72	7286.69	3567727	65.12

Source: <http://www.nrega.ap.gov.in/Nregs/FrontServlet?requestType=AnalysisReportsRH&Page=AnalysisReports>

It is evident from table 2 that the number of registered Scheduled Caste households in the district remained constant during the first 6 years of the study. Thereafter it constantly increased and stood at 241,162 by the end of March 2019. The actual number of Scheduled Caste households working under MGNREGS in the Ananthapuramu district is not evenly distributed. In the same way the per cent of Scheduled Caste households

working among the registered households is also unevenly distributed. The average number of working days of Scheduled Caste is fluctuating between 52.84 days (2014-2015) to 93.87 (2011-12) days in particular financial year.

**Working Status of Minorities**

Table 3 gives the clear picture of minority people’s participation in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district.

**Table 3:** Working Status of Minority Household in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu District

S. No	Year	Minorities-No of regd. HHs	Minorities-No of working HHs	Per cent of Minorities HH working	Minorities-Total wage (Rs in Lakhs)	Minorities-Days worked	Average No. of Days Minorities Worked
1	2010-11	8803	3797	43.13	239.52	235196.5	61.94
2	2011-12	8803	3435	39.02	285.3	261704.5	76.19
3	2012-13	8803	3644	41.39	295.8	246228	67.57
4	2013-14	8803	3723	42.29	289.2	231556	62.20
5	2014-15	8803	3375	38.34	262.29	191587	56.77
6	2015-16	8803	3830	43.51	420.05	284933	74.40
7	2016-17	19083	3799	19.91	434.98	260128	68.47
8	2017-18	20037	3844	19.18	401.84	228553	59.46
9	2018-19	20571	4786	23.27	713.3	345519	72.19

Source: <http://www.nrega.ap.gov.in/Nregs/FrontServlet?requestType=AnalysisReportsRH&Page=AnalysisReports>

It can be found from table 3 that the number of registered Minority households in the district remained constant during the first 6 years of the study. Thereafter it constantly increased and stood at 20,571 by the end of March 2019. The actual number of Minority households working under MGNREGS in the Ananthapuramu district is not evenly distributed. In the same way the per cent of Minority households working among the registered households is also

unevenly distributed. The average number of working days of Minority is fluctuating between 56.77 days to 76.19 days in particular financial year.

#### Working Status of Others

Table 4 gives the clear picture of other people's participation in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu district.

**Table 4:** Working Status of Others Household in MGNREGS in Ananthapuramu District

S. No	Year	Others-No of regd HHs	Others—No. of working HHs	% of Other HH working	Others-Total wage (Rs in Lakhs)	Others-Days worked	Average No. of Days Others Worked
1	2010-11	107114	50512	47.16	2714.59	2673578	52.93
2	2011-12	107114	33182	30.98	2548.48	2351972	70.88
3	2012-13	107114	40530	37.84	3176.96	2639248	65.12
4	2013-14	107114	41445	38.69	3223.72	2543991	61.38
5	2014-15	107114	40705	38.00	3146.28	2266929	55.69
6	2015-16	107114	49814	46.51	6149.9	4145013	83.21
7	2016-17	293273	49158	16.76	5575.24	3383988	68.84
8	2017-18	295881	49097	16.59	5076.09	2885000	58.76
9	2018-19	299261	56185	18.77	8208.65	3987162	70.96

Source: <http://www.nrega.ap.gov.in/Nregs/FrontServlet?requestType=AnalysisReportsRH&Page=AnalysisReports>

It can be found from table 4 that the number of registered other households in the district remained constant during the first 6 years of the study. Thereafter it constantly increased and stood at 299,261 by the end of March 2019. The actual number of other households working under MGNREGS in the Ananthapuramu district is not evenly distributed. In the same way the per cent of other households working among the registered households is also unevenly distributed. The average number of working days of other is fluctuating between 52.93 days (2011-12) to 83.21 days (2015-16) in particular financial year.

#### Conclusion

Poor people in general are financially excluded, but women in many countries are frequently more financially excluded at similar levels of income. The study makes it clear that the participation per cent various social categories showing declining trends in the study area.

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