

STATUS OF MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME IN ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract:

MGNREGA differentiates itself from earlier welfare schemes by taking a grassroots-driven approach to employment generation. The programs under the act are demand-driven and provide legal provisions for appeal in the case, work is not provided or payments are delayed. Ever since the scheme was implemented, the number of jobs has increased by 240% in the past 10 years. The scheme has been successful in enhancing economic empowerment in rural India and helping overcome the exploitation of labour. The main objective of the paper is to analyse the status of MGNREGS district wise in Andhra Pradesh. Out of 26 districts, More than 90 per cent of the households provided employment equal to 150 days in Alluri Sitarama Raju and Parvatipuram Manyam districts. The person days provided employment under MGNREGS between 101-149 and Equal to 150 days reveals that a highest share of person days in both Alluri Sitharama Raju as well as in Parvathipuram Manyam districts. There were 3 main districts reported more than 90 per cent of active job cards in Alluri Sitharama Raju, Vizianagaram and Parvathipuram Manyam. The average wage rate of state of Andhra Pradesh recorded at Rs.255, as many as 15 districts recorded at higher state average and 11 districts reported below the state average wage rate. The data on average wage rate indicates that Konasema district occupied the top in average wage rate at Rs.291, while the lowest in Prakasam districts at Rs.210.

Index Terms: Employment, NREGA, Livelihood Security, Households, Job Cards, Wage Rate, Social Category.

Introduction

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) enacted on 7th September, 2005 is a landmark legislation which empowers the rural population with the legal right to demand work. One can see the NREGA as a shift from supply side to a demand side approach. The Act aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the Country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household which has adult members who volunteer to do unskilled manual work. On February 2, 2006 with great hope and hype, the NREGA came into force, in its first phase, covering 200 districts across the Country. The second phase beginning 2007 – 08, covered an additional 130 districts totaling to 330. In these districts, the earlier wage employment programmes like the National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) and Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) were merged with NREGA. The other 266 districts have been notified on 28th September, 2007 where the NREGA came into force w.e.f. 1st April, 2008. Thus fulfilling the commitment of the UPA Government and was implemented in all the districts of the Country. This is the largest ever public employment programme visualized in human history in rural areas over the last 60 years in India. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) was renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) on October 2, 2009.

The unique character of the Act lies in the remarkable opportunities it opens up to transform the development scenario in India. There is a provision for social audit by the local people on the works under taken under the NREGS. Perhaps for the first time transparency and accountability could be seen in a Government Programme. This is the direct outcome of social audits, the conduct of which has been mandated not only in the Right to Information (RTI) Act, but also in the NREGA itself.

MGNREGS has been made into an Act by Parliament in 2005 and implemented in a big way in the whole of the country since February, 2006. In its sixth year of existence it is felt that there should be stock taking about the performance of the MGNREGS and its outcome, at least in a sample way and come out with suggestions and approvals of the way it is implemented. Over five years have elapsed since the inception of the MGNREGS programme. It is now imperative to make an assessment of the MGNREGS from all its important perspectives.

Some of the major employment programmes implemented in the country in recent years are : National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP): November 14, 2004, Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY): September 25, 2001; Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY): April 1, 1999; The Swarana Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana: December 1, 1997; The Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS): October 2, 1993; Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY): October 2, 1992; The National Rural Employment Programme (NREP): October 2, 1980; Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY): April 1, 1989; The Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP): August 15, 1983; The Integrated Rural

Development Programme (IRDP): October 2, 1980; and the Scheme of Training Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM): August 15, 1979.

Objectives

- ❖ To analyse district wise employment pattern of Households and number of days employed under MGNREGS in Andhra Pradesh
- ❖ To assess the number of job cards provided under MGNREGS in different districts
- ❖ To examine employment status among social categories under MGNREGS across districts
- ❖ To find out average wage rate under MGNREGS at the district level

The present paper used the secondary data published in MGNREGS official website during 2024-2025, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The data represents like, number of households employed, number of person days employed, job cards, average wage and caste wise employment under MGNREGS.

Review of Literature

Any mass employment programme that has the ability to enhance and get the economy out of shackles of recession needs regular inspection and introspection of its execution. Many recent studies (Eswarappa Kasi (2011); Keshava K. G (2010); Naganagoud and Utiveppa H.H (2010); Viswanathan S (2010); Yasmeen S (2009); Lalit Mathur (2008); Anish Vanaik (2008); Gopinath Ghaoh (2008); Pradeep Baisakh (2008); Reetika Khera (2008); Uma Chaturvedi (2008)

Veena Upadhyay (2022) paper observed that 56 per cent of the total employment generated for women through MGNREGA during 2015-16. The number of people working under MGNREGA was recorded at 7.96 crore in 2013-14, come down to 6.71 crore in 2014-15, but it increased to 7.21 crore in 2015-16, 7.65 crore in 2016-17 and it again increased to 7.76 crore during the year 2018-19. There has been an increase in the number of workers in the age group of 18-30 years in MGNREGA after 2017-18.

Arup Das (2021) in his paper analyses that average person day of employment per household in Assam was 25.43 percent and the employment generated to SCs and STs are 6.59 and 16.18 percent under MGNREGA respectively during 2013-14. But in the same year, in Dhemaji, MGNREGA has provided average employment is 9.57 person days while employment to SCs and STs are 2.06 person days and 34.90 person days respectively where as the corresponding figures were 21.81, 6.07, 15.16, 1.96, and 34.48 respectively in 2014-15.

Diego Maiorano and Chakradhar Buddha's (2014) article found that In 2013-14 the average person days in Andhra Pradesh (excluding Telangana but including tribal areas) was 54.49 days per household. Effectively devolving the responsibility to implement the

scheme to the ITDA means disrupting these power structures, a process that is of course resisted at various levels. For example, the district programme director (PD) is extremely unlikely to visit tribal areas that could be several hours of travelling away. Also, no district in AP is exclusively tribal.

Eswarappa Kasi (2011) the consequences of developmental programmes often appear to be out of focus and seen at the ground level, there seems to be a gap between what is intended and what is actualized. His paper presents a case study of the social, cultural and economic correlates of the development processes in Addakulapalle, a settlement of Sugali Tribe people, once a semi-nomadic tribe, in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh, South India.

Sainath.P (2009) in his article said that a positive step taken by the Rural Development Ministry now allows small but vital assets like farm ponds to be created on the lands of farmers through the MGNREGS. A pond on every farm should be the objective of every government. Incidentally, this would help hugely with the Rabi season. It would also ease the hostility of quite a few farmers towards the MGNREGS. A massive expansion of the MGNREGS will also help cushion the lakhs of laborers struggling to find work and devastated by rising food costs.

Reetika Khara (2008) conducted a survey in Madhya Pradesh. It covered two districts of Madhya Pradesh (Badwani and Sindhi) and two blocks in each districts. The study conducted the survey on Jagrut Adivasi Dalit sangathan (JADS) demand for minimum wages, timely wage payments and the unemployment allowance among others. She found that the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has brought about major changes in the JADs, they got high levels of awareness, the first pertain to a fine levied by sang member on the panchayat secretary for delayed wage payments, also they got unemployment allowance.

Yamini Aiyar and Salimah Samji (2006) in their article suggested how to improve the effectiveness of MGNREGS in rural areas. The earlier employment programmes failed due to the common problems of ineffective targeting, leakages and poor quality asset creation, lack of accountability, etc, Hence while developing rules and guidelines for implementation of the MGNREGS more attention should be paid to the lessons that were learnt from past experiences.

District-wise Status of MGNREGS in Andhra Pradesh

Number of Households Employed

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has provided employment to 4576998 households from the inception of the programme, and 2668626 households were provided below 50 days of employment followed by 51-99 days of employment completed 1599634 households, equal to 100 days of employment completed 247665 households, 101-149 days of employment 54131 households and only 6942 households completed work days of employment equal to 150 days. The district wise households employed under MGNREGs between 1-50 days in

2024-25 had a lion's share in Prakasam district 187915 (7.04) followed by Vizianagaram 163845 (6.14), Srikakulam 158318 (5.93), Eluru 155945 (5.84) and Kurnool 147358 (5.52) whereas the lowest employment provided districts like., Visakhapatnam 14434 (0.54 %) next in order Guntur 49986 (1.87%), East Godavari 54279 (2.03%), Parvathipuram Manyam 65355 (2.45%) and Annamayya 73431 (2.75%). Srikakulam district highest number of households provided employment between 51-99 days reported at 144510 (9.03%) and the lowest one recorded at 10428 (0.65%) in Visakhapatnam. 100 days employment provided households higher in Tirupati 25284 (10.21) and Srikakulam 24833 (10.03%) and the lowest districts Guntur 843 (0.34%) and Visakhapatnam 2314 (0.93%). Between 101-149 days of employment provided households is highest in Alluri Sitharama Raju district 35290 (65.19%) next in order Parvathipuram Manyam 13799 (25.49%) these two district also shows highest position provided employment equal to 150 Days. Out of 26 districts, more than 90 per cent of the households getting employment equal to 150 days in these two districts. This indicated that these two districts represents a major proportion of population belong to Schedule Tribes (See Table-1).

Table-1 District-wise Employment Provided (Households Employed) under MGNREGS: 2024-2025

District	1-50 Days		51 - 99 Days		Equal to 100 Days		101 - 149 Days		Equal to 150 Days	
	HHs	%	HHs	%	HHs	%	HHs	%	HHs	%
Alluri Sitharama Raju	75980	2.85	83046	5.19	16921	6.83	35290	65.19	4348	62.63
Anakapalli	102732	3.85	89071	5.57	14240	5.75	450	0.83	15	0.22
Anantapur	117615	4.41	73936	4.62	13334	5.38	17	0.03	0	0.00
Annamayya	73431	2.75	64425	4.03	10689	4.32	38	0.07	0	0.00
Bapatla	126460	4.74	39644	2.48	3473	1.40	0	0.00	0	0.00
Chittoor	77812	2.92	60400	3.78	10359	4.18	26	0.05	1	0.01
East Godavari	54279	2.03	36363	2.27	7302	2.95	0	0.00	0	0.00
Eluru	155945	5.84	80760	5.05	11593	4.68	451	0.83	115	1.66
Guntur	49986	1.87	15250	0.95	843	0.34	0	0.00	0	0.00
Kakinada	105840	3.97	47837	2.99	5429	2.19	102	0.19	3	0.04
Konaseema	79755	2.99	34428	2.15	8578	3.46	0	0.00	0	0.00
Krishna	87646	3.28	46924	2.93	9891	3.99	0	0.00	0	0.00
Kurnool	147358	5.52	52383	3.27	5909	2.39	18	0.03	0	0.00
Nandyal	115732	4.34	43439	2.72	5029	2.03	69	0.13	8	0.12
Nellore	140769	5.27	70071	4.38	4014	1.62	1	0.00	0	0.00
NTR	84785	3.18	53840	3.37	8075	3.26	83	0.15	9	0.13
Palnadu	146501	5.49	43617	2.73	5295	2.14	101	0.19	11	0.16
Parvathipuram Manyam	65355	2.45	82071	5.13	15114	6.10	13799	25.49	1995	28.74
Prakasam	187915	7.04	95690	5.98	5264	2.13	119	0.22	9	0.13

Sri Sathya Sai	88589	3.32	67619	4.23	13081	5.28	0	0.00	0	0.00
Srikakulam	158318	5.93	144510	9.03	24833	10.03	3401	6.28	424	6.11
Tirupati	85563	3.21	58294	3.64	25284	10.21	30	0.06	3	0.04
Visakhapatnam	14434	0.54	10428	0.65	2314	0.93	0	0.00	0	0.00
Vizianagaram	163845	6.14	131938	8.25	11979	4.84	134	0.25	1	0.01
West Godavari	76928	2.88	20028	1.25	2350	0.95	0	0.00	0	0.00
Y.S.R	85053	3.19	53622	3.35	6472	2.61	2	0.00	0	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	2668626	100.00	1599634	100.00	247665	100.00	54131	100.00	6942	100.00

Source: MGNREGA Official Web site, Government of Andhra Pradesh

Person Days of Employment

Table 2 provides the data on employment provided person days in MGNREGS during 2024-25. The highest number of person days provided employment between 1-50 days in Vizianagaram 5020893 (7.46%), Prakasam 4612100 (6.85%) and Srikakulam 4583122 (6.81%) while the lowest person days provided employment districts namely Visakhapatnam 395722 (0.59%), Guntur 1184093 (1.76%) and East Godavari 1286356 (1.91%). This is also true in case of provided the lowest person days between 51-99 and the highest person days reported in Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Prakasam districts. In case of 100 person days of employment reported higher in Tirupati 2528400 (10.21%) and Srikakulam 24833300 (10.03%) more are less in these two districts where as the districts with lowest 100 person days Eluru 84300 (0.34%) and Visakhapatnam 231400 (0.93%), these two districts provided less than 1 per cent of person days. The person days provided employment under MGNREGS between 101-149 and Equal to 150 days the districts had a huge share of person days in Alluri Sitharama Raju district 64.96% & 62.63% and Parvathipuram Manyam 25.83% & 28.74%.

Table-2 District-wise Employment Provided (Person days Generated) under MGNREGS:2024-2025

District	1-50 Days		51 - 99 Days		Equal to 100 Days		101 - 149 Days		Equal to 150 Days	
	Person days	%	Person days	%	Person days	%	Person days	%	Person days	%
Alluri Sitharama Raju	2144915	3.19	6218387	5.33	1692100	6.83	4544896	64.96	652200	62.63
Anakapalli	2962943	4.40	6437301	5.52	1424000	5.75	56320	0.81	2250	0.22
Anantapur	2932872	4.36	5419026	4.64	1333400	5.38	2034	0.03	0	0.00
Annamayya	1853161	2.75	4931930	4.23	1068900	4.32	3896	0.06	0	0.00
Bapatla	2922254	4.34	2812326	2.41	347300	1.40	0	0.00	0	0.00
Chittoor	1857279	2.76	4718790	4.04	1035900	4.18	3089	0.04	150	0.01
East Godavari	1286356	1.91	2728720	2.34	730200	2.95	0	0.00	0	0.00

Eluru	3858716	5.73	5815586	4.98	1159300	4.68	59545	0.85	17250	1.66
Guntur	1184093	1.76	1066443	0.91	84300	0.34	0	0.00	0	0.00
Kakinada	2528056	3.75	3474123	2.98	542900	2.19	12313	0.18	450	0.04
Konaseema	2050628	3.05	2446527	2.10	857800	3.46	0	0.00	0	0.00
Krishna	2224875	3.30	3390926	2.91	989100	3.99	0	0.00	0	0.00
Kurnool	3276400	4.87	3808848	3.26	590900	2.39	1847	0.03	0	0.00
Nandyal	2732950	4.06	3085251	2.64	502900	2.03	8437	0.12	1200	0.12
Nellore	3282800	4.88	5164630	4.43	401400	1.62	111	0.00	0	0.00
NTR	2203587	3.27	3890907	3.33	807500	3.26	10317	0.15	1350	0.13
Palnadu	3242373	4.82	3079321	2.64	529500	2.14	12461	0.18	1650	0.16
Parvathipuram Manyam	2017047	3.00	6064045	5.20	1511400	6.10	1807027	25.83	299250	28.74
Prakasam	4612100	6.85	6947161	5.95	526400	2.13	14228	0.20	1350	0.13
Sri Sathya Sai	2132843	3.17	5202068	4.46	1308100	5.28	0	0.00	0	0.00
Srikakulam	4583122	6.81	10358506	8.88	2483300	10.03	439537	6.28	63600	6.11
Tirupati	2030322	3.02	4425947	3.79	2528400	10.21	3956	0.06	450	0.04
Visakhapatnam	395722	0.59	748271	0.64	231400	0.93	0	0.00	0	0.00
Vizianagaram	5020893	7.46	9160309	7.85	1197900	4.84	15874	0.23	150	0.01
West Godavari	1725280	2.56	1396310	1.20	235000	0.95	0	0.00	0	0.00
Y.S.R	2264437	3.36	3892564	3.34	647200	2.61	262	0.00	0	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	67326024	100.00	116684223	100.00	24766500	100.00	6996150	100.00	1041300	100.00

Source: MGNREGA Official Web site, Government of Andhra Pradesh

Job Cards and Average Wage Rate

Table 3 reveals the district wise data on job cards and average wage rate under MGNREGS in Andhra Pradesh. As many as 5 of 26 districts, the number of job cards issued recorded higher in Prakasam 6.33 per cent followed by Srikakulam 6.26 per cent, Vizianagaram 5.48 per cent, Eluru 5.37 per cent and Nellore 4.92 per cent and the lowest job cards provided districts were Visakhapatnam 0.52 per cent, Guntur 1.84 per cent, East Godavari 2.41 per cent. The proportion of active job cards in total job cards in Andhra Pradesh accounted for 81.34, of 26 districts, 13 districts each fall under above and below state average. The following districts come under above state average viz., Alluri Sitharama Raju 92.28, Vizianagaram 90.88, Parvathipuram Manyam 90.33, Visakhapatnam 86.1, Srikakulam 86.06, Prakasam 85.14, Eluru 84.18, Y.S.R 83.61, Anantapur 83.47, Anakapalli 83.08, NTR 82.83, Tirupati 82.78 and Nandyal 81.45 while the corresponding 13 districts were Annamayya 81.05, Nellore 80.3, Chittoor 80.17, Krishna 80.14, Sri Sathya Sai 79.31, Bapatla 78.25, Kurnool 77.26, Palnadu 76.72, East Godavari 73.57, West Godavari 72.9, Kakinada 72.42, Guntur 69.72 and Konaseema 66.48 fell under below state average. There were 3 main districts predominately the highest share (more than 90 per cent) of active job cards the districts like Alluri Sitharama Raju, Vizianagaram and Parvathipuram Manyam

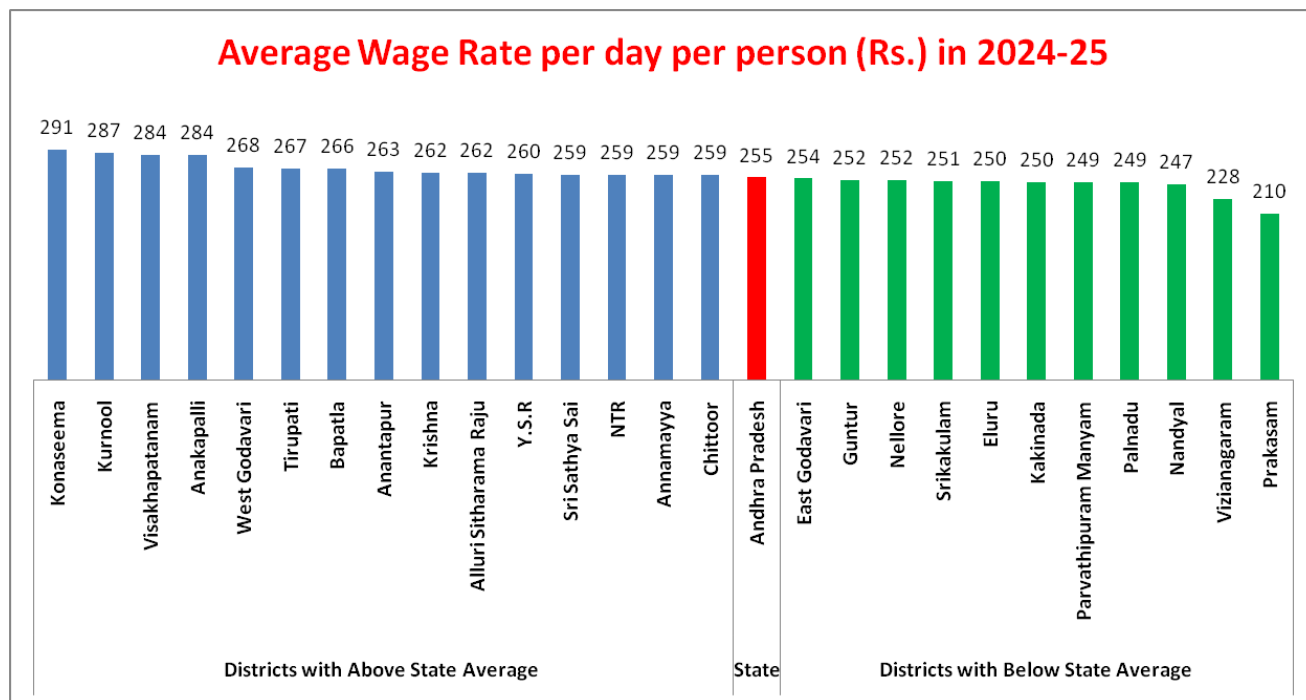
The average wage rate of state of Andhra Pradesh recorded at Rs.255 as on 21st February, 2025, as many as 11 districts come under below state average districts like East Godavari, Guntur, Nellore, Srikakulam, Eluru, Kakinada, Parvathipuram Manyam, Palnadu, Nandyal, Vizianagaram and Prakasam and 15 districts reported at higher state average wage rate, viz., Konaseema, Kurnool, Visakhapatnam, Anakapalli, West Godavari, Tirupati, Bapatla, Anantapur, Krishna, Alluri Sitharama Raju, Y.S.R, Sri Sathya Sai, NTR, Annamayya and Chittoor. It is observed that the Konaseema and Kurnool districts have recorded the highest wage rate Rs.291 & Rs.287 respectively while the lowest wage rate Rs.210 & Rs.228 in Prakasam and Vizianagaram districts. The state as well as districts average wage rate is lower than minimum average rate fixed at Rs. 374/- (w.e.f April, 2024) by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

Table-3 District-wise Provided Job cards and Average Wage Rate under MGNREGS As on 21st February, 2025

District	No. of Job Cards Issued		Active Job Cards		% of Active Job Cards in Total	Average Wage Rate per day per person (Rs.)
	No.	%	No.	%		
Alluri Sitharama Raju	250209	3.53	230890	4.01	92.28	261.66
Anakapalli	287549	4.06	238897	4.15	83.08	284.17
Anantapur	312326	4.41	260693	4.53	83.47	263.14
Annamayya	253392	3.58	205383	3.57	81.05	259.22
Bapatla	272207	3.85	213014	3.70	78.25	266.36
Chittoor	270540	3.82	216901	3.77	80.17	259.01
East Godavari	170734	2.41	125606	2.18	73.57	254.21
Eluru	379824	5.37	319717	5.55	84.18	250.34
Guntur	130544	1.84	91011	1.58	69.72	252.47
Kakinada	289630	4.09	209763	3.64	72.42	250.00
Konaseema	231381	3.27	153829	2.67	66.48	291.15
Krishna	220318	3.11	176571	3.07	80.14	261.93
Kurnool	342408	4.84	264531	4.59	77.26	286.92
Nandyal	260674	3.68	212312	3.69	81.45	247.15
Nellore	348157	4.92	279572	4.86	80.30	252.02
NTR	211716	2.99	175360	3.05	82.83	259.29
Palnadu	343827	4.86	263798	4.58	76.72	249.15
Parvathipuram Manyam	214499	3.03	193757	3.37	90.33	249.48
Prakasam	448444	6.33	381804	6.63	85.14	209.57
Sri Sathya Sai	283982	4.01	225218	3.91	79.31	259.39
Srikakulam	442910	6.26	381185	6.62	86.06	250.67
Tirupati	271505	3.84	224751	3.90	82.78	267.10
Visakhapatnam	36774	0.52	31661	0.55	86.10	284.26

Vizianagaram	388180	5.48	352760	6.13	90.88	228.11
West Godavari	187450	2.65	136642	2.37	72.90	268.39
Y.S.R	229720	3.25	192062	3.34	83.61	260.22
Andhra Pradesh	7078900	100.00	5757688	100.00	81.34	255.45

Source: MGNREGA Official Web site, Government of Andhra Pradesh



Social Category Wise Employment

Table 4 presents the data on Social Category wise Provided Employment under MGNREGS in Andhra Pradesh. According to social category wise provided employment under MGNREGS in Andhra Pradesh revealed that the lowest proportion of employment among SCs in Visakhapatnam, Alluri Sitharama Raju and Anakapalli districts, in STs Visakhapatnam, East Godavari and Konaseema, and others reported lower allure, Visakhapatnam and Guntur, and in case of minorities Konaseema, East Godavari and Visakhapatnam. While the districts with highest employment among SCs like Eluru, Prakasam and Tirupati, in case of STs Alluri Sitharama Raju, Parvatipuram Manyam and Palnadu, others having the highest proportion districts like Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Prakasam and pertaining to minorities Nandyal followed by Alluri Sitharama Raju and Annamayya districts.

Table-4 Social Category wise Provided Employment under MGNREGS As on 21st February 2025

District	SCs		STs		Others		Total Household		Minorities	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Alluri Sitharama Raju	6304	0.39	225508	38.39	17488	0.37	249300	3.58	2485	18.95
Anakapalli	24894	1.56	9992	1.70	247475	5.18	282361	4.06	76	0.58

Anantapur	56187	3.52	10495	1.79	243368	5.09	310050	4.45	364	2.78
Annamayya	45561	2.85	9551	1.63	194573	4.07	249685	3.59	1219	9.30
Bapatla	85516	5.36	11785	2.01	170514	3.57	267815	3.85	340	2.59
Chittoor	71573	4.48	9340	1.59	187608	3.93	268521	3.86	584	4.45
East Godavari	48133	3.02	2257	0.38	116801	2.44	167191	2.40	14	0.11
Eluru	123315	7.73	31245	5.32	220849	4.62	375409	5.39	216	1.65
Guntur	52170	3.27	4691	0.80	69708	1.46	126569	1.82	525	4.00
Kakinada	65059	4.08	6065	1.03	214681	4.49	285805	4.10	47	0.36
Konaseema	89429	5.60	2035	0.35	137009	2.87	228473	3.28	13	0.10
Krishna	75253	4.71	4336	0.74	135332	2.83	214921	3.09	117	0.89
Kurnool	64977	4.07	4427	0.75	263789	5.52	333193	4.79	606	4.62
Nandyal	66490	4.17	9913	1.69	182402	3.82	258805	3.72	3093	23.59
Nellore	94931	5.95	26958	4.59	223328	4.67	345217	4.96	509	3.88
NTR	75984	4.76	14455	2.46	116942	2.45	207381	2.98	275	2.10
Palnadu	82169	5.15	32518	5.54	221079	4.63	335766	4.82	866	6.60
Parvathipuram Manyam	27373	1.72	73471	12.51	109676	2.29	210520	3.02	37	0.28
Prakasam	120622	7.56	20603	3.51	299624	6.27	440849	6.33	137	1.04
Sri Sathya Sai	40073	2.51	16237	2.76	220553	4.61	276863	3.98	420	3.20
Srikakulam	39584	2.48	21585	3.67	372036	7.78	433205	6.22	56	0.43
Tirupati	98323	6.16	24517	4.17	145056	3.04	267896	3.85	222	1.69
Visakhapatnam	3141	0.20	298	0.05	32757	0.69	36196	0.52	22	0.17
Vizianagaram	44658	2.80	10116	1.72	328867	6.88	383641	5.51	31	0.24
West Godavari	46576	2.92	1556	0.26	132724	2.78	180856	2.60	36	0.27
Y.S.R	47765	2.99	3485	0.59	175061	3.66	226311	3.25	804	6.13
Andhra Pradesh	1596060	100.00	587439	100.00	4779300	100.00	6962799	100.00	13114	100.00

Source: MGNREGA Official Web site, Government of Andhra Pradesh

Conclusion

To sum up, more than 90 per cent of the households employed between 101-150 days under MGNREGS in Alluri Sitharama Raju and Parvathipuram Manyam districts. This is also true in case of number of person days employed in these two districts. The highest share of active job cards were accounted for higher in Alluri Sitharama Raju and Vizianagaram districts, where as lower in Konaseema and Guntur districts in Andhra Pradesh. Across social category, employment among SCs under MGNREGS constitute higher in Eluru, in case of STs Alluri Sitharama Raju, others category Srikakulam and Nandyal in case of minorities. It is observed that the Konaseema and Kurnool districts have recorded the highest wage rate Rs.291 & Rs.287 respectively while the lowest wage rate Rs.210 & Rs.228 in Prakasam and Vizianagaram districts. The state as well as districts average wage rate is lower than minimum average rate fixed at Rs. 374/- (w.e.f April, 2024) by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. Therefore, there is need to increase number of working

days in general and among social groups in particular which enable to increase the average wage rate.

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