Employment Status under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in Andhra Pradesh

April-September 2023

About this report

This report compiles data on Employment Generated in Andhra Pradesh from Apr-Sep 2023 (current year) and compares data for the preceding financial years 2021-22 and 2022-23 for the same time period. The analysis relies on information downloaded from https://nrega.nic.in/ as of 06-10-2023. Our aim is to provide citizens and stakeholders with insights into the present status of MGNREGA implementation in Andhra Pradesh.

[1] April to September

1. Key Statistics

The following table displays some important statistics for Andhra Pradesh in comparison to the rest of the country for the period Apr-Sep 2023.

Table 1: Key MGNREGA statistics for the country vs. Andhra Pradesh

S.No.	Metric	Country	Andhra Pradesh	Proportion of Andhra Pradesh
1	Total Number of Districts	740	26	-
2	Total Number of Mandals(Blocks)	7,172	661	-
3	Total Number of Panchayats	2,69,553	13,478	-
4	Jobcards[2] Issued (lakhs) as on 6th October 2023	1,466	68.88	4.70%
5	Total Number of Active Jobcards[3] (lakhs) as on 6th October 2023	972	56.87	5.90%
6	Total Number of Active Workers[4] (lakhs) as on 6th October 2023	1,433	96.09	6.70%
7	Persondays[5] Generated in FY 23-24 (crores)	188.02	20.35	10.80%
8	Total Households worked in FY 23-24 (Lakhs)	1326.45	122.86	-
9	Unique Households worked in FY 23-24 (Lakhs)	489	43.86	-
10	Average Persondays per Households (HH)[6]	38.43	46.39	-
11	Total No of HHs completed 100 Days of Wage Employment (lakhs)	6.79	1.43	-
12	Average Wage Rate per Day per Person	237.65	247.71	-
13	Unskilled wages earned by workers (Rupees in crores) as on 6th October 2023	44678.2	5040.9	-

[2] An authorised document issued by the Govt at Households level. Crucial for MGNREGA participation.
[3] A Jobcard with a record of at least one worker engaging in MGNREGA employment for a minimum of one day within the past three financial years.
[4] A worker who has been engaged in MGNREGA employment for at least one day within the past three financial years.
[5] Number of work days completed under MGNREGA by the jobcard holders.
[6] Persondays Generated / Unique Households Worked.

2. Employment at State Level

2.1 Comprehensive Analysis of Employment Metrics and Trends

18.9% increase in persondays generated in FY 2023-24 when compared to the same period in FY 2022-23

Ideally, MGNREGA, as a demand-driven employment program, should align with the workers' demand, evident in the number of Households employed and workdays generated. However, the central government's stringent control over budget allocations and states' varying political will and administrative capacities highlight the significance of employment-related figures as vital indicators of NREGA effectiveness. Evaluating MGNREGA employment performance involves considering metrics such as Number of Households employed, participation of vulnerable Households, average persondays of employment generated and number of Households completing 100 days.

Key trends in MGNREGA employment in AP:

1. Households Worked:

FY 2023-24 showcases a significant recovery in the number of households worked, marking a positive turn around to 122.9 lakhs. This represents a notable increase of approximately 19% compared to the preceding fiscal year (FY 2022-23) when there was a significant drop to 103.3 lakhs. The encouraging trend aligns with the national story, where the total households worked for India also saw a rebound from 1144.16 lakhs in Apr-Sep 22-23 to 1326.45 lakhs in Apr-Sep 23-24, reflecting a remarkable increase of 15.9%

2. Persondays Generated:

FY 2023-24 demonstrates a positive trajectory in persondays generated, reaching 2035 lakhs. This indicates a recovery of around 18.9% compared to the downturn observed in FY 2022-23 (1711 lakhs). The encouraging revival aligns with the national trend, where persondays generated for India also increased from 16572.17 lakhs in Apr-Sep 22-23 to 18802.55 lakhs in Apr-Sep 23-24, reflecting a substantial rise of 13.5%.

For additional information on the Households worked and Persondays generated at the national level, kindly refer Annexure 2.
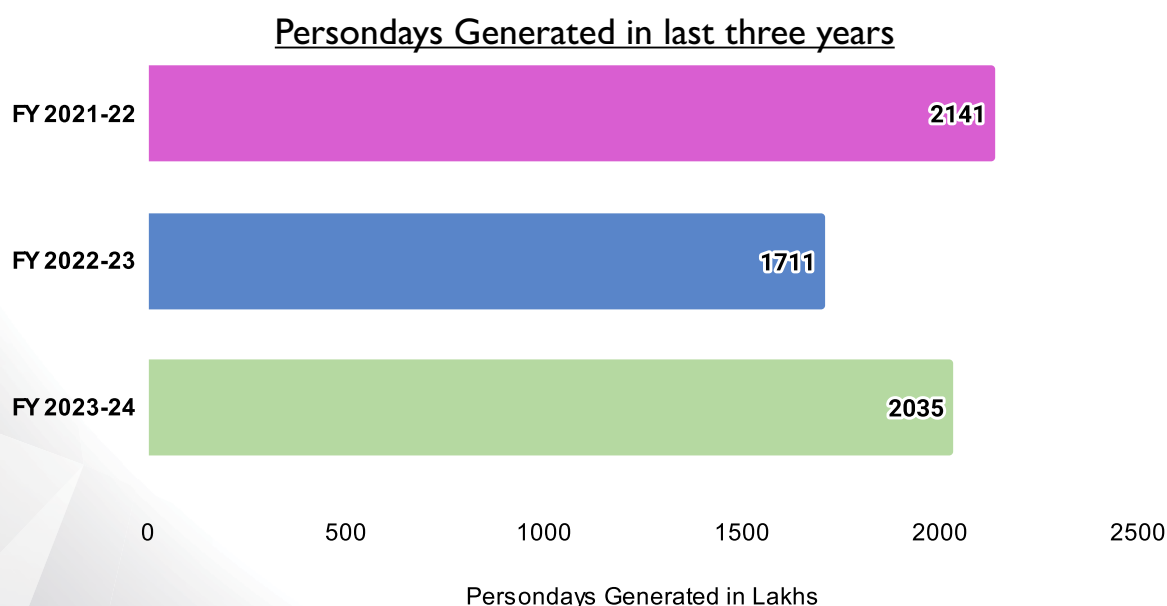

Figure 1: Employment Trends (Apr-Sep Yearly Comparison) at State Level.

2.2 Employment at District Level

In the fiscal year 2023-24, Andhra Pradesh demonstrated an impressive overall increase of 18.9% in total persondays generated through NREGA in comparison with 2022-23. This positive trend signifies a substantial boost in NREGA engagement across the state. Notably, every district experienced growth in persondays, with several districts registering significant increases. ASR, NTR, and Nellore stood out with remarkable upswings of 34.3%, 36%, and 37.8%, respectively. In contrast, Sri Satya Sai (4.3%), Prakasam (5.2%), and Eluru (6.6%) showed relatively modest increases. The positive trajectory observed in each district collectively contributes to the state's overall progress in NREGA participation. This holistic growth underscores the efficacy of rural employment initiatives in Andhra Pradesh during the specified fiscal year.
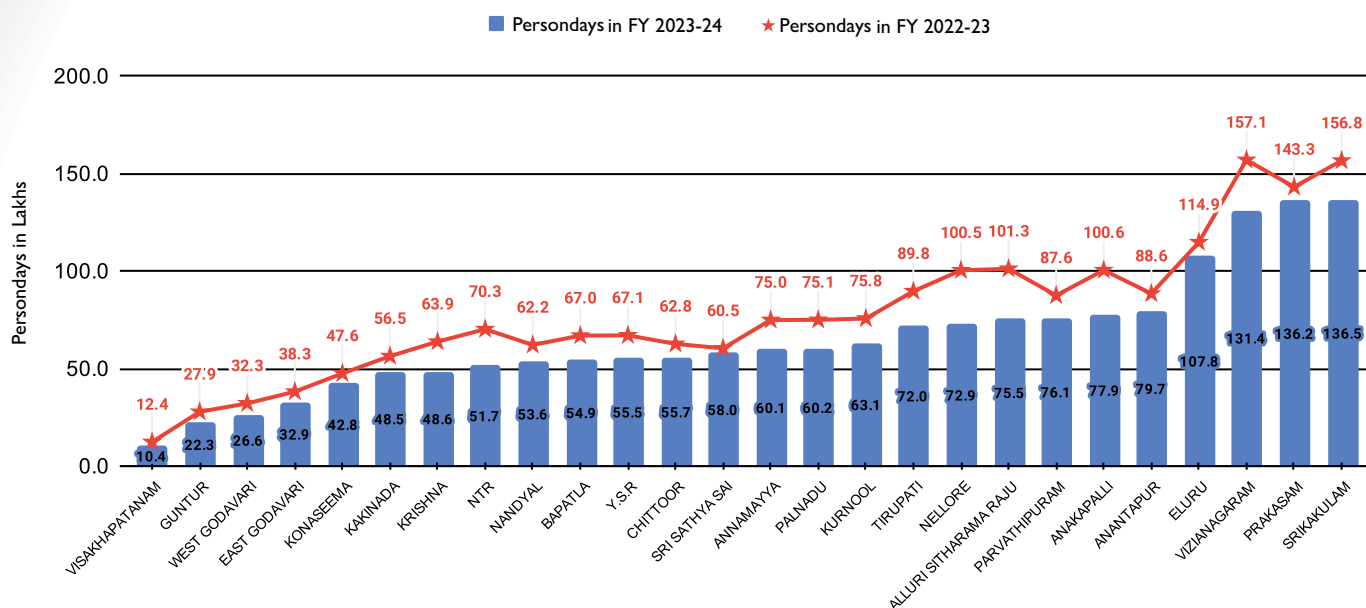

Figure 2: District-wise persondays comparison of Apr-Sep 2023-24 and Apr-Sep 2022-23

2.3 Employment Trend in Apr-Sep 2023-24 for Different Categories of Workers

Table 2 : Employment trend for SC's, ST's and Other's

Group of Workers	Persondays in Lakhs		Increase in %
	Apr-Sep 2023-24	Apr-Sep 2022-23	
SC	471.13	407.01	15.8
ST	209.24	159.45	31.2
Others	1354.71	1144.52	18.4
Total	2035.08	1710.98	18.9

In the period from April to September 2023-24, Andhra Pradesh witnessed substantial growth in NREGA engagement across different groups of workers. Notably, the Scheduled Caste (SC) category showed a significant increase of 15.8%, with persondays reaching 471.13 lakhs co mpared to 407.01 lakhs in the same period of the previous fiscal year. The Scheduled Tribe (ST) group demonstrated remarkable growth, recording a notable 31.2% increase in persondays, escalating from 159.45 lakhs to 209.24 lakhs. Workers falling into

the 'Others' category also experienced a noteworthy uptick, with persondays rising from 1144.52 lakhs to 1354.71 lakhs, reflecting an 18.4% increase. Collectively, the overall persondays surged from 1710.98 lakhs to 2035.08 lakhs, marking an impressive 18.9% growth. These key observations underscore the inclusive impact of NREGA in providing employment opportunities across diverse sections of the population in Andhra Pradesh.

Disclaimer: This report refrains from discussing the current status of workers who faced deletions in the fiscal year 2022-23, during which a significant number of MGNREGA worker deletions occurred[7]. The Office of Rural Development, Government of Andhra Pradesh, is actively involved in addressing and resolving these issues on the ground. We intend to provide an update on the status of these workers in our annual tracker, set to be released in April 2024. For more detailed information on MGNREGA deletions, kindly refer to our previous tracker.

[7] http://libtech.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/LibTech_NREGA_AP_22-23.pdf

3. Conclusion

The analysis of MGNREGA employment in Andhra Pradesh for April to September 2023 reveals promising trends. Comparing data from preceding years, the state demonstrates a noteworthy 18.9% increase in persondays, reflecting positive strides in the program's impact. The resurgence in households worked aligns with national efforts to revitalize MGNREGA. District-wise evaluations highlight overall growth, with districts like ASR, NTR, and Nellore leading. Modest increases in Sri Satya Sai, Prakasam, and Eluru indicate areas for improvement. Employment trends across different categories show inclusive growth, particularly for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and others.

In conclusion, the findings suggest positive momentum in MGNREGA in Andhra Pradesh. The increase in employment opportunities, especially for vulnerable groups, underscores the program's success in fostering inclusive rural development. Addressing district-wise variations remains crucial for optimizing the program's impact statewide.

Annexure 1:

S.No	District Name	Persondays by Scheduled Castes(Apr - Sep)		Persondays by Scheduled Tribes(Apr - Sep)		Persondays by Others(Apr - Sep)		Total Persondays(Apr - Sep)	
		2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23	2023-24	2022-23
1	ALLURI SITHARAMA RAJU	199392	169815	9271886	6811550	658267	563887	10129545	7545252
2	ANAKAPALLI	831482	626478	401247	292366	8824267	6869718	10056996	7788562
3	ANANTAPUR	1629613	1563916	358900	294475	6868724	6107514	8857237	7965905
4	ANNAMAYYA	1523368	1286504	312770	249751	5666731	4474148	7502869	6010403
5	BAPATLA	2399874	2026662	232752	182808	4066514	3281977	6699140	5491447
6	CHITTOOR	1970374	1751893	211608	176588	4093257	3638815	6275239	5567296
7	EAST GODAVARI	1468807	1309360	73970	60828	2283727	1920828	3826504	3291016
8	ELURU	4053591	3972265	1187146	983974	6251569	5825827	11492306	10782066
9	GUNTUR	1292442	1052560	84632	60440	1415293	1112371	2792367	2225371
10	KAKINADA	1639931	1440686	139455	110572	3868109	3302004	5647495	4853262
11	KONASEEMA	2335846	2127559	42360	34841	2383695	2119080	4761901	4281480
12	KRISHNA	2425096	1844008	95844	65505	3870878	2952547	6391818	4862060
13	KURNOOL	1527132	1328572	100112	57701	5948548	4922613	7575792	6308886
14	NANDYAL	1774665	1586615	260315	193408	4188380	3575412	6223360	5355435
15	NELLORE	2798904	2116692	526423	350542	6725077	4826766	10050404	7294000
16	NTR	2749586	2070341	513907	350842	3766080	2748492	7029573	5169675
17	PALNADU	1940828	1489630	662157	455643	4904462	4070793	7507447	6016066
18	PARVATHIPURAM MANYAM	1037044	934832	3323504	2774374	4400044	3904420	8760592	7613626
19	PRAKASAM	3339733	3501648	405364	330393	10581975	9787011	14327072	13619052
20	SRI SATHYA SAI	957429	902235	432350	378208	4659201	4520681	6048980	5801124
21	SRIKAKULAM	1451851	1263854	1013355	770851	13211734	11614214	15676940	13648919
22	TIRUPATI	3611337	2839131	747039	522270	4620698	3842802	8979074	7204203
23	VISAKHAPATANAM	99784	84770	8869	6673	1134191	953548	1242844	1044991
24	VIZIANAGARAM	1731108	1524235	406279	330956	13574929	11287771	15712316	13142962
25	WEST GODAVARI	927858	743162	24310	16611	2273337	1902502	3225505	2662275
26	Y.S.R	1396028	1143123	87232	82618	5230903	4326177	6714163	5551918

		Apr-Sep 21-22 (In Lakhs)	Apr-Sep 22-23 (In Lakhs)	Apr-Sep 23-24 (In Lakhs)	Increase (%) Apr-Sep 21-22 & Apr-Sep 23-24[7]	Increase (%) Apr-Sep 22-23 & Apr-Sep 23-24[8]
India	Total House-holds worked	1415.96	1144.16	1326.45	-6.3	15.9
	Persondays Generated	21003.22	16572.17	18802.55	-10.5	13.5

[8] Increase (%) Apr-Sep 21-22 & Apr-Sep 23-24 = (((Apr-Sep 23-24) - (Apr- Sep 21-22))/(Apr-Sep 21-22))*100
[9] Increase (%) Apr-Sep 22-23 & Apr-Sep 23-24 = (((Apr-Sep 23-24) - (Apr- Sep 22-23))/(Apr-Sep 22-23))*100

About LibTech

We are a team of engineers, social workers and social scientists who are interested in improving public service delivery in India. We have been working as a team in multiple states of the country including Telangana for the last 10 years, though individually some of us have been involved for more than a decade.

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