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Key Findings from LibTech India's Report on MGNREGA Implementation in Andhra Pradesh (April-September 2024)

Andhra Pradesh, October 24, 2024 – LibTech India is set to release its latest report on the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in Andhra Pradesh for the period April to September 2024. The report reveals critical insights into employment trends and challenges in the state, with a comparative analysis of data from the previous year (April-September 2023).

Key Highlights of the Report:

1. 11.8% Decline in Employment:

The total number of persondays generated in Andhra Pradesh dropped by 11.8% in FY 2024-25 compared to the same period in FY 2023-24. This decline mirrors the national trend, which saw a 16% reduction, indicating wider challenges across the country.

2. Sharp Drop in Specific Districts:

Of the 26 districts in Andhra Pradesh, 22 experienced a decline in employment. Nellore (35.1%), Kurnool (30.9%), and Tirupati (22.4%) reported the highest drops. On the other hand, districts like Parvathipuram Manyam (17.6%), Sri Sathya Sai (8.0%), and Alluri Sitharama Raju (4.7%) bucked the trend with increases in persondays.

3. Caste-Wise Employment Trends:

A caste-wise analysis shows significant declines for Scheduled Castes (15.5%) and the "Others" category (12.6%), while Scheduled Tribes saw a slight increase (1.7%) in persondays, indicating possible improvements in tribal participation.

4. Worker Deletions and Inclusions:

Andhra Pradesh saw 2.85 lakh workers deleted but added 3.43 lakh new workers, resulting in a net positive inclusion of 0.59 lakh workers. This contrasts with the national picture, where worker deletions far exceeded additions.

5. Union Govt Advisory Hits NREGA Persondays?:

A strong start to the year was hampered by the union government's advisory issued in May 2024. The Ministry of Rural Development flagged non-compliance with the 60% expenditure requirement on agriculture-related activities among other things, which **may have led to** a sharp decline in persondays from May onwards.

Conclusion:

The findings suggest a significant slowdown in the state's employment generation, raising concerns about the future of MGNREGA in Andhra Pradesh. LibTech India emphasizes the need for enhanced collaboration between state and central governments to address these challenges, particularly in districts facing severe declines. Targeted interventions for vulnerable communities, such as Scheduled Castes and economically weaker districts, will be essential to revitalize employment opportunities.

About LibTech India:

LibTech India is a collective of engineers, social workers, and researchers committed to improving public service delivery across rural India. For over a decade, the team has worked to ensure transparency and efficiency in government welfare programs, including MGNREGA.

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