

Behind the Numbers: MGNREGA in Telangana, 2024–25

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MGNREGA in Telangana Shows Mixed Signals in FY 2024–25: Participation Rises, But Employment Guarantee Weakens, Reveals LibTech India Tracker

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LibTech India's latest state-level analysis of MGNREGA implementation in **Telangana** for FY 2024–25 reveals an uneven performance: **more households participated in the program**, yet **key employment entitlements weakened**, with fewer households completing the full 100 days of guaranteed work and average employment per household. The report draws on official data from the Government of India (as of 7 April 2025) and situates Telangana's trends in comparison with national patterns.

Key Findings from the Report:

More Households Participated, But Work Did Not Keep Pace:

- Unique households that worked under MGNREGA in Telangana rose **from 25.33 Lakhs to 26.68 Lakhs (5.3%)**, even as registrations remained stagnant at 53 lakhs. (From 2023-24 to 2024-25)
- In contrast, **national household participation dropped by 3.5%**, positioning Telangana ahead in terms of inclusivity.
- Field reports suggest new registrations were informally restricted, possibly to limit access to the **Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa** scheme, which is tied to MGNREGA eligibility.

Persondays Rose Marginally, But Average Work Per Household Dropped:

- Total persondays increased from 12.1 crores in 2023-24 to 12.2 crores in 2024-25 (**1.1%**), defying the **7% national decline**.
- However, average persondays per household fell from **47.71 to 45.80 (4%)**, showing that higher participation didn't lead to more work per household.

Steep Fall in Full-Year Employment:

- The number of households completing **100 days of work** dropped from 1.35 Lakh in 2023-24 to 0.93 Lakh in **2024-25 (31.1%)**.
- This is over **three times** the national decline of 9.5%, revealing serious gaps in fulfilling MGNREGA's core employment guarantee.

District-Level Variation Highlights Local Gaps:

- 17 out of 32 districts saw an increase in persondays.
- **Mulugu (+36.5%), Kamareddy (+24.6%) and Warangal (+23.7%)** led the gains.
- **Medchal(25.3%), Sangareddy(19.2%) and Mahbubabad(18.1%)** registered the highest declines.



Mid-Year Collapse in Work Post MoRD Advisory:

- April (+88%) and May (+35%) saw strong year-on-year growth.
- A **sharp fall from June 2024 to March 2025 followed an MoRD advisory on 24 May 2024**, citing violations in the 60% agriculture-expenditure rule.
- It is important to note that, despite the **decline in persondays from June to the year-end**, overall persondays increased due to the significant gains in **April and May earlier in the year**.

Telangana Lags on Worker Reinstatement Despite Past Deletions:

- The state saw a net **reduction of 0.91 lakh workers**, contrary to national trends that saw **119 lakh workers added**.
- Over the last three years, **6.1 lakh households and 21 lakh workers** have been deleted. There was an expectation to reinstate workers who were wrongfully deleted, but Telangana has not shown encouraging results in this regard in 2024-25, with deletions continuing.



Modest Gains, Missed Potential

- Despite an increase in notified wages from ₹272 to ₹300, workers received only ₹213/day on average—just 71% of the entitled amount.
- This led to a modest ₹1,133 rise in household income, from ₹8,637 to ₹9,770 in FY 2024–25.



Persistent Wage Suppression Despite Hike

- Even with higher notified wages, households earned ₹9,770—well below the ₹13,740 they could have earned if paid the full amount for all workdays.
- All the employed households had the potential to earn ₹3,666.33 crores but earned only ₹2607.01 crores i.e. a shortfall of ₹1,059.32 crores.
- Telangana continues to record one of the lowest wage realizations in the country, with no signs of reversal.



About the Report:

This tracker is part of LibTech India's broader initiative to monitor MGNREGA implementation across states, including Telangana. It aims to inform citizens, media, and policymakers through transparent, data-based insights into rural employment and welfare delivery.



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