

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 19th November 2025

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MGNREGA Employment in India; Insights and Trends during April - September 2025:

LibTech India's six-monthly MGNREGA Tracker reveals a significant contraction of employment generation in India during FY 2025-26(for April-September 2025) when compared with the same period in FY 2024-25. The contraction is more severe when compared to the same period in FY 2023-24.

Major Findings

1. Significant contraction in employment

MGNREGA recorded 11.7% and 25.6% drop in persondays generated during FY 2025-26 when compared with the same period in FY 2024-25 and 2023-24. Only eight states recorded an incline and the rest 11 states saw decline in persondays generated in FY 2025-26 when compared with FY 2024-25. West Bengal did not record any persondays in both the years.

At state level:

Uttarakhand(54.3%) and Telangana(47.6%) saw the biggest drop while Jharkhand(56.4%) and Madhya Pradesh(30.5%) saw the highest rise in persondays generated in FY 2025-26.

2. Aadhaar based eKYC - challenges

Aadhaar based eKYC through facial verification is added as a new feature in National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS). This eKYC becomes mandatory from November 2025.

As on 12th November 2025, 68.8%(17.9 crore workers) and 46.9%(5.3 crore workers) of all workers and active workers in the country have not completed eKYC.

At state level:

Madhya Pradesh(93.9%), Gujarat(88.8%) and Haryana(88.6%) have the highest and also overwhelming share of 'all workers' while Madhya Pradesh(90.5%) again, Bihar(76.8%) and Jharkhand(68%) have the highest share of 'active workers' for eKYC pending.

Field investigations show that many workers are unable to complete eKYC due to technical glitches, weak network connectivity, and workers' migration to other places in search of work.

3. Net Worker Additions

While 11.2 lakh workers were deleted in FY 2025-26, 90 lakh workers were added to the MGNREGA rolls. Therefore, net worker additions stand at 78.8 lakh. However, it is important to note that in spite of positive results in terms of workers addition, employment witnessed a significant drop as mentioned before.

4. MGNREGA in West Bengal

The Calcutta High Court ordered the resumption of MGNREGA from 1 August 2025, and the Supreme Court subsequently upheld this order. Although this is a positive development, special provisions for workers in the state to gradually adapt to ABPS, NMMS and eKYC is crucial.

5. To Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)

- The MoRD should revoke mandatory Aadhaar eKYC requirement for accessing work and wages.
- Initiate consultations with state governments, especially where key indicators recorded a drop in performance.
- Also initiate consultations with civil society organisations to design inclusion-first digital processes.

About the Report

The LibTech India MGNREGA Tracker is used by journalists, CSOs, and policymakers to monitor employment generation and exclusion trends under the world's largest social protection programme.

Access full report [Link](#)