



EMPLOYMENT GENERATED UNDER NREGA AND ITS SOCIO ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

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Introduction

MANPOWER EMPLOYMENT GENERATED UNDER NREGA AND ITS SOCIO- ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

In this chapter an attempt has been made in order to highlight the activities of State NREGA in employment generation in 27 districts in general and 5 sample districts in particular viz., Bongaigaon, Cachar, Dibrugarh, Nagaon and Sonitpur. Chapter is designed under five heads as guided by the Coordinating Centre. All data base information are accessed from "NREGA's website"

The functioning of NREGA (Three phase's district wise) Table 2.1 visualizes phase wise employment generated during the financial year 2009-10 in the different districts of Assam. In the Phase I, it covers 7 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur and Hills. In the phase II, it covers 6 districts viz. Barpeta, Cachar, Darrang, Hailakandi, Marigaon, Nalbari and in phase III, it covers 14 districts viz. Baksa, Chirang, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup, Kamrup Metro, Karimganj, Nagaon, Sivasagar, Sonitpur, Tinsukia and Udalguri. In phase I, among the 7 districts, the highest 36.18 per cent job opportunity was availed of by SC category in Bongaigaon while the highest of 40.22 per cent job opportunity were availed off by ST category in Karbi Anglong. Similarly, the highest job opportunity 41.19 per cent job opportunity was availed off by others category which includes OBC, General and Minorities workers in Kokrajhar district. The highest percentage of women participation (43.16%) recorded against the Kokrajhar district, which exceeded the limit of at least 33 per cent reservation as per gender norms of the act. In phase II, the highest 31.22 per cent job opportunity was availed by SC category in Cachar district while the highest 40.03 per cent was availed by ST category in Morigaon district. The highest 21.75 per cent of job opportunity was availed by other category in Borpeta district and the highest percentage of women participation 39.20 per cent was also seen in this district.

In Phase III, the highest 15.60 per cent of job opportunity availed of by SC category in Chirang district. The highest 25.48 per cent of job opportunity availed of by ST category in Baksa district while the highest 13.66 per cent of job opportunity was availed of by other category in Chirang district and the highest 21.96 per cent of women participated in the same district. Variations of cast component in work participations occurred due to dominant

demographic structure of a particular group of the population of the district or it might be due to special attention of the implementing agency for weaker sections of the population. Women participation was at a lower level in almost all the districts than the Borpeta and Kokrajhar districts. In over all, during the financial year 2009-10, the state generated 323.70 lakh person days in Phase I covering 7 districts. In Phase II, it generated 133.25 lakh person days covering 4 districts and in Phase-III, it generated 276.00 lakh person days covering 14 districts and all together, State has created 732.95 lakhs person days under NREGA.

Total Employment Generated- their Socio-economic Characteristic

It has been observed during field investigation that most of the households earn their livelihood from unskilled casual labour. Most of the households do not have own cultivated land and a few households possess cultivated land. They usually go for Kharif paddy cultivation and a few households go for Rabi crops mainly vegetables to meet their household requirements only. Sporadic cases were also found as commercial growers. Production is not sufficient due to inadequate cultivated area and low yield rate. Asset positions of most of the households are in a pathetic condition. They have nothing in their hand except to go for wage labour in the lean period or go for as petty vegetable vendors. They also reported that they do not get work for every day. They have to sit idle for at least for 3 to 4 days in a week. Very few households have to access two balanced meals in a day. It seems that most of the households live below poverty line. Other socio-economic characteristics are also in a deplorable condition. However, BPL rice at subsidized rate and the scheme The Antyodaya Yojana (AAY) that provides 35 kgs of rice at free of cost to the selected families is also helping some of the poor families to overcome food deficiency. However, it seems from their physical appearances that still they are suffering from nutritional deficiency. In this regard, NREGA gives a new life to these categories of the people as it provides hard cash to the needy people as they are getting an opportunity to purchase other essential items for their food baskets. Table 2.2.a, 2.2.b and 2.2.c show the cumulative number of job cards issued to the different categories of workers, i.e, SC, ST and Others for three financial years, 2010-11, 2009-10 and 2008-09 respectively. The data in the Tables also indicate the proportion of participants belonged to the above three categories of workers participated in the NREGA. The Tables focus on cumulative number of households that demanded for employment and cumulative number of households offered employment along with actual cumulative number of households engaged under NREGA. These also give the number of person days generated under each component of the caste with a special attention to the weaker gender.

In 2010-11, under SC category, it generated the highest (16.16%) person days in Darang and the lowest (0.15%) in North Cachar Hills out of the state total generated man days 51.74 lakh person days. Under ST category, it generated the highest (16.36%) in Karbi Ang Long and the lowest (0.03%) in Dhubri of the state total man days generated 128.30 lakh person days while in case of others, it generated the highest (10.06%) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.04%) in North Cachar Hills out the state total 290.60 lakh person days. Combining the three categories, the highest person days (10.97%) stood in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.40%) in Kamrup Metro out of the state total 470.60 lakh person days. In 2009-10, under Sc

category, it generated the highest (11.10%) person days in Bongaigaon and the lowest (0.34%) in Dibrugarh out of the state total generated man days 89.03 lakh person days. Under ST category, it generated the highest (24.60%) in Karbi Anglong and the lowest (0.04%) in Dhubri of the state total man days generated 227.40 lakh person days while in case of others, it generated the highest (15.56) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.51%) in Kamrup Metro, out of the state total 416.60 lakh person days. Combining the three categories, the highest person days (15.42%) stood in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.59%) in Kamrup Metro out of the state total 733.00 lakh person days. In 2008-09, under SC category, it generated the highest (14.31%) person days in Bongaigaon and the lowest (0.15%) in Tinsukia out of the state total generated man days 78.19 lakh person days. Under ST category, it generated the highest (31.29%) in Karbi Anglong and the lowest (0.03%) in Dhubri of the state total man days generated 258.80 lakh person days while in case of others, it generated the highest (20.15) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.09%) in Kamrup Metro out the state total 414.10 lakh person days. Combining the three categories, the highest person days (20.79%) stood in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.11%) in Kamrup Metro out of the state total 751.10 lakh person days.

it has also been observed that emphasis has been given on engagement of women in NERGA programmes. Of the total person days, the highest 19.03 per cent were generated in Kokrajhar and the lowest 0.42 per cent person days in Bongaigaon out of the state total 124.70 lakh person (women) days in 2010-11. In 2009-10, of the state total person (women) days 203.00 lakh person days, the highest 26.03 per cent in Kokrajhar and the lowest 0.10 per cent person days were generated in Karimganj. In 2008-09, of the state total person (women) days 204.00 lakh person days, the highest 35.21 per cent in Kokrajhar and the lowest 0.03 per cent person days were generated in Kamrup Rural.

First position by completing 862 works along 298 ongoing works while Cachar district occupied second position by completing 380 works along with 479 ongoing works; **Bongaigaon** district occupied third position by completing 64 works along with 155 ongoing works; Nagaon district occupied fourth position by completing 39 works along with 923 ongoing works and Dibrugarh district occupied fifth position by completing 14 works along with 139 ongoing works.

It has been observed that there were no complaints received from 13 districts viz., Goalpara Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, North Cachar Hills, Baksa, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, Karimganj, Sivasagar and Sonitpur. The highest numbers (80) of complaints were reported from the district Dhemaji and the lowest each with 2 in Bongaigaon and Chirang. Almost all the districts having complaint were disposed off during the reference year 2010-11.

In district level, 100 per cent inspection was found in Kamrup Metro and Karimganj district only. No record of inspections was found in North Cachar Hills. The lowest 4.44 per cent inspection was found in Cachar district. Inspection in block level of 16 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Goalpara, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Cachar, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, Karimganj, Sivasagar, Tinsukia and

Udalguri showed cent percent inspection. No record of inspection at block level was found in North Cachar Hills district. The lowest inspection 47.00 per cent at block level was found in Baksa. In 2009-10, the highest with 230 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Nagaon district; the lowest with only 22 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Kamrup Metro. No record of holding Gram Panchayat meetings were found in Karbi Anglong districts. The highest number with 4,128 Gram Sabha meetings were held in Tinsukia district with lowest 62 meetings in Hailakandi district. No record of holding Gram Sabha meeting was found in 2 districts viz., Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills. The district Nagaon occupied top position by holding 1,154 VMC meeting and the lowest position held by Lakhimpur and North Cachar Hills districts by holding only 1 VMC meeting each. No record of holding any VMC meeting was found in 2 districts viz., Karbi Anglon and Kokrajhar. It has been observed that there was no complaints received from 11 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, North Cachar Hills, Baksa, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, Karimgang, Sivasagar and Sonitpur. The highest numbers (71) of complaints were reported from the district Darrang and the lowest with 1 in Karbi Anglong. Almost all the districts having complaint were disposed off during the reference year 2009-10.

The highest number with 2,486 Gram Sabha meetings were held in Tinsukia district with lowest 53 meetings in Bongaigaon district. No record of holding Gram Sabha meeting was found in 2 districts viz., Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills. The District Cachar occupied top position by holding 2,84 VMC meeting and the lowest position held by Hailakandi and Jorhat districts by holding only 1 VMC meeting for each. No record of holding any VMC meeting were found in 5 districts viz., Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Nalbari, Dhubri and Karimgang.

Combining both bank and post office accounts, there were 27,19,354 individual and 1,04,810 joint accounts in the state. Altogether, the total number of accounts stood at 28, 24,164 and Rs. 48,490.00 lakh were disbursed in the state in 2009-10. The highest individual bank accounts of 1,64,330 in Nagaon and the lowest with 17,207 in Nalbari have been recorded in 2009-10 while the highest joint bank account with 67,380 in Bongaigaon and the lowest with only 2 in Sivasagor district were recorded. There were no record of individual bank account in 2 districts viz., Bongaigaon and Kamrup Metro and 11 districts viz., Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, North Cachar Hills, Darrang, Hailakandi, Nalbari, Chirang, Golaghat, and Kamrup Metro did not have joint bank accounts. The highest amount of Rs. 3232.87 lakh were disbursed in Bongaigaon and the lowest with Rs. 293.75 lakhs in Nagaon were disbursed through bank accounts. The highest number of individual accounts in the post office with 1,72,253 in Nagaon and the lowest with 2,117 in Baksa were found. The highest 20,421 of joint account were found in Bongaigaon and the lowest with only 12 were found in Dibrugarh in the post office.

Bongaigaon Districts works completed/progress under NREGA (Amount spent in Lakh Rs.) 2008-2009

| | | |
|---|-----------|----------|
| Rural Connectivity | Completed | 1,179.10 |
| | % | 49.19 |
| | Ongoing | 1,967.45 |
| | % | 57.24 |
| Flood Control | Completed | 655.30 |
| | % | 27.34 |
| | Ongoing | 1,088.56 |
| | % | 31.67 |
| Water Conservation and Water Harvesting | Completed | 206.50 |
| | % | 8.61 |
| | Ongoing | 154.25 |
| | % | 4.49 |
| Drought Proofing | Completed | 174.20 |
| | % | 7.27 |
| | Ongoing | 86.43 |
| | % | 2.51 |
| Micro Irrigation | Completed | 33.29 |
| | % | 1.39 |
| | Ongoing | 30.92 |
| | % | 0.90 |
| Provision of Irrigation | Completed | 0.00 |

| | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| facility to Land Development | % | 0.00 |
| | Ongoing | 0.00 |
| | % | 0.00 |
| Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies | Completed | 86.88 |
| | % | 3.62 |
| | Ongoing | 80.63 |
| | % | 2.35 |
| Land Development | Completed | 61.75 |
| | % | 2.58 |
| | Ongoing | 28.97 |
| | % | 0.84 |
| Any other Activity Approved by MRD | Completed | 0.00 |
| | % | 0.00 |
| | Ongoing | 0.00 |
| | % | 0.00 |
| Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra | Completed | 0.00 |
| | % | 0.00 |
| | Ongoing | 0.00 |
| | % | 0.00 |
| Total | Completed | 2,397.02 |
| | % | 100.00 |

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| | Ongoing | 3,437.21 |
| | % | 100.00 |

In Bangaigaon district, no expenditure is found in three works- Provision of Irrigation Facility to Land Owned by, Any Other Activity Approved by MRD and under Bharat Nirman Rajib Gandhi Seva Kendra.

Conclusion

The number of villages surveyed in each stratum was directly proportional to the share of each stratum/group of tehsils (according to population) to the district population, subject to a minimum allocation of 6 villages to each stratum.

Required number of sample villages from each stratum have been selected as per the probability proportion to size (PPS) with replacement, size being total population of the village as per Census 2001.

In case of household selection, complete listing of all households (by door to door visit) has been done in case of sample villages with less than 1200 population. However, in case of those villages with population 1200 or more, three or more hamlet-groups (hg's) were formed in the village as per the practice followed by NSSO¹. From among them, a sample of 2 hg's was selected for listing of households. The hg having maximum concentration of minority population was selected with probability

From among the remaining hg's, one more hg were selected at random. The listing and sampling of households were independent for each selected hg.

In each selected hg, the listed households were grouped into strata as per the minority status of the household. In other words, all Muslim households formed one second-stage stratum (SSS), all Christian households another SSS, and so on.

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