



Performance of MGNREGA in Karnataka: A case study of Bagalkot district

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Abstract

The present article seeks to analyse the physical and financial progress of the MGNREGA programme in Karnataka state in general and Bagalkot district in particular with the help of secondary data collected since the inception of the programme. Analysis revealed that the total expenditure and per-capita household expenditure incurred under the programme has increased substantially over the period both in Karnataka and Bagalkot district. The highest proportion of works created under MGNREGA are across rural sanitation, water conservation and harvesting, land development and individual land works. The share of households that were provided employment to that of households demanded employment is more than 95 per cent and the share of households that completed 100 days to the households provided with employment is below 15 per cent. Therefore it is suggested to increase this share in a drastic manner. This would help the poor rural households to enhance their income levels and will improve their socio-economic development. Adequate productive opportunities should be provided in this regard by the concerned government officials so as to realize the objective of social protection and livelihood security.

Keywords: households demanded employment, productive opportunities, livelihood security, MGNREGA

1. Introduction

The Indian Constitution and Five Year Plans adopted various development strategies so as to improve the economic and social position of the rural areas. It aimed at removing poverty, inequalities in income, wealth and opportunity. At the onset of the five year plans, the government's development approach was to increase economic growth by rapid industrialization. But this attempt did not succeed due to rapid growth of population. During Third five year plan, there was shift in development approach through employment generation programmes aiming at alleviation of poverty. Since then many programmes have been initiated and implemented with the help of which the income and employment of the rural people is increasing. There were many wage employment and self employment programmes such as Swarnajayanthi Grama Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), National Food for Work Programme (NFWP), Sampurna Grameena Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) etc. All these programmes created employment opportunities in the rural areas by supplementing their income and improved their socio-economic conditions.

Later in August 2005, the Parliament passed the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. It was one of the major flagship programme of UPA Government in the context of rural employment generation. It came into effect on 5th September 2005. It was launched on 26th February, 2006 in Bandlapalli, Anantapur district in Andhra Pradesh. In the first phase the programme was initiated in 200 most backward districts. It was subsequently extended in an additional 130 districts in second phase in 2007-08. The remaining districts have been notified under the Act with effect from April 1st, 2008. NREGA was renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National

Rural Employment Guarantee Act Programme (MGNREGA) on 2nd October 2009. It was implemented in Karnataka since 2006. The first phase of MGNREGS was launched in February 2006 in Bidar, Gulbarga, Raichur, Davangere and Chitradurga. The second phase commenced in April 2007 in six districts namely Belgaum, Chikmagalur, Hassan, Kodagu, Shimoga and Bellary. Since 2008 it covers all the 30 districts of the state.

2. Literature review and objective

Since the implementation of MGNREGA in 2005, lot of empirical studies has been carried out. The subject matter of the academicians has varied from various themes. Initially research was carried on analyzing the performance of the programme across various states of the country on a macro level. They also tried to assess the issues pertaining to implementation of the programme. In this context lot of evaluation studies on both macro and micro level were conducted. These studies not only evaluated the financial and physical progress of the programme but also made dire and critical attempt on issues related to implementation, access, accountability, transparency, corruption, social audit, institutional arrangements and community awareness of the programme.

Rengakumar and Sasi Kumar (2011) ^[7] presented macro-level picture of performance of MGNREGA in India and its impact on various streams of agriculture and rural agricultural wages. Atik-ur-rahman (2013) ^[1], Farooquee (2013) ^[2] critically examined the progress of MGNREGA and focused on the extent of employment being generated through this programmes across different states and also assessed factors correlated to the comparative success of states. Padma (2015)

[5] evaluated the physical progress of the programme in India based on secondary data. Pani and Chidambaran (2011) [6] evaluated the effectiveness of the processes of implementation of MGNREGA in Karnataka and recommended specific steps that could improve these processes. Naganagouda (2013) [4] evaluates the process of MGNREGA in Bellary district of Karnataka and analysed the impact of the programme on livelihood patterns of the wage seekers. Salian (2014) [8] assessed the physical progress of MGNREGA programme. It analysed the impact of the programme on income by participating households, food consumption pattern and distress migration in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Kumar (2016) [3] evaluated the performance and progress of MGNREGA in Mysore district of Karnataka and tried to assess the impact of financial inclusion on the beneficiaries of the programme.

An outlook of the literature reviewed in this section reveals that extensive research is being carried across national and state level analyzing the performance and assessing the impact on individual households, income generation, asset creation, migration, agriculture, sustaining livelihood, rural development etc. Studies across dry and drought prone areas Karnataka though studied lack holistic approach in terms of analyzing performance and socio-economic conditions across these areas. Therefore the present article seeks to analyse the physical and financial progress of the MGNREGA programme in Bagalkot district with the help of secondary data collected since the inception of the programme.

3. Performance of MGNREGA

Bagalkot district in Karnataka state are among the 200 backward districts in which this programme was implemented in III phase. Agriculture is predominant sector in the district economy with 65% of population employed in agriculture. But the district is a drought prone area. Therefore people suffer from both in security of income and employed. Therefore, a programme like MGNREGA was a dire need of the people of this region. This programme has been considered as the largest ever public employment programme carried in the country. It grants legal guarantee for the enhancement of livelihood security for at least 100 days of employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual labour. The objectives of the programme are:-

a. To ensure social protection for the most vulnerable people

of rural India through employment opportunities.

- b. To ensure livelihood security for the poor.
- c. To strengthen drought-proofing and flood management.
- d. To empower marginalized communities especially women, SCs and STs through the processes of rights-based legislation.
- e. To strengthen decentralized and participatory planning through convergence of various anti-poverty and livelihood initiatives.
- f. To deepen democracy at the grass-root level by strengthening Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs)
- g. To ensure greater transparency and accountability in governance.

3.1 Job card status under MGNREGA

The rural applicants who are interested to work under MGNREGA should apply at the local Gram Panchayat office. Their name will be registered with them. After the process of verification, they will be given job cards within 15 days of the application. After this, job-card holders who are interested to perform unskilled manual labour at the statutory minimum wage must re-apply for work. Then the Gram Panchayat is committed to allot work within 15 days. If not, then the job-card holders are automatically entitled to the unemployment allowances to be provided by the State. Table 1 presents the status of job-cards issued to the members of the rural households under MGNREGA in Karnataka and in Bagalkot district.

It reveals that across Karnataka, the job cards issued have increased considerably from 1390512 in 2006-07 to that of 5244860 in 2016-17 with an impressive growth rate of 15.4 per cent. During 2006-07, the share of job cards issued to SC households was around 31.75 per cent, while ST's share was 19.29 per cent and the remaining 48.96 per cent constituted non SC/STs. The share of job cards issued to SC and ST gradually experienced steady decline over the time, while the job cards issued to non SC/STs witnessed steady increase. In the year 2016-17, the share of SC declined to 16.69 percent and ST declined to 8.16 per cent. While the non SC/STs share increased to 17.60 percent. During the period 2006-07 to 2016-17, the share of SC and ST job-cards to the total noted decline, but the number of SC and ST job-cards increased considerably with growth rate of 7.06 and 5.77 per cent respectively. Non SC/ST job-cards increased with 20.53 per cent during this period.

Table 1: Job Card Status under MGNREGA in Karnataka and Bagalkot

Year	Total Job cards	SC Job cards	ST Job cards	Non SC/ST Job cards	% of SC	% of ST	% of Non SC/ST
Karnataka							
2006-07	1390512	441525	268193	680794	31.75	19.29	48.96
2007-08	1523091	456933	239795	826363	30.00	15.74	54.26
2008-09	3420945	884130	409981	2126834	25.84	11.98	62.17
2009-10	5220895	959388	458642	3802865	18.38	8.78	72.84
2010-11	5294245	925537	450319	3918389	17.48	8.51	74.01
2012-13	5464013	936396	460213	4067404	17.14	8.42	74.44
2013-14	5557539	927708	452422	4177409	16.69	8.14	75.17
2014-15	5519714	915260	448326	4156128	16.58	8.12	75.30
2015-16	5576206	934884	464459	4176863	16.77	8.33	74.91

2016-17	5244860	875125	427957	3941778	16.69	8.16	75.16
TGR	15.41	7.06	5.77	20.53			
Bagalkot							
2008-09	132312	27026	10485	94801	20.43	7.92	71.65
2009-10	190304	30112	11727	148465	15.82	6.16	78.01
2010-11	190932	29468	11465	149999	15.43	6.00	78.56
2012-13	202492	29908	11496	161088	14.77	5.68	79.55
2013-14	208119	29998	11299	166822	14.41	5.43	80.16
2014-15	200084	28677	10995	160412	14.33	5.50	80.17
2015-16	169379	25290	9660	134429	14.93	5.70	79.37
2016-17	159814	23654	9164	126996	14.80	5.73	79.46
TGR	1.09	-2.22	-2.42	2.15			

Note: TGR refers to Trend Growth Rate

Source: NREGA's public portal accessed on 8th July 2017

In Bagalkot district, the total job-cards issued to rural households marginally increased with a growth rate of 1.09 per cent during the period 2008-09 to 2016-17. With respect to SC and ST job-cards, the growth rate was negative during this period because the number of job cards issued to SC and ST households witnessed decline. While the number of job-cards issued to non SC/ST households noticed increase with positive growth rate of 2.15 per cent. With regard to the share of SC and ST jobcards to the total job-cards, it is noticed that they

have witnessed decline during this period.

3.2 Employment Status under MGNREGA

MGNREGA is quite different from the other wage employment programmes because it is demand-driven. Rural households who need jobs can demand them and the government is legally bound to provide it. Table 2 provides the share of employment provided to the employment demanded under MGNREGA.

Table 2: Employment Status under MGNREGA in Karnataka and Bagalkot

Year	Karnataka			Bagalkot		
	Total Employment Demanded	Total Employment Provided	% of provided to demanded	Total Employment Demanded	Total Employment Provided	% of provided to demanded
2006-07	1017715	1011021	99.34	NREGA was implemented since 2008-09		
2007-08	554002	549994	99.28			
2008-09	906503	896212	98.86	51718	51099	98.80
2009-10	3626437	3535281	97.49	162911	160800	98.70
2010-11	2414441	2224468	92.13	90619	87370	96.41
2011-12	4591902	4591450	99.99	227354	227353	100.00
2012-13	1470412	1331967	90.58	50461	47708	94.54
2013-14	1909384	1900526	99.54	65015	64690	99.50
2014-15	1513650	1482457	97.94	52383	50808	96.99
2015-16	1662438	1617408	97.29	53295	50822	95.36
2016-17	2151859	2095632	97.39	60873	57803	94.96
TGR	7.44	7.27		-8.07	-8.46	

Source: NREGA's public portal accessed on 8th July 2017

It reveals that the growth in number of households demanding employment under MGNREGA has steadily increased across Karnataka, where as there is decline in Bagalkot district in this regard. This is evident from the growth rates which stood positive at 7.44 per cent in Karnataka and negative at 8.07 across Bagalkot district. If we look at the share of households provided employment to that of households demanded employment, it is noticed that the share is more than 95 per cent and has marginally declined over the period both in Karnataka and in Bagalkot district. On an average, the share in Karnataka stood at 97.26 per cent where as the share in Bagalkot district stood at 97.25 per cent respectively.

Table 3 provides the share of households that demanded employment and were provided employment to the number of job-cards issued under MGNREGA. In 2006-07, out of the

total job cards issued in Karnataka, nearly 73.19 per cent demanded employment and 72.71 per cent were provided employment. It saw substantial reduction over the years. Since 2010-11, not even 50 per cent out of the job-cards are demanding employment. In 2016-17, it stood at 41.03 per cent. Across Bagalkot, the situation is quite alarming because at the inception of the programme i.e., 2008-09, only 39.09 per cent of the total job cards issued demanded employment. However in the next consecutive year, the share of the households demanding employment increased drastically to 85.6 per cent. But in the later years, the share declined. Further in 2016-17, the share of households demanding employment stood at 38.09 per cent and the share of households provided with employment was 36.17 per cent.

Table 3: Share of Employment to the job cards issued under MGNREGA

Year	Share of households demanded employment to the total jobcards issued		Share of households provided employed to the total jobcards issued	
	Karnataka	Bagalkot	Karnataka	Bagalkot
2006-07	73.19		72.71	
2007-08	36.37		36.11	
2008-09	26.50	39.09	26.20	38.62
2009-10	69.46	85.61	67.71	84.50
2010-11	45.61	47.46	42.02	45.76
2012-13	26.91	24.92	24.38	23.56
2013-14	34.36	31.24	34.20	31.08
2014-15	27.42	26.18	26.86	25.39
2015-16	29.81	31.46	29.01	30.00
2016-17	41.03	38.09	39.96	36.17

Source: Author's Calculations

MGNREGA mandates to provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in each year to every rural household whose adult member does unskilled manual work. Table 4 provides the number of households who completed 100 days of employment. It reveals that during 2006-07 the number was 133713 in Karnataka. It gradually declined in consecutive years, but in 2009-10, it increased to 445930. If we look at the share of households that completed 100 days to the

households provided with employment, the results are alarming. The share which was just 13.23 per cent in 2006-07 drastically declined to 9.39 per cent in 2016-17. Across Bagalkot, the share is also not consistent. In 2008-09, the share was just 4.86 per cent. It substantially increased to 15 per cent in 2009-10, but in later years the share declined subsequently. It stood at 11.47 per cent during 2016-17, marginally higher than the state's share.

Table 4: Number of households who completed 100 days of employment

Year	Number of households completed 100 days of employment		Share to the households provided with employment	
	Karnataka	Bagalkot	Karnataka	Bagalkot
2006-07	133713		13.23	
2007-08	23081		4.20	
2008-09	27009	2483	3.01	4.86
2009-10	445930	24129	12.61	15.01
2010-11	131575	7478	5.91	8.56
2011-12	45144	1486	0.98	0.65
2012-13	104364	6024	7.84	12.63
2013-14	117725	7560	6.19	11.69
2014-15	41315	2404	2.79	4.73
2015-16	132977	4471	8.22	8.80
2016-17	196783	6631	9.39	11.47

Source: NREGA's public portal accessed on 8th July 2017

Table 5 reveals the number of person days generated under MGNREGA by social groups. It is noticed that the average person days generated for SCs in Karnataka during the period 2006-07 to 2016-17 is 131.46 lakhs, for STs it is 72.48 lakhs. It is higher across women with 322.19 lakhs. The growth in

the number of person-days generated is negative across SCs and STs whereas positive across women in Karnataka during this period. It stood at -0.09 for SCs, -1.42 for STs and 8.31 for women.

Table 5: Person days generated under MGNREGA (in lakhs)

Year	Karnataka			Bagalkot		
	Person days_SC	Person days_ST	Person days_Women	Person days_SC	Person days_ST	Person days_Women
2006-07	131.81	86.73	201.00	NREGA was implemented since 2008-09		
2007-08	59.79	37.94	96.00			
2008-09	79.89	39.91	145.03	3.00	1.00	9.00
2009-10	334.65	171.79	737.04	13.00	5.00	41.00
2010-11	177.39	102.72	505.08	6.00	3.00	20.00
2012-13	104.36	55.42	285.74	3.09	1.20	11.62
2013-14	114.23	57.05	334.91	3.97	1.59	15.06
2014-15	68.66	35.45	203.04	2.08	0.74	8.07
2015-16	97.76	53.79	281.98	2.33	0.96	8.30
2016-17	146.09	84.05	432.03	3.10	1.24	11.02

Source: NREGA's public portal accessed on 8th July 2017

Across Bagalkot district, there is constant growth with declining nature with regard to number of person days generated under MGNREGA. The growth rate for SCs stood at -12.58 per cent, for STs it was -11.94 per cent and for women it was -10.19 during the period 2008-09 to 2016-17. The average person days generated for SCs during this period was 4.57 lakhs. For STs, the average person days generated was 1.84 lakhs. It stood highest for women with 15.51 lakhs during this period.

3.3 Works under MGNREGA

MGNREGA lays emphasis on creation of productive assets and properties to facilitate rural development and social welfare of the rural people. It also seeks to enhance people's livelihoods on a sustained basis by providing them various types of works under the programme. Those works include water conservation and harvesting, drought proofing, micro irrigation works, renovation of traditional water bodies, land development works, flood control and protection works, rural connectivity, rural infrastructural works and any other works that may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the state government.

Table 6 provides the percentage of works completed under

each category under the MGNREGA programme. It is noticed that during 2012-13, the largest share across works created under MGNREGA in Karnataka is attributed to rural sanitation works accounting for 15.9 per cent share. It is followed by water conservation and harvesting. Share of rural sanitation works under MGNREGA in Karnataka substantially increased to 66 per cent in the year 2014-15. However the largest share across the total works in Karnataka in the later years shifted to individual land works with 37.6 per cent in 2015-16 and 64.3 per cent in 2016-17. The total works created under MGNREGA in Karnataka has seen a growth of 29.17 per cent from 2012-13 to 2016-17. Across Bagalkot district, the total works created under MGNREGA has noticed a growth of 17.68 per cent from 2012-13 to 2016-17. During the year 2012-13, the largest share of works created was under water conservation and harvesting with 36.7 per cent. It was followed by land development and individual land works. Further in 2013-14, rural sanitation works assumed prominence and accounted for 21.9 per cent to the total. The share increased considerably in 2014-15 and stood at 62.5 per cent. The largest share across the total works in Bagalkot district in the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 shifted to individual land works.

Table 6: Share of Completed Works under MGNREGA (in %)

WORKS	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
	KAR	BAG	KAR	BAG	KAR	BAG	KAR	BAG	KAR	BAG
Anganwadi/other rural infrastructure	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bharat Nirman Rajeev Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Coastal Areas	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Drought Proofing	10.0	8.7	6.9	11.1	2.5	2.6	5.0	7.6	3.4	3.9
Fisheries	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Flood Control and Protection	12.0	6.3	5.6	4.4	2.3	2.6	3.6	5.2	3.6	2.5
Food Grain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Land Development	14.4	16.3	7.4	13.2	3.4	4.7	4.3	6.4	3.4	3.1
Micro Irrigation Works	4.7	0.1	3.0	0.3	1.1	0.1	1.7	0.0	1.8	0.1
Other Works	3.5	0.1	2.8	0.3	1.6	0.2	2.1	0.5	1.3	0.2
Play Ground	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Renovation of traditional water bodies	4.3	2.7	2.7	1.1	1.5	0.9	2.2	3.1	2.3	0.9
Rural Connectivity	10.3	9.4	5.6	8.5	3.7	6.6	5.8	10.2	5.5	9.5
Rural Drinking Water	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.2	6.0	2.1	1.8
Rural Sanitation	15.9	9.0	49.0	21.9	66.0	62.5	29.6	14.5	4.5	1.0
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	15.1	36.7	7.0	22.9	3.6	8.6	6.4	11.2	7.1	7.4
Works on Individuals Land (Category IV)	9.5	10.7	9.5	16.2	13.9	10.9	37.6	34.7	64.3	69.1
Total	105242	5020	190754	11375	479295	21424	317381	10208	293414	11962

Note: KAR refers to Karnataka state and BAG refers to Bagalkot district

Source: Author's calculations based on MIS reports of NREGA website

3.4 Financial progress under MGNREGA

MGNREGA is funded partly by the Central government and the State government. The Central Government covers 100 per cent of the wage expenses and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the material cost, while the State government pays the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$. The wage costs compared to material cost should be 60:40, and the use of contractors and machinery is prohibited. Table 7 presents the financial progress in terms of expenditure incurred under MGNREGA in Karnataka and Bagalkot district since its inception. During the year 2006-07, the total expenditure incurred was Rs. 24214.1 lakhs. It increased drastically to Rs. 316769.9 lakhs in 2016-17. It increased with a growth rate of

30.31 per cent during this period. As stipulated by the MGNREGA documents, the share of labour expenditure and material expenditure is accounting more or less in the ratio of 60:40. During the year 2006-07 the labour share was 61 per cent and material share was 38.9 per cent. The share of the labour expenditure considerably increased to 68.07 per cent in 2016-17, whereas the share of material expenditure dropped to 31.93 per cent. The labour expenditure witnessed growth rate of 31.05 per cent and the material expenditure noticed growth of 28.92 per cent. The average share of labour expenditure during this period stood at 65.89 per cent and the average share of material expenditure stood at 34.11 per cent.

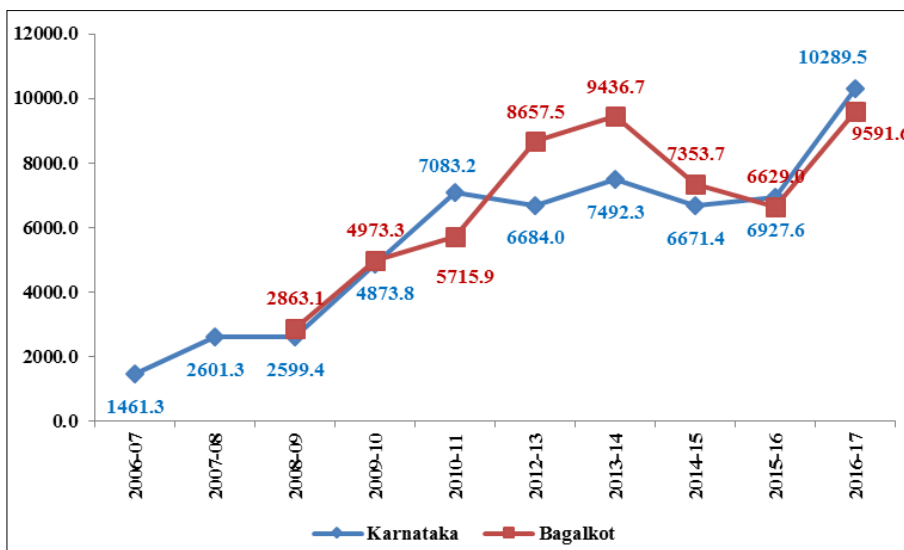
The total expenditure incurred under MGNREGA in Bagalkot district witnessed 7.38 per cent growth during the period 2008-09 to 2016-17. If we look at the growth of labour and material expenditure in Bagalkot district, it seems that the growth of material expenditure is quite higher as compared to the growth of labour expenditure. This is evident from the

below table because the labour expenditure has grown by 5.53 per cent, whereas the material expenditure has grown by 11.02 per cent. The average share of labour expenditure during this period stood at 67.12 per cent and the average share of material expenditure stood at 32.88 per cent in the district.

Table 7: Financial Progress of MGNREGA in Karnataka and Bagalkot (Rs in lakhs)

Year	Total Expenditure	Labour Expenditure	Material Expenditure	% of labor	% of material
Karnataka					
2006-07	24214.1	14774.2	9439.9	61.02	38.98
2007-08	21436.7	14306.8	7129.9	66.74	33.26
2008-09	33971.2	23295.9	10675.4	68.58	31.42
2009-10	269943.4	172303.7	97639.7	63.83	36.17
2010-11	245982.0	157562.9	88419.1	64.05	35.95
2012-13	137914.3	89028.2	48886.1	64.55	35.45
2013-14	197427.2	142392.4	55034.8	72.12	27.88
2014-15	155240.4	98901.2	56339.1	63.71	36.29
2015-16	169145.8	112047.7	57098.1	66.24	33.76
2016-17	316769.9	215630.6	101139.3	68.07	31.93
TGR	30.31	31.05	28.92		
Bagalkot					
2008-09	1988	1463	525	73.59	26.41
2009-10	12219	7997	4222	65.45	34.55
2010-11	7440	4994	2446	67.12	32.88
2012-13	6021	4130	1891	68.60	31.40
2013-14	7835	6105	1730	77.92	22.08
2014-15	6564	3736	2827	56.92	43.08
2015-16	5479	3369	2110	61.49	38.51
2016-17	8420	5544	2876	65.84	34.16
TGR	7.38	5.53	11.02		

Source: NREGA's public portal accessed on 8th July 2017



Note: Per-capita household expenditure is calculated by dividing Labour expenditure to the number of households provided with employment.

Fig 1: Per-capita household expenditure under MGNREGA (in Rs)

Figure 1 provides the information with regard to expenditure incurred per household that was provided employment under MGNREGA. It is noticed that the per-capita household expenditure has increased tremendously across both Karnataka and Bagalkot district. It has increased from Rs.1461.3 in 2006-07 to Rs.10,289.5 in 2016-17 across

Karnataka with an impressive growth rate of 20.21 per cent over the period. Similarly the per-capita household expenditure across Bagalkot district has grown by 13.64 per cent over this period. The average per-capita household expenditure in Bagalkot district seems marginally higher when compared to Karnataka during the respective period. Because

it is around Rs. 6902.6 in Bagalkot district as compared to Rs. 5668.4 in Karnataka state.

4. Concluding Remarks

From the above discussion, it seems that MGNREGA is playing major role in augmenting wage employment opportunities by providing employment on demand and by creating productive assets to address the issue of rural development.

Analysis reveals that even though there is growth in the number of SC and ST job cards over the respective period, but the share of SC and ST job cards to the total has registered decline across Karnataka. Whereas across Bagalkot district not only the share of SC and ST job cards to the total has witnessed decline, but the growth in the number of SC and ST job card has also seen decline. If we look at the share of households provided employment to that of households demanded employment, it is noticed that the share is more than 95 per cent and has marginally declined over the period both in Karnataka and in Bagalkot district. The share of households that completed 100 days to the households provided with employment is not noteworthy as it is below 15 per cent. The highest proportion of works created under MGNREGA in Karnataka and Bagalkot district are across rural sanitation, water conservation and harvesting, land development and individual land works. The total expenditure and per-capita household expenditure incurred under the programme has increased substantially over the period both in Karnataka and Bagalkot district.

It is pertinent to suggest that the share of number of households completing 100 days of employment to the total households provided with employment should increase in a drastic manner. This would help the poor rural households to enhance their income levels and will improve their socio-economic development. Adequate productive opportunities should be provided in this regard by the concerned government officials so as to realize the objective of social protection and livelihood security.

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