



BUDGET BRIEFS

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Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) GoI, 2021-22

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

(MGNREGS) is Government of India's (GoI's) flagship scheme to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a Financial Year (FY) to every rural household that demands work.

To boost employment opportunities and cater to increased demand from an estimated 67 lakh returnee migrant workers, GoI launched the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) in mission-mode for 116 districts across six states of the country.

Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, this brief uses government data to report on:

- Trends in MGNREGS allocations, releases, and expenditures;
- Scheme performance with respect to wages paid and employment provided given the increased demand for work; and
- Trends in finances and employment generation under GKRA.

Cost share:

100 per cent of the unskilled labour cost, and 75 per cent of the material cost is borne by GoI.

HIGHLIGHTS

₹ 1,33,690 cr

GoI allocations for Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) in FY 2021-22

₹ 73,000 cr

GoI allocations for MGNREGS in FY 2021-22

SUMMARY & ANALYSIS

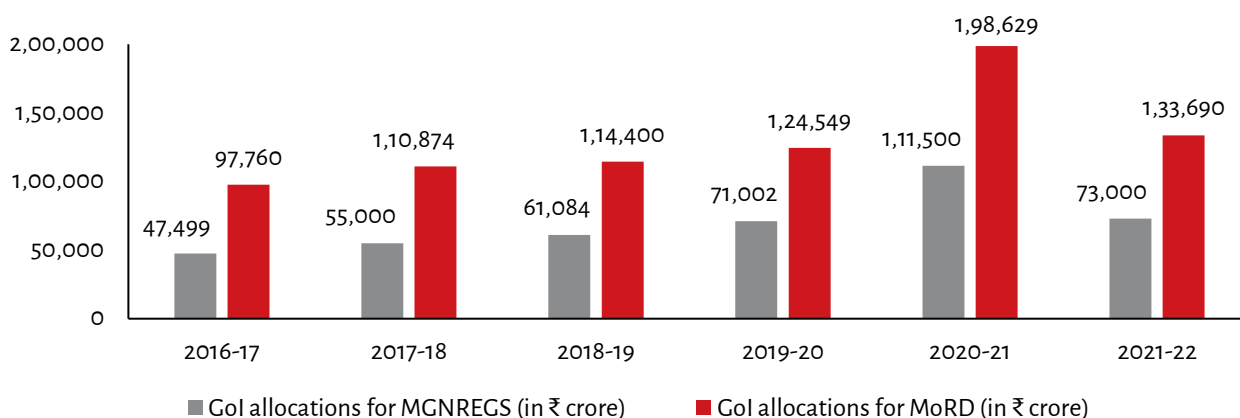
- In FY 2020-21, to accommodate the increased demand for work due to the COVID-19 pandemic, allocations for MGNREGS were enhanced by over ₹40,000 crore under GoI's Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan bringing the Revised Estimates (REs) to ₹1,11,500 crore from the previous Budget Estimates (BEs) of ₹61,500 crore.
- In FY 2021-22, GoI allocated ₹73,000 crore, a 35 per cent decline from the REs of the previous year, but 19 per cent more than BEs.
- Despite an increase in allocations, expenditures continue to be higher than funds available (opening balances and releases by both GoI and states). By the third quarter of FY 2020-21, 87 per cent of the revised allocations had already been spent by states. Accumulated payments due, known as pending liabilities, had thus risen to ₹11,352 crore as on 31 December 2020.
- GoI increased the notified wage rate from ₹182 to ₹202 under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan relief package. Actual wages paid by 15 states, however, remained lower than the notified wage rates for FY 2020-21.
- Demand for work saw a 64 per cent increase from 12 crore in the third quarter of FY 2019-20 to 19.4 crore for the corresponding period in FY 2020-21. The proportion of households (HHs) provided work out of those that demanded work, however, fell from 89 per cent in FY 2019-20 to 76 per cent in FY 2020-21.

- The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is Government of India's (Gol's) flagship rural employment programme which aims to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment based on demand. The scheme was launched in 2006 and is the largest scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).
- The scheme has three key provisions:
 - **At least 100 days of guaranteed employment:** The scheme mandates at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.
 - **Unemployment allowance:** Provision of a daily unemployment allowance if an applicant is not provided employment within 15 days of having demanded work.
 - **Delayed compensation:** In case of failure of wage payment within 15 days from work completion, workers are entitled to a compensation of 0.05 per cent per day of the wages earned, till the payment of wages.
- The COVID-19 pandemic led to a significant increase in demand for rural employment. Several changes were made to MGNREGS to be able to cater to these, including an increase in allocations, wage rates, and increased provision of employment. This brief looks at the impact of some of these provisions and past trends in scheme performance.

TRENDS IN ALLOCATIONS AND RELEASES

- In FY 2020-21, to accommodate the increased demand for work due to the COVID-19 pandemic, allocations were enhanced by ₹40,000 crore under Gol's Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package. Revised Estimates (REs) during the year, thus, stood at ₹1,11,500 crore – the highest ever since the scheme's inception. This amounted to around 0.47 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- In FY 2021-22 Budget Estimates (BEs), Gol allocated ₹73,000 crore for MGNREGS. This was a 19 per cent increase from the previous year's BEs but a 35 per cent decline from the REs for FY 2020-21.
- Similarly, Gol allocated ₹1,33,690 crore to MoRD in FY 2021-22 BEs, which was 9 per cent higher than FY 2020-21 BEs, but 33 per cent lower than the REs.

GOI ALLOCATIONS FOR MGNREGS DECREASED BY 35% FROM 2020-21 TO 2021-22



Source: Union Expenditure Budget, MoRD for FY 2016-17 to FY 2021-22. Available online at: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>. Last accessed on 1 February 2021.

Note: Figures in crores of Rupees and are Revised Estimates (REs) except for FY 2021-22, which are Budget Estimates (BEs).

STATE-WISE RELEASES AND EXPENDITURES

- Release of funds to states are based on labour budgets submitted to Gol by states at the beginning of the financial year. The preparation of labour budgets follows a bottom-up process, starting at the Gram Panchayat level. Labour budgets contain information on the anticipated demand for unskilled manual work and number of employment days required to complete planned works.
- Since MGNREGS is a demand-driven scheme, the release of funds is based on both labour budget estimates prepared at the start of the year, and the actual demand for work during the year. Total funds available for MGNREGS include Gol and state government releases, as well as unspent balances from previous years.

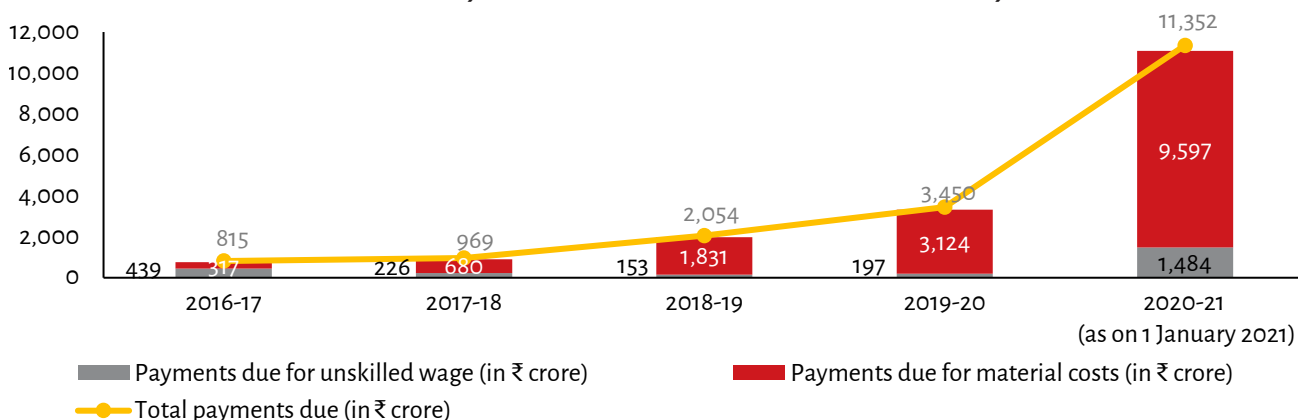
Releases

- Release of funds by Gol had been high. By April 2020, ₹33,000 crore had been sanctioned by MoRD, of which ₹28,729 crore had been released to liquidate all outstanding dues of previous years towards wages and materials. By June 2020, end of the first quarter of the financial year, ₹31,493 crore had been released under the scheme, accounting for more than half of the initial BEs.
- Timely fund release by Gol continued through the year. Till 1 January 2021, ₹88,233 crore had been released by Gol, accounting for 79 per cent of REs.

Pending Liabilities

- Despite increases in MGNREGS allocations and regular releases, funds available under MGNREGS have failed to keep up with expenditures, resulting in large pending liabilities or payments due for wages and material costs.
- Since 2016, an average of 20 per cent of the annual budgetary allocations had been spent on clearing pending liabilities from the previous years. In FY 2019-20, 16 per cent of the budget was allocated to clear pending liabilities. In FY 2020-21 till 1 January 2021, 18 per cent of the BEs and 10 per cent of the revised allocations were for clearing pending liabilities.
- In absolute terms, pending liabilities increased from ₹815 crore in FY 2016-17 to ₹3,450 crore in FY 2019-20. In FY 2020-21, till 1 January 2021, pending liabilities had increased significantly to ₹11,352 crore. A comparison with 1 January 2020 shows that this was ₹4,922 crore more than the same period last year.
- However, with the intervention of the Supreme Court of India in FY 2015-16, the proportion of pending liabilities for non-payment of wages has been decreasing. In FY 2014-15, 43 per cent of the pending liabilities were in the form of wages due. In FY 2019-20, this had decreased to 6 per cent. In FY 2020-21, till 1 January 2021, 11 per cent of the pending liabilities were in the form of wages due.

AS ON 1 JANUARY 2021, TOTAL PAYMENTS DUE STOOD AT ₹11,352 CRORE

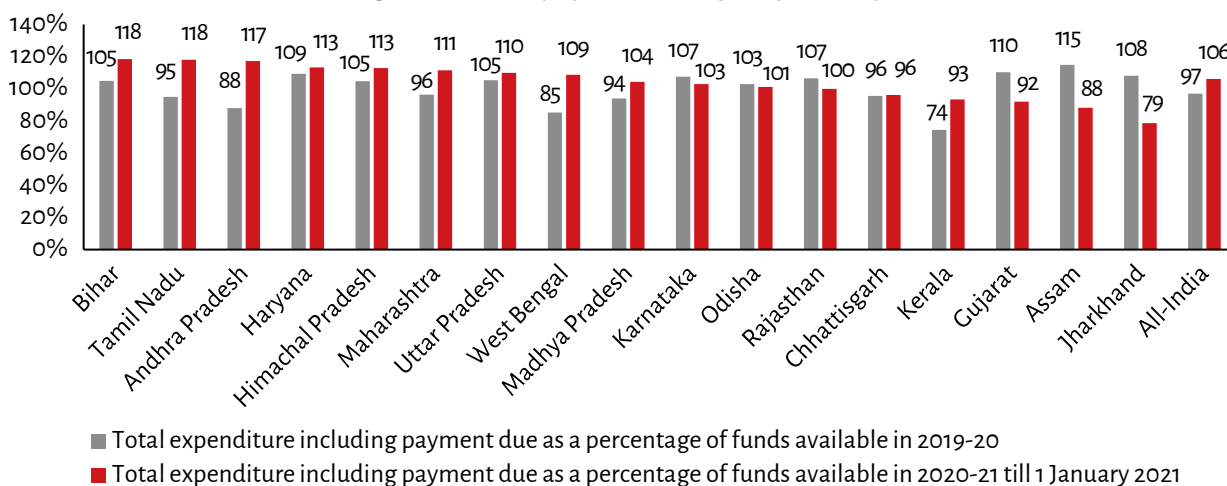


Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 7.1, Financial Statement from FY 2014-15 to FY 2020-21. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/Citizen_html/financialstatement.aspx?iflag=eng&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&labels=labels&Digest=CVETvTyMaktJ6zoZi/EYWg. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

Availability of Funds

- Expenditure of available funds has been high. In FY 2019-20, 97 per cent of the available funds, including liabilities due, had been spent by the states. In FY 2020-21, till 1 January 2021, ₹93,427 crore or 106 per cent of the funds available had already been spent. With three months of the financial year left, only ₹18,073 crore of the REs were remaining.
- With respect to states, in FY 2019-20, 12 out of a total of 28 states had spent more than their funds available, including payments due, leaving them with large negative balances (the difference between funds available and expenditure).
- States that spent more than their available funds included Assam (115 per cent), Gujarat (110 per cent), and Telangana (109 per cent). Expenditure, however, was lower than funds available in states such as Andhra Pradesh (88 per cent), West Bengal (85 per cent), and Kerala (74 per cent).
- Increased demand in FY 2020-21 meant that despite a rise in allocations, till 1 January 2021, 18 out of 28 states had already spent in excess of the funds available to them, including Bihar (118 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (117 per cent), and Maharashtra (111 per cent).

18 STATES HAD ALREADY SPENT IN EXCESS OF THE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THEM IN 2020-21 TILL 1 JANUARY 2021



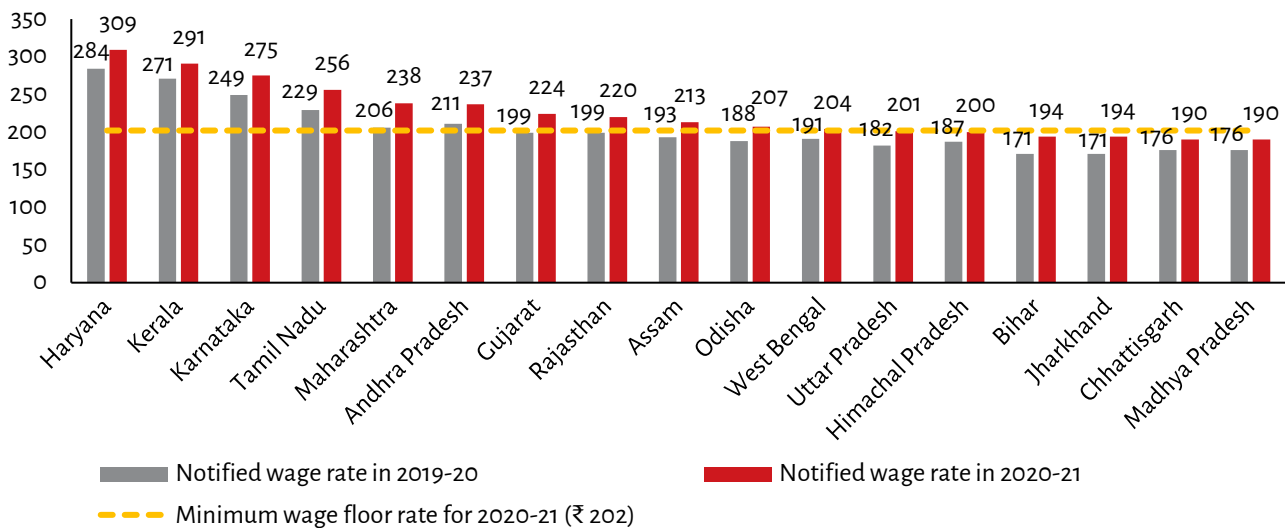
Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 7.1, Financial Statement from FY 2019-20 to FY 2020-21. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/Citizen_html/financialstatement.aspx?lflag=eng&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&labels=labels&Digest=GVEtTyMaktJ6zoZj/EYWg. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

WAGE RATES AND PAYMENTS

- As per Section 6(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2006, Gol may notify state-wise minimum wage rates for each financial year. These wage rates are notified based on the Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL). While these notified wage rates specify the minimum amount, states may provide a higher wage rate out of their own funds.
- On 26 March 2020, as part of the Gol relief package to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gol announced an increase in MGNREGS daily wages by ₹20 (or 11 per cent) from ₹182 to ₹202, with effect from 1 April 2020.

- However, it is important to note that the notified wage rates are increased every year. Between FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20, notified wage rates increased by ₹4. Moreover, the announced minimum wage rate was 11 per cent (₹24) lower than the minimum wage of ₹226 set by MoRD.
- A cross-state comparison found that the increase in notified wage rates between FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 varied between 7 per cent to 16 per cent or between ₹13 to ₹32. States where wages increased by more than 11 per cent included Maharashtra (₹32 or 16 per cent), Bihar and Jharkhand (₹23 or 13 per cent), and Odisha (₹19 or 10 per cent). In contrast, wages rose by less than 10 per cent in West Bengal (₹13 or 7 per cent), and Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh (₹14 or 8 per cent).
- Despite these increases, for many states, notified wage rates remained lower than the prevailing wage rates for unskilled agricultural workers. As per the minimum wages issued by Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) (effective from 1 April 2020), an unskilled worker employed in the agricultural sector would get between ₹362-₹400 per day, depending on the region of employment.

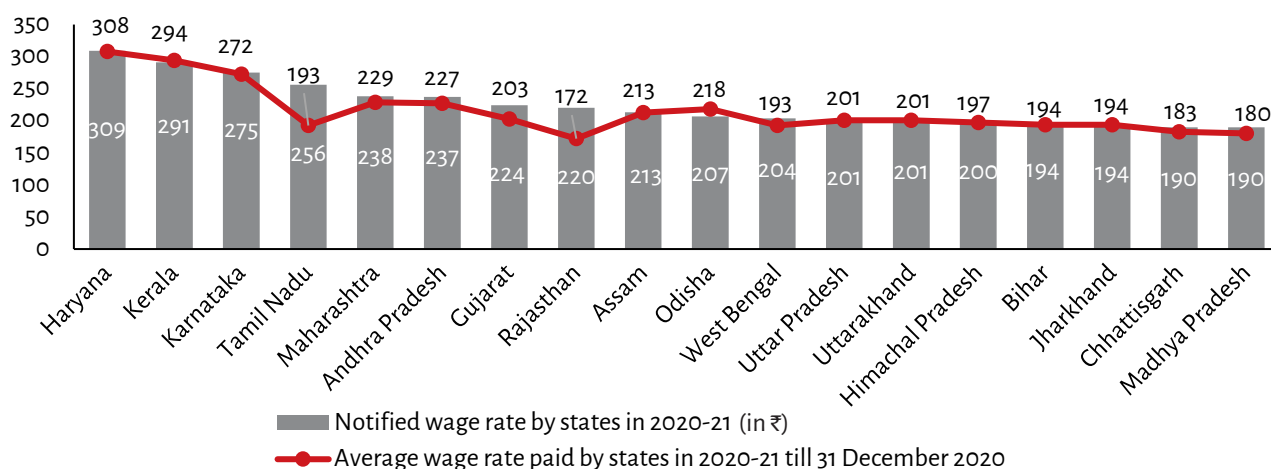
16 STATES AND UTs NOTIFIED MORE THAN THE FLOOR WAGE RATE OF ₹202 IN 2020-21



Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 7.2.1 from FY 2019-20 to FY 2020-21. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/avg_wage_paid.aspx?fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&Digest=ovoSpm7jLQwJUocFsjColG. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

- In FY 2020-21, till the third quarter, the actual wage rates paid (mean wages paid between April-December 2020) in 15 states were lower than even the notified wage rate. These included Haryana, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam, Odisha, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, and Tripura.
- Haryana paid the highest average wage at ₹308, which is 4 per cent (or ₹11) more than the wage rate paid in FY 2019-20 for the same period. However, the actual wages paid did not exceed the notified wage rate in both the financial years.
- On the other hand, Odisha increased its average wage rate by 5 per cent to ₹218 (between April to December) in comparison to its notified wage rate of ₹207 for FY 2020-21. Similarly, Kerala paid an average wage rate of ₹294, which was marginally higher than the notified wage rate of ₹291.
- States that paid significantly lower average wage rates than the notified rate included Tamil Nadu (difference of ₹63), Telangana (difference of ₹57), and Rajasthan (difference of ₹48).

ONLY ODISHA AND KERALA PAID AN AVERAGE WAGE RATE THAT WAS HIGHER THAN THE NOTIFIED WAGE RATE FOR THEIR STATE IN 2020-21 TILL 31 DECEMBER 2020



Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 7.2.1 for FY 2020-21. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/avg_wage_paid.aspx?fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&Digest=ovoSpm7jLQwUocFsjCoLg. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

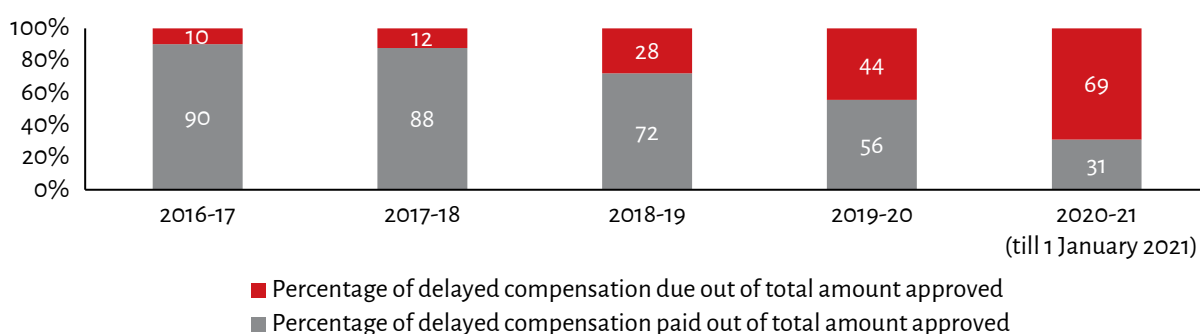
Delay in Wage Payments

- In 2016, MoRD introduced the National electronic - Fund Management System (Ne-FMS) enabling direct transfer of payments to workers from Gol. The main objective of introducing Ne-FMS was to streamline fund flow and reduce delays in payments to workers.
- Under the current system of payments, a successful payment could get delayed broadly at the following three stages:
 - **Stage 1:** At the state-level, in getting the muster details uploaded and the Funds Transfer Order (FTO) generated.
 - **Stage 2:** At the Gol-level, when the funds have to be released as per the FTOs and transferred directly to the workers' bank accounts.
 - **Stage 3:** When there are delays while accessing wages earned after they are credited in the respective accounts.
- For delays in stages 1 and 2, workers are entitled to a delayed compensation - a penalty - payable by Gol in case the workers do not receive their wages within 15 days of completion of work. As per the Act, the delayed compensation should be calculated based on delays in stage 1 plus delays in stage 2.
- The Management Information System (MIS), however, calculates delayed compensation only at the stage 1 level. In other words, if a state generates FTOs on time but the delay is solely due to the time taken by Gol (stage 2), then delayed compensation is not calculated by the MIS.
- Looking at just stage 1 level delays, there have been improvements in recent years. In FY 2016-17, payment orders for 33 per cent of all wage payments had been issued within the first 15 days of completion of stipulated work. This significantly increased to 85 per cent in FY 2017-18, and to over 90 per cent in both FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20. In FY 2020-21, till 1 January 2021, nearly all pay orders (98 per cent) had been issued within the first 15 days of completion of stipulated work.
- There were state-wise variations in the extent of delays, as well as the overall delay in the generation of pay orders. In FY 2019-20, delays were highest in states in the North Eastern Region (NER), including Nagaland (98 per cent), Manipur (95 per cent), and Arunachal Pradesh (94 per cent). In FY 2020-21, till 1 January 2021, these states continued to have a large share of payments delayed by more than 15 days.
- In FY 2020-21, as on 1 January 2021, 3.3 crore FTOs were pending with the Gol for transferring wages directly to the workers, amounting to ₹4,362 crore. This was around 8 per cent of total stage 2 transactions.

Wage Compensation

- In cases of delays in wage payments for work undertaken, MGNREGS workers are entitled to a delayed compensation at the rate of 0.05 per cent of the unpaid wages per day, for the duration of the delay beyond the 16th day of the closure of muster rolls. The total amount payable to a worker is the sum of the wages due and calculated delayed compensation. Compensation paid due to delays are recovered from the agency responsible for the delay.
- Over the years, the share of compensation that is actually paid out to workers has been declining. In FY 2016-17, 90 per cent of the total approved compensation was released. This share, however, declined to 88 per cent in FY 2017-18, and to 72 per cent in FY 2018-19. Payment of compensation further declined in FY 2019-20. Of the total ₹2.6 lakh crore approved as delayed compensation for the year, only 56 per cent, amounting to ₹1.4 lakh crore was paid to workers.
- Compensation payment was very low in FY 2020-21. Till 1 January 2021, 31 per cent of the approved compensation for delayed payments had been paid.

ONLY 31% OF DELAYED COMPENSATION APPROVED HAD BEEN PAID TILL 1 JANUARY 2021



Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 14.1, Delayed Compensation from FY 2016-17 to FY 2020-21. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/state_html/delay_comp.aspx?flag=eng&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&labels=labels&Digest=GVEtvTyMaktJ6zoZj/EYWg. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

- In the first three quarters of FY 2020-21, states with high approved delayed compensation included West Bengal at around ₹15.8 lakh. Of this amount, 64 per cent or ₹10 lakh had been paid. The other state was Bihar at ₹11 lakh, of which only ₹5.3 lakh or 47 per cent had been paid out.
- Payment of delayed compensation, on the other hand, was high in Gujarat (98 per cent of approved amount of ₹12,466), Himachal Pradesh (95 per cent of approved amount of ₹49,760), and Haryana (92 per cent of approved amount of ₹12,599).
- In contrast, states with both low compensations approved and paid included Karnataka, which paid out only 13 per cent of the total delay amount approved, Kerala (16 per cent), Rajasthan (3 per cent), and Uttar Pradesh (3 per cent).

TRENDS IN EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

- This brief uses five indicators to analyse employment generation under MGNREGS: a) Job cards issued under MGNREGS; b) the difference between employment demanded and employment provided; c) the number of persondays of work generated in absolute terms; d) the average number of persondays generated per household (HH) employed under MGNREGS; and e) the percentage of HHs which received 100 days of employment.

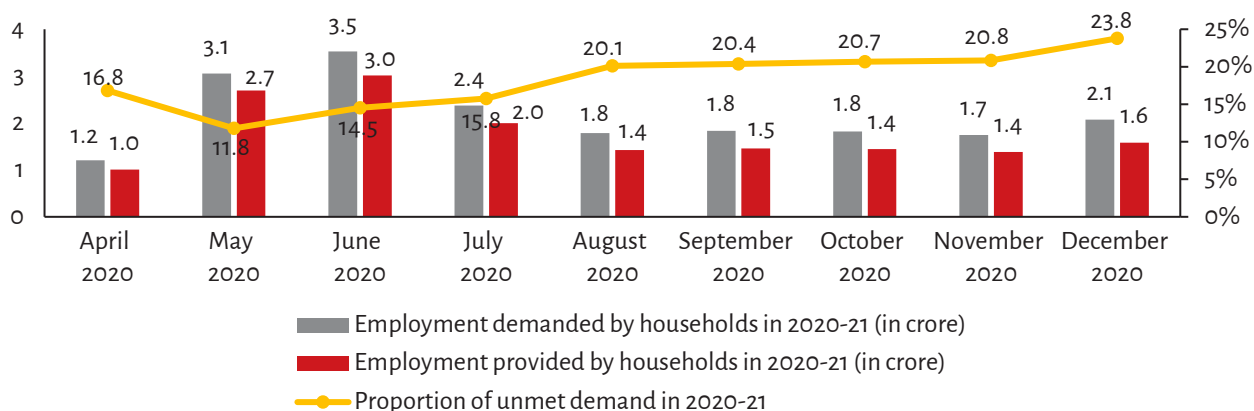
Job Cards

- Adult members of a HH willing to do unskilled manual work can register themselves to obtain a job card under MGNREGS. The job card is a key document that records workers' entitlements and legally empowers the registered HHs to apply for work.
- The increased demand for MGNREGS employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the return of migrant workers led to a significant increase in the number of job cards issued. In FY 2020-21, till 1 January 2021, job cards were issued for over 72 lakh new HHs, an 8 per cent increase from FY 2019-20.
- There were significant state differences. Uttar Pradesh issued 19.8 lakh new cards as against 9.7 lakh in the last year, witnessing a 103 per cent increase. Similarly, Andhra Pradesh issued 4.4 lakh new job cards – an over threefold increase from the previous year.
- Other states with a relatively higher number of new job cards issued included Jharkhand (5.63 lakh), Karnataka (5.37 lakh), Rajasthan (5.18 lakh), and Odisha (4.39 lakh). These states had witnessed a considerable number of migrants returning home.
- However, there remains a gap between applicants for job cards and number of job cards actually issued. In FY 2020-21, as on 1 January 2021, as many as 52.9 lakh HHs that had applied for a job card had not received it. The corresponding number in FY 2019-20 was only 3.67 lakh.

Employment Demanded and Provided

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the monthly demand for work increased considerably in FY 2020-21. In May, return of migrant workers and loss of livelihood meant that over 3 crore HHs sought work under the scheme. This was 44 per cent more than the work demanded in the same period last year. By the end of the first quarter (till June) in FY 2020-21, the demand rose by 74 per cent, and further to 80 per cent by the end of the second quarter (till September), when compared to the work demanded in the corresponding period of FY 2019-20.
- States such as Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and Bihar have shown the maximum increase in work demand compared to the same period last year.
- Not all the demand, however, was met and the proportion of unmet demand increased over the months. In the first quarter (April to June 2020), 90 per cent of the total demand for employment was met, leaving an unmet demand of only 10 per cent. By the second quarter till September, unmet demand had increased to 20 per cent.
- By December 2020, 19.4 crore HHs sought work under the scheme compared to 12 crore HHs during the corresponding period in the previous year. This was an increase of 62 per cent. However, only 76 per cent of HHs who had demanded employment were provided work.
- Employment provided as a proportion of demand was highest among NER states such as Mizoram (100 per cent), Tripura (98 per cent), and Meghalaya (97 per cent). It was also high in Tamil Nadu (97 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (92 per cent), and West Bengal (92 per cent).
- In contrast, with a large number of migrant workers, the unmet demand was high at 18 per cent in Odisha, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh.

STEADY RISE IN THE PROPORTION OF UNMET DEMAND IN 2020-21 TILL DECEMBER 2020

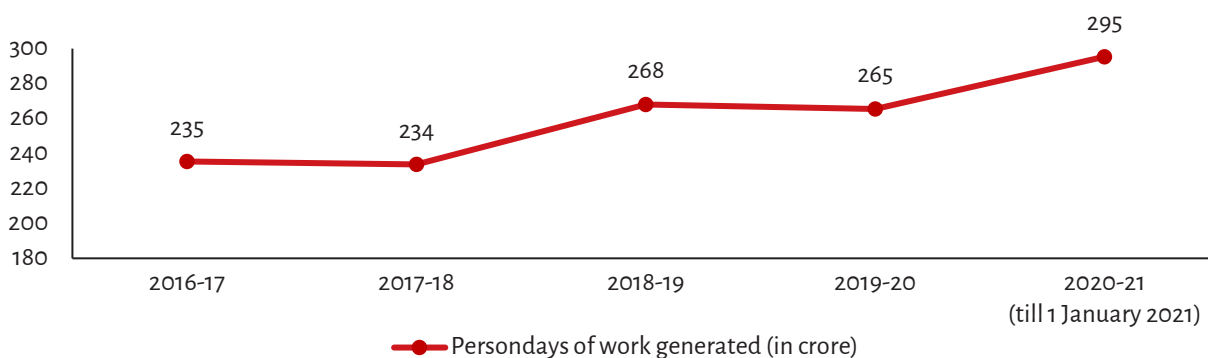


Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R3.1 Work Demand Pattern for FY 2020-21. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/demand_emp_demand.aspx?lflag=eng&file1=dmd&fin=2020-2021&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&Digest=CahELXl9b6LjEym7RtzVag. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

Persondays

- 'Persondays' under MGNREGS is defined as the total number of workdays by a person registered under the scheme in a financial year.
- There has been an upward trend in the persondays of employment generated over the last four years. In FY 2017-18, 234 crore persondays of work had been generated, which rose by 14 per cent to 268 crore in FY 2018-19. FY 2019-20 saw a slight decline to 265 crore persondays of work generation.
- In FY 2020-21, till 1 January 2021, 295 crore persondays of work had been generated.

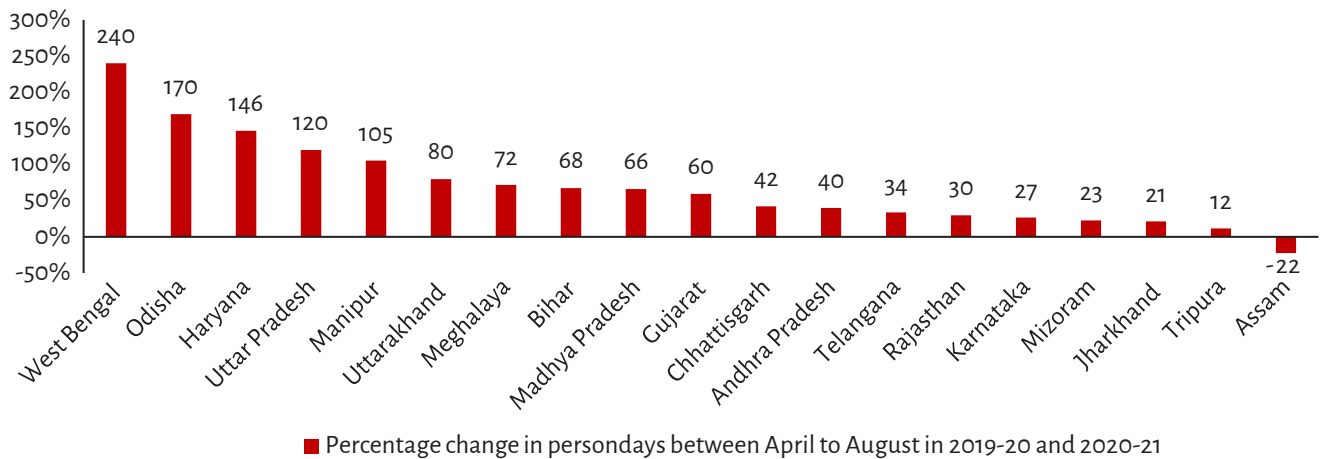
295 CRORE PERSONDAYS OF WORK GENERATED TILL 1 JANUARY 2021



Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 5.1.1, Employment Generated for FY 2016-17 to FY 2020-21. Available online at: [http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/citizen.html/demregister.aspx?lflag=eng&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&labels=labels&Digest=CVETyMakt\]6zoZj/EYWg](http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/citizen.html/demregister.aspx?lflag=eng&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&labels=labels&Digest=CVETyMakt]6zoZj/EYWg). Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

- A month-by-month comparison from April to August found that the number of persondays of work generated increased by 52 per cent from 131 crore in FY 2019-20 to 200 crore in FY 2020-21.
- States with some of the highest increases included West Bengal, Odisha, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Manipur. Assam was one of the only states to register a decline in persondays of work generated during this period.

52% INCREASE IN PERSONDAYS BETWEEN APRIL TO AUGUST IN 2019-20 AND 2020-21

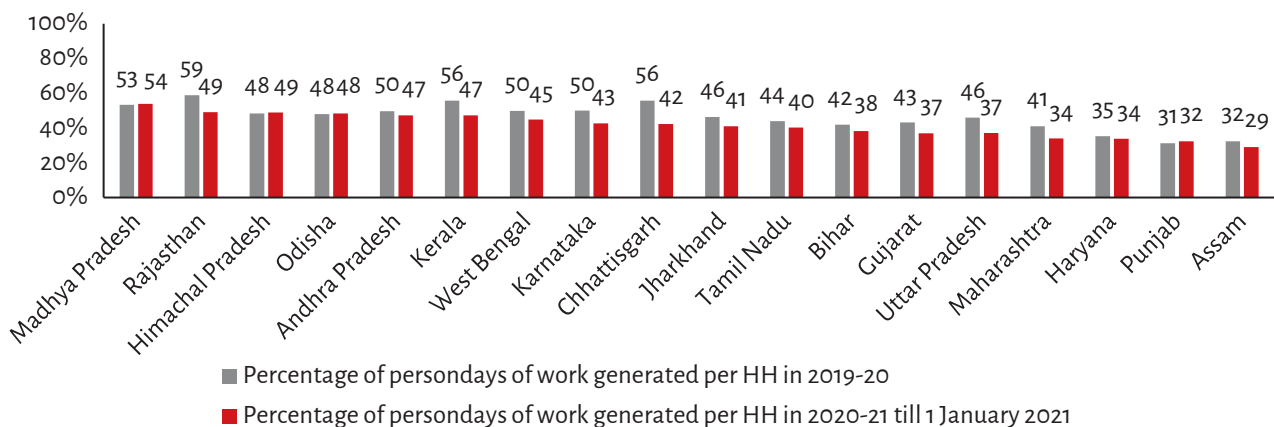


Source: Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1439, dated on 20 September 2020. Available online at: <http://164.100.24.220/loksabhaquestions/annex/174/AU1439.pdf>. Last accessed on 23 January 2021.

Persondays of Work Generated per Household (HH)

- The guidelines mandate at least 100 days of work to be provided to HH. While the total number of persondays increased, the number of persondays of work generated per HH remained low.
- Even prior to the pandemic, most states had not been providing 100 days of employment. In FY 2019-20, on average, 48 persondays of work were generated per rural HH. In FY 2020-21, within the first three-quarters of the financial year, on average 43 persondays of work had been provided per rural HH.
- In FY 2020-21, till the third quarter, states that had provided the highest number of persondays per HH included Madhya Pradesh (54 per cent), Rajasthan (49 per cent), Himachal Pradesh (49 per cent), and Odisha (48 per cent). In contrast, Haryana (34 per cent), Punjab (32 per cent), and Assam (29 per cent) had provided the lowest number.

SIX STATES GENERATED MORE THAN 50 PERSONDAYS OF WORK PER HH IN 2020-21

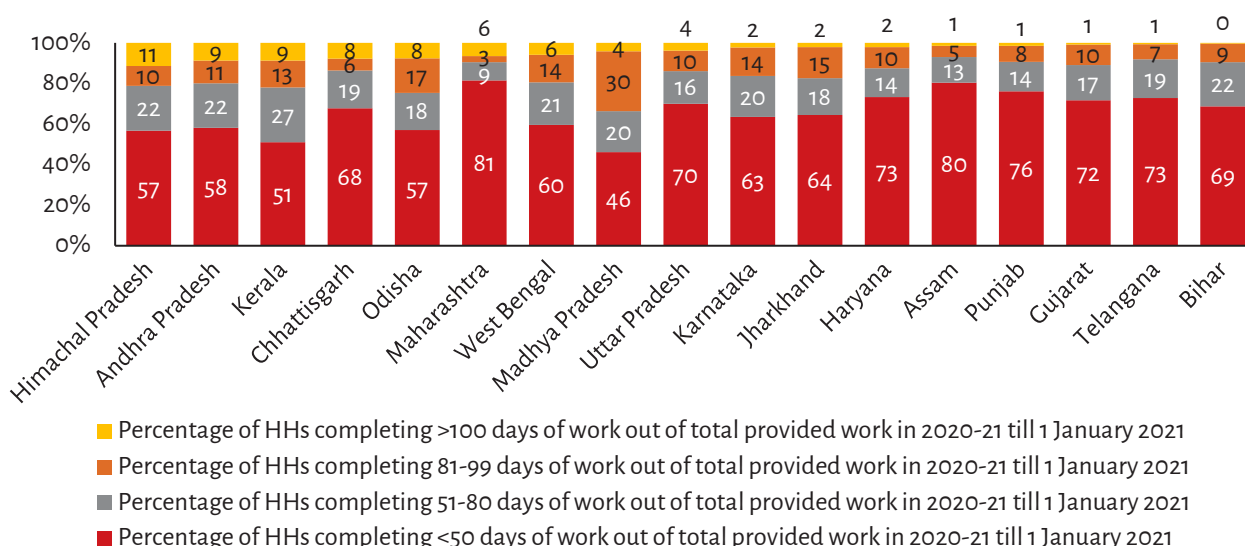


Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 5.1.1, Employment Generated for FY 2019-20 to FY 2020-21. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/citizen_html/demregister.aspx?flag=eng&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&labels=labels&Digest=GVEtTyMaktJ6zoZj/EYWg. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

Days of Employment

- Increase in demand due to the pandemic meant that the number of HHs employed under the scheme surged to an all-time high of 6.83 crore. However, most did not complete 100 days of work.
- A breakdown by the proportion of HHs provided 100 days of employment under the scheme shows that in FY 2019-20, on average, only 7 per cent had completed 100 days of employment. In FY 2020-21, till the third quarter, 25 lakh (or 4 per cent) of total HHs provided employment had completed 100 days of work. A further 60 lakh (or 9 per cent) had finished over 80 days of employment.
- As on 1 January 2021, 25 lakh HHs had completed 100 days of employment in FY 2020-21. A further 60 lakh HHs had finished over 80 days of employment. States with a relatively higher proportion of HHs completing 100 days of employment included Himachal Pradesh (11 per cent or 68,000 HHs), Andhra Pradesh (9 per cent or 4.1 lakh HHs), Kerala (9 per cent or 1.3 lakh HHs), and Chhattisgarh (8 per cent or 2.1 lakh HHs).

PERCENTAGE OF HHs COMPLETING 100 DAYS OF WORK WAS LOW IN 2020-21



Source: MGNREGS Portal, MIS Report, R 5.1.1, Employment Generated for FY 2021. Available online at: http://164.100.129.6/netnrega/citizen.html/demregister.aspx?lflag=eng&fin_year=2020-2021&source=national&labels=labels&Digest=CVETvTyMaktJ6zoZj/EYWg. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA)

- On 20 June 2020, to boost employment opportunities and cater to increased demand from an estimated 67 lakh returnee migrant workers, GoI launched the GKRA for 116 districts across six states of the country. These are Bihar (32 districts), Jharkhand (3 districts), Madhya Pradesh (24 districts), Odisha (4 districts), Rajasthan (22 districts), and Uttar Pradesh (31 districts). The scheme was to run in mission-mode for a period of 125 days commencing from 20 June 2020.

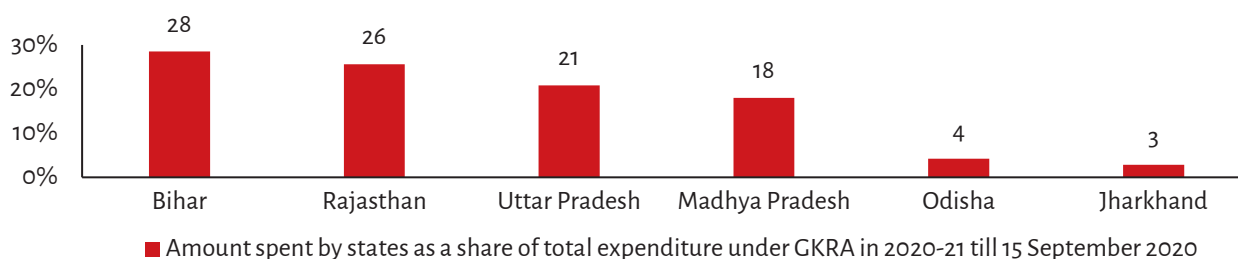
Allocations

- The initial outlay of ₹50,000 crore had been allocated from 12 different ministries, including Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, and Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- In November 2020, an additional allocation of ₹10,000 crore was made under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package to be used primarily for works such as construction of rural houses, water conservation, and harvesting-related construction of public assets.

Expenditures

- As on 15 September 2020, GKRA had spent ₹23,559 crore or 47 per cent of the initial allocations. Share of expenditure was highest in Bihar (28 per cent or ₹6,713 crore) followed by Rajasthan (26 per cent or ₹6,044 crore), and Uttar Pradesh (21 per cent or ₹4,905 crore). States such as Odisha spent 4 per cent or ₹1,001 crore in four implementing districts, and Jharkhand spent 3 per cent or ₹662 crore in three implementing districts.

47% OF THE INITIAL ALLOCATIONS SPENT TILL 15 SEPTEMBER 2020

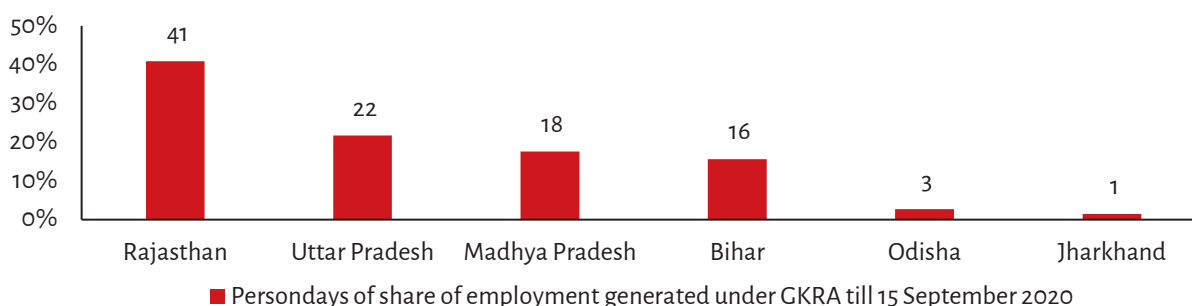


Source: Press release on GKRA by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) dated on 15 September 2020. Available online at: <https://rural.nic.in/press-release/garib-kalyan-rojgar-abhiyan>. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

Persondays of Work Generated

- As on 15 September 2020, 27.21 crore persondays of work had been generated in all 116 districts of GKRA.
- Of the total number of persondays of work generated, Rajasthan had created 41 per cent or 11.13 crore of persondays of work, followed by Uttar Pradesh with 22 per cent or 5.90 crore persondays of work.
- Though states such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh had the largest share of GKRA implementing districts, they were able to create less than 20 per cent of the persondays of work.

RAJASTHAN GENERATED 41% OF TOTAL PERSONDAYS UNDER GKRA



Source: Press release on GKRA by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) dated on 15 September 2020. Available online at: <https://rural.nic.in/press-release/garib-kalyan-rojgar-abhiyan>. Last accessed on 1 January 2021.

Assets Created under GKRA

- As on 15 September 2020, a total of 4.99 lakh of physical assets were created in 116 districts of GKRA. The category of 'Work on Community Assets' accounted for the highest share of assets created, at 72 per cent. 'Public Works' including natural resources management, water conservation and harvesting works, micro-irrigation works, and works related to 'solid and liquid waste management' constituted another 27 per cent of the total assets created. Construction for common infrastructure (including for National Rural Livelihood Mission) constituted around 1 per cent of the total assets created till 15 September 2020.