



Impact of MGNREGA on the Agricultural labourers: A critical analysis

Asha Pasi

Research Scholar,
Department of Economics,
Iswar Saran P.G. College,
University of Allahabad, Prayagraj

Ved Prakash Mishra

Assistant Professor,
Department of Economics,
Iswar Saran P.G. College,
University of Allahabad, Prayagraj

Abstract:

Many employments generation schemes are being introduced by the Government of India to fulfil the gap of employment generation in rural India. Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee act is the first ever act in the history of India to provide guaranteed work and wage. This paper studies the positive effect of MGNREGA on agricultural labourers employment, type of work done under this statute and up to what extent this program is successful in poverty alleviation in rural agricultural labourers in India. Many researchers have found that this scheme has a huge impact on the employment structure of rural India. The present paper studied and outlines the role of MGNREGA in enhancing the livelihood of poor agricultural labourers through twin incorporation of work with skill. Also, there is the need of overcoming the procedure of payment.

Keywords: MGNREGA, Agricultural labour, Employment generation, social benefit and social security.

Introduction:

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), enacted in 2005, represents one of the most ambitious and transformative social security and public works programs in the history of rural India, with the principal objective of providing a legal guarantee of 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The Act not only aims at enhancing the livelihood security of the rural poor but also at creating durable assets, fostering social inclusion, and empowering marginalized groups, especially women and Scheduled Castes and Tribes. One of the most critical areas of impact that MGNREGA has generated, albeit with varying results across regions and over time, is on the lives and livelihoods of agricultural labourers—a class of workers who have historically remained vulnerable to seasonal employment, low and irregular wages, exploitative work conditions, and social discrimination. This research undertakes a critical analysis of the multifaceted effects of MGNREGA on agricultural labourers, exploring both the intended and unintended consequences of the scheme. On the one hand, MGNREGA has significantly contributed to improving the bargaining power of rural labourers by setting a benchmark for minimum wages and offering a viable alternative source of income during the lean agricultural season. This has led to upward pressure on rural wage rates, a shift in

labour supply dynamics, and a reduction in distress migration. On the other hand, it has also sparked a contentious debate among agricultural employers and landowners who argue that the scheme creates artificial labour shortages and raises input costs in the agrarian economy. The Act's implementation has also witnessed several operational challenges, including delayed wage payments, corruption, inefficiencies in asset creation, and inconsistent availability of work, which dilute its potential benefits. Furthermore, the heterogeneity of India's rural landscape—marked by variations in caste, gender, land ownership patterns, agro-ecological conditions, and governance structures—has meant that the impact of MGNREGA is uneven and context-specific, necessitating a nuanced and regionally sensitive analysis. This study seeks to examine how MGNREGA has influenced the socio-economic status, work patterns, income levels, and labour relations of agricultural workers, with particular attention to gender disparities, caste dynamics, and seasonal migration trends. By critically engaging with both primary and secondary data, and drawing insights from field studies, government reports, and scholarly literature, the research aims to assess whether MGNREGA has functioned as an emancipatory tool for rural labour or merely a supplementary income scheme with limited transformative potential. It also interrogates the degree to which the programme has altered the rural labour market equilibrium, either by empowering the labouring class or by disrupting traditional agrarian practices. Moreover, the study reflects on policy implications and offers recommendations for improving the design and implementation of MGNREGA so that it aligns more closely with the evolving needs of rural labourers and contributes more meaningfully to inclusive and sustainable rural development. In doing so, the research contributes to the broader discourse on labour rights, rural development, and social justice in India's development trajectory, thereby offering a critical lens through which to evaluate one of the most significant social protection initiatives in the global South.

Review of Literature:

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has attracted significant scholarly attention due to its scale, objectives, and implications for rural labour markets in India. A wide range of literature, both theoretical and empirical, has analyzed the Act's impact on agricultural labourers—particularly focusing on employment patterns, wage dynamics, labour supply shifts, rural livelihoods, and socio-economic empowerment. The existing body of work offers diverse interpretations, highlighting both the achievements and limitations of the scheme.

1. MGNREGA and Rural Employment Generation

Several studies have emphasized MGNREGA's role in generating employment opportunities and reducing rural underemployment. Dreze and Khera (2009) argue that the Act represents a crucial shift in India's social policy by recognizing employment as a legal right. Their analysis, based on data from multiple states, reveals that MGNREGA has offered an important lifeline to the rural poor, particularly during the agricultural lean season, thereby supplementing household income and reducing dependence on exploitative agricultural labour. Similarly, studies by Chakraborty (2007) and Ghosh (2011) assert that the programme has successfully mitigated distress migration and provided economic stability to rural households.

2. Impact on Agricultural Labour Market and Wage Rates

One of the most debated impacts of MGNREGA is its effect on rural wage structures and labour availability for agriculture. Imbert and Papp (2015), using econometric analysis across Indian districts, found that MGNREGA significantly raised casual rural wages by creating an alternative employment option, especially for unskilled labourers. They argue that this rise in wages has been more pronounced in districts with higher programme intensity. This has led to improved bargaining power for agricultural labourers. On the contrary, studies by Bhalla (2011) and Narayanamoorthy (2013) have pointed out that MGNREGA-induced labour shortages during peak sowing and harvesting seasons have led to delayed operations, thereby affecting agricultural productivity. These findings

underscore the unintended consequences of the Act on small and marginal farmers who struggle to match the MGNREGA wage rates.

3. Gender Dimensions and Empowerment

Gender-focused research indicates that MGNREGA has been relatively successful in enhancing women's participation in the rural workforce. Kaur (2012) and Pankaj & Tankha (2010) have documented that MGNREGA has improved women's financial autonomy and social visibility, particularly in patriarchal rural settings. The provision of equal wages under the Act has contributed to reducing gender-based wage gaps. However, these studies also caution that women's involvement is often constrained by the availability of childcare facilities, the physical intensity of the work, and existing cultural norms. Despite these limitations, women's participation in MGNREGA is often higher than in other wage employment schemes.

4. Caste, Social Inclusion, and Equity

The literature also recognizes the impact of MGNREGA in addressing historical caste-based exclusion and economic marginalization. According to Shah and Mehta (2008), Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) have benefited from MGNREGA in terms of access to employment and asset creation, although the degree of benefit varies significantly across regions. Desai et al. (2014) observe that while the Act has contributed to the inclusion of marginalized communities, systemic issues such as discrimination at worksites and differential access to programme entitlements continue to persist. The implementation of the Act, in some cases, has been filtered through local power structures, which can reinforce existing inequalities rather than dismantle them.

5. Implementation Challenges and Governance Issues

A substantial body of literature critiques the implementation mechanism of MGNREGA. Studies by Bhatia and Dreze (2006) and Rajasekhar et al. (2011) highlight problems such as delayed wage payments, fake job cards, corruption in material procurement, and weak grievance redressal systems. These inefficiencies undermine the effectiveness of the programme and diminish its credibility among the intended beneficiaries. Further, field studies have noted disparities in performance across states, with states like Kerala and Rajasthan performing better due to stronger institutional frameworks and political will, while states such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar lag behind in terms of transparency and efficiency (MoRD Reports, 2017–2021).

6. Asset Creation and Agricultural Productivity

The potential for MGNREGA to create durable assets that benefit agriculture has been examined by multiple scholars. Reddy et al. (2012) argue that when properly implemented, MGNREGA works—such as water harvesting structures, farm ponds, and rural connectivity—have contributed to improving agricultural resilience and productivity. However, these gains are highly contingent on the quality and sustainability of assets created. Datar (2007) notes that in several instances, the work done under the Act lacks technical input and long-term maintenance, leading to suboptimal outcomes.

7. Intersections with Migration and Livelihood Diversification

There is growing interest in understanding how MGNREGA interacts with rural migration patterns. Studies such as those by Khera and Nayak (2009) suggest that MGNREGA has played a significant role in reducing seasonal out-migration by providing employment during critical periods. This has enabled many households to stay in their villages and invest more time in local livelihoods, including subsistence agriculture. However, in areas where MGNREGA work is irregular or poorly implemented, migration remains a preferred coping strategy.

8. Theoretical Frameworks and Critical Perspectives

Critical perspectives, including those rooted in Marxist and rights-based frameworks, have evaluated MGNREGA's structural limitations. Scholars like Patnaik (2007) argue that while the programme addresses the symptoms of rural distress, it does not confront the structural causes of agrarian crisis such as landlessness, market volatility, and neoliberal policy orientations. Others like Joshi et al. (2008) assert that MGNREGA has the potential to create participatory models of development, but only if implemented with community involvement, decentralization, and accountability.

The review of existing literature suggests that MGNREGA has had a multifaceted impact on agricultural labourers. While the Act has contributed significantly to wage improvement, employment security, and social empowerment, especially among marginalized groups, it is also constrained by a series of implementation bottlenecks and unintended consequences, particularly in its relationship with the agrarian economy. The literature highlights the need for region-specific strategies, improved governance mechanisms, and greater convergence with agricultural policies to optimize the benefits of MGNREGA for rural labourers. However, more granular, micro-level studies are needed to capture the localized dynamics of impact, especially in terms of caste, gender, and class relations.

Objective of study:

1. To analysis the MGNREGA 's positive impact on agricultural labourers.
2. To analysis the problem faced on agricultural labourers after implemented MGNREGA.

Methodology:

The main tool used for collecting the data for this research is the secondary. The data collected by government organisation, organisational records and the data was collected that was originally collected for other research purpose it included census of various time periods and different people of culture. Secondary Sources of Data is Internet websites, Newspapers and magazine article, social site, Research journals etc.

Findings and Discussion:

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), enacted in 2005, was designed to provide at least 100 days of wage employment annually to every rural household. Over the years, its implementation has had multifaceted impacts on agricultural labourers across India. This analysis delves into the scheme's effects on income levels, wage dynamics, labour availability, agricultural productivity, gender participation, and the challenges faced in its execution.

1. Income Enhancement and Livelihood Security

MGNREGA has played a pivotal role in augmenting the incomes of rural households, especially those engaged in agricultural labour. In Odisha's Keonjhar district, tribal women reported increased financial independence and improved household economic conditions due to their participation in MGNREGA. Similarly, in Manipur, the scheme positively influenced women's employment and income, leading to substantial multiplier effects.

However, the scheme's effectiveness in providing consistent employment remains a concern. A study in Karnataka revealed that the programme did not offer enough days of work to make a significant dent in poverty levels, with many households indicating that their living standards or consumption levels had not improved substantially.

2. Wage Dynamics and Disparities

While MGNREGA has led to wage increases, disparities persist when compared to agricultural wages. Between FY20 and FY25, MGNREGA wages grew by approximately 30%, with the highest increase observed in Maharashtra (44%). However, these wages remain below the prevailing agricultural wages in most states. For instance, in Kerala, the gap between MGNREGA and agricultural wages is as high as ₹431 per day.

The indexing of MGNREGA wages to the Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL) has been critiqued for not adequately reflecting inflationary trends, leading to calls for alternative indices that better capture rural cost-of-living changes. The Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj in 2021-22 noted that the fluctuation in wage rates among states is unjustified and recommended a revision to ensure fairness.

3. Labour Availability and Agricultural Operations

MGNREGA's provision of alternative employment opportunities has influenced labour availability for agricultural activities. The scheme has resulted in labour shortages during peak agricultural seasons, particularly among male labourers. This shift has been more pronounced among male labourers, while female participation in agriculture has increased, indicating a trend towards the feminization of agriculture.

In Karnataka, the cost of farm production increased by up to 20% after the implementation of MGNREGA, primarily due to labour shortages during the kharif sowing season. The study suggested that MGNREGA works should be planned in such a way that labourers are employed after the sowing and harvesting seasons to mitigate this issue.

4. Asset Creation and Agricultural Productivity

Beyond employment, MGNREGA has facilitated the creation of durable assets that have positively impacted agricultural productivity. The scheme's focus on water conservation, land development, and irrigation infrastructure has led to increased agricultural output, reduced production-related expenditures, and enhanced household incomes. These assets have also been associated with decreased migration and indebtedness among rural households.

A World Bank expert highlighted that MGNREGA led to greater use of machinery and fertilizers, a shift beyond rice and wheat toward riskier crops, and an increase in the intensity of cultivation. These effects were partly due to the programme's impact on increasing farmers' liquidity and the rehabilitation of infrastructure, supporting more intensive land use.

5. Gender Participation and Empowerment

MGNREGA has played a pivotal role in enhancing women's participation in the rural workforce. Nationally, women constitute approximately 47% of the total person-days generated under the scheme. In states like Kerala, women's participation reaches up to 93%, while in Uttar Pradesh and Jammu, it remains around 17-18%.

The scheme's provisions, such as equal wages and work within 5 kilometers of the village, have made participation more feasible for women. Studies in Rajasthan's Ladnu block and West Bengal's Nadia district have shown that MGNREGA has contributed to improved lifestyles and economic empowerment for women.

6. Implementation Challenges and Regional Disparities

Despite its achievements, MGNREGA faces several implementation challenges. Issues such as delayed wage payments, corruption, and inadequate grievance redressal mechanisms undermine the scheme's effectiveness.

Between 2017 and 2021, about ₹1,000 crore of funds were misappropriated in the form of bribes, ghost accounts, and fake material rates.

Regional disparities in programme execution have also been observed, with states like Kerala and Rajasthan demonstrating better performance due to stronger institutional frameworks, while others lag behind. In Manipur, challenges include work provision and timely wage payments.

7. Policy Implications and Recommendations

To enhance the effectiveness of MGNREGA for agricultural labourers, several policy measures are recommended:

- **Wage Revisions:** Align MGNREGA wages with prevailing agricultural wages to ensure competitiveness and fairness.
- **Indexing Mechanism:** Reevaluate the use of CPI-AL for wage indexing and consider alternative indices that more accurately reflect rural inflation.
- **Skill Development:** Implement training programmes to equip labourers with skills that enhance employability and productivity.
- **Asset Maintenance:** Establish mechanisms for the upkeep of assets created under MGNREGA to ensure their long-term utility.
- **Gender-Sensitive Policies:** Introduce measures that address barriers to women's participation, such as providing childcare facilities and ensuring safe working conditions.

MGNREGA has had a substantial impact on the livelihoods of agricultural labourers in India, contributing to income enhancement, asset creation, and social empowerment. However, to fully realize its potential, it is imperative to address existing challenges, ensure equitable wage structures, and implement supportive policies that cater to the diverse needs of rural labourers.

Conclusion:

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was conceptualized as a revolutionary step toward eradicating rural poverty and unemployment by guaranteeing 100 days of wage employment to every rural household. Over the past two decades, it has emerged as one of the world's largest public employment programmes, with far-reaching implications for the rural labour force—especially agricultural labourers. This study aimed to critically assess the impact of MGNREGA on agricultural labourers, with a special focus on income security, wage structure, labour dynamics, asset creation, gender empowerment, and structural limitations of the scheme.

The findings from multiple studies and government reports indicate that MGNREGA has succeeded in some key areas. First and foremost, it has played an instrumental role in providing an economic safety net for the rural poor during times of agrarian distress, lean agricultural seasons, and climate-induced livelihood shocks. For a large section of landless and marginal farmers, particularly in rain-fed and semi-arid regions, MGNREGA serves as a critical lifeline. It provides predictable employment during non-agricultural seasons, which not only cushions families from income volatility but also reduces their dependence on exploitative forms of labour.

One of the notable achievements of MGNREGA is its role in improving wage levels and bargaining power of rural labourers. By offering a state-mandated minimum wage for manual labour, the programme has established a wage floor that prevents the suppression of agricultural wages by landlords or large farmers. This has led to a modest but

significant rise in rural wage rates in many parts of the country. However, the wage effects have been uneven. In some states, such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu, MGNREGA wages are still lower than the prevailing agricultural wages, leading to lesser participation. Conversely, in states like Bihar and Odisha, where agricultural wages are lower, MGNREGA has created a more level playing field, raising the standard of living for many rural households.

Nonetheless, this wage improvement has not come without trade-offs. Many farmers and agricultural employers report labour shortages during peak agricultural seasons, which they attribute to the lure of relatively stable and nearby employment under MGNREGA. While this perspective needs to be viewed critically—since MGNREGA work is often not available in a consistent or timely manner—it does underscore the need for better alignment between the agricultural calendar and employment provisioning under MGNREGA. Synchronizing work demand with lean seasons, implementing planning tools like Labour Budgeting, and encouraging off-season work can help in avoiding direct conflict between MGNREGA work and agricultural labour needs.

Another vital area where MGNREGA has made a marked contribution is in asset creation. The scheme has facilitated the construction of various rural assets such as ponds, check dams, bunds, and rural roads, which have long-term benefits for agriculture. Improved irrigation facilities, better water conservation structures, and enhanced soil productivity are just a few examples. These assets indirectly boost agricultural productivity and incomes. However, concerns remain over the quality, utility, and maintenance of these assets. Often, lack of technical support, poor monitoring, and absence of community involvement result in subpar outcomes. To address this, there is a need to strengthen the planning process, engage Gram Panchayats meaningfully, and build technical capacity for asset management.

Gender empowerment is perhaps one of the most profound but underappreciated impacts of MGNREGA. Women's participation in the scheme has consistently remained high, accounting for nearly 50% of the total person-days generated nationally. In states like Kerala, women dominate MGNREGA employment. For many women, especially those from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, this is the first time they have accessed independent income through paid public employment. It has led to increased decision-making power within households, reduced dependency on male breadwinners, and improved nutritional and educational outcomes for children. Women have also reported increased self-esteem, reduced vulnerability to domestic violence, and enhanced mobility. However, systemic barriers still persist. Childcare facilities at worksites are often absent, and lack of sanitation and security infrastructure continues to discourage full participation. Addressing these through gender-sensitive policies is essential to sustaining this positive trend.

Despite the evident benefits, the implementation of MGNREGA continues to suffer from critical gaps. One of the most glaring issues is the delay in wage payments, which undermines the very objective of providing timely economic relief. Administrative bottlenecks, inadequate fund allocation, and inefficiencies in the payment infrastructure have resulted in wage delays ranging from weeks to months. Such delays discourage labourers from seeking work under the programme and erode trust in the system. Digitization, while a step forward, has also introduced new complexities for illiterate or semi-literate rural workers, leading to exclusions and payment errors. Technological advancements must be accompanied by proper training, grievance redressal mechanisms, and accountability measures to ensure last-mile delivery.

Moreover, there is substantial regional disparity in the scheme's performance. States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Rajasthan have demonstrated relatively better implementation due to strong administrative support and community involvement. In contrast, states such as Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Bihar have struggled due to weak Panchayati Raj institutions, corruption, and lack of awareness among beneficiaries. This disparity points to the need for decentralized and state-specific reforms. Greater financial autonomy, administrative devolution, and participatory

planning can empower local institutions to tailor MGNREGA according to local agricultural and socio-economic conditions.

From a macroeconomic perspective, MGNREGA has not only helped reduce rural poverty but has also contributed to the creation of rural demand, which in turn supports local markets and small enterprises. During economic shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic, MGNREGA emerged as a critical lifeline for return migrants and rural workers who had lost their urban jobs. In this sense, the programme also serves as a counter-cyclical employment tool and a stabilizer in times of economic distress. However, its potential is far from fully realized.

To strengthen the impact of MGNREGA on agricultural labourers, several policy recommendations emerge from this analysis:

- Wages under MGNREGA should be revised periodically and indexed to inflation more accurately, possibly using rural CPI instead of CPI-AL alone.
- The guaranteed number of workdays should be increased in drought-prone or economically backward regions to enhance income security.
- Planning must be decentralized, with Gram Panchayats empowered to design work schedules in consultation with local farmers and labourers.
- Capacity building, technical support, and real-time monitoring systems should be enhanced to improve the quality of assets.
- Provisions such as childcare, toilets, shade, and drinking water at worksites must be enforced to encourage inclusive participation, especially of women.
- Stronger grievance redressal systems, social audits, and transparency measures should be institutionalized to eliminate corruption and exclusion.

In conclusion, MGNREGA remains a transformative social protection instrument that has positively impacted the lives of millions of rural labourers, especially those dependent on agriculture. While it is not a panacea for all rural distress, it offers a powerful template for inclusive development, labour empowerment, and rural revitalization. To truly harness its transformative potential, reforms must be undertaken with a commitment to equity, accountability, and local empowerment. Only then can MGNREGA serve as not just an employment guarantee scheme, but as a catalyst for rural resilience and agrarian justice.

References:

1. Dey, N., Dreze, J., & Khera, R. (2006). *Employment Guarantee Act: A Primer*. Delhi: National Book Trust.
2. Ambasta, P., Shankar, P. S. V., & Shah, M. (2008). Two Years of NREGA: The Road Ahead. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 43(8), 41–50.
3. Shah, A. (2010). *Public Employment Schemes and Rural Labour Markets in India: A Critical Assessment of MGNREGA*. *Labour and Development*, 16(1), 33–50.
4. Khera, R. (2011). *The Battle for Employment Guarantee*. Oxford University Press.
5. Rajasekhar, D., Suchitra, J. Y., & Madhusudhan, R. (2011). *MGNREGA: Promoting Decentralised Governance and Women's Participation*. *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 54(1), 107–126.

6. Kannan, K. P. (2012). *Agrarian Crisis and Rural Labour in India: A Review of the Debate on MGNREGA*. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 47(23), 48–58.
7. Dreze, J., & Oldiges, C. (2012). *MGNREGA: A New Deal for Rural Labour in India?* In Hill, K. & Das, S. (Eds.), *Social Protection and Basic Services in India* (pp. 55–77). New Delhi: Routledge.
8. Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. (2013). *Performance Audit of MGNREGA*. Report No. 6 of 2013. New Delhi.
9. World Bank. (2014). *MGNREGA: A Catalyst for Rural Transformation*. Washington, DC: World Bank Publications.
10. Gangopadhyay, S., & Dutta, P. (2014). *MGNREGA and Gender: A Comparative Analysis*. *South Asian Journal of Socio-Political Studies*, 5(1), 43–59.
11. National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). (2015). *Evaluation Study on the Implementation of MGNREGA*. New Delhi: NCAER.
12. Mukherjee, D. (2016). *MGNREGA and Its Impact on Income and Employment: A Study of Rural Households in Eastern India*. *Journal of Rural Development*, 35(3), 331–345.
13. Agnihotri, S., & Patel, R. (2017). *Gender and MGNREGA: Women's Participation in Rural Development*. *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, 24(4), 379–396.
14. Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), New Delhi. (2018). *MGNREGA and Agricultural Productivity: Evidence from a Panel Study*.
15. Kapoor, R. (2019). *The Impact of MGNREGA on Labour Markets and Agriculture in Rural India*. *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 62(2), 233–252.
16. Muralidharan, K., & Prakash, N. (2020). *The Economic Impact of MGNREGA on Agriculture and Labour in Rural India: Evidence from a Large-Scale Survey*. *Journal of Development Economics*, 142, 102431.
17. Basu, A., Chauhan, R., & Surendra, V. (2020). *MGNREGA Wages and Rural Labour Market Distortions*. Ideas for India.
18. Dutta, M., & Ranjan, R. (2021). *Impact of MGNREGA on Rural Employment and Agricultural Labour: A District-Wise Study in Bihar*. *Asian Journal of Development Studies*, 6(2), 74–85.
19. Verma, S., & Soni, A. (2020). *Examining the Socio-Economic Impacts of MGNREGA on Agricultural Labourers: A Case Study from Madhya Pradesh*. *Indian Economic Review*, 55(2), 299–314.
20. Mehrotra, S. (2022). *Revisiting the MGNREGA Wage Debate: Addressing Indexation and Regional Disparities*. *Indian Journal of Human Development*, 16(1), 1–14.
21. Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. (2022). *Report on Implementation of MGNREGA*. Parliament of India.
22. Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India. (2023). *MGNREGA Annual Report 2022–23*. Retrieved from <https://nrega.nic.in>