A cross District Analysis of Performance of Mgnrega in Himachal Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

The introduction of the flagship welfare scheme MGNREGA by the Indian Govt. was a momentous initiative towards the upliftment of rural and weaker section of the society. It is a anti poverty scheme which guarantee 100 days of employment to every rural household, equal wages to men and women and 33% reservation for women in work force who have registered and requested for work under the scheme. The other objective of the scheme is to strengthen the available natural resources and built infrastructure. In the present paper attempt has been made to evaluate the performance of MGNREGA in all the districts of H.P. by using the various indicators i.e. average person days per household (AIP), proportion of work completed (AIW) and proportion of the funds utilized (AIF). The composite achievement index (CAI) is calculated by adding the score of these indicators. UNDP's Human Development Index Construction Method (Mukherjee and Ghosh) has been used for converting the indicators into score.

Key words: MGNREGA, Performance, Districts, Achievement

I. INTRODUCTION

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act-2005 (MGNREGA) is one of most ambitious anti poverty scheme which give the right to employment to every rural household. It was launched on 2nd February, 2006 at Bandlapalle village in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh and initially came into force in 200 most backward district of India and further extended to 130 additional districts and remaining districts were covered under this scheme w.e.f. 1st April, 2008.

II. OBJECTIVES OF MGNREGA

It has following main objectives.
- To enhancing the livelihood security of the people in rural areas by guaranteeing 100 days of wages employment in a financial year.
- Empowering of rural women, SC and ST.
- Poverty alleviation and promoting social security.
- To create durable assets and strengthening the livelihood base of the rural poor people, stopping soil erosion, increasing land productivity and solving water shortage problem.
- Strengthening natural resource management.
- Restoration and maintenance of ecological infrastructure
- To reduce rural-urban migration.
- Strengthening grass root process of democracy, transparency and accountability in governance.
- To have multiplier effects in the overall development of the rural economy.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To evaluate the performance of MGNREGA in each district by using various indicators.
- To have the comparative analysis of performance of all the districts in the state.

IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The secondary data has been taken from the various official websites of MGNREGA. The data has been taken from the 2009-10 to 2012-13. The comparative study of the performance of all the districts in H.P. has been measured by using the various indicators.
- The average number of person days generated per households in the state.
- Proportion of the work completed to works taken up.
- Proportion of total funds spent to total funds available in the state.

All these indicators were considered for the financial years from 2008-09 to 2012-13. These indicators were converted into scores by using UNDP's Human Development Index construction method (Mukherjee & Ghosh). As a result there emerges three indices like.
- AIP (Achievement Index with respect to Average Number of person days generated per household in the state).

- AIW (Achievement index with respect to proportion of work completed to works taken up).
- AIF (Achievement index with respect to proportion of total funds spent to total funds available.

Average Person Days per Household

The average person days per household is calculated by dividing the employment provided in person days by employment provided to No. of households. During the year 2009-10 out of the 12 districts in the state there are 8 districts which lies below the overall state average person days per household, followed by 6 districts in 2010-11, 7 districts in 2011-12 and 5 districts in 2012-13. Chamba district ranked first in 2009-10, Una in 2010-11, Solan in 2011-12 and Kinnaur in 2012-13 respectively.

Table – 1
Average Person days per Household and Achievement Index

Sr. No.	Name of Districts	2009-10			2011-11			2011-12			2012-13		
		APH	AIP	Rank	APH	AIP	Rank	APH	AIP	Rank	APH	AIP	Rank
1	Chamba	74.63	1.00	1	56.59	0.78	3	50.10	0.59	8	39.99	0.31	8
2	Sirmour	53.68	0.36	6	54.06	0.66	4	50.78	0.63	7	40.47	0.32	7
3	Kangra	59.79	0.57	4	50.46	0.49	5	52.65	0.73	5	34.56	0.13	9
4	Mandi	53.21	0.35	7	45.81	0.27	7	57.67	0.96	2	45.55	0.53	3
5	Bilaspur	44.67	0.09	11	41.94	0.09	10	45.37	0.35	10	45.33	0.52	4
6	Hamirpur	55.59	0.42	5	50.22	0.48	6	54.40	0.82	4	46.45	0.56	2
7	Kinnaur	47.00	0.16	9	44.12	0.19	9	51.32	0.66	6	57.55	1.00	1
8	Kullu	46.55	0.14	10	44.57	0.22	8	44.38	0.30	11	34.51	0.09	10
9	Lahaul & Spiti	41.81	0.00	12	39.93	0.00	12	38.58	0.00	12	32.25	0.00	12
10	Shimla	47.96	0.19	8	40.13	0.01	11	46.00	0.38	9	33.09	0.03	11
11	Solan	62.75	0.64	3	57.25	0.81	2	57.96	1.00	1	42.45	0.40	6
12	Una	67.60	0.79	2	61.31	1	1	56.99	0.95	3	43.32	0.44	5
	Total	57.29	0.47		49.40	0.44		52.40	0.71		40.27	0.32	

Source: MGNREGA Annual Reports 2009-10 to 2012-13 and Author's own calculation.
APH: Average Person Days per Household.

Proportion of works completed to works taken up

The percentage of the works competed to the work taken up during 2009-10 in H.P. shows that there are 6 districts where the percentage of work completion is below the average followed by 5 districts in 2010-11 to 2012-13. After the conversion of percentage of works completed into scores to get AIW, it is found that Kangra district stood at the top of the ladder in 2009-10 followed by Solan in 2010-11, Kullu in 2011-12 and 2012-13.

Lahaul and Spiti the biggest district of Himachal Pradesh area wise having less density of population stood at the bottom in all the years according to the performance of the total work completed to the total work taken up.

Table – 2
Proportion of works completed to works taken up

Sr. No.	Name of Districts	2009-10			2011-11			2011-12			2012-13		
		%	AIW	Rank	%	AIW	Rank	%	AIW	Rank	%	AIW	Rank
1	Chamba	94.76	0.93	9	89.40	0.81	10	72.59	0.31	10	45.41	0.29	11
2	Sirmour	98.28	0.98	5	97.28	0.99	4	87.92	0.81	7	59.88	0.59	4
3	Kangra	99.40	1.00	1	96.72	0.98	5	90.02	0.88	4	59.47	0.58	7
4	Mandi	95.55	0.94	8	89.05	0.81	11	77.13	0.46	9	42.87	0.24	10
5	Bilaspur	96.41	0.96	7	94.87	0.94	6	88.35	0.82	6	54.01	0.47	9
6	Hamirpur	97.28	0.97	6	97.32	0.99	3	90.35	0.89	3	58.49	0.57	6
7	Kinnaur	91.68	0.89	10	91.77	0.87	8	78.66	0.51	8	67.39	0.75	3
8	Kullu	99.23	0.99	2	97.39	0.99	2	93.72	1.00	1	79.18	1.00	1
9	Lahaul & Spiti	27.42	0.00	12	53.98	0.00	12	63.21	0.00	12	31.59	0.00	12
10	Shimla	91.38	0.99	3	90.23	0.83	9	68.65	0.18	11	62.78	0.65	5
11	Solan	98.32	0.98	4	97.45	1.00	1	93.56	0.99	2	70.51	0.82	2
12	Una	88.48	0.84	11	94.16	0.92	7	88.96	0.84	5	54.16	0.47	8
	Total	96.19	0.95		93.61	0.91		85.05	0.72		56.86	0.53	

Source: MGNREGA Annual Reports 2009-10 to 2012-13 and authors own calculation.
% Proportion of works completed to works taken up.

Proportion of Total funds spent to total fund available

Table-3 shows that there is no district which has utilized the total available funds during the four years. The average utilization of funds to the available funds in 2009-10 is 92.33 percent followed by 69.53 percent in 2010-11, 79.70 percent in 2011-12 and 82.89 percent in 2012-13. There are 7 districts in 2009-10, and 2012-13 and 6 districts in 2010-11 which shows the below average utilization of the funds available as compare to other districts. During the year 2009-10 Shimla district score the highest and Lahual & Spiti score the lowest position and in 2010-11 Sirmour district highest. Kullu lowest in 2011-12 Mandi highest Bilaspur lowest and in 2012-13 Kangra highest and Lahaul & Spiti lowest position respectively.

Table – 3
Proportion of funds used to funds available

Sr. No.	Name of Districts	2009-10			2011-11			2011-12			2012-13		
		%	AIF	Rank	%	AIF	Rank	%	AIF	Rank	%	AIF	Rank
1	Chamba	91.74	0.80	7	68.68	0.37	7	77.17	0.46	9	85.09	0.85	5
2	Sirmour	95.81	0.97	3	78.95	1.00	1	84.11	0.85	3	86.72	0.89	3
3	Kangra	92.57	0.84	5	64.52	0.11	10	73.32	0.25	10	90.42	1.00	1
4	Mandi	92.22	0.82	6	73.35	0.65	3	86.75	1.00	1	81.58	0.75	6
5	Bilaspur	87.15	0.61	9	64.91	0.13	9	68.83	0.00	12	86.57	0.88	2
6	Hamirpur	89.79	0.72	9	66.33	0.22	8	77.79	0.50	8	73.06	0.50	10
7	Kinnaur	83.42	0.46	11	72.98	0.62	4	83.33	0.81	4	78.71	0.66	8
8	Kullu	91.03	0.77	8	62.71	0.00	12	78.47	0.54	7	85.35	0.85	4
9	Lahaul & Spiti	72.25	0.00	12	72.38	0.59	5	72.26	0.19	11	55.55	0.00	12
10	Shimla	96.56	1.00	1	72.29	0.58	6	79.83	0.61	6	79.45	0.69	7
11	Solan	95.95	0.97	2	77.25	0.89	2	86.09	0.96	2	75.76	0.57	9
12	Una	94.29	0.91	4	64.09	0.08	11	80.38	0.64	5	69.22	0.39	11
	Total	92.33	0.83		69.53	0.41		79.76	0.63		82.89	0.78	

Source: MGNREGA Annual Reports 2009-10 to 2012-13 are authors own calculation.
% Proportion of funds used to funds available.

Combined Achievement Index of all Districts

In order to get the final score, all the three indicators were given weight-age, 50% weights to AIP and 25% weights to each of the other two indicator i.e. AIW and AIF. On the basis of composite index of the performance all the districts were ranked in each year. In the final stage the CAI of all the four years of each district is added and districts were ranked again according to their total combined performance. It is clear from the table that out of the 12 districts in the state Lahaul & Spiti performance is worst according to the CAI score in all the years. In 2009-10 there are only 5 districts i.e. Chamba, Shimla, Una, Solan and Kangra whose performance is above the state CAI. There are only 4 districts whose performance is better than state CAI in 2010-11, followed by 5 districts in 2011-12 and 7 districts in 2011-12. The total CAI is calculated by taking the total of CAI of 4 years with respect to all the three indicators. If all the districts were ranked in ascending order of the total CAI, then there are 6 districts whose performance is above the total CAI of the state. According to rank wise Solan district ranked first, followed by Una and Sirmour. Lahaul & Spiti stood at the bottom by showing the worst performance in all the three indicators.

Table – 4
Composite Achievement Index

Sr. No.	Name of the Distt.	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		Total	
		CAI	Rank	CAI	Rank	CAI	Rank	CAI	Rank	CAI	Rank
1	Chamba	0.9325	1	0.6850	4	0.4875	9	0.4400	9	2.5450	4
2	Sirmour	0.6675	6	0.8215	2	0.7300	5	0.5300	5	2.7550	3
3	Kangra	0.7450	5	0.5175	6	0.6475	7	0.4600	8	2.3700	8
4	Mandi	0.6150	8	0.5000	7	0.8450	2	0.5125	6	2.4725	6
5	Bilaspur	0.4375	10	0.3125	11	0.3800	11	0.5975	2	1.7275	11
6	Hamirpur	0.6325	7	0.5425	5	0.7550	4	0.5450	3	2.4750	5
7	Kinnaur	0.4175	11	0.46.75	8	0.6600	6	0.8525	1	2.3975	7
8	Kullu	0.5000	9	0.3575	9	0.5350	8	0.5075	7	1.9000	10
9	Lahual & Spiti	0.0000	12	0.1475	12	0.0475	12	0.0000	12	0.1950	12
10	Shimla	0.8425	2	0.3575	10	0.3815	10	0.3500	11	1.9375	9
11	Solan	0.8075	4	0.8775	1	0.9750	1	0.5475	4	3.2075	1
12	Una	0.8323	3	0.7500	3	0.8450	3	0.4350	10	2.8625	2
	Total	0.6800		0.5500		0.6925		0.4875		2.4100	

Source: Author's own Calculation

V. CONCLUSION

MGNREGA was launched in H.P. in 2006 in three phases and currently all the districts of the state have covered under the scheme. The performance of MGNREGA in H.P. shows that H.P. is ahead of various other states in term of job cards issue, employment to women, SC, ST, Disabled person, No. of person days per household, status and financial position of the woman, work completion, funds utilization etc. It is clear from the above analysis that out of 12 districts in the state 6 districts perform better than state total CAI while remaining 6 having performance below average. In order to make the "MGNREGA a ray of hope" for the rural people there is a greater need of transparency and full disclosure practices, honesty, dedication, self motivation punctuality and zero political interference.

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