



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# Report reveals delayed wages are a key factor to mismatch between MGNREGS coverage, delivery

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## Context

- A review of the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)** for the financial year 2024-25 reveals that while the coverage has increased, with an **8.6% rise in number of registered households** under the programme, the delivery of promised employment has gone down, with **person days having dropped by 7.1%**. This was revealed in a report released by LibTech India, a consortium of academics and activists on Monday.
- Person days under the MGNREGS is defined as the **total number of workdays by a person** registered under the scheme in a financial year.
- The LibTech study revealed that **only 7% of households got 100 days of work**. The MGNREG Act **promises guaranteed employment up to 100 days**
- Among the key factors leading to an overall employment drop are the **inadequate allocation of budget and extraordinary delay in wage payments** reported from across the country

**MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme)**

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## MGNREGS

### GUARANTEES

**100 days of unskilled manual work** at the statutory minimum wage

### FUNDING PATTERN

Centre covers **100%** Unskilled Labour Cost  
**75%** Material Cost

### WAGES BASED ON:

CPI-Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL).



### IMPLEMENTED BY

**Ministry of Rural Development (MRD)**  
+  
State Governments

### Section 27 of MGNREGA

#### SECTION 27:

Empowers Centre to monitor & direct states for effective implementation.

#### MISUSE OF FUNDS

Centre can withhold funds if misused & enforce corrective measures.

### MGNREGS: Poverty Alleviation instrument for the Rural Region

#### PURPOSE

Safety net through guaranteed work & wages.

#### REVIEW

Committee headed by **AMARJEET SINHA** to assess effectiveness.

### Expansion Proposals

#### DURATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Extend to **200** days ©PMF IAS

#### INCREASED BUDGET

Augment the budget allocation for MGNREGA

### Key Features



#### RIGHT TO WORK

The state must give rural households work on demand.



#### UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE

If work isn't provided within **15 days** of application.



#### WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

Priority to women  
At least one-third of beneficiaries must be women.



#### WORK RADIUS (5 KM)

Extra wages **>5 KM.** for distance



#### WORKSITE FACILITIES

Crèches, drinking water, first aid.