

IMPACT OF NREGA ON WAGE RATES FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL
URBAN MIGRATION IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Abstract: *In Himachal Pradesh NREGA was implemented in 2007. The present study has been conducted to examine the Impact of NREGA on Wage Rates Cost of Production, Food Security and Rural Urban Migration in Himachal Pradesh. The study reveals that the Income from work under NREGA constituted about 11 percent of total income of Rs.87,868 of beneficiary households. The consumption expenditure among beneficiary households was Rs.7206 and Rs.9746 per capita per annum among non-beneficiaries. On an average, in the state, 1.12 persons were employed under NREGA activities out of which 0.45 women from each household. This figure was highest in case of ST households followed by OBC households, and least was in case of SC households. Each household put in about 92 man days for NREGS work. The women's participation was 45 days per household. Rural connectivity is the most important and popular activity of NREGA. No household got any unemployment allowance for not getting work under NREGA activities even after registration. During 2010-11 a total of 134150 households demanded employment against which 126541 households were provided employment. Out of total sampled households 37 workers migrated in search of work and 9 workers returned back. Majority of the respondents had account in bank or post office etc. All the respondents had not paid any fee or charges for getting the job card. No bribes were reported. The payments of wages were only made through the bank. The worksite had drinking water facility, shade for taking rest during the break periods, child care facility, provision of first aid kits and medicines. There was no family which did not get sufficient food for one month but there were families who did not get sufficient food for two months and 2 families revealed that they did not get sufficient food for more than two months. Due to implementation of NREGA the labour shortages have been increased. But the most positive impact of NREGS has been on standard of living and children education. The study suggested that control of wild animals should be added to the list of NREGA activities and life insurance should be provided to the persons working under NREGA and financial compensation for injury during the NREGA work.*

Main Objectives of the Study

1. Measure the extent of manpower employment generated under NREGA, their various socio-economic characteristics and gender variability in all the districts implementing NREGA since its inception in Himachal Pradesh.
2. To compare wage differentials between NREGA activities and other wage employment activities.
3. Effect of NREGA on the pattern of migration from rural to urban areas.
4. To find out the nature of assets created under NREGA and their durability.
5. Identification of factors determining the participation of people in NREGA scheme and whether NREGA has been successful in ensuring better food security to the beneficiaries.
6. To assess the implementation of NREGA, its functioning and to suggest suitable policy measures to further strengthen the programme.

Data base and Methodology

The study has been conducted in five districts of the state as directed by the coordinator of the study. The location of these districts were Chamba in North, Una in West, Mandi in centre,

Sirmaur in South and Kinnaur in East of the state. In each selected district two villages have been selected on the basis of their location with respect to the main town of the district. One of the selected villages was within the distance of 5 Kms of the main town and the other at a distance of 20 Kms or more from the main town. From each selected village a random sample of 20 families benefitted under NREGA was selected and in addition 5 non-participant families were chosen as control sample in order to facilitate the quantification of impact of NREGA on selected parameters. Thus, the study has been based on a sample of 200 participating and 50 non-participating families. The data has been collected through personal interview method using the well structured questionnaires. The reference period of the study is January to December 2009.

Main Findings

The main findings of the study are:

Manpower Employment Generated Under NREGA and its Various Socio-Economic Characteristics

The highest percentage of job cards issued was in district Kangra. Among the SC highest percentage was found in district Mandi followed by Kangra. Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST. Kangra and Mandi topped in respect of job cards issued to other categories. During 2010-11, a total of 134150 households demanded employment against which 126541 households were provided employment. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Kangra. As per the latest figures 14120 households were working under NREGS, the highest percentage being in district Kangra. During the year 2009-2010, a total of 994969 persons were issued job cards. The highest percentage of job cards issued was in district Kangra and lowest percentage was in district Lahaul-Spiti. As far as the SCs were concerned highest percentage was found in district Kangra. Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Kangra. During this year, 282991 households were working under NREGS, the highest being in district Kangra followed by Chamba and Mandi. During the year 2008-2009 highest percentage of job cards issued was again in district Kangra. The percentage of SC was highest in district Kangra followed by Mandi. Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Mandi. During this year the highest percentage of households working under NREGS was in district Kangra.

During 2010-11 the highest number of works completed belonged to rural connectivity, followed by projects of water conservation and harvesting. The highest number of ongoing projects was found under rural connectivity and least number of ongoing projects was of draught proofing. The amount spent on different completed and ongoing projects in the state during the year 2010-11

indicates that the highest amount was spent on completed projects of rural connectivity followed by water conservation and harvesting. Rural connectivity again topped the list of projects in respect of expenditure on ongoing projects.

The performance of NREGA has been analyzed in terms of some selected indicators like social auditing, bank accounts, unemployment allowance etc. District Kangra topped in muster rolls issued and verified. The performance of Kangra in social audit was the best with social audit conducted in all the gram panchayats. Highest number of complaints received was in Una. The same pattern was observed during 2009-10 and 2008-09 years. Highest number of complaints received was in Sirmour during 2008-09.

During the year 2010-11 a total of 1162390 accounts were opened and an amount of Rs. 10108 lakhs deposited in these accounts as the wages of beneficiary workers. A total of 622431 accounts were opened during the year 2009-10 and an amount of Rs. 31960 lakhs deposited in these accounts. The number of accounts opened during the year 2008-09 stood at 408964 and wages to the tune of Rs. 17897 lakhs deposited in these accounts. District Kinnaur was on the top in respect of unemployment allowance with the unemployment allowance due was higher in district Kinnaur. In district Kullu no unemployment allowance was due. However, no unemployment allowance was paid to the workers during 2010-11. During the year 2010-11 the thrust was on rural connectivity. Highest cost estimates have been drawn for rural connectivity followed by flood control and water conservation and harvesting.

Household Characteristics their Income and Consumption Pattern

The average family size was 4.34 members out of which 52 percent were males. The predominant age group was 16-60 years and about 68 per cent persons belonged to this group. Among beneficiary households 91 percent respondents were head of the family which was 82 percent in non-beneficiary households. Literacy rate was comparatively higher 89 percent in non-beneficiary households. The largest percentage of household at aggregate level belonged to scheduled cast category, 33.20 percent followed by general category, 31.60 percent and other backward classes, 20.80 percent. At aggregate level 56 per cent of the households had APL card, about 33 percent had BPL card and only about 9 per cent had AAY card.

The 27.26 per cent persons had farming as their main occupation, followed by non agricultural labour. The regular/salaried job was the main occupation of 22.25 percent persons in beneficiary households. This was followed by the category of self employed in livestock, self employed in agriculture, non-agriculture casual labour. About 20 per cent of the man days were devoted for NREGS work by beneficiary households only.

The average household income was Rs.87,868 in case of beneficiary household and Rs.1,70,440 in case of non-beneficiary households. About 37 percent households in case of beneficiary and 26 per cent in case of non-beneficiary households received income from agricultural and livestock activity. Among beneficiary households income from regular job/salary/pension accounted for only about 19 per cent of the total income whereas in case of non-beneficiary households this percentage was about 35 per cent. Income from work under NREGA constituted about 11 percent of total income of beneficiary households.

The monthly expenditure on total cereals was about Rs.117 per household and this was higher in case of non beneficiary households. Each household was spending about Rs.468 in case of beneficiary households and about Rs.629 in case of non-beneficiary households on food items. The expenditure on non-food items was only Rs.1588 in case of beneficiary household and Rs.2193 in case of non-beneficiary households. The consumption expenditure among beneficiary households was found to be Rs.7206 and in comparison the consumption expenditure of non beneficiary households was Rs.9746 per capita per annum. At aggregate level each household was consuming 12 Kgs of cereals whereas the consumption of pulses was 3.43 Kgs per capita per month. The analysis of coefficient of variation indicates that the distribution of consumption was largely quite compact indicating the constancy among the households in relation to the consumption level.

The analysis indicates that the variation in income of non-beneficiary households was significantly higher as the coefficient of variation for them was 1.0172 whereas this was only 0.4692 in case of beneficiary households. In comparison the distribution of consumption expenditure was fairly compact as the coefficient of variation in income was only 0.3372 for beneficiary households, 0.3323 for non-beneficiary households and 0.3785 in case of households at aggregate level. Almost similar pattern is revealed by the analysis of Gini Concentration Ratio (GCR) as the GCR for income was 0.4324, 0.9151 and 0.5673 for beneficiary, non-beneficiary households and at aggregate level respectively.

Work Profile under NREGA Wage Structure and Migration Issues

On an average, in the state, 1.12 persons were employed under NREGA activities from each household. This figure was highest in case of ST households followed by OBC households, and least was in case of SC households. In Mandi and Una no ST household got employment under NREGA and similar was the case of OBC in district Kinnaur. The participation of women stood at 0.45 women per household at aggregate level. Each household put in about 92 man days for NREGS work. The women's participation was limited to only about 45 days per household. There was no variation in the wage rate admissible under NREGS and was constant at Rs. 110 per day

irrespective of caste or sex but this was Rs. 137 per day in district Kinnaur. The average wage rate obtained at aggregate level in the state was Rs.110.47 and the highest was obtained by ST category followed by SC category. The average wage rate of women was Rs. 109.74 per day at aggregate level. At aggregate level the distance of work place was 1.48 Kms. Rural connectivity is the most important and popular activity of NREGS, followed by flood control and protection etc. 62 per cent respondents found the quality of assets created under NREGA to be good whereas in the opinion of 38 per cent, it was very good. No household got any unemployment allowance for not getting work under NREGS activities even after registration. Out of total sampled households 37 workers migrated in search of work and 9 workers returned back as now they could get work in village itself.

Average wage rate available for casual agricultural labour in case of males was Rs.114.40 at aggregate level which was higher in beneficiaries. In case of females the wage rate for casual agricultural labour was Rs.99 at aggregate level. In comparison, the wage rate in non agriculture casual labour was Rs.145.34 for males and Rs.120.30 for females at aggregate level. Only male members had out migrated and wage rate received by them averaged at Rs.157 and Rs.160 per day for beneficiary and non-beneficiary categories respectively. There was no variation in the wages available under NREGA and were constant at Rs.110 per day except for district Kinnaur.

The Functioning of NREGA – Qualitative Aspects

The largest asset owned by the sampled households was land followed by house property. The value of house property was higher in case of non-beneficiary households. All the loans by beneficiary and non-beneficiary households were taken from the bank only. The average amount of loan taken by beneficiary households was significantly higher. In case of non-beneficiary households the purpose of taking loan was daily consumption whereas in case of beneficiary household it was construction of house. The rate of interest was 8.70 per cent per annum for beneficiary and 10 per cent for non-beneficiary households. Majority of the respondents had account in bank or post office etc. A few households had investment in stocks or bonds etc. None of the beneficiary households had such type of investment. Large number of beneficiary households confirmed the existence of informal credit society or self help group and cooperative credit society in the village. All the respondents had not paid any fee or charges for getting the job card. No bribes were reported. Almost all respondents reported that the job card was with them. All the beneficiaries reported that they were employed in response to the application for work. Team measurement was the main method used in majority of cases. The wages were paid within a fortnight. The payments of wages were only made through the bank. Generally, the bank accounts to which the wages were paid were in the names of workers themselves. The details of sanctioned amount, work dimensions and other details were adequately explained to workers. The

worksite had drinking water facility, shade for taking rest during the break periods, child care facility, provision of first aid kits and medicines. All the respondents were aware of authority to monitor the functioning of NREGA administration. The majority of the respondents found the work being carried out under NREGA to be useful.

Overwhelming majority of respondents thought that structures created under NREGS will last up to 10 years. All the respondents felt that it was worth creating the structures under NREGS. The respondents revealed that some members of their households had migrated outside for seeking job. The out migration was mainly the result of higher wages available in other towns. The respondents were aware of the implementation of NREGS, their right to apply for work and get employed within 15 days. The procedure for work application was also known. Respondents knew about their right to enjoy minimum wages. The wage calculation method was known to majority of respondents. The respondents knew about right to the unemployment allowance. The respondents were aware about the minimum worksite facilities. All the respondents felt that NREGA enhanced food security, provided protection against extreme poverty, helped to reduce distress migration and indebtedness and gave greater economic independence to women and purchasing power to local economy. There was no family who did not get sufficient food for one month but there were families who did not get sufficient food for two months and 2 families revealed that they did not get sufficient food for more than two months. None of the beneficiaries had paid amount to get job card. All the respondents were aware of the monitors of work being carried out under NREGA. No respondent had made any complaint regarding any aspect of NREGA functioning. Some family members, who were skilled workers, migrated to nearby towns or other places due to paucity of work other than NREGA. In large families, some members of the family were already engaged in NREGA work and therefore the surplus labour migrated, especially during lean agricultural period. None of the workers migrated because of dissatisfaction from NREGA.

It was only nine families in district Chamba which reported that they do not sufficient food for whole of the year, mainly due to very small agricultural holding size combined with the subsistence farming practices resulting in poor harvests. None of the respondents faced any other deprivation other than food insufficiency. During the last year the main difficulty faced was drought in district Sirmour. The important things which their households lacked were television, pucca house, separate toilet, separate kitchen and toilet and refrigerator. The respondents suggested that more employment generating programmes, new agricultural development programmes, livestock improvement programmes can be a key to improve the situation. Majority of respondents felt that control of wild animals should be added to the list of NREGA activities. The respondents suggested that life insurance should be provided to the persons working under NREGA and financial compensation for injury during the NREGA work.

NREGA Impact on Village Economy

Most of the desired infrastructure is available within the village or it is located quite near to the village except for agriculture produce market and hospital etc. Majority of the villagers had cultivation as their main occupation which was followed by other services. There was large variation between the wage rate for men and women during the same period and across the periods. Similar variation was observed in prevailing wage rates for agricultural operations which were significantly higher than the rates prevailing before implementation of NREGS. Due to implementation of NREGS the labour shortages have been increased not only in the number of villages but also the duration of shortage has increased. As a result the cost of agricultural production has increased. The trend of labour migration has changed. But the most positive impact of NREGA has been on standard of living and children education. The people are now more aware of government schemes being in operation for the betterment of rural people.

Policy Suggestions

The thrust of the programme was on rural connectivity for which highest cost estimates have been drawn. The income of households working under NREGS has increased significantly. NREGA enhanced food security, provided protection against extreme poverty, standard of living and children education. The prevailing wage rates for agricultural operations were significantly higher than the rates prevailing before implementation of NREGA. NREGA has resulted in labour shortages and duration of shortage has increased resulting in higher cost of agricultural production. The trend of labour migration has changed.

To make the NREGS more effective in Himachal Pradesh following policy suggestions are made:

- ❖ It was felt that more employment generating and development programmes such as new agricultural technology and livestock improvement programmes can be a key to improve the situation.
- ❖ There has been significant increase in crop damage by monkeys, boars, weeds, bushes like lantana and ageratum, etc. The control of wild animals and weeds/bushes should be added to the list of NREGA activities.
- ❖ Life insurance should be provided to the persons working under NREGA and financial compensation for injury during NREGA work.
- ❖ The common property resources like panchayat forests and grazing lands should be developed under this scheme.
- ❖ Due to increase in the labour shortage after the scheme labour for cultivation of fruit and vegetables should be provided to marginal and small farmers under NREGA.

- ❖ Keeping in view the geographical conditions of Himachal Pradesh the rural connectivity, water conservation and harvesting activities under NREGS should be continued with greater stress.

Executive Table

#	Indicators	Beneficiaries	Non-Beneficiaries	Aggregate
1	No. of Sampled Households	200	50	250
2	Family size (persons)	4.28	4.60	4.34
3	Literacy %	82.01	89.13	83.52
4	% of man days/HH worked as			
	-Agricultural casual labour	4.37	0.80	2.52
	-Non agricultural casual labour	12.49	9.60	10.99
	-Regular/salary job	22.25	50.91	37.08
	-Worked under NREGA	19.73	0.00	9.52
5	Net income of household (Rs)	87867.89	170440.04	104382.30
6	% of total income from			
	-NREGA	10.59		7.13
	-Agriculture/livestock	36.74	25.85	33.18
	-Regular job/salary/pension	18.72	34.89	24.00
	-Migrant workers	10.84	0.00	7.30
7	Annual consumption/capita (Rs)	7206.63	9746.37	8273.36
	-Food	5618.30	7552.96	6537.37
	-Non-food	1588.33	2193.41	1735.99
8	Wage differentials Rs/day			
	-Agricultural casual labour	M(115.5) F(100)	M(110) F(95)	M(114.4) F (99)
	-Non agricultural casual labour	M(145) F(120)	M(147)F(122)	M(154) F(120)
	-Public Work Programme	M(110) F(110)	M(110)F(110)	M(110) F(110)
	-Migrant workers	M(157)	M(160)	M(158)
	-NREGA	M(110) F(110)		M(110) F(110)
9	Value of total assets Rs/hh	386586	611780	431625
10	Loan taken(banks)/hh (Rs)	4855	2600	4404
11	No. of members per HH employed in NREGA	1.12		
12	No. of days per HH employed in NREGA	92.28		
13	Wage rate obtained in NREGA (Rs)	110.47		
14	No. of members migrated	37		
15	No. of members returned back	9		

Chapter – 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, (NREGA) was notified on September 7, 2005 with the objective of enhancing livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. As such it strived to provide strong social safety net for the vulnerable groups by providing a fall-back employment source, when other employment alternatives are scarce or inadequate. It aimed at providing employment on works that address causes of poverty such as drought, deforestation and soil erosion, the Act seeks to strengthen the natural resource base of rural livelihood and create durable assets in rural areas.

NREGA is a landmark programme that marks a paradigm shift from all precedent wage employment programmes. It provides a statutory guarantee of wage employment and employment is dependent upon the worker exercising the choice to apply for registration, obtain a Job Card, and seek employment for the time and duration that the worker wants within 15 days time limit for providing employment. It offers an incentive to the States for providing employment as ninety percent of the cost for employment provided is borne by the Centre. There is a disincentive for not providing employment as the States then bear the double indemnity of unemployment and the cost of unemployment allowance.

In Himachal Pradesh, NREGS has been taken up in all the 12 districts. The scheme was implemented in three phases. Initially NREGS was started in districts of Chamba and Sirmour under phase I and later on extended to districts of Kangra and Mandi under phase II of the scheme. Rest of the districts were covered under phase III of the scheme.

1.2 Salient Features of NREGA

The Act was notified in 200 districts in the first phase with effect from February 2nd 2006 and then extended to additional 130 districts in the financial year 2007-2008 (113 districts were notified with effect from April 1st 2007, and 17 districts in UP were notified with effect

from May 15th 2007). The remaining districts have been notified under the NREGA with effect from April 1, 2008. Thus NREGA covers the entire country with the exception of districts that have a hundred percent urban population. The salient features of the Act are following.

- Adult members of a rural household, willing to do unskilled manual work, may apply for registration in writing or orally to the local Gram Panchayat.
- The Gram Panchayat after due verification will issue a Job Card. The Job Card will bear the photograph of all adult members of the household willing to work under NREGA and is free of cost.
- The Job Card should be issued within 15 days of application.
- A Job Card holder may submit a written application for employment to the Gram Panchayat, stating the time and duration for which work is sought. The minimum days of employment have to be at least fourteen.
- The Gram Panchayat will issue a dated receipt of the written application for employment, against which the guarantee of providing employment within 15 days operates. Employment will be given within 15 days of application for work, if it is not then daily unemployment allowance as per the Act, has to be paid liability of payment of unemployment allowance is of the States.
- Work should ordinarily be provided within 5 km radius of the village. In case work is provided beyond 5 km, extra wages of 10% are payable to meet additional transportation and living expenses.
- Wages are to be paid according to the Minimum Wages Act 1948 for agricultural labourers in the State, unless the Centre notifies a wage rate which will not be less than Rs. 60/ per day. Equal wages will be provided to both men and women.
- Wages are to be paid according to piece rate or daily rate. Disbursement of wages has to be done on weekly basis and not beyond a fortnight in any case.
- At least one-third beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested work under the scheme.
- Work site facilities such as crèche, drinking water, shade have to be provided.
- The shelf of projects for a village will be recommended by the *gram sabha* and approved by the *zilla panchayat*.
- At least 50% of works will be allotted to Gram Panchayats for execution.

- Permissible works predominantly include water and soil conservation, afforestation and land development works.
- A 60:40 wage and material ratio has to be maintained. No contractors and machinery is allowed.
- The Central Government bears the 100 percent wage cost of unskilled manual labour and 75 percent of the material cost including the wages of skilled and semi skilled workers.
- Social Audit has to be done by the Gram Sabha.
- Grievance redressal mechanisms have to be put in place for ensuring a responsive implementation process.
- All accounts and records relating to the Scheme should be available for public scrutiny.

1.3 Formulation of State Employment Guarantee Schemes

Under Section 4 of the Act the Scheme to be formulated by the State Government will conform to the legally non-negotiable parameters laid down in Schedules I and II of the Act. In addition, the Scheme will conform to the operational parameters delineated in the Guidelines. The Scheme so formulated will be called the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), followed by the name of the State. The National level name and logo is mandatory. This logo will be used for all IEC materials and activities. The Scheme will be implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on a cost-sharing basis between the Centre and the States as determined by the Act.

The present study on Impact of NREGA on Wage Rates, Cost of Production Food Security and Rural Urban Migration in Himachal Pradesh has been conducted with the following objectives:

1.4 Main Objectives of the Study

7. Measure the extent of manpower employment generated under NREGA, their various socio-economic characteristics and gender variability in all the districts implementing NREGA since its inception in Himachal Pradesh.
8. To compare wage differentials between NREGA activities and other wage employment activities.

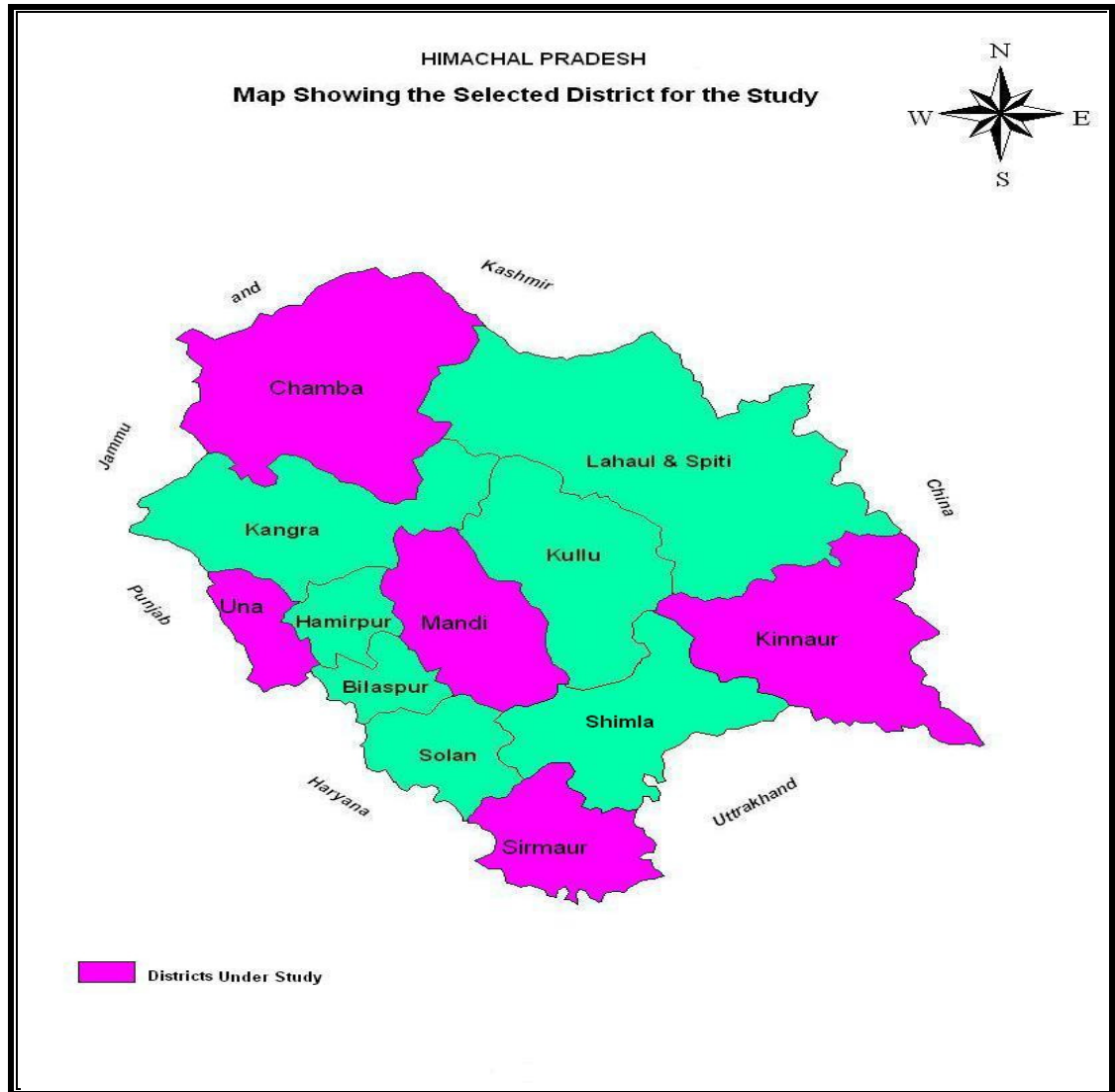
9. Effect of NREGA on the pattern of migration from rural to urban areas.
10. To find out the nature of assets created under NREGA and their durability.
11. Identification of factors determining the participation of people in NREGA scheme and whether NREGA has been successful in ensuring better food security to the beneficiaries.
12. To assess the implementation of NREGA, its functioning and to suggest suitable policy measures to further strengthen the programme.

1.5 Data base and methodology

The study has been based on both primary and secondary data. The study has been conducted in five districts of the state as directed by the coordinator of the study. These districts were Chamba and Sirmaur covered under first phase of the implementation of NREGA, Mandi covered in second phase and districts Kinnaur and Una covered under third phase of its implementation. The location of these districts were Chamba in North, Una in West, Mandi in centre, Sirmaur in South and Kinnaur in East of the state. In each selected district two villages have been selected on the basis of their location with respect to the main town of the district. One of the selected villages was within the distance of 5 Kms of the main town and the other at a distance of 20 Kms or more from the main town. In this manner following 10 villages were selected (Table 1.1)

Table- 1.1: Villages selected for the study in Himachal Pradesh.

District	Village within 5 Kms.	Village at more than 20 Kms.	Phase	Location
Chamba	Darman	Pranbi	I	North
Mandi	Bani-Gumman	Shilag	II	Centre
Kinnaur	Dooni	Bari	III	East
Sirmaur	Sen Ki Ser	Kala Walan Bhoond	I	South
Una	Dehlan Upper	Panoh	III	West



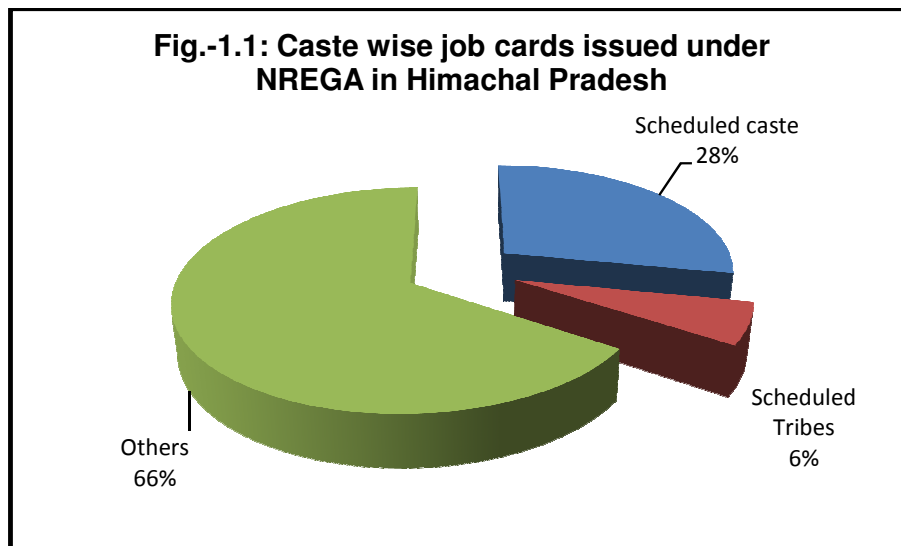
From each selected village a random sample of 20 families benefitted under NREGA was selected and in addition 5 non-participant families were chosen as control sample in order to facilitate the quantification of impact of NREGA on selected parameters. Care has been taken in the selection of the participating families to include diverse socio-economic groups for making the sample representative of the actual socio-economic setup of the state. Thus, the study has been based on a sample of 200 participating and 50 non-participating families.

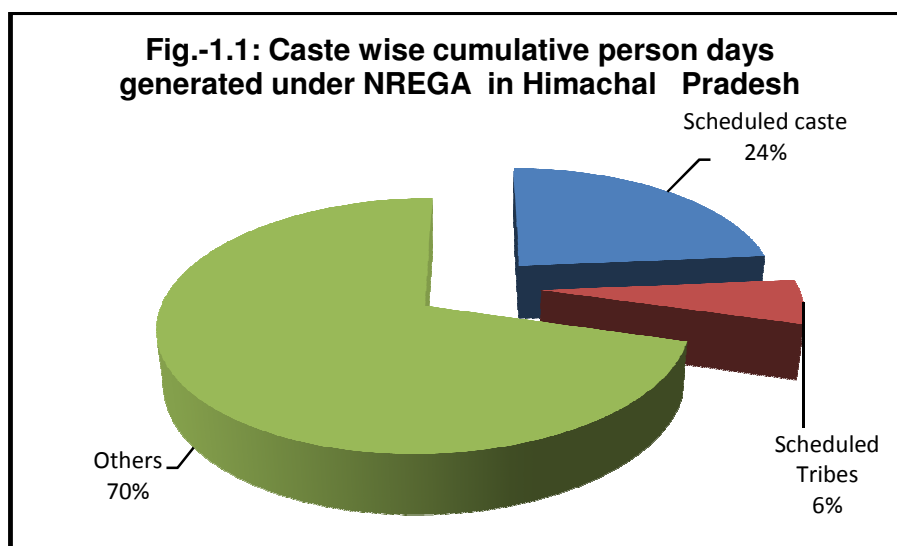
The data has been collected through personal interview method using the well structured questionnaires designed specifically for the study by the coordinator of the study.

The data has been analysed using the MS Office Excel programme and as per instructions of the coordinator facilitating the comparison between the participating and non-participating families.

1.6 An Overview

In Himachal Pradesh a total of 10,08,929 job cards were issued of which 2,83,168 were scheduled castes, 61,953 were scheduled tribes and 6,63,808 were households of other categories. Cumulative number of households who demanded work was 3,22,763 of which 3,07,423 were provided with employment. Currently there were 9,000 households working under NREGA. Cumulative person days generated amounted to 1,05,20,213 of which 31,92,179 were of scheduled castes, 7,85,453 were of scheduled tribes and 95,42,581 were of other categories. The cumulative person days of employment generated for women were 57,93,522. In the current year 4395 households had already completed the 100 days work.





In the state total funds to the tune of Rs. 602.78 Crores were allocated against which an expenditure of 556.56 Crores was made in the financial year 2010-11. In this year 62,473 works were taken up of which 35,899 were completed and the rest 26,574 were still under progress.

The present study has been divided in to seven chapters. The first chapter of INTRODUCTION provides background of the problem and contains introduction and methodology adopted in the study. The second chapter, MANPOWER EMPLOYMENT GENERATED UNDER NREGA AND ITS VARIOUS SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTRESTICS PRESENTS findings on various aspects like analysis of secondary data on employment generated, socio-economic characteristics, projects completed under NREGA and amount spent on such projects etc. Performance of NREGA has also been analysed in this chapter. The third chapter of the report is on HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS THEIR INCOME AND CONSUMPTION PATTERN takes into consideration the household profile of the respondents, income and consumption pattern etc. WORK PROFILE UNDER NREGA, WAGE STRUCTURE AND MIGRATION ISSUES is the fourth chapter of the study discussing the aspects like work profile, activities under NREGA, migration incidences and wage differentials. The fifth chapter of the study is THE FUNCTIONING OF NREGA and analyses the assets and borrowing of respondents, qualitative and quantitative aspects of NREGA functioning, potential benefits of NREGA and food security aspects. The sixth chapter NREGA IMPACT ON VILLAGE ECONOMY

discusses the issues like availability of infrastructure, occupation structure, wage rate differentials and changes in village economy. This analysis is based mainly on the secondary data obtained from village records. The last chapter of the study is CONCLUDING REMARKS AND POLICY SUGGESTIONS.

Chapter 2

MANPOWER EMPLOYMENT GENERATED UNDER NREGA AND ITS VARIOUS SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

This chapter deals in analysis of manpower and employment generated under NREGA in Himachal Pradesh and various socio economic characteristics, Projects Completed and Progress under NREGA.

2.1 An Overview of NREGA in Himachal Pradesh

The performance of NREGA in Himachal Pradesh has been summarized in this section for the latest three years. It may be seen from the table that the total expenditure increased from Rs. 332.28 Crores during the year 2008-09 to Rs. 556.55 Crores during the year 2009-10 and then declined marginally to Rs. 501.96 Crores during the year 2010-11. Similar trend was observed in the number of works taken up under NREGA and completed. But the number of works in progress increased continuously. The number of job cards issued registered an increasing trend during this period. The number of households demanded work and those who were provided employment increased during the year 2009-10 but then declined. This trend was also observed in cumulative person day's generated and cumulative number of households which completed the 100 days of work.

Table-2.1: An Overview of NREGA in Himachal Pradesh

Particulars	Year		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Total expenditure (Rs. Crores)	332.28	556.55	501.96
Total works taken	43556	62473	62027
Total works completed	20281	35899	21797
Total works in progress	23275	26574	40230
Total job cards issued	849993	944969	1030815
HH demanded employment	453734	499174	437433
HH provided employment	115713	497336	414940
Cumulative person days generated	20529000	28494000	17987634
Cumulative No. of HH completed 100 days of work	50193	48283	19895

2.2 Total Employment Generated – their Socio Economic Characteristics

The present section describes the trend in number of job cards issued, the households which demanded work under NREGS and the number of households provided employment and cumulative person days generated over a period of 2008-2009 to 2010-2011. The table 2.2 presents the details. It may be seen from the table that a total of 988387 persons were issued job cards during 2010-11 of which 277549 were scheduled castes (SC), 60888 scheduled tribes (ST) and the rest of other categories. The highest percentage of job cards issued was in district Kangra, 21.06 per cent followed by Mandi accounting for 18.65 per cent of the job cards. The lowest percentage of 0.55 per cent was observed in district Lahaul-Spiti. As far as the SC were concerned highest percentage was found in district Mandi (20.37 %) followed by Kangra (17.67 %). Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST, 38.28 per cent followed by Kangra 22.46 per cent and Kinnaur, 12.57 per cent. Kangra and Mandi again topped in respect of job cards issued to other categories. During this year a total of 134150 households demanded employment against which 126541 households were provided employment. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Kangra followed by Mandi. As per the latest figures 14120 households were working under NREGS, the highest percentage being in district Kangra followed by Kullu. As far as the number of person days generated is concerned, it amounted to 3059377. In this 883195 were accounted for by SC, 266402 by ST and rest by other categories. A total of 1662413 days were generated for the women. The district-wise details in this respect can be seen from the table. Only 203 families had completed the 100 days work in the current financial year, the highest percentage in this respect was in district Sirmaur followed by Kangra.

During the year 2009-2010, a total of 994969 persons were issued job cards of which 334887 were SC, 71463 ST and the rest 588619 belonged to other categories. The highest percentage of job cards issued was again in district Kangra, 22.01 per cent followed by Mandi accounting for 18.65 per cent of the job cards. The lowest percentage of 0.52 per cent was again in district Lahaul-Spiti. As far as the SC were concerned highest percentage was found in district Kangra (21.48 %) followed by Mandi (20.18 %). Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST, 36.97 per cent followed by Kangra, 26.69 per cent and Kinnaur 10.15 per cent. Kangra and Mandi again topped in respect of job cards issued to other categories. During this year a total of 499174 households demanded employment against which 497336 households were provided employment,

almost achieving the target. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Kangra followed by Mandi, the respective percentages being 25.02 and 24.88. During this year 282991 households were working under NREGS, the highest percentage being in district Kangra followed by Chamba and Mandi. As far as the number of person days generated is concerned, it amounted to 284.94 3lakhs. In this 95.04 lakhs were accounted for by SC, 24.8 lakh by ST and rest by other categories. A total of 131.32 lakh days were generated for the women. The district-wise details in this respect can be seen from the table. During this year 48283 families had completed the 100 days work, the highest percentage in this respect was in district Kangra followed by Mandi.

The scenario of employment generated and socio economic characteristics during the year 2008-2009 has been presented in this paragraph, It is found that a total of 849993 persons were issued job cards of which 301380 were SC, 64544 ST and the rest 486069 belonged to other categories. The highest percentage of job cards issued was again in district Kangra, 23.78 per cent followed by Mandi accounting for 20.45 per cent of the job cards. The lowest percentage of 0.57 per cent was again in district Lahaul-Spiti. As far as the SC were concerned highest percentage was found in district Kangra (22.39 %) followed by Mandi (21.13 %). Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST, 37.96 per cent followed by Kangra, 27.62 per cent and Kinnaur 10.09 per cent. Kangra and Mandi again topped in respect of job cards issued to other categories. During this year a total of 453724 households demanded employment against which 445713 households were provided employment, close to the target. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Mandi followed by Kangra, the respective percentages being 27.89 and 25.54. During this year 261751 households were working under NREGS, the highest percentage being in district Kangra (43.03%) followed by Chamba and Mandi. As far as the number of person days generated is concerned, it amounted to 205.29 lakhs. In this 68.81 lakhs were accounted for by SC, 15.99 lakh by ST and rest 120.49 lakh by other categories. A total of 80.09 lakh days were generated for the women. The district-wise details in this respect can be seen from the table. During this year 50193 families had completed the 100 days work, the highest percentage in this respect was in district Kangra followed by Chamba and Mandi.

Fig.-2.1: Number of households issued job cards under NREGS in H.P

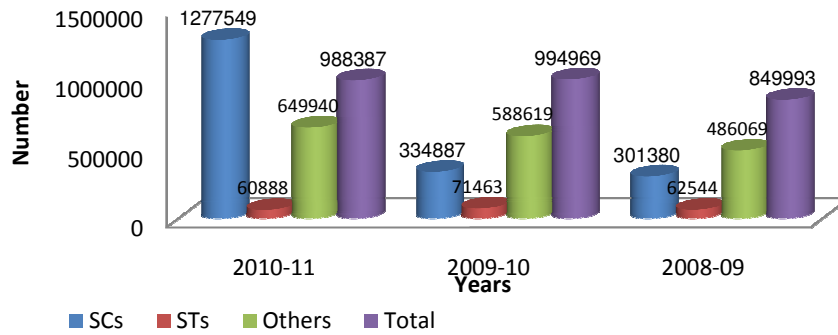


Fig.-2.2: Person days generated under NREGS in H.P

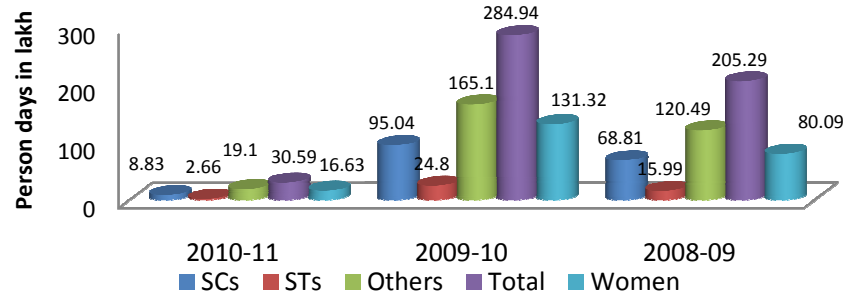


Table 2.2: Employment generated through NREGA and their socio-economic characteristics

Name of the District	Cumulative No. of HH issued job cards (Till the reporting month)				Cumulative No. of HH demanded employment (Till the reporting month)	Cumulative No. of HH provided employment (Till the reporting month)	No. of HH working under NREGA during the reporting month	Cumulative Person days generated (Till the reporting month)					Cumulative No. of HH completed 100 days (Till the reporting month)
	SCs	STs	Others	Total				SCs	STs	Others	Total	Women	
2010-11													
1. Chamba	18499 (6.67)	23307 (38.28)	48118 (7.40)	89924 (9.10)	12745 (9.26)	11721 (7.94)	290 (2.05)	64023 (7.25)	94796 (35.58)	140162 (7.34)	298981 (9.77)	103682 (6.24)	11 (5.42)
2. Sirmour	21853 (7.87)	1245 (2.04)	41550 (6.39)	64648 (6.54)	8068 (6.13)	7751 (5.25)	1068 (7.56)	66877 (7.57)	4373 (1.64)	149173 (7.81)	220423 (7.20)	31320 (1.88)	38 (18.72)
3. Kangra	49052 (17.67)	13083 (21.49)	145983 (22.46)	20811 (21.06)	43585 (29.80)	37715 (25.56)	5312 (37.62)	21763 (24.64)	59707 (22.41)	608671 (31.87)	886014 (28.96)	503616 (30.29)	34 (16.75)
4. Mandi	56545 (20.37)	2482 (4.08)	125339 (19.28)	184366 (18.65)	24911 (19.53)	24716 (16.75)	1383 (9.79)	14737 (16.69)	6890 (2.59)	40544 (21.23)	559707 (18.29)	417595 (25.12)	16 (7.88)
5. Bilaspur	12134 (4.37)	1285 (2.11)	32192 (4.95)	45611 (4.61)	1895 (1.30)	1646 (1.12)	191 (1.35)	8685 (0.98)	1162 (0.44)	27888 (1.46)	37735 (1.23)	20525 (1.23)	2 (0.99)
6. Hamirpur	18397 (6.63)	999 (1.64)	50895 (7.83)	70291 (7.11)	4852 (3.75)	4741 (3.21)	1009 (7.15)	34501 (3.91)	1163 (0.44)	67662 (3.54)	103326 (3.38)	68747 (4.14)	5 (2.46)
7. Kinnaur	4828 (1.74)	7656 (2.57)	70 (0.01)	12554 (1.27)	3928 (3.10)	3925 (2.66)	174 (1.23)	44641 (5.05)	52959 (19.88)	1428 (0.07)	99028 (3.24)	73864 (4.44)	4 (1.97)
8. Kullu	25163 (9.07)	1996 (3.28)	53173 (8.18)	80332 (8.13)	15983 (12.93)	16358 (11.09)	2683 (19.00)	132986 (5.06)	7722 (2.90)	263760 (13.81)	404468 (13.22)	219118 (13.18)	31 (15.27)
9. L. & Spiti	504 (0.18)	4955 (8.14)	14 (0.00)	5473 (0.55)	1617 (1.26)	1590 (1.08)	472 (3.34)	3597 (0.41)	32587 (12.23)	55 (0.00)	36239 (1.18)	22440 (1.35)	4 (1.97)
10. Shimla	30218 (10.89)	309 (0.51)	68124 (10.48)	98651 (9.98)	10189 (7.92)	10018 (6.79)	384 (2.72)	84872 (9.61)	598 (0.22)	146143 (7.65)	231613 (7.57)	117521 (7.07)	28 (13.79)
11. Solan	23988 (8.64)	2064 (3.39)	40459 (6.23)	66511 (6.73)	3171 (2.50)	3163 (2.14)	83 (0.59)	38165 (4.32)	3251 (1.22)	51636 (2.70)	93052 (3.04)	36049 (2.17)	22 (10.84)
12. Una	16368 (5.90)	1507 (2.48)	44033 (6.77)	61908 (6.26)	3206 (2.53)	3197 (2.17)	1071 (7.58)	39746 (4.50)	1194 (0.45)	47771 (2.50)	88711 (2.90)	47936 (2.88)	8 (3.94)
Total H.P.	1277549 (100.00)	60888 (100.00)	649940 (100.00)	988387 (100.00)	134150 (100.00)	147541 (100.00)	14120 (100.00)	883195 (100.00)	266402 (100.00)	1909790 (100.00)	3059377 (100.00)	1662413 (100.00)	203 (100.00)

Note: The figures in parentheses are respective percentages of total

Table 2.2 (Contd.): Employment generated through NREGA and their socio-economic characteristics

Name of the District	Cumulative No. of HH issued job cards (Till the reporting month)				Cumulative No. of HH demanded employment (Till the reporting month)	Cumulative No. of HH provided employment (Till the reporting month)	No. of HH working under NREGA during the reporting month	Cumulative Person days generated (Till the reporting month)					Cumulative No. of HH completed 100 days (Till the reporting month)
	SCs	STs	Others	Total				SCs	STs	Others	Total	Women	
2009-10													
1. Chamba	21994 (6.57)	26418 (36.97)	39515 (6.71)	87927 (8.84)	59615 (11.94)	59615 (11.99)	39321 (13.89)	9.69 (10.20)	14.5 (58.47)	20.3 (2.30)	44.49 (15.62)	13.95 (10.62)	6378 (13.21)
2.Sirmour	22467 (6.71)	1443 (2.02)	38847 (6.60)	62757 (6.31)	35971 (7.21)	34186 (6.87)	15164 (5.36)	7.45 (7.84)	0.29 (1.17)	10.61 (6.43)	18.35 (6.44)	2.53 (1.93)	1990 (4.12)
3.Kangra	71929 (21.48)	19075 (26.69)	127963 (21.74)	21896 (22.01)	124870 (25.02)	124870 (25.11)	124870 (44.13)	22.36 (23.53)	5.86 (23.63)	46.44 (28.13)	74.66 (26.21)	40.6 (30.92)	17634 (36.52)
4.Mandi	67589 (20.18)	2891 (4.05)	115127 (19.56)	185607 (8.65)	124180 (24.88)	124180 (24.97)	32445 (11.47)	23.92 (25.17)	0.79 (3.19)	41.37 (25.06)	66.08 (23.20)	40.68 (30.98)	10609 (21.97)
5.Bilaspur	15289 (4.57)	2185 (3.06)	31836 (5.41)	49310 (4.96)	16386 (3.28)	16386 (3.29)	5175 (1.83)	2.46 (2.59)	0.29 (1.17)	4.57 (2.77)	7.32 (2.57)	3.18 (2.42)	1163 (2.41)
6.Hamirpur	22552 (6.73)	975 (1.36)	43993 (7.47)	67520 (6.79)	23422 (4.69)	23422 (4.71)	14006 (4.95)	4.72 (4.97)	0.13 (0.52)	8.17 (4.95)	13.02 (4.57)	5.87 (4.47)	2070 (4.29)
7.Kinnaur	4859 (1.45)	7250 (10.15)	2 (0.00)	12111 (1.22)	4904 (0.98)	4851 (0.98)	0 (0.00)	1.04 (1.09)	1.24 (5.00)	0 (0.00)	2.28 (0.80)	1.32 (1.01)	151 (0.31)
8.Kullu	24725 (7.38)	1923 (2.69)	51228 (8.70)	77878 (7.83)	29755 (5.96)	29755 (5.98)	6143 (2.17)	5.21 (5.48)	0.15 (0.60)	8.49 (5.14)	13.85 (4.86)	5.95 (4.53)	684 (1.42)
9.L.& Spiti	584 (0.17)	4563 (6.39)	0 (0.00)	5147 (0.52)	2655 (0.53)	2655 (0.53)	135 (0.05)	0.1 (0.11)	1.01 (4.07)	0 (0.00)	1.11 (0.39)	0.72 (0.55)	141 (0.29)
10.Shimla	35088 (10.48)	71 (0.10)	58446 (9.93)	93605 (9.41)	38653 (7.74)	38653 (7.77)	25966 (9.18)	6.72 (7.07)	0.02 (0.08)	11.8 (7.15)	18.54 (6.51)	6.15 (4.68)	1644 (3.40)
11.Solan	25125 (7.50)	2671 (3.74)	39083 (6.64)	66879 (6.72)	19887 (3.98)	19887 (4.00)	9895 (3.50)	5.73 (6.03)	0.18 (0.73)	6.57 (3.98)	12.48 (4.38)	4.08 (3.11)	1319 (2.73)
12.Una	22686 (6.77)	1998 (2.80)	42579 (7.23)	67263 (6.76)	18876 (3.78)	18876 (3.80)	9871 (3.49)	5.64 (5.93)	0.34 (1.37)	6.78 (4.11)	12.76 (4.48)	6.29 (4.79)	4500 (9.32)
Total H.P.	334887 (100.00)	71463 (100.00)	588619(1 00.00)	994969(1 00.00)	499174 (100.00)	497336 (100.00)	282991 (100.00)	95.04 (100.00)	24.8 (100.00)	165.1 (100.00)	284.94 (100.00)	131.32 (100.00)	48283 (100.00)

Note: The figures in parentheses are respective percentages of total

Table 2.2 (Contd.): Employment generated through NREGA and their socio-economic characteristics

Name of the District	Cumulative No. of HH issued job cards (Till the reporting month)				Cumulative No. of HH demanded employment (Till the reporting month)	Cumulative No. of HH provided employment (Till the reporting month)	No. of HH working under NREGA during the reporting month	Cumulative Person days generated (Till the reporting month)					Cumulative No. of HH completed 100 days (Till the reporting month)
	SCs	STs	Others	Total				SCs	STs	Others	Total	Women	
2008-09													
1. Chamba	21960 (7.29)	23741 (37.96)	35046 (7.21)	80747 (9.50)	45103 (9.94)	44103 (9.89)	33361 (12.75)	7.48 (10.87)	8.23 (51.47)	13.79 (11.44)	29.5 (14.37)	6.1 (7.62)	13546 (26.99)
2. Sirmour	20753 (6.89)	963 (1.54)	32903 (6.77)	54619 (6.43)	28796 (6.35)	27724 (6.22)	13191 (5.04)	5.23 (7.60)	0.35 (2.19)	8.7 (7.22)	14.28 (6.96)	0.58 (0.72)	1681 (3.35)
3. Kangra	67474 (22.39)	17276 (27.62)	117362 (4.15)	202112 (23.78)	115859 (25.54)	114666 (25.73)	112621 (43.03)	16.25 (23.62)	3.95 (24.70)	36.06 (29.93)	56.26 (27.41)	29.87 (37.30)	17903 (35.67)
4. Mandi	63674 (21.13)	3380 (5.40)	106780 (21.97)	173834 (20.45)	126553 (27.89)	126553 (28.39)	31463 (12.02)	20.84 (30.29)	0.54 (3.38)	34.38 (28.53)	55.76 (27.16)	27.72 (34.61)	11367 (22.65)
5. Bilaspur	10550 (3.50)	1101 (1.76)	19322 (3.98)	30973 (3.64)	19510 (4.30)	17550 (3.94)	6435 (2.46)	1.81 (2.63)	0.16 (1.00)	2.8 (2.32)	4.77 (2.32)	1.35 (1.69)	688 (1.37)
6. Hamirpur	19950 (6.62)	0 (0.00)	37050 (7.62)	57000 (6.71)	24630 (5.43)	23531 (5.28)	21609 (8.26)	3.4 (4.94)	0.03 (0.19)	6.37 (5.29)	9.8 (4.77)	3.23 (4.03)	1261 (2.51)
7. Kinnaur	4598 (1.53)	6313 (10.09)	2 (0.00)	10913 (1.28)	5942 (1.31)	5645 (1.27)	0 (0.00)	0.84 (1.22)	0.84 (5.25)	0 (0.00)	1.68 (0.82)	1.04 (1.30)	19 (0.04)
8. Kullu	26728 (8.87)	1747 (2.79)	39751 (8.18)	68226 (8.03)	26005 (5.73)	26005 (5.83)	5691 (2.17)	2.46 (3.58)	0.66 (4.13)	3.72 (3.09)	6.84 (3.33)	2.58 (3.22)	213 (0.42)
9. L. & Spiti	553 (0.18)	4271 (6.83)	0 (0.00)	4824 (0.57)	2769 (0.61)	2769 (0.62)	0 (0.00)	0.1 (0.15)	0.95 (5.94)	0 (0.00)	1.05 (0.51)	0.41 (0.51)	0 (0.00)
10. Shimla	27542 (9.14)	138 (0.22)	45065 (9.27)	72745 (8.56)	30951 (6.82)	30501 (6.84)	18931 (7.23)	3.95 (5.74)	0.01 (0.06)	7.18 (5.96)	11.14 (5.43)	3.03 (3.78)	554 (1.10)
11. Solan	21678 (7.19)	2480 (3.97)	29970 (6.17)	54128 (6.37)	12275 (2.71)	12045 (2.70)	6913 (2.64)	2.58 (3.75)	0.09 (0.56)	2.56 (2.12)	5.23 (2.55)	1 (1.25)	312 (0.62)
12. Una	15920 (5.28)	1134 (1.81)	22818 (4.69)	39872 (4.69)	15331 (3.38)	14621 (3.28)	11536 (4.41)	3.87 (5.62)	0.18 (1.13)	4.93 (4.09)	8.98 (4.37)	3.18 (3.97)	2649 (5.28)
Total H.P.	301380 (100.00)	62544 (100.00)	486069 (100.00)	849993 (100.00)	453724 (100.00)	445713 (100.00)	261751 (100.00)	68.81 (100.00)	15.99 (100.00)	120.49 (100.00)	205.29 (100.00)	80.09 (100.00)	50193 (100.00)

Note: The figures in parentheses are respective percentages of total

2.3 Projects Completed and Progress under NREGA

The details of project completed and ongoing projects for the year 2010-11 have been presented in Table 2.3 (A). The table indicates that during this year 22281 projects were completed till the time of report writing and other 23275 were still under different stages of execution. The works have been categorized under broad types of rural connectivity, flood control, water conservation, draught proofing etc. The table indicates that highest number of works completed belonged to rural connectivity, 7846 projects followed by 4192 projects of water conservation and harvesting. The least number of projects completed this year were 186 projects of draught proofing. As far as the ongoing projects are concerned, the highest number was found under rural connectivity of which 15998 projects were still under different stages of execution. The least number of ongoing projects were 419 projects of draught proofing. The district-wise analysis in this respect indicates that in district Kangra 7179 projects have been completed and 5223 were still under progress. The least number of projects completed, 62, were in district Lahaul-Spiti where 285 other projects were under execution.

Similar details for the year 2009-10 have been presented in Table 2.3 (B) and it may be seen from the table that during this year a total of 35499 works of different categories were completed whereas 26574 works were still under different stages of execution. Again the highest number of completed and ongoing works belonged to rural connectivity and least to draught proofing. Among individual districts, Kangra was on the top in respect of completed and ongoing works. The picture in the year 2008-09, Table-2.3(C) was not any different as the same trend was observed.

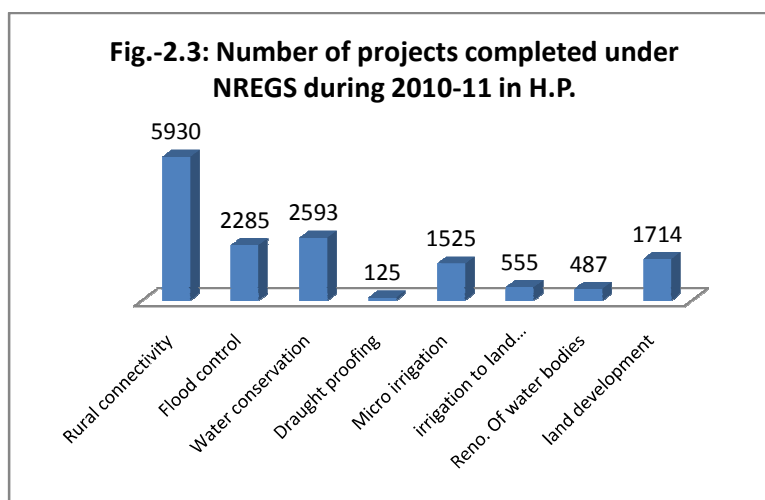


Table 2.3 (A): District wise works completed /progress under NREGA (number of projects) 2010-11

District		Chamba	Sirmaur	Kangra	Mandi	Bilaspur	Hamirpur	Kinnaur	Kullu	L & S	Shimla	Solan	Una	H.P.
Rural Connectivity	Completed	524	210	2963	1364	340	878	75	459	13	552	212	166	7846
	On going /suspended	1432	964	4528	5472	410	880	108	446	14	632	576	536	15998
Food control	Completed	904	134	576	272	42	175	5	294	14	194	35	63	2708
	On going /suspended	2157	520	1084	982	81	130	5	254	6	122	66	199	5606
Water conservation and water harvesting	Completed	1216	356	563	819	450	325	10	353	7	547	263	106	4192
	On going /suspended	393	1579	958	1776	584	352	20	373	5	252	491	238	7817
Drought proofing	Completed	165	3	13	8	3	77	2	6	0	57	2	4	186
	On going /suspended	11	22	33	63	11	18	0	1	41	51	1	13	419
Micro irrigation	Completed	540	54	948	320	36	35	46	72	14	144	46	13	1722
	On going /suspended	94	439	998	1038	38	11	101	73	25	56	71	28	3418
Provision of irrigation facility of land development	Completed	25	12	5	35	2	15	59	12	3	132	374	16	676
	On going /suspended	11	35	7	109	3	19	82	5	0	141	523	33	982
Renovation of traditional water bodies	Completed	407	63	152	161	28	200	0	79	1	158	16	53	1024
	On going /suspended	113	77	224	339	35	122	1	12	0	92	28	97	1434
Land development	Completed	788	444	498	60	77	62	17	487	9	337	210	150	2879
	On going /suspended	528	1330	662	155	109	80	15	125	5	203	245	156	3873
Any other activity approved by MIRD	Completed	23	34	298	7	2	70	0	2	0	126	2	0	564
	On going /suspended	43	174	248	34	9	43	0	1	1	118	10	1	682
Total	Completed	4084	2023	7179	3914	583	1342	228	543	62	837	754	732	22281
	Ongoing /suspended	5299	2186	5223	4707	649	1068	93	622	285	1652	794	717	23275

Table 2.3 (B): District wise works completed /progress under NREGA (number of projects) 2009-10

District		Chamba	Sirmaur	Kangra	Mandi	Bilaspur	Hamirpur	Kinnaur	Kullu	L & Spiti	Shimla	Solan	Una	H.P.
Rural Connectivity	Completed	2054	499	3731	3619	494	774	133	429	46	1488	573	397	14207
	On going /suspended	1881	200	3110	3930	233	685	76	251	33	594	419	292	11704
Food control	Completed	726	688	1017	748	112	182	12	205	43	195	117	238	4283
	On going /suspended	744	343	1015	456	46	163	4	163	36	212	36	161	3379
Water conservation and water harvesting	Completed	614	881	527	981	375	262	22	358	6	457	731	212	5426
	On going /suspended	391	349	426	937	185	142	17	256	10	271	171	156	3311
Drought proofing	Completed	309	75	157	0	9	70	1	4	0	8	78	87	398
	On going /suspended	226	34	65	5	12	62	1	8	3	55	2	20	493
Micro irrigation	Completed	429	447	1195	785	68	22	104	127	17	122	87	103	3506
	On going /suspended	332	165	1002	642	45	33	45	82	13	112	92	62	2625
Provision of irrigation facility of land development	Completed	316	262	134	22	59	60	17	13	14	66	389	49	1401
	On going /suspended	310	116	218	56	37	90	64	4	32	127	214	47	1315
Renovation of traditional water bodies	Completed	555	217	589	417	86	437	2	217	2	113	71	200	2906
	On going /suspended	397	98	309	197	44	142	1	63	0	121	45	127	1544
Land development	Completed	718	330	386	97	166	123	16	457	8	201	243	135	2880
	On going /suspended	396	283	393	53	62	92	14	208	13	212	73	121	1920
Any other activity approved by MIRD	Completed	299	155	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	492
	On going /suspended	212	59	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	283
Total	Completed	6020	3554	7736	6669	1379	1930	307	1810	136	2650	2317	1421	35499
	On going /suspended	4889	1647	6538	6276	667	1409	222	1035	0	1704	1061	986	26574

Table 2.3 (C): District wise works completed /progress under NREGA (number of projects) 2008-09

District		Chamba	Sirmaur	Kangra	Mandi	Bilaspur	Hamirpur	Kinnaur	Kullu	L & S	Shimla	Solan	Una	H.P.
Rural Connectivity	Completed	1801	338	3397	2351	343	615	149	260	35	570	257	217	10333
	On going /suspended	2560	401	2829	3037	417	611	49	361	38	1212	307	245	12107
Food control	Completed	458	425	1028	305	12	170	4	48	4	12	49	111	2626
	On going /suspended	579	320	737	432	5	154	2	69	22	60	38	105	2523
Water conservation and water harvesting	Completed	382	469	620	629	161	233	4	110	4	94	340	139	3185
	On going /suspended	443	660	300	645	149	144	5	100	8	203	348	138	3083
Drought proofing	Completed	140	18	198	1	0	45	2	1	0	0	1	19	425
	On going /suspended	218	31	63	2	0	10	3	0	181	0	5	39	552
Micro irrigation	Completed	325	347	1088	318	4	36	56	37	11	28	11	31	2292
	On going /suspended	303	291	819	392	5	17	29	42	15	56	28	42	2039
Provision of irrigation facility of land development	Completed	93	14	183	15	22	25	0	0	0	11	0	11	374
	On going /suspended	132	23	80	22	27	17	1	1	11	2	0	14	330
Renovation of traditional water bodies	Completed	262	168	419	192	21	90	2	62	1	56	30	119	1422
	On going /suspended	298	218	273	162	21	63	0	23	1	55	19	95	1228
Land development	Completed	409	65	246	103	20	128	11	25	1	66	47	85	1206
	On going /suspended	411	117	122	15	25	52	4	26	5	64	37	39	917
Any other activity approved by MIRD	Completed	214	179	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	19	0	418
	On going /suspended	355	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	12	0	496
Total	Completed	4084	2023	7179	3914	583	1342	228	543	62	837	754	732	22281
	On going /suspended	5299	2186	5223	4707	649	1068	93	622	285	1652	794	717	23275

2.4 Amount Spent on Projects under NREGA

The amount spent on different completed and ongoing projects in the state during the year 2010-11 has been presented in Table 2.4 (A). It may be seen from the table that an amount of Rs. 15526 lakhs has been spent on the completed works in the state whereas an amount of Rs.24979 lakhs was spent on the ongoing works. The highest amount of Rs. 5924 lakhs was spent on completed projects of rural connectivity followed by water conservation and harvesting where an amount of Rs. 2593 lakhs was spent on completed projects. Rural connectivity again topped the list of projects in respect of expenditure on ongoing projects and an amount of Rs. 10739 lakhs was spent. District level analysis indicates that highest amount on completed projects was spent in district Kangra amounting to Rs. 4055 lakhs along with an expenditure of Rs. 5136 lakhs on ongoing projects. Other details of expenditure on completed and ongoing projects may be seen from this table.

This analysis for the year 2009-10 has been presented in Table 2.4 (B) depicting that an amount of Rs. 26546 lakhs was spent on completed works whereas the expenditure on the ongoing projects was Rs. 26644 lakhs. The largest expenditure on completed and ongoing projects was under rural connectivity and the performance of district Kangra was the best. Same trend was observed during the year 2008-09 when an amount of Rs. 15081 lakhs was spent on completed projects and the expenditure on ongoing projects was Rs. 17740 lakhs.

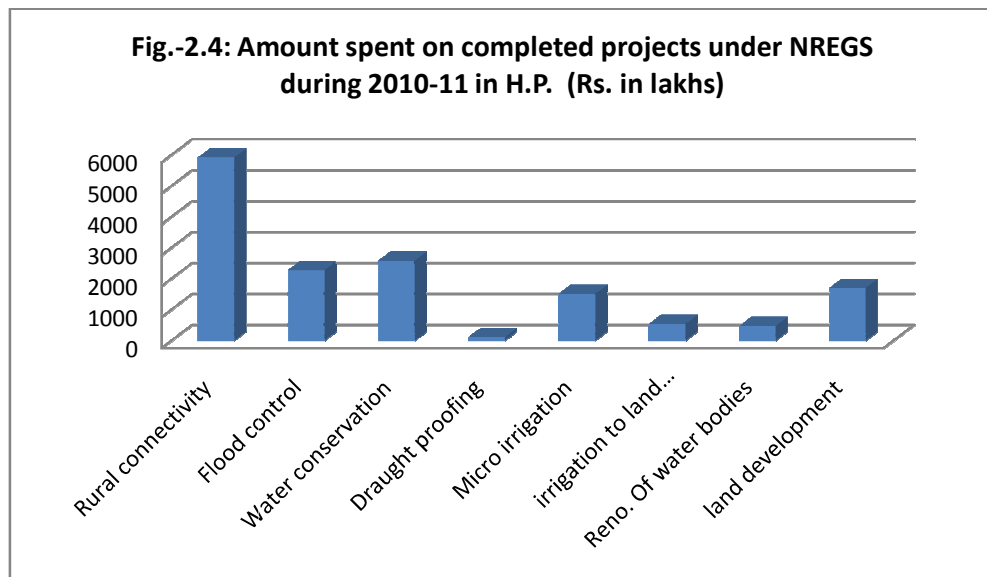


Table 2.4 (A): District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (amount spent in lakh Rs)

District		Chamba	Sirmour	Kangra	Mandi	Bilaspur	Hamirpur	Kinnaur	Kullu	L & Spiti	Shimla	Solan	Una	H.P.
2010-11														
Rural Connectivity	Completed	330.435	185.0111	1843.3671	1528.3196	186.878	455.4749	62.0757	488.2317	14.3759	454.0208	251.7661	124.717	5924.673
	On going /suspended	859.3346	569.9658	2547.8525	4249.5019	226.0315	449.2863	92.805	377.0836	8.5843	395.3903	468.4362	395.2692	10739.84
Food control	Completed	602.0585	199.0967	447.5695	398.6343	37.5259	98.8222	4.0242	292.6912	11.6091	171.3917	48.1956	53.8627	2285.481
	On going /suspended	1317.5768	350.4058	552.1962	936.7631	33.3492	84.8564	9.2348	203.0921	3.3809	101.0438	47.1025	134.8731	3800.875
Water conservation and water harvesting	Completed	185.225	199.819	374.9419	756.8677	167.9788	134.2388	10.3328	225.3004	5.2097	307.7155	267.6463	57.9495	2593.225
	On going /suspended	431.2972	353.0341	564.3903	1272.2476	229.0057	155.2385	18.1518	193.6973	3.2411	113.2586	278.1485	106.1113	3717.821
Drought proofing	Completed	12.2917	4.3727	11.9321	5.0671	2.6559	11.4557	1.8071	5.4903	0	67.6758	0.8723	1.5322	125.1529
	On going /suspended	96.9326	12.5878	24.2932	72.1314	6.0207	6.7932	0	0.7514	74.1724	42.9732	1.5892	8.3687	346.6139
Micro irrigation	Completed	73.8167	55.6045	691.3831	362.2517	26.8345	13.5063	49.144	82.7563	6.284	102.6086	48.8411	12.2211	1525.252
	On going /suspended	376.3367	261.7252	624.3269	936.4055	20.412	13.6476	90.1061	60.8861	13.0102	45.5067	63.0961	25.0575	2530.517
Provision of irrigation facility of land development	Completed	3.0737	2.3361	4.7072	34.917	0.2588	11.3816	23.466	2.8837	1.5179	75.2386	294.3736	11.2403	555.3944
	On going /suspended	9.4759	7.4129	5.109	80.769	1.2375	8.1389	18.4866	3.0776	0	50.1892	268.8649	18.4965	471.2582
Renovation of traditional water bodies	Completed	45.2671	16.5698	113.6196	70.1134	10.7722	66.0656	0	52.9348	0.8422	69.0621	6.2584	35.4768	486.8919
	On going /suspended	118.2968	13.6589	124.3054	156.6055	14.2174	44.7599	0.2895	5.4067	0	36.1307	23.021	41.1187	577.9105
Land development	Completed	250.7541	220.0639	406.2585	54.6208	52.6844	54.9287	9.8564	165.1906	2.916	243.472	162.8077	90.6603	1714.213
	On going /suspended	502.0893	478.9567	529.2235	117.608	60.1175	68.5935	11.1069	89.7056	.5843	143.1021	171.5475	110.2457	2283.881
Any other activity approved by MIRD	Completed	20.4377	32.161	160.7639	9.408	2.2226	25.1451	0	2.9994	0	60.566	2.0993	0	315.803
	On going /suspended	55.7542	80.3779	164.0197	20.1373	3.7125	17.968	0	1.277	0.5413	55.6968	9.9418	1.1215	510.548
Total	Completed	1523.36	915.0348	4054.543	3220.2	487.8111	871.0189	160.7062	1318.478	42.7548	1551.751	1082.86	387.6599	15526.09
	On going /suspended	3767.094	2128.125	5135.717	7842.169	594.104	849.2823	240.1807	934.9774	103.5145	983.2914	1331.748	840.6622	24979.26

Table 2.4 (B): District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (amount spent in lakh Rs)

District		Chamba	Sirmour	Kangra	Mandi	Bilaspur	Hamirpur	Kinnaur	Kullu	L & Spiti	Shimla	Solan	Una	H.P.
2009-10														
Rural Connectivity	Completed	1342.11	350.6	2402.72	2955.22	382.2	567.13	136.03	591.34	23.39	1006.22	650.57	400.6	10808.13
	Ongoing/Suspended	1362.68	197.28	3189.18	4283.5	106.46	473.06	70.04	372.18	25.83	568.8	490.71	475.16	11614.88
Flood Control	Completed	695.59	539.85	806.18	751.7	57.86	96.54	12.56	153.22	39.52	130.44	99.71	254.76	3637.93
	Ongoing/Suspended	843.55	354.56	1350.64	716.92	55.17	98.81	6.91	137.84	28.52	231.69	32.72	215.98	4073.31
Water Conservation And Water Harvesting	Completed	460.35	346.87	565.26	552.1	232.45	243.65	20.35	323.81	2.54	176.93	577.01	176.13	3677.45
	Ongoing/Suspended	286.07	199.9	689.21	944.28	104.44	220.42	15.83	164.78	3.25	211.6	126.1	171.35	3137.23
Drought Proofing	Completed	290.72	42.6	176.38	0	10	26.56	3.45	5.97	0	6.74	26.2	56.25	644.87
	Ongoing/Suspended	183.27	16.27	192.05	1	15.14	19.9	1.5	4.82	1.65	54.69	0.33	19.89	510.51
Micro Irrigation	Completed	312.82	317.82	795.19	651.45	76.8	19.18	111.48	179.23	12.65	102.12	98.29	86.92	2763.95
	Ongoing/Suspended	240.61	207.7	1172.3	948.77	19.68	24.72	40.02	105.27	7.34	124.05	91.1	56.75	3038.31
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land development	Completed	195.82	116.75	185.69	25.15	40.35	23.5	4.52	7.9	3.06	26.35	212.61	22.52	864.22
	Ongoing/Suspended	209.47	54.91	158.49	35.55	4.46	78.29	10.58	4.11	20.01	57.35	80.71	21.31	735.24
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed	428.27	65.4	607	171.6	48.95	210.28	1.62	101.59	2.77	57.54	55.34	154.18	1904.54
	Ongoing/Suspended	295.68	39.69	563.98	189.01	30.16	144.65	1.5	25.02	0	68.98	69.81	121.94	1550.42
Land development	Completed	698.79	116.3	323.08	65.95	86.32	66.84	17.01	127.85	4.65	111.75	150.2	90.38	1859.12
	Ongoing/Suspended	596.04	131.1	508.38	48.69	39.58	74.21	19	52.48	15.68	142.74	63.26	109.48	1800.64
Any Other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed	295.6	70.52	0	0	2.65	0	0	0	0	0	17.34	0	386.11
	Ongoing/Suspended	156.24	17.96	0	0	0.34	0	0	0	0	0	9.67	0	184.21
Total	Completed	4720.07	1966.71	5861.5	5173.17	937.58	1253.68	307.02	1490.9	88.58	1618.09	1887.2	1241.7	26546.32
	On going /suspended	4173.61	1219.37	7824.23	7167.72	375.43	1134.06	165.38	866.5	102.28	1459.9	964.41	1191.8	26644.75

Table 2.4 (C): District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (amount spent in lakh Rs)

District		Chamba	Sirmour	Kangra	Mandi	Bilaspur	Hamirpur	Kinnaur	Kullu	L & Spiti	Shimla	Solan	Una	H.P.
2008-09														
Rural Connectivity	Completed	1030.23	203.72	2139.66	2163.28	168.37	471.65	169.45	264.18	16.18	306.28	158.85	242.31	7334.16
	Ongoing/Suspended	923.44	378.95	2670.95	3666.9	210.24	370.69	49.84	419.38	29.74	488.1	145.19	359.11	9712.53
Flood Control	Completed	268.05	234.56	727.45	282.93	8.99	98.42	4.22	23.98	5.24	10.27	19.92	121.18	1805.21
	Ongoing/Suspended	328.22	336.31	674.61	450.56	2.8	119.71	1.36	81.37	20.85	47.16	15.09	81.79	2159.83
Water Conservation And Water Harvesting	Completed	280.45	210.99	542.79	381.05	90.23	146.46	3.16	78.33	1.05	39.55	175.31	117.02	2066.39
	Ongoing/Suspended	267.51	248.41	346.4	502.35	56.68	102.58	6.35	75.47	5.05	70.87	119.03	109.2	1909.9
Drought Proofing	Completed	83.24	15.1	199.53	0	0	20.37	2.3	1.5	0	0	0.05	8.75	330.84
	Ongoing/Suspended	153.68	15.8	65.8	1.05	0	8.71	3.24	0	23.18	0	0.8	14.56	286.82
Micro Irrigation	Completed	189.32	181.57	788.54	369.7	3.42	15.39	56.21	34.2	6.83	25.66	17.28	30.3	1718.42
	Ongoing/Suspended	220.81	338.86	739.19	438.54	3.85	13.25	16.99	33.6	12.5	35.2	10.78	15.18	1878.75
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land development	Completed	68.76	7.07	118.02	11.13	6.1	12.05	0	0	0	1.77	0	4.03	228.93
	Ongoing/Suspended	105.56	37.3	48.22	48.6	7.95	22.65	1.25	0.79	8.42	0.81	0	9.32	290.87
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed	100.98	33.76	274.41	65.03	7.7	61.55	2.03	29.58	0.04	21.95	17.43	78.82	693.28
	Ongoing/Suspended	203.94	73.67	186.69	81.47	5.7	55.62	0	13.95	0.49	19.08	5.65	81.54	727.8
Land development	Completed	152.4	13.1	220.34	54.5	8.85	64.66	16.43	6.56	0.79	12.23	26.56	53.37	629.79
	Ongoing/Suspended	181.7	48.8	119	5.5	6.72	49.61	4.12	7.75	6.01	13.21	19.96	33.24	495.62
Any Other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed	193.37	68.32	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.75	0	10.13	0	274.57
	Ongoing/Suspended	175.37	92.15	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.67	0	7.57	0	277.76
Total	Completed	2366.8	968.19	5010.74	3327.62	293.66	890.55	253.8	438.33	32.88	417.71	425.53	655.78	15081.59
	Ongoing/Suspended	2560.23	1570.25	4850.86	5194.97	293.94	742.82	83.15	632.31	108.91	674.43	324.07	703.94	17739.88

2.5 Performance of NREGA – Some Quantitative Indicators

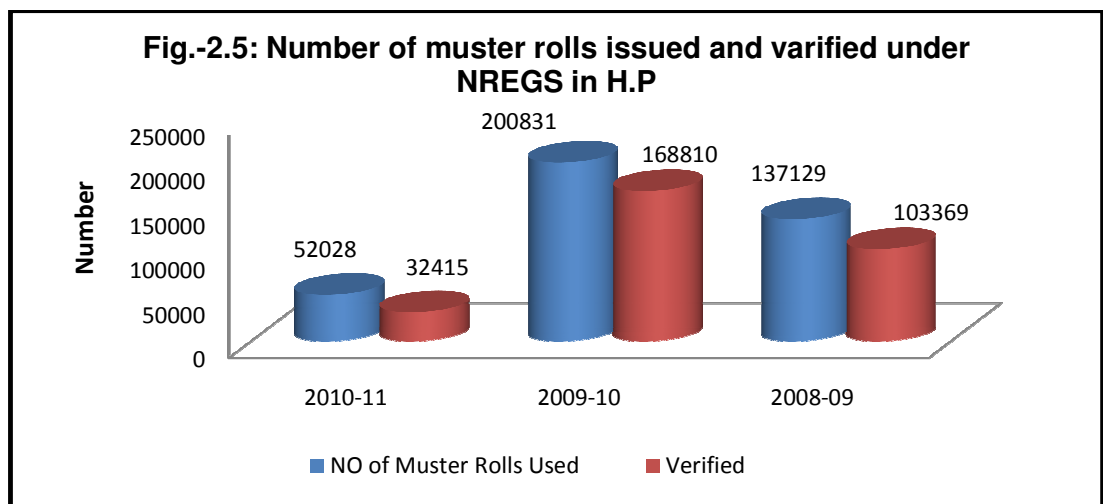
The performance of NREGA has been analyzed (Table-2.5) in terms of some selected indicators like social auditing, bank accounts, unemployment allowance etc. The following text presents the details.

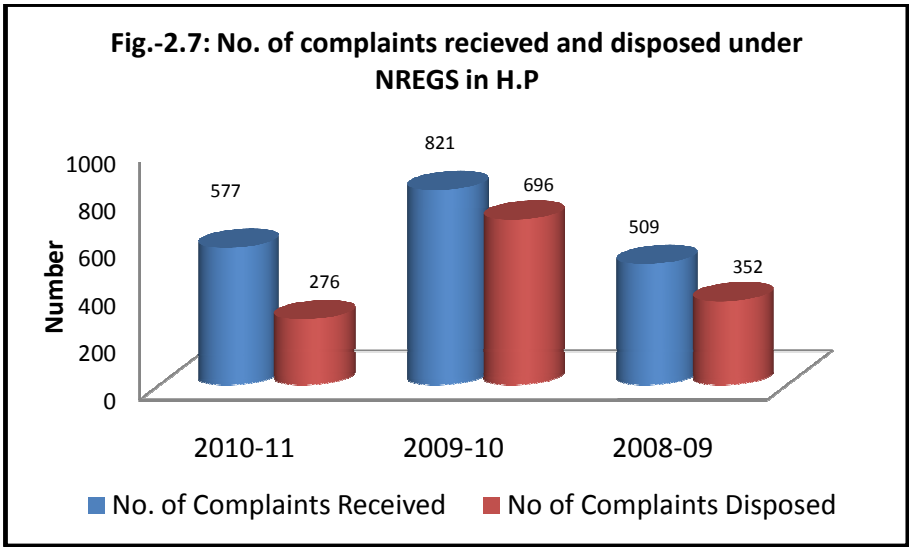
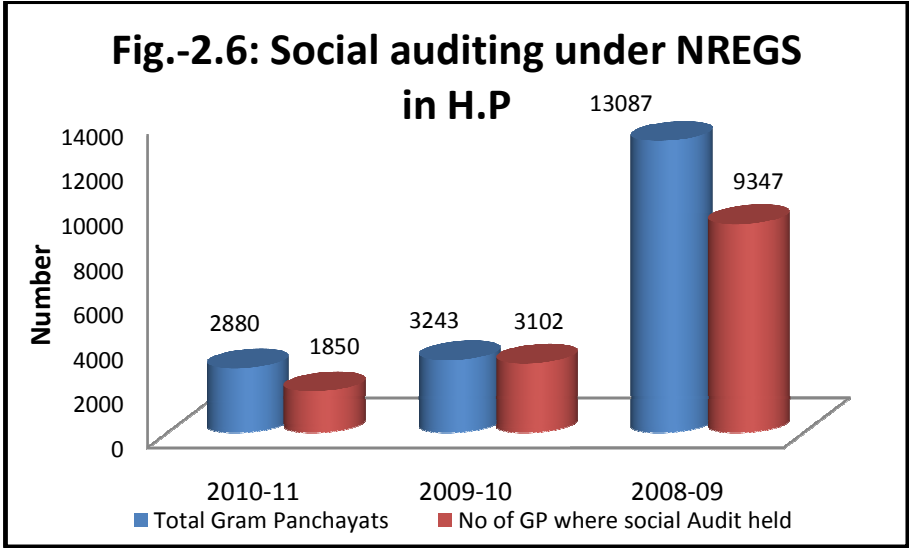
2.5.1 Social Auditing: In the year 2010-11 a total number of 52028 muster rolls were issued in the state of which 32415 were verified. District Kangra topped in this respect where all the 10788 muster rolls were verified. Out of 2880 gram panchayats, in 1850 gram panchayats social audit was held. Again the performance of Kangra in this respect was the best with social audit conducted in all the 760 gram panchayats. Total number of works taken up this year, in the state, was 34976 and out of these 3031 works were inspected at district level and other 27320 works inspected at block level. A total number of 4854 gram sabhas were held in this year and in addition 6257 VMC meetings were conducted. In total 577 complaints regarding different aspects of NREGA were received this year and 276 were disposed of. Highest number of complaints received was in Una but only 12 were disposed of. There were no complaints received in district Lahaul-Spiti.

During the year 2009-10 a total number of 200831 muster rolls were issued in the state of which 168810 were verified. District Kangra topped in this respect where all the 53617 muster rolls were verified. In this year, 3102 gram panchayats socially audited out of 3243 gram panchayats. Again the performance of Kangra in this respect was the best with social audit conducted in all the 760 gram panchayats. A total of 62473 works were taken up this year, in the state and out of these 7288 works were inspected at district level and other 49834 works inspected at block level. A total number of 10050 gram sabhas were held in this year and in addition 20198 VMC meetings were conducted. In total 821 complaints regarding different aspects of NREGA were received this year and 696 were disposed of. Highest number of complaints received was in Mandi, 126 complaints and out of these 106 were disposed of. There were no complaints received in district Lahaul-Spiti in this year also.

A total number of 137129 muster rolls were issued in the state during the year 2008-09 of which 103369 were verified. District Kangra topped in this respect, all the 25494 muster rolls being were verified. In this year, 9347 gram panchayats conducted social audit out of 13087 gram panchayats. Again the performance of Kangra in this respect was the best

with social audit conducted in all the 760 gram panchayats. A total of 42280 works were taken up this year, in the state and out of these 13704 works were inspected at district level and other 35665 works inspected at block level. A total number of 3284 gram sabhas were held in this year along with 1763 VMC meetings. In total 509 complaints were received this year and 352 were disposed of. Highest number of complaints received was in Sirmaur. In this district out of 170 complaints only 77 were disposed of. There were no complaints received in district Lahaul-Spiti and Solan and only one complaint was registered in district Bilaspur.





Tale 2.5: Social auditing and inspection of NREGA work

Name Of The District	Must Roll Verified		Social Audit		Inspections Conducted			Gram Sabha Held			Complaints	
	NO of Muster Rolls Used	Verified	Total Gram Panchayats	No of GP where social Audit held	Total Works Taken up	NO. of Works Inspected at District Level	NO. of Works Inspected at Block Level	Total Gram Panchayats	No. of Gram Sabhas held	No. of VMC meetings held	No. of Complaints Received	No of Complaints Disposed
2010-11												
Chamba	7661	2923	283	74	6507	0	4087	283	235	89	105	74
Sirmour	4191	3099	228	176	3117	115	2246	228	143	143	128	98
Kangra	10788	10788	760	760	9098	1001	9098	760	3040	3040	1	1
Mandi	11900	5042	473	188	7696	131	5915	473	216	294	61	32
Bilaspur	2675	1100	151	0	750	80	566	151	151	22	25	23
Hamirpur	2883	1759	229	221	1292	178	1054	229	203	143	38	33
Kinnaur	965	640	65	6	456	45	169	65	42	0	1	1
Kullu	2933	2873	204	194	2955	299	1123	204	254	124	2	2
L & S.	234	209	41	23	103	10	97	41	34	0	0	0
Shimla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solan	5925	2347	211	152	1649	1000	1612	211	302	2347	0	0
Una	1873	1635	235	56	1353	172	1353	235	234	55	216	12
H.P	52028	32415	2880	1850	34976	3031	27320	2880	4854	6257	577	276
2009-10												
Chamba	24963	15617	283	219	10909	994	6170	283	253	90	155	117
Sirmour	19753	18182	228	228	5201	425	4236	228	192	192	274	230
Kangra	53617	53617	760	760	14274	2141	14274	760	6428	6428	56	48
Mandi	35311	26761	473	464	12945	839	11382	473	443	429	126	106
Bilaspur	7204	5819	151	151	2046	515	1748	151	151	75	36	36
Hamirpur	12715	10677	229	229	3339	230	1750	229	229	229	80	68
Kinnaur	1635	1522	65	61	529	70	529	65	97	0	3	3
Kullu	6999	6999	204	204	2845	283	2153	204	204	144	19	19
L & S.	566	556	41	33	276	22	169	41	159	13	0	0
Shimla	9130	7441	363	320	4354	27	1814	363	363	1	21	21
Solan	18222	12254	211	201	3348	1500	3202	211	599	12254	33	33
Una	10716	9365	235	232	2407	242	2407	235	932	343	18	15
H.P.	200831	168810	3243	3102	62473	7288	49834	3243	10050	20198	821	696
2008-09												
Chamba	23287	16800	283	160	7944	0	6031	283	243	217	80	62
Sirmour	12282	8816	228	204	3697	204	2735	228	208	228	170	77
Kangra	25494	25494	760	760	12402	12402	12402	760	760	760	149	126
Mandi	34842	20266	8674	5735	7192	0	6730	473	399	0	67	52
Bilaspur	4838	4127	151	51	1232	142	749	151	151	49	1	1
Hamirpur	10577	7824	229	61	2410	105	1090	229	6	61	15	8
Kinnaur	1192	1045	65	65	321	23	294	65	138	0	5	5
Kullu	4254	4254	204	36	1165	116	1165	204	448	448	2	2
L & S.	673	417	41	10	391	55	186	41	148	0	0	0
Shimla	7436	3846	363	310	2489	121	1494	363	316	0	13	12
Solan	5551	4654	1854	1854	1548	387	1548	211	233	0	0	0
Una	6703	5826	235	101	1489	149	1241	235	234	0	7	7
H.P.	137129	103369	13087	9347	42280	13704	35665	3243	3284	1763	509	352

2.5.2 Payments Processed through Bank Accounts: It is always advisable to route the payments made under NREGA to the beneficiaries through the banks or post offices for avoiding any mismanagement of payments to be made to beneficiaries. It is because of this fact that accounts of beneficiaries have been opened either in banks or post offices depending upon the convenience of the individual beneficiary. The details have been presented in Table-2.6.

During the year 2010-11 a total of 1162390 accounts were opened and an amount of Rs. 10108 lakhs deposited in these accounts as the wages of beneficiary workers. Out of these, 112461 were individual accounts and the rest 37777 were the joint accounts. In the banks 1075193 individual and 35396 joint accounts were opened with disbursement of wages worth Rs. 9481.28 lakhs through these. Similarly, 49420 individual and 2381 joint accounts were opened in post offices with disbursement of wages worth Rs.627.75 lakhs through these. Highest numbers of accounts were opened in district Chamba, 551002 accounts followed by Kangra with 294881 accounts.

A total of 622431 accounts were opened during the year 2009-10 and an amount of Rs. 31960 lakhs deposited in these accounts. Out of these, 59250 were individual accounts and 29924 were the joint accounts. In the banks 540559 individual and 27549 joint accounts were opened with disbursement of wages worth Rs. 29616.59 lakhs through these. Similarly, 51948 individual and 2375 joint accounts were opened in post offices with disbursement of wages worth Rs.2345.06 lakhs through these. Highest numbers of accounts were opened in district Kangra, 239536 accounts followed by Chamba with 59043 accounts.

The number of accounts opened during the year 2008-09 stood at 408964 and wages to the tune of Rs. 17897 lakhs deposited in these accounts. Out of these, 390355 were individual accounts and 18609 were the joint accounts. In the banks 350727 individual and 16336 joint accounts were opened with disbursement of wages worth Rs. 15968.47 lakhs through these. Similarly, 39628 individual and 2273 joint accounts were opened in post offices with disbursement of wages worth Rs.1929.26 lakhs through these. Highest numbers of accounts were opened in district Mandi, 117140 accounts followed by Kangra with 114666 accounts.

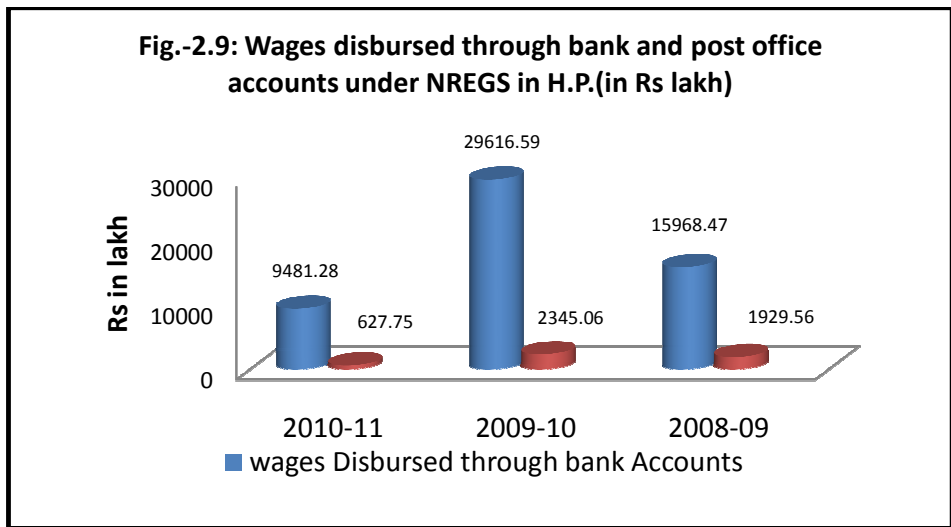
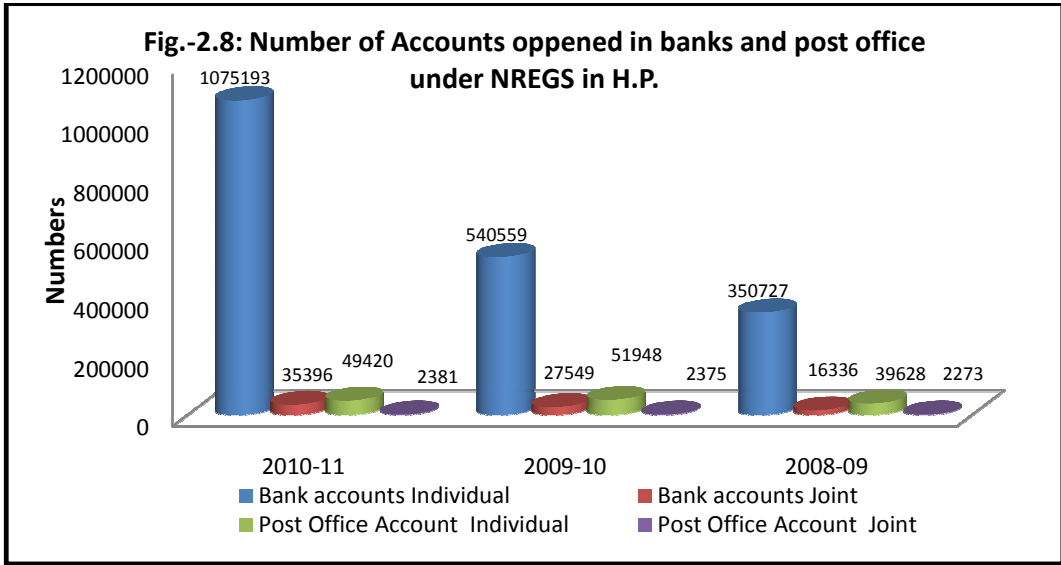
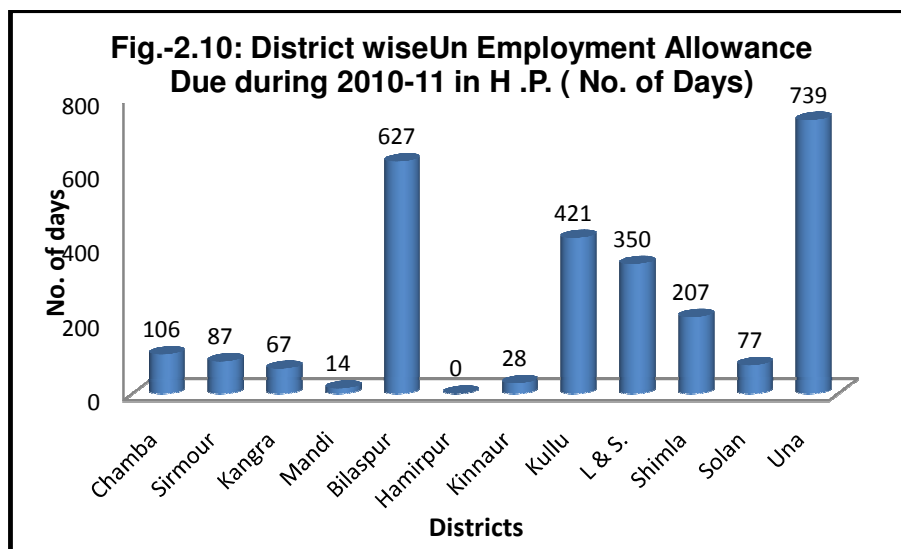


Table 2.6: The NREGA payment processed through banks/post office

Name Of The District	NO. of Bank Account Opened		Amount of wages Disbursed through bank Accounts (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Post Office Account Opened		Amount of Wages disbursed through post office Accounts(Rs. in lakhs)	Total Accounts			Total Amount Disbursed(Rs.in lakhs)
	Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint	Total	
2010-11										
Chamba	541828	465	1547.087	8634	75	292.225	550462	540	551002	1839
Sirmour	36889	314	929.99	1042	17	15.18	37931	331	38262	945
Kangra	25881	20260	2271.588	14454	1349	8.624	273272	1609	294881	2281
Mandi	119574	5813	1879.92	16956	379	194.11	136530	6192	142722	2074
Bilaspur	14663	1035	375.28	1694	102	24.54	16357	1137	17494	400
Hamirpur	18377	5416	322.72	2044	258	28.19	20421	5674	26095	351
Kinnaur	4618	19	167.49	785	0	6.5	5403	19	5422	173
Kullu	31841	218	1086.28	1626	0	38.46	33467	218	33685	1124
L & S.	3005	227	34.05	751	191	5.41	3756	418	4174	39
Shimla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solan	22632	246	606.76	399	0	0	23031	246	23277	607
Una	22948	1383	260.1176	1035	10	14.511	23983	1393	25376	275
H.P	1075193	35396	9481.28	49420	2381	627.75	112461	37777	1162390	10108
2009-10										
Chamba	51558	65	4501.895	7345	75	799.001	58903	140	59043	5301
Sirmour	35203	459	1818.662027	1042	17	67.30152757	36245	476	36721	1886
Kangra	207793	16172	7760.876	14258	1313	415.551	222051	17485	239536	8177
Mandi	101670	5782	6230.58	15525	379	494.39	117195	6161	123356	6725
Bilaspur	14366	1012	705.07	1623	102	56.37	15989	1114	17103	761
Hamirpur	22088	1713	1268.09	2006	143	164.55	24094	1856	25950	1433
Kinnaur	4616	19	296.01	785	0	13.06	5401	19	5420	309
Kullu	24529	48	2321.18	1175	30	129.05	25704	78	25782	2450
L & S.	2585	221	119.4254418	751	191	32.43592614	3336	412	3748	151
Shimla	33557	457	1910.87	6028	120	98.5	39585	577	40162	2009
Solan	20030	237	1348.49	399	0	12.8	20429	237	20666	1361
Una	22564	1364	1335.4461	1011	5	62.0531	23575	1369	24944	1397
H.P	540559	27549	29616.59	51948	2375	2345.06	59250	29924	622431	31960
2008-09										
Chamba	32716	50	1751.233	3328	70	58.96	36044	120	36164	1810
Sirmour	24120	317	1019.91	1488	10	29.11	25608	327	25935	1049
Kangra	92750	10149	4460.75	10574	1193	1408.65	103324	11342	114666	5870
Mandi	98097	4091	4308.49	14307	645	320.03	112404	4736	117140	4628
Bilaspur	9319	618	410.04	787	80	23.61	10106	698	10804	434
Hamirpur	21609	0	971.97	0	0	0	21609	0	21609	972
Kinnaur	4072	19	167.54	785	0	18.1	4857	19	4876	186
Kullu	13009	14	633.26	1930	10	13.15	14939	24	14963	646
L & S.	1885	187	108.42	60	90	8.5	1945	277	2222	116
Shimla	24002	667	804.05	5061	175	41.24	29063	842	29905	845
Solan	13164	224	438.72	498	0	8.21	13662	224	13886	447
Una	15984	0	894.09	810	0	0	16794	0	16794	894
H.P	350727	16336	15968.47	39628	2273	1929.56	390355	18609	408964	17897

2.5.3 Unemployment Allowance: As per provision of NREGA it is mandatory to provide unemployment allowance to the persons who demanded employment but the authorities failed to provide them with it. The analysis indicates that in the state during the year 2010-11, unemployment allowance was due to 2723 days (Table-2.7). District Kinnaur was on the top in this respect with unemployment allowance due for 627 days followed by Mandi 421 days and Shimla 350 days. In district Kullu no unemployment allowance was due. However, no unemployment allowance was paid to the workers during this year.



**Table 2.7: Unemployment allowance paid in lieu of not providing employment
(2010-11)**

District	Un Employment Allowance Due	Unemployment Allowance Paid	
	No. of Days	No. of Days	Amount
Chamba	106	0	0
Sirmour	87	0	0
Kangra	67	0	0
Mandi	14	0	0
Bilaspur	627	0	0
Hamirpur	0	0	0
Kinnaur	28	0	0
Kullu	421	0	0
L & S.	350	0	0
Shimla	207	0	0
Solan	77	0	0
Una	739	0	0
H.P	2723	0	0

2.5.4 Work Projection for the Year 2010-11: The details of work projection for the year 2010-11 have been presented in Table-2.8. It may be seen from the table that during the year 30045 works spilled over from the previous year with highest number of 8597 works under rural connectivity. A total number of 81325 new works was undertaken during this year with highest number again under rural connectivity, 20749 new works. This clearly indicates the thrust on rural connectivity. It was estimated that 51991 works are likely to spill over from current financial year to next financial year. The number of new works proposed for the next financial year stood at 148387. It has been estimated to generate 49188167 person days. The estimated cost of this endeavor stood at Rs. 90988.03 lakhs. Out of total cost Rs. 54800.88 lakhs are likely to be spent on unskilled wages and Rs. 36187.15 lakhs on material including skilled and semi-skilled wages. Highest cost estimates have been drawn for rural connectivity for which Rs. 23215.79 are likely to be spent followed by flood control protection with a estimate of Rs. 13643.35 and Rs. 13461.64 for water conservation and harvesting.

Table 2.8: Work projection under NREGA for 2010-11

Shelf of works Through Which Employment to be Provided	Total No. of Spill over Works From Previous year	Total No. of New Works Taken up in Current Year	No. of Works Likely to Spill Over From Current Financial Year to Next financial	No. Of New Works Proposed for next financial year	Benefit Achieved Unit	Person days To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	5066	11154	7013	22494	2468316.338 Cu.Mts.	7173800	8111.94	5349.695	13461.635
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	42	109	107	678	18269.604	276661	302.77	206.786	509.556
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	1623	13662	11501	22528	27425.514 Hectares	4996970	5615.54	3721.084	9336.624
Rural Connectivity	8597	20749	11443	31104	29146.535 Km.	12739363	14031.627	9184.161	23215.788
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	2861	6066	3768	11765	495330.3 Cu. Mts.	3575390	4047.328	2641.77	6689.098
Drought Proofing	2296	2871	2095	6782	13018.726 Hectares	2000342	2227.373	1485.002	3712.376
Micro Irrigation works	2794	7138	3972	14999	33361.747 Hectares	5500208	5987.173	4064.385	10051.559
Flood Control and Protection	3979	10902	6764	19433	47726.303 Km.	7386949	8203.313	5440.034	13643.347
Land Development	2787	8674	5328	18604	22812.336 Hectares	5538484	6273.812	4094.237	10368.05
Total	30045	81325	51991	148387		49188167	54800.878	36187.154	90988.032

2.6 Summing Up

The highest percentage of job cards issued was in district Kangra. Among the SC highest percentage was found in district Mandi followed by Kangra. Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST. Kangra and Mandi topped in respect of job cards issued to other categories. During 2010-11, a total of 134150 households demanded employment against which 126541 households were provided employment. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Kangra. As per the latest figures 14120 households were working under NREGS, the highest percentage being in district Kangra. During the year 2009-2010, a total of 994969 persons were issued job cards. The highest percentage of job cards issued was in district Kangra and lowest percentage was in district Lahaul-Spiti. As far as the SCs were concerned highest percentage was found in district Kangra. Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district

Kangra. During this year, 282991 households were working under NREGS, the highest being in district Kangra followed by Chamba and Mandi. During the year 2008-2009 highest percentage of job cards issued was again in district Kangra. The percentage of SC was highest in district Kangra followed by Mandi. Chamba had highest percentage of job cards among the ST. Highest percentage of households demanding employment was in district Mandi. During this year the highest percentage of households working under NREGS was in district Kangra.

During 2010-11 the highest number of works completed belonged to rural connectivity, followed by projects of water conservation and harvesting. The highest number of ongoing projects was found under rural connectivity and least number of ongoing projects was of draught proofing. The amount spent on different completed and ongoing projects in the state during the year 2010-11 indicates that the highest amount was spent on completed projects of rural connectivity followed by water conservation and harvesting. Rural connectivity again topped the list of projects in respect of expenditure on ongoing projects.

The performance of NREGA has been analyzed in terms of some selected indicators like social auditing, bank accounts, unemployment allowance etc. District Kangra topped in muster rolls issued and verified. The performance of Kangra in social audit was the best with social audit conducted in all the gram panchayats. Highest number of complaints received was in Una. The same pattern was observed during 2009-10 and 2008-09 years. Highest number of complaints received was in Sirmour during 2008-09.

During the year 2010-11 a total of 1162390 accounts were opened and an amount of Rs. 10108 lakhs deposited in these accounts as the wages of beneficiary workers. A total of 622431 accounts were opened during the year 2009-10 and an amount of Rs. 31960 lakhs deposited in these accounts. The number of accounts opened during the year 2008-09 stood at 408964 and wages to the tune of Rs. 17897 lakhs deposited in these accounts. District Kinnaur was on the top in respect of unemployment allowance with the unemployment allowance due was higher in district Kinnaur. In district Kullu no unemployment allowance was due. However, no unemployment allowance was paid to the workers during 2010-11. During the year 2010-11 the thrust was on rural connectivity. Highest cost estimates have been drawn for rural connectivity followed by flood control protection and water conservation and harvesting.

Chapter 3

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS THEIR INCOME AND CONSUMPTION PATTERN

In this chapter, socio-economic characteristics of the sampled beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of NREGS in the selected districts have been discussed. Socio-economic conditions provide the basis for understanding the background of the sampled households. Such conditions influence the process followed in decision making to a great extent. It is in this context that the demographic structure i.e. size of family, age groups, education and occupations, income and consumption etc have been discussed.

3.1 Households Profile of the Respondents

The demographic profile of the sampled households takes into consideration various factors like household size, education, occupation and income etc, Table-3.1 provide the details and presented in the following text.

3.1.1 Number of Households: The study is based on a total of 250 households of which 200 were beneficiary households covered under NREGS and the rest 50 were taken as control sample and were non-beneficiary of the NREGA Scheme.

3.1.2 Size of Household: The average size of households was 4.34 members per households and this size was 4.28 persons in case of beneficiary and 4.60 persons in case of non-beneficiary households.

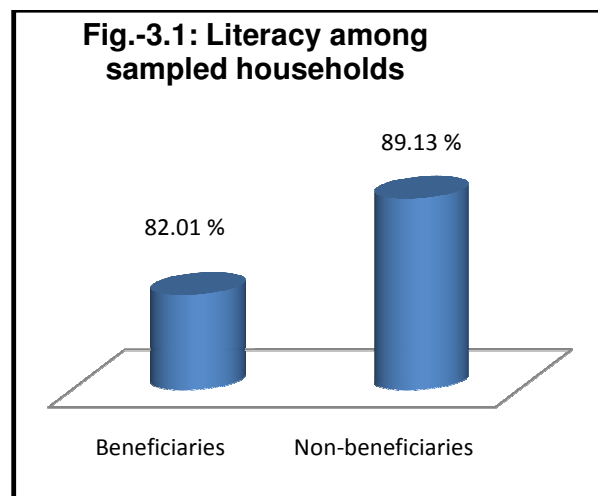
3.1.3 Gender: In total sample about 52 percent of the members were male and 48 percent females. Almost same percentage was found in beneficiary and non-beneficiary households covered under the study.

3.1.4 Age Groups: The predominant age group found under the sample was that of persons belonging to age group of 16-60 years and about 68 per cent of the persons belonged to this group. About 25 percent of the persons were below the age of 16 years

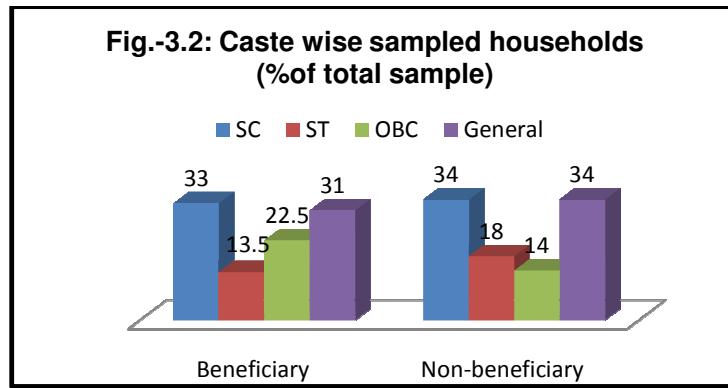
and about 7 per cent were of the age more than 60 years. The details of beneficiary and non-beneficiary households can be seen from Table 3.1.

3.1.5 Identity of Respondent: In aggregate sample about 89 percent of the respondents were head of the family and rest 11 percent were other persons belonging to the family. Among beneficiary households about 91 percent respondents were head of the family and this percentage for non-beneficiary households was 82 per cent.

3.1.6 Educational Status: Largest percentage of the persons, 40.70 percent, at aggregate level had qualification up to secondary level. About 16 percent were illiterate and about 3 percent were graduate whereas only 0.55 percent had qualifications above the graduation level. Literacy rate was comparatively higher 89 percent, in non-beneficiary households and lesser 82 percent in beneficiary households. The category wise details in this respect can be seen from the table.



3.1.7 Caste: The largest percentage of household at aggregate level belonged to scheduled cast category, 33.20 percent followed by general category, 31.60 percent and other backward classes, 20.80 percent. About 14 per cent of the households belong to scheduled tribe category. Other details can be seen from the Table.



3.1.8 Type of Card: At aggregate level 56 per cent of the households had APL card, about 33 percent had BPL card and only about 9 per cent had AAY card. The families who did not have any card were 1.60 per cent. Among both the categories same pattern was observed.

3.1.9 Decision Maker: This analysis indicates that in about 86 per cent of the households, the decision makers were males.

3.1.10 Main Occupation: The largest percentage of persons, at aggregate level was that of farmers, 48.60 per cent. This was followed by non agricultural labour, 28.08 per cent of the persons having this occupation. About 14 per cent of the persons were deriving their income from salaries, the percentage of pensioners was only about 3 per cent. The category wise details can be referred from the table 3.1.

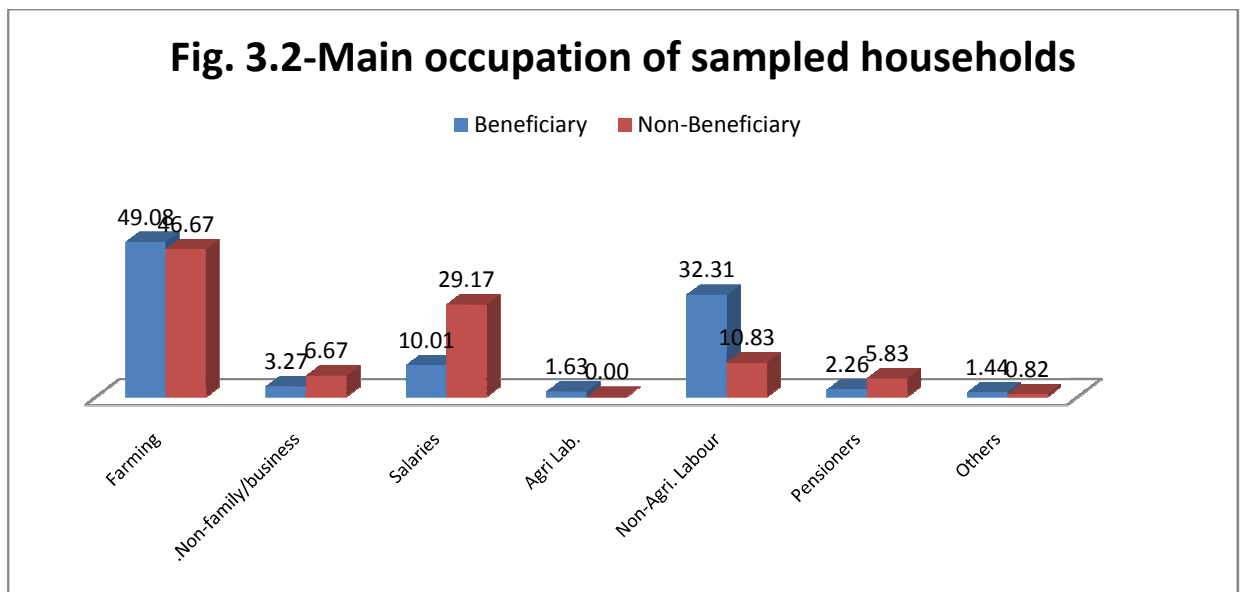


Table- 3.1: Demographic profile of the respondents (% of households) H.P.

Characteristics		Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries	Aggregate
No. of HH		200	50	250
Household size (numbers)		4.28	4.60	4.34
Average numbers of earners		-	-	-
Gender	Male (%)	51.75	52.61	51.98
	Female (%)	48.25	47.39	48.12
Age group	<16	24.18	30.43	25.51
	16-60	69.04	62.18	67.59
	>60	6.78	7.39	6.90
Identity of respondent	Head	90.50	82.00	88.80
	Others	9.50	18.00	11.20
Education status	Illiterate	17.99	10.87	16.48
	Up to primary	27.80	24.35	27.07
	Up to secondary	39.49	45.22	40.70
	Up to graduate	2.92	3.04	2.95
	Above graduate	0.35	1.30	0.55
Caste	SC	33.00	34.00	33.20
	ST	13.50	18.00	14.40
	OBC	22.50	14.00	20.80
	General	31.00	34.00	31.60
Card holding	AAY	10.00	6.00	9.20
	BPL	33.00	34.00	33.20
	APL	55.00	60.00	56.00
	None	2.00	0.00	1.60
Decision maker	Male	83.50	98.00	86.40
	Female	16.50	2.00	13.60
Main occupation	1. Farming	49.08	46.67	48.60
	2. Non-family/business	3.27	6.67	3.94
	3. Salaries	10.01	29.17	13.78
	4. Agri Lab.	1.63	0.00	1.32
	5. Non-Agri. Labour	32.31	10.83	28.08
	6. Pensioners	2.26	5.83	2.96
	7. Others	1.44	0.82	1.32
Involved in migration during year 2009 (%)		6.66	1.74	5.56

3.2 Main Occupation (Man days)

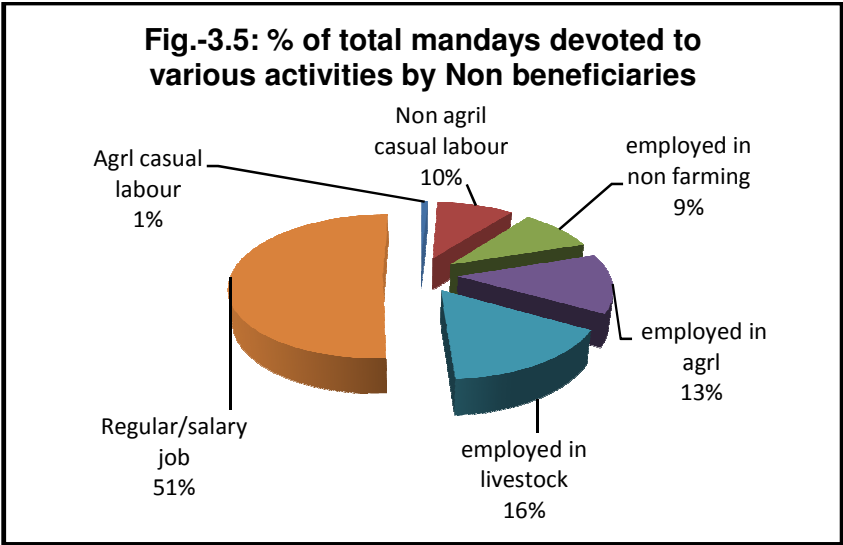
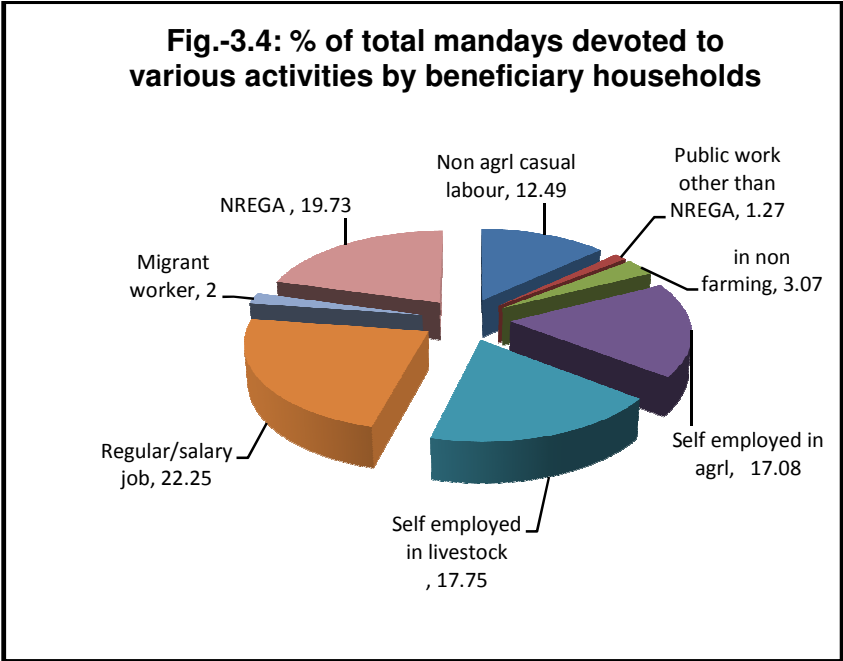
The analysis of percentage of total man days per household devoted for different main occupations indicate that regular/salaried jobs was the occupation for which about 37 per cent of the man days were devoted (Table 3.2). This percentage for beneficiary and non-beneficiary households was 22.25 and 50.91 per cent respectively. This was followed by the category of self employed in livestock which occupied 16.78 per cent man days at

aggregate level with this percentage being 17.75 and 15.87 for beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. Third important in this respect was self employed in agriculture which contributed 15.12 percent man days at aggregate level. Non-agriculture casual labour consuming about 11 per cent of the man days at aggregate level. The beneficiary and non-beneficiary households were devoting 12.49 and 9.60 man days respectively for this occupation. About 20 per cent of the man days were devoted for NREGA work by beneficiary households only. The beneficiary households also devoted about 2 per cent of the man days to work as migrant worker. No non-beneficiary household was found to be working as migrant worker.

Table 3.2: Main Occupation of Sampled Households in H.P.

(% of total man-days per HH)

Occupation	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries	Aggregate
Agricultural casual labour	4.37	0.80	2.52
Non agricultural casual labour	12.49	9.60	10.99
Work for public work programmes other than NREGA	1.27	0.00	0.61
Self employed in non farming	3.07	9.52	6.41
Self employed in agriculture	17.08	13.30	15.12
Self employed in livestock	17.75	15.87	16.78
Regular/salary job	22.25	50.91	37.08
Worked as a migrant worker	2.00	0.00	0.97
Worked under NREGA	19.73	0.00	9.52
Any other work	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



3.3 Household Net Income

The average household income of the sample has been presented in Table 3.3. The analysis indicated that the total household income per annum was Rs. 1,04,382 at aggregate level and it was about Rs.87,868 in case of beneficiary household and Rs.1,70,440 in case of non-beneficiary households. It may be seen from the table that largest percentage of the income is derived from agricultural and livestock. At aggregate

level about 33 per cent of the income came from this occupation. Whereas this percentage was about 37 in case of beneficiary and 26 in case of non-beneficiary households. It was found that about 24 per cent of the annual household income at aggregate level came from regular job/salary/pension. Among beneficiary households this source accounted for only about 19 per cent of the total income whereas in case of non-beneficiary households this percentage was about 35 per cent. Next in importance was about 14 per cent income at aggregate level from sale of assets/rent/transfer. The beneficiary households derived only about 9 per cent their income from this source whereas the non-beneficiary households had about 24 per cent of their income coming from this source. It was found that about 7 per cent of the income was coming from working as migrant labour and same from wages of non-agricultural labour, at aggregate level. Income from work under NREGA constituted about 11 percent of total income of beneficiary households. Other details may be seen from this table.

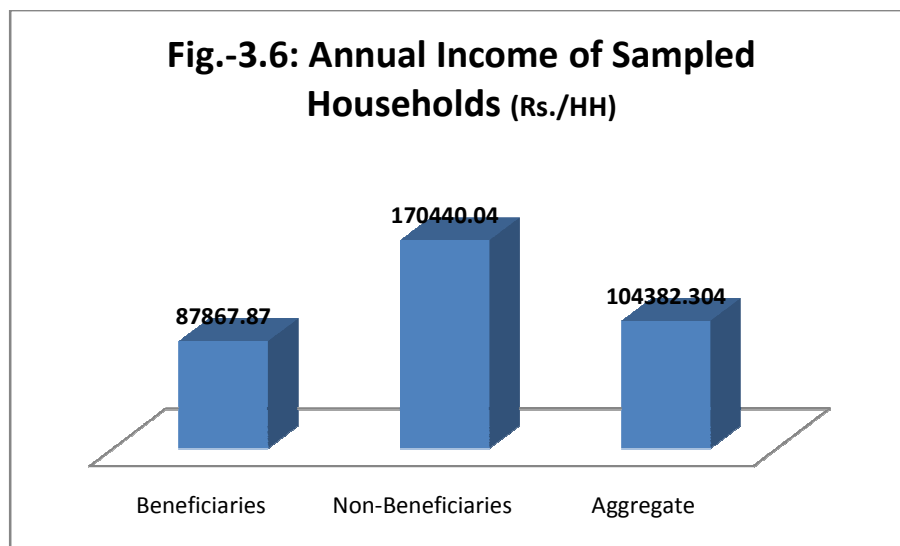


Fig.-3.7: Annual net income of beneficiary households

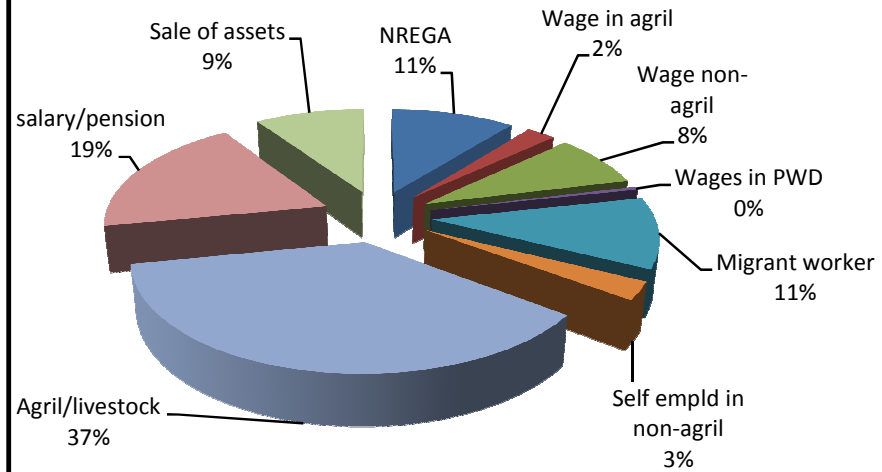


Fig.-3.8: Annual net income of non-beneficiary households

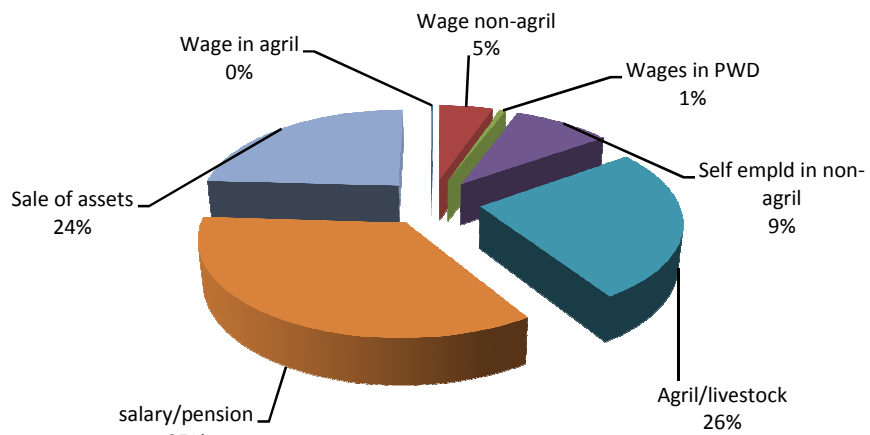


Table 3.3: Net income of Sampled Household

(Rs per household/annum)

Source of income	Average Income	CV (across HH)	Average Income	CV (across HH)	Average Income	CV (across HH)
	Beneficiaries		Non beneficiaries		Aggregate	
Income from work under NREGA	9302.08 (10.59)	1.0707	0.00 (0.00)	4.6947	7441.66 (7.13)	1.2614
Income from wages in agriculture	2149.80 (2.45)	2.4816	146.67 (0.09)	4.7983	1749.17 (1.68)	2.7248
Income from wages non agriculture	7096.55 (8.08)	1.9773	8755.33 (5.14)	1.9338	7428.31 (7.12)	1.9709
Income from wages in PWP	433.19 (0.49)	7.1588	964.44 (0.57)	5.6801	539.44 (0.52)	6.8905
Income from wages as migrant workers	9525.25 (10.84)	3.0521	0.00 (0.00)	0.00	7620.20 (7.30)	3.3832
Income from self employed in non farming	2414.75 (2.75)	8.7085	15955.60 (9.36)	2.2171	5122.92 (4.91)	5.1806
Income from agriculture/livestock	32284.24 (36.74)	0.9383	44053.30 (25.85)	0.7195	34638.02 (33.18)	0.8977
Income from regular job/salary/pension	16444.47 (18.72)	2.7519	59471.40 (34.89)	1.2017	25049.88 (24.00)	2.2281
Income from sale of assets/rent/transfer etc.	8217.55 (9.35)	4.5272	41093.30 (24.11)	3.6968	14792.70 (14.17)	5.1964
Total	87867.89 (100.0)		170440.04 (100.00)		104382.30 (100.00)	

Note: Figures in parentheses are respective percentage of total income

3.4 Household Consumption

Consumption behaviour of sampled households is the main indicator of food security and this is true other way round also. In this chapter consumption pattern food and non-food items have been analyzed. Analysis takes into consideration both the physical quantities consumed and the expenditure incurred on such items. The following text presents the details.

3.4.1 Physical Quantities Consumed

The analyses of actual quantities of different food items consumed by beneficiary and non-beneficiary households have been presented in Table 3.4. The quantities have been presented in Kilograms per capita per month. It may be seen from the table that aggregate level each household was consuming about 12 Kgs of cereals. This figure reported in NSS 1993-94 was 10.92 Kgs and 12.05 Kgs during NSS 2004-05. The

consumption of pulses was 3.43 Kgs per capita per month which was significantly higher than reported in any of NSS rounds. The largest variation was observed in case of milk products, the quantity of which was found to be significantly lower in present study as compared with what is reported in NSS rounds. The quantities of other food articles along with their variation between the two categories can be seen from the table. The quantities of sugar etc consumed were not available in Report No. 508 of NSS and hence could not be presented here.

Table 3.4: Household consumption of food items (kgs. per capita per month)

	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries	Aggregate	NSS ² 1993-94	NSS ² 1999-00	NSS ² 2004-05
Rice	4.45	4.91	4.54	6.79	4.17	4.09
Wheat	5.84	8.87	6.44	4.13	6.41	6.08
Other cereals	1.00	1.22	1.04	0.00	2.28	0.01
Total cereals	11.29	15.00	12.02	10.92	12.86	12.05
Total pulses	3.47	3.22	3.43	0.65	2.67	1.06
Sugar	0.80	0.79	0.80	0.77	1.21	N.A.
Edible oils ¹	0.83	0.81	0.83	0.34	1.22	N.A.
Spices ²	29.54	27.11	29.06	3.94	7.87	N.A.
Liquid milk ¹	7.80	8.40	7.91	0.01	3.07	N.A.
Milk products	0.10	0.50	0.18	30.64	104.57	N.A.
Poultry-meat	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.12	0.13	N.A.
Fruits	0.84	1.77	1.03	2.32	2.28	N.A.
Vegetables	2.77	2.26	2.67	2.93	4.91	N.A.
Confectionery	0.50	1.23	0.65	0.64	1.79	N.A.

Note: N.A. – Not available

1. Edible oil and liquid milk is in litres
2. Spices in gms.

3.4.2 Consumption Expenditure:

The consumption expenditure of beneficiary and non-beneficiary households has been analyzed and results presented in Table 3.5. The consumption expenditure includes the value of home produced articles evaluated at the rates prevalent at public distribution system. The expenditure on food items has been presented per capita for one month. The consumption expenditure worked out in NSS report of 1993-94 was not available and the same was the case of NSS data for the year 2004-05 as in these reports Himachal

Pradesh was not included. The data for the year 2003 has been presented here as a proxy for the year 2004-05.

It may be seen from the table that the expenditure on total cereals was about Rs.117 per household and this was higher in case of non beneficiary households. The beneficiary households were spending about Rs.23 on pulses which expenditure was about Rs.22 per household at aggregate level. The expenditure on Sugar was about Rs. 15 for beneficiary, Rs.13 for non-beneficiary and Rs. 14.67 per capita per month at aggregate level. The trend in expenditure on edible oils was just opposite to that of sugar, beneficiary households spending only Rs. 27.55 in comparison to Rs. 44.98 being spent by non-beneficiary households per capita per month. The expenditure on liquid milk was almost equal in both the categories but on milk product it was many time higher in case of non-beneficiaries. The analysis reveals that each household at aggregate level was spending about Rs.619 on food items and this expenditure was only about Rs.584 in case of beneficiary households and about Rs.759 in case of non-beneficiary households. The comparison with the NSS data indicates that the expenditure on total cereals was slightly higher as compared with NSS 2004-05 but expenditure on pulses, sugar and cooking oil has gone down. But expenditure on spices, milk & its products and poultry meat etc has gone up in comparison to NSS data. The expenditure on total food items has increased as compared with both periods of NSS data by about 50 percent.

The expenditure on non-food items has been evaluated on yearly basis as most of these items are not purchased every month. But for comparison, these figures were converted to monthly basis and added to food expenditure for working out total consumption expenditure. It may be seen that total expenditure on non food items amounted to about Rs. 145 per month at aggregate level and this was only about Rs.132 in case of beneficiary household and Rs.183 in case of non-beneficiary households. The consumption expenditure on all non-food items except clothing has gone down in comparison to NSS figures. As a result the consumption expenditure on non-food items was found to be only Rs. 144.67 as compared with Rs. 398.58 reported in NSS 2004-05.

It was found that average monthly consumption expenditure of households was about Rs.764 per capita per year at aggregate level. The consumption expenditure of beneficiary households was found to be about Rs.717 and in comparison the consumption

expenditure of non beneficiary households was about Rs.942 per annum. In comparison the total consumption expenditure reported in NSS report of 2004-05 was Rs. 798.11per month.

The analysis of coefficient of variation (CV) has also been presented in this table. This analysis indicates the variability in the expenditure on various consumption heads by individual respondents. It was seen that the value of CV was highest among the beneficiary in consumption of wheat indicating large variation in consumption of this item. The variation in consumption of pulses was quite lower.

3.5 Variability in Consumption and Income

It has been found that average household income during the year 2009-10 was Rs. 102130 per year (Table-3.6). The average household income of beneficiary category was only about Rs. 87868 and in contrast the average annual income of non-beneficiary households was about Rs.170907 per annum. On the consumption front the annual average consumption of beneficiary households was only Rs.30844 whereas this figure was about Rs.44833 in non-beneficiary households. At aggregate level the annual consumption stood at Rs.35906 per annum. The analysis indicates that the variation in income of non-beneficiary households was significantly higher as the coefficient of variation for them was 1.0172 whereas this was only 0.4692 in case of beneficiary households. At aggregate level the coefficient of variation in income was 1.0303. In comparison the distribution of consumption expenditure was fairly compact as the coefficient of variation in income was only 0.3372 for beneficiary households, 0.3323 for non-beneficiary households and 0.3785 in case of households at aggregate level. Almost similar pattern is revealed by the analysis of Gini Concentration Ratio (GCR) as the GCR for income was 0.4324, 0.9151 and 0.5673 for beneficiary, non-beneficiary households and at aggregate level respectively. The GCR for consumption was found to 0.3315, 0.2703 and 0.3895 for respective categories.

Table 3.5: Monthly consumption expenditure of households

Consumption Head	Monthly per capita (Rs)	Coefficient of variation	Monthly per capita (Rs)	Coefficient of variation	Monthly per capita (Rs)	Coefficient of variation	NSS 2004-05 (Rs)
	Beneficiaries		Non beneficiaries		Aggregate		
Food Items							
Rice	43.76 (7.49)	0.3519	43.89 (5.78)	0.2586	43.83 (6.61)	0.3321	41.21 (10.31)
Wheat	59.95 (10.26)	0.9470	74.15 (9.77)	0.1793	63.01 (9.48)	0.8114	49.83 (12.47)
Other cereals	10.24 (1.75)	0.4441	11.74 (1.55)	0.2745	10.57 (1.59)	0.4116	10.76 (2.69)
Total cereals	113.96 (19.50)	0.6108	129.78 (17.09)	0.1932	117.41 (17.69)	0.5386	101.80 (25.48)
Pulses	23.13 (3.96)	0.1988	19.21 (2.53)	0.1004	22.32 (3.37)	0.1918	28.16 (7.05)
Sugar etc	15.03 (2.57)	0.3400	13.27 (1.75)	0.3406	14.67 (2.22)	0.3432	19.61 (4.91)
Cooking oil	27.55 (4.71)	0.2500	44.98 (5.92)	0.1525	31.27 (4.69)	0.3329	35.41 (8.86)
Spices	14.89 (2.55)	0.3603	11.22 (1.48)	0.1139	35.93 (2.14)	0.3493	12.72 (3.18)
Milk & prods	143.36 (24.43)	0.2825	235.74 (31.06)	0.1680	203.22 (24.44)	0.2733	111.10 (27.81)
Poultry-meat	45.26 (7.74)	0.3881	39.39 (5.19)	0.3829	44.05 (6.66)	0.3860	9.40 (2.35)
Fruits	23.62 (4.04)	0.8033	47.52 (6.26)	0.1843	28.71 (4.29)	0.7261	8.61 (2.16)
Vegetables	52.34 (8.95)	0.3861	53.17 (7.00)	0.2496	52.57 (7.93)	0.3590	31.47 (7.87)
Confectionery	11.40 (1.95)	1.2041	35.13 (4.63)	0.2261	16.44 (2.44)	1.0015	N.A.
Total food	584.49 (81.54)	0.3452	759.19 (80.64)	0.1228	619.93 (81.06)	0.3609	399.53 (50.05)
Non-food item (365 day recall period)							
Education	10.29 (7.77)	1.0853	19.96 (10.92)	1.0246	13.89 (9.60)	1.0859	30.32 (7.61)
Clothing	54.79 (41.39)	0.3565	84.09 (46.01)	1.8979	61.02 (42.18)	2.1523	41.98 (10.53)
Footwear	26.58 (920.08)	0.2964	34.72 (19.00)	0.3892	28.33 (19.58)	0.3587	14.28 (3.580)
Other items	32.56 (24.60)	0.6088	35.22 (19.27)	0.3303	33.15 (22.91)	0.5533	N.A.
Fuel	8.13 (6.14)	0.2307	8.80 (4.81)	0.2097	8.28 (5.72)	0.2413	71.09 (17.84)
Total Non food	132.36 (18.46)	0.3663	182.78 (19.41)	0.3919	144.67 (18.94)	0.4582	398.58 (49.50)
Gross total	716.85 (100.00)	0.3372	941.97 (100.00)	0.3324	764.00 (100.00)	0.4184	798.11 (100.00)

Note: Figures in parentheses for total food and non food is respective percentages of gross total and figures for other items among food and non food are respective percentages of food and non food total.

Table 3.6: Variability in Consumption and Income

Description	Beneficiary	Non beneficiary	Total
Average household Income during the reference year (Rs)	87867.89	170906.95	102130.33
Average household consumption during the reference year (Rs)	30844.36	44833.30	35906.38
Coefficient of variation in income across households	0.4692	1.0172	1.0303
Coefficient of variation in consumption across households	0.3372	0.3323	0.3785
Gini coefficient of income	0.4324	0.9151	0.5673
Gini coefficient of consumption	0.3315	0.2703	0.3895

3.6 Determinants of participation in NREGA – Functional analysis

The analysis of factors determining the participation of households in NREGA activities has been carried out in this section and this analysis is based on regression analysis. Three different sets of regressions have been tried to arrive at the results. The first regression is Logit regression which is used when the dependent variable assumes only two values, either '0' or '1' representing the absence or presence of response. In the present case the dependent variable is in the form of 'participation or non-participation' in NREGA activities and hence the logit regression analysis has been carried out for the purpose. It was anticipated that the participation is determined by the factors like employment other than NREGA, household income, household size etc. The complete list of independent variables can be seen from the Table 3.7 which also presents the results.

It may be seen from the table that R^2 , coefficient of multiple determination which explains the percentage of variation in dependent variable due to the independent variables included in the model is quite low and is also insignificant. The only independent variables significantly affecting the participation in NREGA were employment other than NREGA and household income from sources other than NREGA. All other independent variables turned out to be insignificant.

Table 3.7: Determinants of Participation in NREGA (Logit function)

(Dependent variable: Dummy HH participation in NREGA)

variable	Coefficient	't' value
Employment other than NREGA	0.0024 ^{***}	1.8481
HH income other than NREGA	-7.2E-06 ^{**}	-2.1003
HH size	-0.1911 ^{***}	-1.7200
Land Value	2.18E-06	1.5616
Value of HH assets	-3.0E-06	-0.9646
Dummy AAY card holding	0.3246	0.4551
Dummy BPL card holding	-0.0265	-0.0692
Dummy SC	-0.0737	-0.1358
Dummy OBC	0.5828	0.8554
Dummy general	-0.2517	-0.4312
Dummy no card holding	4.8389	0.2646
Constant	2.8682 [*]	3.7181
No. of observation	250	
Log likelihood	216.2230	
Cox & Snell R ²	0.127	
Nagelkerke R ²	0.201	

Note: * - Significant at 1 per cent level of probability.

** - Significant at 5 per cent level of probability.

*** - Significant at 10 per cent level of probability.

In addition to Logit regression analysis the 'Ordinary Least Square' method has also been tried with slightly different set of independent variables, these variables along with the results of analysis may be seen from the table 3.8. However, the dependent variable in this case was the number of days each household worked under NREGA. The results indicate that the variables included in the function could explain about 23 per cent variations in the dependent variable as a result of variations in the independent variables. However, it was only the dummy variable of households holding the AAY card and wage rate under NREGA which were significantly affecting the dependent variable, all other variables turned out to be insignificant as indicated by their 't' values. The effect of these variables was observed to be positive on number of days each household worked under NREGA.

Table 3.8 : Determinants of participation in NREGA (OLS)

(Dependent variable: No. of days per HH worked in NREGA)

variable	Coefficient	't' value
Employment other than NREGA	-0.0033	-0.3606
HH income other than NREGA	0.0000	-1.3837
HH size	0.8371	1.0206
Dummy AAY card holding	11.0027*	2.5586
Dummy BPL card holding	1.3175	0.4950
Dummy SC	2.1317	0.6602
Dummy ST	-5.0801	-1.1777
Dummy OBC	2.1271	0.6285
Wage rate in NREGA	0.2885*	3.2485
Value of owned land	-1.4E-05*	-3.4754
Constant	128.0017*	12.4207
No. of observations	200	
F*	3.5721	
R ²	0.2277	

Note: * - Significant at 1 per cent level of probability.

** - Significant at 5 per cent level of probability.

*** - Significant at 10 per cent level of probability.

The third regression was to find out how the set of independent variables (Table-3.9) was affecting the duration of work under NREGA by individual members. The analysis indicates that none of the independent variable was important in determining the extent of duration of working in NREGA except the dummy variable of belonging to ST category. This coefficient was significant at 10 per cent level of probability, all other coefficients turning out to be insignificant. The value of coefficient of multiple determination was also very low and was found to be only 0.0281.

Table 3.9 : Determinants of participation in NREGA (OLS)

(Dependent variable: No. of days per member worked in NREGA)

variable	Coefficient	't' value
Wage rate in NREGA	-0.0608	-1.6127
Age	0.0015	0.0386
Education	0.2737	0.5376
HH size	-0.2288	-0.6548
Dummy AAY card holding	1.4440	0.8516
Dummy BPL card holding	0.7003	0.6287
Dummy sex	-0.8019	-0.7716
Dummy SC	1.6316	1.2166
Dummy ST	-3.6044**	-2.0518
Dummy OBC	0.9079	0.6463
Constant	103.5023*	20.6016
No. of observations	682	
F	1.9418	
R ²	0.0281	

Note: * - Significant at 1 per cent level of probability.

** - Significant at 5 per cent level of probability.

*** - Significant at 10 per cent level of probability.

3.7 Summing up

The average family size was 4.34 members out of which 52 percent were males. The predominant age group was 16-60 years and about 68 per cent persons belonged to this group. Among beneficiary households 91 percent respondents were head of the family which was 82 percent in non-beneficiary households. Literacy rate was comparatively higher 89 percent in non-beneficiary households. The largest percentage of household at aggregate level belonged to scheduled cast category, 33.20 percent followed by general category, 31.60 percent and other backward classes, 20.80 percent. At aggregate level 56 per cent of the households had APL card, about 33 percent had BPL card and only about 9 per cent had AAY card.

About 27.26 per cent persons had farming as their main occupation, followed by non agricultural labour. The regular/salaried job was the main occupation of 22.25 percent persons in beneficiary households. This was followed by the category of self employed in livestock, self employed in agriculture, non-agriculture casual labour. About 20 per cent of the man days were devoted for NREGS work by beneficiary households only.

The average household income was about Rs.87,868 in case of beneficiary household and Rs.1,70,440 in case of non-beneficiary households. About 37 percent households in case of beneficiary and 26 in case of non-beneficiary households received income from agricultural and livestock activity. Among beneficiary households income from regular job/salary/pension accounted for only about 19 per cent of the total income whereas in case of non-beneficiary households this percentage was about 35 per cent. Income from work under NREGA constituted about 11 percent of total income of beneficiary households.

The monthly expenditure on total cereals was about Rs.117 per household and this was higher in case of non beneficiary households. Each household was spending about Rs.584 in case of beneficiary households and about Rs.759 in case of non-beneficiary households on food items. The expenditure on non-food items was only Rs.132 in case of beneficiary household and Rs.183 in case of non-beneficiary households. The consumption expenditure among beneficiary households was found to be about Rs.717 and in comparison the consumption expenditure of non beneficiary households was about Rs.942 per capita per month. At aggregate level each household was consuming about 12 Kgs of cereals whereas the consumption of pulses was 3.43 Kgs per capita per month. The analysis of coefficient of variation indicates that the distribution of consumption was largely quite compact indicating the constancy among the households in relation to the consumption level.

The analysis indicates that the variation in income of non-beneficiary households was significantly higher as the coefficient of variation for them was 1.0172 whereas this was only 0.4692 in case of beneficiary households. In comparison the distribution of consumption expenditure was fairly compact as the coefficient of variation in income was only 0.3372 for beneficiary households, 0.3323 for non-beneficiary households and 0.3785 in case of households at aggregate level. Almost similar pattern is revealed by the analysis of Gini Concentration Ratio (GCR) as the GCR for income was 0.4324, 0.9151 and 0.5673 for beneficiary, non-beneficiary households and at aggregate level respectively.

The analysis of regression, for determining the extent of participation in NREGA, indicated that majority of the independent variables under consideration were not affecting the participation in any significant manner.

Chapter 4

WORK PROFILE UNDER NREGA WAGE STRUCTURE AND MIGRATION ISSUES

The present chapter deals with the issues of wage structure and migrations aspects of activities being undertaken by the beneficiaries under NREGA in the selected districts.

4.1 Work Profile

The work profile of sampled beneficiary households has been presented in Table 4.1. It may be seen from the table that, on an average, in the state, 1.12 persons were employed under NREGA activities from each household. This figure was highest in case of ST households where 1.41 persons from each household were employed by NREGA. This was followed by OBC households, 1.17 persons and least was in case of SC households where only 1.03 persons were employed from each households. In Mandi and Una no ST household had got employment under NREGA and similar was the case of OBC in district Kinnaur. As per Act at least one-third beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested work under the scheme. The participation of women stood at 0.45 women per household at aggregate level. This was highest in Mandi, 0.93 women per household and lowest in Chamba with 0.15 women from each household participating in NREGA activities. The district-wise analysis in this respect has also been presented in this Table and can be seen from there.

The analysis further indicates that each household which got employment under NREGA put in about 92 man days for this work. The highest number in this respect was that of general category who got about 93 days of work per household. The SC households, at aggregate level could get only about 88 days work under NREGA. The women's participation was limited to only about 45 days per household, highest being in Mandi and lowest in Chamba. The best performance in this regard appears to be in district Chamba where General, SC and OBC got 100 days employment. Same was the case for General category in district Una, ST of Sirmaur and SC of Mandi. The SC of Una could get only about 63 days work which is the least among all the categories. The OBC in district Una got about 110 days employment, highest among all categories.

There was no variation in the wage rate admissible under NREGA and was constant at Rs. 110 per day irrespective of caste or sex. However, it has rider and full wage rate is admissible only if required work progress is made. If the progress is below the required, proportionate deduction is made from the wage rate. But if progress achievement is more than 100 percent higher wages can be enjoyed. The present analysis is based on the actual wages received after deduction or bonus, if higher work progress is made. The analysis also took into consideration the higher wages of Rs. 137 per day admissible in district Kinnaur, a tribal district of the state. The average wage rate obtained at aggregate level in the state was found to be Rs.110.47 and the highest was Rs.112.43 obtained by ST category followed by SC category receiving the average wage of Rs.111.66 per day. The lowest wages were observed in case OBC category who received a wage of Rs.104.68 per day. The average wage rate of women was about Rs. 109.74 per day at aggregate level. The other details of individual districts, in this respect can be seen from table 4.2.

Among the four districts viz Chamba, Kinnaur, Mandi and Sirmaur, the average distance of work place from the residence did not had much variation and varied between 1.04 Kms in district Chamba to 1.30 Kms in district Sirmaur. However in district Una the average distance was found to be 2.85 Kms. At aggregate level this distance was 1.48 Kms.

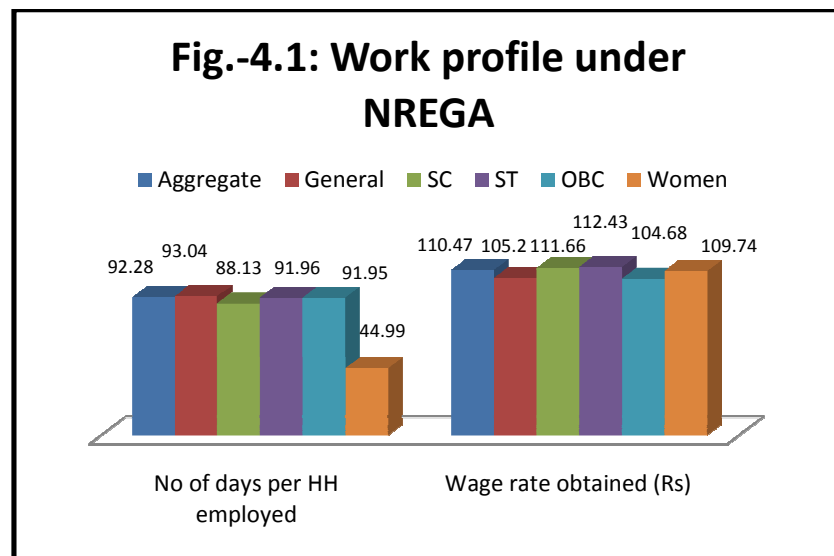


Table 4.1: The work profile under NREGA (Reference period – Jan-Dec 2009)

		(No./HH)					
Characteristics		Chamba	Kinnaur	Mandi	Sirmaur	Una	H.P.
No. of members per HH employed during the year	Aggregate	1.13	1.25	1.03	1.03	1.18	1.12
	General	1.12		1.00	1.06	1.50	1.06
	SC	1.14	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.03
	ST	1.13	1.56		1.00		1.41
	OBC	1.00		1.50	1.00	1.20	1.17
	Women	0.15	0.55	0.93	0.30	0.33	0.45
% of HH worked for 100 or more days in a year		96	64	88	80	98	85
No of days per HH employed during the year	Aggregate	99.00	80.93	94.53	87.20	99.75	92.28
	General	100.00		94.34	77.81	100.00	93.04
	SC	100.00	80.95	100.00	97.20	62.50	88.13
	ST	95.00	80.89		100.00		91.96
	OBC	100.00		72.50	85.63	109.67	91.95
	Women	12.50	48.68	87.50	27.00	48.75	44.99
Wage rate obtained (Rs)	Aggregate	107.50	134.15	103.50	104.73	102.47	110.47
	General	110.00		105.50	105.30	100.00	105.20
	SC	105.60	135.40	105.00	107.30	105.00	111.66
	ST	104.40	132.90		100.00		112.43
	OBC	110.00		100.00	106.30	102.40	104.68
	Women	110	128.7	100	110	100	109.74
Average distance from residence where employed (Kms)		1.04	1.05	1.15	1.30	2.85	1.48

4.2 Activities under Which Employed

There are different activities under which the employment is provided to beneficiaries and these activities are like rural connectivity, flood control and water conservation etc. Table 4.2 presents the details of activity under which the employment was provided and the responses of beneficiaries about the assets created under the programme. It was found during the course of survey that many households received employment in more than one activity under NREGA. Hence, the analysis of household getting employment under different activities is based on multiple responses. The analysis indicates that rural connectivity is the most important and popular activity of NREGA under which about 78 percent households received employment. This was followed by flood control and protection under which about 42 percent households received employment. About 22 percent households got employment under water conservation and harvesting and 13 percent got employment under the activity of provision of irrigation facility to land owned by panchayat. All other activities were not as important, as the percentage of households

receiving employment under these activities ranged between 0.50 percent households under renovation of tradition water bodies to 4.50 percent households receiving employment under drought proofing. The details of individual districts in this respect can be seen from this table.

The responses about the quality of assets created under NREGA activities indicate that majority of respondents, 67 percent found the quality of these assets to be good whereas in the opinion of rest 33 per cent, it was very good. No respondent found the quality of these assets to be bad or worst.

The analysis indicates that no household had got any unemployment allowance for not getting work under NREGA activities even after registration.

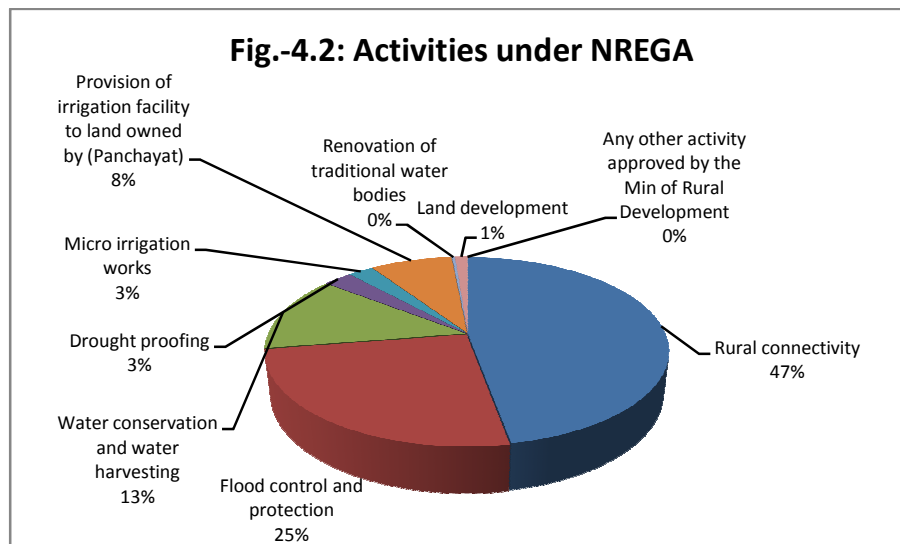


Table 4.2: The activity in which employed under NREGA and the quality of assets created

(Reference period – Jan-Dec 2009) (% of hh)

Characteristics		Chamba	Mandi	Kinnaur	Sirmour	Una	H.P.
Name of the activity under which employed	Rural connectivity	55.00	97.50	95.00	55.00	87.50	78.00
	Flood control and protection	47.50	90.00	25.00	47.50	0.00	42.00
	Water conservation and water harvesting	5.00	47.50	25.00	0.00	30.00	21.50
	Drought proofing	0.00	22.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.50
	Micro irrigation works	2.50	5.00	12.50	0.00	0.00	4.00
	Provision of irrigation facility to land owned by (Panchayat)	25.00	2.50	0.00	0.00	37.50	13.00
	Renovation of traditional water bodies	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50
	Land development	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
	Any other activity approved by the Min of Rural Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quality of the assets created through NREGA activities	Very good	32.50	22.50	27.50	65.00	45.00	33.50
	Good	67.50	77.50	72.50	35.00	55.00	66.50
	Bad	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Worst	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Average unemployment allowance received by the household for not getting work under NREGA after registration (Rs per hh)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

4.3 Migration Incidents

The analysis of migration due to paucity of work has been presented in Table 4.3 indicating that in Himachal Pradesh 0.9 workers per household migrated from their native place in search of work. From these 0.19 workers per household return back to their village as now they could get work in village itself. The highest number of persons out migrating was in Chamba, 0.38 workers per household out of which 0.20 came back to village. In Mandi, only one person (0.03 per household) out migrated and he also came back. But in districts Kinnaur, Sirmaur and Una 0.13, 0.33 and 0.08 persons per household respectively out migrated but none of them came back. The reason quoted for staying out was that these persons either got work with higher remuneration or there were persons in the family who could do the NREGA work. It was found that out of 0.05 persons per household who came back, 66.67 per cent had migrated to nearby village, 22.22 to nearby town and 11.11 per cent to the same district. No person had out migrated

to place outside the district. The analysis further indicates that 78 percent of the persons who out migrated and came back were working in the construction activity during their migration. In addition about 11 percent each were working in the private work and as agricultural labour. In Mandi the only migrated people was working in construction activity but in Chamba 75 percent of the returned members were engaged in this activity. All the out migrated persons shifted during the last year and they all were of the opinion that their family was better off now as compared to the previous occupations.

Table 4.3: The migration incidents recorded during the Reference period – Jan-Dec 2009

Characteristics		Chamba	Mandi	Kinnaur	Sirmour	Una	H.P.
No of members migrated from the village because of not getting work under NREGA even after registration (per household)		0.38	0.03	0.13	0.33	0.08	0.19
No of out-migrated members returned back to village because of getting work in NREGA (per household)		0.20	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05
In the case some members returned back to the village to work under NREGA where were they earlier working (% of returned members)	Nearby village	62.50	100.00				66.67
	Nearby town	25.00	0.00				22.22
	Same district	12.50					11.11
	Same state	0.00					0.00
	Other state						
	Other country						
In the case some members returned back to the village to work under NREGA which activity earlier working in (% of returned members)	Const/ manufacturing/mining	75	100.00				77.78
	Trading/services and transport	0	0				0
	Private work/self business	12.5	0				11.11
	Other government work	0	0				0
	Agriculture labour	12.5	0				11.11
	Any other	0	0				0
Year in which shifted (% of shifted hh)	Shifted last year	100.0	100.0				100.0
	Shifted before last year						
Is your family better off now compared to previous occupation (% of shifted hh)		100.00	100.00				100.0

4.4 Wage Differentials

The wages available under different activities vary according to the efforts required to be put in or the demand and supply situation of labour in a particular activity. The analysis of wage differentials among different activities in the state has been presented in Table 4.4. It may be seen from the table that average wage rate available for casual agricultural labour in case of males was Rs.114.40 at aggregate level which was Rs.115.50 for beneficiaries and Rs.110 for non-beneficiaries. In case of females the wage rate for casual agricultural labour was Rs.99, Rs.100 and Rs.95 respectively. In comparison, the wage rate in non agriculture casual labour was significantly higher and was Rs.145.34 for males and Rs.120.30 for females at aggregate level. There was no variation in the wage rate available for working in public work programmes. This wage rate was Rs.110 per day irrespective of category or sex. It was found that only male members had out migrated and wage rate received by them averaged at Rs.157.6 per day at aggregate level and Rs.157 and Rs.160 per day for beneficiary and non-beneficiary categories respectively. There was no variation in the wages available under NREGA and were constant at Rs.110 per day except for district Kinnaur where the wages under NREGA were Rs.137 per day.

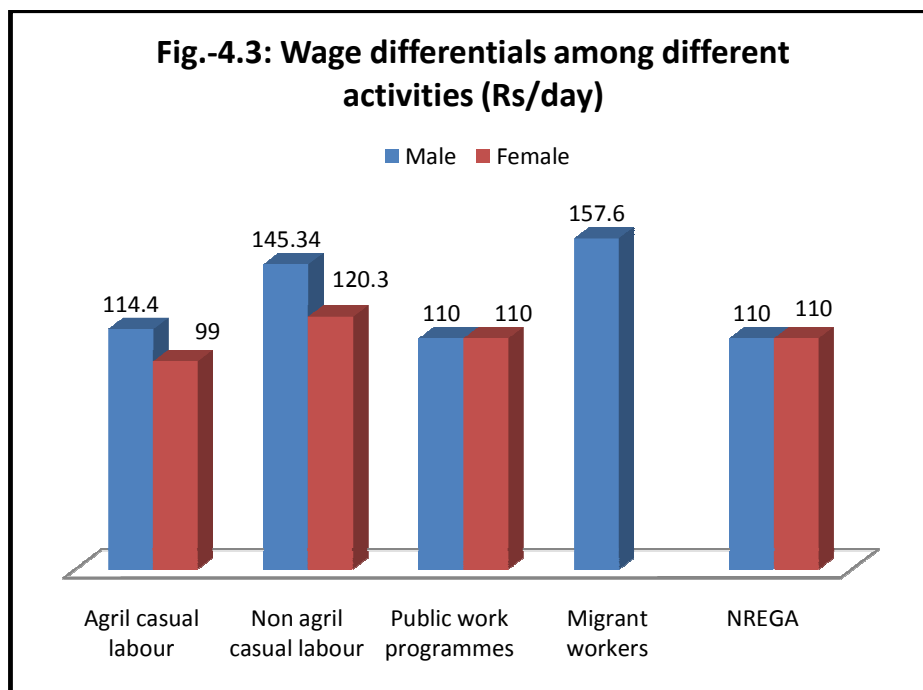


Table 4.4: Wage differentials among different activities

Occupation		Beneficiaries		Non beneficiaries		Aggregate	
		Average	CV	Average	CV	Average	CV
Wage rate in agricultural casual labour (Rs)	Male	115.5	0.1191	110	0.1943	114.4	0.1282
	Female	100	0.1214	95	0.2007	99	0.1617
Wage rate in non agricultural casual labour (Rs)	Male	145	0.3749	146.7	0.3915	145.34	0.3789
	Female	120	0.3672	121.5	0.4070	120.3	0.3990
Wage rate in public work programmes (Rs)	Male	110	0.00	110	0.00	110	0.00
	Female	110	0.00	110	0.00	110	0.00
Wage rate earned by migrant workers (Rs)	Male	157	0.6157	160	0.7883	157.6	0.7463
	Female						
Wage rate under NREGA (Rs)	Male	110	0.00			110	0.00
	Female	110	0.00			110	0.00

4.5 Summing up

On an average, in the state, 1.12 persons were employed under NREGA activities from each household. This figure was highest in case of ST households followed by OBC households, and least was in case of SC households. In Mandi and Una no ST household got employment under NREGA and similar was the case of OBC in district Kinnaur. The participation of women stood at 0.45 women per household at aggregate level. Each household put in about 92 man days for NREGS work. The women's participation was limited to only about 45 days per household. There was no variation in the wage rate admissible under NREGA and was constant at Rs. 110 per day irrespective of caste or sex but this was Rs. 137 per day district Kinnaur. The average wage rate obtained at aggregate level in the state was Rs.110.47 and the highest was obtained by ST category followed by SC category. The average wage rate of women was Rs. 109.74 per day at aggregate level. At aggregate level this distance of work place was 1.48 Kms. Rural connectivity is the most important and popular activity of NREGA , followed by flood control and protection etc. 62 per cent respondents found the quality of assets created under NREGA to be good whereas in the opinion of 38 per cent, it was very good. No household got any unemployment allowance for not getting work under NREGA activities

even after registration. Out of total sampled households 37 workers migrated in search of work and 9 workers returned back as now they could get work in village itself.

Average wage rate available for casual agricultural labour in case of males was Rs.114.40 at aggregate level which was higher in beneficiaries. In case of females the wage rate for casual agricultural labour was Rs.99 at aggregate level. In comparison, the wage rate in non agriculture casual labour was Rs.145.34 for males and Rs.120.30 for females at aggregate level. Only male members had out migrated and wage rate received by them averaged at Rs.157 and Rs.160 per day for beneficiary and non-beneficiary categories respectively. There was no variation in the wages available under NREGA and were constant at Rs.110 per day except for district Kinnaur.

Chapter 5

THE FUNCTIONING OF NREGA – QUALITATIVE ASPECTS

This chapter deals with the qualitative aspects of NREGA functioning including the assets and borrowing structure of the households. The following text presents the details.

5.1 Assets Holding

It has been found that the largest asset owned by the sampled households was land. It may be seen from Table 5.1 that the value of land holdings at aggregate level was Rs.274438 per household and this figure was Rs.244455 in case of beneficiary and Rs.394370 in case of non-beneficiary households. The next in importance was the house property the value of which was Rs. 84876 per household at aggregate level. The value of house property was higher in case of non-beneficiary households. Each household owned ornaments worth Rs.37252 per household at aggregate level. The value of other assets can be referred from this table. The value of total assets was found to be Rs 431625 at aggregate level whereas this value was Rs 386586 per household for beneficiary and Rs 611780 for non-beneficiary households.

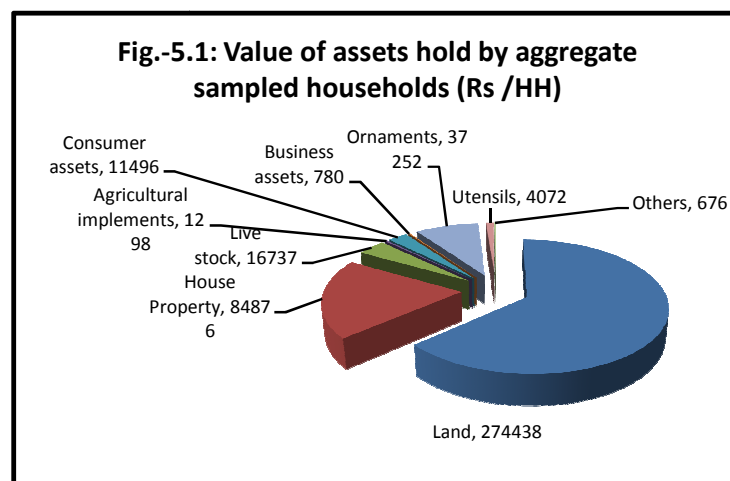


Fig.-5.2: Value of assets hold by beneficiary households (Rs /HH)

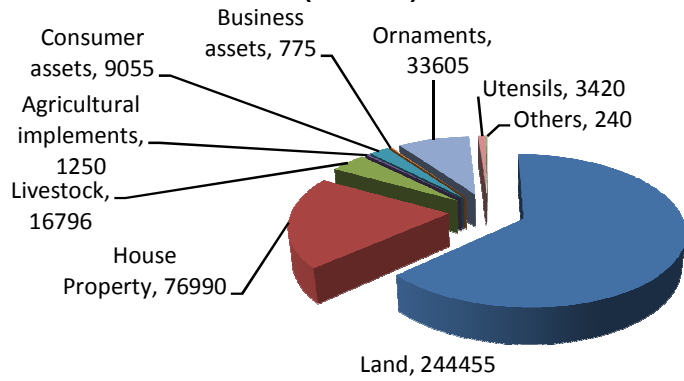


Fig.-5.3: Value of assets hold by non-beneficiary households (Rs /HH)

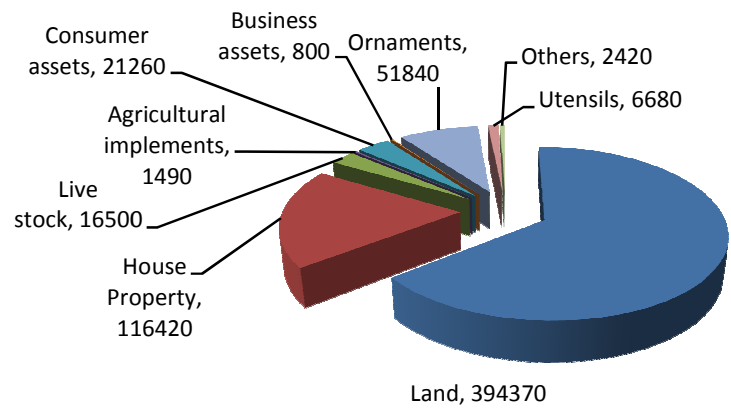


Table 5.1: Assets Holdings

(Rs per household)

	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries	Aggregate
Land	244455	394370	274438
House Property	76990	116420	84876
Live stock	16796	16500	16737
Agricultural implements	1250	1490	1298
Consumer assets	9055	21260	11496
Business assets	775	800	780
Ornaments	33605	51840	37252
Utensils	3420	6680	4072
Others	240	2420	676
Total	386586	611780	431625

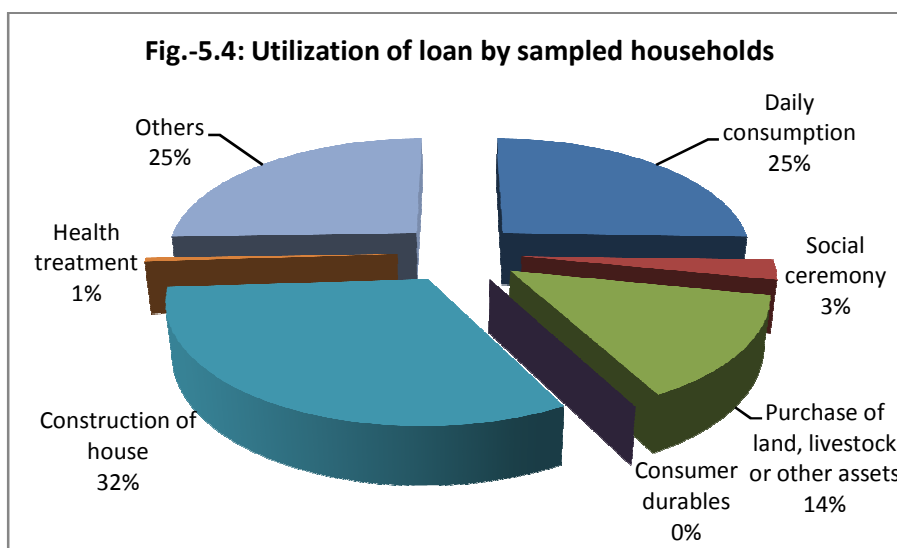
5.2 Household Borrowings

It was found that all the loans by beneficiary and non-beneficiary households were taken from the bank only (Table 5.2). The average amount of loan at aggregate level was Rs.4404 per household whereas the amount of loan taken by beneficiary households was Rs.4855 per household which is significantly higher than the average amount of loan, Rs.2600 per household in case of non-beneficiary households. The analysis of purpose of loan indicates that the main purpose of taking loan was house construction for which average amount of Rs.1400 was taken as a loan at aggregate level. Daily consumption and other purposes were second in importance for which Rs.1120 each were taken as loan. In case of non-beneficiary households the only purpose of taking loan was daily consumption whereas main purpose in case of beneficiary household was construction of house followed by other purposes not covered above. The rate of interest was 8.70 per cent per annum for beneficiary and 10 per cent for non-beneficiary households. At aggregate level the average rate of interest was 8.96 per cent per annum.

Table 5.2: Borrowings by sample households

(Rs. per household)

Occupation		Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries	Aggregate
Source of loan	Institutional loan (banks)	4855	2600	4404
	Traders-cum-Money Lenders	0	0	0
	Commission Agent	0	0	0
	Landlord/Employer	0	0	0
	Friends/Relatives	0	0	0
	Others	0	0	0
Purpose of loan	Daily consumption	750	2600	1120
	Social ceremony	150	0	120
	Purchase of land, livestock or other assets	775	0	620
	Consumer durables	0	0	0
	Construction of house	1750	0	1400
	Health treatment	30	0	24
	Others	1400	0	1120
Rate of interest (percent per annum)		8.70	10.00	8.96



5.3 Strength on Borrowing

This analysis is based on multiple responses because of availability/dependence on more than once source and the results of analysis have been presented in Table 5.3. It may be seen from the table that only 0.80 per cent households were doing wage work to those whom they are indebted. About 88 percent of the respondents had account in bank or post office etc. and this percentage for beneficiary households was 99.50 per cent

whereas only 40 percent of the non- beneficiary households had such accounts. In addition only 0.40 percent households had investment in stocks or bonds etc. None of the beneficiary households had such type of investment. The percentage of households having life insurance policy for some of its members was only 2 per cent at aggregate level and none of the non-beneficiary households had life insurance policy. About 80 percent of the respondents at aggregate level conformed that there is availability of informal credit society or self help group in the village and 88 percent of the beneficiary households confirmed this. About 51 per cent of the households confirmed that some members of their family were member of informal credit society or SHG in the village. About 56 percent of the beneficiary and 10 per cent of the non-beneficiary households had availability of cooperative credit society in the village. About 61 per cent of the beneficiary and 20 per cent of non-beneficiary households had some family member as member of such societies. At aggregate level about 52 per cent of the households had one or more family members as the members of these societies.

Table 5.3: Household strength on borrowing and other household assets

Occupation	(% of households)		
	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries	Aggregate
Doing wage work to those whom they are indebted	0.00	4.00	0.80
Availability of co-operative credit society in village	56.50	10.00	47.20
Family member being member of such society	60.50	20.00	52.40
Availability of informal credit society/SHG in village	88.00	50.00	80.40
Family member being member of such society	51.00	50.00	50.80
Having account in a bank/post office/other institution	99.50	40.00	87.60
Having any stocks/bond/shares/other similar assets	0.00	2.00	0.40
Having life insurance policy	2.50	0.00	2.00

5.4 Qualitative Aspects of NREGA Functioning

This section provides the details on quality aspect of functioning of NREGA on different issues like issue of job cards, irregularities aspects related to wages etc. etc. The following text presents the details and can be referred to from Table 5.4.

5.4.1 Job Card Issuance: All the respondents had not paid any fee or charges for getting the job card. No bribes were reported.

5.4.2 Irregularity in the Job Card: No respondent reported that entries were not made in the job card despite the fact that the job card holder had worked under NREGA. Similarly, no respondent reported that some entries were incomplete or missing or fake information was entire. No case of over writing was also reported in the job card. Only 0.50 per cent of the respondents reported that signature column was left black.

5.4.3 Place where the Card is Generally Kept: 92 per cent of the respondents reported that the job card was with them and only 8 per cent revealed that it was kept with the Village Panchayat. No case of keeping the card with contractor or Gram Rojgar Sevak or elsewhere was reported.

5.4.4 Work Application: All the beneficiaries reported that they were employed in response to the application for work. But 1.50 per cent of the respondents revealed that they did not get a dated receipt for the application. But all the workers got employment within 15 days of making an application to the effect. As all the workers got employment within requisite time there was no question of paying an employment allowance.

5.4.5 Payment of Wages: All the respondents reported that the wage rates were same for men and women. About 73 per cent revealed that wages were paid on daily wages basis.

5.4.6 Measurement of Work: Team measurement was the main method used in majority of cases and 93 per cent respondents confirmed to this. It was only three percent respondents whose work was measured individually and four percent respondents revealed that their work was collectively measured.

5.4.7 Period of Wage Payment: There was largely a regularity in payment of wages and 98.50 per cent respondents confirmed that wages were paid within a fortnight. The rest 1.50 per cent respondents receive their wages within a month.

5.4.8 Wage Paying Officials: The payments of wages were only made through the bank, all the respondents confirming to the fact.

5.4.9 Wage Payments Made in the Bank: Generally, the bank accounts to which the wages were paid were in the names of workers themselves. About 95 percent of the workers had bank account in their own names whereas five percent of the respondent said that the wages were paid in to the bank account in the name of their spouse. This was generally the case with women worker. Only 0.50 percent workers revealed that the wages were paid into the account of their parents. The analysis further revealed that 83.50 per cent of the bank accounts were individual accounts and the rest were joint accounts. All the respondents felt that the bank followed the usual banking procedure for transactions.

5.4.10 Wages not Paid through Bank: As all the payments were made through bank account, and hence there is no question of paying the wages in front of other labourers and location where the wages are paid.

5.4.11 Complaints Regarding Wage Payment: It is very heartening to note that there was absolutely no complaint whatsoever in any respect. This indicates the fair implementation of NREGA activities including the payment of wages.

5.4.12 Details of Worksite Facilities: The analysis of worksite facilities indicates that the details of sanctioned amount, work dimensions and other details were adequately explained to workers. This was reported by 77.50 percent of the respondents whereas remaining 22.50 percent revealed that they were not provided with these details. The worksite had drinking water facility was affirmed by 99 percent of the respondents. About 80 percent respondents revealed that there was shade on the worksite for taking rest during the break periods. About 55 percent respondents affirmed to the child care facility being available at worksite. Most of the worksites had provision of first aid kits and medicines as was confirmed by 92 percent of the respondents.

5.4.13 Monitoring: All the respondents were aware of authority to monitor the functioning of NREGA administration and none of the respondents had lodged any complaint relating to worksite etc. to the concerned officials and hence there was no question of taking any action in this regard by the officials.

5.4.14 Economic Usefulness of the Work: The majority of the respondents found the work being carried out under NREGA to be useful. Overwhelming majority of 85 percent respondents found these works to be highly useful to villagers and remaining 15 percent found these works to be quite useful. No respondent found these works to be not useful or useless indicating the relevance of NREGA programme not only for economic upliftment of the beneficiaries but also creating assets in the village to be used by all.

5.4.15 Nature of Assets and their Durability: The structures created under NREGA appear to be quite durable. The analysis of responses about the durability of structures in which they were involved revealed that no respondent thought that these will last less than one year. Overwhelming majority of 74.50 per cent respondents thought that these will last up to 10 years and in the view of 17.50 per cent respondents these should last for about five years. There were eight per cent respondents who thought that these structures should last for more than 10 years. All the respondents felt that it was worth creating the structures which were being created under NREGA. In the opinion of 74 percent of the respondents these structure were quite adequate and in the opinion of 26 percent respondents the structures needed more attention for these to be able to last long.

5.4.16 Impact of NREGA on Labour Migration: About 19 percent of the respondents revealed that some members of their households had migrated outside for seeking job. Among the total sample, five percent of the households revealed that only one member of their family had out migrated. The out migration was mainly the result of higher wages available in other towns as was confirmed by 80 percent of the respondents. Only four percent of the households had the members migrating back for taking up employment under NREGA. All the respondents revealed that only one member of the family had migrated back.

5.4.17 Awareness about NREGA Implementation: The analysis of respondents' awareness about NREGA implementation revealed that 96 percent of the respondents were aware about the implementation of NREGA. The same percentage was found to be aware of their right to apply for work and get employed within 15 days. The procedure for work application was known to 94 percent respondents and 0.50 percent were not very sure about it. The 5.5 percent respondent had no idea about work application procedure. Ninety five percent respondents knew about their right to enjoy minimum wages and rest five percent had no idea about it. But 96 percent respondents knew the level of minimum

wages which was not known to four percent of the respondents. The wage calculation method was known to 71.50 percent respondents whereas 28 percent had no idea about it. The 0.50 percent respondents had some idea about the wage calculation but were not very sure about it. Majority of the respondents, 87 percent, were conversant with the right to the unemployment allowance and 13 percent did not know about it. Under the NREGA Act, minimum worksite facilities like drinking water, medical facilities had to be provided and it was found that 91 percent respondents had idea about this provision. Ninety two percent respondents were aware of the fact that it is mandatory to make muster rolls available at worksite. The knowledge of permissible works under NREGA was known to only 65 percent respondents and 31 percent had no idea about it.

5.4.18 Potential Benefits of NREGA: All the respondents had very positive views regarding the potential benefits of NREGA. All the respondents felt that NREGA enhanced food security, provided protection against extreme poverty, helped to reduce distress migration and indebtedness and gave greater economic independence to women and purchasing power to local economy.

5.4.19 Food Security: It was found that 95.50 percent respondents got full two meals throughout the year. In this regard there was no family who did not get sufficient food for one month but there were 3.50 percent families who did not get sufficient food for two months and one percent families revealed that they did not get sufficient food for more than two months. Their coping mechanism was based on taking help from friends and relatives as was revealed by these 4.50 percent families. None of these families resorted to catching fish etc. or going with empty stomach or begging etc.

Table 5.4: Qualitative questions related to functioning of NREGA

Description		(Percentage of HH)		
		Yes	No	Not sure
Job card issuance	Paid any fees/charges or bribe to get a job card	0.00	100.0	0.00
	The amount paid for job card (exorbitant)	0.00	0.00	0.00
	The amount paid as bribe (exorbitant)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Irregularity in the job card	No entries were made, even though the job card holder(s) had worked on NREGA	0.00	100.0	0.00
	Some entries were incomplete or missing or fake information was entered	0.00	100.0	
	Some entries had been over-written		100.0	
	The signature column was blank or partly blank	0.50	99.50	
Where was the card generally kept	With the card holders	92.00	-	
	With Sarpanch or Sachiv	8.00	-	
	With contractor	-	-	
	With the gram rojgar sevak	-	-	
	Elsewhere	-	-	
Work application	Are you employed in response to an application for work	100.00	-	
	If applied, did you get a dated receipt for the application	98.5	1.50	
	If applied, did you get work within 15 days of application	100.00	-	
	In case of failure to provide work within 15 days, is unemployment allowance paid	0.00	-	
Payment of Wages	Are the wage rates same for men and women	100.00	-	
	Wage rates higher for men	-	-	
	Wage rates higher for women	-	-	
	wage paid on "daily-wage" basis	72.50	27.50	
	wage paid on "piece-rate/task-wage" basis	-	-	
Measurement of work	Work was measured by individual's work	3.00	-	
	Work was measured by team measurement	93.00	-	
	Work was measured by collective measurement	4.00	-	
Period of wage payment	Wages were paid within a fortnight	98.50	-	
	Wages were paid within a month	1.50	-	
	Wages were paid more than a month	-	-	
	Wages were paid after one year	-	-	

Table 5.4: Continued.

Description		Yes	No	Not sure
Who made the wage payment	Pradhan	.00	-	
	Post Office	-	-	
	Bank	100.00	-	
	Representative of line department	-	-	
	Other government official or any other	-	-	
In case wage payment made in the bank	Bank account was on self's name	94.50	-	
	Spouse's name	5.00		
	Parent's name	0.50		
	Children's name	0		
	Others	0		
	Individual account	83.50		
	Joint account	16.50		
	Did bank follow usual procedure of banking	100.0		
In case wages were not paid through bank	Wages paid in front of all labourers	0		
	Wages paid on the worksite	0		
	Wages paid in Panchayat Bhawan	0		
	Wages paid on other public/private place	0		
	Wages paid on some one's private residence	0		
Complaints regarding wage payment	There were delays in wage payments		100.00	-
	Wage paid less than the minimum wage		100.00	-
	Wage paid less than asked for sign/thumb impression		100.00	-
	Task was too much compared to the wages paid		100.00	-
	Faced problems in accessing post office/bank accounts		100.00	-
	On what basis wages were calculated not clear		100.00	-
	Others		100.00	-

Table-5.4 contd...

Description		Yes	No	Not sure
Details of worksite facilities	A Board/GP member gave details of the sanctioned amount, work dimensions and other requisite details	77.50	22.50	-
	The worksite had drinking water facility	99.00	1.00	-
	Worksite had shade for periods of rest	79.50	20.50	-
	Worksite had child care facility	54.50	45.50	-
	Worksite had first aid kit/medicines	92.00	8.00	-
Monitoring	Was there any authority to monitor the functioning of the NREGA administration	100.00	0.00	-
	Any complaint lodged relating to worksite etc., to the Gram Panchayat, Programme Officer or other officials	0	100.00	-
	If yes, was any action taken on your complaint	N.A.	N.A.	-
Economic usefulness of the work	Work is very useful to the villagers	85.00	-	-
	Work is quite useful to the villagers	15.00	-	-
	Work is not particularly useful to the villagers	0.00	-	-
	Work is useless for the villagers	0.00	-	-
Nature of assets and their durability in which the interviewee involved	The structure created may last up to one year	0.00	-	-
	The structure created may last up to five year	17.50	-	-
	The structure created may last up to ten year	74.50	-	-
	The structure created may last more than ten year	8.00	-	-
	Is it worth creating the structure	100.00	-	-
	Was the structure created adequate	74.00	N.A.	0.00
	No, structure needed more attention to be able to last long	26.00	N.A.	0.00

Table -5.4 contd...

Description		Yes	No	Not sure
How has NREGA has affected labour migration	Did any your family members migrated out for job after implementation of NAREGA (year 2005 onwards)	15.00	85.00	0.00
	If yes, only one member of the family migrated	0.00	0.00	
	More than one member of the family migrated	0.00	0.00	
	Are wages higher in city or other states than NREGA	80.00	20.00	
	Any family members migrated back to village to work under NREGA	4.00	96.00	
	If yes, only one member of the family migrated back	0.00	0.00	
	More than one member of the family migrated back	0.00	0.00	
	Any family member migrated as wage labourer with dissatisfaction from NREGA	0.00	100.00	
	If yes, only one member of the family migrated	N.A.	N.A.	
More than one member of the family migrated	N.A.	N.A.		
Respondents' awareness about NREGA implementation	Are respondent aware about NREGA implementation	96.00	4.00	
	Right to apply for work and get employed within 15 days	96.00	4.00	
	The work application procedure	94.00	5.50	0.50
	Right to minimum wages	95.00	5.00	0.00
	The level of minimum wages	96.00	4.00	0.00
	The wage calculation method	71.50	28.00	0.50
	Right to the unemployment allowance	87.00	13.00	0.00
	Minimum worksite facilities (drinking water, first aid,)	91.00	9.00	0.00
	Mandatory availability of muster rolls at the worksite	92.00	8.00	0.00
The list of permissible works under the NREGA	65.00	31.00	4.00	

Table-5.4 contd...

Description		Yes	No	Not sure
Potential benefits of NREGA	NREGA enhanced food security	100.00	0.00	0.00
	NREGA provided protection against extreme poverty	100.00	0.00	0.00
	NREGA helped to reduce distress migration	100.00	0.00	0.00
	NREGA helped to reduce indebtedness	100.00	0.00	0.00
	NREGA gave greater economic independence to women	100.00	0.00	0.00
	NREGA generated purchasing power at local economy	100.00	0.00	0.00
Questions related to food security	Did your family get full two meals throughout year 2009	95.50	4.50	
	Family did not get sufficient food for one month	0.00		
	Family did not get sufficient food for two month	3.50		
	Family did not get sufficient food for above two month	1.00		
	How did you cope with the situation – take loan	0.00		
	Catch fish/rat/crab etc	0.00		
	Near/sometime starvation/take meal only once	0.00		
	Begging	0.00		
Any other (Friends relatives)	4.50			

5.5 Quantitative Aspects of NREGA

The present section deals with the quantitative aspects of NREGA functioning and the results of analysis have been presented in Table 5.5. It was revealed that none of the beneficiaries had paid some amount to get job card or one had to bribe the officials forgetting job card. Generally, as revealed by 92 percent of the respondents, the job cards are kept with the individuals but the job cards of eight percent respondents were kept with Pradhan/Sarpanch for the fear of losing or misplacing the card. These families were found to have very cordial relations with Pradhan. All the respondents were aware of the monitors of work being carried out under NREGA. All were aware of Pradhan being the monitor at immediate level and J.E. and BDO from Block Development Office. Fourteen percent respondents were aware of monitor at district level which is the Project Officer. No respondent had made any complaint regarding any aspect of NREGA functioning. About 80 percent of the works, as told by the respondents started during the year 2009 and the rest 20 percent were reported to have initiated during the year 2008. It was reported that some family members migrated to nearby towns or other places due to paucity of work other than NREGA. These workers were reported to be having some skills

like black smithy, carpentry or skills in construction etc. and these persons hardly found any work within the village. In order to get employment and to augment the family income these persons had no other option but to migrate. It was also found, especially in the families having large size that some members of the family were already engaged in NREGA work and therefore the surplus labour migrated to other places to look out for the work, especially the lean agricultural period. It was observed that some of the family members came back to village because they did not want to remain outside the family for long and more importantly their immediate financial needs were satisfied. It was found that only three persons in entire sample migrated even after the implementation of NREGA as these persons had some skills for which there was hardly any employment within the village and that too at remunerative wages. However, it was heartening to find that none of the workers migrated because of dissatisfaction from NREGA. This is an important indicator of efficiency and honesty with which NREGA is being implemented in the State.

Table 5.5: Quantitative Aspects related to NREGA functioning

(Percentage of HH)

Q1.	If you paid some amount to get job card: how much for job card and how much bribe.
Answer	0 Percent
Q.2	If the job card is not kept with you, what is the reason for that?
Answer	8 Per cent, for the fear of losing or misplacing the card. These families had good relations with Sarpanch/Pradhan.
Q.3	If there is any authority who monitors the functioning of NREGA then describe the details?
Answer	All the respondents were aware of the monitors of work being carried out under NREGA. All were aware of Pradhan being the monitor at immediate level and J.E and BDO from Block Development Office. About 14 per cent were aware of monitors at district level which is the Project Officer.
Q.4	If you lodged any complaints give details and also provide details of what action was taken
Answer	0 Per cent, none of the sampled household members ever made any complaint of any type.
Q.5	Provide description of the work and its starting date?
Answer	About 80 per cent of the works started during the year 2009 and rest in the previous year.
Q.6	Provide details of family members migrated to city after implementation of NREGA and why?
Answer	The family member migrated due to paucity of work other than NREGA. Some members of the family were already doing NREGA work and therefore some of the members migrated to other places to look out for the work. The family members who migrated due to paucity of work within the village were the skilled workers like blacksmiths, carpenters etc.
Q.7	Provide details of family members migrated back to village to work in NREGA and why?
Answer	They came back because they did not want to remain outside the family for long and moreover their immediate financial needs were satisfied.
Q.8	Provide details of family members migrated to city after implementation of NREGA and why?
Answer	Only three persons in entire sample migrated even after implementation of NREGA as these persons had skills for which there was no employment in the village.
Q.9	Provide details of family members migrated to city with dissatisfaction of NREGA and why?
Answer	None of the family members migrated.

5.6 Potential Benefits of NREGA

All the respondents put the NREGA in very high esteem as all the respondents felt that it enhances food security and other related aspects. In the view of all it helped in reducing the distress migration and also reduced the indebtedness among the villagers. Most importantly everybody felt that NREGA gave greater economic independence to women. Details can be referred to from Table 5.6.

Table 5.6: Potential benefits of NREGA

(Percentage of HH)

Q1.	NREGA enhance food security
Answer	100 percent.
Q.2	NREGA provided protection against extreme poverty
Answer	100 percent.
Q3.	NREGA enhance food security
Answer	100 percent.
Q.4	NREGA helped to reduce distress migration
Answer	100 percent.
Q5.	NREGA helped to reduce indebtedness
Answer	100 percent.
Q.6	NREGA gave greater economic independence to women
Answer	100 percent.

5.7 Food Security Aspects:

Majority of the household had sufficient food for whole of the year and it was only nine families in district Chamba which reported that they do not sufficient food for whole of the year (Table-5.7). It was mainly due to very small agricultural holding size combined with the subsistence farming practices resulting in poor harvests not sufficient to feed the entire families throughout the year. Another responsible factor was very grim situation in employment market in the villages itself or in the surrounding areas as well. None of the respondents faced any other deprivation other than food insufficiency which may have been due to the fact that these poor families do not have many aspirations and are more or less satisfied if they get sufficient food. During the last year the main difficulty faced was drought in district Sirmaur, all the respondents of this district revealed that they were very badly affected by drought which resulted in very low yields on their rain fed farms. In

addition to this for about 12 percent respondents of district Chamba, the main difficulty faced was unemployment.

The respondents revealed that one of the most important thing which their households lacked was television as reported by 7.5 percent of the households at aggregate level. About 11 percent respondents felt that the most important thing they were lacking was pucca house. About nine percent wanted a separate toilet in their houses whereas seven percent wanted separate kitchen and toilet. Refrigerator was another facility which five percent households felt they were lacking. The respondents came out with variety of suggestions for amelioration of present situation. About 52 percent respondents felt that more employment generating programmes can be a key to improve the situation whereas 18 percent respondents suggested for new agricultural development programmes. About 14 percent respondents felt that introduction of livestock improvement programmes can improve the situation to some extent. About 70 percent respondents felt that control of wild animals should be added to the list of NREGA activities and they should be provided employment under this activity. They felt that this will not only provide them with employment but more importantly will help in controlling the damages to the crop by these wild animals. It may be mentioned here that controlling of crop damaging wild animals is important current demand of farming community. All the respondents were of the view that the wage rate as well as the man days under NREGA should be substantially increased for improving the living standard of rural people. Two important suggestions regarding NREGA came out from the sampled households with 86 percent respondents suggesting that life insurance should be provided to the persons working under NREGA and 21 percent respondents wanted financial compensation for injury during the NREGA work.

Table 5.7: Food security aspects

(Percentage of HH)

Q1.	Do you feel that your family does not have sufficient food for the whole of year give reasons
Answer	Only 9 families in Chamba. 0.45 per cent at aggregate level.
Q.2	Have you faced any deprivations other than food insufficiency? If yes, explain
Answer	None
Q.3	What were the main difficulties you and your family faced during the last year?
Answer	Unemployment 5 in Chamba (12.5% of Chamba respondents) Draught all in Sirmaur (100% of Sirmaur respondents)
Q.4	What is the most important thing your household lacks
Answer	TV –7.5 % HH Pucca House – 10.5 % HH Toilet – 9 % HH Separate Kitchen & Toilet – 7 % HH Refrigerators – 5 % HH Unemployment – 56 % HH
Q.5	What is the suggestion for amelioration
Answer	More employment generating programmes – 52.5 % HH Agricultural development programmes – 18 % HH Livestock improvement programmes – 14 % HH Employment under NREGA for wild animal control – 70 % HH Wage rate under NREGA should be increased – 100 % HH Mondays under NREGA should be increased – 100 % HH
Q.6	Any suggestions to improve NREGA functioning
Answer	Life insurance should be provided for workers under NREGA – 86 % HH Compensation for injury during work – 21 % HH

5.8 Summing Up

The largest asset owned by the sampled households was land followed by house property. The value of house property was higher in case of non-beneficiary households. All the loans by beneficiary and non-beneficiary households were taken from the bank only. The average amount of loan taken by beneficiary households was significantly higher. In case of non-beneficiary households the purpose of taking loan was daily consumption whereas in case of beneficiary household it was construction of house followed. The rate of interest was 8.70 per cent per annum for beneficiary and 10 per cent for non-beneficiary households. Majority of the respondents had account in bank or post office etc. A few households had investment in stocks or bonds etc. None of the beneficiary households had such type of investment. Large number of beneficiary households confirmed the availability of informal credit society or self help group in the village and cooperative credit

society in the village. All the respondents had not paid any fee or charges for getting the job card. No bribes were reported. Almost all respondents reported that the job card was with them. All the beneficiaries reported that they were employed in response to the application for work. Team measurement was the main method used in majority of cases. The wages were paid within a fortnight. The payments of wages were only made through the bank. Generally, the bank accounts to which the wages were paid were in the names of workers themselves. The details of sanctioned amount, work dimensions and other details were adequately explained to workers. The worksite had drinking water facility, shade for taking rest during the break periods, child care facility, provision of first aid kits and medicines. All the respondents were aware of authority to monitor the functioning of NREGA administration. The majority of the respondents found the work being carried out under NREGA to be useful.

Overwhelming majority of respondents thought that structures created under NREGA will last up to 10 years. All the respondents felt that it was worth creating the structures under NREGA. The respondents revealed that some members of their households had migrated outside for seeking job. The out migration was mainly the result of higher wages available in other towns. The respondents were aware about the implementation of NREGA, their right to apply for work and get employed within 15 days. The procedure for work application was also known. Respondents knew about their right to enjoy minimum wages. The wage calculation method was known to majority of respondents. The respondents knew about right to the unemployment allowance. The respondents were aware about the minimum worksite facilities. All the respondents felt that NREGA enhanced food security, provided protection against extreme poverty, helped to reduce distress migration and indebtedness and gave greater economic independence to women and purchasing power to local economy. There was no family who did not get sufficient food for one month but there were families who did not get sufficient food for two months and 2 families revealed that they did not get sufficient food for more than two months. None of the beneficiaries had paid amount to get job card. All the respondents were aware of the monitors of work being carried out under NREGA. No respondent had made any complaint regarding any aspect of NREGA functioning. Some family members, who were skilled workers, migrated to nearby towns or other places due to paucity of work other than NREGA. In large families, some members of the family were already engaged

in NREGA work and therefore the surplus labour migrated, especially during lean agricultural period. None of the workers migrated because of dissatisfaction from NREGA.

It was only nine families in district Chamba which reported that they do not sufficient food for whole of the year, mainly due to very small agricultural holding size combined with the subsistence farming practices resulting in poor harvests. None of the respondents faced any other deprivation other than food insufficiency. During the last year the main difficulty faced was drought in district Sirmour. The important things which their households lacked were television, pucca house, separate toilet, separate kitchen and toilet and refrigerator. The respondents suggested that more employment generating programmes, new agricultural development programmes, livestock improvement programmes can be a key to improve the situation. Majority of respondents felt that control of wild animals should be added to the list of NREGA activities. The respondents suggested that life insurance should be provided to the persons working under NREGA and financial compensation for injury during the NREGA work.

Chapter 6

NREGA IMPACT ON VILLAGE ECONOMY

In the present chapter analyses the aspects of infrastructure available in the village, occupational structure, wage rate differentials and qualitative aspects of changes in the village during the last year and functioning of NREGA. This chapter is based on the data collected and analyzed on the village level. The following text presents the details.

6.1 Availability of Infrastructure in the Villages

This section analyses the availability of infrastructure like road and railway connectivity, and availability of various other infrastructure like banking, educational and marketing institutions etc., Table 6.1 presents the details. The analysis of average distance of facilities in this regard has been taken to that of place where this facility exists, not necessarily the nearest village as the facilities not available within the village, were also found to be generally not available in the nearest village as well.

6.1.1 Road Connectivity: All the villages were connected with motor-able road.

6.1.2 Railway Connectivity: Only ten percent i.e. one village was connected with railways and this facility was also not available in the nearest village. The average distance of railway connectivity from the selected villages was about 102 Kms.

6.1.3 Telephone Connectivity: All the villages had facility of land line and mobile phone connectivity.

6.1.4 Post Office: Post office was present in 70 percent of villages and average distance of this facility from villages where it was not present, was 1.5 Kms.

6.1.5 Co-operative Credit Society: Co-operative Credit Society was present in 40 percent of the villages the distance of place where this facility was available was about 4.5 Kms from villages lacking it.

6.1.6 Regional Rural Bank: Regional Rural Bank was present only in ten percent of the villages, for others it was available at a distance of about 8.1 Kms.

6.1.7 Commercial Bank: Commercial banks were present in 20 percent of the villages for others the villagers had to travel 9.5 Kms to avail this facility.

6.1.8 Self-Help Group Centre: Self Help group centres were present in all the selected villages.

6.1.9 Primary School: Primary schools were present in all the selected villages.

6.1.10 Secondary School: Secondary schools were present in 80 percent of the villages, in remaining the students had to travel about one Km to attend secondary school.

6.1.11 Higher Secondary School: Higher Secondary schools were present only in 40 percent of the villages in remaining the students had to travel about 4.6 Kms to attend Higher Secondary school.

6.1.12 Primary Health Centre: These were present only in 20 percent of the villages and the patients of all other villages had to travel an average distance of about 6 Kms to visit primary health centre.

6.1.13 Hospital/Dispensary: Dispensaries were present in 40 percent of the villages for others it was located at an average distance of about 11.5 Kms.

6.1.14 Gram Panchayat Office: This was present in all the villages.

6.1.15 Fair Price Shop: The people of 80 percent villages could avail this facility with in the village and for others it was available at a distance of one km.

Table 6.1: Infrastructure available within the village

(Percentage of villages)

Particulars	Within village	Nearest village	Distant village or far off places	If nearest village, average distance (kms)
Road connectivity	100	0		0
Railway connectivity	10	0	90	101.900
Landline or mobile connectivity	100	0		0
Post Office	70	0	30	1.500
Co-operative credit society	40	0	60	4.400
Regional Rural Bank	10	0	90	8.100
Commercial Bank	20	0	80	9.500
Agricultural Produce Market	0	0	100	36.400
Self Help Group Centre	100	0		0
School Primary	100	0		0
School Secondary	80	0	20	0.850
School Higher Secondary	40	0	60	4.650
Primary Health Centre	20	0	80	6.200
Hospital/Dispensary	40	0	60	11.500
Gram Panchayat Office	100	0		0
Fair Price Shop	80	0	20	1.000
Any other	0	0		0

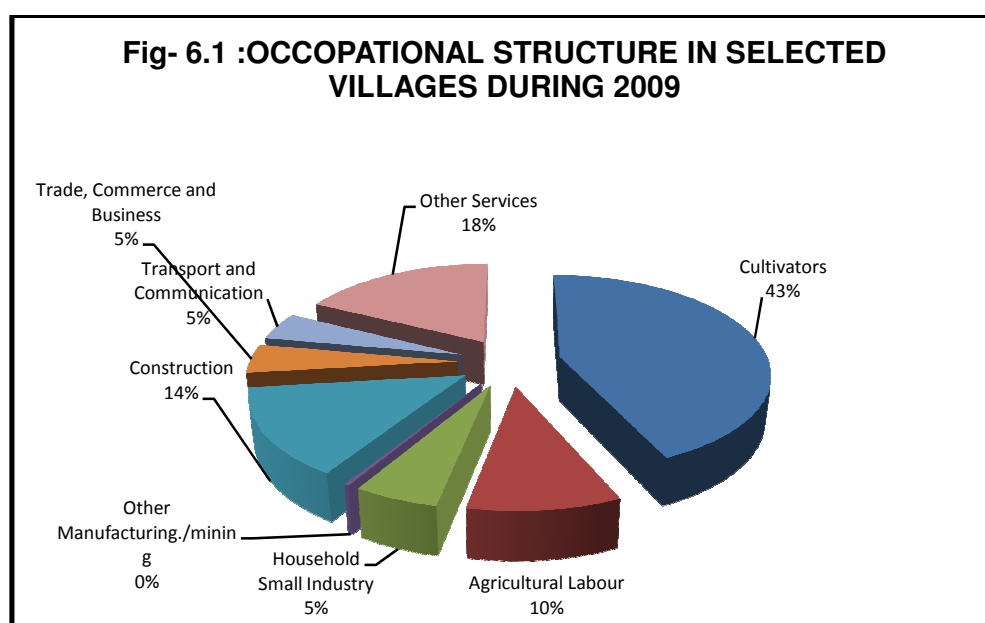
6.2 Occupational Structure

It was desired to analysis the occupational structure of households of selected villages at two points of time, reference period 2009 in comparison to year 2001. However, data for the year 2001 was not available and hence the analysis has been carried out for the reference period 2009 only, Table 6.2 presents the details. This analysis has been based on the data taken from village records. The largest category was found to be that of cultivators being the occupation of about 43 percent households. The next category in importance was that of other services which included the households deriving major portion of their income from government or private services. About 18 percent households belonged to this category. The main occupation of about 14 percent households was construction and about 10 percent were categorized under agricultural labourers. About five percent households each had occupation of household small industry; trade, commerce and business and transport & communication. Only about 0.33 percent households were engaged in other manufacturing and mining etc.

Table 6.2: Occupational structure

(% of households)

Occupation	Reference period 2009	2001
1. Cultivators	43.33	N.A
2. Agricultural Labour	9.83	N.A
3. Household Small Industry	5.45	N.A
4. Other Manufacturing./mining	0.33	N.A
5. Construction	14.18	N.A
6. Trade, Commerce and Business	4.73	N.A
7. Transport and Communication	4.56	N.A
8. Other Services	17.58	N.A
9. Total	100.00	100.00



6.3 Wage Rate Differentials

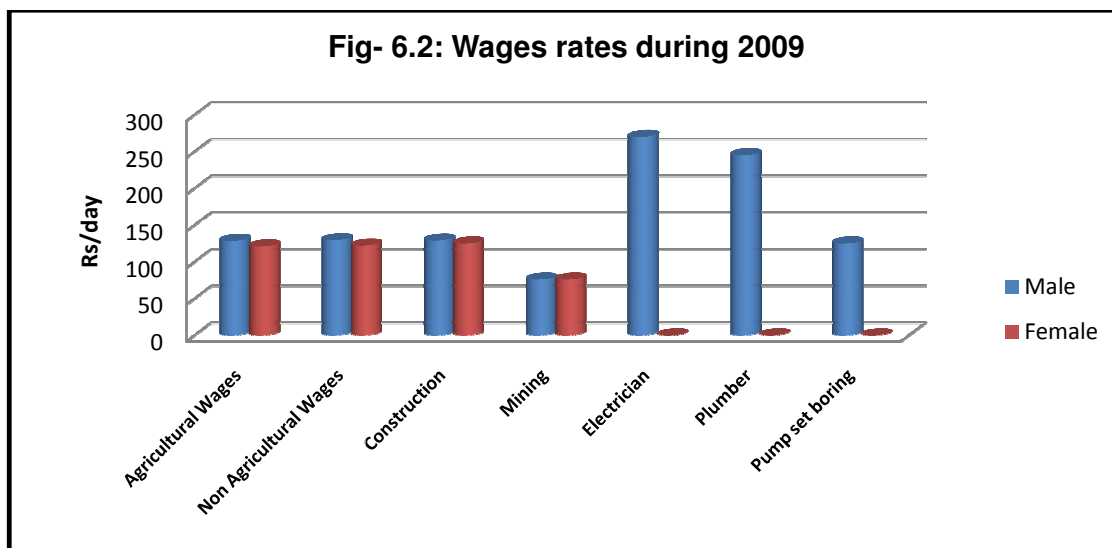
It is found that the wages paid to men were generally higher than the women despite the fact that as per law both had to be paid same wage rate for same work (Table 6.3). During the reference period the average wages paid to men for agriculture and non-agriculture activity were about Rs.129 as compared to about Rs.122 paid to women. The wage rates have substantially gone up from the year 2005 when NREGA was introduced. During year 2005 the average agricultural and non-agricultural wages were Rs.88 and Rs.79 per day for men and women. Similarly, the wages for construction and mining activities have significantly gone up. The increase for the wages available for other skilled

work like electrician and plumber etc. was not as marked. No women were found to be engaged in other skilled work during the current and before NREGA period.

Table 6.3: Wage rates for different activities

(Rs./day)

Activity	Reference period (2009)		Before NREGA (2005)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Prevailing Agricultural Wages	128.5	121	88	79
Prevailing Non Agricultural Wages	129.5	122	88	79
Construction	129	125	88	79
Mining	76	76	54	48
Other skilled work	Electrician	270	0	220
	Plumber	245	0	200
	Pump-set boring	125	0	105



6.4 Agricultural Labour Charges

The prevailing and before NREGA period labour charges for agricultural activities have been presented in Table 6.4. It may be seen from the table that present labour charges for ploughing, levelling and weeding were about Rs.380, 347 and Rs.297 respectively including the charges for pair of bullock. During the year 2001 these labour charges were

about Rs. 272, Rs.265 and Rs.240 per day including the charges for bullock pair. The average labour charges for activities like paddy transplanting, harvesting of wheat, paddy and grams was Rs.127.50 per day and these were Rs.89 per day during year 2005 and Rs.78.50 per day during year 2001. The prevailing wage rates for activities like harvesting of maize, cane cutting, harvesting of other crops, digging of potato etc. was Rs.127.50 during current period which increased from Rs.89 per day during 2005 and Rs.78.50 during the period 2001. Other details can be seen from the table.

Table 6.4: Prevailing labour charges for agricultural activities.

(Rs/day)

Activity	Reference period 2009	Before NREGA	
		2005	2001
Ploughing	380.5	315	272.5
Levelling	347.5	300	265.5
Weeding	297.5	274	240.5
Paddy transplanting	127.5	89	78.5
Harvesting of wheat	127.5	89	78.5
Harvesting of paddy	127.5	89	78.5
Harvesting of grams	127.5	89	78.5
Harvesting of pigeon pea	103.5	72	64
Harvesting of ragi	103.5	72	64
Harvesting of jowar	115.5	80	71
Harvesting of maize	127.5	89	78.5
Cane-cutting	127.5	89	78.5
Harvesting other crops	127.5	89	78.5
Digging of potatoes	127.5	89	78.5
Threshing of paddy	127.5	89	78.5
Threshing of wheat	127.5	89	78.5
Winnowing of wheat/paddy	127.5	89	78.5

6.5 Changes in Village

This analysis is based on qualitative aspects of changes in costs and wages under agriculture, labour migration and standard of living etc. as a result of introduction of NREGA programme. The results have been presented in Table 6.5.

6.5.1 Shortage of Labour: The analysis indicates that before the advent of NREGA there was labour shortage reported in 30 percent of the villages and after NREGA about 60 percent of the villages were experiencing agricultural labour shortage. This has been

due to the fact that the people have now found gainful employment under NREGA and are not interested to work on private farms.

6.5.2 Cost of Production in Agriculture: As more and more villages are now experiencing the agriculture labour shortage, the cost of hired labour has significantly gone up. As a result the cost of production in agriculture has gone up in all the villages. It was reported that cost of agricultural production has shot up by about ten percent in 30 percent of the villages. In majority of the villages, 60 percent villages, the cost of agriculture production was reported to have increased by about 20 percent. The villagers of ten percent villages reported that their cost of agricultural production has significantly increased in the range of 20-50 per cent.

6.5.3 Labour Migration Trends: The implementation of NREGA has altered the labour migration trend in 80 percent of the villages. In 75 per cent of the villages, it was found that labour who migrated earlier to towns for wage earning are now coming back to work in villages after the implementation of NREGA. None of the villages witnessed the trend of labour migration from villages as the wage rate available in towns was higher than the wage rate under NREGA. Twenty five percent villages had the trend in which some labour came back to work in NREGA but some others were moving to towns because of wage differentials of town and NREGA.

6.5.4 Changes in Wages: In 90 percent villages the wages of casual labour has increased after implementation of NREGA but in ten percent villages it was reported to have remained the same.

6.5.5 Working outside the Village: It was reported in 50 percent of the villages that the trend of people living in village and going to work outside daily has increased but the trend of people living in village and going outside to work for longer period was not reported in any of the villages.

6.5.6 Living Standard: The improvement in living standard was reported in only ten percent of the villages and the same percentage of villages reported increase in household consumption.

6.5.7 Education: Only ten percent of the villages reported that after NREGA more children were going to school. The low percentage in this regard may have been due to the fact that the enrolment rate was already very high in the state.

6.5.8 Attached Labour: The declining trend in attached labour was reported by ten percent of the villages.

6.5.9 Awareness about Government Schemes: As a result of NREGA implementation, the awareness of villagers' about various government schemes has increased as is reported by ten percent of the villages.

Table 6.5: Qualitative questions on changes in the villages during last one year

Description	(% of Villages)		
	Yes	No	Not sure
Was there shortage of agricultural wage labour at some point during last year	30	70	
After implementation of NREGA has there been a shortage of agriculture labour	60	40	
After implementation of NREGA the cost of production in agriculture increased by 10 percent because of scarcity of labour	30	70	
Cost increased by 20 percent	60	40	
Cost increased by 20 to 50 percent	10	90	
Cost increased by 50 to 75 percent	0	100	
Cost increased by 100 percent	0	100	
Cost increased by more than 100 percent	0	100	
After implementation of NREGA have labour migration trend affected	80	20	
After implementation of NREGA labour who migrated earlier to town/city are coming back to work in the village	75	25	
More labour is migrating from the village as wage rate in the town is higher than wage rate under NREGA or other activities in the village	0	100	
Some labour has come back to work in NREGA but others are moving to the town/city because of wage differential	25	75	
There is no change in labour migration by NREGA activities	20	80	
After NREGA change in wages of casual labourers has increased	90	10	
After NREGA change in wages of casual labourers has decreased	0	100	
After NREGA change in wages of casual labourers remained same	10	90	
The trend of people living in village and going to work outside daily has increased	50	50	
The trend of people living in village and going to work outside for longer period has increased	0	100	
Has living standard improved in your village since the introduction of NREGA	10	90	
After NREGA have you witnessed increase in household consumption in village	10	90	
After NREGA have you witnessed more children are now going to the school	10	90	
After NREGA, have you witnessed change in trend of attached labour in agriculture	10	90	
After NREGA, have villagers' awareness towards Government Schemes increased	10	90	

6.6 Qualitative Aspects of NREGA Functioning

The qualitative aspects of NREGA functioning have been presented in Table 6.6 and the details have been presented below.

6.6.1 Labour Shortage: The labour shortage before NREGA implementation was reported by 30 percent of the villages and this shortage was during the months of October and November. But after the implementation of NREGA, 60 percent of the villages were experiencing agricultural labour shortage. The period of labour shortage had now prolonged considerably and shortage was felt during the period July to November. The critical months of labour shortage, during this period, were September, October and November.

6.6.2 Wage Rates: The average wage rates for agriculture have been increasing during the last five years, from Rs.80 per day to Rs.120 per day on an average, registering an increase of 50 per cent.

6.6.3 Standard of Living: The standard of living has been going up continuously. It is manifested by the fact that people are now going in for modern durables. Most important indicator of this respect is that the number of mobile phones has gone up considerably. Quality of food has also improved and now includes larger proportion of fruit and vegetables. Jean clad youngsters is clear indication of increased expenditure on clothes.

6.6.4 Household Consumption: The staple food now includes higher amount of fruit and vegetables. The frequency of consuming mutton among the non-vegetarian families has increased. There is a marked trend in consumption of confectionary items. Children and youngsters are now consuming ready to eat items like maggi noodles, potato chips and namkeens etc.

6.6.5 Education: There is hardly any impact on primary education as previously also almost all the children were going school. But now there is stress on the quality of education as more and more families are sending their wards to private schools which are thought to be providing better education. There is increase in expenditure on school dresses and items like pens, copies etc. The trend of higher education especially technical education is fast catching up.

6.6.6 Attached Labour: In Himachal Pradesh, the practice of attached family labour is almost non-existent except for the areas having commercial fruit and vegetable production. The attached family labourers in this case also belonged generally to Nepal. In other areas, wherever, this trend was present, may be at miniscule level, has been declining and has almost vanished.

6.6.7 Awareness towards Government Schemes: NREGA has created an environment in which every villager is now enquiring about other beneficial government schemes. Not only that they are now becoming aware of their rights. The RTI Act has been instrumental for generating this awareness. As a whole people are now more conscious of the fact that government schemes are for their benefit and they should try take as much advantage of these as possible.

6.6.8 Suggestions: Various suggestions have been forthcoming. Most important of these, from cultivators' point of view has been that activity of control of damages to crops should be included in NREGA. The common property resources like panchayat forests and grazing lands should be developed under this scheme. Labour for cultivation of fruit and vegetables should be provided to marginal and small farmers under NREGA.

Table 6.6: Qualitative questions about the functioning of NREGA

Q1.	Was there a shortage of agricultural wage labour at some point during last year? If so in which months?
Answer	The shortage was felt in 30 per cent villages in the month of October and November.
Q.2	After implementation of NREGA has there been a shortage of agriculture labour? If yes in which years/months?
Answer	After implementation of NREGA, the labour shortage is felt in 60 per cent villages. The period of labour shortage has now prolonged considerably and shortage is felt during the period July to November. The critical period is September to November.
Q.3	Give details of change in wages of casual labour during the last 5 years after NREGA
Answer	The average wage rates for casual labour in agriculture have been going up for the last five years. During this period it has gone up from Rs. 80 per day to Rs. 120 per day an increase of 50 per cent.
Q.4	In what way the standard of living improved in your village since the introduction of NREGA?
Answer	The standard of living has been going up continuously. It is manifested by the fact that people are now going in for modern durables. Most important indicator of this is that the number of mobile phones has gone up considerably. Quality of food has also improved and now includes larger proportion of fruit and vegetables. Jean clad youngsters is clear indication of increased expenditure on clothes.
Q.5	In what way the household consumption improved in your village since the introduction of NREGA
Answer	As mentioned above the staple food now includes higher amount of fruit and vegetables. The frequency of consuming mutton among the non-vegetarian families has increased. There is a marked trend in consumption of confectionary items. Children and youngsters are now consuming ready to eat items like Maggi noodles and namkeens etc.
Q6.	In what way NREGA has impacted the children education
Answer	There is hardly any impact on primary education as previously also almost all the children were going school. But now there is stress on the quality of education as more and more families are sending their wards to private schools which are thought to be providing better education. There is increase in expenditure on school dresses and items like pens, copies etc. The trend of higher education especially technical education is fast catching up.
Q.7	In what way NREGA has impacted the trends of attached labour in agriculture
Answer	In Himachal Pradesh, the practice of attached family labour is almost non-existent except for the areas having commercial fruit and vegetable production. The attached family labourers in this case also belonged generally to Nepal. In other areas, wherever, this trend was present, may be at miniscule level, has been declining and has almost vanished.
Q.8	In what way NREGA has improved villagers' awareness towards Government Schemes
Answer	NREGA has created an environment in which every villager is now enquiring about other beneficial government schemes. Not only that they are now becoming aware of their rights. The RTI Act has been instrumental for generating this awareness. As a whole people are now more conscious of the fact that government schemes are for their benefit and they should try take as much advantage of these as possible.
Q.9	Your suggestions to improve the implementation of NREGA for the benefits of both labourers as well cultivators?
Answer	Various suggestions have been forthcoming. Most important of these, from cultivators' point of view has been that activity of control of damages to crops should be included in NREGA. The common property resources like panchayat forests and grazing lands, should be developed under this scheme. Marginal and small farmers should employment in cultivation of fruit and vegetable crops.

6.7 Summing Up

Most of the desired infrastructure is available within the village or it is located quite near to the village except for agriculture produce market and hospital etc. Majority of the villagers had cultivation as their main occupation which was followed by other services. There was large variation between the wage rate for men and women during the same period and across the periods. Similar variation was observed in prevailing wage rates for agricultural operations which were significantly higher than the rates prevailing before implementation of NREGA. Due to implementation of NREGA the labour shortages have been increased not only in the number of villages but also the duration of shortage has increased. As a result the cost of agricultural production has increased. The trend of labour migration has changed. But the most positive impact of NREGA has been on standard of living and children education. The people are now more aware of government schemes being in operation for the betterment of rural people.

Chapter 7

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND POLICY SUGGESTIONS

The performance of NREGS in respect of providing employment to interested persons has been fairly good as during 2010-11 a total of 126541 households were provided employment against 134150 households which demanded employment. District Kangra was on the top in most of respects. The performance also has to be analyzed in the light of number of complaints received which was not high by any means. All the payments are routed through bank eliminating any chances of misappropriation. However, no unemployment allowance has been paid to any of the deserving person which to some extent is a negative point. The thrust of the programme was on rural connectivity for which highest cost estimates have been drawn.

The analysis of income indicated that the non-beneficiary households were deriving more than double income as compared with beneficiary households. In beneficiary households about 11 per cent of the total income was being generated from employment under NREGA. The variation in income of non-beneficiary households was significantly higher as compared with beneficiary households. The gross consumption expenditure was also higher in case of non-beneficiary households. In comparison the distribution of consumption expenditure was fairly compact. Almost similar pattern is revealed by the analysis of Gini Concentration Ratio.

On an average, in the state, 1.12 persons were employed under NREGA activities from each household. The participation of women stood at 0.45 women per household. Each household put in about 92 man days for NREGS work. The women's participation was only about 45 days per household. Rural connectivity is the most important and popular activity. The quality of assets created under NREGA was reported to be good by respondents. No household got any unemployment allowance for not getting work under NREGA activities even after registration. Out of total sampled households 37 workers migrated in search of work and 9 workers returned back as now they could get work in village itself.

The largest asset owned was land followed by house property. All the loans were taken from the bank only. The average amount of loan taken by beneficiary households was significantly higher. In case of non-beneficiary households the purpose of taking loan was daily consumption whereas in case of beneficiary household it was construction of house. Majority of the respondents had account in bank or post office. All the beneficiaries reported that they were employed in response to the application for work. Team measurement was the main method used in majority of cases. The wages were paid within a fortnight. The payments of wages were only made through the bank.

The wage calculation method and right to the unemployment allowance was known to majority of respondents. The respondents were aware about the minimum worksite facilities. All the respondents felt that NREGA enhanced food security, provided protection against extreme poverty etc. There were 2 families who did not get sufficient food for more than two months. None of the beneficiaries had paid amount to get job card. All the respondents were aware of the monitors of work being carried out under NREGA. No respondent had made any complaint regarding any aspect of NREGA functioning.

It was felt that more employment generating and development programmes can improve the situation. It was suggested that control of wild animals should be added to the list of NREGA activities and life insurance should be provided to the persons working under NREGA and financial compensation for injury during NREGA work.

There was large variation between the wage rate for men and women. The prevailing wage rates for agricultural operations were significantly higher than the rates prevailing before implementation of NREGA. NREGA has resulted in labour shortages which have spread to more number of villages and also the duration of shortage has increased resulting in higher cost of agricultural production. The trend of labour migration has changed. But the most positive impact of NREGA has been on standard of living and children education. The people are now more aware of government schemes being in operation.

Coordinator's Comments on the Draft Report

Impact of NREGA on Wage Rates Cost of Production
Food Security and Rural Urban Migration in
Himachal Pradesh

Comments on the report:

1. The title of the report was changed and indicated to all the agro centres. Kindly change the title as, **Impact of NREGA on Wage Rates, Food Security and Rural Urban Migration in Himachal Pradesh. The Figures presented in the report are not numbered that makes understanding and comparison difficult. The Figures need to be numbered in the same way as Tables are numbered according to each chapter.**
2. Chapter 1, sub title 1.2: Historical background. Actually the authors have presented the features of NREGA and not the historical background. Therefore subtitle should be changed to Salient Features of NREGA.
3. Change the title on last paragraph of Page 3 as suggested above. The subtitle **1.6 An Overview**: it should provide summary of details of the report. In other words, it should indicate what is the subject matter discussed in different chapters of the report.
4. In Chapter 2, before starting district level analysis, it would be better if one table is presented for the state as a whole giving details of employment provided to households, total expenditure incurred, total works taken up, completed and in progress, total job cards issued, households demanded employment, provided employment, numbers working during the reporting month, cumulative person days generated and cumulative numbers of hh who completed 100 days employment. The statistics on the above for the whole state is available for 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11.
5. Chapter 2, Table 2.1: The percentages calculated should be with respect to total of the state. If you see the Table Plan, what was asked was the percentage with

respect to state total. For example, in the case of Cumulative no of hh issued job cards: percentage of SC, ST and others should be calculated with respect to Total. The total figure should add to 100. In similar way Cumulative person days generated should also have percentage of SC, ST, Others and Women with respect to Total and not with respect to the districts total. Kindly do the correction and follow this pattern as this is what all other agro centres are doing. The interpretation of the results would also change accordingly.

6. Chapter 2, Table 2.2 (quoted as 2.2 A but Table 2.2A not found in the report), data is given only for 2010-11 while data for 2009-10 and 2008-09 is missing. While preparing the table, total of districts (rows total) is calculated but total of all projects (column total) is not calculated which should be done. The discussion of table 2.2 does not match neither with the data presented in the Table 2.2 nor in the Figure (The figures are not numbered).
7. The same problems as mentioned in the case of Table 2.2 are also seen in Table 2.3 which is on, total amount spent on the projects: Data missing for the year 2010-11, interpretation not matching with the data presented in Table and Figure and column wise total need to be calculated.
8. Chapter 3, Table 3.1: while calculating main occupation, include only working population (i.e., between 16 and 60) and don't include students, dependents and household workers. Page 32, subtitle 3.1.8 Decision maker: the report says that no relevant question in the questionnaire. However, it seems the authors could not understand what is asked here. This relates to the question Gender of the Head (page 1 in the questionnaire) so the analysis requires what is the percentage of hh where decision maker (head) is male and what percentage where decision maker is female.
9. The coefficient of variation (CV) = $SD/Mean*100$ (please make correction wherever necessary).
10. The consumption data in Chapter 3 has been completely messed up in the Report. The consumption data is collected at monthly basis for food items and at annual basis for durable (non food items). However, while presenting the table on consumption expenditure (Table 3.4), the annual non food consumption of households needs to be divided by 12 to make it comparable with the food items so that food and non food consumption expenditure can be added together to get total consumption expenditure per month. Further household consumption expenditure

needs to be divided by the household size to get monthly per capital consumption expenditure. So authors are advised to make the corrections in the report and make food and non food consumption at the same level to add them together. The percentage figures are to be calculated for the consumption expenditure. While calculating percentages, Food sub items should present percentage with respect to aggregate food consumption (for example wheat/food consumption *100) and non food sub items should present percentage with respect to total non food consumption. The total food consumption and total non food consumption percentages should be with respect to total consumption expenditure (food + non food consumption expenditure).

11. Table 3.5 presents quantity of various food and non food items consumed. The authors need to look at the table structure provided by us in the beginning. For this table, we have asked only to provide quantity of food items consumed, like cereals in kgs, milk and edible oils in liters or fruits in kgs or numbers whatever is the unit of measurement etc. Non food cannot be measured in quantity and therefore is not part of this Table. Even the food items as they are measured in different units cannot be added together and therefore, we cannot have aggregate food consumption in quantity. We have asked only individual food items for beneficiary, non beneficiary and total. The authors cannot calculate coefficient of variation of quantity of food. The coefficients of variation across households are to be calculated in the previous Table which presents value of food and non food consumption. The authors are strongly advised to revise the report accordingly. It is beyond anyone's understanding how authors have quoted CV figures for the quantity of non food consumption when there is no data for the quantity of non food consumption (Table 3.5).
12. For the NSS figures for 1993-94, 1999-00 and 2004-05 please refer to the following NSS reports. Data is available for Himachal Pradesh:

NSSO (1993-94); "Consumption of some Important Commodities in India", National Sample Survey Organisation, Government of India, March, Report No. 404.

NSSO (1999-2000); "Consumption of some Important Commodities in India", National Sample Survey Organisation, Government of India, July, Report No. 461

NSSO (2004 - 2005); "Level and Pattern of Consumer Expenditure", National Sample Survey Organisation, Government of India, Dec, Report No.508

13. For the determinants of participation in NREGA, please use logit regression and two sets of equations can be done at the household level and at the member level: taking dependent variable as participation=1 and non participation=0. The independent variables can be chosen from the list of variables on which data is collected during the field work. Some of the possible relevant independent variables list is given below for the household regression and member level regression:

Household level Regression:

Employment other than NREGA	HH Income other than NREGA	HH Size	Land ownership Dummy	Value of HH Asset	Dummy AAY card holding	Dummy BPL card holding	Dummy SC	Dummy ST	Dummy OBC
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Member level regression only for the NREGA participating households

Wage rate in NREGA	Age	Education	HH Size	Dummy AAY card holding	Dummy BPL card holding	Dummy Sex	Dummy SC	Dummy ST	Dummy OBC
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In addition to logit regression, authors can also use OLS, using numbers of days worked in NREGA as the dependent variable at the household level as well as the member level. A detailed methodology with example of ISEC results was already emailed to the authors. So please have a look of our results and try to find out some meaningful determinants of participation in NREGA and include it in Chapter 3 as in the present version this analysis is missing.

14. Chapter 4, Table 4.1: while providing information on numbers of members per hh employed during the year include another category of men as that of women and sum total of men + women should supposedly be equal to aggregate. Also in this table provide another row with details of percentage of HH employed 100 or more days, selected district wise.

Table 4.2: Name of the activity under which employed (% of households) the sum of all activities, e.g. rural connectivity + flood control + ... + any activity; should add up to 100, but it is actually exceeding 100 or below 100 in different districts in the present report. Please make the correction. Similarly, other headings: quality of assets created through NREGA activity: sum of very good, good, bad, worst should add to 100 that is not the case in the report for all the five districts.

Table 4.3: Number of members migrated from the village: The figure given in the title is per household but actual figure provided is per village (how can 15 members have migrated per household). Total members migrated has to be divided by total number of members among the selected districts to get the numbers of members migrated per household (you can give total figure in the parenthesis and indicate the same below the table). Same is the case with out-migrated members returning back to village in the next row. The authors are advised to make appropriate changes in the report. In the next row, percentage of returned members: the figures are not in percentage terms but in total number terms and need to be calculated in percentage terms and total percentages should add to 100. Like in the next two columns authors have done the right calculations.

15. Chapter 5, Figure below Table 5.2 (Figures not numbered) purpose of loan: instead of presenting figure with loan amount of Rs per household it should be percentage of loan for different purposes that would be more meaningful.
16. Chapter 6, Table 6.1: sum total percentage of villages within and nearest village should be equal to 100, so please make the correction. Similarly, Table 6.5, sum of Yes, No and Not sure should be equal to 100.

ACTION TAKEN REPORT:

In response to the comments received from the coordinator of the study, following changes were made in the draft report.

1. The title of the report has been changed as suggested. The figure have been appropriately numbered.
2. Sub-title changed.
3. Summary of details of report presented as suggested.
4. Table inserted as directed.
5. The percentages presented are already with respect to total and not with respect to districts as mentioned and, therefore the table is as per requirement of the coordinator. No changes have been made.
6. Missing tables have been included in the report.
7. Table containing data for amount spent on projects for the year 2010-11 included in the final report.
8. For calculating main occupation the population between the age of 16-60 years has been considered and students, dependents and household workers excluded from the analysis. The percentage of households where decision makers is male and where it is female has been included in the table mentioned.
9. The coefficients of variation were already calculated with the suggested formula.
10. The mentioned tables have been corrected as per observation. The mistake which happened due insertion of draft tables and mixing of tables, in the report is sincerely regretted. Now the tables are in desired format.
11. As in No. 10.
12. The data was retrieved from the reports suggested by the coordinator and included in the report.
13. The regression analysis of determinants of participation in NREGA has been carried out and included in the report.
14. In table 4.1 the figures presented are averages number of persons employed per household for different categories like SC, ST, OBC and general category etc. As the figures present the average employment in terms of number of persons per household, their sum cannot equal to that of aggregate which average employment

at aggregate level. As suggested a row presenting the percentage of households employed for 100 or more days has been included. The comment for table 4.2 regarding that sum of all activities should be 100 is not justified. It has been clearly mention in section 4.2 of the report that majority of persons were employed in more than one activities under NREGA and hence this is analysis of multiple response and total will not be equal to 100. Other observations have been taken care of. The figures in table 4.3 have been changed to per household basis from the total for the sample of the district. Other observations have also been taken care of.

15. The figure has been changed as suggested.

16. Corrections have been made in tables 6.1 and 6.5.

Dr. C.S. Vaidya & Dr. Ranveer Singh

June 6, 2011