

AN ASSESSMENT OF GREEN WORK IMPLEMENTATION UNDER MGNREGA IN CHAMARAJANAGARA DISTRICT, KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) signifies a pivotal social welfare initiative by the Government of India aimed at ensuring livelihood security for rural households through guaranteed employment. A significant dimension of this programme is the promotion of "Green Work"—a set of environmentally sustainable activities focused on enhancing ecological resilience and long-term rural infrastructure. This paper explores the scope, implementation, and impact of Green Work initiatives under MGNREGA, including afforestation, soil and water conservation, land development, and the creation of public green spaces. These activities not only generate employment but also contribute to biodiversity enhancement, natural resource preservation, climate change mitigation, and sustainable rural development. The paper highlights active community involvement and institutional collaboration as key enablers of success, while also addressing implementation challenges such as limited funding, technical constraints, and administrative hurdles. By analysing the outcomes and identifying areas for improvement, this study underscores the critical role of Green Work in advancing environmental sustainability and inclusive rural growth under the MGNREGA framework.

Key Words: Agriculture, Employment, Environment, Rural Development, MGNREGA, Sustainability

INTRODUCTION

To ensure the continued existence of rural households, the Indian government implemented the landmark social welfare programme known as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). There will be one hundred paid workdays in a fiscal year for every family whose adults voluntarily work as unskilled manual labourers. Several initiatives under the umbrella term "Green Work" are part of the MGNREGA's commitment to building long-term, environmentally friendly rural infrastructure. Activities that improve the environment, preserve natural resources, and encourage sustainable development in rural regions are all included in the MGNREGA's "Green Work" category. Afforestation, tree planting, soil and water conservation, land development, and other programs targeted at enhancing the ecological well-being of rural landscapes are some examples of these efforts. In addition to giving rural families job options, the focus on green work helps protect the environment and lessens the negative consequences of climate change.

Under MGNREGA, planting trees and reforestation are essential elements of "Green Work." The program's objectives are to improve biodiversity, boost green cover, and lessen the effects of deforestation by planting trees and developing wooded areas. By planting trees along roadside ditches, farm borders, and degraded forest lands under MGNREGA, rural people help to restore ecological balance and promote sustainable land management techniques. A vital component of Green Work under MGNREGA is soil and water conservation, which aims to reduce soil erosion, increase soil fertility, and preserve water resources. To save rainfall and replenish groundwater, various projects are built, including

check dams, agricultural ponds, contour trenches, and water-harvesting structures. In addition to increasing agricultural output, these actions guarantee rural people access to water, particularly in dry spells.

Land levelling, grading, and terracing are examples of land development operations carried out under MGNREGA to enhance agricultural land productivity and enable effective water management techniques. MGNREGA helps preserve soil, collect rainfall, and use sustainable farming methods on steep and undulating terrain by forming terraces and contours. This improves food security and rural lives. Apart from promoting land development, afforestation, and soil protection, MGNREGA also encourages the building of public amenities including parks, playgrounds, and green areas. These programs not only give residents access to recreational places, but they also improve rural regions aesthetically, foster social cohesiveness, and advance community development.

Gram panchayats, local communities, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders actively participate in and collaborate on the execution of Green Work under MGNREGA. To provide rural communities with the information and abilities necessary for the efficient implementation and management of green infrastructure projects, capacity development, training, and awareness initiatives are carried out. Notwithstanding its many advantages, the successful execution of Green Work under MGNREGA is confronted with several obstacles, such as insufficient financial support, insufficient technical know-how, administrative impediments, and problems with land procurement and possession. To guarantee the effectiveness and sustainability of green infrastructure programs in rural India, stakeholders must engage in persistent efforts and joint action to address these obstacles.

To sum up, the implementation of Green Work under the MGNREGA is essential for advancing environmental sustainability, improving rural lives, and encouraging equitable growth in rural regions. MGNREGA has the power to change rural landscapes, protect natural resources, and create resilient, sustainable communities for coming generations by combining the combined efforts of rural communities, governmental entities, and civil society groups.

Green Initiatives under MGNREGA

Many green work projects have been launched under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to support natural resource management, environmental sustainability, and the improvement of rural livelihoods. Under MGNREGA, some of the major green work programs are as follows:

- 1. Reforestation and Afforestation:** To reduce deforestation and boost green cover, MGNREGA encourages the planting of trees and the regeneration of forests. This program contributes to soil protection, biodiversity preservation, and climate change mitigation.
- 2. Watershed Management:** Check dams, percolation tanks, contour trenches, and other structures that collect rainfall and replenish groundwater are built with MGNREGA subsidies. The goal of watershed management is to lessen floods and soil erosion while increasing the amount of water available for drinking, irrigation, and other uses.
- 3. Soil Development and Conservation:** To improve agricultural production, reduce soil erosion, and preserve soil moisture, MGNREGA supports projects including building farm ponds, contour bunding, and levelling land. These actions support agricultural and land usage that is sustainable.

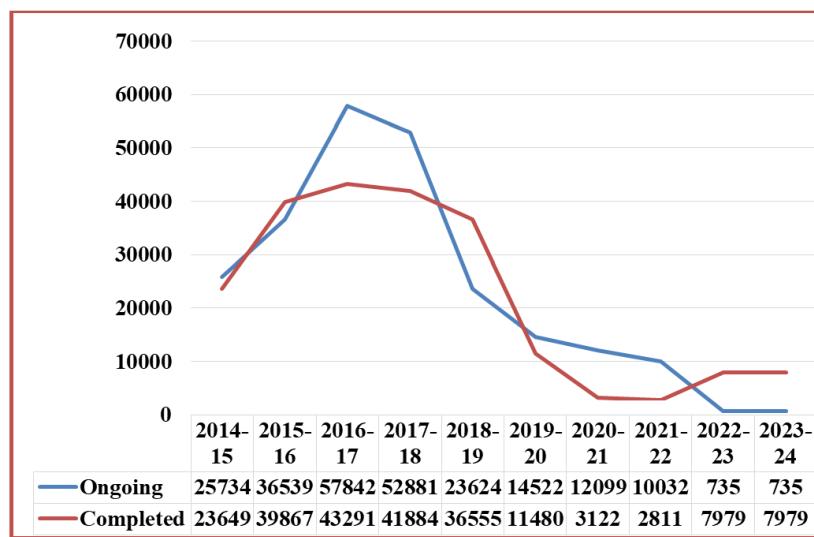
- 4. Horticulture and Agroforestry:** Through horticultural and agroforestry projects, MGNREGA encourages the growth of fruit-bearing trees, medicinal plants, and other useful crops. Crop diversity contributes to improved ecological resilience, increased farm revenue, and nutritional security.
- 5. Farm Forestry and Social Forestry:** Through its farm forestry and social forestry initiatives, MGNREGA promotes the planting of trees in degraded regions, communal lands, and agricultural land. In addition to creating jobs, these plantations supply the surrounding community with non-timber forest products, fuelwood, and feed.
- 6. Renewable Energy-Related Rural Infrastructure:** MGNREGA encourages the building of biogas plants, solar streetlights, and other renewable energy systems in rural regions. These programs encourage the use of clean energy, lessen reliance on fossil fuels, and support sustainable growth.
- 7. Eco-friendly Building and Green Infrastructure:** MGNREGA places a strong emphasis on the development of environmentally friendly buildings, eco-sanitation facilities, and affordable housing made of materials that are acquired locally. These programs support environmental preservation, trash reduction, and energy efficiency.
- 8. Conservation of Biodiversity and Restoration of Wildlife Habitat:** MGNREGA monies are used to create wildlife corridors, restore damaged ecosystems, and protect regions rich in biodiversity. These initiatives support ecotourism, ecosystem services restoration, and the preservation of endangered species.

The overall goals of MGNREGA's green work projects are to strengthen rural livelihoods, advance environmental sustainability, and increase climate resilience in rural areas. MGNREGA is essential in promoting equitable and sustainable development in rural India since it combines environmental preservation with job creation.

Number of Green Works Undertaken by MGNREGA in Karnataka

The graph-1 provides a breakdown of ongoing and completed works under the MGNREGA in a particular district, organized by year from 2014-15 to 2023-24. The first column denotes the respective year, followed by the number of ongoing works and completed works in the subsequent columns. Additionally, the table includes the percentage of work dedicated to all plantation activities against the total work for each year. From 2014-15 to 2017-18, there was a consistent number of ongoing and completed works, with a moderate percentage of works dedicated to plantation activities, ranging from 7.06 percent to 11.24 percent. However, from 2018-19 onwards, there was a noticeable decrease in both ongoing and completed works, resulting in a decline in the percentage of plantation activities against the total works, reaching its lowest point at 0.48 percent in 2022-23 and 2023-24. This suggests a shift in focus away from plantation activities towards other types of work under MGNREGA during these years. The decline in the percentage of plantation activities within MGNREGA projects in Karnataka is likely due to a combination of policy changes, implementation challenges, climatic conditions, shifting local priorities, and possibly the outcomes of impact assessments. Addressing these issues would require a multi-faceted approach, including improved funding allocation, better administrative efficiency, and alignment of projects with both environmental suitability and community needs.

Graph 1: Number of Green Works Undertaken by MGNREGA in Karnataka

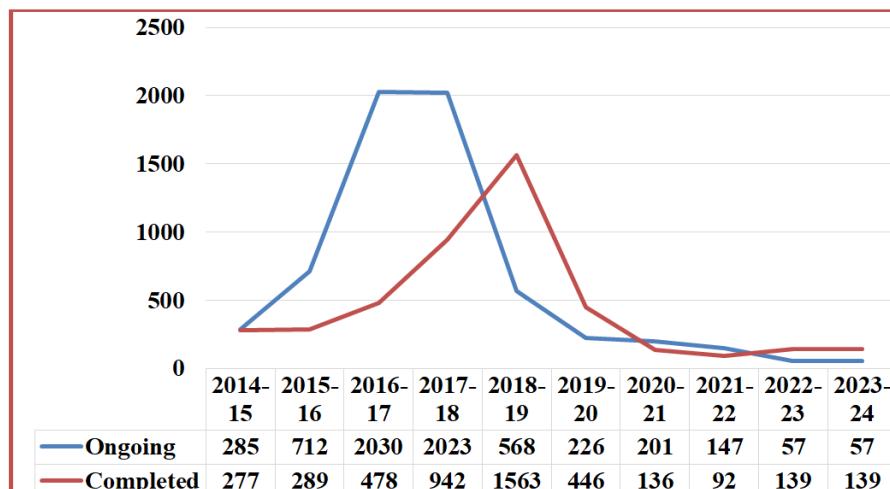


Source: <http://nrega.nic.in>.

Number of Green Works Undertaken by MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara District

The graph-2 provides data on the number of green works undertaken by the MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara district over several years. It includes the number of ongoing and completed plantation works, as well as the percentage of all plantation works against the total works. In 2014-15, there were 285 ongoing and 277 completed plantation works, accounting for 4.86 percent of the total works. Over the years, there has been an increase in the number of plantation works, with a peak in 2017-18 when 2023 ongoing and 942 completed works were reported, making up 13.05 percent of the total works. However, in subsequent years, the number of plantation works gradually decreased, with only 57 ongoing and 139 completed works reported in 2022-23 and 2023-24, respectively, accounting for less than 1 percent of the total works. This data suggests fluctuations in the emphasis on green works under MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara district over the years, with varying levels of focus on environmental conservation and sustainability.

Graph-2: Number of Green Work Undertaken by MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara

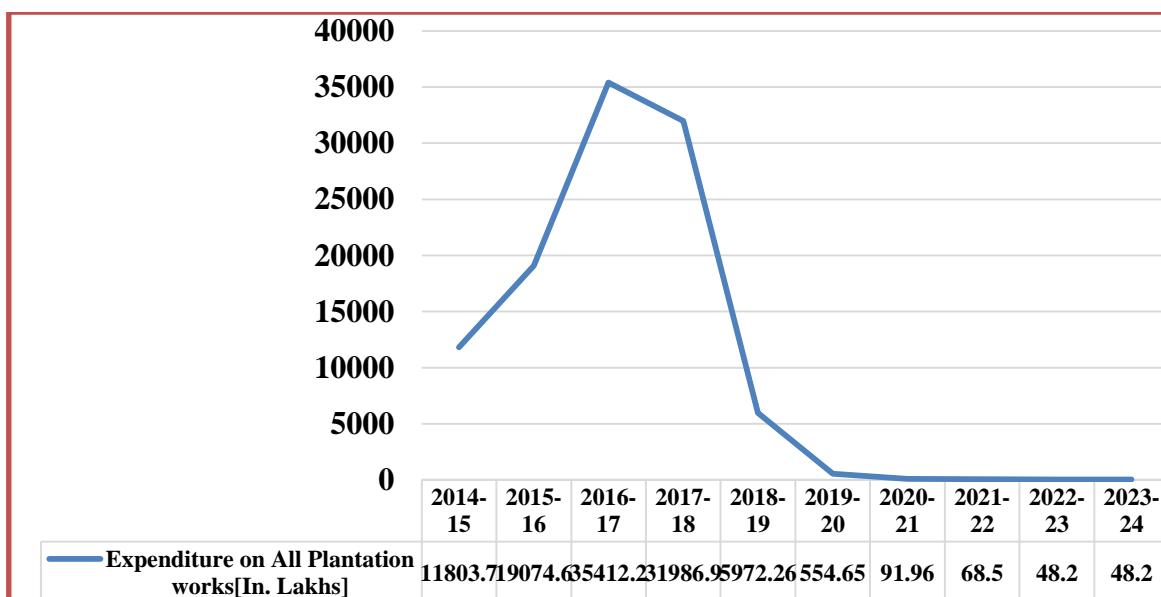


Source: <http://nrega.nic.in>.

Expenditure Made on the Green Works Undertaken by MGNREGA in Karnataka

The graph-3 presents the expenditure made on the Green Works undertaken by the MGNREGA in Karnataka, categorized by the year from 2014-15 to 2023-24. The first column indicates the year, followed by the expenditure on all plantation works in subsequent columns. Additionally, the table includes the percentage of expenditure on all plantation works against the total expenditure for each year. From 2014-15 to 2017-18, there was a notable increase in expenditure on plantation works, peaking in 2016-17 at 11.02 percent. However, from 2018-19 onwards, there was a significant decrease in expenditure, with the percentage dropping to as low as 0.01 percent in 2021-22 and remaining at the same level in 2022-23 and 2023-24. This indicates a substantial reduction in the allocation of funds towards plantation works under MGNREGA in Karnataka during these years, potentially reflecting a shift in priorities or budget constraints. The decline in expenditure on plantation works under MGNREGA in Karnataka from 2018-19 onwards, with percentages dropping to as low as 0.01 percent in 2021-22 and remaining stagnant thereafter, signifies a substantial reduction in funding allocation towards green projects. This shift in expenditure suggests a potential reevaluation of priorities or budget constraints, impacting the implementation of environmentally focused initiatives.

Graph-3: Expenditure Made on the Green Works Undertaken by MGNREGA in Karnataka



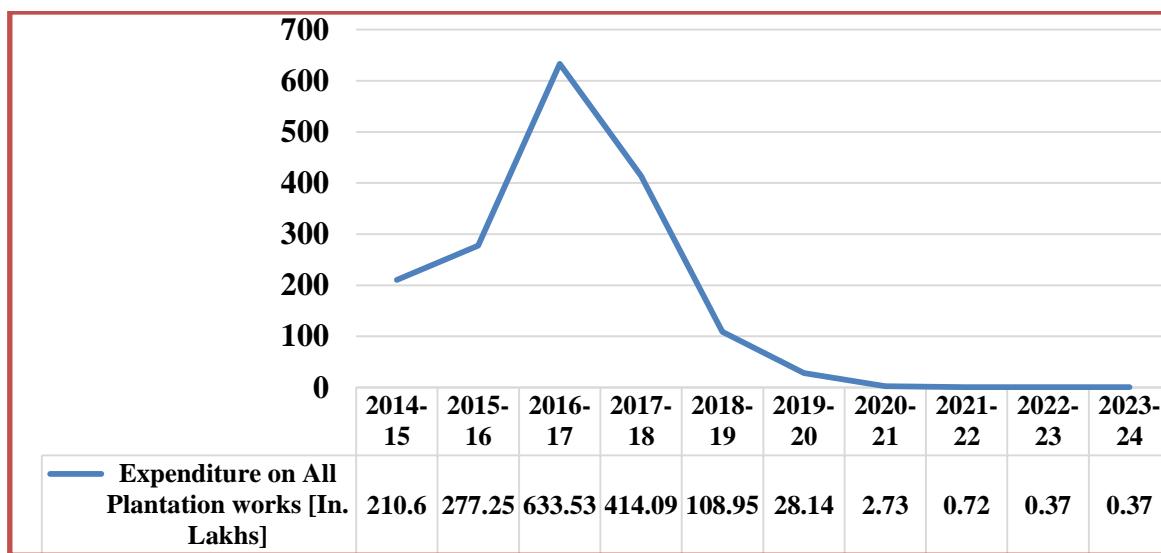
Source: <http://nrega.nic.in>.

Expenditure Made on the Green Works Undertaken by MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara District

The graph-4 illustrates the expenditure made on Green Works undertaken by the MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara district, organized by the year from 2014-15 to 2023-24. The first column lists the years, followed by the expenditure on all plantation works in subsequent columns, denominated in lakhs of Indian Rupees. Additionally, the table provides the percentage of expenditure on all plantation works against the total expenditure for each year. From 2014-15 to 2017-18, there was a noticeable increase in expenditure on plantation works, with a peak in 2016-17 at 9.03 percent of the total expenditure. However, from 2018-19 onwards, there was a significant decline in expenditure on plantation works, reaching its lowest point in 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23, where it was negligible at 0.02 percent, 0.01

percent, and 0 percent respectively. This downward trend suggests a reduced emphasis on investing in plantation works compared to other types of works under MGNREGA during these years. The decline in expenditure on plantation works under MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara district could be attributed to budgetary reallocations or shifts in priorities. From 2018-19 onwards, there's a stark reduction, with negligible expenditure in subsequent years, indicating a potential policy shift away from investing in green initiatives towards other MGNREGA projects.

Graph-4: Expenditure Made on the Green Works Undertaken by MGNREGA in Chamarajanagara District



Jal Shakthi Abhiyan: A Paradigm Shift in Water Conservation Through MGNREGA

The elixir of life, water, has always been extremely important to human society. Nonetheless, in the modern era, the problems of water shortage, pollution, and unequal distribution have grown more urgent. The Government of India created the Jal Shakthi Abhiyan (JSA) as a comprehensive project to promote sustainable water management practices and revitalize water resources, realizing the urgency of addressing these concerns. The MGNREGA incorporates this ambitious initiative, which marks a paradigm shift in India's approach to water management and conservation.

Fundamentally, the goal of the Jal Shakthi Abhiyan is to enhance rural communities' standard of living by utilizing the ability of MGNREGA, one of the biggest employment guarantee programs in the world, to secure water. The initiative intends to widely implement water conservation and recharge techniques throughout the nation by utilizing the vast infrastructure and people made available by MGNREGA. The initiative's comprehensive approach is highlighted by the cooperative strategy that involves many stakeholders, such as government agencies, local communities, and non-governmental organizations.

The Jal Shakthi Abhiyan aims to increase the storage capacity of water bodies using restoration and desilting initiatives. The initiative boosts the water-holding capacity of reservoirs, ponds, and tanks while also enhancing groundwater recharge and reviving ecosystems through the removal of silt and debris. In addition, rainwater gathering is made easier by the MGNREGA's building of check dams, percolation tanks, and farm ponds. This increases the amount of water available for home and agricultural use, particularly during dry spells.

In addition, the Jal Shakthi Abhiyan places a strong emphasis on encouraging the use of sustainable irrigation methods and water-efficient farming practices. Farmers are urged to use precision farming techniques, drip irrigation, and sprinkler systems to maximize water efficiency and boost crop yields. This is accomplished through awareness campaigns, training programs, and demonstration plots. The initiative not only improves rural incomes and livelihoods but also builds agricultural resilience by incorporating these techniques with MGNREGA's employment-generating operations.

To reduce the negative effects of climate change, enhance soil health, and minimize soil erosion, the Jal Shakthi Abhiyan also strongly emphasizes watershed management and soil conservation techniques. The program's objectives are to increase ecosystem resilience and advance sustainable land use practices by putting soil moisture conservation strategies including contour trenches, bunding, and afforestation into practice. These initiatives assist the preservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, which are essential for rural livelihoods, in addition to the protection of water.

Apart from its eco-friendly advantages, the MGNREGA's Jal Shakthi Abhiyan has enormous potential to improve rural regions' socio-economic conditions. The initiative tackles the dual goals of inclusive growth and poverty reduction by creating job opportunities for millions of rural households, particularly women and vulnerable populations. MGNREGA earnings allow households to invest in healthcare, education, and other necessities, which promotes human development and lessens susceptibility to shocks connected to water.

Even though the Jal Shakthi Abhiyan is a big step in the direction of sustainable water management, there are still several obstacles and chances to overcome. For the effort to be successful in the long run and scalable, institutional procedures must be strengthened, community engagement be increased, and effective convergence with other government initiatives be ensured. Furthermore, to guarantee that the advantages of water conservation are realized by those who require them the most, concerns of equality, gender inclusion, and social justice must be addressed.

To sum up, the MGNREGA-enabled Jal Shakthi Abhiyan marks a turning point in India's progress toward equitable growth, environmental sustainability, and water security. The initiative not only tackles the immediate issues of water shortage but also establishes the groundwork for a more resilient and prosperous future for rural communities by utilizing the synergies between job creation and water conservation. The Jal Shakthi Abhiyan can trigger a radical transformation in India's water environment with sustained dedication, creativity, and group effort, guaranteeing that water remains a source of prosperity and life for future generations.

Categories of Work Undertaken Under Jal Shakthi Abhiyan in MGNREGA

The MGNREGA includes the Jal Shakthi Abhiyan (JSA), a set of programs designed to improve rural water management and conservation. The program's main elements include extensive afforestation, tank and other water body renovations, building reuse and recharge, rainfall gathering, water conservation, and watershed development. To revitalize water resources, increase water availability, and support sustainable lives in rural areas, each of these elements is essential.

Intensive Afforestation: To improve green cover and repair damaged ecosystems, a large-scale tree planting program is implemented. Afforestation projects are carried out under JSA in regions that are susceptible to deforestation, desertification, and soil erosion. The program's objectives are to increase biodiversity, stop soil erosion, and promote water

infiltration by planting a wide variety of natural plants. Additionally, reforestation helps to sequester carbon, which lessens the negative consequences of climate change and promotes ecological resilience in rural areas.

Restoration of Tanks and other Water Bodies: Jal Shakthi Abhiyan's attempts to increase groundwater recharge and increase water storage capacity are largely dependent on the restoration of tanks, ponds, reservoirs, and other water bodies. The program rejuvenates pre-existing water infrastructure using desilting, dredging, and repair activities, which eliminate accumulated sediment and debris and reinstate their functionality. Renovated water bodies serve as leisure areas, aquatic life habitats, and agricultural irrigation supplies in addition to providing essential water storage during times of scarcity.

Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting: Jal Shakthi Abhiyan's approach to collecting rainwater and optimizing its use for a variety of uses is based on these two key principles. The initiative collects precipitation runoff and directs it into groundwater aquifers by building rainwater harvesting structures such as recharge pits, percolation tanks, and rooftop rainwater harvesting systems. This decentralized method of water collecting not only replenishes depleted aquifers but also lessens soil erosion, floods, and surface runoff while encouraging community self-sufficiency in water management.

Watershed Development: This term refers to a set of actions taken to improve the resilience and productivity of water and land resources inside a hydrological unit. Agroforestry techniques, contour trenching, contour bunding, afforestation, and soil and moisture conservation are all considered watershed development activities under JSA. The initiative tackles the underlying causes of water shortages, soil degradation, and biodiversity loss by addressing entire watersheds as linked ecosystems, hence encouraging sustainable land use practices and lifestyles. In addition to encouraging community involvement and teamwork, watershed development gives rural communities the tools they need to successfully manage their natural resources.

In conclusion, the MGNREGA-funded Jal Shakthi Abhiyan uses a multifaceted strategy for managing and conserving water. It includes extensive afforestation, restoration of water bodies, repurposing and recharging of infrastructure, rainfall gathering, and watershed development. The initiative boosts livelihoods, supports environmental sustainability, and encourages inclusive development in addition to improving water security and resilience in rural regions through the integration of these interventions with employment-generating activities.

Green Works Initiative under Jal Shakthi Abhiyan in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara District

The table provides a detailed overview of the Green Work Initiative under Jal Shakthi Abhiyan in Karnataka and specifically in Chamarajanagara, categorized by various water conservation and afforestation activities from 2019 to 2023. For Karnataka as a whole, there has been significant progress in water conservation and afforestation efforts, with substantial numbers of ongoing and completed initiatives in each category. Specifically, from March 22, 2021, to November 30, 2023, there were a total of 445,851 completed activities and 213,463 ongoing activities. In comparison, Chamarajanagara has also made notable contributions, albeit on a smaller scale, with a total of 8,482 completed activities and 1,565 ongoing activities during the same period. The efforts in Chamarajanagara focus on water conservation, renovation of traditional water bodies, and afforestation, indicating a commitment to environmental sustainability and resource management at the local level.

Table-1: Green Works Initiative under Jal Shakti Abhiyan in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara

| Year | | 22/03/2021 Till Y'day | | 29/03/2022 Till Y'day | | 04/03/2023 to 30/11/2023 | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Place | | Karnat aka | Chamaraj a nagara | Karnat aka | Chamar aja nagara | Karna taka | Cham araja nagar a |
| Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting | Completed from 05/10/2019 Till Y'day | 122203 | 1438 | 122203 | 1438 | 65210 | 765 |
| | Ongoing | 14418 | 243 | 14418 | 243 | 34233 | 485 |
| Renovation of Traditional and other Water Bodies/ Tanks | Completed from 05/10/2019 Till Y'day | 7009 | 116 | 7009 | 116 | 8392 | 149 |
| | Ongoing | 1001 | 33 | 1001 | 33 | 9960 | 122 |
| Reuse and Recharge Structures | Completed from 05/10/2019 Till Y'day | 110305 | 3142 | 110305 | 3142 | 83567 | 2139 |
| | Ongoing | 8720 | 338 | 8720 | 338 | 12749 | 132 |
| Watershed Development | Completed from 05/10/2019 Till Y'day | 218170 | 2072 | 218170 | 2072 | 115605 | 927 |
| | Ongoing | 29934 | 288 | 29934 | 288 | 73122 | 586 |
| Intensive Afforestation | Completed from 05/10/2019 Till Y'day | 200890 | 1714 | 200890 | 1714 | 173077 | 1679 |
| | Ongoing | 44682 | 663 | 44682 | 663 | 83399 | 2408 |
| TOTAL | Completed from 05/10/2019 Till Y'day | 658577 | 8482 | 658577 | 8482 | 445851 | 5659 |
| | Ongoing | 98755 | 1565 | 98755 | 1565 | 213463 | 3733 |

Expenditure Made for the Green Works Initiatives

The table provides a breakdown of expenditures made for Green Work initiatives, categorized by place (Karnataka and Chamarajanagara) and year (2021, 2022, and 2023). Under each place, the expenditure is further divided into different categories such as Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting, Renovation of Traditional and other Water

Bodies/Tanks, Reuse and Recharge Structures, Watershed Development, and Intensive Afforestation. In Karnataka as a whole, there is a significant amount of expenditure allocated to each category, with Watershed Development receiving the highest amount in 2021 and 2022, while Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting received the highest in 2023. In Chamarajanagara specifically, the expenditure is considerably lower compared to Karnataka overall, with a focus on similar categories but with smaller amounts allocated. This suggests a concerted effort towards environmental conservation and sustainable development, albeit with varying degrees of investment between the broader region of Karnataka and the more localized area of Chamarajanagara.

Table-2: Expenditure Made for the Green Works Initiatives

| Year | Place | Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting | Renovation of Traditional and other Water Bodies/ Tanks | Reuse and Recharge Structures | Watershed Development | Intensive Afforestation | Total |
|------|------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 2021 | Karnataka | 97103.4 | 33737.3 | 15016.7 | 88146.9 | 85785.1 | 319789 |
| | Chamaraja nagara | 2259.51 | 676.98 | 306.36 | 1320.89 | 1003.39 | 5567.13 |
| 2022 | Karnataka | 68660 | 24776.4 | 6577.71 | 67840.3 | 69262.1 | 237117 |
| | Chamaraja nagara | 1043.43 | 274.24 | 59.08 | 635.03 | 572.48 | 2584.26 |
| 2023 | Karnataka | 66313.6 | 32522 | 2608.48 | 59266.5 | 37616 | 198327 |
| | Chamaraja nagara | 801.91 | 219.34 | 28.79 | 744.29 | 424.09 | 2218.42 |

Source: <http://nrega.nic.in>.

Plantation Initiatives Made Under Jal Shakthi Abhiyan in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara

The table provides data on intensive afforestation activities in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara districts for the years 2021 to 2023. It is divided into three sections: nurseries, plantations, and total. In Karnataka, the number of nurseries and ongoing plantation activities decreased from 2021 to 2023, while the number of plants produced remained relatively stable. In contrast, in Chamarajanagara, the number of nurseries and ongoing plantation activities fluctuated slightly, with a decrease in 2022 followed by an increase in 2023. However, the number of plants produced decreased consistently over the years. Overall, while both regions showed variations in afforestation activities, Karnataka maintained higher numbers compared to Chamarajanagara district.

Table-3: Plantation Initiatives Made Under Jal Shakthi Abhiyan in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara

| Year | Place | Nurseries | | | Plantation | | | Total | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------------------|------------|---------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------------------|
| | | Completed | Ongoing | Number of Plants Produced | Completed | Ongoing | Number of Plants Produced | Completed | Ongoing | Number of Plants Produced |
| 22/03/2021 Till Y'day | Karnataka | 6692 | 3310 | 54732076 | 433445 | 203715 | 6904019717 | 440137 | 207025 | 6958751793 |
| | Chamarajanagara | 44 | 124 | 224014 | 5367 | 4747 | 5114495 | 5411 | 4871 | 5338509 |
| 29/03/2022 Till Y'day | Karnataka | 5132 | 2697 | 46754707 | 330686 | 167397 | 5073527720 | 335818 | 170094 | 5120282427 |
| | Chamarajanagara | 38 | 117 | 174814 | 3566 | 3872 | 2531260 | 3604 | 3989 | 2706074 |
| 04/03/2023 to 30/11/2023 | Karnataka | 2163 | 1054 | 18179151 | 170914 | 81291 | 1457150365 | 173077 | 82345 | 1475329516 |
| | Chamarajanagara | 11 | 90 | 74003 | 1668 | 2224 | 750569 | 1679 | 2314 | 824572 |

Source: <http://nrega.nic.in>.

Jal Jeevan Hariyali Program for Green Work under MGNREGA in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara District

The table contains information about the MGNREGA's Jal Jeevan Hariyali Programme in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara district. In Karnataka, 2,184,025 projects were initiated after October 26, 2019, in a variety of categories including water conservation, rehabilitation of traditional water bodies, reuse and recharge structures, watershed development, and extensive afforestation. 1,674,628 works were finished or physically completed. In Chamarajanagara, a comparatively smaller number of works were undertaken, with 38,853 works started after the specified date, out of which 25,113 were completed. This indicates a significant focus on water conservation and environmental initiatives under MGNREGA in Karnataka as a whole, with substantial participation from various districts, including Chamarajanagara.

Table-4: Jal Jeevan Hariyali Programme for Green Works under MGNREGA in Karnataka and Chamarajanagara District (Works in Number)

| Place | Karnataka | Chamarajanagara |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Water Conservation and Rainwater Harvesting | Total works started after 26/10/2019 | 390009 |
| | Total works completed/physical completed which were started after 26/10/2019 | 305559 |
| Renovation of | Total works started after | 622 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Traditional and other Water Bodies/ Tanks | 26/10/2019 | | |
| | Total works completed/physical completed which were started after 26/10/2019 | 19940 | 432 |
| Reuse and Recharge Structures | Total works started after 26/10/2019 | 452056 | 12895 |
| | Total works completed/physical completed which were started after 26/10/2019 | 379334 | 9268 |
| Watershed Development | Total works started after 26/10/2019 | 697227 | 8411 |
| | Total works completed/physical completed which were started after 26/10/2019 | 539988 | 5886 |
| Intensive Afforestation | Total works started after 26/10/2019 | 617172 | 10432 |
| | Total works completed/physical completed which were started after 26/10/2019 | 429807 | 5035 |
| Total | Total works started after 26/10/2019 | 2184025 | 38853 |
| | Total works completed/physical completed which were started after 26/10/2019 | 1674628 | 25113 |

Source: <http://nrega.nic.in>.

CONCLUSION

The comprehensive data presented on the various green works initiatives under MGNREGA, particularly focusing on Karnataka and Chamarajanagara districts, illustrates a multifaceted approach towards environmental conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and water resource management. The analysis encompasses a range of activities, from afforestation and watershed management to water conservation and renewable energy infrastructure development. Throughout the years, these initiatives have shown both positive and negative trends, reflecting shifts in policy emphasis, budget allocations, and local priorities.

In conclusion, the data presented highlights the complex interplay between policy, funding, and local dynamics in shaping green work initiatives under MGNREGA. While there have been notable achievements in water conservation and afforestation efforts, challenges such as fluctuating expenditure and unequal distribution of projects remain. Moving forward, addressing these challenges will require concerted efforts from policymakers, local authorities, and communities to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of environmental initiatives under MGNREGA. Ultimately, the integration of employment generation with environmental conservation presents an opportunity to foster inclusive and sustainable development in rural India, laying the groundwork for a more resilient and prosperous future.

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