

Study No. 138

**IMPACT OF NREGA ON WAGE RATES, FOOD
SECURITY AND RURAL URBAN MIGRATION
– A STUDY IN ASSAM**

Dr. Jotin Bordoloi

**Agro-Economic Research Centre for North East India
Assam Agricultural University,
Jorhat-785013, Assam
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STUDY TEAM

General Guidance

Dr. A. K. Das

Project in-charge & Report writing

Dr. Jotin Bordoloi

Field Investigation & Data Collection

Dr. Jotin Bordoloi

Mrs. Runjun Savapandit

Dr. Ranjit Borah

Sri Debajit Borah

Tabulation

Mrs. Runjun Savapandit

Sri Debajit Borah

Sri Rupam Kr. Bordoloi

Sri Madhurjya Bora

PREFACE

The study on “Impact of NREGA on Wage Rates, Food Security and Rural Urban Migration- a study in Assam” was undertaken at the instance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. The ADRT, Bangalore was the coordinating centre for the study. The draft report was submitted to the coordinating centre and necessary correction and modification have been made as per comments and suggestions.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development is the flagship programme of the Central Government that directly touches the lives of the poor and promotes inclusive growth. The Act aims at enhancing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The Act also emphasises to uplift the rural economy. In addition to this it has taken a special care to empower women by reducing gender differences in wages and their children. The Act also mandates 33 per cent participation for women in NREGA work programmes.

The present study was done in primary and secondary level as well. The secondary level analysis comprising 27 districts of Assam, based on the data available in the NREGA web site of the state while primary level analysis covers only 5 sample districts viz., Sonitpur from the northern part, Cachar from the southern part, Dibrugarh from the eastern part, Nagaon from the central part and Bongaigaon from western part of the state. The study was done with 250 sample households (200 beneficiary hhs and 50 non beneficiary hhs), where 40 households as sample beneficiaries (Job card holders) and 10 households as non beneficiaries from each district.

The study was completed with sincere help and cooperation of the District Rural Development Agencies, Officials of Development Blocks and respective Panchyats of the Government of Assam. I am thankful to all the officials of the concerned departments. I am also thankful to all the sample respondents for their co-operation during the field surveys.

Like all the studies, this is also a joint output of the Centre. I am grateful to Dr Jotin Bordoloi who prepared the report of the study. The names of the research staff associated with the study have been mentioned elsewhere in the report.

I hope that the report will provide the first-hand information on the State NREGA for planners, policy makers and researchers.

Anup Kr. Das
Director i/c
AERC, Jorhat

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CHAPTER – I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

India is a country of villages and about 50 per cent of the villages have very poor economic condition. In Assam, a large percentage of population i.e. more than 85 per cent of the total population still lives in rural areas. Indebtedness, unemployment, unproductive expenses, low level of productivity, lack of adequate basic needs and minimum services are very common problems of the villages of Assam. In the state, there are more than 26,312 villages constituting 4.12 per cent of the total numbers of villages in India as per 2001 census.

Keeping in view to these large rural inhabitants, our great leader, the father of nation, Mahatma Gandhi had given much emphasis to the concept “*gram swaraj*”, which deals with economic, political and cultural freedom of the villages for all round of development of rural India. His concept of *Swaraj* is associated with more political freedom for socio-economic development of the village people through Panchayati Raj, and it is through Panchayats, he dreamt off to make India a strong country in the world. Although the Panchayats have historically been an integral part of rural life in India, but Panchayati Raj was formally introduced only in 1959.

The Directorate of Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam has two wings. One is Panchayat Wings and other is Rural Development Wings. Both the wings have been implementing various state and centrally sponsored schemes through 21 Zila Parishad, 219 blocks, 189 Anchalik Panchayat and 2202 Gram Panchayat, covering 27 districts.

As per provision of Assam Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 there are three-tier system of Panchayat viz. Zila Parishad, at district level, Anchalic Panchayat at the intermediate level and Gaon Panchayat at the village level. Literally, it is named as a three-tier structure of local self-government. The government of Assam has already transferred 29 state subjects to the Panchayati Raj Institutions and activity mapping has been notified in respect of 23 subjects of 17 departments for empowering the Panchayati Raj Institution.

The Panchayats gained much importance during the period between 1956 and 1964; the period between 1965 and 1969 witnessed their decline mainly because the political leaders at the state and district levels did not appreciate the growth of

alternative leadership at lower levels.” (Satya Sundaram, 1999, Rural Development p.143). To ensure quality life of the rural people, Government of India, has directives in the constitution in the Article-40 of the part IV for organization of village Panchayat- as “The State shall take steps to organize village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self – government. In the light of this article a new part IX relating to the Panchayats has been inserted in the Constitution to provide for among other things, Gram Sabha in a village or group of villages; constitution of Panchayats at village and other level or levels; direct elections to all seats in Panchayats at the village and intermediate level, if any and to the offices of Chairpersons of Panchayats at such levels; reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in proportions to their population for membership of Panchayats and office of Chairpersons in Panchayats at each level; reservation of not less than one-third of the seats for women; fixing tenure of five years for Panchayats and holding elections within a period of six months in the event of super session of any Panchayat”. This was the 73rd Act amended in 1993. This has been done to provide more power to rural people so that plans and programmes can reach and percolate down to the people living in rural areas with some definite objectives and strategies, so that fruits of economic growth of the country can be enjoyed by the people living in remote areas of the country in general and states in particular. Panchayat Raj got a new momentum after amendment of this act spreading over across the states of the country. The formation of a separate Ministry of Panchayat Raj (MoPR) in May 2004 at the centre was an indicative of determination of the government of India to give a major push to such reform. All rural programmes either at central level or at state level started to operate all its economic and social activities through the gram sabha, a political body of the gram Panchayat. However, it has been observed that administrative control of financial matters is still not coming fully under them. As a result, the activities of the Panchayats seem very weak as financial control still rests with the District Rural Development Agency and many times, it hampers a lot in proper implementation of the developmental programmes decided in gram sabha. Absence of technical person in gram Panchayat also stands as major hindrance in estimating project proposal on time to place it before the appropriate authority for release of grants, and even if it is granted, they simply get the information and they are not empowered power to spend

it independently which break down the working spirit of the elected body of the Panchayats.

District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) which started functioning with effect from 2nd July, 1993, as a society registered under the provision of Societies Registration Act, 1860. Both district level officials and public representatives like M.Ps, MLAs, Panchayat Samiti Chairpersons, etc are the members of the society. President, Zilla Parishad is the Ex. Officio Chairman of DRDA. All administrative and financial powers are vested on the Collector cum Chief Executive Officer. The Project Director of the Agency looks after day to day administration. The DRDA receives funds under various programmes directly from Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India and State Govt. and in turn releases the same to various banks/executing agencies. It monitors the implementation of schemes, utilization of fund very closely. The Governing Body meets quarterly to review the performance of the schemes implemented by the DRDA, approves the expenditures incurred under the schemes.

1.2 Historical Back ground of Rural Employment Schemes

This history is completely based on the information available in the government publication at different point of times. Basic aims of all these programmes are to alleviation of poverty through productive employment and to improve the quality of rural lives.

1.2.1 Community Development Programme (CDP)

After independence for the first time Community Development Programme (CDP) was launched during the First Plan on 2nd October, 1952 with specific objectives of bringing about all-round development in rural areas. It can be considered an important land mark in the history of the rural development. Its basic aim was to fight poverty in rural areas. It continued up to the end of 5th plan with some changes in different point of times as per suggestion of different review committees. The areas of priority for development under the CDP were agriculture related matters viz. reclamation of waste land, supply of seeds and fertilizer etc. through village co-operative societies, intensive cultivation through promotion of fruits & vegetables; creation of irrigation facilities through tube well ,tank, canal, pumping sets, development of transport and communication, education. health, housing, supplementary employment through cottage & small scale industry ,saw mills etc., social and economic welfare programmes, training programmes for village level

workers in the field of agriculture ,industries, trades pertaining to the local needs for repairing of agricultural equipment, tractor, masonry, carpentry, pump set, pottery etc.(Integrated Rural Development, Perspective & Prospects, Kumar Jyoti,1987 PP51-52) .

In Assam, during 10th plan under C.D. scheme included some minor programmes such as Repairing of Roads, Minor Irrigation, and Health & Sanitation. The Projected outlay during the 10th plan was Rs. 771.65 lakh in TSP Plan and actual expenditure was at Rs.55.54 lakh, while under SCCP the plan outlay on the same heads stated above was of Rs. 68.21 lakh. Of this only Rs.20.83 lakh were spent during 10th plan.

In October 1974, the Department of Rural Development came into existence as a part of Ministry of Food and Agriculture. On 18 August 1979, the Department of Rural Development was given the status of a new Ministry, i.e. Ministry of Rural Reconstruction and later on it was renamed as the Ministry of Rural Development and then again converted into a Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. It was again brought under the Ministry of Agriculture in September 1985. On July 5, 1991, the Department was upgraded as Ministry of Rural Development. Another Department viz. the Department of Waste Land Development was created under this Ministry on 2nd July 1992. In March 1995, the Ministry was renamed as the Ministry of Rural Area and Employment with three Departments namely the Department of Rural Employment, Poverty Alleviation and Wasteland Development. Again, in 1999, the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment was renamed as Ministry of Rural Development. This ministry has been acting as catalyst effecting the Change in rural areas through the implementation of wide spectrum of programmes aiming at poverty alleviation, employment generation, infrastructure development and social security.

All these programmes were continued with little bit of modification till the annual plan of second year of 5th plan (1974-75- 1978-79). A Programme of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was launched in 1976. Integrated means well coordination of different programmes so that incurred investment can produce optimum returns. From the experiences, it reveals that very often an input or a service becomes ineffective in the absence of other inputs or services. The IRDP was implemented through District Rural Development Agencies. In case of rural employment, after independence up to mid of the 6th plan i.e up to 1983, about 33

programmes for rural development have been introduced for reduction of poverty and well being of the rural weak.(Vasant Desai,1988, Rural Development, Vol. V, p 47) . Of these programmes, the programme directly associated the word “rural employment” was started with the projects.

Crash Scheme for Rural Employment in 1971, during 4th plan, Pilot Intensive Rural Employment Programme in 1972, Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment in 1979 i.e during annual plan of 1979-80; Integrated Rural Development Programme was launched in 1979 with multi faceted Programme paying attention to the rural employment, National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) in 1980 and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) in 1983 during 6th plan. The NREP was launched in October, 1980 and became a regular Plan Programme from April, 1981. The Programme was expected to generate additional gainful employment in the rural areas, to the extent of 300-400 million man days per annum, create durable community assets, and improve nutritional status and living standards of the poor. It was envisaged that in the case of the NREP, wage material cost-ratio would be 50: 50, which, however, will be maintained on a project-by-project basis. Experience in the Sixth Plan in certain States has shown that if integrated projects were developed, this stipulation would still allow substantial scope for productive works to be planned within a decentralized framework at the district level. The RLEGP was introduced from 15th August, 1983 with the objective of (a) improving and expanding employment opportunities for the rural landless with a view to providing guarantee of employment to at least one member of every landless household up to 100 days in a year and (b) creating durable assets for strengthening the infrastructure so as to meet the growing requirements of the rural economy. An outlay of Rs. 500 crores to be fully financed by the Central Government was provided under this programme in the Sixth Plan. The implementation of the programme was entrusted to the States/UTs, but they were required to prepare specific projects to be approved by a Central Committee. During 1985, the Central Committee approved 320 projects with an estimated cost of Rs. 906.59 crores. The target for employment generation in 1983-84 and 1984-85 was fixed at 360 million man days against which 260.18 million man-days of employment was actually generated.

Mid-way during the Sixth Plan, the RLEGP was started with the dual objective of expanding employment opportunities in the rural areas and providing sharper focus on the landless labour households which constitute the hard-core of the

people below the poverty line. Suggestions had been made that this should be merged with the NREP. However, considering that a substantial part of the RLEGP funds would be committed to the on-going projects and also since it has not been found feasible to introduce a full guarantee of employment even to a limited section, this programme would continue as a separate entity for the time being. In the meanwhile, efforts would also be made to implement a limited guarantee for providing 80 to 100 days employment to the landless labourer households through this programme. The issue of merger and a wider guarantee could be considered at the mid-term Plan review stage. Five per cent of the outlays to be provided for RLEGP and NREP were made available for strengthening the implementation agencies. Further, based on experience regarding problems of maintenance of assets created under such programmes, the question of providing funds to the extent of 10 per cent of the overall outlays for these programmes for maintenance was considered. Maintenance under this provision would generally have to relate to sectors for which maintenance funds and systems are ordinarily not available and actual maintenance would have to be carried out on the basis of detailed maintenance plans to be drawn up for each district.

An outlay of Rs. 1250.81 crores was provided for NREP in the Central Sector which will be matched equally by the States. The outlay of Rs. 1743.78 crores was provided for RLEGP to be borne entirely by the Centre. Based on the average wage of Rs. 8.61 per day as in 1984-85 and a wage material cost-ratio of 50:50, a total employment of 1445 million man-days under NREP and 1013 million man-days under RLEGP was generated during the Seventh Plan at an average rate of around 290 million man-days and 200 million man-days per annum, respectively.

The formula for allocation of resources among the States, which provided for 25 per cent weightage to the incidence of poverty and 75 per cent weightage to the population of agricultural labourers and marginal farmers in the Sixth Plan was changed to provide equal weightage to those from 1986-87 onwards, because it was noticed that the existing formula has tended to benefit, in some cases, States which was agriculturally more advanced. Under both these Programmes, 20 per cent of the resources were earmarked for social forestry in view of the importance of eco-restoration and providing the benefits in the form of usufruct to the members of the community, particularly the poor. In addition, 10 per cent of the funds would be earmarked for works of direct and, if necessary, individual benefit to the members of scheduled castes. A separate provision within the RLEGP was made for rural housing

with the objective of constructing one million houses in the Seventh Plan. This was closely integrated with the housing component of the MNP.

1.2.2 Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is one of the major wage employment programmes of the Ministry taken up in April 1989 after merger of the two earlier ongoing wage employment programmes, namely, National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). The main objective of the programme is to generate additional gainful employment for the unemployed and under-employed men and women in the rural areas as well as certain community assets for the overall improvement in the quality of life in the rural areas, aims at creating sustained employment by strengthening the rural economic infrastructure. JRY being a centrally sponsored scheme, expenditure of this programme is shared in the ratio of 80:20 between the Centre and the States. 22.5 per cent funds are earmarked for SCs/STs at all levels of Panchayati Raj institutions.

1.2.3 Employment Assurance Scheme

To provide assured employment to the asset less poor during the lean agriculture season the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) was launched on 2nd October, 1993 in selected blocks of the country. The scheme was implemented in all the then 5,448 selected blocks of the country. This scheme aimed at providing assured employment of 100 days of unskilled manual work to the rural poor who are in need of employment and seek it. The assurance of 100 days of employment extends to two adult members of the family, normally residing in the village of the blocks covered under the scheme. It is demand -driven scheme and no fixed allocation for the state/district.

1.2.4 Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana:

SGSY was launched in April 1999, after restructuring of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and allied programmes. It is the only self-employment programme currently being implemented for the rural poor. The objectives of the SGSY are to bring the assisted swarozgari above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through bank credit and Government subsidy. The scheme is being implemented on cost sharing basis of 75:25 between the centre and states. Up to March 2009, 324 lakh self help groups (SHGs) had been

formed and 120.89 lakh swarozgaris have been assisted with a total out lay of Rs.27, 183.03 crore. (Economic Survey, 2008-09, Government of India, p 270)

In the state, up to 2008-09, 1, 75,595 of SHG's have been formed. Of this 1, 17,497 SHGs have been formed by women and of this 8,073 have taken up economic activities in 2008-09. As per report of the government, altogether 48,673 have taken up economic activities during the year 2008-09. In 2008-09, 12,468 SHGs covering 136178 members received bank loan with subsidy. Moreover, 6550 individuals received bank loan and subsidy for sustainable income generating activities.

1.2.5 Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana

The Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) was launched on 25 September, 2001 by merging the on-going schemes of EAS and the JGSY with the objective of providing additional wage employment and food security, alongside creation of durable community assets in rural areas. The programme is self-targeting in nature with provisions for special emphasis on women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and parents of children withdrawn from hazardous occupations. While preference is given to BPL families for providing wage employment under SGRY, poor families above the poverty line can also be offered employment under NREGA. The SGRY was going to be abolished from 01.04 .2008 and merged with NREGA.

1.2.5 Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)

The PMEGP has been effective after 31st March, 2008 with the objective of providing employment to the educated unemployed youth. The scheme facilitates self employment through setting up of industries/service and business ventures. The KVIC is implementing the PMEGP scheme as the nodal agency at the national level and at the State level the scheme is implemented by the State KVIC Directorate, State KVIB and District Industries and Commerce Centres and Banks. The total physical target (in nos.) by the agencies for the year 2008-09 was 1709 of which 1060 was rural and 649 was urban with a margin money target of Rs. 20.51 lakhs. The Government subsidy under the scheme is being routed by the KVIC through the identified banks.

1.2.6 Assam Bikash Yojana

This programme is initiated in Assam at the instance of Assam Government to create employment through distribution of employment generating assets with subsidy to unemployed youth of the state irrespective of rural or urban areas. This is a unique self-employment scheme called "Chief Minister Self Employment and Vocational

Training under “Assam Bikash Yojana” in place of CMSY from 2008-09. There are two sectors of the scheme one is CMSS and the other is vocational Training.

1.2.7 National Rural Employment Guarantee Act: NREGA

The NREGA implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development is the flagship programme of the Central Government that directly touches the lives of the poor and promotes inclusive growth. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was notified on September 7, 2005 and was the first of its kind in the world. It was brought under per view of an act for rural employment at an unprecedented scale in order to provide employment when other employment alternatives are scarce or inadequate. The Act came into force on Feb 2, 2006 and was implemented in a phase manner. During 2009-10, it has been rechristened as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNERGA). The act aims at enhancing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage in a financial year to every one whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Its auxiliary objective is strengthening natural resource management through works that address the causes of chronic poverty like draught, deforestation and soil erosion and so encourage sustainable development. The process outcomes include strengthening grassroots process of democracy and infusing transparency in governance. The Act is also a significant vehicle for strengthening decentralized and deepening process of democracy by giving a pivotal role to the Panchayati Raj Institution concerning planning, monitoring and implementation. Unique features of the Act include, time bound employment guarantee within 15 days, and incentive-disincentive structure to the State Governments for providing employment as 90 per cent of the cost for employment is borne by the Centre or payment of unemployment allowance at their own cost and emphasis on labour intensive works prohibiting the use of contractors and machinery. The Act also mandates 33 per cent participation for women.

The NREGA which was practically launched on February 2, 2006 in 200 most backward districts in the first phase was expanded to 330 districts in the second phase during 2007-08. The remaining 266 districts were notified on September 28, 2008, and the scheme has now been extended to all the districts of the country. More than 4.47 crore households were provided employment in 2008-09. This is a significant jump over the 3.39 crore households covered under the scheme during 2007-08. Out of the 215.63 crore person-days created under the scheme during this period, 29 per cent and 25 per cent were in favour of SC and ST population,

respectively and 48 per cent of the total person days created went in favour of women. An allocation of Rs.30,100 crore has been made in the interim budget for 2009-10 as against Rs. 16,000 crore in 2008-09 for NREGS .(Economic Survey 2008-09 p 270).

The key processes in the implementation of NREGA are the following:

1. Adult members of rural households submit their name, age and address with photo to the Gram Panchayat.
2. The Gram Panchayat registers households after making enquiry and issues a job card which contains the details of adult member enrolled and his/her photo.
3. Registered person can submit an application for work in writing (for at least fourteen days of continuous work) either to Panchayat or to Programme Officer.
4. The Panchayat/Programme officer will accept the valid application and issue dated receipt of application, letter-providing work will be sent to the applicant and displayed at Panchayat office.
5. The employment will be provided within a radius of 5 kilometers and if it is above 5 kilometers extra wage will be paid.
6. If employment under the scheme is not provided within fifteen days of receipt of the application, daily unemployment allowance will be paid to the applicant.

The cost sharing is done on the following basis:

Cost sharing: Central Government 3/4th, State Government 1/4th

NREGA was implemented in three phases:

1. I Phase – notified in 200 districts with effect from February 2nd 2006.
2. II Phase - extended to 130 districts in the financial year 2007-08 (113 districts from April 1st 2007 and 17 districts of UP were notified with effect from May 15th 2007)
3. III. Phase- remaining districts in all the States/Ups were notified from April 1st 2008.

1.3 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 the selected states.
2. To compare wage differentials between NREGA activities and other wage employment activities.
3. Effect on 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, it's functioning and to suggest suitable policy measures to further strengthen the Programme.

1.4 Data base and Methodology:

The study is based on both primary and secondary data. As per guide lines, five districts namely Sonitpur, Cachar, Dibrugarh, Bongaigaon, and Nagaon have been selected from the North, South, East, West and Central location of the state respectively. From each district, two villages were selected keeping into account their distance from the Head Quarter. One village is selected from the nearby periphery of around 5 kilometers of the district Head Quarter and the second village is selected from a farther location of 15 kilometers or more. From each selected village, primary survey is carried out on 20 participants in NREGA and 5 non-participant workers as wage employed. In this fashion, from each state 10 village is surveyed in detail to construct a baseline for the sake of comparison. For selecting participant households, a list of all beneficiaries (participants) in the village is obtained from the Gram Panchayat or Programme Officer in the village along with the information of caste factor of the workers. After getting the list, a Stratified Random Sampling Method is adopted for selection of the participant households giving proportionate representation of the Caste, i.e.(i) Schedule Caste (ii) Schedule Tribe (iii) Other Backward Caste(iv) Forward Castes(other). In this regard, a point to be noted here is that the populations of villages of Assam usually are homogeneous in cast structure. Therefore, caste wise stratification could not be done. But utmost care is taken to include different caste in selection of samples as a whole. Due attention is also given to the gender factor. For the selection of non participants, no such list is available. Therefore, the non-

participant households are selected randomly from those households that are not participating in NREGA but constitute the similar caste and gender characteristics as that of selected participant households to maintain the uniformity and to avoid the selection bias. While selecting the districts all possible guidelines are followed.

In addition to household questionnaire, a village Schedule is also designed to capture the general changes that have taken place in the village during the last one decade and to take note of increase in labour changes for agricultural operations after the implementation of NREGA. The village schedules also have qualitative questions relating to change in life style of the villagers that are taking place during the last one decade. One village schedule in each village is filled up with the help of a Group Discussion with the Panchayat Members, Officials, Educated person and other well informed people available of the village being surveyed.

1.5 An Over View:

It has already been discussed about various programmes for employment generation in rural areas of the country across the states. It is a fact that after introduction of NREGA, it has got a new momentum in case of employment generation in rural areas. It is expected that it would be able to attain the desired goal, and a large chunk of the rural population would be able to participate in the development agenda of the country as bonafide citizen.

Let us have a look on the activities of State NREGA. It is being implemented in all the 27 districts. The objective is to provide 100 days employment to the job card holder in a financial year. Under this programme 29.7 lakh job cards were issued up to the year 2008-09. Of this 21.5 lakhs number of household demanded for employment and 18.7 lakh households got employment in 2008-09. Under this programme, 2934 disabled persons also got employment in the same year. In 2008-09, a total of 748.80 lakh man days were generated of which 78.08 lakh, 258.32 lakh and 203.72 lakh man days were generated for SC, ST and women category, respectively. More detailed observations have already been made elsewhere as required by the coordinating centre.

CHAPTER - II

MANPOWER EMPLOYMENT GENERATED UNDER NREGA AND ITS SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Introduction

In this chapter an attempt has been made in order to highlight the activities of State NREGA in employment generation in 27 districts in general and 5 sample districts in particular viz., Bongaigaon, Cachar, Dibrugarh, Nagaon and Sonitpur. Chapter is designed under five heads as guided by the Coordinating Centre. All data base information are accessed from “NREGA’s website”

2.1 The functioning of NREGA (Three phase’s district wise)

Table 2.1 visualizes phase wise employment generated during the financial year 2009-10 in the different districts of Assam. In the Phase I, it covers 7 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur and Hills. In the phase II, it covers 6 districts viz. Barpeta, Cachar, Darrang, Hailakandi, Marigaon, Nalbari and in phase III, it covers 14 districts viz. Baksa, Chirang, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup, Kamrup Metro, Karimganj, Nagaon, Sivasagar, Sonitpur, Tinsukia and Udalguri.

In phase I, among the 7 districts, the highest 36.18 per cent job opportunity was availed of by SC category in Bongaigaon while the highest of 40.22 per cent job opportunity were availed off by ST category in Karbi Anglong. Similarly, the highest job opportunity 41.19 per cent job opportunity was availed off by others category which includes OBC, General and Minorities workers in Kokrajhar district. The highest percentage of women participation (43.16%) recorded against the Kokrajhar district, which exceeded the limit of at least 33 per cent reservation as per gender norms of the act.

In phase II, the highest 31.22 per cent job opportunity was availed by SC category in Cachar district while the highest 40.03 per cent was availed by ST category in Morigaon district. The highest 21.75 per cent of job opportunity was availed by other category in Borpeta district and the highest percentage of women participation 39.20 per cent was also seen in this district.

Table-2.1
Employment Generated During the Financial Year 2009 – 2010

Sl No.	Districts	Cumulative Person days generate (In Lakhs)									
		SC	%	ST	%	Others	%	Total	%	Woman	%
Phase I											
1	Bongaigaon	9.88	36.18	5.51	3.96	31.16	19.80	46.55	14.38	16.58	13.54
2	Dhemaji	5.91	21.64	17.83	12.82	11.92	7.58	35.66	11.02	11.80	9.64
3	Goalpara	1.38	5.05	6.94	4.99	11.01	7.00	19.33	5.97	4.91	4.01
4	Karbi Anglong	3.74	13.69	55.92	40.22	16.01	10.18	75.67	23.38	24.59	20.08
5	Kokrajhar	3.39	12.41	44.82	32.23	64.81	41.19	113.02	34.92	52.84	43.16
6	Lakhimpur	3.01	11.02	8.03	5.77	22.43	14.26	33.47	10.34	11.72	9.57
7	NC Hills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub Total		27.31	100.00	139.05	100.00	157.34	100.00	323.70	100.00	122.44	100.00
Phase II											
8	Barpeta	1.39	7.67	0.42	5.30	23.32	21.75	25.13	18.86	6.39	39.20
9	Cachar	5.66	31.22	1.29	16.29	15.94	14.87	22.89	17.18	1.06	6.50
10	Darrang	3.78	20.85	0.81	10.23	13.71	12.79	18.30	13.73	1.87	11.47
11	Hailakandi	2.65	14.62	0.57	7.22	20.05	18.70	23.27	17.46	0.83	5.09
12	Morigaon	2.61	14.40	3.17	40.03	18.24	17.01	24.02	18.03	2.47	15.15
13	Nalbari	2.04	11.25	1.66	20.96	15.94	14.87	19.64	14.74	3.68	22.58
Sub Total		18.13	100.00	7.92	100.00	107.20	100.00	133.25	100.00	16.30	100.00
Phase III											
14	Baksa	2.25	5.16	20.48	25.48	12.65	8.32	35.38	12.82	7.60	11.82
15	chirang	6.80	15.60	15.75	19.59	17.60	11.58	40.15	14.55	14.12	21.96
16	Dhubri	0.43	0.99	0.10	0.12	20.76	13.66	21.29	7.71	3.56	5.54
17	Dibrugarh	0.30	0.69	0.86	1.07	9.06	5.96	10.22	3.70	3.34	5.20
18	Golaghat	2.90	6.65	3.88	4.83	19.60	12.89	26.38	9.56	6.09	9.47
19	Jorhat	3.79	8.69	2.39	2.97	5.51	3.62	11.69	4.24	5.29	8.23
20	Kamrup	5.44	12.48	5.86	7.29	9.72	6.39	21.02	7.62	1.95	3.03
21	Kamrup Metro	1.08	2.48	1.14	1.42	2.13	1.40	4.35	1.58	1.72	2.68
22	Karimganj	4.30	9.86	0.31	0.39	3.59	2.36	8.20	2.97	0.20	0.31
23	Nagaon	6.13	14.06	5.16	6.42	11.53	7.58	22.82	8.27	0.78	1.21
24	Sibsagar	1.70	3.90	1.07	1.33	7.24	4.76	10.01	3.63	1.18	1.84
25	Sonitpur	2.80	6.42	3.79	4.71	14.84	9.76	21.43	7.76	5.92	9.21
26	Tinsukia	0.86	1.97	1.06	1.32	10.60	6.97	12.52	4.54	1.82	2.83
27	Udalguri	4.81	11.03	18.54	23.06	7.19	4.73	30.54	11.07	10.72	16.67
Sub Total		43.59	100.00	80.39	100.00	152.02	100.00	276.00	100.00	64.29	100.00
Total		89.03		227.36		416.56		732.95		203.03	

In Phase III, the highest 15.60 per cent of job opportunity availed of by SC category in Chirang district. The highest 25.48 per cent of job opportunity availed of by ST category in Baksa district while the highest 13.66 per cent of job opportunity was availed of by other category in Chirang district and the highest 21.96 per cent of women participated in the same district.

Variations of cast component in work participations occurred due to dominant demographic structure of a particular group of the population of the district or it might be due to special attention of the implementing agency for weaker sections of the population. Women participation was at a lower level in almost all the districts than the Borpeta and Kokrajhar districts.

In over all, during the financial year 2009-10, the state generated 323.70 lakh person days in Phase I covering 7 districts. In Phase II, it generated 133.25 lakh person days covering 4 districts and in Phase-III, it generated 276.00 lakh person days covering 14 districts and all together, State has created 732.95 lakhs person days under NREGA. (Table-2.1)

2.2 Total Employment Generated- their Socio-economic Characteristic

It has been observed during field investigation that most of the households earn their livelihood from unskilled casual labour. Most of the households do not have own cultivated land and a few households posses cultivated land. They usually go for Kharif paddy cultivation and a few households go for Rabi crops mainly vegetables to meet their household requirements only. Sporadic cases were also found as commercial growers. Production is not sufficient due to inadequate cultivated area and low yield rate. Asset positions of most of the households are in a pathetic condition. They have nothing in their hand except to go for wage labour in the lean period or go for as petty vegetable vendors. They also reported that they do not get work for every day. They have to sit idle for at least for 3 to 4 days in a week. Very few households have to access two balanced meals in a day. It seems that most of the households live below poverty line. Other socio-economic characteristics are also in a deplorable condition. However, BPL rice at subsidized rate and the scheme The Antyodaya Yojona (AAY) that provides 35 kgs of rice at free of cost to the selected families is also helping some of the poor families to overcome food deficiency. However, it seems from their physical appearances that still they are suffering from nutritional deficiency. In this regard, NREGA gives a new life to these categories of the people as it provides hard cash to the needy people as they are getting an opportunity to purchase other essential items for their food baskets.

Table 2.2.a, 2.2.b and 2.2.c show the cumulative number of job cards issued to the different categories of workers, i.e, SC, ST and Others for three financial years, 2010-11, 2009-10 and 2008-09 respectively. The data in the Tables also indicate the proportion of participants belonged to the above three categories of workers

participated in the NREGA. The Tables focus on cumulative number of households that demanded for employment and cumulative number of households offered employment along with actual cumulative number of households engaged under NREGA. These also give the number of person days generated under each component of the caste with a special attention to the weaker gender.

In 2010-11 (Table 2.2.a), the highest number of job cards were issued to the SC category in Cachar (14.50 %) and the lowest number of job cards issued in Dhubri (0.67%) district out of the state total households of 3,57,230. In case of ST category, the highest numbers of job cards issued (44.88%) in Dhemaji district and the lowest (.03%) was observed in Dhubri district out of the state total 12,57,748. While in case of others the highest (8.31%) and the lowest (0.24%) were found in Borpheta and North Cachar Hills respectively out of the state total 27,54,583. In 2009-10 (Table 2.2.b), the highest number of job cards were issued to the SC category in Karimganj (15.58 %) and the lowest number of job cards issued in North Cachar Hills (0.34%) district out of the state total households of 4,54,656. In case of ST category, the highest numbers of job cards issued (18.42%) in Karbi Anglong district and the lowest (0.21%) were observed in Dhubri district out of the state total 7,38,780 while in case of others the highest (9.20%) and the lowest (0.24%) were found in Borpheta and North Cachar Hills respectively out of the state total 24,18,278. Combining all, the highest 6.74 per cent stood in Borpheta and lowest 1.01 per cent stood against Kamrup Metro out of the aggregate state total 36,11,714. In 2008-09 (Table 2.2.c), the highest number of job cards were issued to the SC category in Cachar (10.43 %) and the lowest number of job cards issued in Tinsukia (0.34%) district out of the state total households of 3,26,252. In case of ST category, the highest numbers of job cards issued (20.74%) in Karbi Anglong district and the lowest (0.15%) were observed in Hailakandi district out of the state total 6,56,166 while in case of others the highest (10.38%) and the lowest (0.38%) were found in Borpheta and North Cachar Hills respectively out of the state total 1,98,8104. Combining all, the highest 7.66 per cent stood in Borpheta and lowest 0.75 per cent stood against Karimganj out of the aggregate state total 2,97,0522.

Table - 2.2 a

Employment generated through NREGA and its socio economic characteristics

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Cumulative No. of HH issued job card (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 generate (lakh person days)(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														
Phase I														
1	BONGAIGAON	5392	1794	105349	112535	48616	48616	11066	0.5	0.24	13.72	14.46	0.52	2865
2	DHEMAJI	11274	564469	44326	620069	82912	82912	48028	3.85	13.26	7.91	25.02	7.98	5587
3	GOALPARA	9139	43640	107934	160713	83363	83363	43040	0.65	4.59	11.25	16.49	5.4	1000
4	KARBI ANGLONG	6898	136071	41915	184884	117622	117622	70748	2.59	20.98	6.06	29.63	9.4	345
5	KOKRAJHAR	5116	63095	102364	170575	153604	153604	26896	1.55	20.85	29.22	51.62	23.74	23216
6	LAKHIMPUR	9094	39833	122341	171268	64148	64148	14326	0.82	5.13	18.32	24.27	6.41	1552
7	N. C. HILLS	1791	32546	6520	40857	13323	13323	2262	0.08	2.67	0.12	2.87	0.64	0
SubTotal		48704	881448	530749	1460901	563588	563588	216366	10.04	67.72	86.6	164.36	54.09	34565
Phase II														
8	BARPETA	16184	5242	228815	250241	62112	62112	18267	1.12	0.43	13.98	15.53	3.68	1138
9	CACHAR	51808	9355	127745	188908	53879	47613	20839	2.82	0.33	6.92	10.07	0.84	172
10	DARRANG	8932	2519	140361	151812	87116	87116	25171	8.36	0.97	13.95	23.28	5.26	1086
11	HAILAKANDI	11159	2645	103728	117532	72032	71541	3585	1.37	0.39	13.66	15.42	2.98	245
12	MARIGAON	19318	24517	98507	142342	77099	77099	19061	2.26	2.6	19.55	24.41	1.69	526
13	NALBARI	15812	6651	76638	99101	50379	50379	14413	1.68	1.09	10.04	12.81	0.81	303
SubTotal		123213	50929	775794	949936	402617	395860	101336	17.61	5.81	78.1	101.52	15.26	3470
Phase III														
14	BAKSA	29971	70701	50097	150769	59050	58505	23763	2.01	13.92	9.25	25.18	4.3	974
15	CHIRANG	6586	46031	54055	106672	50164	50164	16250	2.45	9.05	9.24	20.74	11.4	1902
16	DHUBRI	2405	360	186226	188991	71697	71697	6615	0.28	0.04	19.33	19.65	4.64	471
17	DIBRUGARH	2926	9775	104889	117590	48723	48723	7137	0.32	1.04	8.75	10.11	2.59	197
18	GOLAGHAT	6155	14714	106714	127583	76296	76296	32430	1.09	1.9	10	12.99	2.91	323
19	JORHAT	6025	14384	76818	97227	45893	45893	8456	1.36	3.02	6.74	11.12	7.86	314
20	KAMRUP	16919	21926	156490	195335	67257	67257	2644	1.6	2.68	13.64	17.92	2.91	748
21	KAMRUP METRO	7450	8735	20787	36972	11971	11964	4875	0.44	0.4	1.06	1.9	0.86	123
22	KARIMGANJ	31341	2252	135400	168993	43174	43174	43174	4.71	1.46	5.05	11.22	0.67	163
23	NAGAON	34813	21992	154013	210818	125208	125208	17113	3.14	3.4	10.2	16.74	1.32	115
24	SIBSAGAR	4378	8449	88761	101588	38087	37960	15739	0.58	0.75	5.69	7.02	1.44	161
25	SONITPUR	13275	23686	175452	212413	86730	84750	21742	1.47	1.85	12.63	15.95	4.68	185
26	TINSUKIA	3693	11855	97917	113465	36316	36316	17372	0.14	0.62	7.33	8.09	1.4	271
27	UDALGURI	19376	70511	40421	130308	81017	81017	6750	4.5	14.6	6.94	26.04	8.4	1508
SubTotal		185313	325371	1448040	1958724	841583	838924	224060	24.09	54.73	125.85	204.67	55.38	7455
Total		357230	1257748	2754583	4369561	1807788	1798372	541762	51.74	128.26	290.55	470.55	124.73	45490

Table - 2.2 b
Employment generated through NREGA and its socio economic characteristics

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Cumulative No. of HH issued job card (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 generate (lakh person days)(Till the reporting month0)					Cumulative No. of HH completed 100 days (Till the reporting month)
		SCs	STs	Others	Total				SCs	STs	Others	Total	Women	
2009-10														
Phase I														
1	BONGAIGAON	23282	12089	75013	110384	87801	87801	52786	9.88	5.51	31.16	46.55	16.58	8526
2	DHEMAJI	11270	56426	43125	110821	77387	77387	16058	5.91	17.83	11.92	35.66	11.8	5837
3	GOALPARA	11054	41502	98848	151404	79196	79196	43897	1.38	6.94	11.01	19.33	4.91	1316
4	KARBI ANGLONG	6898	136071	41915	184884	135756	135756	0	3.74	55.92	16.01	75.67	24.59	0
5	KOKRAJHAR	5116	63095	102359	170570	170570	170570	98412	3.39	44.82	64.81	113.02	52.84	72120
6	LAKHIMPUR	22149	41647	92762	156558	96227	96227	15647	3.01	8.03	22.43	33.47	11.72	29746
7	N.C HILLS	1536	33494	5760	40790	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sub Total	81305	384324	459782	925411	646937	646937	226800	27.31	139.05	157.34	323.7	122.44	117545
Phase II														
8	BARPETA	15979	5213	222417	243609	100295	100295	52569	1.39	0.42	23.32	25.13	6.39	982
9	CACHAR	49707	9022	113910	172639	84996	83395	19167	5.66	1.29	15.94	22.89	1.06	751
10	DARRANG	8932	2519	140361	151812	81246	81246	11477	3.78	0.81	13.71	18.3	1.87	787
11	HAILAKANDI	20366	1776	89554	111696	87305	87305	12325	2.65	0.57	20.05	23.27	0.83	134
12	MARIGAON	18440	23317	90211	131968	65864	65864	23604	2.61	3.17	18.24	24.02	2.47	778
13	NALBARI	14848	6808	75110	96766	69073	69073	14683	2.04	1.66	15.94	19.64	3.68	509
	Sub Total	128272	48655	731563	908490	488779	487178	133825	18.13	7.92	107.2	133.25	16.3	3941
Phase III														
14	BAKSA	13825	56203	67981	138009	92700	92700	32000	2.25	20.48	12.65	35.38	7.6	108
15	CHIRANG	13200	38355	58200	109755	79250	79250	45100	6.8	15.75	17.6	40.15	14.12	4198
16	DHUBRI	11178	1522	166875	179575	78049	78049	21700	0.43	0.1	20.76	21.29	3.56	485
17	DIBRUGARH	3902	8548	90470	102920	44156	44156	5564	0.3	0.86	9.06	10.22	3.34	222
18	GOLAGHAT	9470	18233	90791	118494	89852	89659	15523	2.9	3.88	19.6	26.38	6.09	921
19	JORHAT	15632	14217	58267	88116	68426	68426	54267	3.79	2.39	5.51	11.69	5.29	157
20	KAMRUP	16352	20175	152325	188852	98510	98510	2680	5.44	5.86	9.72	21.02	1.95	230
21	KAMRUP METRO	7344	8617	20349	36310	18064	18017	11075	1.08	1.14	2.13	4.35	1.72	224
22	KARIMGANJ	70814	16045	58801	145660	37306	37306	37306	4.3	0.31	3.59	8.2	0.2	23
23	NAGAON	33676	20285	146714	200675	140193	140193	30460	6.13	5.16	11.53	22.82	0.78	93
24	SIBSAGAR	4370	8421	58313	71104	31720	31720	17002	1.7	1.07	7.24	10.01	1.18	406
25	SONITPUR	24929	29862	133969	188760	87009	87009	9160	2.8	3.79	14.84	21.43	5.92	184
26	TINSUKIA	3476	12276	84646	100398	39442	39442	29929	0.86	1.06	10.6	12.52	1.82	991
27	UDALGURI	16911	53042	39232	109185	98718	98718	36057	4.81	18.54	7.19	30.54	10.72	729
	Sub Total	245079	305801	1226933	1777813	1003395	1003155	347823	43.59	80.39	152.02	276	64.29	8971
	Total	454656	738780	2418278	3611714	2139111	2137270	708448	89.03	227.36	416.56	732.95	203.03	130457

Table-2.2 c
Employment generated through NREGA and its socio economic characteristics

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Cumulative No. of HH issued job card (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 generate (lakh person days)(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														
Phase I														
1	BONGAIGAO N	21998	12089	70916	105003	78143	78124	60248	11.19	6.58	31.49	49.26	16.95	29628
2	DHEMAJI	9451	55112	39180	103743	92805	92805	3050	3.9	18.09	13.48	35.47	10.64	9578
3	GOALPARA	11179	40027	96318	147524	72826	72319	8743	1.09	7.3	12.96	21.35	6.64	0
4	KARBI ANGLONG	6898	136071	41915	184884	179225	178161	10946	3.74	80.96	38.96	123.66	40.33	0
5	KOKRAJHAR	5115	63090	102305	170510	170510	170510	95469	4.68	68.02	83.46	156.16	71.83	95225
6	LAKHIMPUR	19784	33412	84805	138001	76241	74360	9256	1.7	4.52	12.62	18.84	3.88	29124
7	N. C. HILLS	1669	28540	7590	37799	37799	28040	1373	0.97	9.48	0.48	10.93	3.27	5102
Sub Total		76094	368341	443029	887464	707549	694319	189085	27.27	194.95	193.45	415.67	153.54	168657
Phase II														
8	BARPETA	15967	5208	206421	227596	91378	91378	2325	1.7	1.53	17.62	20.85	5.95	105
9	CACHAR	34030	5351	83253	122634	105349	90118	42344	9.03	1.58	18.36	28.97	2.91	3991
10	DARRANG	8159	2355	127446	137960	107790	107778	5531	3.75	1.1	17.5	22.35	4.45	771
11	HAILAKANDI	16221	957	72008	89186	89186	89186	0	4.22	0.25	15.87	20.34	2.31	40
12	MARIGAON	18440	23317	88040	129797	129797	56353	26249	3.58	4.12	14.47	22.17	2.92	1110
13	NALBARI	14154	6682	70520	91356	75749	70000	9877	4.6	2.05	23.41	30.06	2.41	1347
Sub Total		106971	43870	647688	798529	599249	504813	86326	26.88	10.63	107.23	144.74	20.95	7364
Phase III														
14	BAKSA	13825	56203	67981	138009	138009	23871	23871	0.97	3.19	3.05	7.21	1.09	85
15	CHIRANG	13200	38355	58200	109755	109550	109225	16965	5.8	23.24	19.05	48.09	15.1	0
16	DHUBRI	9793	1398	140168	151359	91047	49813	49813	0.83	0.07	12.06	12.96	4.02	2
17	DIBRUGARH	3219	5782	48693	57694	37132	28559	28559	0.56	0.95	7.47	8.98	0.48	0
18	GOLAGHAT	7122	13472	75613	96207	48285	48285	44945	0.77	2.02	8.31	11.1	1.37	120
19	JORHAT	9104	11475	54119	74698	57302	57302	46758	0.87	1.71	5.03	7.61	0.48	16
20	KAMRUP	15140	29631	126792	171563	96098	96098	96098	3.63	6.72	28.69	39.04	0.07	0
21	KAMRUP METRO	6857	8176	18329	33362	6271	6180	3420	0.18	0.27	0.36	0.81	0.36	2
22	KARIMGANJ	5930	1075	15350	22355	18608	18608	14533	2.48	0.12	1.53	4.13	0.17	2
23	NAGAON	25047	15855	122924	163826	84675	84675	6410	2.22	1.44	9.97	13.63	0.49	0
24	SIBSAGAR	5558	7121	39639	52318	29165	29090	29090	2.09	1.78	4.81	8.68	1.83	253
25	SONITPUR	12802	11482	66427	90711	71440	68520	68520	1.15	1.51	4.53	7.19	1.29	70
26	TINSUKIA	1109	4479	33003	38591	16453	15552	11836	0.12	0.71	4.63	5.46	0.49	207
27	UDALGURI	14481	39451	30149	84081	44516	42483	22882	2.37	9.47	3.94	15.78	2.3	0
Sub Total		143187	243955	897387	1284529	848551	678261	463700	24.04	53.2	113.43	190.67	29.54	757
Total		326252	656166	1988104	2970522	2155349	1877393	739111	78.19	258.78	414.11	751.08	204.03	176778

In 2010-11, the highest (8.50%) and the lowest (0.66%) households having job cards demanded employment in Kokrajhar and Kamrup Metro respectively out of the state total 18, 07,788. In 2009-10, the highest (7.97 %) and the lowest (0.84%) households having job cards demanded employment in Kokrajhar and Kamrup Metro respectively out of the state total 21, 39,111. In 2008-09, the highest (8.32 %) and the lowest (0.29%) households having job cards demanded employment in Karbi Anglong and Kamrup Metro respectively out of the state total 21, 55. 349.

In 2010-11, the highest (8.54%) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.67%) in Kamrup Metro households were provided employment out of the state cumulative number of households total 17, 98,372. In 2009-10, the highest (7.98%) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.84%) in Kamrup Metro households were provided employment out of the state cumulative number of households total 21, 37,270. In 2008-09, the highest (9.49%) in Karbi Anglong and the lowest (0.33%) in Kamrup Metro households were provided employment out of the state cumulative number of households total 18, 77,393.

In 2010-11, the highest number of households (13.06%) in Karbi Anglong and the lowest (0.42%) in North Cachar Hills worked under NREGA out of the state households total 5,41,762. In 2009-10, the highest number of households (13.89%) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.38%) in Kamrup worked under NREGA out of the state households total 7,08,448. In 2008-09, the highest number of households (13.00%) in Kamrup Rural and the lowest (0.19%) in North Cachar Hills worked under NREGA out of the state households total 7,39,111.

In 2010-11, under SC category, it generated the highest (16.16%) person days in Darang and the lowest (0.15%) in North Cachar Hills out of the state total generated man days 51.74 lakh person days. Under ST category, it generated the highest (16.36%) in Karbi Ang Long and the lowest (0.03%) in Dhubri of the state total man days generated 128.30 lakh person days while in case of others, it generated the highest (10.06%) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.04%) in North Cachar Hills out of the state total 290.60 lakh person days. Combining the three categories, the highest person days (10.97%) stood in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.40%) in Kamrup Metro out of the state total 470.60 lakh person days. In 2009-10, under Sc category, it generated the highest (11.10%) person days in Bongaigaon and the lowest (0.34%) in

Dibrugarh out of the state total generated man days 89.03 lakh person days. Under ST category, it generated the highest (24.60%) in Karbi Anglong and the lowest (0.04%) in Dhubri of the state total man days generated 227.40 lakh person days while in case of others, it generated the highest (15.56) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.51%) in Kamrup Metro, out the state total 416.60 lakh person days. Combining the three categories, the highest person days (15.42%) stood in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.59%) in Kamrup Metro out of the state total 733.00 lakh person days. In 2008-09, under SC category, it generated the highest (14.31%) person days in Bongaigaon and the lowest (0.15%) in Tinsukia out of the state total generated man days 78.19 lakh person days. Under ST category, it generated the highest (31.29%) in Karbi Anglong and the lowest (0.03%) in Dhubri of the state total man days generated 258.80 lakh person days while in case of others, it generated the highest (20.15) in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.09%) in Kamrup Metro out the state total 414.10 lakh person days. Combining the three categories, the highest person days (20.79%) stood in Kokrajhar and the lowest (0.11%) in Kamrup Metro out of the state total 751.10 lakh person days.

From the table, it has also been observed that emphasis has been given on engagement of women in NERGA programmes. Of the total person days, the highest 19.03 per cent were generated in Kokrajhar and the lowest 0.42 per cent person days in Bongaigaon out of the state total 124.70 lakh person (women) days in 2010-11. In 2009-10, of the state total person (women) days 203.00 lakh person days, the highest 26.03 per cent in Kokrajhar and the lowest 0.10 per cent person days were generated in Karimganj. In 2008-09, of the state total person (women) days 204.00 lakh person days, the highest 35.21 per cent in Kokrajhar and the lowest 0.03 per cent person days were generated in Kamrup Rural.

The table also indicates that a very few households could complete the norms of 100 person days in a year. The performance of other districts was very insignificant except Kokrajhar with the highest 51.04 per cent during 2010-11. While in 2009-10, the same district showed the highest person days in the year with 55.28 per cent and the lowest 0.02 per cent could complete the norms of 100 days by Karimganj in the year out of the state total 1,30,457 per son days . In 2008-09, the highest 53.87 per cent could complete 100 person days showing by Kokrajhar while lowest 0.01 per cent was observed in Jorhat district.

No significant improvement was seen in completing the norms of 100 days in the reference years. It indicates that no districts could achieve the time bound target of providing 100 days employment to each household per year in the years under observation. It might be due to four definite reasons. Firstly Assam is situated in heavy rainfall zone which becomes a major hindrance in starting the work on time. Secondly, the wage rate is lower than the market rate, thirdly labour scarcity during the time of work and fourthly administrative delay in starting the work or more demand for employment compel to engage more labour than actual requirement of labour against a particular work.

The reason might be lower wage rate in NREGA as compared to existing market rate for wage labour or might be due to some sort of dissatisfaction among the workers for not getting their dues timely or any other reasons such as delay in finalizing the plan of works, delay in releasing fund, etc.

It might be happened due to higher population of wage labour in SCs categories in the district under reference. Also at the same time, good initiative of the concerned wing attached to NREGA cannot be denied .

It happened due to higher population wage labour of other categories in the district or the area in which programmes were taken up might be dominated by the other categories.

2.3 Number of projects completed and total amount spent

As per the Act, all works need to obtain Administrative Sanction and Technical Sanctioned in advance, by December of the year preceding the proposed implementation.

Table 2.3a 2.3b, 2.3c 2.3d, 2.3e & 2.3f shows district wise number of works completed and progress and amount spent against the completed works along with the expenditure ongoing projects in 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11. All together there were 10 works taken up such as Rural Connectivity, Flood Control, Water Conservation and Water Harvesting, Drought Proofing including aforestation and tree plantation, Micro Irrigation, Provision of Irrigation Facility to Land Development, Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies, Land Development, Any Other Activity Approved by MRD and work under Bharat Nirman Rajib Gandhi Seva Kendra under NREGA in 2009-10. Each work was divided into two heads with reference to its status i.e. as completed and as ongoing to show the performance of each district in the reference year. In 2008-09 (Table2.3a), among the 5 sample districts, Sonitpur district occupied

first position by completing 862 works along 298 ongoing works while Cachar district occupied second position by completing 380 works along with 479 ongoing works; Bongaigaon district occupied third position by completing 64 works along with 155

Table - 2.3.a
District wise works completed/ in progress under NREGA (In No.)

Districts		Bongaigaon	Cachar	Dibrugarh	Nagaon	Sonitpur
2008-09						
Rural Connectivity	Completed	22	53	4	21	490
	Ongoing	87	155	41	619	169
Flood Control	Completed	7	92	5	0	102
	Ongoing	36	93	48	74	28
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	Completed	12	95	0	0	28
	Ongoing	11	81	2	46	15
Drought Proofing	Completed	8	7	2	16	140
	Ongoing	6	3	14	15	16
Micro Irrigation	Completed	5	97	0	0	12
	Ongoing	5	87	4	20	10
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed	0	5	0	0	0
	Ongoing	0	7	3	13	0
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed	5	24	0	0	15
	Ongoing	6	47	1	57	10
Land Development	Completed	5	7	3	2	75
	Ongoing	4	6	26	76	50
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed	0	0	0	0	0
	Ongoing	0	0	0	3	0
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed	0	0	0	0	0
	Ongoing	0	0	0	0	0
Total	Completed	64	380	14	39	862
	Ongoing	155	479	139	923	298

Note: At present all the districts data are not available in the web site of NREGA for the year 2008-09.

ongoing works; Nagaon district occupied fourth position by completing 39 works along with 923 ongoing works and Dibrugarh district occupied fifth position by completing 14 works along with 139 ongoing works.

Table 2.3b visualizes a comparative analysis of 5 sample districts on expenditure incurred against each completed and ongoing works under NREGA in 2008-09. In Bongaigaon district, the highest expenditure of 49.19 per cent incurred in Rural Connectivity work with an ongoing expenditure of 57.24 per cent of the total expenditure of Rs 2,397.02 lakh in completed work and Rs.3437.21 lakh in ongoing works respectively. In Cachar district, the highest expenditure of 28.05 per cent were found in Micro Irrigation against completed work of the district total amount of

Rs.1,467.47 while the highest expenditure of 48.19 per cent was found in ongoing works in Rural Connectivity works of the district total of Rs.2078.96. In Dibrugarh district, the highest expenditure of 47.77 per cent incurred in Flood Control of the

Table - 2.3.b
District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (Amount spent in Lakh Rs.)

Districts		Bongaigaon	Cacher	Dibrugarh	Nagaon	Sunitpur
2008-09						
Rural Connectivity	Completed	1,179.10	315.56	35.50	66.24	1,283.25
	%	49.19	21.50	21.14	70.10	61.52
	Ongoing	1,967.45	1,001.77	351.03	1,379.80	470.00
	%	57.24	48.19	37.18	62.68	56.47
Flood Control	Completed	655.30	316.52	80.20	0.00	275.60
	%	27.34	21.57	47.77	0.00	13.21
	Ongoing	1,088.56	447.79	314.06	350.60	163.32
	%	31.67	21.54	33.26	15.93	19.62
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	Completed	206.50	271.42	0.00	0.00	126.50
	%	8.61	18.50	0.00	0.00	6.06
	Ongoing	154.25	186.59	7.45	111.83	30.50
	%	4.49	8.98	0.79	5.08	3.66
Drought Proofing	Completed	174.20	28.26	8.34	18.55	153.90
	%	7.27	1.93	4.97	19.63	7.38
	Ongoing	86.43	11.24	80.28	87.45	46.15
	%	2.51	0.54	8.50	3.97	5.55
Micro Irrigation	Completed	33.29	411.59	0.00	0.00	44.07
	%	1.39	28.05	0.00	0.00	2.11
	Ongoing	30.92	268.00	18.26	35.18	24.96
	%	0.90	12.89	1.93	1.60	3.00
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed	0.00	24.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
	%	0.00	1.69	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Ongoing	0.00	10.00	8.34	14.15	0.00
	%	0.00	0.48	0.88	0.64	0.00
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed	86.88	72.87	0.00	0.00	38.54
	%	3.62	4.97	0.00	0.00	1.85
	Ongoing	80.63	110.50	0.32	97.98	9.31
	%	2.35	5.32	0.03	4.45	1.12
Land Development	Completed	61.75	26.45	43.85	9.70	164.20
	%	2.58	1.80	26.12	10.27	7.87
	Ongoing	28.97	43.07	164.50	119.38	88.04
	%	0.84	2.07	17.42	5.42	10.58
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Ongoing	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.09	0.00
	%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.00
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Ongoing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	Completed	2,397.02	1,467.47	167.89	94.49	2,086.06
	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Ongoing	3,437.21	2,078.96	944.24	2,201.46	832.28
	%	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Note: At present all the districts data are not available in the web site of NREGA for the year 2008-09.

district total of completed work of Rs.167.89 lakh while the highest expenditure of 37.18 per cent incurred in Rural Connectivity work of the district total of ongoing work of Rs.944.24 lakh. In Nagaon district, the highest expenditure of 70.10 per cent and 62.68 per cent incurred in Rural Connectivity works of the district total of completed work of Rs.94.49 lakh and ongoing work of Rs.220.46 lakh respectively. Sonitpur district also showed the highest expenditure of 61.52 per cent and 56.47 per cent incurred in Rural Connectivity works of the district total of completed work of Rs.2, 086.06 lakh and ongoing work of Rs.832.28 lakh, respectively.

In Bongaigaon district, no expenditure is found in three works- Provision of Irrigation Facility to Land Owned by, Any Other Activity Approved by MRD and under Bharat Nirman Rajib Gandhi Seva Kendra.

Table-2.3c visualizes a comparative analysis of progress of work under NREGA of 27 districts of Assam in terms of completed and ongoing works during 2009-10. The work rural connectivity obtained top position with 537 completed works followed by water conservation and water harvesting with 95 completed works, land development with 79 completed works, flood control with 64 completed works, drought proofing with 49 completed works, micro irrigation with 37 completed work, renovation of traditional water bodies with 29 completed work, any other activity approved by MRD with 25 completed works and provision of irrigation facility to land development with only 3 completed works. Among the 27 districts, Karbi Anglong occupied top position by completing 182 works along with 2091 ongoing projects and the lowest performance was shown by Cachar and Tinsukia by completing only one project during the reference year with ongoing works 1335 and 395 respectively.

Table 2.3d visualizes a comparative analysis of 27 districts of Assam on expenditure incurred against each completed and ongoing works under NREGA in 2009-10. In the reference year, the state spent an amount of Rs.4157.60 lakh on completed works and Rs.45485.00 lakhs on ongoing works. The highest expenditure of 70.01 per cent incurred in Rural Connectivity work with an ongoing expenditure of 64.14 per cent to the state total followed by 8.92 per cent in land development with an ongoing expenditure of 8.72 per cent, 6.11 per cent in water conservation and water harvesting with an ongoing expenditure of 5.18 per cent, 4.95 per cent in flood control with an ongoing expenditure of 12.18 per cent, 3.19 per cent in micro irrigation with an ongoing expenditure of 3.50 per cent, 2.89 per cent in renovation of traditional

water bodies with an ongoing expenditure of 2.06 per cent, 2.86 per cent in drought proofing with an ongoing expenditure of 2.08 per cent, 1.02 per cent in any other activity approved by MRD with an ongoing expenditure of 1.98 per cent. Among all

Table - 2.3 c
District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (number of projects)

Districts		BAKSA	BARPETA	BONGAIGAON	CACHAR	CHIRANG	DARRANG	DHEMAJI	DHUBRI	DIBRUGARH	GOALPARA	GOLAGHAT	HAILAKANDI	JORHAT	KAMRUP
2009-10															
Rural	Completed	1	17	18	0	0	42	27	2	18	0	8	0	15	11
Connectivity	Ongoing	483	496	120	587	246	486	833	295	132	1057	221	1393	372	470
Flood	Completed	1	3	3	0	0	5	4	0	2	0	1	0	1	0
Control	Ongoing	69	137	36	150	68	41	113	22	17	52	15	108	27	4
Water	Completed	0	5	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Conservation	Ongoing	50	38	11	140	8	24	174	1	0	20	39	81	7	22
and Water	Completed	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Harvesting	Ongoing	19	11	4	27	0	17	24	66	18	5	13	7	41	2
Drought	Completed	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Proofing	Ongoing	19	10	3	296	4	34	10	0	44	41	34	7	42	15
Micro	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Irrigation	Ongoing	5	1	0	22	4	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Provision of Irri- gation facility to Land Development	Completed	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	1
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Ongoing	9	22	3	76	6	53	23	5	0	26	22	13	28	42
Land	Completed	0	9	3	0	0	8	6	0	3	0	0	0	4	3
Development	Ongoing	27	212	13	14	50	243	158	55	30	135	28	10	46	141
Any other	Completed	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Activity Approved by MRD	Ongoing	16	20	7	23	24	7	80	1	3	21	1	2	11	21
Rajiv Gandhi	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seva Kendra	Ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	Completed	3	39	27	1	0	58	43	2	31	0	13	0	33	15
	Ongoing	697	947	197	1335	410	950	1415	445	244	1357	373	1621	575	717

Contd.---->

Table - 2.3 c

District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (number of projects)

Districts		KAMRUP METRO	KARBI ANGLO NG	KARIMGAN J	KOKRAJHA R	LAKHIMPU R	MARIGAO N	NAGAO N	NALBAR I	N C HILL S	SIBSAGA R	SONITPU R	TINSUKI A	UDALGUR I	TOTAL
		2009-10													
Rural	Completed	2	71	57	21	2	29	52	0	0	71	73	0	0	537
Connectivity	Ongoing	74	1247	286	1091	460	790	984	329	139	335	566	230	437	14159
Flood	Completed	0	2	2	8	0	0	13	0	0	6	13	0	0	64
Control	Ongoing	3	10	14	123	159	46	85	38	5	19	102	25	77	1565
Water	Completed	0	67	0	1	0	5	4	0	0	1	4	0	0	95
Conservation and Water Harvesting	Ongoing	1	302	6	9	61	166	207	98	59	13	37	55	17	1646
Drought	Completed	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	27	0	0	49
Proofing	Ongoing	1	91	3	15	10	50	55	86	18	28	122	10	11	754
Micro	Completed	0	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	37
Irrigation	Ongoing	6	166	18	64	25	39	40	30	6	50	29	48	16	1096
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Ongoing	0	36	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	123
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	10	3	0	0	29
	Ongoing	1	1	11	2	27	24	76	26	1	43	18	5	10	573
Land Development	Completed	0	15	1	1	0	16	2	0	0	4	3	1	0	79
	Ongoing	10	224	12	131	92	451	201	191	25	40	115	19	81	2754
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed	0	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	0	3	4	0	0	25
	Ongoing	0	14	4	220	31	6	38	60	0	23	26	0	11	670
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ongoing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	Completed	2	182	67	41	2	50	74	0	0	107	127	1	0	918
	Ongoing	96	2091	354	1660	866	1572	1686	858	253	551	1015	395	660	23340

Table - 2.3 - d
District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (amount spent in Lakhs)

Districts		BAKSA	BARPETA	BONGAIGAON	CACHAR	CHIRANG	DARRANG	DHEMAJI	DHUBRI	DIBRUGARH	GOALPARA	GOLAGHAT	HAILAKANDI	JORHAT	KAMRUP
2009-10															
Rural Connectivity	Completed Ongoing	3.308 888.050	156.938 909.036	186.344 1605.678	0.000 1192.137	0.000 246.442	53.272 788.668	17.306 603.410	157.132 1817.459	91.768 763.821	0.000 1283.348	152.062 1984.785	0.000 2376.820	155.642 649.110	100.096 696.541
Flood Control	Completed Ongoing	3.255 145.846	7.302 256.519	29.357 1512.357	0.000 192.897	0.000 27.266	1.889 65.669	1.728 124.987	0.000 294.165	1.364 60.247	0.000 76.879	2.548 162.154	0.000 162.614	15.290 117.061	1.330 11.103
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	Completed Ongoing	1.376 97.368	5.875 43.574	6.376 114.996	0.000 147.359	0.000 1.210	0.543 44.852	2.886 141.065	0.000 1.493	0.000 0.000	0.000 17.293	30.867 136.850	0.000 150.626	3.682 6.282	1.233 70.949
Drought Proofing	Completed Ongoing	0.000 34.274	5.136 9.357	0.000 47.451	0.000 33.900	0.000 0.000	0.000 26.623	0.435 10.543	0.229 55.519	0.000 49.545	0.000 4.264	0.000 56.554	0.000 20.307	10.357 19.632	0.000 1.003
Micro Irrigation	Completed Ongoing	0.000 31.487	0.000 17.241	0.000 33.178	1.325 332.829	0.000 4.558	1.170 14.645	0.000 5.316	0.000 0.000	29.895 184.508	0.000 36.296	4.055 126.595	0.000 21.358	23.688 77.732	2.890 23.678
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed Ongoing	0.000 6.754	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 5.646	0.000 1.851	0.000 5.852	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	1.041 0.936	0.000 0.000
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed Ongoing	0.000 14.171	0.157 15.441	0.000 24.284	0.000 151.834	0.000 8.001	6.874 93.946	0.000 19.254	0.000 15.543	0.000 0.000	0.000 36.943	35.501 142.259	0.000 14.200	10.831 26.493	12.972 45.515
Land Development	Completed Ongoing	0.000 58.772	58.204 321.328	17.160 142.954	0.000 18.913	0.000 30.034	4.667 313.388	1.254 89.675	34.148 161.412	6.234 77.878	0.000 133.614	0.000 108.969	0.000 31.886	25.667 64.366	17.074 153.054
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed Ongoing	0.000 56.458	6.528 31.010	3.373 243.914	0.000 9.460	0.000 55.775	0.000 2.371	0.216 22.782	0.000 1.400	0.000 5.765	0.000 17.738	0.000 0.982	0.000 0.000	1.949 7.452	6.672 22.416
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed Ongoing	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000
Total	Completed Ongoing	7.939 1333.178	240.138 1603.506	242.611 3724.812	1.325 2084.975	0.000 375.138	68.415 1356.013	23.825 1017.031	191.509 2346.990	129.261 1141.764	0.000 1606.376	225.032 2719.147	0.000 2777.811	248.147 969.063	142.267 1024.257

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Table - 2.3 - d

District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (amount spent in Lakhs)

Districts		KAMRUP METRO	KARBI ANGLONG	KARIMGANJ	KOKRAJHAR	LAKHIMPUR	MARIGAON	NAGAON	NALBARI	NORTH CACHAR HILLS	SIBSAGAR	SONITPUR	TINSUKIA	UDALGURI	TOTAL
Rural Connectivity	Completed Ongoing	124.26 470.37	228.39 2287.92	204.08 331.12	13.09 462.32	24.81 1960.35	241.15 1649.02	211.57 1641.85	0.00 447.14	0.00 0.00	213.18 478.70	550.01 1197.91	26.23 1262.97	0.00 1179.31	2910.65 29174.29
Flood Control	Completed Ongoing	0.00 17.71	1.32 48.69	10.05 10.26	12.74 52.79	0.00 750.14	0.00 85.15	12.48 275.81	0.00 63.01	0.00 0.00	39.59 18.15	65.69 280.45	0.00 136.66	0.00 590.69	205.93 5539.26
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	Completed Ongoing	0.00 1.22	127.15 229.86	0.00 8.27	0.17 4.20	0.00 104.86	16.51 299.50	21.81 273.67	0.00 108.11	0.00 0.00	3.98 9.97	31.65 82.12	0.00 237.51	0.00 20.67	254.10 2353.88
Drought Proofing	Completed Ongoing	0.00 6.36	24.20 67.60	0.00 2.37	0.00 34.44	0.00 11.67	0.00 98.64	0.12 99.58	0.00 84.86	0.00 0.00	22.79 21.59	55.45 126.62	0.00 13.27	0.00 11.34	118.72 947.32
Micro Irrigation	Completed Ongoing	2.93 24.19	31.49 65.47	5.26 17.49	0.00 44.00	0.00 98.45	0.00 56.97	3.15 72.12	0.00 35.50	0.00 0.00	20.40 37.53	6.38 77.73	0.00 121.06	0.00 32.92	132.65 1592.84
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed Ongoing	0.00 0.00	0.00 48.02	0.00 0.00	0.80 3.39	0.00 1.01	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 1.94	0.00 0.00	1.84 75.39
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed Ongoing	0.00 2.36	0.00 1.17	8.59 9.37	0.00 0.99	0.00 54.67	0.00 34.26	23.30 102.05	0.00 20.92	0.00 0.00	8.75 47.98	13.37 27.75	0.00 19.10	0.00 8.87	120.34 937.37
Land Development	Completed Ongoing	0.00 42.92	20.11 217.82	4.88 19.22	0.20 92.62	0.00 239.68	81.52 762.22	18.94 211.08	0.00 270.71	0.00 0.00	33.61 56.06	40.53 170.70	3.79 57.38	2.93 118.50	370.91 3965.15
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed Ongoing	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.73	5.45 143.65	0.00 48.50	0.00 10.32	3.16 37.34	0.00 55.46	0.00 0.00	3.32 24.56	11.85 61.45	0.00 0.00	0.00 40.45	42.52 899.98
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed Ongoing	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
Total	Completed Ongoing	127.19 565.13	432.65 2966.55	232.86 398.83	32.44 838.41	24.81 3269.33	339.18 2996.08	294.54 2713.50	0.00 1085.71	0.00 0.00	345.62 694.52	774.94 2024.73	30.01 1849.89	2.93 2002.75	4157.65 45485.48

the districts, the highest amount of Rs.550.00 lakh were spent by the Sonitpur district in rural connectivity as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.1198 lakh. Sonitpur also showed the highest expenditure of Rs.65.69 lakh in flood control work with an ongoing expenditure of 280.40 lakh. Karbi Anglong showed the highest expenditure of Rs.127.10 lakh in water conservation and harvesting as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.229.90 lakh. The highest expenditure of Rs 55.45 lakh was shown by Sonitpur in drought proofing work as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.126.60 lakh. Karbi Anglong also showed the highest expenditure of Rs.31.49 lakh against the micro irrigation as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.65.47lakh.The highest expenditure of Rs.1.041 lakh were spent by Jorhat district in provision of irrigation facilities to land development as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.0.936 lakh. The highest expenditure were spent by Golaghat district with a tune of expenditure of 35.50 lakh in renovation of traditional water bodies as completed work with an ongoing expenses of Rs.142.30 lakh. The highest amount of Rs81.52 lakh were spent by the Morigaon district as completed work with a tune of Rs.762.20 lakh in ongoing works. The highest amount of Rs. 11.85 lakh was spent by Sonitpur district in any other activity approved by MRD with a tune of Rs.61.45 lakh in ongoing works.

In 2010-11, Table - 2.3e indicates the highest number of work completed belonged to any other activity approved by MRD by completing 2211 works followed by rural connectivity with 1879 completed works, drought proofing with 613 completed works, land development with 398 completed works, flood control with 193 completed works, water conservation and water harvesting with 164 completed works, provision of irrigation facility to land development with 129 completed works, micro irrigation with 128 completed work and renovation of traditional water bodies with 82 completed work. Among the 27 districts, Kokrajhar occupied top position by completing 2898 works along with 7830 ongoing projects and the lowest performance was shown by Goalpara completing only one project during the reference year with ongoing works 2,296.

Table - 2.3 e
District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (number of projects)

Districts		BAKS A	BARPET A	BONGAIGAO N	CACHA R	CHIRAN G	DARRAN G	DHEMA JI	DHUB RI	DIBRUGAR H	GOALPAR A	GOLAGHA T	HAILAKAN DI	JORHA T	KAMRU P
2010-11															
Rural Connectivity	Completed Ongoing	7 633	99 697	9 143	11 629	5 524	13 992	210 1317	19 441	51 415	1 1784	12 347	0 2070	156 534	154 882
Flood Control	Completed Ongoing	1 81	30 161	2 39	0 155	2 291	1 52	34 199	3 31	3 36	0 70	0 21	0 124	7 34	2 8
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	Completed Ongoing	1 68	4 37	1 16	0 150	0 17	2 32	47 218	0 3	0 11	0 40	1 55	0 143	1 10	7 50
Drought Proofing	Completed Ongoing	38 167	1 16	0 29	0 46	0 30	1 114	14 45	10 66	13 89	0 20	1 28	0 7	9 40	0 2
Micro Irrigation	Completed Ongoing	0 22	1 10	0 3	13 276	1 31	1 74	3 14	0 4	6 63	0 74	2 38	0 9	11 54	3 35
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed Ongoing	0 5	0 1	0 0	1 21	0 4	0 48	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	4 3	0 0
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed Ongoing	0 13	4 18	0 3	3 74	0 19	5 68	1 43	0 8	0 4	0 40	2 31	0 15	17 33	17 52
Land Development	Completed Ongoing	2 59	43 274	1 23	0 15	1 85	12 368	44 297	4 80	8 64	0 236	0 44	0 12	18 54	70 273
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed Ongoing	1 381	4 24	0 8	0 22	0 95	0 11	10 111	0 1	2 30	0 29	0 7	0 3	9 3	12 28
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed Ongoing	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 16	0 3	0 0	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 5	0 19	0 13
Total	Completed Ongoing	50 1429	186 1238	13 264	28 1388	9 1096	35 1775	363 2247	36 634	83 714	1 2296	18 574	0 2388	232 784	265 1343

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Table - 2.3 e
District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (number of projects)

Districts		KAMRUP METRO	KARBI ANGLONG	KARIMGANJ	KOKRAJHAR	LAKHIMPUR	MARIGAON	NAGAON	NALBARI	N C HILLS	SIBSAGAR	SONITPUR	TINSUKIA	UDALGURI	TOTAL
Rural Connectivity	Completed	16	30	100	268	24	31	55	6	54	124	327	64	33	1879
	Ongoing	84	2916	431	2024	734	1156	1566	482	337	419	1069	374	632	23632
Flood Control	Completed	0	0	9	11	11	0	10	1	0	7	48	6	5	193
	Ongoing	3	251	25	223	202	83	121	49	12	15	120	32	115	2553
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	Completed	0	19	2	2	2	5	12	2	24	6	14	12	0	164
	Ongoing	1	854	7	23	169	247	373	113	87	13	61	54	27	2879
Drought Proofing	Completed	2	2	0	442	3	0	4	1	7	24	34	6	1	613
	Ongoing	3	223	3	3289	143	60	92	95	92	52	130	6	17	4904
Micro Irrigation	Completed	3	9	8	16	4	0	2	0	0	6	15	23	1	128
	Ongoing	3	362	36	100	72	78	128	34	11	47	47	49	37	1711
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	124	0	129
	Ongoing	0	36	0	8	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	322	0	451
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed	0	0	3	0	0	0	8	0	0	13	7	0	2	82
	Ongoing	1	17	16	4	33	32	79	31	4	40	23	5	30	736
Land Development	Completed	2	33	2	19	4	20	9	3	24	19	48	5	7	398
	Ongoing	6	580	17	168	150	979	312	292	55	31	136	19	213	4842
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed	0	0	2	2140	0	0	2	0	9	3	16	0	1	2211
	Ongoing	0	65	6	1990	39	7	68	67	20	29	12	0	33	3089
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ongoing	1	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	1	6	79
Total	Completed	23	93	126	2898	48	56	102	13	118	202	509	240	50	5797
	Ongoing	102	5304	541	7830	1543	2642	2745	1163	618	647	1599	862	1110	44876

Table-2.3.f visualizes a comparative analysis of 27 districts of Assam on expenditure incurred against each completed and ongoing works under NREGA in 2010-11. In the reference year, the state spent an amount of Rs.8,884.80 lakh on completed works and Rs.77,764.00 lakhs on ongoing works. The highest expenditure of 56.96 per cent incurred on rural connectivity with an ongoing expenditure of 57.97 per cent to the state total followed by 15.91 per cent in flood control work with an ongoing expenditure of 12.73 per cent, 7.71 per cent in drought proofing work with an ongoing expenditure of 4.41 per cent, 7.16 per cent in land development with an ongoing expenditure of 8.97 per cent, 4.17 per cent on any other activity approved by MRD with an ongoing expenditure of 5.47 per cent, 3.32 per cent in micro irrigation with an ongoing expenditure of 3.30 per cent, 3.04 per cent in water conservation and water harvesting with an ongoing expenditure of 4.82 per cent, 1.10 per cent in renovation of traditional water bodies with an ongoing expenditure of 1.47 per cent, 0.52 per cent provision of irrigation facilities to land development with an ongoing expenditure of 0.12 per cent was seen in Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra work and very insignificant i.e. 0.75 per cent was found in ongoing works during the reference year. Among all the districts, the highest amount of Rs.1,055.00 lakh were spent by the Sonitpur district in rural connectivity as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.934.70 lakh. The district Kokrajhar showed the highest expenditure of Rs.906.80 lakh in flood control work with an ongoing expenditure of 943.20 lakh. The district karbi Ang Long showed the highest expenditure of Rs.70.25 lakh in water conservation and harvesting as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.920.90 lakh. The highest expenditure of Rs 391.10 lakh was shown by kokrajhar in drought proofing work as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.1,042.00 lakh. The district Kokrajhar showed the highest expenditure of Rs.50.50 lakh against the micro irrigation as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.191.20 lakh. The highest expenditure of Rs.40.51 lakh were spent by Tinsukia district in provision of irrigation facilities to land development as completed work with an ongoing expenditure of Rs.60.86 lakh. The highest expenditure were spent by Sonitpur district with a tune of expenditure of 14.87 lakh for renovation of traditional water bodies as completed work with an ongoing expenses of Rs.1.22 lakh. The highest amount of Rs 97.90 lakh were spent by the Dhemaji district in land development as completed work with a tune of Rs. 447.50

Table - 2.3 f
District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (amount spent in Lakhs)

Districts		BAKSA	BARP ETA	BONGAIGAO N	CACHA R	CHIRAN G	DARRAN G	DHEMA JI	DHUBR I	DIBRUGAR H	GOALPAR A	GOLAGHA T	HAILAKAN DI	JORHA T	KAMRU P
2009-10															
Rural	Completed	82.76	272.65	52.32	50.14	26.69	21.47	292.73	98.89	123.70	18.25	85.01	0.05	102.11	324.61
Connectivity	Ongoing	1825.07	1462.68	1805.73	1281.68	1172.95	2022.13	2014.74	2963.58	889.61	2181.03	1762.83	2509.91	1174.84	1754.65
Flood	Completed	6.48	97.90	0.70	0.06	5.48	0.14	63.61	15.01	1.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.13	5.86
Control	Ongoing	623.62	568.59	879.37	161.61	1615.84	108.96	406.87	955.53	51.74	152.21	92.67	37.54	102.40	9.36
Water	Completed	15.96	1.81	1.07	1.38	0.00	1.05	18.76	0.00	9.08	0.00	0.59	0.32	0.00	21.84
Conservation	Ongoing	129.02	31.79	95.92	119.88	55.30	40.98	326.79	13.15	15.98	65.56	178.97	190.58	26.56	76.37
and Water	Completed	127.27	1.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.46	12.54	2.90	22.73	0.00	1.48	0.00	0.69	0.00
Harvesting	Ongoing	404.64	19.33	136.33	88.40	243.11	160.49	63.42	36.05	139.08	23.33	115.98	2.16	23.93	0.01
Drought	Completed	34.98	0.08	0.00	27.35	3.66	2.85	0.00	0.00	7.77	0.26	5.46	0.00	0.75	6.78
Proofing	Ongoing	32.72	49.02	61.18	256.09	76.62	121.52	16.51	17.04	143.90	121.84	104.94	1.94	112.92	56.99
Micro	Completed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.16	0.00
Irrigation	Ongoing	3.01	0.00	0.00	3.52	0.62	6.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.69	0.00
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed	5.77	3.30	0.00	12.17	0.00	5.68	1.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.14	14.31
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Ongoing	11.16	8.62	23.83	86.12	44.97	121.09	72.75	12.37	60.36	57.41	124.82	4.98	57.87	40.05
Land	Completed	16.48	69.44	0.20	0.00	3.28	34.22	97.90	6.49	11.08	0.76	0.00	0.00	1.82	89.44
Development	Ongoing	122.61	423.09	96.18	33.30	104.06	506.35	447.50	290.34	88.29	239.00	101.87	7.94	46.83	405.67
Any other	Completed	17.94	2.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.53	0.00	11.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	3.24
Activity Approved by MRD	Ongoing	606.31	42.21	73.14	0.29	713.39	11.26	203.12	2.50	51.05	50.75	44.25	7.00	5.81	26.77
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Ongoing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.84	17.55	0.00	0.00	42.84	45.53	69.01	103.46	86.62
Total	Completed	307.64	449.15	54.30	91.32	39.11	77.04	499.80	123.29	187.32	19.26	92.53	0.37	130.14	466.09
	Ongoing	3758.17	2605.32	3171.67	2030.89	4026.86	3248.43	3569.25	4290.55	1440.00	2933.97	2571.86	2831.06	1657.31	2456.49

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Table - 2.3 f
District wise works completed/progress under NREGA (amount spent in Lakhs)

Districts		KAMRUP METRO	KARBI ANGLONG	KARIMGANJ	KOKRAJHAR	LAKHIMPUR	MARIGAON	NAGAON	NALBARI	NORTH CACHAR HILLS	SIBSAGAR	SONITPUR	TINSUKIA	UDALGURI	TOTAL
Rural Connectivity	Completed Ongoing	91.27 198.76	244.85 4443.27	253.30 1358.07	832.54 2339.20	71.55 1682.07	74.16 1559.16	58.82 1860.70	28.16 1119.52	87.88 156.12	262.51 748.22	1034.53 934.67	147.45 909.09	322.72 2949.37	5061.10 45079.63
Flood Control	Completed Ongoing	0.47 1.84	0.00 854.46	28.99 89.89	906.80 943.21	18.29 451.18	0.00 264.81	9.80 153.79	6.84 141.90	0.37 6.39	21.16 14.09	134.16 121.98	9.67 72.58	74.92 1019.51	1413.34 9901.94
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	Completed Ongoing	0.00 2.32	70.25 920.93	8.28 8.73	3.59 47.88	4.29 186.90	21.82 454.38	1.67 348.41	4.51 166.10	23.04 25.84	18.94 7.39	32.71 48.20	9.38 106.37	0.00 56.28	270.34 3746.56
Drought Proofing	Completed Ongoing	5.45 5.15	3.93 279.69	2.11 7.34	391.13 1041.74	1.38 213.27	0.00 19.18	0.64 124.68	0.95 47.48	14.49 50.26	22.53 98.24	63.16 47.30	4.04 11.42	5.00 28.64	685.42 3430.63
Micro Irrigation	Completed Ongoing	7.52 11.81	29.85 423.70	14.33 70.74	50.50 191.21	6.46 86.28	0.00 151.17	24.25 172.07	0.37 41.49	1.82 1.77	3.01 20.92	41.34 28.20	16.30 66.14	9.20 125.35	294.90 2564.09
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Development	Completed Ongoing	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 11.48	0.00 0.65	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 1.69	40.51 60.86	0.00 0.00	45.90 91.34
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	Completed Ongoing	0.00 0.00	0.00 16.57	6.65 28.65	0.00 37.39	0.00 68.67	0.00 31.84	1.75 58.38	0.58 33.76	0.36 1.22	9.19 44.01	14.50 13.92	0.00 3.42	7.38 80.56	97.54 1144.80
Land Development	Completed Ongoing	1.92 9.19	19.35 365.78	1.50 46.33	23.76 85.58	10.34 343.73	67.36 1648.79	2.16 279.50	14.70 539.89	35.22 23.51	35.39 36.70	53.37 107.76	3.06 24.99	36.80 547.99	636.03 6972.78
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	Completed Ongoing	0.00 0.00	0.00 79.12	16.25 5.44	275.11 1999.43	0.00 69.78	0.00 0.00	1.42 82.97	0.00 16.63	3.83 14.66	1.41 25.36	7.70 8.36	0.00 0.00	16.41 112.95	370.08 4252.56
Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	Completed Ongoing	0.00 5.62	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 5.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 10.72	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 4.98	0.00 0.00	0.00 4.06	0.00 35.27	10.16 579.49
Total	Completed Ongoing	106.63 234.68	368.23 7383.51	331.40 1615.20	2483.44 6702.12	112.31 3102.54	163.34 4129.34	100.51 3091.22	56.12 2106.77	167.01 279.77	374.14 999.92	1381.46 1312.09	230.41 1258.92	472.42 4955.91	8884.79 77763.82

lakh in ongoing works. The highest amount of Rs. 275.10 lakh was spent by Kokrajhar district in any other activity approved by MRD with a tune of Rs.1999.00 lakh in ongoing works. No record of completed expenditure was found against the Rajib Gandhi Seva Kendra work in 26 districts. Only the Darrang district showed expenditure with a tune of Rs. 10.16 lakh as completed work with a tune of Rs.148.80 lakh in the ongoing work in the reference year.

2.4 Performance of NREGA- Some quantitative indicators

To ensure transparency and accountability, social auditing and inspection of NREGA work for proper assessment along with measuring of appropriateness, some steps are to be taken as per the Act of NREGA. The Gram panchayats are generally the appropriate authorities empowered to start work (by issuing orders) and to assign the jobs to the persons who applied for work under NREGA. The Programme Officer shall also act as the authority empowered to start work (by issuing orders) if the demand for employment is either received by the Programme Officer or referred to him by the Gram panchayat. Each and every decision of NREGA programme is discussed in the Gram Sabha for sanctioning of work. The Gram Sabha monitors all the works at the village levels as well as the employment provided to each person who has applied for work. It also monitors the registration and issue of job cards and timely payment of wages. For every work sanctioned under the Scheme, there should be Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (VMC) composed of members of the locality or village where the work is undertaken to monitor the progress and quality of work. The VMC comprises nine members. The Gram Sobha elects the members of the Committee and ensures that SC/STs and women are represented on it. It should have at least 50% of members from among the NREGA workers. The VMC should be elected for the period of one year by the Gram Sabha. The GP/Implementing Agency should apprise this Committee of estimates regarding the work, time frame and quality parameters. The Final Report of the Committee should be attached along with the Completion Certificate of the work, and should be placed at the next meeting of the Gram Sabha in the Panchayat where work has been executed. A copy of the Report will also be sent to the Programme Officer and the District Programme Coordinator. The Programme Officer is responsible to ensure that local Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are constituted. The VMC should be village specific and not work specific. It should facilitate the social audit by the Gram Sabha. Vigilance and Monitoring Committees also hold meetings to conduct periodic inspection of the

works in progress and monitor for quality checking of the works. If a Job Card holder has a problem, he can first approach the Gram Panchayat. If this does not help, he can submit the complaint to the Programme Officer at the Block level. It is his duty to register the complaint and take action within 7 days. In this regard, there is adequate provision to redress the grievances of the applicant. The Gram Sabha and the Social Audit Forum shall provide a forum for public hearing so that grievances may be quickly redressed. Regarding Social Audit, it is the Mandatory Agenda of NREGA to be conducted by Gram Sabha, it must be read out publicly for transparency in the Gram Sabha, people are also allowed to put question on any kind of clarification, and minutes must be recorded in prescribed format.

Table 2.4.a, 2.4.b and 2.4.c depict the pictures of social auditing and inspection of NREGA in the 27 districts of Assam during 2010-11, 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively. In 2008-09, under Muster Roll verification, 100 per cent verification is needed as per administrative guideline. In this regard, 89.64 per cent verification was found in the state as a whole while it was 95.00 per cent in case of social audit, 34.44 per cent in inspection of work conducted in district level, and 94.63 per cent in inspection of work at block level. During the reference year, the total 2,365 Gram Panchayat, 8,567 Gram Sabha and 4,777 VMC meetings were held in the state. In 2010-11, 13 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Lakhimpur, Darrang, Morigaon, Baksa, Chirang, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Nagaon, Sivasagar, Sonitpur, Tinsukia and Udalguri showed 100 per cent verification in muster roll and no record of verification was found in 5 districts viz., Goalpara, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural and Karimganj.

In 2010-11, 18 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Borpeta, Cachar, Darrang, Hilakandi, Nalbari, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, Nagaon, Sivasagar, Sonitpur, Tinsukia and Udalguri showed 100 per cent social audit and no record of verification was found in 4 districts viz., Goalpara, Golaghat, Jorhat, and Karimganj. The lowest 32.14 per cent found in North Cachar Hills.

Inspection of works is done by the implementing agency through the concerned deputed officers at district and block level. From the table, it has been observed that the number of inspection in block level is at much higher side than the district level. Generally variation of inspection depends on total number of works

Table - 2.4 a
Social auditing and inspection of NREGA work

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	Must Roll Verified		Social Audit		Inspection Conducted			Gram Sava Held			Complaints	
		No. of Muster Rolls Used	Verified	Total Gram Panchayts	No. of GP where social Audit Held	Total works Taken up	No. of works Inspected at Dist.Level	No. of works Inspected at BlockLevel	Total Gram Panchayats	No. of Gram Sabha Held	No. of VMC meeting Held	No. of Complaints Received	No. of Complaints Disposed
2010-11													
Phase I													
1	BONGAIGAON	9703	9703	65	65	228	198	228	65	128	130	2	2
2	DHEMAJI	32992	32186	65	47	1680	258	1665	65	82	64	80	80
3	GOALPARA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	KARBI ANGLONG	32249	11132	11	11	1069	10	1034	8	192	387	0	0
5	KOKRAJHAR	111612	83709	130	130	3961	807	3961	130	260	0	0	0
6	LAKHIMPUR	61028	61028	81	81	1010	615	1010	81	81	0	0	0
7	N C HILLS	601	566	28	9	347	83	264	36	10	6	0	0
Sub Total		248185	198324	380	343	8295	1971	8162	385	753	587	82	82
Phase II													
8	BARPETA	19970	19120	129	129	1029	422	876	129	265	258	26	26
9	CACHAR	5400	3469	163	163	866	75	269	163	409	68	39	19
10	DARRANG	26012	26012	75	75	1166	1017	1166	75	193	159	7	7
11	HAILAKANDI	12596	8720	62	62	1111	229	632	62	62	62	16	14
12	MARIGAON	29340	29340	188	180	1409	1409	1409	188	188	3	32	32
13	NALBARI	22194	18035	65	65	841	675	841	65	65	841	18	18
Sub Total		115512	104696	682	674	6422	3827	5193	682	1182	1391	138	116
Phase III													
14	BAKSA	16751	16751	102	70	908	202	908	102	102	102	0	0
15	CHIRANG	26500	26500	67	26	961	385	961	67	67	67	2	2
16	DHUBRI	31061	31061	168	168	188	120	188	168	168	168	4	0
17	DIBRUGARH	14804	14804	93	93	551	31	551	93	1395	52	0	0
18	GOLAGHAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	JORHAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	KAMRUP	20777	20777	140	140	1650	320	1650	140	280	140	0	0
21	KAMRUP METRO	827	300	22	22	134	30	134	22	329	9	8	7
22	KARIMGANJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	NAGAON	1913	1913	230	230	1915	278	1908	230	142	511	8	8
24	SIBSAGAR	10545	10545	118	118	693	99	693	118	602	199	0	0
25	SONITPUR	46135	46135	158	158	1547	345	1547	158	337	953	0	0
26	TINSUKIA	19502	19502	86	86	1062	1051	1062	86	3096	164	21	21
27	UDALGURI	38394	38394	114	114	1154	116	1154	114	114	434	10	10
Sub Total		227209	226682	1298	1225	10763	2977	10756	1298	6632	2799	53	48
Total		590906	529702	2360	2242	25480	8775	24111	2365	8567	4777	273	246

taken up. In district level, 100 per cent inspection was found in Morigaon district only. No records of inspections were found in Goalpara, Golaghat, Jorhat and Karimganj. The lowest 0.94 per cent was found in Karbi Anglong. Inspection in block level, 16 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Darrang, Morigaon, Nalbari, Baksa, Chirang, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, Sivasagar, Sonitpur, Tinsukia and Udalguri showed cent percent inspection. No record of inspection at block level was found in 4 districts viz., Goalpara, Golaghat, Jorhat and Karimganj. The lowest inspection 31.06 per cent at block level was found in Cachar. In 2010-11, the highest with 230 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Nagaon district; the lowest with only 8 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Karbi Anglong. No record of holding Gram Panchayat meeting were found in 4 districts viz., Goalpara, Golaghat, Jorhat, and Karimganj. The highest number with 3096 Gram Sabha meeting was held in Tinsukia district with lowest 10 meetings in North Cachar Hills. No record of holding Gram Sabha meeting was found in 4 districts viz., Goalpara, Golaghat, Jorhat, and Karimganj. The District Sonitpur occupied top position by holding 953 VMC meeting and the lowest position held by Morigaon district by holding only 3 VMC meeting. No record of holding any VMC meeting were found in 6 districts viz., Goalpara, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Golaghat, Jorhat, and Karimganj.

It has been observed that there were no complaints received from 13 districts viz., Goalpara Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, North Cachar Hills, Baksa, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, Karimganj, Sivasagar and Sonitpur. The highest numbers (80) of complaints were reported from the district Dhemaji and the lowest each with 2 in Bongaigaon and Chirang. Almost all the districts having complaint were disposed off during the reference year 2010-11 (Table-2.4.a).

In 2009-10, Table 2.4b depicts a picture of social auditing and inspection of NREGA in the 27 districts of Assam during 2009-10. In this regard, 82.71 per cent verification was found in the state as a whole while it was 93.90 per cent in case of social audit, 36.31 per cent in case of inspection of work conducted in district level, and 93.64 per cent in inspection of work at block level. During the reference year, the total 2,664 Gram Panchayat, 9,447 Gram Sabha and 6,123 VMC meetings were held in the state. In 2009-10, 12 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Karbi Anlong, Darrang, Baksa, Dibrugarh, Kamrup Metro, Nagaon, Sivasagar, Sonitpur, Tinsukia

and Udalguri showed 100 per cent verification in muster roll and no record of verification was found in 6 districts viz., Goalpara, North Cachar Hills, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural and Karimganj.

In 2009-10, 18 districts viz. Dhemaji, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Borpheta, Cachar, Darrang, Hilakandi, Nalbari, Chirang, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, Nagaon, Sivasagar, Sonitpur and Tinsukia showed 100 per cent social audit and no record of verification was found in 5 districts viz., Goalpara, North Cachar Hills, Golaghat, Jorhat and Karimganj. The lowest 29.41 per cent found in Baksa district.

In district level, 100 per cent inspection was found in Kamrup Metro and Karimganj district only. No record of inspections was found in North Cachar Hills. The lowest 4.44 per cent inspection was found in Cachar district. Inspection in block level of 16 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Goalpara, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Cachar, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, Karimganj, Sivasagar, Tinsukia and Udalguri showed cent percent inspection. No record of inspection at block level was found in North Cachar Hills district. The lowest inspection 47.00 per cent at block level was found in Baksa. In 2009-10, the highest with 230 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Nagaon district; the lowest with only 22 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Kamrup Metro. No record of holding Gram Panchayat meetings were found in Karbi Anglong districts. The highest number with 4,128 Gram Sabha meetings were held in Tinsukia district with lowest 62 meetings in Hilakandi district. No record of holding Gram Sabha meeting was found in 2 districts viz., Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills. The district Nagaon occupied top position by holding 1,154 VMC meeting and the lowest position held by Lakhimpur and North Cachar Hills districts by holding only 1 VMC meeting each. No record of holding any VMC meeting was found in 2 districts viz., Karbi Anglon and Kokrajhar.

It has been observed that there was no complaints received from 11 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, North Cachar Hills, Baksa, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, Karimgang, Sivasagar and Sonitpur. The highest numbers (71) of complaints were reported from the district Darrang and the lowest with 1 in Karbi Anglong. Almost all the districts having complaint were disposed off during the reference year 2009-10 (Table-2.4.b).

Table - 2.4 b
Social auditing and inspection of NREGA work

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	Must Roll Verified		Social Audit		Inspection Conducted			Gram Sava Held			Complaints				
		No. of Muster Rolls Used	Verified	Total Gram Panchayts	No. of GP where social Audit Held	Total works Taken up	No. of works Inspected at Dist. Level	No. of works Inspected at Block Level	Total Gram Panchayats	No. of Gram Sabha Held	No. of VMC meeting Held	No. of Complaints Received	No. of Complaints Disposed			
						2009-10										
Phase I																
1	BONGAIGAON	40085	40085	65	64	227	195	227	65	65	65	0	0			
2	DHEMAJI	20943	20943	65	65	1230	235	1230	65	147	64	54	54			
3	GOALPARA	23119	15218	81	81	1206	122	1206	81	140	553	19	19			
4	KARBI ANGLONG	48288	48288	11	11	2565	254	1877	0	0	0	1	1			
5	KOKRAJHAR	45160	18968	130	130	2651	266	2651	130	130	0	0	0			
6	LAKHIMPUR	20487	16547	81	81	1096	648	1096	81	81	1	2	2			
7	N C HILLS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	1	0	0			
Sub Total		198082	160049	433	432	8975	1720	8287	450	563	684	76	76			
Phase II																
8	BARPETA	28190	27957	129	129	981	315	673	129	258	273	48	42			
9	CACHAR	7159	5370	163	163	90	4	490	163	172	9	39	17			
10	DARRANG	26494	26494	75	75	675	483	601	75	156	188	71	65			
11	HAILAKANDI	20871	10208	62	62	1089	289	581	62	62	62	33	27			
12	MARIGAON	16028	15220	188	119	1126	1038	1038	94	187	2	13	13			
13	NALBARI	27837	14789	65	65	512	279	474	85	165	239	11	11			
Sub Total		126579	100038	682	613	4473	2408	3857	608	1000	773	215	175			
Phase III																
14	BAKSA	1451	1451	102	30	383	20	180	102	102	30	0	0			
15	CHIRANG	24670	8900	67	67	350	70	350	67	245	245	0	0			
16	DHUBRI	29855	26668	168	168	496	272	452	168	382	356	29	26			
17	DIBRUGARH	9191	9191	93	93	285	48	285	93	382	192	0	0			
18	GOLAGHAT	40338	25517	102	102	375	185	375	102	392	187	33	32			
19	JORHAT	9740	7262	110	110	512	405	512	110	110	23	0	0			
20	KAMRUP	11005	11005	140	140	688	204	688	140	280	140	0	0			
21	KAMRUP METRO	1964	1964	22	22	102	102	102	22	329	5	6	5			
22	KARIMGANJ	16000	15089	96	96	451	451	451	96	192	451	0	0			
23	NAGAON	18240	18240	230	230	1699	985	1578	230	263	1154	7	7			
24	SIBSAGAR	11331	11331	118	118	693	150	693	118	540	695	0	0			
25	SONITPUR	44076	44076	158	158	1160	424	1450	158	425	775	0	0			
26	TINSUKIA	24790	24790	86	86	388	373	388	86	4128	299	11	11			
27	UDALGURI	21100	21100	114	90	693	71	693	114	114	114	10	10			
Sub Total		263751	226584	1606	1510	8275	3760	8197	1606	7884	4666	96	91			
Total		588412	486671	2721	2555	21723	7888	20341	2664	9447	6123	387	342			

Table 2.4c depicts a picture of social auditing and inspection of NREGA in the 27 districts of Assam during 2008-09. In this regard, 58.29 per cent verification was found under muster role in the state as a whole while it was 57.48 per cent in case of social audit, 30.15 per cent in case of inspection of work conducted in district level, and 80.79 per cent in inspection of work at block level. During the reference year, the total 2,616 Gram Panchayat, 8,568 Gram Sabha and 2,233 VMC meetings were held in the state. In 2008-09, 5 districts viz., Dhemaji, Baksa, Dibrugarh, Nagaon and Udalguri completed 100 per cent verification in muster roll and no record of verification was found in 7 districts viz., Goalpara, North Cachar Hills, Dhubri, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, and Karimganj.

In 2008-09, 6 districts viz. Dhemaji, Kokrajhar, Borpeta, Darrang, Hailakandi and Nalbari showed 100 per cent social audit and no record of verification was found in 9 districts viz., Goalpara, North Cachar Hills, Golaghat, Jorhat and Karimganj. The lowest 5.93 per cent found in Sivasagar district.

In district level, 100 per cent inspection was found in Baksa district only. No record of inspections was found in 7 districts viz., Goalpara, North Cachar Hills, Dhubri, Golaghat Jorhat, Kamrup Rural and Karimgang. The lowest 6.48 per cent inspection was found in Cachar district. Inspection in block level, 12 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Baksa, Chirang, Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup Metro, Sibsagar and Udalguri showed cent percent inspection. No record of inspection at block level was found in 2 districts viz., North Cachar Hills and Dhubri district. The lowest inspection 38.27 per cent at block level was found in Karimganj. In 2008-09, the highest with 230 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Nagaon district; the lowest with only 22 Gram Panchayat meeting were held in Kamrup Metro. No record of holding Gram Panchayat meetings were found in Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills districts. The highest number with 2,486 Gram Sabha meetings were held in Tinsukia district with lowest 53 meetings in Bongaigaon district. No record of holding Gram Sabha meeting was found in 2 districts viz., Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills. The District Cachar occupied top position by holding 2,84 VMC meeting and the lowest position held by Hailakandi and Jorhat districts by holding only 1 VMC meeting for each. No record of holding any VMC meeting were found in 5 districts viz., Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Nalbari, Dhubri and Karimgang.

Table - 2.4 c
Social auditing and inspection of NREGA work

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	Must Roll Verified		Social Audit		Inspection Conducted			Gram Sava Held			Complaints				
		No. of Muster Rolls Used	Verified	Total Gram Panchayts	No. of GP where social Audit Held	Total works Taken up	No. of works Inspected at Dist.Level	No. of works Inspected at BlockLevel	Total Gram Panchayats	No. of Gram Sabha Held	No. of VMC meeting Held	No. of Complaints Received	No. of Complaints Disposed			
						2008-09										
Phase I																
1	BONGAIGAON	27970	20865	65	53	219	164	219	65	53	147	12	11			
2	DHEMAJI	21711	21711	65	65	891	178	891	65	65	6	150	149			
3	GOALPARA	16343	9588	81	81	743	366	286	81	227	176	37	28			
4	KARBI ANGLONG	31640	9276	11	0	2062	266	1472	0	0	0	31	31			
5	KOKRAJHAR	59629	23245	130	130	2909	349	2909	130	282	0	0	0			
6	LAKHIMPUR	2564	1752	81	76	225	47	225	81	81	81	0	0			
7	N C HILLS	2616	2081	28	5	464	250	122	0	0	2	0	0			
Sub Total		162473	88518	461	410	7513	1620	6124	422	708	412	230	219			
Phase II																
8	BARPETA	88784	34251	129	129	615	351	480	129	387	2	65	65			
9	CACHAR	28667	12367	163	29	910	59	519	163	247	284	51	25			
10	DARRANG	54926	46769	75	75	623	169	546	75	112	167	167	123			
11	HAILAKANDI	24941	5883	62	62	695	208	242	62	62	1	33	27			
12	MARIGAON	9533	8340	137	91	646	459	459	94	188	133	8	8			
13	NALBARI	18000	17875	65	65	451	400	440	65	272	0	3	3			
Sub Total		224851	125485	631	451	3940	1646	2686	588	1268	587	327	251			
Phase III																
14	BAKSA	4319	4319	102	30	110	110	110	102	102	30	0	0			
15	CHIRANG	36310	23602	67	15	872	567	872	67	227	227	0	0			
16	DHUBRI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	168	168	0	0	0			
17	DIBRUGARH	8864	8864	93	57	153	10	153	93	153	18	0	0			
18	GOLAGHAT	22172	7796	102	43	148	58	148	102	1102	102	22	22			
19	JORHAT	6340	3810	110	0	305	195	305	110	440	1	0	0			
20	KAMRUP	1915	1915	140	140	318	70	181	140	140	140	0	0			
21	KAMRUP METRO	231	169	22	9	24	20	24	22	249	5	0	0			
22	KARIMGANJ	0	0	0	0	196	45	75	96	96	0	0	0			
23	NAGAON	648	648	230	62	1002	78	907	230	491	263	4	4			
24	SIBSAGAR	12562	10493	118	7	364	71	364	118	274	22	0	0			
25	SONITPUR	14980	7850	158	0	268	90	290	158	550	230	0	0			
26	TINSUKIA	6878	5731	86	77	94	69	93	86	2486	146	3	3			
27	UDALGURI	9000	9000	114	98	180	20	180	114	114	50	0	0			
Sub Total		124219	84197	1342	538	4034	1403	3702	1606	6592	1234	29	29			
Total		511543	298200	2434	1399	15487	4669	12512	2616	8568	2233	586	499			

It has been observed that there were no complaints received from 14 districts viz., Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, North Cachar Hills, Baksa, Chirang, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, Karimgang, Sivasagar, Sonitpur and Udalguri. The highest numbers (167) of complaints were reported from the district Darrang and settled 123 complaints and the lowest complaints with 3 lodged from 2 districts viz., Nalbari and Tinsukia (Table-2.4.c) and settled.

As per the Act all payment of NREGA wages has been paid through Banks and Post Offices. Accounts are opened as individual accounts for each NREGA labourer against each Job Card and there is a provision of opening joint accounts in the name of the different household members (e.g. husband and wife). Table-2.4.d, 2.4.e and 2.4.f revealed the NREGA payment processed through bank and post office for the year 2010-11, 2009-10 and 2008-09 respectively. As reported, distance from the working place to location of the institute is determining factor for opting a bank or a post office for transactions.

It has been observed that the labourer preferred to open individual account to joint account. Tables also reveal that equal role is played in opening accounts and disbursing of wages by Banks and Post Offices. In 2010-11 (Table-2.4.d), there were 14, 70,855 individual and 24,459 joint bank accounts opened in the state combining 27 districts. In the posts office, there were all together 13, 09,223 as individual and 5,578 as joint accounts. The amount disbursed through bank stood at Rs.28059.11 lakh and Rs.18179.89 lakh were disbursed through post office. Combining both bank and post office accounts, there were 27, 80,078 individual and 30,037 joint accounts in the state. Altogether, the total number of accounts stood at 28, 10,115 and Rs. 46238.00 lakh were disbursed in the state in 2010-11. The highest individual bank accounts of 14, 6,612 in Kokrajhar and the lowest with 16,430 in Nagaon have been recorded in 2010-11 while the highest joint bank account with 13,121 in Baksa and the lowest with only 21 in Sonitpur district were recorded. No record of individual bank account was found in 3 districts namely Golaghat, Jorhat and Kamrup Metro. Similarly, no record of joint account were found in 12 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Goalpara, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, North Cachar Hills, Darrang, Hailakandi, Nalbari, Chirang, Golaghat, Jorhat and Kamrup Metro. The highest amount of Rs. 5374.98 lakh were disbursed in Kokrajhar and the lowest with Rs. 59.60 lakhs in Nalbari were disbursed through bank accounts. The highest number of individual accounts in the post office with 1,72,275 in Nagaon and the lowest with 2,760 in Karimganj was found. The

Table - 2.4 d
The NREGA payment processed through bank/post office

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	No. of Bank Account Opened		Amount of wages Disbursed through bank Account (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Post Office Account Opened		Amount of wages Disbursed through Post Office Account (Rs. in Lakhs)	Total Accounts			Total Amount Disbursed (Rs. in Lakhs)
		Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint	Total	
2010-11											
Phase I											
1	BONGAIGAON	70464	0	1141	21225	0	332.24	91689	0	91689	1473
2	DHEMAJI	25897	81	523.01	113416	74	2059.35	139313	155	139468	2582
3	GOALPARA	22962	0	196.3176	108733	643	1503.4583	131695	643	132338	1699
4	KARBI ANGLONG	102226	1743	2540.0394	25763	654	886.34	127989	2397	130386	3426
5	KOKRAJHAR	146612	0	5374.98	18120	0	205.14	164732	0	164732	5580
6	LAKHIMPUR	97341	0	1272.02	48710	0	687.89	146051	0	146051	1960
7	N C HILLS	16698	0	180.24	14080	0	106.2466	30778	0	30778	286
	Sub Total	482200	1824	11227.61	350047	1371	5780.66	832247	3195	835442	17006
Phase II											
8	BARPETA	127625	5908	1299.23	52372	1131	373.05	179997	7039	187036	1672
9	CACHAR	34720	339	291.54	118588	1254	729.75	153308	1593	154901	1022
10	DARRANG	41190	0	1132.76	85810	0	1428.67	127000	0	127000	2562
11	HAILAKANDI	73576	0	1160.334	24859	0	497.286	98435	0	98435	1657
12	MARIGAON	47794	265	1375.789	49148	55	1327.462	96942	320	97262	2703
13	NALBARI	17207	0	59.6	81894	0	1272.451	99101	0	99101	1332
	Sub Total	342112	6512	5319.25	412671	2440	5628.67	754783	8952	763735	10948
Phase III											
14	BAKSA	52620	13121	1770.924	12500	0	239.217	65120	13121	78241	2010
15	CHIRANG	52613	0	1456.89	14092	0	266.97	66705	0	66705	1724
16	DHUBRI	120857	909	510.79	43690	287	1983.4	164547	1196	165743	2494
17	DIBRUGARH	63981	33	692.948	44383	12	357.812	108364	45	108409	1051
18	GOLAGHAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	JORHAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	KAMRUP	62954	410	862.55	98715	0	1046.3	161669	410	162079	1909
21	KAMRUP METRO	0	0	0	44423	0	201.8663	44423	0	44423	202
22	KARIMGANJ	25860	445	1300.828	2760	552	29.24	28620	997	29617	1330
23	NAGAON	16430	33	387.33	172275	77	1054.57	188705	110	188815	1442
24	SIBSAGAR	43175	1092	549.105	28985	505	282.873	72160	1597	73757	832
25	SONITPUR	89936	21	1077.895	50591	1	633.051	140527	22	140549	1711
26	TINSUKIA	44639	32	760.17217	10005	2	139.54713	54644	34	54678	900
27	UDALGURI	73478	27	2142.81888	24086	331	535.70472	97564	358	97922	2679
	Sub Total	646543	16123	11512.25	546505	1767	6770.55	1193048	17890	1210938	18284
	Total	1470855	24459	28059.11	1309223	5578	18179.89	2780078	30037	2810115	46238

highest 1254 of joint account were found in Cachar and the lowest with only one was found in Sonitpur in the post office. The highest amount of Rs.2059.35 lakh in Dhemaji was disbursed and lowest amount of Rs.29.24 lakh were disbursed through post office in Karimgang district. In aggregate i.e. combining both bank and post office account ,the highest individual account with 18,8,705 in Nagaon and the lowest individual account with 2,8,620 in Karimganj were observed and incase of joint account, the highest 13,121 were found in Baksa and the lowest 22 was found in Sonitpur. In overall combining both individual and joint account, the highest account number with 1,88,815 were in Nagaon and the lowest with 30,778 were in North Cachar Hills. The highest total amount disbursed through bank and post office was of Rs.5,580 lakh in Kokrojar and the lowest amount of Rs.202 lakh in Kamrup Metro.

In 2009-10, (Table-2.4.e) there were 14, 05,031 individual and 78,450 joint bank accounts opened in the state combining 27 districts. In the posts office, there were all together 13,14,323 as individual and 26,360 as joint accounts. The amount disbursed through bank stood at Rs.30,387.12 lakh and Rs. 18,102.44 lakh were disbursed through post office. Combining both bank and post office accounts, there were 27,19,354 individual and 1,04,810 joint accounts in the state. Altogether, the total number of accounts stood at 28, 24,164 and Rs. 48,490.00 lakh were disbursed in the state in 2009-10. The highest individual bank accounts of 1,64,330 in Nagaon and the lowest with 17,207 in Nalbari have been recorded in 2009-10 while the highest joint bank account with 67,380 in Bongaigaon and the lowest with only 2 in Sivasagor district were recorded. There were no record of individual bank account in 2 districts viz., Bongaigaon and Kamrup Metro and 11 districts viz., Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, North Cachar Hills, Darrang, Hailakandi, Nalbari, Chirang, Golaghat, and Kamrup Metro did not have joint bank accounts. The highest amount of Rs. 3232.87 lakh were disbursed in Bongaigaon and the lowest with Rs. 293.75 lakhs in Nagaon were disbursed through bank accounts. The highest number of individual accounts in the post office with 1,72,253 in Nagaon and the lowest with 2,117 in Baksa were found. The highest 20,421 of joint account were found in Bongaigaon and the lowest with only 12 were found in Dibrugarh in the post office. The highest amount of Rs.2458.96 lakh were disbursed in Dhemaji and lowest amount of Rs.56.00 lakh were disbursed through post office in Karimgang district. In aggregate i.e. combining both bank and post office account, the highest number of

Table - 2.4 e
The NREGA payment processed through bank/post office

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	No. of Bank Account Opened		Amount of wages Disbursed through bank Account (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Post Office Account Opened		Amount of wages Disbursed through Post Office Account (Rs. in Lakhs)	Total Accounts			Total Amount Disbursed (Rs. in Lakhs)
		Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint	Total	
2009-10											
Phase I											
1	BONGAIGAON	0	67380	3232.87	0	20421	742.33	0	87801	87801	3975
2	DHEMAJI	26116	81	678.04	158690	74	2458.96	184806	155	184961	3137
3	GOALPARA	22471	0	309.71	104918	1721	766.29	127389	1721	129110	1076
4	KARBI ANGLONG	64590	0	1114.94	15734	0	76.5	80324	0	80324	1191
5	KOKRAJHAR	92639	0	1407.86	14250	0	165.07	106889	0	106889	1573
6	LAKHIMPUR	78762	0	1941.86	31417	0	960.65	110179	0	110179	2903
7	N C HILLS	13576	0	0	10968	0	0	24544	0	24544	0
Sub Total		298154	67461	8685.28	335977	22216	5169.8	634131	89677	723808	13855
Phase II											
8	BARPETA	113569	5908	1842.89	50650	1131	412.4	164219	7039	171258	2255
9	CACHAR	28736	613	594.12	115366	1244	1544.2	144102	1857	145959	2138
10	DARRANG	41190	0	717.3	85810	0	985.93	127000	0	127000	1703
11	HAILAKANDI	85149	0	1953.08	10286	0	58.35	95435	0	95435	2011
12	MARIGAON	43990	265	1320.026	34580	55	818.831	78570	320	78890	2139
13	NALBARI	17207	0	569.811	79559	0	1254.75	96766	0	96766	1825
Sub Total		329841	6786	6997.23	376251	2430	5074.46	706092	9216	715308	12071
Phase III											
14	BAKSA	73183	1689	2482.39	2117	0	172.7	75300	1689	76989	2655
15	CHIRANG	51092	0	1658.2	13284	0	212.03	64376	0	64376	1870
16	DHUBRI	43601	909	1349.56	43520	287	675.22	87121	1196	88317	2025
17	DIBRUGARH	58141	33	743.22	37155	12	152.36	95296	45	95341	895
18	GOLAGHAT	28307	0	784.9886	67553	0	1541.888	95860	0	95860	2327
19	JORHAT	37286	75	426.23	39418	789	562.2264	76704	864	77568	988
20	KAMRUP	62954	410	877.84	97151	0	950.99	160105	410	160515	1829
21	KAMRUP METRO	0	0	0	39622	0	413.94	39622	0	39622	414
22	KARIMGANJ	37207	99	700.73	2230	0	56	39437	99	39536	757
23	NAGAON	164330	33	293.75	172253	77	1579.79	336583	110	336693	1874
24	SIBSAGAR	29395	2	507.401	19036	49	377.694	48431	51	48482	885
25	SONITPUR	88800	21	1333.58477	50591	0	487.862	139391	21	139412	1822
26	TINSUKIA	39239	32	1056.97495	5241	0	110.79615	44480	32	44512	1168
27	UDALGURI	63501	900	2489.745	12924	500	564.685	76425	1400	77825	3055
Sub Total		777036	4203	14704.61	602095	1714	7858.18	1379131	5917	1385048	22564
Total		1405031	78450	30387.12	1314323	26360	18102.44	2719354	104810	2824164	48490

individual account with 33,6,583 in Nagaon and the lowest individual account with 24,544 in North Cachar Hills were found and in case of joint account, the highest number of 87,801 were found in Bongaigaon and the lowest 21 was found in Sonitpur. In overall combining both individual and joint account, the highest account number with 33,66,93 were in Nagaon and the lowest with 24,544 were in North Cachar Hills. The highest total amount disbursed through bank and post office were of Rs.3975 lakh in Bongaigaon and the lowest amount of Rs. 414.00 lakh in Kamrup Metro.

In 2008-09, (Table- 2.4.f) there were 10, 16,124 individual and 15,727 joint bank accounts opened in the state combining 27 districts. In the post office, there were all together 7, 34,254 as individual and 1,783 as joint accounts. The amount disbursed through bank stood at Rs.10,725.72 lakh and Rs. 5,429.21 lakh were disbursed through post office. Combining both bank and post office accounts, there were 17,50,378 individual and 17,510 joint accounts in the state. Altogether, the total number of accounts stood at 17,67,888 and Rs. 16,155 lakh were disbursed in the state in 2008-09. The highest individual bank accounts of 1,52,525 in Karimganj and the lowest with 1,370 in North Cachar Hills have been recorded in 2008-09 while the highest joint bank account with 5,908 in Barpeta and the lowest with only 10 in Jorhat district were recorded. There were no record of individual bank account in 1 district viz., Kamrup Metro and 13 districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, North Cachar Hills, Darrang, Hailakandi, Morigaon, Nalbari, Chirang, Golaghat, and Kamrup Metro did not show joint bank accounts. The highest amount of Rs. 3086.79 lakh were disbursed in Bongaigaon and the lowest with Rs. 0.65 lakhs in Goalpara were disbursed through bank accounts. The highest number of individual accounts in the post office with 1,45,487 in Dhemaji and the lowest with only one in Karimganj were found. The highest 867 of joint account were found in Borpeta and the lowest with only 1 was found in Sonitpur in the post office. The highest amount of Rs.943.15 lakh were disbursed in Dhemaji and lowest amount of Rs.0.02 lakh were disbursed through post office in Hailakandi district. In aggregate i.e. combining both bank and post office account, the highest number of individual account with 1,70,702 in Dhemaji and the lowest individual account with 5,520 in North Cachar Hills were found and in case of joint account, the highest number of 6775 were found in Borpeta and the lowest 15 was found in Tinsukia. In overall combining both individual and joint account, the highest account number with 1,70,702

Table - 2.4 f
The NREGA payment processed through bank/post office

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	No. of Bank Account Opened		Amount of wages Disbursed through bank Account (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Post Office Account Opened		Amount of wages Disbursed through Post Office Account (Rs. in Lakhs)	Total Accounts			Total Amount Disbursed (Rs. in Lakhs)
		Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint		Individual	Joint	Total	
2009-10											
Phase I											
1	BONGAIGAON	63824	0	3086.79	14319	0	763.7	78143	0	78143	3851
2	DHEMAJI	25215	0	297.5	145487	0	943.15	170702	0	170702	1241
3	GOALPARA	5958	5337	0.65	5485	0	0	11443	5337	16780	1
4	KARBI ANGLONG	70344	0	415.5	687	0	0.83	71031	0	71031	417
5	KOKRAJHAR	49479	0	81.02	992	0	0	50471	0	50471	81
6	LAKHIMPUR	69255	0	1025.52	20145	0	256.67	89400	0	89400	1283
7	N C HILLS	1370	0	0	4150	0	0	5520	0	5520	0
	Sub Total	285445	5337	4906.98	191265	0	1964.35	476710	5337	482047	6874
Phase II											
8	BARPETA	83244	5908	183.18	37915	867	29.77	121159	6775	127934	213
9	CACHAR	11145	468	68.27	60202	571	175.24	71347	1039	72386	243
10	DARRANG	31098	0	189.98	37195	0	63.5	68293	0	68293	254
11	HAILAKANDI	44479	0	14.33	531	0	0.02	45010	0	45010	14
12	MARIGAON	38986	0	938.04	28158	0	207.84	67144	0	67144	1146
13	NALBARI	17207	0	71.017	51755	0	365.579	68962	0	68962	437
	Sub Total	226159	6376	1464.82	215756	1438	841.95	441915	7814	449729	2307
Phase III											
14	BAKSA	31633	1689	358.62	2117	0	196.48	33750	1689	35439	555
15	CHIRANG	42410	0	243.06	3058	0	1.53	45468	0	45468	245
16	DHUBRI	38725	909	574.49848	33852	102	420.343	72577	1011	73588	994
17	DIBRUGARH	27351	33	660.05	1163	12	31.3	28514	45	28559	691
18	GOLAGHAT	19040	0	284.24905	34707	0	365.80954	53747	0	53747	650
19	JORHAT	26881	10	393.22	26102	183	192.47663	52983	193	53176	585
20	KAMRUP	39680	410	0	62144	0	0	101824	410	102234	0
21	KAMRUP METRO	0	0	0	19140	0	108.47	19140	0	19140	108
22	KARIMGANJ	152525	99	329.99	1	0	0.046	152526	99	152625	330
23	NAGAON	14220	784	158.91	122617	0	896.3	136837	784	137621	1055
24	SIBSAGAR	15849	13	368.47	13256	47	309.58	29105	60	29165	678
25	SONITPUR	65667	20	483.923	5077	1	79.947	70744	21	70765	564
26	TINSUKIA	16814	15	383.37066	1253	0	13.41803	18067	15	18082	396
27	UDALGURI	13725	32	115.56	2746	0	7.21432	16471	32	16503	123
	Sub Total	504520	4014	4353.92	327233	345	2622.91	831753	4359	836112	6974
	Total	1016124	15727	10725.72	734254	1783	5429.21	1750378	17510	1767888	16155

were in Dhemaji and the lowest with 5,520 were in North Cachar Hills. The highest total amount disbursed through bank and post office was of Rs.3851 lakh in Bongaigaon and the lowest amount of Rs1.00 lakh in Goalpara. For this very reason, the highest estimated cost also incurred on unskilled wages and on materials including the wage of skilled and semi-skilled workers under this scheme. However, the ratio of wages and material has been fixed at 60:40 as per specification.

2.5 Work Projection under NREGA for 2010-11 in the state

The details of work projection of different schemes in the state (combining all districts) under NREGA has been presented in Table-2.5. The highest numbers of spill over works from previous year were at 4,892 under rural connectivity and the lowest 2 was under Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra. The highest total numbers of works taken up in the current year were at 14,489 under again rural connectivity and the lowest 1 again was found under Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra. The highest numbers of works likely to spill over from current financial year to next were at 7,703 again under rural connectivity and the lowest at 3 was found again under the same scheme as mentioned above. The highest numbers of new works proposed for the next financial year were at 20,598 and the lowest at 4 was under the same scheme. The benefit achieved in terms of different units was also incorporated in this table. The state projected a total of 1871.75 lakh person days to be generated from these proposed works. Among the 10 scheme, the scheme rural connectivity generated the highest (41.95%) person days. It might be happened due to the prevailing poor road connectivity in the villages of Assam for which it assumed top priority among all the ongoing schemes under NREGA. While the lowest with 0.01 per cent was found under the under Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra. The state also incurred an estimated cost of Rs 5,95,63,956.75 Laces on unskilled wage while it was of Rs. 1,34,51,256.86 Laces on material including skilled and semi-skilled wages. Combining both, the estimated cost stood at Rs.7,30,15,213.61 Laces. However, the ratio of wages and material has been fixed at 60:40 as per specification.

2.5.1 District wise Work Projection under NREGA for 2010-11 in Assam

Table 2.5.1 to 2.5.27 gives a picture of work projection of 27 districts of Assam under different schemes of NREGA in 2010-11. The problem of spill over works seems very acute in all the districts. The highest numbers of spill over works from previous year were at 2769 in Karimganj district and the lowest 4 in Cachar district. Among all the districts, Karbi Anglong occupied top position by having a

Table – 2.5

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 Likey to Spill Over From Current Financial Year to Next	No. of New Works Proposed for Next Financial Year	Benefit Achieved Unit	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (in Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material Including skilled and semi-skilled wages	Total
Assam									
Rural Connectivity	4892	14489	7703	20598	65037.6	78524193 (52.47)	20762833.32 (52.47)	3812141.71 (52.39)	24574975.03 (52.44)
Flood Control & Protection	1279	4830	2203	6229	155316.53	26822165 (20.06)	5700937.22 (20.06)	1884109.35 (20.58)	7585046.57 (20.27)
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	1004	3886	2076	15839	36761434.2	18869232 (6.96)	7491848.59 (6.96)	1128447.32 (6.73)	8620295.91 (6.87)
Drought Proofing	907	2487	1289	5929	111476.68	12154204 (6.29)	9872902.71 (6.29)	1260050.31 (6.44)	11132953.02 (6.35)
Micro Irrigation Works	668	2765	1315	7896	674237.53	11434123 (3.19)	1044575.7 (3.19)	346584.41 (2.39)	1391160.11 (3.08)
Provision of Irrigation facility to land Development	1103	1555	1804	12213	60016.32	5887167	2949259.7	1416319.67	4365579.37
Renovation of Traditional Water Bodies	620	1574	1033	7880	52677846.07	10151916 (3.02)	4102204.54 (3.02)	278304.48 (3.02)	4380509.02 (3.02)
Land Development	1475	5606	2531	19182	935909.68	20484482 (8.02)	7101612.73 (8.02)	2965215.28 (7.90)	10066828.01 (7.97)
Any other Activity Approved by MRD	261	153	58	927	130707.21	2834735	62580.65	43283.11	105863.76
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	2	1	3	4	2.5	12292	475201.59	316801.22	792002.81
Total	12211	37346	20015	96697		187174509	59563956.75	13451256.86	73015213.61

Note : Figures in parenthesis percentage to total.

total number of works taken up in current year with 5936 works combing all the schemes and the lowest position was occupied by Dibrugarh district with only 126 works while highest number of works likely to be spilled over from the current financial year to the next year at 2022 in Cachar and the lowest was at only 1 in Sivasagor district while in case of Karbi Anglong and Udalguri district did not show any record spill over works. It happened as these districts did not take up much new works in the current financial year. The highest number of new works i.e. 29,689 were proposed for the next financial by the Kokrajhar district while the lowest with 185 by the district Kamrup Metro. No new works proposal was found in Karbi Anglong district for the next financial year. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Golaghat and the lowest by the district Darrang under the rural connectivity work. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Kokrajhar and the lowest by the district Nalbari under the flood control and protection work. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Lakhimpur and the lowest by the district Dhubri under water conservation and water harvesting work. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Sivasagar and the lowest by the district Nalbari under the drought proofing work. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Kokrajhar and the lowest by the district Sivasagar under the micro irrigation work. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Nalbari and the lowest by the district Morigaon and Sivasagar under the provision of irrigation facility to land owned work. There was no report of works under this works in 2 districts viz., Bongaigaon and Kokrajhar. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Lakhimpur and the lowest by the district Karbi Anglong under the renovation of traditional water bodies' work. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Lakhimpur and the lowest by the district Goalpara under the land development work. The highest benefit was achieved by the district Lakhimpur and the lowest by the district Darrang under the any other activity approved by MRD. There was no report of any achievement in 17 districts viz., Baksa, Borpeta, Chirang, Goalpara, Hailakandi, Kamrup Rural, Kamrup Metro, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, North Cachar Hills, Nalbari, Nagaon, Sivasagor, Sonitpur, Morigaon and Dhubri. This might be happened due to no works were initiated by these districts and if initiated by some districts their number were very few. All most all the districts did not report of work under the Bharat Nirman Rajib Gandhi Seva Kendra. Among all the districts, the district Lakhimpur occupied top position by projecting to generate the highest 185.06 lakh total person days while the district Sivasagar

Table-2.5-1

BAKSA									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	28	930	320	1688	2131.72	5695786	5695.83	3827.16	9522.99
Flood Control and Protection	34	136	38	572	97.73	2579167	2579.55	1719.56	4299.11
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	22	64	42	942	11924511	1847890	1971.55	1314.36	3285.91
Drought Proofing	14	8	0	1042	22803.83	1215429	1215.44	810.28	2025.72
Micro Irrigation Works	14	66	26	949	37920.66	1233454	1233.4	822.83	2056.23
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	0	0	1104	14545.62	412324	411.44	274.86	686.3
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	2	26	4	1107	2554410	1339804	1333.45	889.02	2222.47
Land Development	16	70	22	1136	26284.53	1687329	1687.34	1124.88	2812.22
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	260	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	390	1300	452	8540		16011183	16128	10782.95	26910.95

Table-2.5.2

BARPETA									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	367	592	582	912	3020.11	2161261	2150.09	1664.71	3814.8
Flood Control and Protection	143	282	296	284	119.93	858880	858.83	658.43	1517.26
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	40	92	95	137	523596.4	271967	272	232.05	504.05
Drought Proofing	13	17	21	35	5.36	34631	34.66	26.59	61.25
Micro Irrigation Works	19	63	66	75	359.37	135952	135.98	109.26	245.24
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	62	1	1	44	3.24	18756	18.77	14.36	33.13
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	40	39	36	32	183974.6	114822	114.84	88.01	202.85
Land Development	196	412	369	537	210.55	1025781	1028.11	792.2	1820.31
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	880	1498	1466	2056		4622050	4613.28	3585.61	8198.89

Table 2.5.3

BONGAIGAON									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	95	35	84	219	542.653	5791636	5791.64	3855.23	9646.87
Flood Control and Protection	40	6	38	20	148.26	2214127	2214.13	1514.68	3728.81
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	17	0	13	30	1769431	768310	768.31	495.38	1263.69
Drought Proofing	7	4	9	75	174.94	694381	694.38	474.23	1168.61
Micro Irrigation Works	3	1	3	12	414.5	351923	351.92	215.46	567.38
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	5	1	6	7	34361886	333270	333.27	222.18	555.45
Land Development	3	5	6	88	150.51	884753	884.75	581.58	1466.33
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	170	52	159	451		11038400	11038.4	7358.74	18397.14

Table-2.5.4

CACHAR									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	1	780	559	603	623.23	2220480	2220.48	1290.76	3511.24
Flood Control and Protection	0	351	260	209	1877	636880	636.88	325.89	962.77
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	1	375	289	217	278252.8	478168	478.17	245.21	723.38
Drought Proofing	0	272	250	249	3080.43	311110	311.11	206.29	517.4
Micro Irrigation Works	0	321	269	207	3182.39	399670	399.67	239.51	639.18
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	121	105	76	270.91	96850	96.85	51.55	148.4
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	0	219	175	108	97386.65	243360	243.36	131.65	375.01
Land Development	2	135	115	95	1263.39	147780	147.78	85.91	233.69
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	29	103	180000	180	120	300
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4	2574	2022	1793		4714298	4714.3	2696.77	7411.07

Table-2.5.5

CHIRANG									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	131	247	182	467	885.85	2961729	3010.33	2249.39	5259.72
Flood Control and Protection	63	139	101	145	439.95	2886351	4965.35	2152.87	7118.22
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	33	72	39	154	359305.6	1145026	1139.9	900.23	2040.13
Drought Proofing	33	59	53	182	1933.05	1010615	847.44	678.17	1525.61
Micro Irrigation Works	4	47	40	169	707	923602	923.6	726.42	1650.02
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	1	27	11	302	386.9	623645	639.34	488.74	1128.08
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	1	33	17	110	1256281	542945	542.95	425.87	968.82
Land Development	32	113	77	281	496.9	1140815	1140.2	857.54	1997.74
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	298	737	520	1810		11234728	13209.11	8479.23	21688.34

Table 2.5.6

DARRANG									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	25	134	3	188	62.79	509220	507.55	397.57	905.12
Flood Control and Protection	2	5	0	130	37.7	226319	225.59	176.31	401.9
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	3	8	0	198	635894.9	282904	281.96	220.9	502.86
Drought Proofing	0	1	0	260	3376.2	565798	563.95	441.76	1005.71
Micro Irrigation Works	0	1	1	235	1927.2	339478	338.42	265.08	603.5
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	2	0	678	2395.23	424354	422.97	331.32	754.29
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	2	4	0	135	160584.7	141453	143	110.7	253.7
Land Development	12	39	0	241	228.31	254609	253.8	198.81	452.61
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	88	11	83274	83	65.09	148.09
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	1	0	1592	1.59	1.22	2.81
Total	44	194	4	2154		2829001	2821.83	2208.76	5030.59

Table-2.5.7

DHEMAGI									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	206	412	185	1426	846.756	2516606	3660.82	2062.55	5723.37
Flood Control and Protection	39	89	42	306	319.23	659774	772.52	500.07	1272.59
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	51	66	24	621	542248	822861	926.56	565.24	1491.8
Drought Proofing	25	49	19	92	107.44	171809	171.75	117.2	288.95
Micro Irrigation Works	4	21	7	48	53.421	96958	96.9	62.7	159.6
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	17	0	5	21.65	65630	65.46	43.1	108.56
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	5	6	1	49	117500	59620	59.61	35.9	95.51
Land Development	16	84	30	1000	1308.835	1248488	1306.22	853.81	2160.03
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	19	0	25	92.478	236566	73.24	47.57	120.81
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	346	763	308	3572		5878312	7133.08	4288.14	11421.22

Table- 2.5.8

DHUBRI									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	525	1046	898	902	1601.84	8180173	8208.9	5472.47	13681.37
Flood Control and Protection	164	257	248	123	223.1	1364250	1364.24	909.51	2273.75
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	87	131	132	76	219.52	489847	489.87	326.55	816.42
Drought Proofing	121	136	134	67	96.25	116596	116.6	77.72	194.32
Micro Irrigation Works	33	86	85	48	109.7	308255	308.26	205.49	513.75
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	8	98	98	948	187.23	399681	399.73	266.47	666.2
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	9	17	17	28	79.93	217093	217.1	144.73	361.83
Land Development	159	349	326	233	640.16	1391908	1391.94	919.16	2311.1
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1106	2120	1938	2425		12467803	12496.64	8322.1	20818.74

Table-2.5.9

DIBRUGARH									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	1	81	29	569	692.27	728606	679.23	398.54	1077.77
Flood Control and Protection	4	14	3	86	123.87	112540	108.7	52.84	161.54
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	0	1	0	41	106558	27801	29.32	15.87	45.19
Drought Proofing	0	3	2	133	2084.158	119822	136.11	95.36	231.47
Micro Irrigation Works	2	10	4	103	12586.54	130735	131.76	50.18	181.94
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	0	0	221	51.92	119780	119.78	66.68	186.46
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	0	0	1	41	139315.5	58033	59.05	26.03	85.08
Land Development	5	11	3	120	1061.38	111077	122.6	144.77	267.37
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	6	0	69	13622	204189	203.9	404.21	608.11
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12	126	42	1383		1612583	1590.45	1254.48	2844.93

Table-2.5.10

GOALPARA									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	119	362	226	315	550.65	1028761	1028.76	806.57	1835.33
Flood Control and Protection	23	102	37	62	3090.25	232522	232.54	185.94	418.48
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	36	127	60	131	140785	257305	257.32	182.23	439.55
Drought Proofing	14	58	24	78	1873.75	98839	98.84	88.55	187.39
Micro Irrigation Works	31	75	41	67	157.41	213928	213.97	179.62	393.59
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	48	498	447	22	120.08	114081	114.07	86.05	200.12
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	70	33	23	33	57118.95	116230	116.24	76.23	192.47
Land Development	34	122	57	159	56.79	338328	338.34	235.05	573.39
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	375	1377	915	868		2399994	2400.08	1840.24	4240.32

Table-2.5.11

GOLAGHAT									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	164	146	251	522	33512.6	5703315	5834.09	4462.58	10296.67
Flood Control and Protection	18	23	20	58	72200.34	581483	719.96	338.07	1058.03
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	21	44	47	212	2989221	816830	816.84	525.56	1342.4
Drought Proofing	8	6	13	52	2655.236	196561	196.19	130.79	326.98
Micro Irrigation Works	24	39	44	113	105811.6	727240	781.24	459.7	1240.94
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	3	0	3	1	6	47208	50.5	33.67	84.17
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	24	34	35	100	1111970	556070	545.11	340.24	885.35
Land Development	19	40	42	101	54832.27	573074	572.98	449.67	1022.65
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	66	2622	387000	387	258	645
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	281	332	455	1225		9588781	9903.91	6998.28	16902.19

Table-2.5.12

HAILAKANDI									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	29	706	147	577	692.38	1867508	1880.03	1459.61	3339.64
Flood Control and Protection	5	143	43	172	171.09	416536	419.72	323.51	743.23
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	2	56	23	157	370587	309836	309.84	229.46	539.3
Drought Proofing	1	19	7	71	3091	101172	101.17	75.54	176.71
Micro Irrigation Works	1	47	11	124	7647	237487	240.67	182.4	423.07
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	1	35	9	120	5774	185753	187.34	144.79	332.13
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	1	111	43	202	436080	384606	384.61	286.87	671.48
Land Development	1	57	14	148	7391	240471	241.26	182.08	423.34
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	41	1174	297	1571		3743369	3764.64	2884.26	6648.9

Table -2.5.13

JORHAT									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	81	306	436	364	551.26	1583696	5660475.56	1083.54	5661559
Flood Control and Protection	6	21	141	131	309.1	443310	2252403.91	296.93	2252701
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	3	21	179	119	1358426	333900	1998296.1	225.78	1998522
Drought Proofing	65	18	88	142	4057.44	257400	4176983.97	172.29	4177156
Micro Irrigation Works	5	13	117	123	195.9	219926	268.65	181.27	449.92
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	1	6	6	53	184	25136	24.91	18.05	42.96
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	10	66	184	160	1260343	433922	3488387.33	289.11	3488676
Land Development	6	28	94	115	281.6	325770	5862422.85	218.47	5862641
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	110	7970	153224	151.22	103.65	254.87
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	177	479	1245	1317		3776284	23439414.5	2589.09	23442004

Table-2.5.15

KAMRUP (METRO)									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	255	76	265	121	730.89	2274136	2274.13	1516.18	3790.31
Flood Control and Protection	19	6	25	11	41.25	255888	255.89	170.6	426.49
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	37	8	41	8	123873.7	311310	246.51	164.34	410.85
Drought Proofing	29	8	37	6	57.69	160780	160.78	107.17	267.95
Micro Irrigation Works	40	4	46	12	2279.43	284216	284.22	189.47	473.69
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	1	1	0	4.5	12600	12.6	8.4	21
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	12	9	16	9	24.48	152120	152.12	101.27	253.39
Land Development	22	32	42	18	61.27	343710	343.71	229.37	573.08
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	414	144	473	185		3794760	3729.96	2486.8	6216.76

Table-2.5.16

KARBI ANGLONG									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	292	1308	0	0	1246	3895000	3895.47	2993.99	6889.46
Flood Control and Protection	18	149	0	0	30.2	1145000	1145.53	887.14	2032.67
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	153	971	0	0	195000	1835000	1835	1404.84	3239.84
Drought Proofing	107	550	0	0	747	1515000	1515.25	1150.9	2666.15
Micro Irrigation Works	149	916	0	0	150	1934000	1934.59	1467.51	3402.1
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	50	334	0	0	55	695000	719.3	606.93	1326.23
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	17	128	0	0	6	309000	309.78	244.42	554.2
Land Development	279	1580	0	0	1224	2288000	2306.6	1771.91	4078.51
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1065	5936	0	0		13616000	13661.52	10527.64	24189.16

Table-2.5.17

KARIMGANJ									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	691	407	958	242	394.785	1039324	1057.71	522.03	1579.74
Flood Control and Protection	178	66	230	29	30.38	267606	211.3	109.94	321.24
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	193	122	265	118	395938.9	333856	291.61	147.39	439
Drought Proofing	221	52	261	46	57.67	257509	257.53	102.02	359.55
Micro Irrigation Works	207	58	250	36	54.97	266369	266.35	92.78	359.13
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	866	121	977	187	100.175	207864	185.38	66.9	252.28
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	274	41	317	69	551762	206394	206.41	77.9	284.31
Land Development	139	103	206	77	322.984	281243	281.18	128.77	409.95
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	1	1	29	304	42742	52.14	797.31	849.45
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2769	971	3465	833		2902907	2809.61	2045.04	4854.65

Table-2.5.18

KOKRAJHAR									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	228	2441	210	2738	2968.12	8042330	8042.33	5471.76	13514.09
Flood Control and Protection	175	1987	194	1714	73579.35	6341580	6341.58	5071.6	11413.18
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	0	143	3	8135	1428548	722230	722.23	0	722.23
Drought Proofing	0	201	3	214	7267	611550	611.55	254.54	866.09
Micro Irrigation Works	0	204	8	3694	492814	519270	519.27	345.48	864.75
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	0	107	4	4100	526406	290740	290.74	0	290.74
Land Development	0	186	4	9094	596469	529800	529.8	228.29	758.09
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	403	5269	426	29689		17057500	17057.5	11371.67	28429.17

Table-2.5.19

LAKHIMPUR									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	196	574	562	2004	2855.69	5537586	15006078.2	3760746.1	18766824
Flood Control and Protection	82	117	127	497	640.71	1516534	3421389.52	1865712.91	5287102
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	47	101	141	1266	3705035	2083581	5476982.96	1117547.23	6594530
Drought Proofing	84	82	132	982	42706.12	1852627	5686016	1240645.92	6926662
Micro Irrigation Works	27	76	83	462	1403.576	983084	1034094.05	339418.18	1373512
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	36	73	98	4810	2220.363	1153683	2944562.54	1413005.79	4357568
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	10	36	41	209	3679441	1923204	600980.87	272982.93	873963.8
Land Development	106	237	293	2019	206291.4	2590471	1221494.31	2952710.65	4174205
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	1	123	57	452	105377.7	854922	60757.32	40995.83	101753.2
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	2	1	3	3	2.5	10700	475200	316800	792000

Table-2.5.20

MARIGAON									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	253	1105	397	1244	1023.88	1693724	17727.7	1280.67	19008.37
Flood Control and Protection	62	179	64	151	136.23	234701	234.67	176.35	411.02
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	42	467	181	436	1911395	576249	576.25	438.88	1015.13
Drought Proofing	49	229	58	137	88.79	160063	160.08	126.9	286.98
Micro Irrigation Works	50	178	63	153	236.79	235845	235.78	184.64	420.42
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	0	0	1	0	1461	1.46	1.12	2.58
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	23	94	37	58	686533.8	70567	71.31	56.36	127.67
Land Development	89	722	238	929	799.69	1106976	1106.97	831.65	1938.62
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	568	2974	1038	3109		4079586	20114.22	3096.57	23210.79

Table-2.5.21

NAGAON									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	617	249	249	2040	2040	6282200	6120	4080	10200
Flood Control and Protection	95	96	96	604	962	1803900	1812.6	1208	3020.6
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	26	250	250	1383	3127450	2497800	2498.1	1651.2	4149.3
Drought Proofing	43	0	0	934	1397	1104420	1104.42	732.28	1836.7
Micro Irrigation Works	6	18	18	526	2080	652800	631.2	420.8	1052
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	0	0	1386	720	838800	838.8	547.2	1386
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	5	0	5	523	3251000	1573000	1573	1042	2615
Land Development	48	106	106	924	926	1115128	1152.13	738.78	1890.91
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	840	719	724	8320		15868048	15730.25	10420.26	26150.51

Table-2.5.22

NALBARI									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	115	285	245	113	350.585	1307677	8982.53	722.4	9704.93
Flood Control and Protection	37	61	69	43	5.2911	255014	255.01	181.65	436.66
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	75	97	65	111	755999.9	538927	540.93	420.42	961.35
Drought Proofing	2	51	0	5	3.91	22500	22.5	17.63	40.13
Micro Irrigation Works	10	19	8	20	26.49	84710	84.71	64.79	149.5
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	6	2	25	32083.57	151710	95.57	69.17	164.74
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	40	64	34	58	143341.2	265655	5320.4	199.69	5520.09
Land Development	110	160	113	178	117.2702	854268	854.42	625.24	1479.66
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	9	0	78818	78.82	60.45	139.27
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	389	743	536	562		3559279	16234.89	2361.44	18596.33

Table-2.5.23

NORTH CACHAR HILLS									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	44	73	65	232	103.24	787058	787.07	524.72	1311.79
Flood Control and Protection	9	43	29	107	37.3	293262	293.05	195.38	488.43
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	5	54	46	206	138913.5	570641	570.2	380.13	950.33
Drought Proofing	0	70	62	234	210	477111	477.13	318.09	795.22
Micro Irrigation Works	0	76	37	63	78	168370	114.23	112.15	226.38
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	25	200	44	20	64	54000	54	36	90
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	12	75	16	20	50	54000	54	36	90
Land Development	33	83	72	174	121	503958	504.67	336.44	841.11
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	128	674	371	1056		2908400	2854.35	1938.91	4793.26

Table-2.5.24

SIVASAGAR									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	69	214	0	347	4487.85	846500	854.6	571.09	1425.69
Flood Control and Protection	5	18	0	29	45.55	75300	75.3	50.2	125.5
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	0	6	0	10	12252.9	17838	17.84	11.89	29.73
Drought Proofing	4	23	1	35	9188.93	62195	69.24	46.15	115.39
Micro Irrigation Works	9	14	0	8	17.86	19800	19.8	13.2	33
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	5	12	0	35	269620.3	70460	70.46	45.62	116.08
Land Development	2	29	0	48	3351.3	108800	108.8	72.53	181.33
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	94	318	1	512		1200893	1216.04	810.68	2026.72

Table-2.5.25

Sonitpur.

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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	6	905	340	935	1426.012	2359619	2360.08	1848.82	4208.9
Flood Control and Protection	2	165	73	176	366.076	547608	547.23	468.73	1015.96
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	2	125	84	233	1005017	496287	496.29	261.67	757.96
Drought Proofing	0	161	101	157	2831.49	373816	374.09	12619.2	12993.29
Micro Irrigation Works	0	70	30	125	1843.06	305651	305.66	189.46	495.12
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	6	0	2	61.334	13254	13.25	10.19	23.44
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	1	55	4	82	526616.7	217696	217.7	145.14	362.84
Land Development	1	268	160	404	525.162	662827	662.8	400.79	1063.59
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12	1758	792	2114		4976758	4977.1	15944	20921.1

Table-2.5.26

Tinsukia.

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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	31	210	185	291	731.564	1570770	1570.77	1233.18	2803.95
Flood Control and Protection	4	21	19	46	97.355	191520	191.52	95.3	286.82
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	10	35	35	28	437266	202130	202.13	58.03	260.16
Drought Proofing	0	1	1	5	56.93	16780	16.78	19.13	35.91
Micro Irrigation Works	0	43	39	47	844.95	233120	233.12	69.5	302.62
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	2	2	21	411.12	17220	17.22	13.88	31.1
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	1	8	9	13	169905.3	74940	74.94	19.25	94.19
Land Development	1	13	12	26	20079.66	114740	114.74	56.48	171.22
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	2	537	8000	8	27	35
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	47	333	302	479		2429220	2429.22	1591.75	4020.97

Table-2.5.27

UDALGURI									
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	Persondays To be Generated	Estimated Cost (In Lakhs)		
							On Unskilled Wage	On Material including skilled and semiskilled wages	Total
Rural Connectivity	64	373	0	478	79.33	642687	642.68	607.25	1249.93
Flood Control and Protection	49	334	0	431	71.59	548530	548.51	524.58	1073.09
Water Conservation and Water Harvesting	69	412	0	533	1425128	502898	502.96	252.7	755.66
Drought Proofing	63	381	0	484	551.96	465942	466	365.59	831.59
Micro Irrigation Works	21	267	0	337	595.22	297620	297.62	224.85	522.47
Provision of Irrigation facility to Land Owned by	0	0	0	2014	283.98	141974	142	83.65	225.65
Renovation of Traditional Water bodies	42	337	0	428	865697.2	305499	305.48	213.71	519.19
Land Development	81	420	0	541	89.83	143930	143.93	99.89	243.82
Any Other activity Approved by MRD	0	0	0	47	68	606000	606	404	1010
Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	389	2524	0	5293		3655080	3655.18	2776.22	6431.4

occupied the lowest position by projectin to generate 12.01 lakh person days only. The highest total estimated cost of Rs.35927 lakh was incurred on unskilled wage in Lakhimpur district and the lowest amount of Rs. 1590.45 was incurred in Dibrugarh district. The highest estimated cost on material including skill and semi skilled wages was of Rs. 13320565.54 in Lakhimpur district and the lowest amount of Rs. 810.68 was in Sivasagar district. Combing estimated costs, the highest amount of Rs.49248121.31 lakh was in Lakhimpur and the lowest amount of Rs.2026.72 in Sivsagar in the reference year. It may be happened due to the prevailing poor road connectivity in the villages of Assam for which it assumed top priority among all the ongoing schemes under NREGA. For this very reason, the highest estimated cost also incurred on unskilled wages and on materials including the wage of skilled and semi-skilled workers under this scheme. However, the ratio of wages and material has been fixed at 60:40 as per specification.

2.6 Summary of the Chapter

This summary is based on secondary level information collected from website of the NREGA. It was practically lunched on 2nd Feb, 2006 in most backward districts of Assam which was termed as phase-I. In the phase I, it covers 7 districts. In phase II, it covers 6 districts and in phase III, it covers remaining 14 districts of Assam. During the study there are all together 10 schemes going on under state NREGA. Among all the programmes, the scheme Rural Connectivity got top priority. It may be happened due to the prevailing poor road connectivity in the villages of Assam for which it assumed top priority among all the ongoing schemes under NREGA. It seems that all the ongoing works are getting weightage on the basis of priority except the last two works (as per table). Much variation of cast components occurred in work participation from district to district. It might be happened due to dominant demographic structure of particular group. Women participation was at lower level in almost all the districts than the targeted limit of at least 33 per cent. A very few households in the districts could complete the target of 100 days in a year. It might be happened for four definite reasons. Firstly Assam is situated in heavy rainfall zone which becomes a major hindrance in starting the work timely. Secondly, the wage rate is lower than the market rate and thirdly labour scarcity during the time of work and fourthly administrative delay in starting the work or more demand for employment compel to engage more labour than required labour against a particular work. To ensure transparency, social auditing and inspection of NREGA work was done in each sample districts. A little bit of variations in expenditure in payment of wages and material cost were found each sample district. No district is able to maintain this ratio of 60:40.

CHAPTER - III

HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS AND THEIR INCOME AND CONSUMPTION PATTERN

In this chapter a comparative analysis has been made to focus the socio-economic characteristics of the beneficiary and non beneficiary sample households on the observation of some important indicators. It would bring out the factors affecting on participation and non participation in NREGA.

3.1 Household profile of the respondents

There were all together 200 beneficiaries and 50 non beneficiaries households in the 5 selected districts in Assam – Sonitpur from the north, Cachar from south, Dibrugarh from the east, Bongaigaon from the west and Nagaon from the central location of the state. Selection of sample has been done as per the given directives by the co-ordinating centre.

Demographic profile of the respondents combining all concerned districts is presented in Table-3.1. Average household size is 4.92 in case of beneficiaries and 5.22 in case of non beneficiaries. Combining both, it stands at an average of 4.98.

Average number of earners per beneficiary household is about 1.52 and it is about 1.62 in case of non beneficiaries and in aggregate, it stands at 1.54.

From the point of gender differences, male population is about 54.02 per cent and 52.49 per cent in respect of beneficiaries and non beneficiaries respectively. Female population stands at 45.98 per cent in respect of beneficiaries it stands at 47.51 per cent in respect of non-beneficiaries. In aggregate, it stands at 53.70 for male and 46.30 for female population. Male population is dominating over female population in both the categories.

Age group classification determines whether the population trend is on increasing side or decreasing side. More population in minor group indicates a trend of high growth rate of population and a higher population in workable age group is an opportunity for a nation for economic growth if sufficient provision can be created to utilize all of them as human resource or it would be a curse. Population above 60 is considered as old citizens. It has been observed that expectancy of life is increasing along with improvement of medical care. Therefore they cannot be treated as non working population and they have more working efficiency than that of below age

Table - 3.1
Demographic profile of the respondents (% or households)

Characteristics		Beneficiaries	%	Non beneficiaries	%	Aggregate	%
No. of HH		200		50		250	
Households size (numbers)		4.92		5.22		4.98	
Average numbers of earners		303 (1.57)		81 (1.62)		384 (1.54)	
Gender	Male	531	54.02	137	52.49	668	53.70
	Female	452	45.98	124	47.51	576	46.30
Age groups	< 16	292	29.70	83	31.80	375	30.14
	16 - 60	620	63.07	157	60.15	777	62.46
	> 60	71	7.22	21	8.05	92	7.40
Identity of respondent	Head	181	90.50	47	94.00	228	91.20
	Others	19	9.50	3	6.00	22	8.80
Education status	Illiterate	179	18.21	51	19.54	230	18.49
	Up to primary	552	56.15	118	45.21	670	53.86
	Up to secondary	210	21.36	79	30.27	289	23.23
	Up to graduate	38	3.87	11	4.21	49	3.94
	Above graduate	4	0.41	2	0.77	6	0.48
Caste	SC	68	34.00	17	34.00	85	34.00
	ST	21	10.50	5	10.00	26	10.40
	OBC	52	26.00	18	36.00	70	28.00
	General	59	29.50	10	20.00	69	27.60
Card holders	AAY	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
	BPL	148	74.00	22	44.00	170	68.00
	APL	38	19.00	20	40.00	58	23.20
	None	14	7.00	8	16.00	22	8.80
Decision maker	Male	194	97.00	50	100.00	244	97.60
	Female	6	3.00	0	0.00	6	2.40
Main occupation	Farming	16	8.00	11	22.00	27	10.80
	Self business	6	3.00	2	4.00	8	3.20
	Salaried/pensioners	19	9.50	7	14.00	26	10.40
	Wage earners	159	79.50	30	60.00	189	75.60
Involved in migration during year 2009		121	60.50	41	82.00	162	64.80

groups. In rural areas, a major problem arises from the unskilled workable population as their job opportunity is shrinking on account of rapid development of machinery/equipment. This segment of population cannot be neglected as they represent a sizeable share of population. It is a major problem in rural areas of all the states of the country. The NREGA is a ray of hope for this section people and it is an opportunity for them to take part in the development agenda of the country with dignity. Looking at the demographic profile of the sample households (Table-3.1), age group wise population are 29.70 per cent in below 16 years, 63.07 per cent in 16-60 group and 7.22 per cent above 60 years in respect of beneficiaries while it is 31.80 per cent in below 16 years, 60.15 per cent in 16-60 group and 8.05 per cent in above 60 years in case of non beneficiaries. In aggregate population, it is 30.14 per cent in below 16 years, 62.46 per cent in 16-60 group and 7.40 per cent in above 60 years. The population in the age group 16-60 is significantly higher as compared to other age groups.

Identity of the respondent who provided the required information in the prescribed schedule were categorized into Head and Others. Head means head of the family and other means any adult family member with the ability to provide required information other than Head. Of the 200 beneficiaries' households, 90.50 per cent respondent belonged to Head and 9.50 per cent belonged to others and of the 50 non beneficiary households, 94.00 per cent respondents belonged to Head and 6.00 per cent belonged to others. In aggregate, 91.20 per cent respondents belonged to head and the rest 8.80 per cent belonged to others. Percentages of Head respondents has increased on account of the fact that a special care was taken at the time of field investigation to get the right information about the family but that did not mean that information collected from other was not proper. Special care had also been taken in filling up the questions in the prescribed schedule.

Educational status is a major socio-economic indicator of a family. Most of the families were very poor living below poverty line. Health hazard was also very common among them on account of inadequate nutrition and sanitation. It seemed that they were not able to afford minimum expenditure in education for the family. Obtaining higher education was simply impossible for them. Still it has been observed that each sample households was very much conscious about their education. They were trying to send their children to school. In this regard, the role of ongoing educational schemes cannot be denied. Table 3.1 presents a vivid picture of the educational status of the beneficiaries and the non beneficiaries. Of the total population, illiteracy rate was 18.21 per cent for beneficiaries and 19.54 per cent for non beneficiaries and 18.49 per cent in aggregate. Up to primary education, the literary rate was 56.15 per cent for beneficiaries and 45.21 per cent for non beneficiaries and 53.86 per cent in aggregate. Up to secondary education, the literary rate is 21.36 per cent for beneficiaries and 30.27 per cent for non beneficiaries and 23.23 per cent in aggregate. Up to graduate education, the literary rate is 3.87 per cent for beneficiaries and 4.21 per cent for non beneficiaries and 3.94 per cent in aggregate and above graduate; the literary rate is 0.41 per cent for beneficiaries and 0.77 per cent for non beneficiaries and 0.48 per cent in aggregate.

As per guide lines of the study, samples are to be drawn ratio proportionately from each of the selected village for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries so that each caste component get equal representation in the study. It is worthwhile to mention here that a particular clan usually lives in a village of Assam. Inhabitant of mixed

caste component in a village is not found. Therefore, much attention has been paid in selection of the villages in each district to cover all the caste components to get an aggregate picture. Of the 200 beneficiary respondents, 34 per cent belonged to SC, 10.50 per cent belonged to ST, 26.00 per cent belonged to OBC and 29.50 per cent belonged to General and in case of non beneficiary, 34 per cent belong to SC, 10 per cent belonged to ST; 36 per cent belonged to OBC and 20.00 per cent belonged to General. In aggregate, 34 per cent belonged to SC, 10.40 per cent belonged to ST; 28 per cent belonged to OBC and 27.60 per cent belonged to General categories.

The Department of Food and Public Distribution also takes the responsibility of food economy of the states of the country. It undertakes various schemes for distribution of food grains at subsidized rate through fair price shops among the card holders. States receive such food grains from the Central Pool. There are three types of card holders-Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL).

The Government launched the AAY for the poorest of the poor on 25 December, 2000. Under this scheme, 25 kg of food-grains was made available to each eligible family per month at highly subsidized rate of Rs. 2.00 per kg for wheat and Rs.3.00 per kg for rice. This quantity has been enhanced from 25 kg to 35 kg from 1st April 2002.

The scheme BPL has been implemented in Assam since June, 1997 covering 12, 02,000 families fulfilling the target as fixed by the Government of India. Under this scheme, the selected BPL families have been provided with 33 kg of rice per family per month at the subsidized rate of Rs.6.27 to Rs. 6.67 per kg. In addition to rice, these families are also provided with wheat product, Subsidized Kerosene (S.K.) Oil, levy sugar and salt through BPL cards. It may be mentioned here that there is a hue and cry in the local news papers of the state that there were some flaw in selection procedures of BPL families.

The APL card scheme normally covers the middle class/creamy layer families of the society as per guide lines of the government of India. At present there are about 42.94 lakh APL families covering population of 214.70 lakh in the state. These families have been provided with APL rice, wheat products, Levy sugar, S.K (Subsidized Kerosin) Oil and Iodized salt in every month through fair price shops of the government.

During field survey, among the 200 beneficiary respondents and 50 non beneficiary respondents, no card holders have been found under AAY. From the observation it does not mean that among the respondents, there is none the poorest of the poor among them. It seems that the scheme is not able to reach them for some reasons for which state is not able activate the scheme properly.

Of the total number of beneficiary respondents, there did 148 respondents under BPL card holders constitute 74 per cent and of the total number of non beneficiaries, there were 22 respondents under the BPL card holders constituting 44.00 per cent which resulted in 68.00 per cent aggregate. It indicates that a higher percentage of job card holders are living under BPL in case of beneficiary respondents than non beneficiary respondents.

Similarly, there were 19 per cent and 40 per cent were APL card holders in case of beneficiary and non beneficiary respondents respectively with an aggregate of 23.20 per cent.

The percentage of respondents who did not possess any card was 7.00 per cent and 16 per cent in case of beneficiary and non beneficiary respondents respectively with an aggregate 8.80 per cent.

The role of male is significantly high as decision maker of the family. It was 97.00 per cent and 100.00 per cent in respect of beneficiary and non beneficiary respondents with an aggregate of 97.60 per cent.

Regarding migration of workers, 60.80 per cent occurred in case of beneficiaries and it was 82.00 per cent in case of non beneficiaries. In aggregate, it stood at 64.80 per cent.

3.2 Main Occupation

The main occupations of the beneficiary respondents were farming, self business, salaried/pensioners and wage earners (Table- 3.1). Wage earners were the highest with 79.50 per cent followed by salaried/pensioners 9.50 per cent, farming 8.00 per cent, and self business 3.00 per cent. In case of non beneficiary respondents, the highest 60.00 per cent were found as wage earners followed by farming 22.00 per cent, salaried/pensioners 14.00 per cent and self business 4.00 per cent respectively. Here, occupations of the non beneficiary respondents were at higher side in respect of farming, self business and salaried/pensioners as compared to beneficiary respondents. The wage earners were at significantly higher side in case of beneficiary respondents. In aggregate, the highest (75.60%) number of respondents earned their

Table 3.2
Main Occupation (% to total man-days)

Occupations	Beneficiaries	%	Non beneficiaries	%	Aggregate	%
Agricultural casual labour	1,847 (39)	2.66	1,340 (31)	7.73	3,187 (70)	3.68
Non agricultural casual labour	28,485 (150)	41.09	6,283 (50)	36.27	34,768 (200)	40.13
Work for public work programmes other than NREGA	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self employed in non farming	8,494 (41)	12.25	5,098 (32)	29.43	13,592 (73)	15.69
Self employed in agriculture	4,506 (64)	6.50	388 (27)	2.24	4,894 (91)	5.65
Self employed in livestock	6,744 (72)	9.73	635 (42)	3.66	7,379(114)	8.52
Regular/salary job	6,935 (19)	10.01	2,555 (7)	14.75	9,490 (26)	10.95
Worked as a migrant worker	2,662 (121)	3.84	1025(41)	5.92	3687 (162)	4.25
Worked under NREGA	9,646 (200)	13.92	0	0.00	9,646 (200)	11.13
Any other work						
Total	69,319	100.00	17324	100.00	86,643	100.00

Note:

- (i) While calculating man days only working members of the households were considered excluding dependent, household work, students and others
- (ii) For salaried/pensioners the working days are considered as 365 man days per person per annum
- (iii) For self employment in agriculture/livestock, man days are calculated as (days*number of hours/8)
- (iv) Figures within brackets nos. of hh in the respective column.

livelihood as wage earners followed by 10.80 per cent in farming, 10.40 per cent as salaried/pensioners and 3.20 per cent as self businesses. Migration of workers were recorded in 121(60.50%) and 41(82.00) households in case of beneficiaries and non beneficiaries, respectively. Combining both, the aggregate percentage stood at 64.80 per cent.

Table 3.2 gives occupation wise man days with percentage to total man days of the working population of the households for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries during the reference year. In case of beneficiaries, the highest man days (28,485) with 41.09 per cent to the total 69,319 man days had been observed against Non agricultural Casual Labour followed by 13.92 per cent in Work under NREGA, 12.25 per cent in Self Employed Non Farming, 10.01 per cent in Regular / Salaried job, 9.73 per cent in Self Employed in Livestock, 6.50 per cent in Self Employed in Agriculture 3.84 per cent in migrant workers and 2.66 per cent in Agricultural Casual Labour. In case of non beneficiaries, the highest man days (6,283) with 36.27 per cent to total 17,324 man days have also been observed against Non agricultural casual labour followed by 29.43 per cent in Self Employed Non Farming, 14.75 per cent in Regular / Salaried job, 7.73 per cent Agricultural Casual Labour, 5.92 per cent in Migrant Workers, 3.66 per cent in Self Employed in Livestock and 2.24 per cent in Self

Employed in Agriculture respectively. In both the cases, almost similar trend of working days has been reflected by the table. In aggregate, the highest number of man days (40.13%) were found in Non agricultural Casual labour followed by 15.69 per cent in Self Employed Non Farming, 11.13 per cent in Work under NREGA. 10.95 per cent in Regular / Salaried job, 8.52 per cent in Self Employed in Livestock and 5.65 per cent in Self Employed in Agriculture, 4.25 per cent in migrant workers and 3.68 per cent Agricultural Casual Labourers.

3.3 Household net Income

Due to implementation of NREGA, there was an additional increase of Rs 4,154 in average house hold income of beneficiary households. Per household net income covering beneficiaries and non beneficiaries by different occupations are shown in Table-3.3. The coefficient of variations were found much greater in all the

Table 3.3
Household net income (Annual) (Rs. Per household)

Occupations	Average income	CV (across HH)	Average income	CV (across HH)	Average income	CV (across HH)
	Beneficiaries		Non beneficiaries		Aggregate	
Income from work under NREGA	4,154	47.62	0.00	0.00	4,154	47.62
Percentage	(11.11)		0.00	0.00	(9.18)	
Income from wages in agriculture	3,118	60.90	2,581	35.34	2,922	55.82
Percentage	(1.67)		(3.78)		(2.03)	
Income from wages in non agriculture	16,826	52.33	11,107	43.51	15,396	54.39
Percentage	(33.75)		(35.34)		(34.03)	
Income from wages in PWP	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage						
Income from wages as migrant workers	2,168	66.22	2,402	79.71	2,227	70.67
Percentage	(3.51)		(6.27)		(3.99)	
Income from self employed in non farming	25,888	54.69	20,271	69.23	24,764	57.79
Percentage	(19.39)		(18.06)		(19.16)	
Income from agriculture/livestock	10,735	87.31	8,043	67.46	10,012	85.41
Percentage	(7.030)		(9.21)		(7.41)	
Income from regular job/salary/pension	62,859	80.07	61,357	20.70	62,559	76.10
Percentage	(23.54)		(27.33)		(24.20)	
Income from sale of assets/rent/transfer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage						
Total	37,387		31,425		36,195	
Percentage	(100.00)		(100)		(100)	

Note : Figures in parentheses are respective percentage of total income.

*Income from wages in non agriculture/income from migrant workers is calculated after subtracting the transportation cost, while income from agriculture also includes income from hiring out assets ,if any.

occupations which indicated that income distribution of the households were less uniform ,less stable and less homogeneous. Similar trends of income were noticed for beneficiary and non beneficiary as well. The highest annual per household income of Rs. 62,859(23.54%) and Rs. 61,357(27.33%) were found from the occupation of Regular Job/ Salary/ Pensioner for beneficiary and non beneficiary respectively with

an aggregate income of Rs. 62,559(24.20%) followed by annual income of Rs 25,888(19.39%) for beneficiary and Rs.20,271(18.06 %) for non beneficiaries from Self Employed in Non Farming occupation with an aggregate income of Rs. 24,7649(19.16%), Rs.16,826(33.75%) for beneficiary and Rs. 11,017(35.34%) for non beneficiary with aggregate income of Rs 15,396 from wages in Non Agriculture, Rs.10,735(7.03%) for beneficiary and Rs.8,043(9.21%) for non beneficiary with an aggregate income of Rs.10,012(7.41%) from Agriculture /Livestock, Rs.4,154(11.11%) for beneficiary from NREGA and Rs.3,118(1.67%) from agricultural wages for beneficiary, Rs.2,581(3.78%) for non beneficiary with an aggregate income of Rs.2,922(2.03%) and Rs.2,168(3.51%) for beneficiary and Rs.2,402(6.27%) for non beneficiary with an aggregate income of Rs.2,227(3.99%) from Wages As Migrant Workers.

3.4.a Household consumption

Rice is the principal food of Assam. Almost each and every household takes two major meals in a day where rice is the major item. Wheat is an occasional food item usually taken as breakfast. Other cereals are also taken proportionately with rice. It may be mentioned here that quantities of other items solely depend upon the income of the house hold. It was also reported that one meal (lunch) is usually provided by the wage bearer at free of cost which curtails the expenditure in food of the wage earners.

Per capita per month Consumption of food items of the sample households presented in Table 3.4a. Per capita per month consumption of rice was at 10.413 Kg. for beneficiary and 10.544 Kg. for non beneficiary with an aggregate amount of 10.440 kg which was below to the NSS data 12.12kg. for 1993-94 and 13.20kg for 1999-00. In case of total cereal consumption, it stood at 11.796 kg for beneficiaries, 11.450 kg for non beneficiaries with an aggregate consumption of 11.723 kg. And it was 12.69 kg and 13.70 kg to the NSS data for 1993-94 and 1999-00 respectively. Consumption of vegetables was at 6.540 kg for beneficiary and 8.670 kg for non beneficiary with an aggregate consumption of 6.987 kg. In both the cases, consumptions were much higher than NSS data. In case of edible oil, consumption was at 0.544 lit. for beneficiary and 0.498 lit for non beneficiary with an aggregate consumption of 0.535 lit which were also in higher side than the NSS data for the reference years. In case of protein rich items like poultry meat, egg. fish, etc., per capita per month consumption was at 0.330 kg for beneficiary and 0.420 kg for non

beneficiary with an aggregate consumption of 0.349 kg which were also in much higher side than the NSS data for the reference years. There was no report of any expenditure under the item “Confectionary”.

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

(Quantity in Kgs.)

Items	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries	Aggregate	NSS 1993-94	NSS 1999-00	NSS 2003-04(In Rs.)
Rice	10.413	10.544	10.440	12.12	12.630	NA
Wheat	1.383	0.906	1.283	0.57	0.570	NA
Other cereals	0.000	0.000	0.000	NA	0.00	NA
Total cereals	11.795	11.450	11.723	12.69	13.20	NA
Total pulses	0.533	0.464	0.518	0.490	0.510	NA
Sugar	0.491	0.455	0.484	0.420	0.410	NA
Edible oil *	0.544	0.498	0.535	0.300	0.350	NA
Liquid milk *	1.122	0.801	1.054	1.210	1.140	NA
Milk products	0.016	0.021	0.017	-	0.00	NA
Spices	0.240	0.223	0.237	0.105	0.104	NA
Poultry - meat	0.330	0.420	0.349	0.150	0.140	NA
Fruits	0.326	0.390	0.340	0.050	0.00	NA
Vegetables	6.540	8.670	6.987	2.380	0.00	NA
Confectionery	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00	NA

- Edible oil and liquid milk are in liters

Note :Rice (Rs.14.12/kg.), Wheat (Rs.17.12/kg.), Total pulses (Rs.45.12/kg.), Sugar (Rs.16.45/kg.)

Edible oil (Rs. 45.45/Lit), Milk (Rs.15.50/lit), Spices (Rs.90.00/kg), Poultry-meat (Rs.120.00/kg)

Fruits (Rs. 32.00/kg) and Vegetable (Rs. 14.40/kg)

3.4b Monthly consumption expenditure of households

Monthly per capita consumption expenditure on food and non food items for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries were worked out along with coefficient of variation of and are presented in Table 3.4b. The NSS data on per capita consumption expenditure is also incorporated herewith for a comparative analysis of the state as a whole. Coefficient of variation among each item is very high for beneficiaries as well as non beneficiaries but there exists a similarity in consumption pattern of each food and non food item across the sample households. Per capita monthly consumption expenditure in total food was of Rs. 444.62 for beneficiaries and Rs. 467.48 for non beneficiaries while per capita per month non food expenditure was of Rs.144.22 for beneficiaries and Rs 71.45 for non beneficiaries. Food and non- food expenditure Putting together, it stood at Rs. 588.84 for beneficiaries and Rs.538.93 for non beneficiaries. Per capita per month expenditure was marginally higher in respect of beneficiaries might be due to impact of NREGA. In aggregate, per capita expenditure exceeded the expenditure recorded NSS data for 2003-04. It happened due to time gap between observed data and NSS data.

Table - 3.4 b
Monthly consumption expenditure of households

(Value in Rs.)

Items	Monthly per capita (Rs.)	Coefficient of variation	Monthly per capita (Rs.)	Coefficient of variation	Monthly per capita (Rs.)	Coefficient of variation	NSS 2003-04 (Rs.)	NSS 2004-05 (Rs.)
	Beneficiaries		Non beneficiaries		Aggregate			
Food items								
Rice	167.86	31.85	169.97	26.47	168.30	30.11	126.29	-
%	(28.51)		(31.54)		(29.10)			
Wheat	25.05	51.72	16.42	54.21	23.24	49.90	5.63	-
%	(4.25)		(3.05)		(4.02)			
Other cereals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
%	(0.00)		(0.00)		(0.00)			
Total cereals	192.91	29.75	186.39	24.95	191.54	28.76	131.95	134.81
%	(32.76)		(34.59)		(33.12)			
Total pulses	24.03	46.82	20.92	47.29	23.38	42.79	15.48	81.02
%	(4.08)		(3.88)		(4.04)			
Sugar	12.99	45.90	12.04	42.79	12.79	49.78	7.55	8.62
%	(2.21)		(2.23)		(2.21)			
Edible oil	25.82	47.16	23.63	46.01	25.37	47.56	0.00	26.58
%	(4.39)		(4.39)		(4.39)			
Milk & prods	19.66	60.29	15.37	56.97	18.76	65.01	19.71	23.75
%	(3.34)		(2.85)		(3.24)			
Spices	26.40	42.88	24.58	36.73	26.02	41.98	8.66	10.23
%	(4.48)		(4.56)		(4.50)			
Poultry - meat	64.35	54.95	81.90	88.19	68.03	58.01	47.65	55.01
%	(10.93)		(15.20)		(11.76)			
Fruits	10.45	44.79	12.48	41.27	10.87	44.21	5.91	5.31
%	(1.77)		(2.32)		(1.88)			
Vegetables	68.02	51.41	90.17	27.76	72.66	47.05	46.93	50.71
%	(11.55)		(16.73)		(12.56)			
Confectionery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
%	(0.00)		(0.00)		(0.00)			
Total food	444.62	39.11	467.48	28.19	449.42	36.78	0.00	396.04
%	(75.51)		(86.74)		(77.70)			
Non food items (365 days recall period)								
Education	17.37	46.87	11.85	40.85	16.21	45.46	11.76	-
%	(2.95)		(2.20)		(2.80)			
Clothing	43.96	48.33	14.42	48.46	37.77	50.52	37.04	-
%	(7.47)		(2.68)		(6.53)			
Footwear	4.81	47.22	3.97	48.49	4.64	47.67	4.40	-
%	(0.82)		(0.74)		(0.80)			
Other items	19.75	87.54	7.45	28.76	17.17	74.89	0.00	-
%	(3.35)		(1.38)		(2.97)			
Fuel & light	58.33	48.87	33.76	33.97	53.17	50.30	46.04	-
%	(9.91)		(6.26)		(9.19)			
Total non food	144.22	47.20	71.45	30.01	128.96	48.66	190.85	-
%	(24.49)		(13.26)		(22.30)			
Gross total	588.84	38.39	538.93	23.52	578.38	36.79	520.45	-
%	(100.00)		(100.00)		(100.00)			

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

3.5 Variability (CV) and Gini ratios in income and consumption

Table 3.5 gives a comparative picture of variability in consumption and income between beneficiaries and non beneficiaries against each item under consideration. Average household income during the reference year was of Rs.36, 079 for beneficiaries and Rs.29, 456 for non-beneficiaries with an aggregate income of Rs.

34,755. Average households consumption stood at Rs.21, 007 for beneficiaries and Rs. 20,207 for non beneficiaries with an aggregate consumption of Rs.20,487. Coefficient of variation in income across the households were found at 80.29 per cent for beneficiaries and 71.78 per cent for non beneficiaries and aggregate coefficient of variation stood at 79.73 per cent which indicates that there was much variation in income among the households. The coefficients of variation in consumption were found at 38.29 per cent for beneficiaries and 30.71 per cent for non beneficiaries with an aggregate variation of 37.03. It indicates that the consumption pattern differed

Table 3.5
Variability in Consumption and income

Description	Beneficiary	Non beneficiary	Total
Average households income during the reference year (Rs.)	36,079	29,456	34,755
Average households consumption during the reference year (Rs.)	21,007	20,207	20,847
Coefficient of variation in income across the households	80.29	71.78	79.73
Coefficient of variation in consumption across the households	38.29	30.71	37.03
Gini coefficient of income	29.19	41.69	31.26
Gini coefficient of consumption	16.25	17.16	16.17

more in beneficiaries than non beneficiaries. From the table it has been observed that all the households had surplus income when compared with consumption; but it is to be noted here that about 35 percent households had deficit income for beneficiaries and about 40 per cent households had deficit income for non beneficiaries. Greater coefficient variations also indicate the same fact. Gini ratio in income and expenditure were also worked out for beneficiaries, non beneficiaries and at aggregate level. Gini coefficient of income stood at 29.19 per cent for beneficiaries. 41.69 per cent for non beneficiaries and 31.26 per cent in aggregate while in consumption, it stood at 16.25 per cent for beneficiaries. 17.16 per cent for non beneficiaries and 16.17 per cent in aggregate.

3.6 Determinants of participation in NREGA – Functional analysis

An attempt is made here to analysis the determinants of participation in NREGA using Logit modal of multiple regressions (Table-3.6). The result of the logit regression revealed that only the variable asset and the constant had a significant effect on the participation of households in NREGA and the rest of the variables such as Employment Other than NREGA, HH Income Other than NREGA, HH Size, Dummy Land ownership, Dummy BPL Card Holding, Dummy SC, Dummy ST, Dummy OBC did not reveal as significant determinants of the household level participation in NREGA. The NREGA

Table-3.6
Determination of participation of NREGA (Logit function)

(Dependent Variable: Participation (=1) and non participation (=0) in NREGA)

Variables	Coefficient	t' value
Employment Other than NREGA	0.08623	1.22699
HH Income Other than NREGA	0.00000	-0.38054
HH Size	-0.04923	-0.98471
Dummy Land ownership	0.06314	0.47602
Value of Assets	0.00000***	-1.60298
Dummy BPL Card Holding	-0.01306	-0.07977
Dummy SC	0.13443	0.79659
Dummy ST	-0.04480	0.20561
Dummy OBC	-0.05055	0.29427
Constant	-4.62359*	-14.06734
No. of observations	250	
Log Likelihood function	-125.1	
χ^2	591.3*	
Cox & Snell - R²	0.075	
Negelkerke - R²	0.119	

Note: * indicates 1% level, ** indicates 5% level, *** indicate 10% level

helped workers in creation of household assets as they got the money at a time after a week or fortnightly and it can be considered as forced saving as the transaction is done through bank and post office. It also helped them to create household assets. The worked out Chi-square was found significant at 1% probability level.

Table-3.7
Determination of participation of NREGA (OLS)

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

Variables	Coefficient	t' value
Employment Other then NREGA	-1.79052	-1.23335
HH Income Other then NREGA	-0.00020*	-3.33523
HH Size	2.18004**	1.92951
Dummy Land ownership	1.79151	0.57896
Value of Assets	6.4569E-05***	1.28627
Dummy BPL Card Holding	-4.11172	-1.05553
Dummy SC	4.54488	1.19660
Dummy ST	13.05740*	2.38519
Dummy OBC	7.07329**	1.72008
Constant	43.13490*	6.03251
No. of observations	200	
F	2.35010	
R²	0.10017	

Note: *, ** and *** indicate Significant at 1%, 5% and 10% Probability level respectively.

In addition to logit regression analysis, two OLS methods of multiple regressions were also worked for determination of participation of NREGA using numbers of days worked in NREGA as household level as well as the member level as dependent variable respectively in Table-3.7 & 3.8. From the Table-3.7, it has been observed

Table-3.8
Determination of participation of NREGA (OLS)
 (Dependent Variable: No. of days per member worked in NREGA)

Variables	Coefficient	t' value
Wage rate NERGA	0.10488	0.61293
Age	-0.16052	-1.24439
Education	-0.36089	-0.13574
HH size	1.05485*	1.01360
Dummy BPL	-1.24225	-0.33246
Dummy Sex	5.43351***	1.37305
Dummy SC	0.46977	0.11689
Dummy ST	10.73182**	1.91514
Dummy OBC	2.85400	0.68398
Constant	29.85465**	1.79941
No. of Observations	200	
F	0.98108	
R²	0.04441	

Note: * indicates 1% level, ** indicates 5% level, *** indicate 10% level

that HH Income Other than NREGA, HH Size, Value of Assets, Dummy ST, Dummy OBC and Constant had a significant effect on dependent variable. But positive effects were found against HH Size, value of assets, Dummy ST, Dummy OBC and Constant. From the Table 3.8, positive significant effects were found in case of the variables HH size, gender, Dummy ST and constant.

3.7 Summary of the Chapter

This chapter was based on primary level data collected from 5 sample districts covering 5 zones of the state viz, Bongaigaon from west, Cachar from south, Dibrugarh from east, Nagaon from central and Sonitpur from north. Altogether 200 sample beneficiaries and 50 non beneficiaries were interviewed for the purpose of the study. There were 40 beneficiaries and 10 non beneficiaries in each of the district, under study. Average house hold size was 4.92 for beneficiaries and 5.22 for non beneficiaries. Male and female ratio was 54.02: 45.98. Literacy rate was 81.79 per cent for beneficiaries and 80.46 per cent for non beneficiaries. SC was the dominant caste component for beneficiaries while OBC was the dominant cast component for non beneficiaries. BPL card holder is 74 per cent in case of beneficiaries and it was 44 per cent in case of non beneficiaries. Role of male counterpart was dominant in major decisions of any familial matters. About 80 per cent of the beneficiary households earned their livelihood as wage laborers and it was 60 per cent for non beneficiaries. Migration of workers existed among the sample households. It was about 60.50 per cent for beneficiaries and 82 per cent for non beneficiaries. In the reference year, all the workers of the beneficiary families were found to put in 69,319

man days under different occupations. They could generate 13.92 per cent of additional man days due to NREGA. The highest man day's i.e 41.09 per cent was found under the occupation of non agricultural casual labour. The coefficient of variations were found much greater in all the occupations which indicated that income distribution of the households were less uniform, less stable and less homogeneous. Similar trends of income are seen for beneficiary and non beneficiary as well. Monthly per capita consumption in food items was of Rs.444.62 for beneficiaries and Rs.467.48 for non beneficiaries. In non food items, it was of Rs.144.22 for beneficiaries and Rs. 7.45 for non beneficiaries. Combining both, it stood at Rs. 588.84 for beneficiaries and Rs.538.93 for non beneficiaries. In both the case coefficients of variation were significantly high. Gini coefficient of income stood at 29.19 per cent for beneficiaries, 41.69 per cent for non beneficiaries and 31.26 per cent in aggregate while in consumption it stood at 16.25 per cent for beneficiaries, 17.16 per cent for non beneficiaries and 16.17 per cent in aggregate. An attempt was who made to analysis the determinants of participation in NREGA using logit modal and OLS method of multiple regressions. In logit modal, only household asset showed a significant effect on household participation in NREGA while in other two models of OLS showed a positive significant effect on the dependent variables using number of days worked at the household level in NREGA against the variables HH Size, value of assets, Dummy ST, Dummy OBC and Constant while using dependent variable as the member level, positive significant effect were found against the variables HH size, gender and Dummy ST.

CHAPTER - IV

THE WORK PROFILE UNDER NREGA, WAGE STRUCTURE AND MIGRATION ISSUES

(Reference period – January to December' 2009)

4.1 Work profile under NREGA

Work profile under NREGA has been given in Table 4.1. Number of members per household employed in aggregate during the year was 1.45 persons in Bongaigaon district, 1.45 persons in Cachar district, 1.23 persons in Dibrugarh district, 1.13 persons in Nagaon district and 1.00 persons in Sonitpur district with a state average of 1.25 combining all caste components of the sample districts. In each district on an average 0.45 woman were employed per household.

In aggregate, number of days employed during the year combining all the caste components was 36.10 days in Bongaigaon district, 52.28 days in Cachar district, 55.30 days in Dibrugarh district, 55.73 days in Nagaon district and 41.75 days in Sonitpur district constituting 48.23 days for the state as a whole. Women were employed for 9.28 days per household in the state combining all the sample districts.

During field investigation, three different wage rates were obtained, in the first part of the year, it was of Rs. 77; in the mid of the year it was raised to Rs.80 and then it was revised again and raised to Rs100.00 per day. In aggregate, wage rate per day, stood at Rs.86.33 in Bongaigaon district, Rs. 93.38 in Cachar district, Rs 87.64 in Dibrugarh district, Rs. 80.65 in Nagaon district, and Rs.82.13 in Sonitpur district with a state average of Rs.86.12.

4.2 How successful has been NREGA providing 100 day's employment (to registered families at their door steps)

Of 40 households in each sample district, only 5 registered households (2.50%) has got 100 days employment; only 3 in Nagaon district (7.50%) while only 2 households (5.00%) could complete 100 days employment in Bongaigaon district. No record of completion of 100 days employment was observed in the registered households in the rest of the sample districts.

No much variation had been observed in average distance from the residence to the work place. In aggregate, it was at 1.11 kms.

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

Characteristics		Dist-1	Dist-2	Dist-3	Dist-4	Dist-5	State
		Bongaigaon	Cachar	Dibrugarh	Nagaon	Sonitpur	
No. of Members Per HH Employed during the year	Aggregate	1.45	1.45	1.23	1.13	1.00	1.25
	General	0.25	0.54	0.18	0.25	0.43	0.33
	SC	0.73	0.58	0.34	0.39	0.25	0.46
	ST	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.17	0.08	0.08
	OBC	0.47	0.33	0.55	0.31	0.25	0.38
	Men	0.65	0.75	0.90	0.88	0.85	0.81
	Women	0.80	0.70	0.33	0.25	0.15	0.45
% of HH worked for 100 or more days in a year		5.00	0.00	0.00	2.50	0.00	1.50
No. of days Per HH Employed during the year	Aggregate	36.10	52.28	55.30	55.73	41.75	48.23
	General	5.35	19.70	10.65	11.75	16.83	12.86
	SC	19.55	24.60	14.35	20.30	8.98	17.56
	ST	0.00	0.00	8.73	8.98	4.05	4.35
	OBC	11.20	7.98	21.58	14.70	11.90	13.47
	Men	21.95	38.53	51.00	46.23	37.05	38.95
	Women	14.15	13.75	4.30	9.50	4.70	9.28
Wage Rate Obtained (Rs.)	Aggregate	86.33	93.38	87.64	80.65	82.13	86.12
	General	83.35	91.62	90.91	80.56	81.46	86.13
	SC	89.62	94.61	88.74	80.00	83.60	88.03
	ST	0.00	0.00	92.11	83.27	88.78	87.84
	OBC	82.01	93.95	83.48	80.02	79.71	83.05
	Men	87.94	92.78	88.43	80.65	82.20	86.20
	Women	83.82	95.07	78.22	80.63	81.60	85.76
Average distance from Residence to where Employed (in Kms.)		1.10	0.98	1.20	1.16	1.09	1.11

4.3 Nature of assets created and their durability (Table 4.2)

It has been observed, NREGA is giving more stress in paying wages to the workers than the volume and quality of works. On the contrary, it is also difficult to assess the quality of work by the non technical persons like us. From eye estimation, it may be mentioned that the quality of work in some areas were not up to the mark. As a result in some areas, it failed to create durable assets and wherever created, it was reported that there is no as such provision for post care of the created assets under NREGA. However, from the opinion of the interviewees, Dibrugarh district showed better performance among the 5 sample districts in creating quality of assets created through NREGA activity. Over all opinion, 32.50 per cent was found as “very good”, 47.00 per cent as “Good” and 20.00 per cent as “Bad”.

4.4 Wage differential under NREGA and its comparison with Minimum Wage Act:

The daily rates of minimum wages for agricultural workers fixed at Rs.106.71 by the state administration of Assam under the Minimum Wage Act of 1948. (Agricultural Statistics at a glance, 2010, DES, MOA, GOI).As per the data collected by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Assam, the average daily wage rate for un-skilled labourer in rural areas were at Rs.84.65 for

field labour Ploughman, Rs.82.72 for herdsman, Rs.82.55 (Man), Rs.66.76 (Women) for reaper and harvester and Rs.83.47 (Man) and Rs. 66.60 (Women) for other agricultural labourer in 2008-09. (Economic Survey, Assam, 2009-10) while wage rate of State NREGA on an average was found at Rs.86.56.

4.5 Wage differential in different activities, among beneficiaries and non beneficiaries (Table 4.3)

Wage differential among different activities is presented in Table 4.3. Wage rate did not show much difference between beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. Female wage rates were lower in different occupations. Coefficient of variation in respect female is much higher in case of beneficiaries as compared to non beneficiaries. Wage rate of migrant workers was on higher side as compared to wage rate under NREGA and coefficient of variation was also found lesser. In aggregate, wage rate in agricultural

Table: 4.3
Wage differentials among different activities

Occupations		Beneficiaries		Non beneficiaries		Aggregate	
		Average	CV	Average	CV	Average	CV
Wage rate in agriculture casual labour (Rs.)	Male	71.25	39.30	72.05	36.69	71.18	37.79
	Female	64.11	60.31	59.21	25.04	63.24	64.69
Wage rate in non agri casual labour (Rs.)	Male	98.87	51.51	96.81	43.64	96.29	54.67
	Female	66.92	59.35	66.03	49.49	67.10	58.03
Wage rate in public work programe (Rs.)	Male	78.00	41.00	80.00	44.21	79.00	42.75
	Female	60.00	31.00	60.00	33.32	60.00	32.45
Wage rate earned by migrant workers (Rs.)	Male	98.57	25.10	96.10	22.15	97.33	23.67
	Female	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wage rate under NREGA (Rs.)	Male	86.12	46.99	0.00	0.00	86.12	46.99
	Female	86.33	51.45	0.00	0.00	86.33	51.45
Any other work (Rs.)	Male	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Female	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

casual labour were at Rs. 71.18 for male and Rs.63.24 for female; wage rate in non agricultural casual labour were at Rs. 96.29 for male and Rs.67.10 for female; wage rate earned by migrant worker was of Rs.97.33 and there was no report of migrant female worker and wage rate under NREGA were at Rs. 86.12 for male and Rs.86.33 for female. There was no report of any workers of the households participating in public work programme.

4.6 How has NREGA affected labour migration (labour migrating back into village and migrated out of village), Direction of migration (rural to urban and vice-a-versa)

Among the sample villages surveyed, out migration was observed in almost all the villages; main reason being that NREGA was not able to provide employment to all job card holders for all un skilled workers of the households. Besides, other workers who did not participate in NREGA also migrated to nearby towns in search of works. It was also reported that they opted for migration due to higher wage rate as compared to that of NREGA. Of the total population (983), there were 447(45.57%) workers in the beneficiary households and NREGA provided employment to 251(25.53%) workers only and that too for 48.23 days on an average for each household during the reference year.

Table: 4.4
The Migration Incidents Recorded during the
Reference Period : Jan. - Dec. 2009

Characteristics		Dist 1 Bongaigaon	Dist 2 Cachar	Dist 3 Dibrugarh	Dist 4 Nagaon	Dist 5 Sunitpur	State
No. of members migrated from the village because of not getting work under NREGA even after registration (per hh)		0.30	0.53	0.38	0.65	0.85	0.54
No. of out migrated members returned back to village because of getting work in NREGA (per households)		0	0	0	0	0	0
In the case some members returned back to the village to work under NREGA where were they earlier working (% of returned members)	Nearby village	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Nearby town	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Some district	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Some state	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other state	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other country	0	0	0	0	0	0
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	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Trading/services and transport	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Private work/self business	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other government work	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Agricultural labour	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Any other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Year in which shifted (% of shifted household)	Shifted last year	25.00	33.33	53.33	30.77	41.18	37.04
	Shifted before last year	75.00	66.67	46.67	69.23	58.82	62.96
Is your family better off now compared to previous occupation (% of shifted household)		0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0	0	0

The NREGA in the state is going at a very slow pace and still it was not in a position to speed up its activity to provide the targeted employment of 100 days for each house hold in the reference year. It was also reported that activity of NREGA in the state was also seasonal on account of prevailing weather condition. Therefore, migration of workers form the village was found to be a common phenomenon in the sample areas. There was no report of labour migrating back into village for NREGA. There was no report of female migrant workers. Table 4.4 revealed the migration incidents recorded during the Reference period - Jan. - Dec. 2009. The overall migration incidents were at 0.54 persons per household. They also reported that

migration depends upon the demand for unskilled labour and they felt that it is decreasing on account of extensive use of modern machinery.

4.7 Summary of the Chapter

In aggregate, number of members per household employed during the year was 1.25 persons in the state combining all caste components of the sample districts. In each district on an average 0.45 woman was employed per household. In aggregate, number of days employed during the year combining all the caste components of the sample districts was 48.23 days in the state. Women were employed for 9.28 days per household in the state combining all the sample districts. Of 200 sample households, only 5 registered households got 100 days employment in the reference year.

During the field investigation, three different wage rates were obtained, in the first part of the year, it was of Rs. 77.00; in the mid of the year it was raised to Rs. 80.00 and then it was revised again and raised to Rs. 100.00 per day. In aggregate, wage rate of the state NREGA stood at Rs.86.56 per day. Wage differential were also found under different occupations other than NREGA. Gender differences were much distinct in wage rate. Wage rate in NREGA was dearer than agricultural casual labourer, but the higher wage rate was found in case of non agricultural casual labourer and migrant workers. It was observed that the state NERGA was giving more emphasis in paying wages to the workers than the volume and quality of works to be performed. From eye estimation, it may be mentioned here that the quality of work in some areas were not up to the mark.

CHAPTER – V

THE FUNCTIONING OF NREGA- QUALITATIVE ASPECTS

5.1 Household assets holdings

Household assets are one of the measuring sticks to judge the economic status of a household. It helps to a great extent, to know whether they are living above the poverty line or below the poverty line. Table 5.1 indicates assets holding picture of the sample households for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. Land is a permanent asset of every household. Division of family reduces the size of holding of owned land among all the households. At the same time, selling of land has also become a very common phenomenon among the poor people whenever there is any financial crisis ,which has resulted further reduction of the size of own land holding. It has been observed that almost all the households possess homestead area. Only a few households have extra crop land of their own. At present, land value is ever increasing irrespective of its location. In general, land value is much higher near by the city or township. Therefore land is the most valuable assets for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. Value of per household land holding stood at Rs. 33,473 (42.23%) for beneficiaries and Rs. 24, 446 (39.96 %) for non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs.28,960 (41.14%); value of per household house property stood at Rs. 25,351 (31.98) for beneficiaries and Rs. 17,702(28.93%) for non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs 21,527 (30.58%); value of per household livestock stood at Rs.1,368 (1.73%) for beneficiaries and Rs. 3,370(5.51%) non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs 2,369 (3.37%); value of per household agricultural implements stood at Rs 3,231 (4.08%) for beneficiaries and Rs. 4,855 (7.94 %) non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs 4,043(5.74%); value of per household consumer assets stood at Rs.1,151 (1.45%) for beneficiaries and Rs.1,000 (1.63%) for non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs. 1,076 (1.53%); value of per household business assets stood at Rs. 3,209 (4.05%) for beneficiaries and Rs.4,680 (7.65%) for non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs. 4,112 (5.84%); value of per household ornaments stood at Rs. 1,0762 (13.58%) for beneficiaries and Rs. 3,659 (5.98%) for non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs. 7,211 (10.24%); value of per household utensil stood at Rs. 487 (0.60%) for beneficiaries and Rs. 747

(1.22%) non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs.617 (0.88%); value of per household other assets stood at Rs.231 (0.30%) for beneficiaries and Rs.724 (1.18%) non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs.478 (0.68%). Total value of per household assets stood at Rs.79,263 for beneficiaries and Rs.61,183 for non beneficiaries with an aggregate value of Rs.70,393.

Table - 5.1
Assets holdings (Rs. Per households)

Assets	Beneficiary	Non beneficiary	Aggregate
Land	33,473 (42.23)	24,446 (39.96)	28,960 (41.14)
House property	25,351 (31.98)	17,702 (28.93)	21,527 (30.58)
Live stock	1,368 (1.73)	3,370 (5.51)	2,369 (3.37)
Agricultural implements	3,231 (4.08)	4,855 (7.94)	4,043 (5.74)
Consumer assets	1,151 (1.45)	1,000 (1.63)	1,076 (1.53)
Business assets	3,209 (4.05)	4,680 (7.65)	4,112 (5.84)
Ornaments	10,762 (13.58)	3,659 (5.98)	7,211 (10.24)
Utensils	487 (0.60)	747 (1.22)	617 (0.88)
Others	231 (0.30)	724 (1.18)	478 (0.68)
Total	79,263 (100)	61,183 (100)	70,393 (100)

Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to total

5.2 Households status on borrowings and their financial vulnerability

In this regard, sample households borrowed money from three different sources. Rate of interest was found to be very high and that too, on monthly basis (Table-5.2a). It was not less than 10 per cent per month. Per household loan stood at Rs.2,215 in respect of beneficiary households while it was of Rs.4,400 in respect of non beneficiary households. In aggregate, it stood at Rs.2,652. While in case of beneficiaries, the maximum amount of loan i.e.77.43 per cent of loan came from the Traders-Cum-Money-Lenders and 22.57 per cent came from Commission Agent and in case of non beneficiaries, the maximum loan i.e,59.09 per cent came from Commission Agent and 40.91 per cent came from Friends/Relatives. Table 5.2a also revealed the purpose of loan for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. In aggregate, per household took loan of Rs.88.00 (3.32%) for daily consumption, Rs.632.00 (23.83%) for social ceremony, Rs.870.00 (32.81%) for purchasing productive assets like land, livestock, etc., Rs.814.00 (30.69%) for construction of dwelling houses and Rs.248.00 (9.35%) for medical treatment. The higher percentage of loan for productive assets was a good sign but high rate of interest that too on monthly basis was a matter of concern for repaying the debt in time.

Table 5.2b revealed the household strength for borrowings and other household assets with which they can go for borrowing. In aggregate 15.75 per cent of the households were in agreement against wage work with those whom they were indebted.

Table - 5.2a
Borrowing by sample households (Rs. Per households)

Occupations		Beneficiary	Non beneficiary	Aggregate
Source of loan	Institutional loan (banks)			
	Traders-cum-Money Lenders	1,715 (77.43)	0	1,372(51.7)
	Commission Agent	500 (22.57)	2,600 (59.09)	920 (34.69)
	Landlord/Employer			
	Friends/Relatives		1,800 (40.91)	360(13.57)
	Others			
Total		2,215 (100)	4,400(100)	2652(100)
Purpose of loan	Daily consumption	110.00(4.97)		88.00(3.32)
	Social ceremony	500.00(22.57)	1.160(26.36)	632.00(23.83)
	Purchase of land, livestock or other assets	660.00(29.80)	1,710(38.86)	870.00(32.81)
	Consumer durables			
	Construction of house	730.00(32.96)	1150(26.14)	814.00(30.69)
	Health treatment	215.00 (9.70)	380(8.64)	248.00(9.35)
	Others			
Total		2,215(100)	4,400(100)	2,652
Rate of interest (percent per month)		10	10	10

Note : Figures within brackets Month indicate percentage to total.

Table - 5.2b
Households strength for borrowing and other household assets*
(% of households)

Strength	Beneficiary	Non beneficiary	Aggregate
Doing wage work to those whom they are indebted	13.50	18.00	15.75
Availability of co-operative credit society in village	0.00	0.00	0.00
Family member being member of such society	0.00	0.00	0.00
Availability of informal credit society/SHG in village	40.50	38.00	39.25
Family member being member of such society	3.50	3.10	3.07
Having account in bank/post office/other institution	100.00	62.00	81.00
Having any stocks/bond/shares/other similar assets	0.00	0.00	0.00
Having life insurance policy	15.50	14.00	14.75

There was no report of having cooperative credit society in the study area. In aggregate, 39.25 per cent of households had opportunity to take loan from informal credit societies such as SHG; 40.50 per cent of beneficiaries and 38.00 per cent for non-beneficiaries had advantage of availing loan from informal credit societies (SHG). All the beneficiary households i.e. 100 per cent households had accounts in

bank, post office and other institution from they can go for borrowing. In case of non beneficiaries households 62 .00 per cent had account in bank. In aggregate, it was of 81.00 per cent. There was no report of having any stocks/ bond/shares/ other similar assets. There was report of having insurance policy for some households amongst in both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries; it was 15.50 per cent and 14 .00 per cent households for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, respectively. It happened as some households have government employees.

5.3 Some qualitative aspects of NREGA

Qualitative aspects of NREGA as per guidelines of the coordinating centre are presented in the form of tables from Table 5.3.1 to Table 5.3.6.

5.3.1 Job Card Issues and work application

Table 5.3.1 is related to Job Card Issues and work application. There was no report of paying any fees, charges, or bribe to get job card at the time of issuance of Job card i.e. 100 per cent of beneficiaries replied as 'no'. Of the 200 beneficiaries of the 5 sample districts, 22 per cent job cards did not have entries even though the job card holders had worked under NREGA; 60 per cent of job cards were found with incomplete entries no over writing was reported by the card holders and the signature column of 60 per cent job card was found blank; 100 per cent job card holder opined that they got employed for work on submission of application; 70 per cent got work within 15 days from the date of application; there was no report of unemployment allowance paid in case of failure to provide work within 15 days.

5.3.2 Payment of wages and related issues

Wage rate for men and women were same and wages were paid on daily basis; work was measured by collective measurement; three types of opinion were observed in wage payment and of this 70 per cent got wages within a fortnight; 20 per cent got within a month and 10 per cent got wages in more than a month. Wage payment was made through bank and post offices. The choice of institute agency mainly depended upon its location from the work site. 50% of accounts were found in banks & 50% in Post Office. Wage payment was done through individual and joint account; 95 per cent were found as individual accounts and 5 per cent as joint accounts. Wages were paid through bank and post office only. Regarding wage payment, 10 per cent complained that there were delays in payment. There were no reports of wage paid other than the minimum wage or any other complaints enumerated in (Table 5.3.1 and 5.3.2)

Table - 5.3.1
Qualitative questions related to functioning of NREGA

(Percentage of hh)

Description		Yes	No	Not sure
Job card issuance	Paid any fees/charges or bribe to get a job card	0	100	0
	The amount paid for job card (exorbitant)	0	0	0
	The amount paid as bribe (exorbitant)	0	0	0
Irregularity in the job card	No entries were made even though the job card holder(s) had worked on NREGA	22	78	0
	Some entries were incomplete , missing or fake information was entered	60	40	0
	Some entries had been over-writing	0	100	0
	The signature column was blank or partly blank	60	40	0
Where was the card generally kept	With the card holders	70	30	0
	With Sarpanch or Sachiv	0	0	0
	With contractor	0	0	0
	With the gram rojgar sevak	30	70	0
	Elsewhere	0	0	0
Work application	Are you employed in response to an application for work	100	0	0
	If applied, did you get work within 15 days of application	70	30	0
	In case of failure to provide work within 15 days, is unemployment allowance paid	0	100	0
Payment of Wages	Are the wage rates same for men and women	100	0	0
	Wage rates higher for men	0	100	0
	Wage rates higher for women	0	100	0
	Wage paid on "daily-wage" basis	100	0	0
	Wage paid on "piece-rate task-wage" basis	0	100	0
Measurement of work	Work was measured by individual's work	0	100	0
	Work was measured by team measurement	0	100	0
	Work was measured by collective measurement	100	0	0
Period of wage Payment	Wages were paid within a fortnight	70	30	0
	Wages were paid within a month	20	80	0
	Wages were paid more than a month	10	90	0
	Wages were paid after one year	0	0	0
Who made the wage Payment of	Sarpanch of Sachiv	0	0	0
	Post Office	50	0	0
	Bank	50	0	0
	Representative of line department	100	0	0
	Other government official or any other	0	0	0
In case wage payment made in the bank	Bank account was on self's name	0	0	0
	Spouse's name	0	0	0
	Parent's name	0	0	0
	Children's name	0	0	0
	Others	0	0	0
	Individual account	95	5	0
	Joint account	5	95	0
	Did bank follow usual procedure of banking	100	0	0
In case wages were not paid through bank	Wages paid in front of all labourers	0	0	0
	Wages paid on the worksite	0	0	0
	Wages paid in Panchayat Bhawan	0	0	0
	Wages paid on other public/private place	0	0	0
	Wages paid on some one's private residence	0	0	0

Table - 5.3. 2
Qualitative Questions related to functioning on NREGA

Description		(Percentage of hh)		
		Yes	No	Not sure
Complaints regarding wage payment	There were delays in wage payments	10	90	0
	Wage paid less than the minimum wage	0	100	0
	Wage paid less than asked for sign/thumb impression	0	100	0
	Task was too much as compared to the wages paid	0	100	0
	Faced problems in accessing post office/bank accounts	0	100	0
	On what basis wages were calculated not clear	0	100	0
	Others	0	100	0
Details of worksite facilities	A Board/GP member gave details of the sanctioned amount, work dimensions and other requisite details	72	28	0
	The worksite had shade for periods of rest	100	0	0
	Worksite had child care facility	100	0	0
	Worksite had first aid kit/medicines	100	0	0
Monitoring	Was there any authority to monitor the functioning of the NREGA administrations	100	0	0
	Any complaint lodge relating to worksite etc. to the Gram Panchayat, Programme Officer or other officials	0	100	0
	If yes, was any action taken on your complaint	0	0	0
Economic usefulness of the work	Work is very useful to the villagers	83	17	0
	Work is quite useful to the villagers	100	0	0
	Work is not particularly useful to the villagers	100	0	0
	Work is useless for the villagers	0	100	0
Nature of assets and their durability in which the interviewee involved	The structure created may last up to one year	20	75	5
	The structure created may last up to five year	20	80	0
	The structure created may last up to ten year	0	100	0
	The structure created may last more the ten years	0	100	0
	Is it worth creating the structure	60	40	0
	Was the structure created adequate	20	80	0
	No, structure needed more attention to be able to last long	0	100	0
How has NREGA has affected labour migration	Did any your family members migrated out for job after implementation of NAREGA (year 2005 onwards)	43	57	0
	If yes, only one member of the family migrated	54	46	0
	Are wages higher in city or other states than NREGA	100	0	0
	Any family members migrated back to village to work under NREGA	0	100	0
	If yes, only one member of the family migrated back	0	0	0
	More than one member of the family migrated	0	0	0
	Are wages higher in city or other states than NREGA	100	0	0
	Any family members migrated back to village to work under NREGA	0	100	0
	If yes, only one member of the family migrated back	0	0	0
	More than one member migrated as wage labourer with dissatisfaction from NREGA	12	88	0
	If yes, only one member of the family migrated	0	100	0
	More than one member of the family migrated	100	0	0

Table - 5.3.2 (Continued)

Respondents' awareness about NREGA implementation	Are respondent aware about NREGA implementation	100	0	0
	Right to apply for work and get employed within 15 days	72	28	0
	The work application procedure	21	79	0
	Right to minimum wages	100	0	0
	The level of minimum wages	100	0	0
	The wage calculation method	100	0	0
	Right to the unemployment allowance	0	100	0
	Minimum worksite facilities (drinking water, first aid,)	22	78	0
	Mandatory availability of muster rolls at the worksite	37	63	0
	The list of permissible works under the NREGA	0	100	0

5.3.3 Worksite facilities and economic usefulness of the work

To bring in transparency to the operation of the , the Board/GP members have to give details of the sanctioned amount, work dimensions and others requisite details to job card holders. In this regard, 72 per cent of the households responded opined as “yes”. In case of worksite shade, child care facility and first aid kit/medicine, 100 per cent opined in the affirmative .Regarding economic usefulness of the work, 83 per cent had positive reply and 100 per cent replied that work was quite useful not only to the villagers but also to others.

5.3.4 Monitoring of the work

All the job card holders were aware of the fact that there was an authority to monitor the functioning of the NREGA administration. During field study, there was no report of any complaint lodged relating to worksite, etc. to the GP, Programme Officer or other officials.(Table 5.3.2).

5.3.5 Nature of assets created and their durability

In this regard, 20 percent of the total households opined that the structure might last up to one year; 75 per cent responded in the negative, and 5 per cent opined as not sure; 20 per cent opined that the structure might last up to five years; 20 per cent opined that the structure created might not last up to five years; 60 per cent opined it as worth creating; 20 per cent opined that the structure was adequate and all the sample households opined that the structure needed more attention to be able to last long (Table 5.3.2).

5.3.6 Labour migration and NREGA

The NREGA in sample districts in the reference year could not provide targeted employment for 100 days. Moreover, most of the sample households had

more than one unskilled labour for which they were to migrate to nearby city or town in search of work even after implementation of NREGA. In this regard 43 per cent opined that their family member migrated out for job even after implementation of NREGA; when it was asked whether only one member of family migrated, 54 per cent opined that only one member migrated out for work to nearby city or town. In case of wage rate, 100 per cent opined that wage rate was higher cities/town as compared to NREGA. There was no record of any family member migrated back to village to work under NREGA 12 per cent respondents had replied that at least one member of the family migrated as wage labourer with dissatisfaction from NREGA.

5.3.7 Respondents' awareness about NREGA implementation

In this regard, 100 per cent of the respondents opined that they were aware of NREGA implementation; 72 per cent were aware of the right to apply for work and to get a job within 15 days ; only 21 per cent knew the work application procedure; 100 per cent sample household were aware of the right to minimum wages and the level of minimum wages; but none was aware of about the right to the unemployment allowance; only 22 per cent were aware of minimum worksite facilities; 37 per cent of the sample household knew all about the mandatory availability of muster rolls at the worksite and none was aware of the list of works under the NREGA (Table 5.3.2).

5.3.8 Potential benefits of NREGA

In this regard, only 12 per cent of the respondents replied that NREGA enhanced food security; 15 per cent respondents agreed that NREGA provided protection against extreme poverty; 7 per cent opined that NREGA helped to reduce distress migration. Moreover, 12 per cent of the total respondent agreed that NREGA had given greater economic independence to women and 27 per cent agreed that NREGA had generated purchasing power at local economy (Table 5.3.3).

5.3.9 NREGA and food security

Some questions were also in the schedule related to food security. Of the 200 sample families, only 26 per cent replied that they were getting two full meals throughout the year 2009; 39 per cent of the total households did not get sufficient food for one month; 28 per cent per cent family replied that they did not get sufficient food for two months and 30 per cent per cent did not get sufficient food for above two months. And it was found that 19.50 percent families took loan to cope with the situation; 10 per cent coped with catching fishes ; 5 per cent went for asking from

well to do neighbors and the rest 16 per cent coped with from any other sources (Table 5.3.3).

5.4 Some qualitative questions related to food security

Table 5.3.3 shows the responses of the sample households to some qualitative questions (in percentage terms) by the respondents related to NREGA functioning. All respondents i.e., 100 per cent replied that they had not paid any amount as bribe to get the job; usually job cards were kept with job card holders but at the time of interviewing, 70 percent opined that job cards were always with them and the rest 30 per cent replied in negative. It happened because official person collected job cards from them for the entry of working days and payment records. After the entry, they returned cards to the job holders. All the respondents were aware of monitoring of the NREGA work but very few (7 per cent) respondents knew the person concerned to whom the duty was entrusted. Gram Sabha, Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (VMC), Local Beneficiaries Committee, Gram Panchayat, Intermediate Panchayat, Programme Officer, District Panchayat, the District programme Officers, the State Government and the Central Government are the monitoring agencies to monitor the NREGA work. When it was enquired about any complaint lodged by any respondents, it was answered in the negative.

Table - 5.3.3
Qualitative Questions related to functioning on NREGA

(Percentage of hh)

Description		Yes	No	Not sure
Potential benefits of NREGA	NREGA enhanced food security	12	88	0
	NREGA provided protection against extreme poverty	15	85	0
	NREGA helped to reduce distress migration	7	88	5
	NREGA gave greater economic independence to women	12	88	0
	NREGA generated purchasing power at local economy	27	73	0
Questions related to food security	Did your family get full two meals throughout year 2009	26	74	0
	Family did not get sufficient food for one month	39	61	0
	Family did not get sufficient food for two month	28	72	0
	Family did not get sufficient food for above two months	30	70	0
	How did you cope with the situation- take loan	19.50	80.50	0
	Catch fish/rat/crab etc	10	90	0
	Near /sometime starvation/take meal only once	0	0	0
	Begging	5	95	0
Any other	16.00	0	0	

Specific responses against the question asked in the sample households are presented in Table 5.3.4.

There was no record of migration of family member for any job at distant place. They opined that there was no such opportunity for them till then. Sometimes they opted to work on nearby city or town as NREGA failed to provide employment throughout the year. The NREGA could create job opportunity for a certain period of the year only and it remained in operative silent during rainy season. On an average, it was 1.26 persons in each family who migrated in search of work to nearby city or town. No record was found about any family member migrated back to village to work in NREGA again. Of the total beneficiary households, 12 per cent of the family members having job card migrated to city or town with dissatisfaction of NREGA.

Table - 5.3.4
Quantitative questions related to NREGA functioning
(Percentage of hh)

Q.1.	If you paid some amount to get job card: how much for job card and how much bribe.
Answer	I have not paid anything, hence the question does not arise (100%).
Q.2.	If the job card is not kept with you, what is the reason for that?
Answer	Sometimes, it is with the concerned official person for entry of working days and payment (70%).
Q.3.	If there is any authority who monitors the functioning of NREGA then describe the details?
Answer	Block level person or Gram Rozgar Sahiok (GRS) are the two authorities to monitor the function.
Q.4.	If you lodged any complaints give details and also provide details of what action was taken
Answer	There is none to response to any complaint lodged to the authority.
Q.5.	Provide descriptions of the work and its starting date?
Answer	Bongaigaon -(1) started on 28.11.2008. Road Connectivity Bongaigaon -(2) started on 20.01.2009. Water Conservation and Water Harvesting Cachar -(2) started on 29.01.2009 .Road Connectivity Caghar -(2) started on 02.06. 2009. Road Connectivity Dibrugarh -(1) started on 22.01.2009. Road Connectivity Dibrugarh -(2) started on 20.1.2009. Flood Control and Protraction Nagaon - (1) started on 01.04.2009. Road Connectivity Nagaon -(2) started on 23.03.2009 Renovation of traditional water bodies Nagaon - (1) started on 22.01.2009. Road Connectivity Nagaon - (2) started on 14.08.2009. Road Connectivity
Q.6.	Provide details of family members migrated to city after implementation of NREGA and why?
Answer	Question of migration of family member does not arise as we do not have surplus member in workable ages. Sometimes family member opts to work near by city or town. It happens because NREGA program remain close during rainy season.
Q.7.	Provide details of family members migrated back to village to work in NREGA and why?
Answer	This question is related to the Q.6. Some periodic cases may happens in our locality but very rare.
Q.8.	Provide details of family members migrated to city after implementation of NREGA and why?
Answer	This question is also related to Q.6 & Q.7. Hence it does not arise.
Q.9.	Provide details of family members migrated to city with dissatisfaction of NREGA and why?
Answer	Some family member having job cards are not willing to work under NREGA for two main reasons: 1) The beneficiaries need wage at the spot on the same days. It is not happened in NERGA. 2) Present wage of NREGA is Rs. 100/-. Which are lees than the existing market rate. It usually exceeds the wage rate of NREGA.

Note: This table is only indicative and the answer need to be coded and presented in percentage terms

They were not willing to work under NREGA because they were needy people and they could not wait for longer period for receipt wage. During field investigation, three different wage rates of NREGA were recorded, viz., Rs.77, Rs.80 and Rs.100 at different point of times which were less than the market rate of Rs.120. Moreover, if they worked outside NREGA, they usually get one free meal by the employer for which they preferred to work out side NREGA.

Table 5.3.5 provides details on the potential benefit of the NREGA in terms of percentage of households. Of the total sample households, 12 per cent opined that it enhanced food security; 15 per cent opined that it provided protection against extreme poverty; 7 per cent opined that it helped to reduce distress migration; 24 per cent opined that it helped to reduce indebtedness and 12 per cent opined that it gave greater economic independence to women.

Table - 5.3.5
Provide details on the following potential benefits of NREGA

(Percentage of hh)

Q.1.	NREGA enhance food security
Answer	Yes, for 12 percent sample families only.
Q.2.	NREGA provide protection against extreme poverty
Answer	Yes, for 12 percent sample families only.
Q.3.	NREGA helped to reduce distress migration
Answer	Yes, for 37 percent sample families only.
Q.4.	NREGA helped reduce indebtedness
Answer	Yes, for 24 percent sample families only.
Q.5.	NREGA gave greater economic independence to women
Answer	Yes, for 12.00 percent sample families only.

Note : This table is only indicative and the answers need to be coded and presented in percentage terms

Of the total sample households, 18.50 percent felt that they did not have sufficient food for the whole year. When asking the reasons thereof, they stated that they did not have required employment; they did not have any other alternative sources to earn their livelihood; they did not have capital to start any petty trade; they had also very limited scope for acquiring institutional credit and the rate of interest was very high for non-institutional (Private sources) credit. Besides food insufficiency, 26.50 per cent of households opined that they were in shortage of hygienic dwelling houses, electricity, hygienic sanitary system, fuel, clothing, footwear, safe drinking water, minimum wooden furniture, minimum transportation means, tools and implement, etc. In this regard, 100 per cent of households opined that they did not get sufficient days of employment as wage laborers and the NREGA

was not able to reach the required dimension in providing adequate employment. Towards its amelioration, 100 percent households suggested reviewing the wage rate keeping parity with outside rate; provision might be made to provide employment at least for 150 days with enhanced rate of wage. (Table-5.3.6)

Table - 5.3.6
Quantitative questions related to food security
(Percentage of hh)

Q.1.	Do you feel that your family does not have sufficient food for the whole of year give reasons
Answer	Yes, there are sufficient numbers of sample beneficiaries (18.50 percent of households) were suffered in food deficiencies.
Q.2.	Have you faced any deprivations other than food insufficiency? If yes, explain
Answer	Yes, clothing, footwear, fuels, utensils, etc (i.e. 26.50 percent of households) was in shortage than in requirement.
Q.3.	What were the main difficulties you and your family faced during the last year ?
Answer	Inadequate food, clothing and sheltered (i.e. 22.00 percent of households) were the main difficulties of the sample beneficiaries during the last year.
Q.4.	What is the most important thing your household lacks
Answer	Lack of safe drinking water, hygienic sanitary system and electricity (i.e. 31.00 percent of households) are the most important thing for the sample beneficiary households.
Q.5.	What is the suggestion for amelioration
Answer	1. Wage rate be increased to Rs.150.00 instead of existing rate of Rs. 100.00. 2. Employment should be given during lean season in each every year.
Q.6.	Any suggestions to improve NREGA functioning
Answer	1. Employment be given in productive work so that we can harvest extra benefit. 2. Beneficiaries must be aware about the sanctioning work and amount in detail. In this regard, role of Gaon Sabha has to do a lot. 3. Proper monitoring of work is very important. 4. Any kind of political intervention should be stopped. 5. More power should given to Gram Panchayat (Financial Power).

Note: This table is only indicative and the answer need to be coded and presented in percentage terms

Some suggestions were incorporated here as given by the sample households to improve NREGA functioning:

1. Wage rate may be enhanced keeping parity with existing market rate
2. Employment may be extended to more than 100 days.
3. More transparency is needed in the sense that the beneficiaries have the access to information on the sanctioned work and financial involvement therein.
4. Any kind of political intervention should be stopped.
5. During Kharif crop season, employment is not as acute as in other season.

Therefore, they have a suggestion to start the NREGA programme during lean season as well.

5.5 Summary of the chapter

Household assets are also one of the measuring sticks to judge the economic status of a household to know whether they are living above the poverty line or below the poverty line. Land is a permanent asset of every household. Division of family reduces size of holding of owned land among all the households. Also selling of land was becoming a very common phenomenon among the poor people whenever acute financial crisis appears which also further reduces the size of own holding. It has been observed that almost all the household posses homestead area. Only a few households have extra crop land of their own. Land value is ever increasing irrespective of its location. In general, land value is much higher nearby the city or town. Therefore land was the most valuable assets for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. Financial vulnerability was also observed among households. Majority of the households prefers to borrow from traders-cum –money lenders. Rate of interest was 10 per cent per month. There was no report of paying any fees charges or bribe to get the job card. Some irregularities in job cards such as incomplete entry, no entries, over writing, blank signature column etc, were observed; 70 per cent of the job card holders got job within 15 days from the date of application. There was no report of paying unemployment allowances in case of failure to provide work within 15 days. There was no record of getting wages within 7 days. There were no reports of wage paid less than the fixed wage rate and 72 per cent of beneficiaries did not have any negative comment over the transparency of the whole work, 83 per cent had a positive reply on usefulness of the NREGA work. In case of durability of the work, beneficiaries had different types of comments. Labour migration was still going on among the family members as NREGA is not able to provide adequate employment. Regarding potential benefit of NREGA, a large percentage did not have satisfactory comments and so was happened in case of food security. Some suggestions were incorporated here as furnished by the interviewees.

1. All the beneficiaries suggested raising the wage rate keeping parity with outside rate. Wage rate may be enhanced keeping parity with existing market rate of wage labour.
2. Employment may be extended to more than 100 days.
3. More transparency on the matter of the sanctioned work and financial involvement therein.
4. Any kind of political intervention should be stopped.

5. During kharif crop season, employment is not as acute as in other season. Therefore, they have a suggestion to start the NREGA programme during lean season employment.

CHAPTER – VI

NREGA IMPACT ON VILLAGE ECONOMY

This chapter focuses on existing infrastructure of the sample villages during survey time. All together 10 villages were surveyed two villages from each selected district. Selection of the villages was done as per the guidelines of the study, which had already been mentioned elsewhere in the report.

6.1 Infrastructure available within the village (Percentages of villages)

Table 6.1 reflects a comparative scenario of infrastructure available within the villages (sample villages) and the nearest villages. Information was collected from knowledgeable persons and the respective panchayat offices of the villages. Of the 10 sample villages, 100 percent of villages have Road connectivity within the villages while it was 100 percent in the nearest villages as well. The concerned interviewees also reported that not all connective roads were all weatherproof. There was no railway connectivity within the sample villages and the nearest villages. Mobile connectivity covered 100 per cent in both the categories of villages. Its services were at a distance of 0.50 km. Post office services covered 70 per cent of the sample villages and 30 percent of them had it in nearest villages. About 30 per cent of the sample villages had Co-operative Credit Society and 70 per cent of them had it in the nearest villages. Banking services covered 20 percent of the sample villages and it was of 80 per cent covered by the nearest villages with an average distance of 3.5 km. Neither sample villages nor nearest villages were covered by services of Commercial Bank. While 20 per cent villages had RRB, services and 80 per cent of them availed its services from nearby villages at an average distance of 3.50 km. Agricultural Produce Market covered 10 per cent of the sample villages and 90 per cent of them availed the market facilities from nearest villages at an average distance of 1.20 km. All the sample villages (100%) have Self Help Group Centre. 100 per cent of the Sample villages had primary school and 30 percent of the sample villages had secondary school and 70 per cent had it in the nearest villages at an average distant of 2.50 km. Only 30 per cent of the sample villages had their own the primary health centre and the rest 70 per cent of them had its service from nearby villages at an average distance of 1.50 km. Two sample villages (20%) have Higher Secondary School and there is no such school in the nearest villages. Average distance to such

school from both the villages is about 1.30 km while 20 per cent sample villages had services of Hospital/Dispensary while 80 per cent of them had it from nearby villages at an average distance of 1.75 km. Only 20 per cent of the sample villages had GP offices and 80 per cent, they had it nearby villages at an average distance 2.25 km.

Table 6.1
Infrastructure available within the village

Particulars	(Percentage of villages)		
	Within village	Nearest village	If nearest village, average distance (Kms)
Road connectivity	100.00	00.00	0.00
Railway connectivity	0.00	0.00	0.00
Landline or mobile connectivity	100.00	0.00	0.00
Post Office	70.00	30.00	2.50
Co-operative credit society	30.00	70.00	2.25
Regional Rural Bank	20.00	80.00	3.50
Commercial Bank	0.00	100.00	4.25
Agricultural Produce Market	10.00	90.00	1.20
Self Help Group Centre	100.00	0.00	0.80
School Primary	100.00	0.00	0.00
School Secondary	20.00	80.00	1.30of
School Higher Secondary	20.00	80.00	1.25
Primary Health Centre	30.00	70.00	1.50
Hospital/Dispensary	20.00	80.00	1.75
Gram Panchayat Office	20.00	80.00	2.25
Fair Price Shop	90.00	10.00	0.80
Any other	0.00	0.00	0.00

All most all the sample villages (90%) had fair price shops of their own. From the table, it has been observed that the most of the infrastructure were available within the sample villages; if not available, they were approachable in the nearest villages at an easily accessible distance.

6.2 Changes in occupational structure

Table 6.2 depicts the changes in occupational structure of the sample villages in terms of percentages of households in the reference year 2009 over 2001. The percentage of cultivators (21.43%) and household small industry (3.24%) had decreased in 2009 over 2001 while agricultural labourer (11.74%), other manufacturing /mining (0.31%), labourer engaged in construction (34.71%), trade, commerce and business (18.86%), transport and communication (4.57%) and other services (5.14%) recorded marginal increase in 2009 over 2001. Labourer in construction work might have increased due to impact of NREGA or due to rapid

changes in some other sectors. However, decrease of workers' opportunity in household industry is a matter of concern for the village economy.

Table 6.2
Occupational structure

Occupation	Reference period	
	2009	2001
	(% of households)	
1. Cultivators	21.43	25.67
2. Agricultural Labour	11.74	10.74
3. Household Small Industry	3.24	4.46
4. Other Manufacturing /mining	0.31	0.27
5. Construction	34.71	33.76
6. Trade, Commerce and Business	18.86	17.38
7. Transport and Communication	4.57	3.25
8. Other Services	5.14	4.47
9. Total	100.00	100.00

6.3 How has NREGA affected wage rates in selected villages?

Table 6.3 focuses on wage rate for different activities over a period of times.. There is no doubt about it that NREGA has enhanced wage rate for both skilled and unskilled labourer. It helps to protect the wage earners from exploitation through increase job opportunity. Wage rate for male and female worker for different activities under observation has increased in 2009 over 2005 (NREGA introduced)

Table 6.3
Wage rates for different activities

Activity	(average of all villages-Rs./Day)				
	Reference period (2009)		Before NREGA(2005)		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Prevailing Agricultural Wages	88	78	70	60	
Prevailing Non Agricultural Wages	96	84	75	65	
Construction	120	90	100	80	
Mining	85	75	75	65	
Other skilled work	Electrician	150	0	120	0
	Plumber	150	0	120	0
	Pump-set boring	150	0	120	0

6.4 How has NREGA affected charges for agricultural operations?

Table 6.4 presented a comparative picture of changing labour charges against different activities of agricultural operations before NREGA in 2005 and 2001 after NREGA in 2009. Before NREGA, the wage rate has increased in 2005 as compared to wage rate of 2001 but in 2009, the wage rate has increased at a faster rate, which indicates that NREGA has a significant role in increasing wage rate.

Table 6.4
Prevailing labour charges for agricultural operations (average of all villages)
(Rs. / day)

Activity	Reference period	Before NREGA	
	2009	2005	2001
Ploughing	80	65	45
Leveling	80	65	45
Weeding	80	65	45
Paddy transplanting	75	60	40
Harvesting of wheat	75	60	40
Harvesting of paddy	75	60	40
Harvesting of grams	75	60	40
Harvesting of pigeon pea	75	60	40
Harvesting of ragi	75	60	40
Harvesting of jowar	75	60	40
Harvesting of Maize	75	60	40
Cane-cutting	75	60	40
Harvesting other crops	80	70	50
Digging of potatoes	90	70	50
Threshing pf wheat	90	70	50
Winnowing of wheat/paddy	90	70	50

6.5 Various changes in the village economy after implementation of NREGA

Some qualitative aspects of NREGA are presented in Table 6.5 based on the interaction with village people on the economic changes that have taken place in the villages after implementation of NREGA in the last year. There was shortage of agricultural wage labour as reported by 38 per cent of the sample respondents at some points during last year and rest opined that it remained almost same even after implementation of NREGA irrespective of the seasons. Some of them (13%) did not have definite answer about shortage of labour. A large majority of households (68%) opined that after implementation of NREGA, the cost of production in agriculture increased by 10 per cent. Earlier they compelled to work at a lower rate because of food security of the family. After NREGA, they were at a better off position to bargain for higher wage and farmers were bound to hike the wage rate of the labourer. For this reason, the cost of production of agricultural produces increased. Only 9 per cent of the total households opined that they were not sure about increase in cost of production. Very few percent (8%) conveyed that after NREGA the cost of production in agriculture increased to the extent of 20 to 50 per cent and not beyond that. Similarly, after implementation of NREGA, no record was found about the family labour that migrated earlier to town /city came back to work in the village. Some of the households (22%) could not furnish any specific viewpoint.

Table 6.5
Qualitative Questions on Changes in the Villages during Last One Year
(% of hh)

Description	Yes	No	Not sure
Was there shortage of agricultural wage labour at some point during last year	38	49	13
After implementation of NREGA has there been a shortage of agriculture labour	36	41	23
After implementation of NREGA the cost of production in agriculture increased by 10 percent because of scarcity of labour	68	23	9
Cost increased by 20 to 50 percent	8	56	36
Cost increased by 50 to 75 percent	0	100	0
Cost increased by 100 percent	0	100	0
After implementation of NREGA labour who migrated earlier to town/city are coming back to work in the village	0	78	22
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	43	52	5
Some labour has come back to work in NREGA but others are moving to the town/city because of wage differential	30	55	15
There is no change in labour migration by NREGA activities	58	42	0
After NREGA change in wages of casual labourers has increased	81	19	0
After NREGA change in wages of casual labourers has decreased	0	69	31
After NREGA change in wages of casual labours remained same	20	70	10
The trend of people living in village and going to work outside for longer period has increased	35	58	7
Has living standard improved in your village since the introduction of NREGA	54	22	24
After NREGA have you witnessed increase in household consumption in village	35	34	31
After NREGA have you witnessed more children are now going to the school	45	23	32
After NREGA , have you witnessed change in trend of attached labour in agriculture	54	35	11
After NREGA, have villagers' awareness towards Government Schemes increased	81	10	9

The number of households from which family labour migrated from the villages due to higher wage rate in the town or city was 43 per cent and 5 per cent of the households did not have any opinion on it. Some of the family labourers came back to work in NREGA but some others migrated to the town or city because of wage differential. In this case 30 per cent of households opined, ‘Yes’, 55 percent opined, ‘No’ and 15 per cent opined that they were not sure about it. Of the total households, 58 per cent opined that there was no change in labour migration by NREGA activities. A significant number of households (81%) opined that after the introduction of the NREGA, the change in wages of casual labourers has increased but at the same time, they also opined that wages were bound to increase due to price hike of commodities in the market. Most of the households (69%) conveyed that after

NREGA change in wages of casual labourer decreased. Some households (20%) opined that after NREGA, wages of casual labourers remained same and some households (10%) who were not sure about it. However, a significant number of households (70%) were against of the viewpoint. Nearly (58%) also denied that the trend of people living in village and going to work out side for longer period had increased even after implementation of NREGA. About 54 per cent of the households conveyed that their living standard improved since introduction of NREGA, and 22 per cent did not agree with the opinion. (35%) of the households reported that that there was increase in their household consumption after NREGA; 34 percent households disagreed with the same and the rest 31 per cent opined that they were not sure about it. A sizeable number of households (45%) opined that the introduction of NREGA more children were found to go to school. Of the total households, 54 per cent have witnessed that after NREGA there was a change in trend of attached labour in agriculture. A significant number of households i.e., 81 per cent of households opined that awareness towards Government Schemes had increased after the introduction NREGA.

Table 6.6 gives some opinions of the village people about the functioning of NREGA. They opined that the shortage of agricultural labourers was there even before implementation of NREGA during Jun, July, August, November and December but shortage of labourers has increased largely after introduction of NREGA. Some changes in wages of casual labourers were also noticed during last three years after introduction of NREGA. The wage of casual labour was of Rs. 60.00 in 2006, Rs.70.00 in 2007, Rs.80 in 2008, Rs.90.00 in 2009 and Rs. 100 in 2010. Regarding changes in standard of living of the villagers after introduction of NREGA, they replied that besides food security, NREGA had increased their purchasing power to fulfill some of their basic needs such as wearing, household furniture, utensil etc. Household consumption of food and non-food items also had increased after introduction of NREGA. They started providing requirements of school going children. Due to introduction of NREGA, the attached labourer in agriculture became scarce as they can earn more when employed in NREGA. Therefore, it became matter of concern for state agriculture. While working in NREGA, workers got an opportunity to interact with panchayat people and other officials, which enabled them to gather knowledge about other different types of rural programmes. At the end of

the interactions with village people, the following suggestions emerged to improve the activities of NREGA for the benefits of wage labourers and cultivators.

Table 6.6
Qualitative Questions About the Functioning of NREGA

Q.1.	Was there a shortage of agricultural wage labour at some point during last year ? If so in which month?
Answer	No, agricultural wage labours were not shortaged before implementation of NREGA.
Q.2.	After implementation of NREGA, has there been a shortage of agriculture labour? If yes in which years/months?
Answer	Yes, after implementation of NREGA, during November, December, January and February, agricultural wage labours were shortaged in each of every year.
Q.3.	Give details of change in wages of casual labour during the last 3 years after NREGA
Answer	During 2006, the wage of casual labour was Rs. 60.00.
	During 2007, the wage of casual labour was Rs. 70.00.
	During 2008, the wage of casual labour was Rs. 80.00.
	During 2009, the wage of casual labour was Rs. 90.00.
	During 2010, the wage of casual labour was Rs. 100.00.
Q.4.	In what way the standard of living improved in your village since the introduction of NREGA ?
Answer	Food security as well as purchasing of consumerable durable goods of the households.
Q.5.	In what way the household consumption improved in your village since the introduction of NREGA
Answer	It helps to purchase the more nutritious diets like milk, cheese, butter, etc. for consumption.
Q.6.	In what way NREGA has impacted the children education
Answer	Purchasing of books, uniforms, footwear, etc. of the school-going children.
Q.7.	In what way NREGA has impacted the trends of attached labour in agriculture
Answer	It reduces the expenditure on attached labour in farm households.
Q.8.	In what way NREGA has improved villagers' awareness towards Government Schemes
Answer	After implementation of NREGA, the villagers were met the Government officials frequently. So that, the villagers got knowledge from officials on different Government Schemes.
Q.9.	Your suggestions to improve the implementation of NREGA for the benefits of both labourers as well cultivators ?
Answer	1. It helps to adopt attach labour in agriculture. 2. It helps to purchase of different inputs in agriculture. 3. It helps to hired machine and bullock power for the farm households. 4. It helps in socio economic standards of the farm households.

Note: This table is only indicative and the answers need to be coded and presented in percentage terms

1. All programmes under NREGA should be implemented timely
2. More area specific programmes are needed
3. Some productive programmes may be incorporated in the potential areas of the villages so that they may be benefited directly as well as indirectly.
4. Programmes may be implemented during lean period of workers.

6.6 Summary of the Chapter

It gives a comparative scenario of infrastructure available within the village (sample village) and the nearest villages. All these information were collected from knowledgeable persons and the respective Panchayat offices concerned. Interviewees

reported that not all connective roads were all weatherproof. Regarding infrastructure, all the sample villages and nearest villages had all the facilities such as road connectivity, Post Offices, Bank services, School, Agricultural Produce Market, Primary health Centre, Hospital / dispensary, Gram Panchayat Offices, Fair Price Shops, etc., within a distance from minimum of 0.50 km to 2.50 Km. In occupational structure, the percentage of cultivators and household small industry had decreased marginally in 2009 over 2001 while agricultural labourer other manufacturing /mining, labourer engaged in construction, trade, commerce and business, transport and communication, other services increased during the reference period. Increase of labourer in construction might be due impact of NREGA or due to rapid changes in other sectors but decrease of opportunity in household industry is a matter of concern for village economy. There is no doubt about it that NREGA has pushed up the wage rate for both skilled and unskilled labourer. It helped to protect the wage earners from exploitation in the sense that as it increased the job opportunity. Wage rate for male and female in all the activities under observation, increased in 2009 over 2005, the year of introduction of NREGA. It increased the wage rate of agricultural operation. Earlier, the wage of different agricultural operations was at a lower level and workers were bound to work because of food security of the family. However, after implementation of NREGA they were at a better off position for reaping higher wages as there was an option to work under NREGA, the farmers were bound to hike the wage rate for the labourer, and as a result, it increased the cost of production of agricultural produces. When price goes up, workers want higher wages. Introduction of NREGA may also created shortage of agricultural wagers. It was also observed that NREGA had a negative impact on migration of family labourer who went for work in nearby city or town. Due to implementation NREGA, attached labourer in agriculture became scarce as they could to earn more when employed in NREGA. Therefore, it is a matter of concern for agriculture as a whole. At the same time, wage differential in NREGA also affected migration of labourers especially when NREGA fails to maintain parity with outside rate. It was also observed that NREGA increased awareness of the respondent towards other government's programmes or schemes. Besides food security, NREGA also increased their purchasing power to fulfill some basic needs such as wearing, household furniture, utensil etc. Household consumption in food and non-food items also found to be increased after introduction of NREGA. Being at a better off position, the beneficiaries started catering to the needs of their school-going children.

CHAPTER – VII

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND POLICY SUGGESTION

The NREGA is a new life line of the rural people who earn their livelihood as wage earners. It also gears up the social relationship among the rural people which is a pre requisite condition to build a strong society or a nation. It also reduces the gender difference for some works which are in practice in rural areas. It is also observed that female workers, both urban and rural, receive lesser wages than their male counterparts for doing the same jobs. The Act of the NREGA removed the gender difference in wages. The right to participate in works for women was made compulsion as per the Act of NREGA that there must be at least 33 per cent participation for women. It has been observed during field investigation that most of the households earned their livelihood as unskilled casual labourers. A few households' possess own cultivated land. They usually go for Kharif paddy cultivation and a few households go for Rabi crops mainly vegetables to meet the household demand only. Sporadic cases were also found as commercial growers. Production was not sufficient due to inadequate coverage of area and low yield rate.

Asset positions of most of the households were in a pathetic condition. They had no option other than to go for wage earning or to as petty vegetable vendors. They also reported they did not get work for every day. They had to sit idle for at least for 3 to 4 days in a week. Very few households had two balance meals in a day. Most of the households lived below the poverty line. Other socio-economic indicators were also in a deplorable condition. However, BPL rice at subsidized rate and the scheme, the Antyodaya Yojana (AAY) which provides 35 kgs of rice almost at free of cost to the selected families are also helping some of the poor families to overcome food deficiency. But from their physical appearances, they seemed to be suffering from nutritional deficiency. In fact, NREGA gave a new life to these categories of the people as it provided hard cash to the needy people and they were getting an opportunity to purchase other essential items for their food basket. But success of this programme depends upon the implementing wings attached to it. It also created an opportunity to reduce the percentage of poverty level of the state. In Assam, about

22.30 per cent people are still living under poverty line. It also activated the Panchayati Raj system which was almost in dormant state particularly in Assam before implementation of NREGA.

From age group classification of the sample households, one can readily have an idea about the population trend. More population in minor age group indicates a trend of high growth rate of population and a higher population in workable age gives an opportunity for a nation for economic growth if they can be utilized as human resource or else it would become a course. Population above 60 years is considered as old citizens. It has been observed that expectation of life is increasing along with improvement of medical care. Therefore they cannot be treated as invalid persons. Major problems arise from the unskilled workable population as their job opportunities are shrinking on account of rapid development of machinery equipment. This chunk is neglected as they represent a sizeable portion of the total population. It is a major problem in rural areas across states of the country. NREGA is a ray of hope for this section of people and it is an opportunity for them to take part in the development agenda of the country with dignity.

However, the scheme NREGA may have an adverse effect on availability of labourers for agricultural operation. Since labourers prefer to work under NREGA on account of less supervision and less work than too in groups with some other facilities created by it. As a result, farmers are bound to compete among themselves to offer higher wages to combat with the shortage labourers in peak season and it would increase the cost of production. If farmers are not able to bear the expenditure incurred in farming, they have no option in their hand but to switch over from farming to other activities to earn their livelihood. Probable consequences arising out of this need to be assessed properly so that the NREGA cannot stand as an obstacle for farming community. At the same time what would be effect on farming community if the NREGA increases the purchasing power of labourers as a whole.

From overall observation, the scheme could not able to keep its commitment of providing 100 days employment in a year to the rural workers and it failed to create assets but it seemed to have paid good political dividends for the governments.

Suggestions

Some suggestions are incorporated here on the basis of field observations and interactions with enlightened village people.

1. All the programmes under NREGA must be well planned well ahead of time with a definite time frame for completion.
2. State NREGA has much more to do to strengthen the Panchayati Raj system, curtailment of direct intervention of other departments or agencies associated with it, would be a welcome step in this regard. The village administration should be brought down to Taluk level so that all the development programmes under NREGA can reach the villages situated at a distance from Development Block.
3. In Assam, there are more than 26 lakh farmers of which about 85 per cent belong to marginal and small categories. They can earn some amount of additional income from NREGA. It is possible only after completion of plantation and harvesting process. Therefore, starting of NREGA programme must have parity with leisure (free) time of the farmers so that they can earn some additional income besides crop cultivation.
4. Present target of 100 days employment per house hold should be increased to at least 150 days.
5. Wage rate should have parity with outside rate and ongoing price hike which would reduce the migration of labour from village to nearby township or city.
6. In Assam, there are abundant lands lying as cultivable waste land under some department. Such land could be brought under cultivation having crop potential through NREGA programme. Such venture would be beneficial for state economy as well as wage earners.
7. More transparency is needed about the sanctioned work and financial involvement therein.
8. Auditing may be done through an extra government agency in addition to Gram Panchayat to check mishandling of fund
9. Panchayat should be empowered financially and job responsibility should be distributed to all the elected members. Some amount of NREGA programmes may be granted as remuneration of the elected panchayat members.
10. Any kind of political intervention should be stopped.
11. During kharif crop season, employment is not as acute as in other season. Therefore, village people have a suggestion to start the NREGA programme during lean season of employment.

12. All natural water bodies & forest areas should be brought under NREGA programme to make it as income generating units.

At the end, it may be concluded that if all the loopholes in distribution of job cards and payment of wages , miss use fund, etc could be brought under strict vigilance, there will be no doubt that NREGA would be a boon against rural poverty. It is also to be noted that all the programmes of NREGA must have definite dimension to lead the rural masses to a better economic standing. Otherwise it would remain as an adhoc arrangement to provide meal to needy people through creating employment only. It is imperative to spread to disseminate the information among all the people in general and rural people in particular that NERGA does not stand to create employment only but also provides an opportunity to all of them to serve their villages, their state and their country as a whole. It would be possible for NREGA only when it continues to maintain transparency in each and every aspect of programmes in implementation. It is often said that poverty is a rural phenomenon which must be negated through judicious implementation of the flagship programmes like NREGA.

Annexure I

Action taken report on the comments received from the coordinating centre ADRT on the Draft Report on “Impact of NREGA on Wage Rates, Food Security and Rural Urban Migration in Assam”.

Comment 1:

Title of the study should include the name of the state on the cover page and also in the inner page.

Action: Done as per suggestion.

Comment 2:

The five districts to be selected for the field survey were Karbi Anglong; Kokrajhar; Darang; Hailakand and Tinsukia. The author has changed all the five districts and has instead selected Nagaon; Bongaigaon; Sonitpur; Cachar and Dibrugarh. The five districts suggested by the Coordinator, Centre was based on NREGA implementation in the three places of NREGA and keeping into account the north. South east west and central location into account. The author(s) neither discussed with the coordinating centre at the time of selection of the districts nor provide any reason why the change in districts was done at their own. An explanation is needed justifying the change that has been made in the selection of all the five districts.

Action: Selection of the sample districts has been done as per synopsis of the study. And there was no communication in this respect as per records available with the centre.

Comment 3:

It was very clearly indicated in the Proposal of the study as well as in Chapter and Table Plan that the analysis in the Chapter -2 will be based on the data available through NREGA website and this chapter presents aspects of NREGA functioning in all the districts of the state. The authors have analyzed only the five selected districts in the report. In the subsequent chapters analysis is restricted only to selected districts but Chapter-2 should present the desired tables for all the districts in the state. So the

authors should rewrite the chapter and include all districts (not only the selected districts) while preparing the tables as done at present in the draft report and the write up should be done in the context of functioning of the NREGA in all the districts comparing higher and lower performing districts in the state.

Action: All the desired tables covering all the districts of Assam have been incorporated and analysis has been done for each district.

Comment 4:

Chapter 3, Table 3.1 mentions that 65 percent households (beneficiary and non beneficiaries) were involved in migration, however in Table 3.2 and Table 3.3 no occupation and income is shown for the column of worked as migrant labourer. In table 3.3 also show the aggregate household income as only 100 percent is given but the absolute value is not given.

Action: The matter is reviewed and absolute figures have been given in proper places in the respective table.

Comments 5:

The consumption of cereals is too low. Please check as consumption of cereals per capita as for Assam it exceeds 12 kgs. per month. You can cross verify it with the NSS figures for the quantity that also are not provided in the table but it is available kindly check the NSS reports as quoted below. Similarly consumption figures of sugar, liquid milk are also too low. Table 3,4b Consumption expenditure, please make correction in the NSS figures shown in the report just refer to NSS reference given below.

Action: The matter is reviewed and cross verification with NSS data has been done.

Comment 6:

For the NSS figures for 1993-94, 1999-00 and 2004-05 please refer to the following NSS reports. Data is available for Assam 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. 461NSSO (2004-2005),” Level and Pattern of Consumer Expenditure”, National Sample Survey Organization, Government of India, Dec, Report No. 508

Action: In this regard, NSS data which are available in the web site has been presented in the respective table .

Comment 7:

For the determinants of participation in NREGA, authors have run simple regression with number of days worked. Here is the suggestion to experiment with two sets of equations, at the household level and at the member level, taking dependent variable as participation=1 and non participation= 0. The independent variable 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 number of days worked in NREGA as the dependent variable at the household level as well as the member level and using the above mentioned variables as Independent variables. Try to find out some meaningful determinants of participation in NREGA.

Action: Analysis has been done as per suggestion.

Comment 8:

Chapter 4, Table 4.1: while providing information on numbers of members per hh employed and number of days 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. For calculating number of members per hh employed, you need to aggregate total members employed in a particular district and divide them by total number of households selected under NREGA beneficiary for that districts (you can give total figure in the parenthesis and indicate the same below the table). The aggregate number should be total of men + women. The numbers presented in Table 4.1 do not seem to be consistent as while no of members per hh employed aggregate is 1.26 and for women it is 0.20 giving an impression that women share in total employment is only 1/5 th but while in number of total days per hh employed it shows that aggregate numbers is 48.23 mandays while women share is 47.59 days leaving the impression that share of men is only less than one day that is $= (48.23 - 47.59)$. The aggregate number of days employed in Bongaigaon is 36.10 while women share is 40.43 days those days not make any sense. Same thing is repeated in other districts also (No. of Days in a particular district = total no. of days employed / no of total beneficiary household in that district) kindly follow this formula for calculating number of days. Average distance from residence where employed (Kms) is not given that is required in this table. Kindly also provide information on Percentage of HH employed 100 or more days in the selected districts and the state.

Action: Necessary correction has been made in the respective table and also incorporated the information on Percentage of HH employed 100 or more days in the selected districts and the state.

Comments 9:

Table for migration incidents recorded during the Reference period- Jan, Dec 2009 has not been provided in Chapter 4 that is necessary to [present results on the issue of migration.10.Chapter 5, Table 5.2: Total loan –sum total loan by source should match with sum total loan by purpose.. The figures given as purpose of loan is neither percentage not absolute value as the aggregate for all purposes totals to 27 for beneficiary and 9 for non beneficiary. One does not know what data the author has provided. Even the source of loan does not give sum total and figures presented in

parentheses are percentage as they do not add to 100. Please make correction and the numbers presented should make sense.

Action: Necessary correction has been made in the respective table

Comment: 10

Chapter 5, Table 5.2 : Total loan-sum total loan by source should match with sum total loan by purpose. The figures given as purpose of loan is neither percentage not absolute value as the aggregate for all purposes totals to 27 for beneficiary and 9 for non beneficiary. One does not know what data the author has provided. Even the source of loan does not give sum total and figure presented in parentheses are percentage as they do not add to 100. Please make correction and the numbers presented should make sense.

Action: Necessary correction has been made in the respective table.

Comment 11:

The Table 5.2b page 63: availability of informal credit society or ASHG available in the village is only 3.5 percent but family members being members of such society is 40.5 percent how that can be possible?

Action: The matter is reviewed and necessary correction has been made in the respective table.

Comment 12:

Table 6.1 page 75: The detailed asked is if the facility available within the village and if not then which village is the nearest where such facility is available and how much is the distance of that village from your village. Out of 10 village percentage of villages which have the facility within the village and how many village have it nearby village and also give the distance of the nearby village. Make correction in

Action: Information is incorporated in the table as per suggestion.

Annexure II

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