Chapter I

An Overview

Chapter I

An overview

1.1 Introduction

Employment generation programmes have been an important component of Government interventions for reducing poverty. The expansion in both size and number of such programmes culminated in enactment (September 2005) of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA).

The mandate of the Act is to enhance the livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor are other important objectives of the Scheme. The name of NREGA was changed to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA referred to as Act) in October 2009.

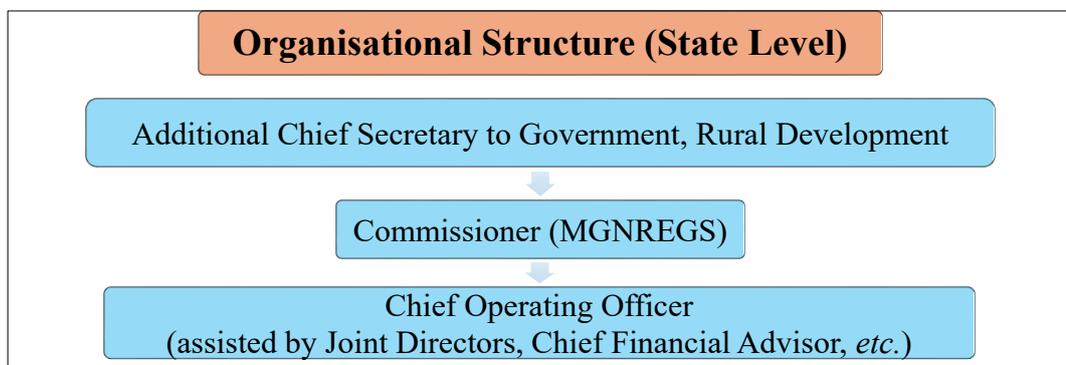## 1.2 Implementation of MGNREGA in Karnataka

Government of Karnataka (GoK) notified (February 2007) 'Karnataka Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme' as required under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005. Since October 2009, the Scheme was renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which provided for the minimum features specified in Schedule I of the Act.

In Karnataka, five districts[1] were notified under the Act in Phase-I (2006-07) and six additional districts[2] in Phase-II (2007-08). The remaining districts were notified with effect from 1 April 2008.

1.3 Organisation Structure of MGNREGS in Karnataka

At the grassroots (Gram Panchayat) level, the Scheme is implemented through Panchayat Development Officer (PDO) who is assisted by *Gram Rozgar Sahayak*, mates, *etc*. The Organisational structure at other levels (State, District and Taluk) is represented in **Chart 1.1** below:
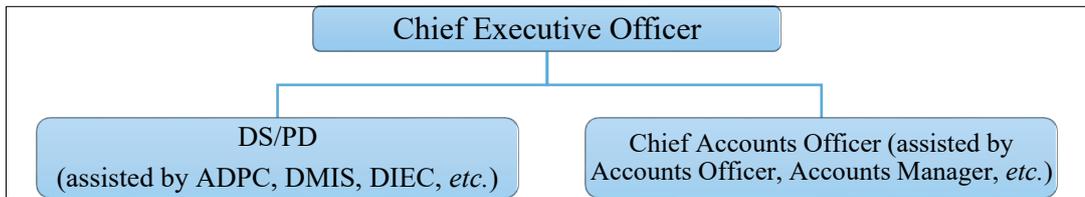
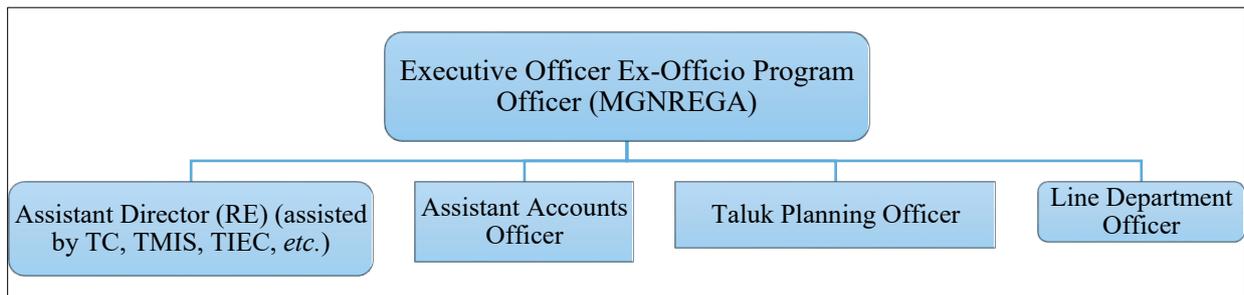**Chart 1.1: Organisation structure for implementation of MGNREGS**

---

[1] Bidar, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Kalaburagi and Raichur.
[2] Belagavi, Ballari, Chikmagalur, Hassan, Kodagu and Shivamogga.

Organisational Structure (District Level)

```
                    Chief Executive Officer
                ┌───────────────┴───────────────┐
        DS/PD                          Chief Accounts Officer (assisted by
(assisted by ADPC, DMIS, DIEC, etc.)   Accounts Officer, Accounts Manager, etc.)
```

Organisational Structure (Taluk Level)

```
              Executive Officer Ex-Officio Program
                      Officer (MGNREGA)
    ┌─────────────────┬─────────────────┬─────────────────┐
Assistant Director (RE) (assisted   Assistant Accounts   Taluk Planning Officer   Line Department
by TC, TMIS, TIEC, etc.)            Officer                                        Officer
```
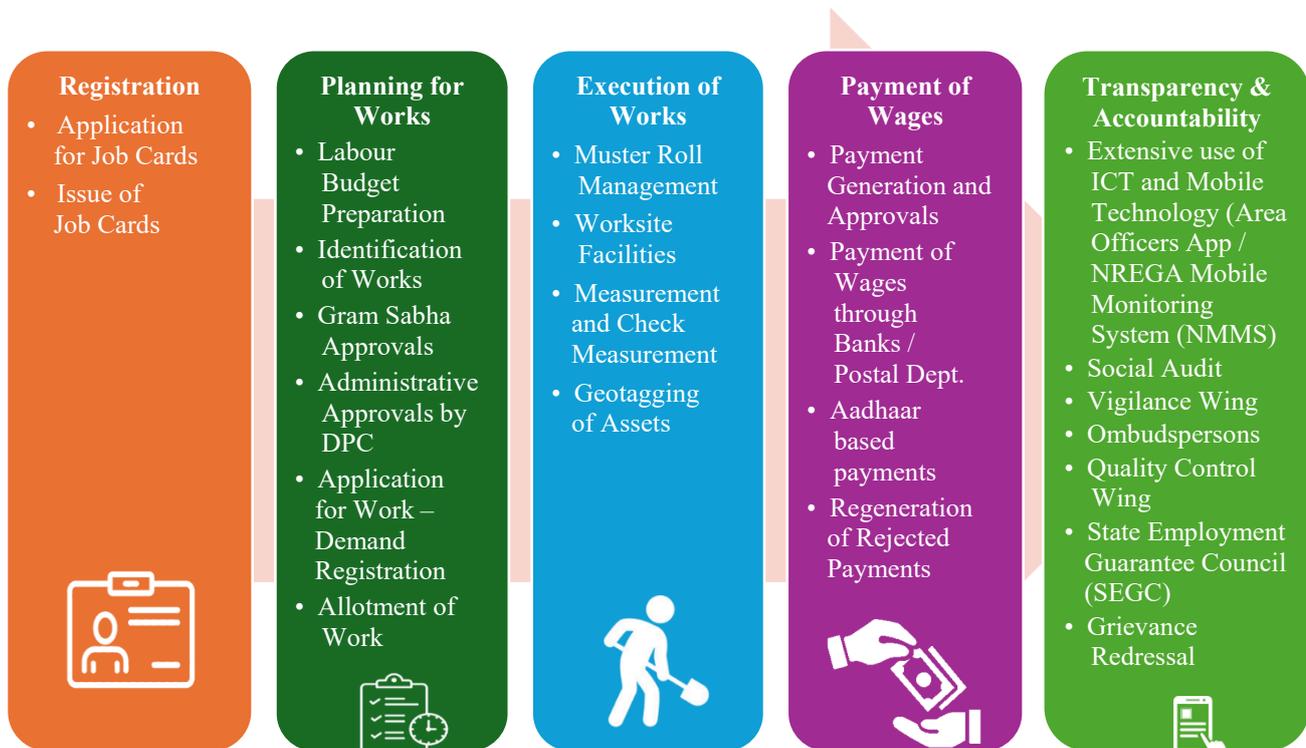
The institutional mechanism put in place by GoK for the implementation of MGNREGS and the roles and responsibilities of officials at different levels are summarised in **Appendix 1.1**.

1.4   Overview of MGNREGS Process

An overview of MGNREGS process is given in **Chart 1.2** below:

Chart 1.2: Overview of MGNREGS process

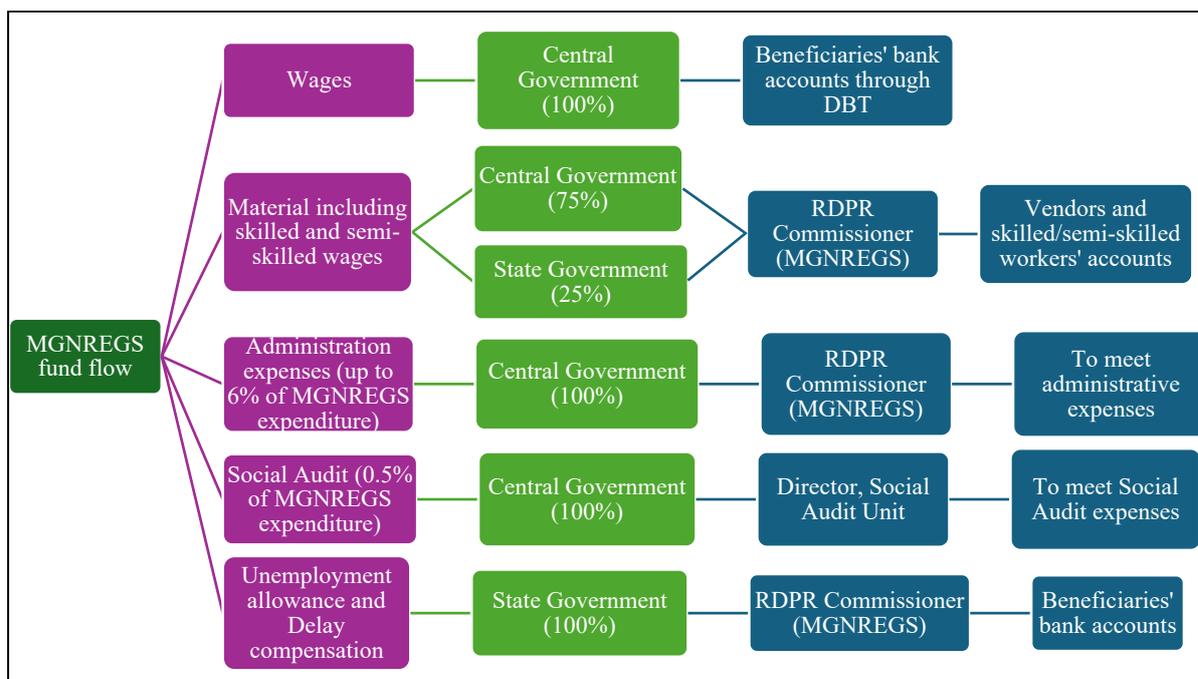| **Registration**	**Planning for Works**	**Execution of Works**	**Payment of Wages**	**Transparency & Accountability**
• Application for Job Cards • Issue of Job Cards	• Labour Budget Preparation • Identification of Works • Gram Sabha Approvals • Administrative Approvals by DPC • Application for Work – Demand Registration • Allotment of Work	• Muster Roll Management • Worksite Facilities • Measurement and Check Measurement • Geotagging of Assets	• Payment Generation and Approvals • Payment of Wages through Banks / Postal Dept. • Aadhaar based payments • Regeneration of Rejected Payments	• Extensive use of ICT and Mobile Technology (Area Officers App / NREGA Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) • Social Audit • Vigilance Wing • Ombudspersons • Quality Control Wing • State Employment Guarantee Council (SEGC) • Grievance Redressal

Source: MGNREGA, 2005 and Operational Guidelines, 2013

1.5   Funding Pattern

MGNREGS is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented on a cost sharing basis between the Government of India (GoI) and the State Government. The GoI bears the entire cost of wages for unskilled manual workers and 75 *per cent* of the cost of material including wages for skilled and semi-skilled workers. The fund sharing pattern for MGNREGS between Centre and State is exhibited in **Chart 1.3**.

Chart 1.3: Fund flow under MGNREGS

Source: Schematic diagram prepared by Audit

1.6   Management Information System - NREGASoft

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), GoI has developed NREGASoft which is a workflow based, web enabled Management Information System (MIS) hosted at the portal *http://nrega.nic.in.* NREGASoft (hereinafter referred to as MIS) provides for recording of all transaction details of different processes in implementation of MGNREGA and placing the same in public domain.

All the entities (Central/State/District/Block and Panchayat levels) involved are expected to carry out timely reporting so as to represent the picture of Scheme implementation almost on or close to real-time basis in the public domain (https://nrega.nic.in), thereby ensuring transparency and accountability.

1.7   GeoMGNREGA- Geographic Information System Implementation

MoRD, GoI is implementing GeoMGNREGA for geotagging of assets created under MGNREGS in partnership with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). It follows a systematic creation of a database on assets using technological interventions like mobile-based photo geo-tagging and a Geographic Information System (GIS) for online recording and monitoring. The location of each asset is to be geotagged along with three stage photographs (before taking up the work, during execution of work and after completion of the work).