



Gender, Child and Shock Responsiveness of MGNREGS in Madhya Pradesh

Factsheet



Rationale

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) of the Government of India is one of the largest social security programs in the world. The scheme reaches out to more than 150 million rural households by providing guaranteed employment to almost 320 million workers every year. More than 1134.202 billion rupees were spent during the financial year 2020-21 alone. In response to the COVID pandemic, Government of India raised the MGNREGS allocations by 40,000 million INR over the previous year i.e., 2019-20. During COVID-19, the program emerged as a safety net, especially for a large number of distressed returnee migrants.

While the effectiveness of MGNREGS in addressing income poverty through guaranteed wage income is unequivocally accepted, the measurement of gender, child and shock responsiveness of MGNREGS poses several challenges. Within each of the state in India, there is wide socio-economic diversity, geographic unevenness, variations in program delivery capacities, etc. that restrict comparative analysis of performance of districts on objectively verifiable indicators. The Factsheets of different states is an attempt to compare gender and shock responsiveness of the districts for the MGNREGS in COVID or other disasters.

Profile of Madhya Pradesh

About 7.27 crores population with 15.54 percent Scheduled Caste (SC) and 21.04 percent Scheduled Tribe (ST) households are spread over 52 districts in the state of Madhya Pradesh. MP is primarily an agriculture-based economy with high rate of growth in agriculture sector. The Compounded Agricultural Growth Rate (CAGR) from 2011-12 to 2019-20 at constant price was 7.7 percent for MP compared to 3.3 percent at the national level. According to the 66th Round of NSSO, 12.3 percent of rural households were landless while 63.2 percent were small and marginal farmers in MP. The poverty estimates (2011-12) of the Planning Commission revealed that nearly 35.74 percent (19 million) of the rural population of Madhya Pradesh lives in poverty. As per Census of India 2011, Women Participation rate in rural areas in Madhya Pradesh was 39.3,

much higher compared with 30.0 at the national level. The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) V of 2019-20 revealed that the number of anaemic women in the 15-49 age group rose to 54.7 percent from 52.5 percent and in adolescent girls (15-49 age group) it has risen to 58.1 percent from 53.2 percent over the previous NFHS IV survey. In this context, MGNREGS is an important national flagship program for the poor and women in their families to reduce vulnerability and to absorb the economic shock in time of disasters, like COVID-19.

About the Fact Sheet

The purpose of preparing this state-specific factsheet for Madhya Pradesh is primarily to apply it as a monitoring tool at the state and district level to improve program delivery. Moreover, various patterns of performance of various districts will also reveal desired policy actions under MGNREGS.

The fact sheet provides district-level comparative performance with specific focus on gender, child and shock responsiveness of the scheme. From the data available on the MGNREGS dashboard, several indicators to measure performance were identified. The comparative performance of each district is provided based on a composite index developed on selected indicators. Three types of composite indices have been developed to measure the a) participation of women b) gender parity and c) shock responsiveness of the scheme. By providing a comparative position of the districts, the factsheet aims to draw certain findings that will help in understanding district-specific challenges and support decision making for changes in policy and practice.

Methodology

Data available on the MGNREGS MIS dashboard has been used for this study. Therefore, the indicators were developed based on availability of comparable data across the districts, to ensure consistent analysis. The data available on the NREGS dashboard is quite diversified, rich and updated, therefore reasonably robust composite Indices could be developed.

MGNREGS in Madhya Pradesh Over the Last Three Financial Years



	Unit	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Trend
JOB CARDS					
Number of Active job cards	Number	4,911,051	5,715,553	6,412,791	



EMPLOYMENT					
Total Person-days Generated (National)	Crores	265.33	389.08	363.46	
Person-days (men) out of Total (National)	%	45.22	46.81	45.33	
Person-days (women) out of Total (National)	%	54.78	53.19	54.67	
Person-days (men) out of Total (State)	%	61.89	59.51	58.98	
Person-days (women) out of Total (State)	%	38.11	40.49	41.02	
Person-days (SC) out of Total	%	14.51	13.28	12.94	
Person-days (ST) out of Total	%	33.3	33.37	32.79	
Average employment provided per Household	Days	53.3	61.84	57.97	
Average workdays generated per employed in India					
Men	Days	31.94	32.94	32.18	
Women	Days	35.21	36.59	36.11	
Average workdays generated per employed in Madhya Pradesh					
Men	Days	33.14	33.75	32.57	
Women	Days	28.68	30.72	29.74	



FINANCIAL PROGRESS					
Total Fund Released to MP	Rs Crores	4,825.63	9,225.40	8,576.30	
Total Fund Availability	Rs Crores	5,250.37	10,110.91	9,393.81	
Fund Utilization	%	94.26	90.42	85.81	
Approved Labour Budget	Rs lakhs	2,000.00	3,400.00	2,925.00	

Note: Data used in the factsheet at various places has been accessed on 14.03.2022 from the MGNREGS MIS Dashboard.

Active Jobcards: Any individuals of households who has worked any one day in either the last three financial year or in current financial year.

Source: www.nrega.nic

Three types of composite Indices have been developed as part of this study- a) Women Participation Index (WPI), b) Gender Parity Index (GPI), and a c) Shock Responsiveness Index (SRI). The WPI is designed to capture degree of participation of women in MGNREGS as the scheme has many positive provisions to ensure greater space to women. Gender parity has been captured by GPI that compares benefits or space provided to the women in proportion to men from the scheme. The shock responsiveness has been assessed during the COVID pandemic when the poor households demanded social security under the MGNREGS the most. The data of performance of the COVID period has been compared with the data of the previous non COVID period in the same quarters or year. Moreover, shock responsiveness has also been assessed during the years of drought or floods in select districts that were declared as affected districts by the Government of MP. In disaster like situations, additional 50 days of work is provided to the MGNREGS job cardholders.

Indicators to build composite index

'Women Participation Index' has been developed based on the following five indicators:

1. Ratio of active female workers over registered female workers under MGNREGS
2. Ratio of women actively participating in MGNREGS over total rural women in the working age-group
3. Ratio of active women owned bank accounts over active women workers
4. Average annual earnings from MGNREGS per employed women worker
5. Ratio of women workdays during COVID over the previous (non-COVID) financial year

For the "Gender Parity Index" following five indicators were selected:

1. Ratio of women active workers over total men active workers under MGNREGS.
2. Ratio of women workdays over men workdays.
3. Ratio of per woman wage earnings over wage earnings per man
4. Ratio of skilled women over skilled men workers
5. Ratio of (ratio of women active MGNREGS workers over men active MGNREGS workers) and (ratio of rural women population in working age group over rural men population in working age group)

Shock Responsiveness Index (SRI)

Shock responsiveness of MGNREGS has been measured both during COVID (that affected all the districts across the country/state) as SRI-C and also during natural disasters like flood or drought (that severely affect select districts in the state) SRI-D. This is because MGNREGS is also designed as a support mechanism to address disasters like drought or floods. In the factsheet, MGNREGS performance in such impacted districts in a particular year has been compared within the declared disaster affected districts.

Shock Responsive Index during COVID (SRI-C)

1. Ratio of fund available¹ (disbursed) per active job card during COVID (FY 2020-21) over previous 2 years' average (FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20) per active job card.
2. Ratio of amount paid as unskilled wages per household employed during COVID year (FY 2020-21) over previous 2 year's average

1 Total fund available (disbursed) include funds provided by the Union and the state government together.

3. Total expenditure under MGNREGS in each district per active job card during the COVID year over average of previous two financial years (Skilled, un-skilled wage and material etc.)
4. Ratio of workdays generated per HH employed during COVID over previous 2 years' average
5. Ratio of job cards completing 100 days of employment over total active job cards during COVID over previous non COVID period (2 year's average).
6. Ratio of workdays generated during peak COVID period per job card (May to October, 2021) over average workdays for the same period during previous 2 financial years.
7. Ratio of workdays provided to SC+ST families during COVID over average of active SC+ST workers of previous 2 financial years.
8. Ratio of actual workers employed in FY 20-21 over average of eligible employable active workers of previous 2 years (FY 2018-19 and 2019-20).

Shock Responsiveness Index during disaster - (SRI-D)

For this index the year 2017-18 has been considered, as 15 districts of Madhya Pradesh were declared drought affected in this year. Additional 50 days per job card holder were provided over the 100 days of annual employment guaranteed under MGNREGS. The SRI-D is based on the following indicators:

1. Total fund availability (disbursement) in FY 2017-18 per active job card
2. Total amount paid as unskilled wages² during

drought year per active job card

3. Total expenditure per active job card in the drought year (Skilled, un skilled wage and material etc.)
4. Total workdays generated per HH employed in FY 2017-18
5. Ratio of HH completing 100 days of employment over active job cards in FY 2017-18
6. Ratio of workdays provided to SC+ST families in drought year over total active workers of SC/ST category
7. Ratio of total workers actually employed over active worker in FY 2017-18

In order to measure shock responsiveness of MGNREGS during COVID-19, data of FY 2020-21 has been used- as the impact of COVID 19 was the most severe in this financial year. The data of the previous year FY 2019-20 was used to build a comparative assessment of the performance for WPI and GPI. In order to develop the composite Index for Shock Responsiveness during COVID (SRI-C), data for the period May to October (six months) for the years 2019 and 2020 was used.

Computation of composite index value and district ranking

Since some of the indicators have different units of measurement, therefore aggregating these into an index without making them scale free would lead to distorted computation. In order to make the indicators scale free each indicator has been standardized³. Equal weightage was assigned to each of these standardized indicators in a given

2 Actual Expenditure has been calculated based on wages paid in the current FY, adding wages due but not paid in current FY and deducting wages received of the previous FY.

3 Standardisation for each indicator is calculated by subtracting the mean from the individual value and dividing the result with the standard deviations. Symbolically, it can be written as:

$$Xi = \frac{xi - \text{Mean}}{\text{Standard Deviation}}$$

3 In MP, Niwari district has been carved out of Tikamgarh district in 2018. Data for Niwari district on NREGS dashboard is not separately available, therefore, value of the indices of Tikamgarh has been used to rank Niwari district also.

index . Value of the composite index for each of the district is the average of all the indicators' values of the respective district. The relative position of 52 districts⁴ of MP is determined based on the value attained on the composite index. The district with the highest index value is ranked at the top following a descending order to rank other districts. District has been classified based on the value of their indices into four categories. Districts with positive index value has been divided into two groups: **Grade A and Grade B**. The districts with negative index values also have been divided into two groups: **Grade C and Grade D**. **These grades reflect relative position of the district based on specific value of the index.**

Various socio-economic indicators viz. multi-dimensional poverty, sex ratio, percentage of SC and ST population, etc. have been used to explore association with the values of the composite indices i.e. WPI, GPI and SRI.

Further, another exercise has been carried out to divide all the districts in two groups: a) districts having value above the state average and b) districts having value below the state average on various socio-economic indicators.

Limitations

1. There are certain limitations of using the MIS data of the MGNREGS dashboard. It is a

progress monitoring tool of the implementing agency of the program. The data fields are primarily designed by the implementing agency for program monitoring rather than for research on various themes. Therefore, many important information to build certain relevant gender and child sensitive indicators was not available.

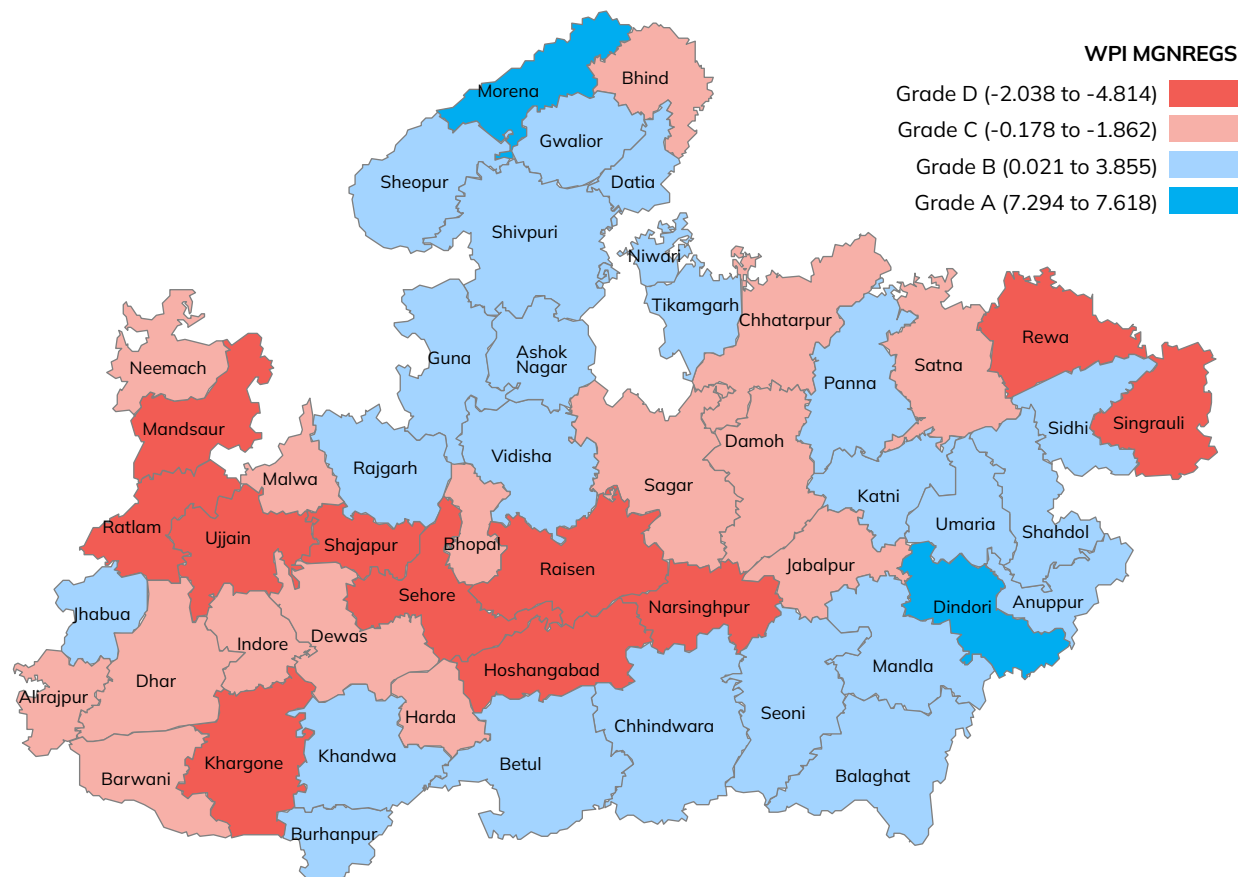
2. There is no independent mechanism developed to verify the accuracy of data uploaded by the districts. There is a possibility of certain data being different than the real ground situation in certain districts. It is assumed that the error of data uploaded on the MIS is constant across the districts. It is also assumed that the error level would be small to affect the values of the composite indices.
3. There are limited definitions provided on the NREGS dashboard, therefore some of the data provided may be interpreted differently in absence of clear definition.
4. Most of the data available is quantitative that can determine only output level indicators rather than outcome and impact level indicators. The NREGS dashboard data has limitation to build qualitative or process indicators.



Map 1: Women Participation Index (WPI) of MGNREGS

Most of the districts have responded to provide work opportunities to women even in highly socially challenged districts of Bundelkhand, Gwalior-Chambal and Rewanchal regions.

Districts in agriculturally prosperous belt like Hoshangabad, Raisen, Narshighpur, Sehore, Ujjain, Ratlam and Mandsaur were in Grade D of WPI. These districts are also close to Bhopal and Indore, big cities of job opportunities. Rewa and Singrauli are bordering districts of UP as Khargone with Maharashtra were low on WPI.



District	WPI MGNREGS	District	WPI MGNREGS	District	WPI MGNREGS
Dindori	7.618	Burhanpur	0.647	Satna	-1.242
Morena	7.294	Panna	0.581	Chhatarpur	-1.334
Chhindwara	3.855	Rajgarh	0.509	Neemuch	-1.340
Anuppur	3.600	Sidhi	0.448	Sagar	-1.397
Mandla	3.599	Shahdol	0.438	Indore	-1.745
Seoni	3.464	Gwalior	0.373	Dewas	-1.849
Balaghat	2.690	Shivpuri	0.241	Damoh	-1.862
Guna	2.366	Jhabua	0.212	Khargone	-2.038
Ashok Nagar	2.337	Khandwa	0.021	Shajapur	-2.374
Niwari	1.803	Jabalpur	-0.178	Ratlam	-2.415
Tikamgarh	1.803	Bhopal	-0.416	Rewa	-2.593
Datia	1.694	Alirajpur	-0.420	Mandsaur	-2.709
Umaria	1.523	Agar-Malwa	-0.422	Raisen	-2.805
Katni	1.241	Harda	-0.470	Singrauli	-2.905
Betul	1.043	Barwani	-0.688	Narsinghpur	-3.203
Vidisha	1.028	Bhind	-0.895	Ujjain	-3.794
Sheopur	0.909	Dhar	-1.122	Hoshangabad	-4.525
				Sehore	-4.814

Source: www.nrega.nic.in

Note: Districts arranged in descending order of value.

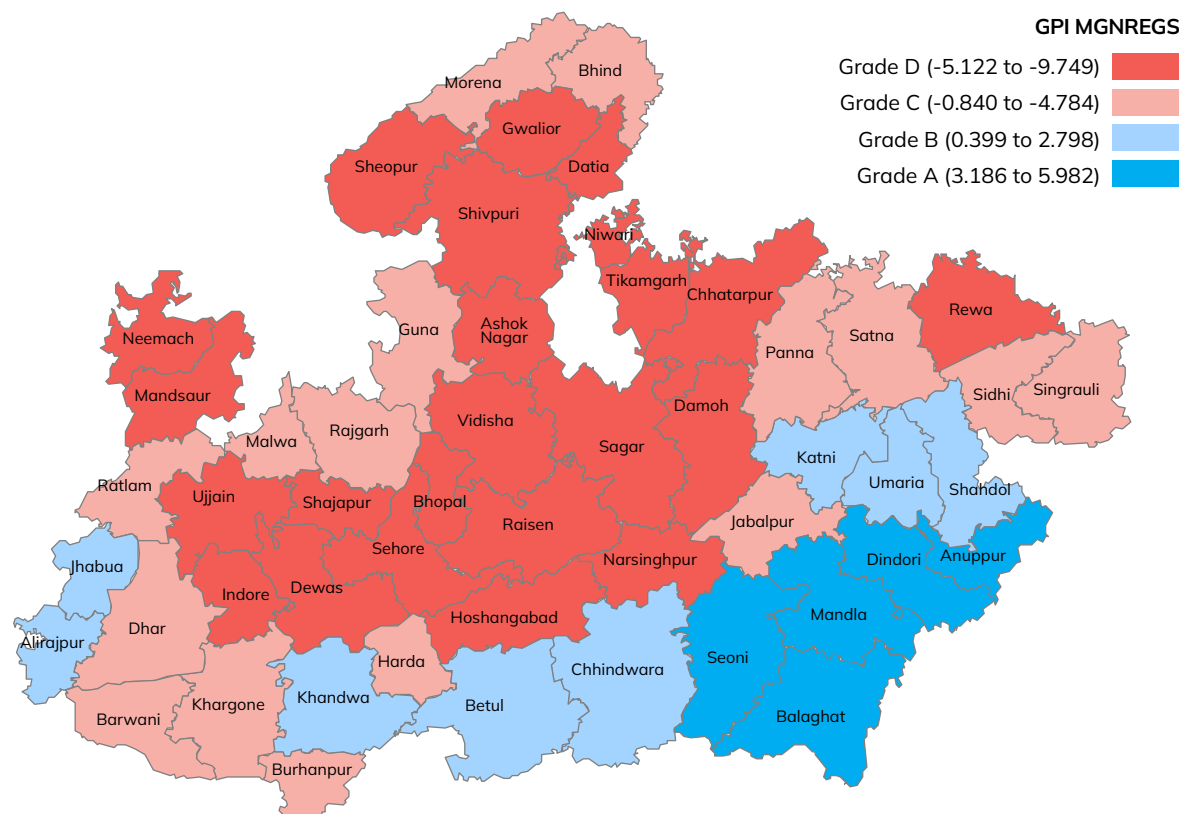
Map 2: Gender Parity Index (GPI) of MGNREGS

Gender parity was found the highest (Grade A and B) in the southern region where there is a high concentration of Scheduled Tribe (ST) population. These districts are also the best performing under the WPI.

Districts in the northern region were moderately performing on GPI compared to their high performance on the WPI. This suggests that higher number of workers (both men and women) got more work under MGNREGS. However, male workers got proportionately better share and benefits of the scheme as compared to women workers.

Many of the better performing districts of WPI were in grade D of the GPI. In spite of women getting more work in pandemic, proportionately more men got work and better wages, etc.

A big cluster of districts in the north and central regions (Bundelkhand, Gwalior, Chambal, Rewanchal) were in Grade D in GPI. These are typically economically poor, feudal and patriarchal regions where there was a critical need for the women and men of the poor households to work equally under MGNREGS.



District	GPI MGNREGS	District	GPI MGNREGS	District	GPI MGNREGS
Balaghat	5.982	Harda	-1.611	Indore	-6.303
Mandla	4.333	Singrauli	-1.639	Bhopal	-6.527
Dindori	4.016	Sidhi	-1.734	Gwalior	-6.592
Seoni	3.349	Guna	-2.657	Chhatarpur	-6.666
Anuppur	3.186	Khargone	-2.719	Shajapur	-6.720
Katni	2.798	Bhind	-3.042	Mandsaur	-6.887
Umaria	1.869	Morena	-3.607	Niwari	-7.087
Shahdol	1.633	Jabalpur	-3.852	Tikamgarh	-7.087
Jhabua	1.341	Agar-Malwa	-3.963	Dewas	-7.176
Chhindwara	1.019	Panna	-4.519	Hoshangabad	-7.717
Alirajpur	0.925	Ratlam	-4.718	Ujjain	-8.062
Khandwa	0.487	Satna	-4.784	Narsinghpur	-8.112
Betul	0.399	Rewa	-5.122	Sehore	-8.206
Barwani	-0.840	Sheopur	-5.375	Raisen	-8.616
Dhar	-0.981	Ashok Nagar	-5.720	Vidisha	-8.967
Rajgarh	-1.121	Damoh	-5.722	Sagar	-9.425
Burhanpur	-1.250	Shivpuri	-6.280	Neemuch	-9.715
				Datia	-9.749

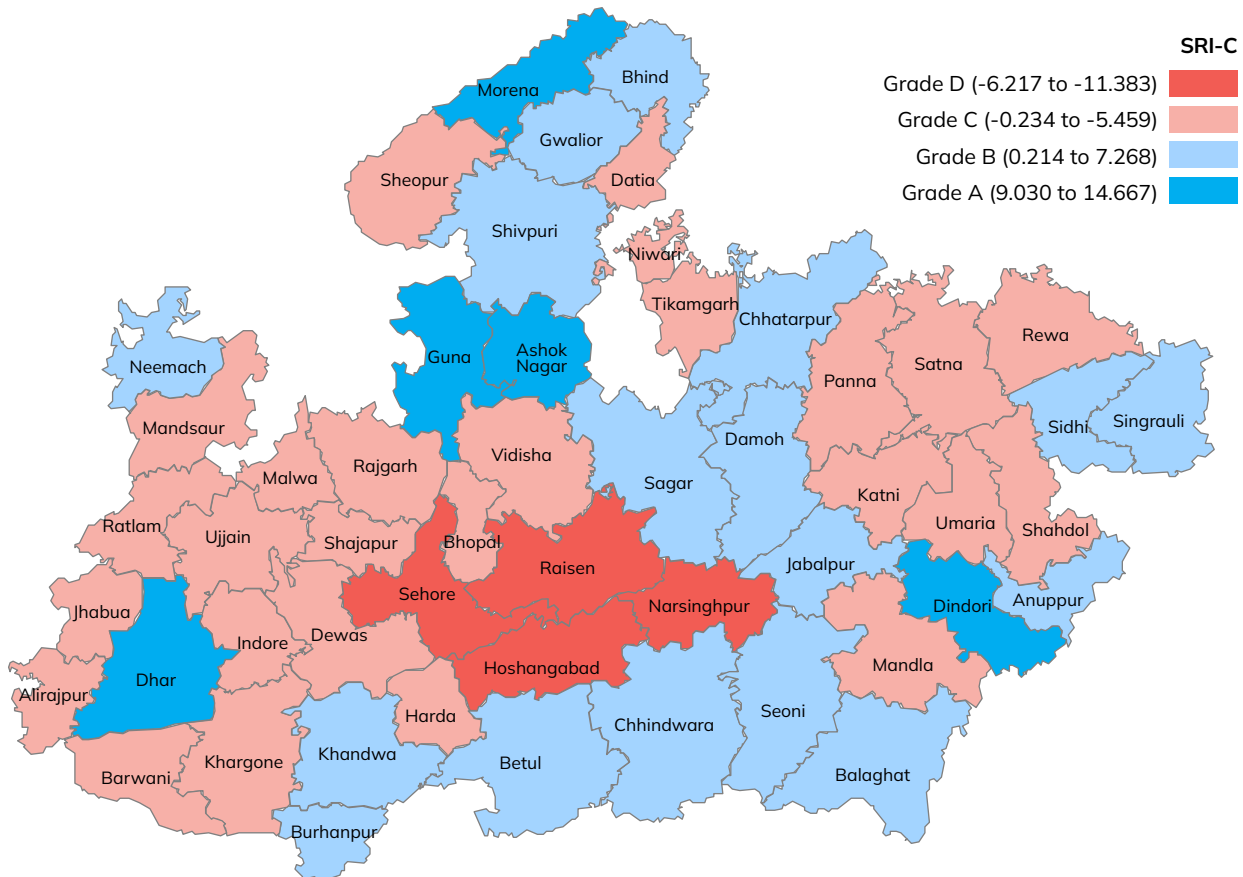
Source: www.nrega.nic.in

Note: Districts arranged in descending order of value.

Map 3: Shock Responsiveness Index (SRI-C) in COVID- 19

Most of the districts responded positively to meet the demand of the poor households to access work and wages under the MGNREGS. Agriculturally prosperous districts Sehore, Raisen, Narsinghpur and Hoshangabad were the only exceptions being in Grade D.

Most of the districts with high poverty and concentration of SC and ST population in regions of Bundelkhand, Gwalior Chambal and Rewanchal performed well and demonstrated shock responsiveness of the MGNREGS in pandemic.



District	SRI-C	District	SRI-C	District	SRI-C
Guna	14.667	Shivpuri	1.089	Umariya	-3.166
Ashok Nagar	13.813	Chhatarpur	0.913	Panna	-3.504
Dindori	11.739	Jabalpur	0.632	Agar-Malwa	-3.724
Dhar	11.128	Damoh	0.242	Vidisha	-3.765
Morena	9.030	Betul	0.214	Rewa	-3.963
Burhanpur	7.268	Mandla	-0.234	Khargone	-4.089
Seoni	6.652	Jhabua	-0.242	Satna	-4.121
Chhindwara	6.405	Mandsaur	-0.372	Shahdol	-4.157
Anuppur	4.463	Datia	-0.393	Rajgarh	-4.237
Khandwa	3.647	Katni	-0.665	Shajapur	-4.297
Singrauli	3.425	Indore	-0.770	Ujjain	-4.320
Neemuch	2.732	Alirajpur	-0.778	Bhopal	-4.424
Bhind	2.544	Dewas	-0.864	Harda	-5.390
Sagar	1.518	Barwani	-1.324	Sheopur	-5.459
Gwalior	1.427	Ratlam	-2.668	Raisen	-6.217
Sidhi	1.381	Niwari	-3.138	Narsinghpur	-9.153
Balaghat	1.222	Tikamgarh	-3.138	Hoshangabad	-9.353
				Sehore	-11.383

Source: www.nrega.nic.in
 Note: Districts arranged in descending order of value.

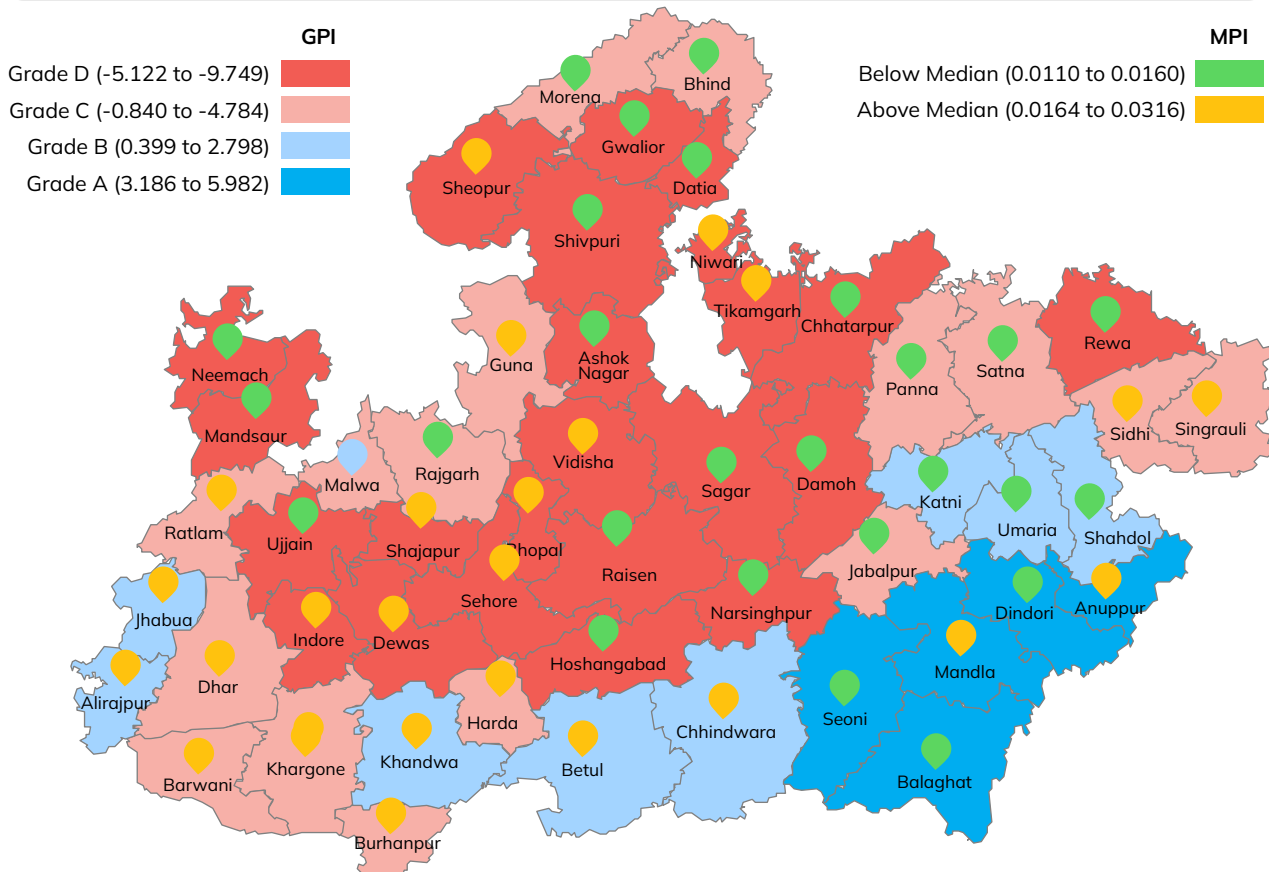


Responsiveness of MGNREGS in Economically Challenged Districts

Map 4: Association of Gender Parity Index (GPI) with Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

Response of the program of MGNREGS completely changes with the GPI in the high poverty districts as most such districts of central belt, Bundelkhand and Rewanchal were found in grade D of GPI. Most of the highly tribal dominated districts of southern region with high poverty were in grade A or B in GPI. It is clear that highly feudal and patriarchal regions could have provided more opportunities to women for work in COVID, however, their performance of providing work to women compared to men was lower in COVID times.

Districts of Bundelkhand region Chhatarpur, Tikamgarh and Damoh were high on the MPI however performed low on the GPI. The district of Sheopur which is known for the malnutrition and poverty also performed low on GPI. There were several districts in the central regions performing low on GPI with high MPI viz. Vidisha, Bhopal, Sehore, Dewas, Indore and Sagar. Many of these districts have large cities or industrial areas providing better employment and wage opportunities to the people than MGNREGS.



District	GPI	MPI	District	GPI	MPI	District	GPI	MPI
Balaghat	5.982	0.0125	Harda	-1.611	0.0219	Indore	-6.303	0.0233
Mandla	4.333	0.0164	Singrauli	-1.639	0.0188	Bhopal	-6.527	0.0166
Dindori	4.016	0.0135	Sidhi	-1.734	0.0178	Gwalior	-6.592	0.0139
Seoni	3.349	0.0142	Guna	-2.657	0.0189	Chhatarpur	-6.666	0.0160
Anuppur	3.186	0.0171	Khargone	-2.719	0.0234	Shajapur	-6.720	0.0173
Katni	2.798	0.0136	Bhind	-3.042	0.0144	Mandsaur	-6.887	0.0127
Umaria	1.869	0.0110	Morena	-3.607	0.0158	Niwari	-7.087	0.0164
Shahdol	1.633	0.0134	Jabalpur	-3.852	0.0139	Tikamgarh	-7.087	0.0164
Jhabua	1.341	0.0247	Agar-Malwa	-3.963	0.0173	Dewas	-7.176	0.0175
Chhindwara	1.019	0.0164	Panna	-4.519	0.0145	Hoshangabad	-7.717	0.0125
Alirajpur	0.925	0.0201	Ratlam	-4.718	0.0260	Ujjain	-8.062	0.0149
Khandwa	0.487	0.0167	Satna	-4.784	0.0116	Narsinghpur	-8.112	0.0132
Betul	0.399	0.0201	Rewa	-5.122	0.0126	Sehore	-8.206	0.0189
Barwani	-0.840	0.0316	Sheopur	-5.375	0.0223	Raisen	-8.616	0.0147
Dhar	-0.981	0.0221	Ashok Nagar	-5.720	0.0154	Vidisha	-8.967	0.0202
Rajgarh	-1.121	0.0151	Damoh	-5.722	0.0155	Sagar	-9.425	0.0126
Burhanpur	-1.250	0.0297	Shivpuri	-6.280	0.0153	Neemuch	-9.715	0.0145
						Datia	-9.749	0.0139

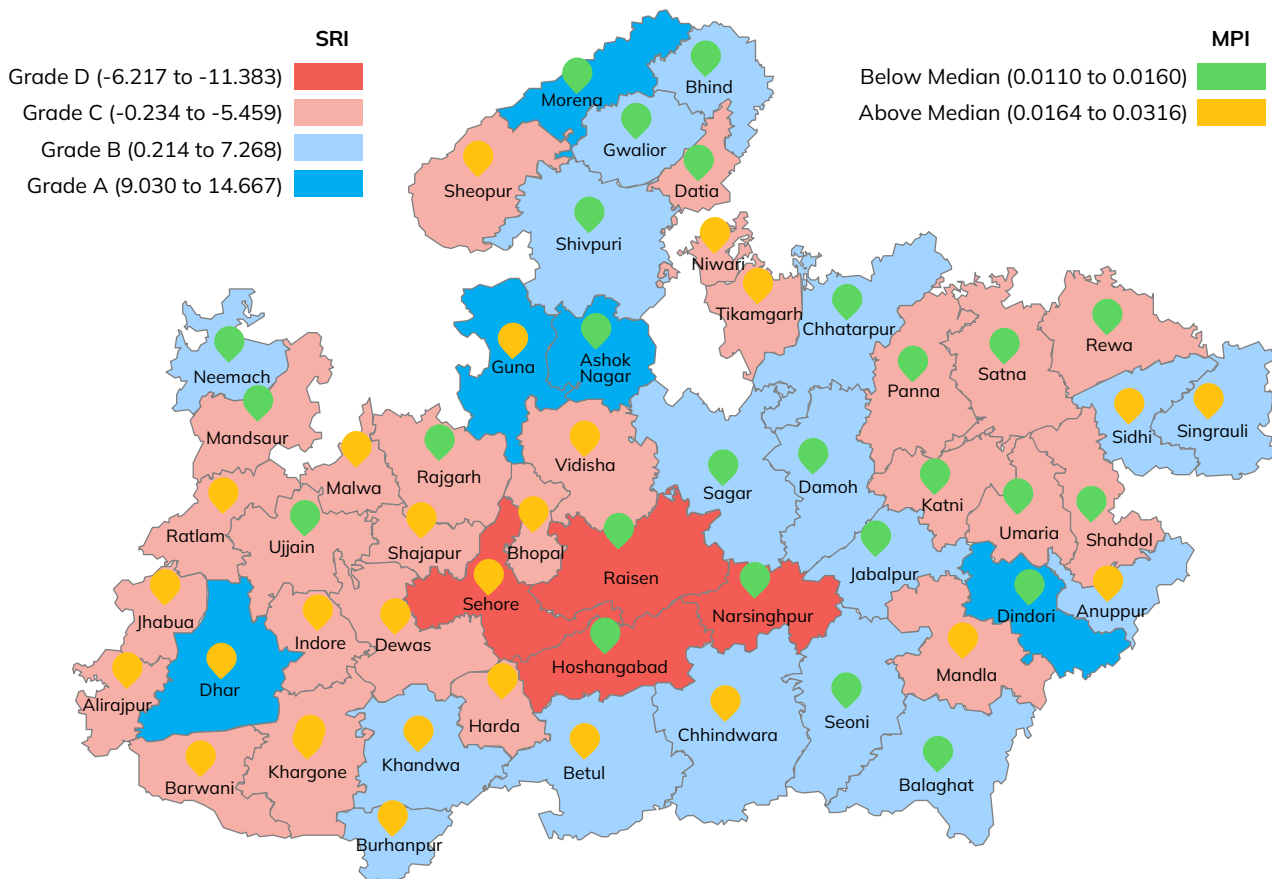
Source: www.nrega.nic

Note: 1. Districts arranged in descending order of SRI. 2. Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index – NITI Aayog Base line report, 2021).

Map 5: SRI in Multi-Dimensional Poverty Areas

Many of the districts with below the state average MPI values have performed well in SRI as a response to provide more work opportunities in COVID-19. Some of these districts were Seoni, Balaghat and Jabalpur in the South; Shivpuri,

Gwalior and Bhind in the North; Sagar in Bundelkhand region and Neemach in the western MP. District Sehore is the only exception of having high MPI value and being in Grade D of SRI.



District	SRI	MPI	District	SRI	MPI	District	SRI	MPI
Guna	14.667	0.0189	Shivpuri	1.089	0.0153	Umariya	-3.166	0.0110
Ashok Nagar	13.813	0.0154	Chhatarpur	0.913	0.0160	Panna	-3.504	0.0145
Dindori	11.739	0.0135	Jabalpur	0.632	0.0139	Agar-Malwa	-3.724	0.0173
Dhar	11.128	0.0221	Damoh	0.242	0.0155	Vidisha	-3.765	0.0202
Morena	9.030	0.0158	Betul	0.214	0.0201	Rewa	-3.963	0.0126
Burhanpur	7.268	0.0297	Mandla	-0.234	0.0164	Khargone	-4.089	0.0234
Seoni	6.652	0.0142	Jhabua	-0.242	0.0247	Satna	-4.121	0.0116
Chhindwara	6.405	0.0164	Mandsaur	-0.372	0.0127	Shahdol	-4.157	0.0134
Anuppur	4.463	0.0171	Datia	-0.393	0.0139	Rajgarh	-4.237	0.0151
Khandwa	3.647	0.0167	Katni	-0.665	0.0136	Shajapur	-4.297	0.0173
Singrauli	3.425	0.0188	Indore	-0.770	0.0233	Ujjain	-4.320	0.0149
Neemuch	2.732	0.0145	Alirajpur	-0.778	0.0201	Bhopal	-4.424	0.0166
Bhind	2.544	0.0144	Dewas	-0.864	0.0175	Harda	-5.390	0.0219
Sagar	1.518	0.0126	Barwani	-1.324	0.0316	Sheopur	-5.459	0.0223
Gwalior	1.427	0.0139	Ratlam	-2.668	0.0260	Raisen	-6.217	0.0147
Sidhi	1.381	0.0178	Niwari	-3.138	0.0164	Narsinghpur	-9.153	0.0132
Balaghat	1.222	0.0125	Tikamgarh	-3.138	0.0164	Hoshangabad	-9.353	0.0125
						Sehore	-11.383	0.0189

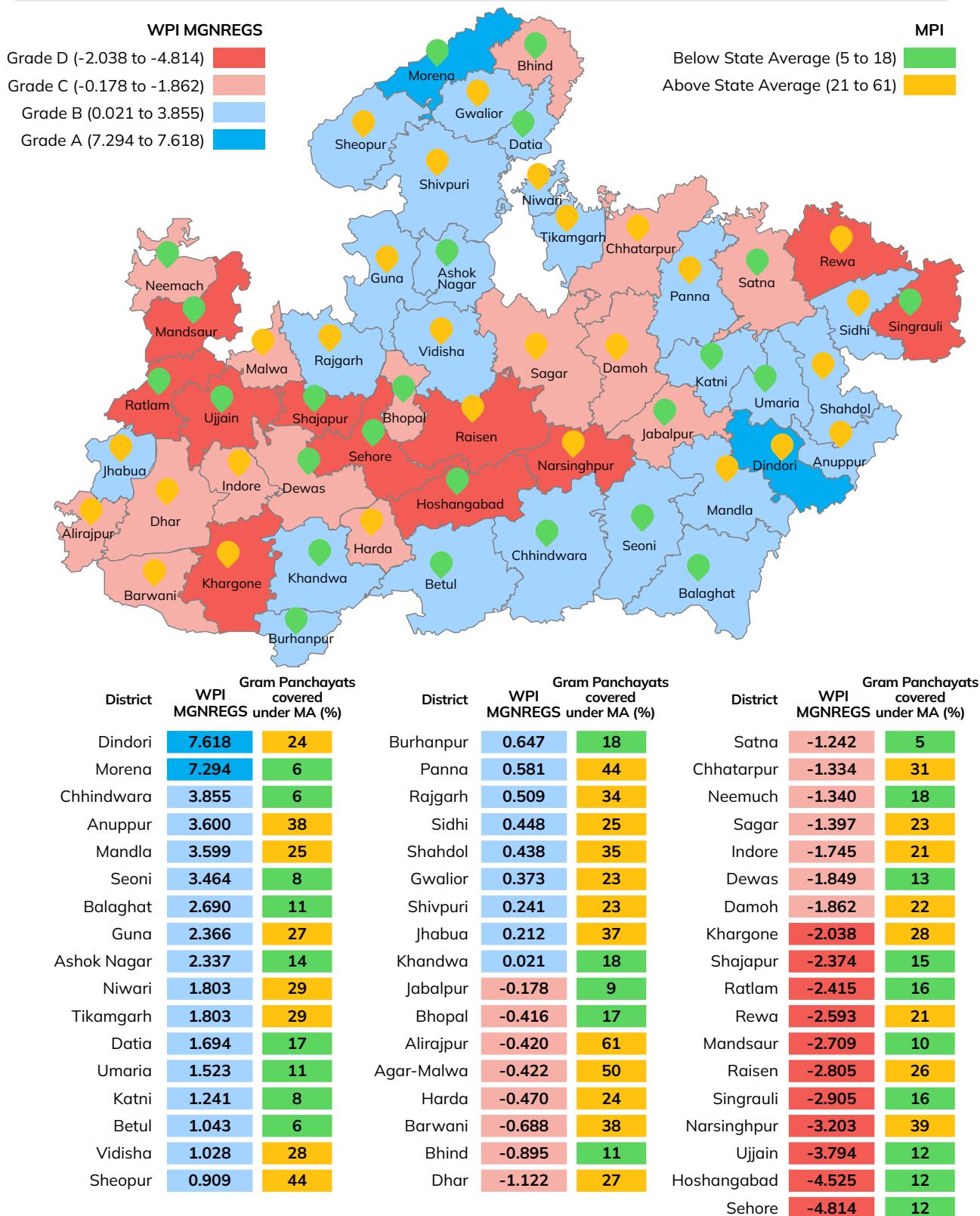
Source: www.nrega.nic

Note: Note: 1. Districts arranged in descending order of GPI. 2. Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is developed by the NITI Ayog, taking 21 indicators related to parameters of health, education and standard of living. Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index – NITI Aayog Base line report, 2021.

Map 6: Participation of Women in Mission Antyodaya

Mission Antyodaya (MA) is a program for convergence planning of resources of various programs in high poverty pockets of districts. Many of the districts with large number of Panchayats in MA program in Gwalior Chambal region viz. Sheopur, Shivpuri, Guna and Gwalior responded to provide opportunities to women. Mandla most effectively responded being in grade A in Women Participation Index (WPI) and having high number of GPs in MA. In Rewanchal region Siddhi; Mandala, Shahdol and Anupur in Mahakaushal region, Panna and Tikamgarh in Bundelkhand region responded well to enhance participation of women in MA blocks.

Narsinghpur and Raisen districts having high number of MA Gram Panchayats in central belt, Khargawa in the west and Rewa in the east also were in Grade D of WPI.



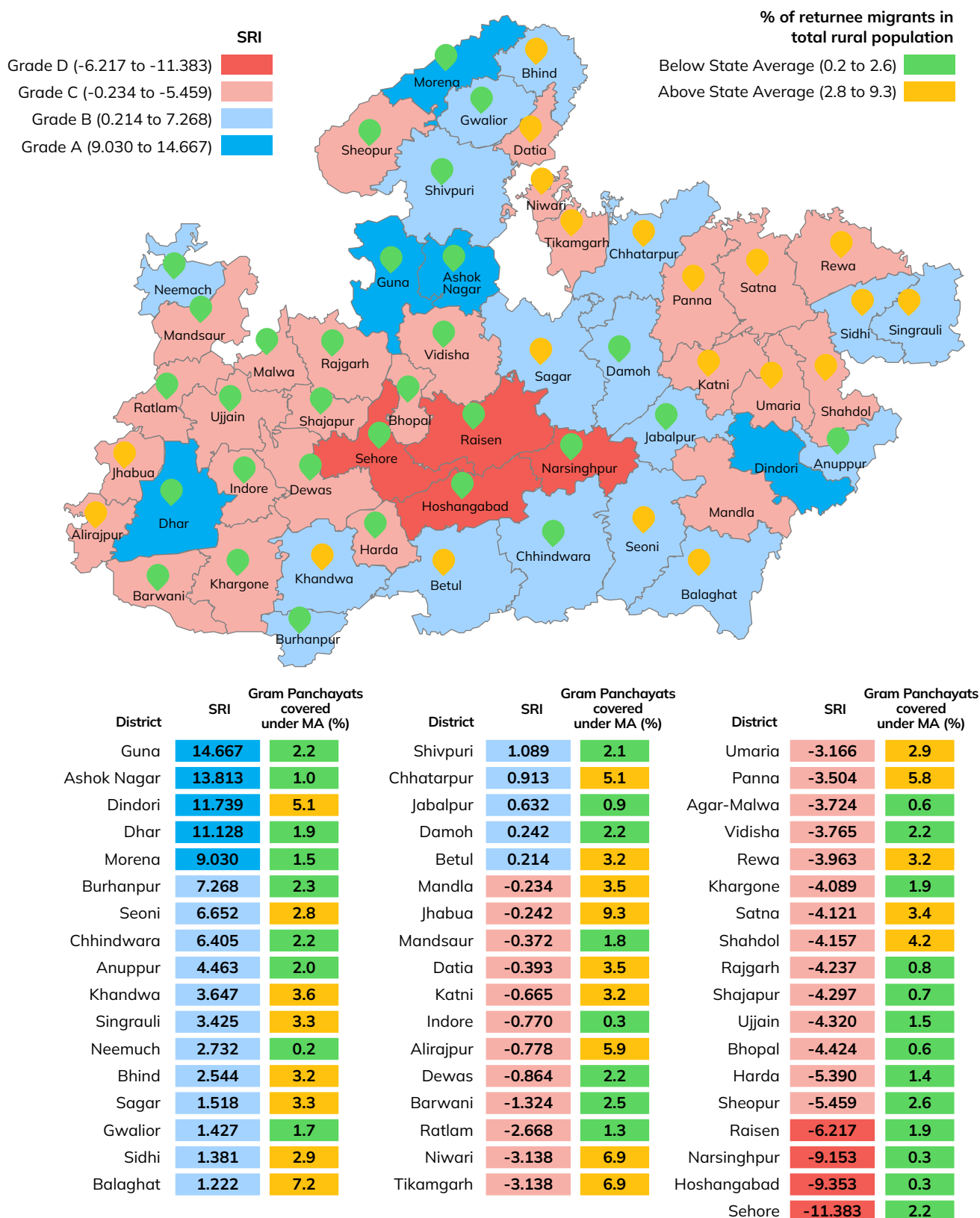
Source: www.nrega.nic

Note: Districts arranged in descending order of WPI.

Map 7: Shock Responsiveness of MGNREGS for Returnee Migrants

Percentage of migrants returning in the rural areas was lower in the highly urban and industrialized districts where value of the SRI was also low. Some of the districts have responded positively to the emerging needs of the migrants

like, Siddhi, Singrauli, Bhind, Chattarpur, Sagar in the north and Dindori Seoni, Balaghat, Betul and Khandwa in the southern MP, responded positively to provide more work under MGNREGS.



Source: www.nrega.nic and AIGGPA, 2022

Note: Districts arranged in descending order of SRI.

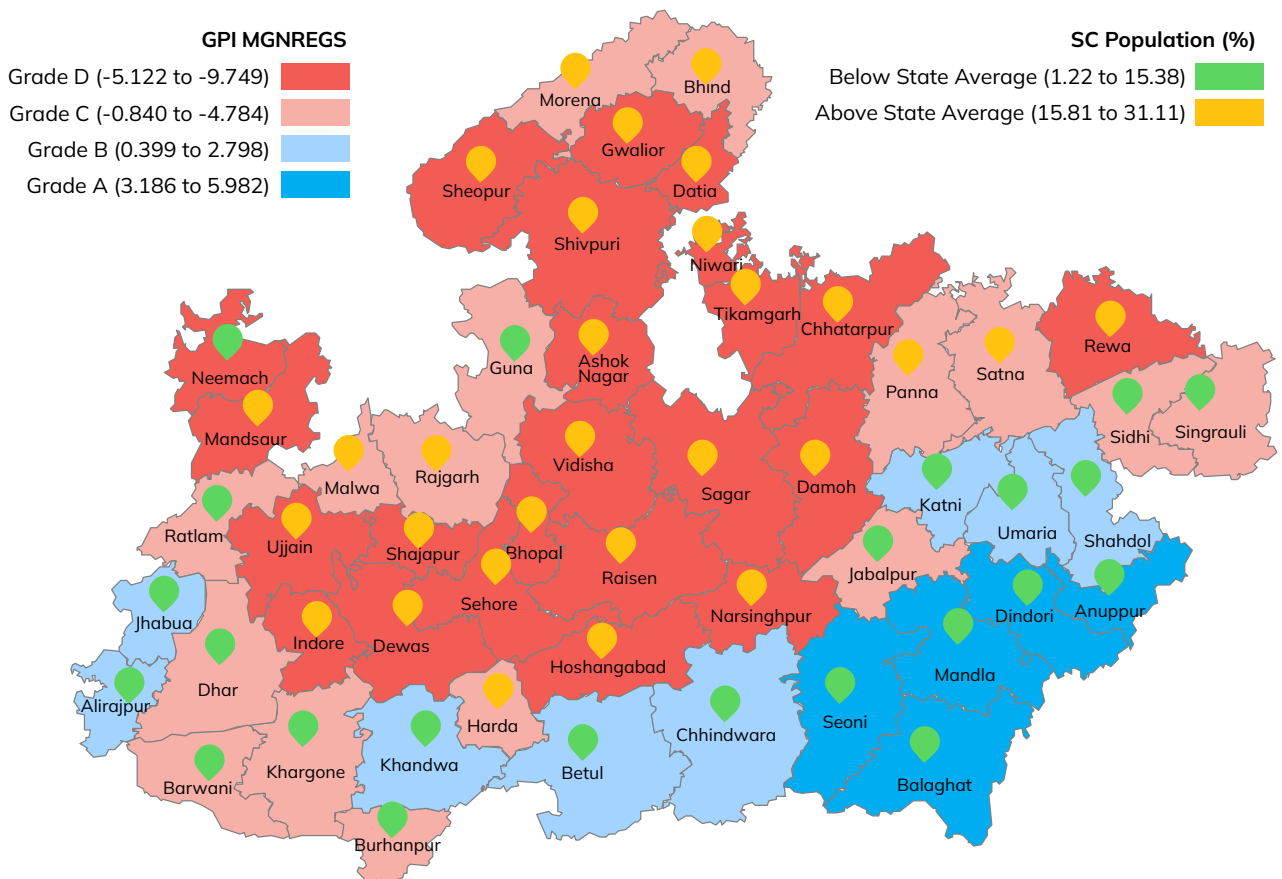


Responsiveness of MGNREGS in Socially Challenged Districts

Map 8: Gender Responsiveness of MGNREGS for Scheduled Caste Population

Most of the districts having above the state average of SC population have performed low on Gender Parity Index of MGNREGS. These are the districts of Bundelkhand, Gwalior Chambal, Rewanchal regions that are highly feudal and economically backward regions of MP. Many districts of Malwa region also have low values of GPI due to patriarchy and feudalism in spite being in agriculturally prosperous or industrialized districts like Indore, Hoshangabad, Raisen, etc.

All the districts with above the state average ST population are high performing in GPI and SRI. The trend remains the same for the WPI except Singarauli, Ratlam and Khargone with high ST population show low WPI values.



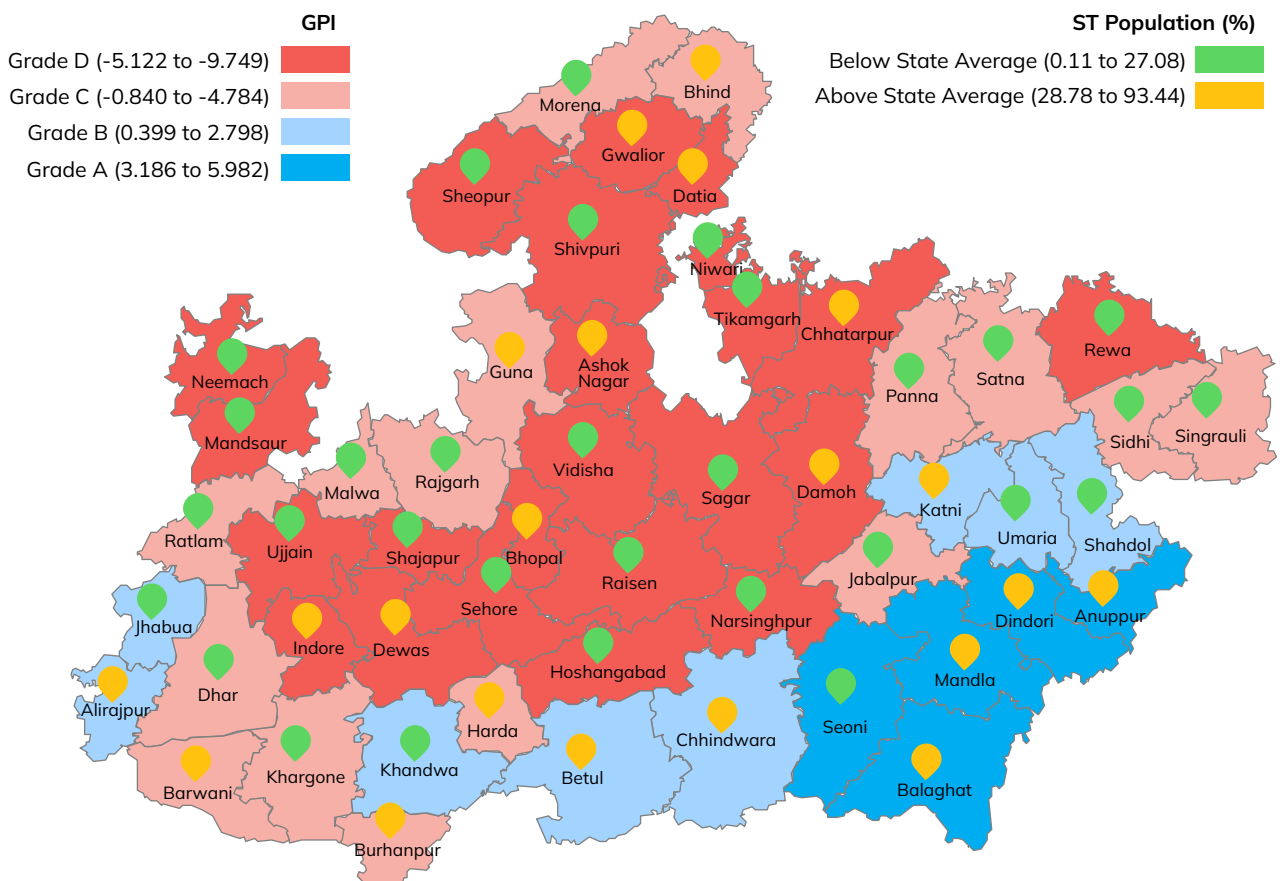
District	GPI MGNREGS	SC Population (%)	District	GPI MGNREGS	SC Population (%)	District	GPI MGNREGS	SC Population (%)
Balaghat	5.982	6.84	Harda	-1.611	16.30	Indore	-6.303	19.37
Mandla	4.333	3.92	Singrauli	-1.639	12.66	Bhopal	-6.527	21.13
Dindori	4.016	5.63	Sidhi	-1.734	11.64	Gwalior	-6.592	21.25
Seoni	3.349	9.25	Guna	-2.657	15.38	Chhatarpur	-6.666	24.51
Anuppur	3.186	9.19	Khargone	-2.719	11.29	Shajapur	-6.720	25.63
Katni	2.798	11.85	Bhind	-3.042	22.40	Mandsaur	-6.887	20.53
Umariya	1.869	8.45	Morena	-3.607	21.50	Niwari	-7.087	25.77
Shahdol	1.633	8.24	Jabalpur	-3.852	13.57	Tikamgarh	-7.087	25.77
Jhabua	1.341	1.22	Agar-Malwa	-3.963	25.63	Dewas	-7.176	19.28
Chhindwara	1.019	9.97	Panna	-4.519	20.75	Hoshangabad	-7.717	16.29
Alirajpur	0.925	3.50	Ratlam	-4.718	14.88	Ujjain	-8.062	31.11
Khandwa	0.487	11.66	Satna	-4.784	18.28	Narsinghpur	-8.112	17.31
Betul	0.399	8.51	Rewa	-5.122	17.00	Sehore	-8.206	21.77
Barwani	-0.840	5.44	Sheopur	-5.375	15.81	Raisen	-8.616	17.86
Dhar	-0.981	6.18	Ashok Nagar	-5.720	21.69	Vidisha	-8.967	21.25
Rajgarh	-1.121	19.64	Damoh	-5.722	19.30	Sagar	-9.425	20.95
Burhanpur	-1.250	8.38	Shivpuri	-6.280	19.14	Neemuch	-9.715	13.63
						Datia	-9.749	27.25

Source: www.nrega.nic and Census of India, 2011
 Note: Districts arranged in descending order of GPI.

Map 9: Gender Responsiveness of MGNREGS for Scheduled Tribe Population

It is evident that the districts in southern region, with above the state average of ST population, have scored high on Gender Parity Index. This

is a reflection that a more enabling societal environment exists in these districts for women to participate in MGNREGS.



District	GPI	ST Population (%)	District	GPI	ST Population (%)	District	GPI	ST Population (%)
Balaghat	5.982	58.39	Harda	-1.611	29.28	Indore	-6.303	44.53
Mandla	4.333	38.01	Singrauli	-1.639	18.49	Bhopal	-6.527	92.33
Dindori	4.016	44.64	Sidhi	-1.734	12.98	Gwalior	-6.592	37.97
Seoni	3.349	5.15	Guna	-2.657	34.05	Chhatarpur	-6.666	93.44
Anuppur	3.186	66.71	Khargone	-2.719	18.42	Shajapur	-6.720	20.66
Katni	2.798	28.81	Bhind	-3.042	52.86	Mandsaur	-6.887	17.04
Umaria	1.869	10.83	Morena	-3.607	14.54	Niwari	-7.087	15.83
Shahdol	1.633	22.22	Jabalpur	-3.852	0.11	Tikamgarh	-7.087	5.64
Jhabua	1.341	0.96	Agar-Malwa	-3.963	23.78	Dewas	-7.176	64.44
Chhindwara	1.019	41.95	Panna	-4.519	15.32	Hoshangabad	-7.717	19.56
Alirajpur	0.925	63.85	Ratlam	-4.718	7.22	Ujjain	-8.062	12.48
Khandwa	0.487	2.81	Satna	-4.784	2.70	Narsinghpur	-8.112	27.08
Betul	0.399	51.44	Rewa	-5.122	5.06	Sehore	-8.206	5.15
Barwani	-0.840	28.78	Sheopur	-5.375	2.79	Raisen	-8.616	15.87
Dhar	-0.981	3.83	Ashok Nagar	-5.720	41.62	Vidisha	-8.967	1.80
Rajgarh	-1.121	4.21	Damoh	-5.722	50.41	Sagar	-9.425	2.81
Burhanpur	-1.250	45.00	Shivpuri	-6.280	15.20	Neemuch	-9.715	11.23
						Datia	-9.749	78.32

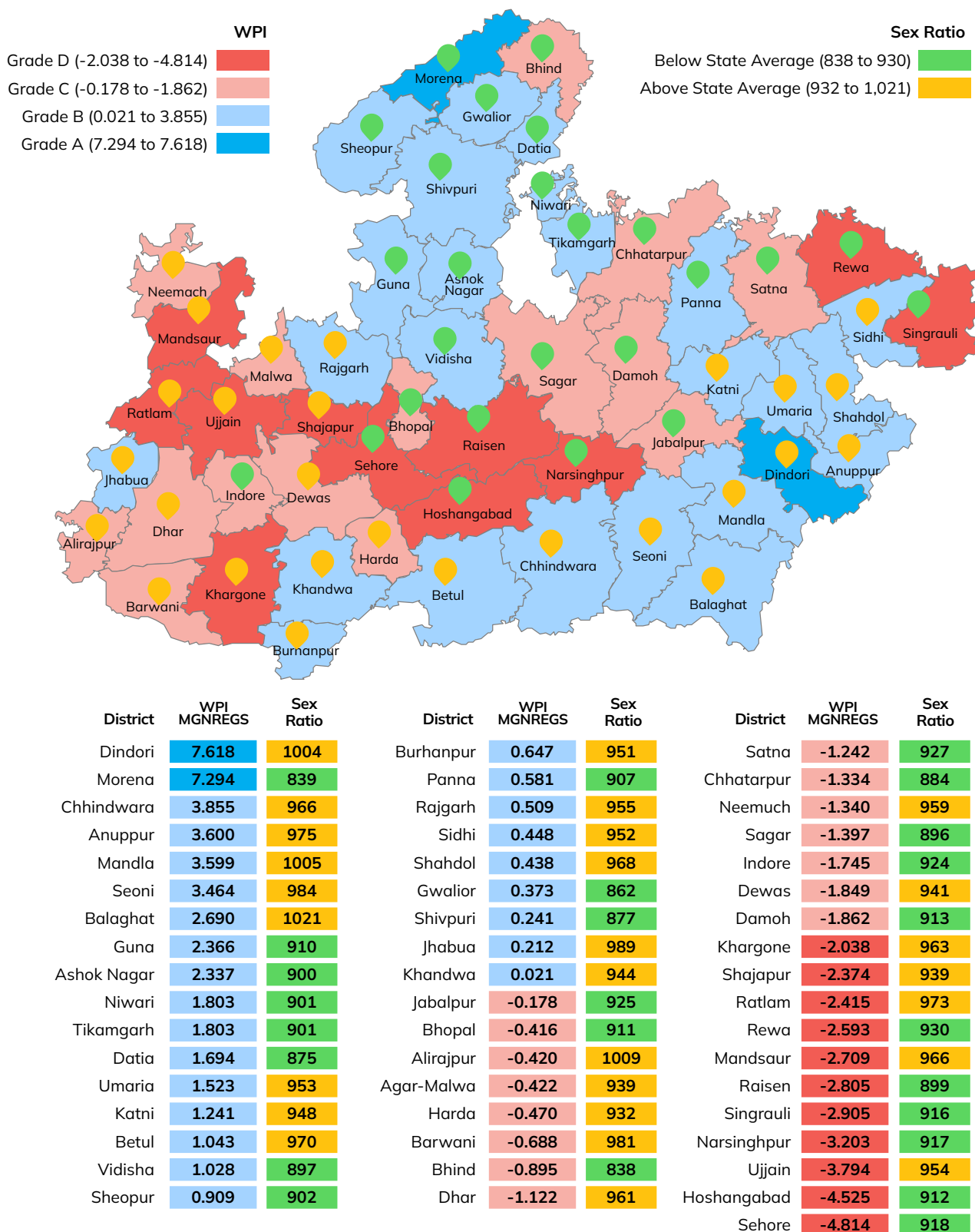
Source: www.nrega.nic and Census of India, 2011

Note: Districts arranged in descending order of GPI.

Map 10: Association of WPI with Sex-Ratio

There is a clear association of sex ratio with participation of women in MGNREGS. Most of the southern districts having sex ratio above the state level are in Grade A or B of the WPI. It

shows that better sex ratio encourages greater work participation of women due to higher number of women being available in working age group competing with men.



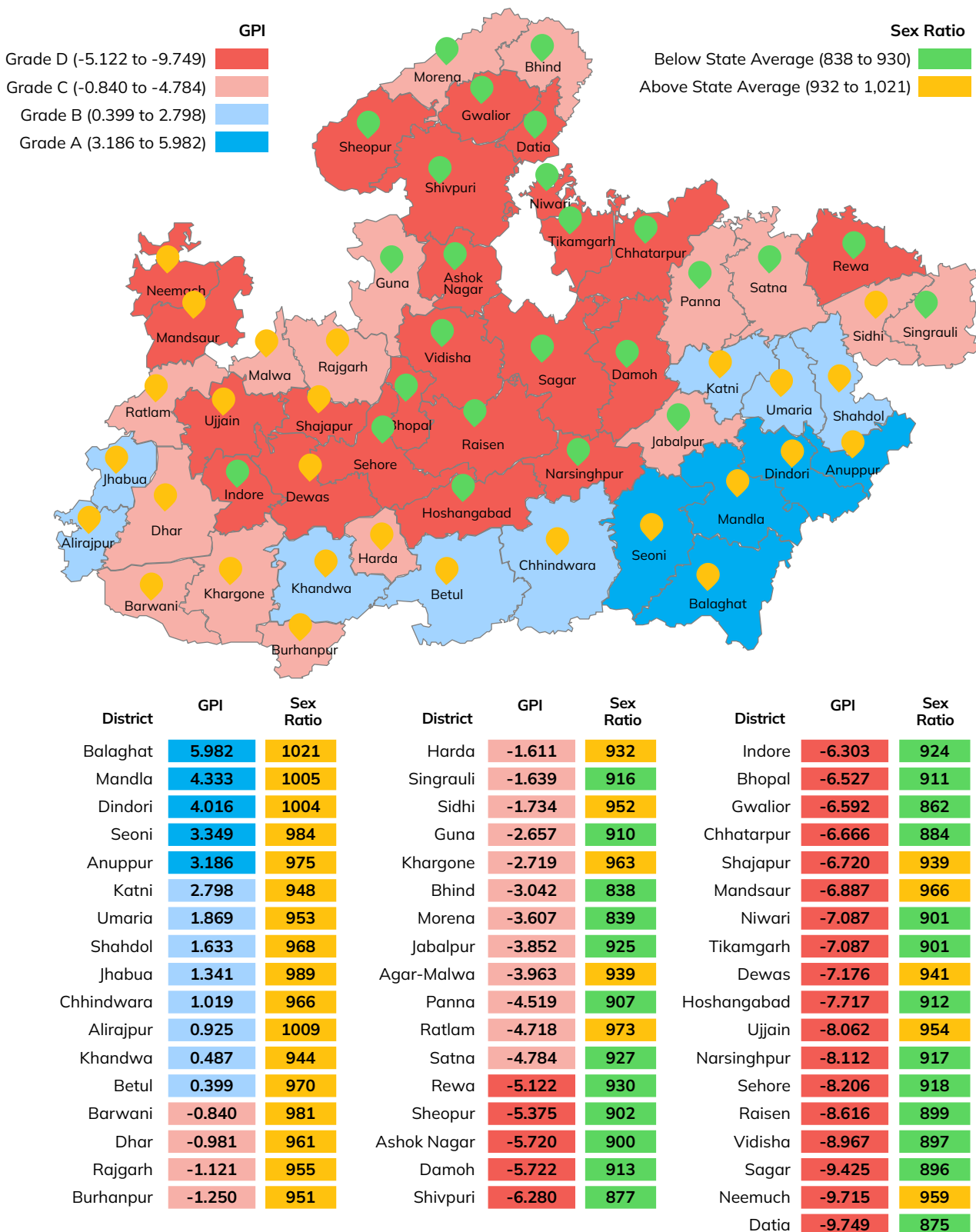
Source: www.nrega.nic and Census of India, 2011

Note: Districts arranged in descending order of GPI.

Map 11: Association of GPI with Sex-Ratio

Most of the districts in the northern part of the state in the regions of Bundelkhand, Gwalior Chambal and Revanchal are having low sex ratio and lower value in GPI. Most of the tribal dominated districts having better sex ratio have shown better performance in GPI.

A large number of districts with low sex ratio also ranked low (Grade D) on GPI viz. Datia, Chattarpur, Sagar, Tikamgarh, Vidisha and Raisen- in Bundelkhand region. The region is known for feudalism and discriminatory gender practises. MGNREGS in these districts could not overcome the societal barriers to provide greater work opportunities to women during COVID.

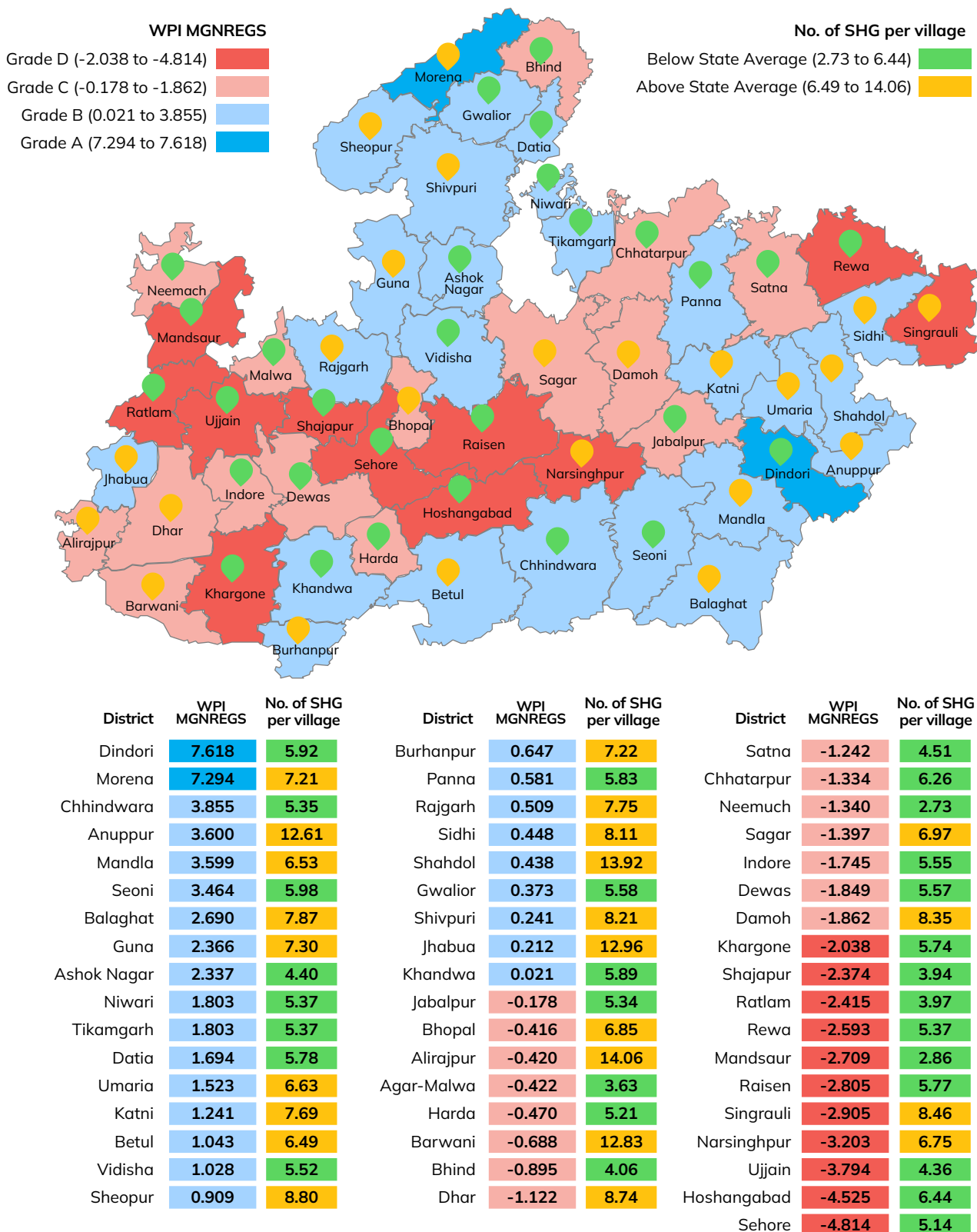


Source: www.nrega.nic and Census of India, 2011
 Note: Districts arranged in descending order of GPI.

Map 12: Association of WPI with Self Help Groups

Many of the districts having high number of SHG of women have recorded high value in WPI. Chindwara was high (Grade A) in WPI but low on number of SHG per village. In contrast Murena performed high (Grade A) on WPI

with high number of SHGs. Districts Singarauli, Hoshangabad and Narsingpur were exception having low WPI while having high number of SHGs.

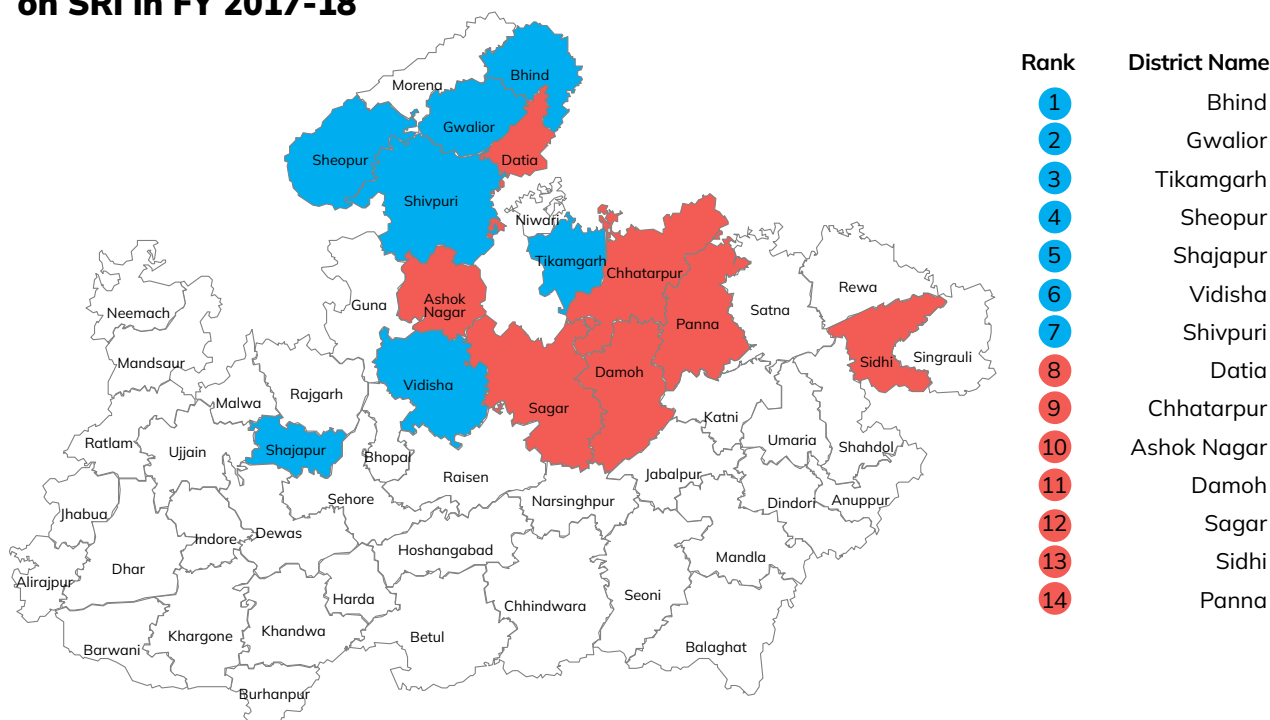


Source: www.nrega.nic and Census of India, 2011

Note: Districts arranged in descending order of WPI.

Performance of officially notified drought-affected districts on Shock Responsiveness Index - MGNREGS (SRI)

Map 13: Ranking of officially notified drought-affected districts on SRI in FY 2017-18



Source: www.nrega.nic

Note: Only those districts that were fully covered as draught affected districts were considered.

Ranks on the three indices has been provided for the aspirational districts of MP to provide a picture of women participation, gender parity and shock responsiveness. The aspirational districts are the high attention districts of the Government of India to accelerate the process of change attaining effective convergence of various programs. There are set performance indicators to be achieved in different sectors.

Table 1: Performance of Aspirational districts in WPI, GPI and SRI-C

S.no.	District Name	WPI Index Value	Rank	GPI Index value	Rank	SRI Index Value	Rank
1	Khandwa	0.021	26	0.487	12	3.647	10
2	Barwani	-0.688	32	-0.84	14	-1.324	31
3	Rajgarh	0.509	20	-1.121	16	-4.237	43
4	Singrauli	-2.905	48	-1.639	19	3.425	11
5	Guna	2.366	8	-2.657	21	14.667	1
6	Panna	0.581	19	-4.519	27	-3.504	36
7	Damoh	-1.862	41	-5.722	33	0.242	21
8	Chhatarpur	-1.334	36	-6.666	38	0.913	19
9	Vidisha	1.028	16	-8.967	49	-3.765	38

Source: www.nrega.nic

Overall findings

1. It was observed that the tribal dominated districts from southern region of the state have ranked high on the women participation index and Gender Parity Index. These are the districts with higher sex-ratio, gender equal relationships and greater work participation of women.
2. High migrating districts of the state: Siddhi, Singrauli, Bhind, Chattarpur, Sagar in the north and Dindori Seoni, Balaghat, Betul and Khandwa in the south performed well to provide greater employment to the migrants and the rural poor to address the shock of COVID.
3. The central region of MP has performed low in all the three composite indices reflecting poor responsiveness of MGNREGS for women and the poor in Covid period. Most of the districts in this region are in proximity of Narmada river, having adequate irrigation facilities vis a vis agricultural prosperity. Paradoxically, there are several districts in this region that have high rank in multi-dimensional poverty, high concentration of Scheduled caste population, high number of returnee migrants during lockdown, etc. It seems that the poor households and women of the family preferred to engage in agriculture and allied sectors than to work under the MGNREGS even during the COVID crisis.
4. Fund availability and effective utilization of funds was found to be a critical factor in better shock absorption. It was observed that districts with higher expenditure of available funds ranked high on the Shock Responsiveness Index.
5. Bundelkhand, Gwalior-Chambal, Rewanchal and part of Malwa regions of the state are highly feudal and patriarchal society which creates socio-cultural barriers for women's participation and negatively influence gender parity. Low ranks of the districts of these regions on WPI and GPI clearly demonstrate that societal structural barriers play critical role in responsiveness of any scheme.

Emerging macro policy implications for gender responsiveness and empowerment

In order to understand association of various development indicators with the gender responsiveness of MGNREGS, Pearson's correlation has been worked out as given in the table below:

Table 2: Pearson's Correlation of WPI, GPI and SRI with Various Development Parameters

Correlations Matrix of MGNREGS performance Indices with Development Parameters

Composite Indices	Multidimensional poverty (MPI)	Mission Antyodaya (MA)	Returnee Migrants	SC Population	ST Population	SC+ST Population	Sex-ratio	SHGs
Women Participation Index WPI	-.104	-.015	.185	-.268	.120	.020	.118	.041
Gender Participation Index GPI	.105	.036	.248	-.600	.607	.436	.666	.250
Gender Participation Index GPI	.067	-.180	.033	-.218	.241	.182	.059	.065

Association of various parameters with the three indices are revealing direction of relationship that will demand policy attention to improve performance of MGNREGS to be women and shock responsive. Some of these are the following:

- Inverse relationship of Women Participation Index with Multidimensional Poverty Index reflects that participation of women in MGNREGS in high MPI districts will be difficult due to deprivation of various development parameters viz. health, education and standard of living that constitute MPI. Economic deprivation may be a necessary condition to push demand for work for women but not a sufficient condition to access work under the MGNREGS.

- Negative correlation of GPI with the SC population shows that participation of women in feudal and patriarchal regions is greatly restricted. Unless structural barriers are addressed, equal participation of women in MGNREGS will be difficult to achieve. This trend is substantiated by the positive correlation coefficient of ST population with the GPI. More enabling social environment for women is a precondition for gender responsiveness of the MGNREGS.
- Positive correlation coefficient between GPI and Sex Ratio indicates that various society level transformations are imperative for women to adequately and effectively participate in the MGNREGS.



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