



## **SOCIO UPLIFTMENT OF COMMUNITY CLASSIFICATION IN NREGS**

*\*Dr. P. ILANCHEZHIAN, Guest Lecturer, Department of Commerce, Madurai Kamaraj*

*University Constituent College, Vendasandur, Tamil Nadu, INDIA*

*\*\*Dr. C. AZHAKARRAJA, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Cardamom*

*Planters' Association College, Bodinayakanur, Tamil Nadu, INDIA*

### **Abstract**

The NREGS typically provide unskilled manual workers with short term employment on public works such as irrigation infrastructure, deforestation, soil conservation and road construction. The rationale for workfare programme rests on some basic considerations. The programmes provide income transfers to poor households during slack agricultural seasons or years. In countries with high unemployment rates, transfer benefits from workfare programmes can prevent poverty from worsening, especially during lean periods. Durable asset programmes may create the potential to generate a second round of employment benefits as necessary infrastructure is developed. The need to evolve a mechanism to supplement existing livelihood sources in rural areas was recognized early during development planning in India. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme 2005 referred as MNREGS was enacted on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2005 and it came into force on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2006. It marked a paradigm shift from the previous wage employment programmes with its rights-based approach that makes the Government legally accountable for providing employment to those who demand it. The scheme aims at “Enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage

employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.”

**Key words:** Minimum Wage Act (MWA)

## INTRODUCTION

In the fifties, Arthur Lewis set the tone of the development era when he wrote first, it should be noted that our subject matter is only growth and not the distribution. In their preoccupation with rising, the rate of saving and investment and the starting of capital intensive, import-intensives, and industrialization programmes to attain self-generating growth, the development, economists and planners in their countries last sight of the ends of development. Development was associated with expanding industrial output. The advocates of development were busy defending their case by presenting impressive macro statics- aggregate output, aggregate-income, and aggregate-saving and so on. In spite of economic development in the last 50 years, the gap between the rich and poor has widened in India. A large number of studies in developing countries including India during the last 80's and early 70's have revealed growing disenchantment with the generalized theories of development and failure of development of strategies. This has mate nations to turn to 'Rural Development' as the main objectives of development.

In a rural labour surplus economy, sections of rural population depend on the wages, they earn through unskilled, casual, manual labour. They are vulnerable to the possibility of sinking from transient to chronic poverty in the event of inadequate labour demand or in the face of unpredictable crises that may be general in nature. Like natural disasters or personal, like-ill-health, all of which adversely impact their employment opportunities. In the context of poverty and unemployment, work fare programmes are the important programme interventions in developed as well as developing countries for many years.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

**Sankaran, K (2011)** has discussed the universalisation of payment of minimum wages as an obligation on the part of government to ensure the minimum rights of sustenance of workers. She recommends that the crisis around the MGNREGA wage rate is an occasion to rationalize wages both under MNREGS and the Minimum Wage Act (MWA) and to bring about a true need – based minimum

wage, which is a prerequisite for the millions in the informal economy in India today. The author suggested consultative process to be adopted for fixing need based minimum wage rate.

**Harsha, a (2010)** argued that MGNREGA cannot be a long-term solution to the unemployment problem of rural India. A comprehensive and a more sustainable solution that creates large-scale self-employment opportunities in the secondary and tertiary sectors in the rural areas that stimulates demand and increases rural productivity is still need to be found.

**Gopal, K S (2009)** critically examined the AP Social Audit process and pointed out the lapses. He commented that the SA findings were not placed on the MGNREGS website. Further, many workers' issues were provided with little remedial action in SA process. The government is ignored the Gram Sabhas and building the technical capacities of villagers to conduct the social audits. Additionally, the social audit process ignored the transfer of cash to Indiramma Housing beneficiaries in the name of land development, booking the Field Assistants' salaries under wages component; substituted the fund from NABARD or World Bank with MGNREGS funds for renovation of MI tanks and land development. The Social Audits in Andhra Pradesh mainly focused on exposing and tackling corruption that had taken place in MGNREGS.

## COMMUNITY CLASSIFICATION

Community is an important factor of society in which the people behaviour differs from each other. The given below table shows Community-wise classification of sample respondents.

**Community-wise Classification**

S.No	Community	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	SC/ST	390	55.7
2	BC	154	22.0
3	MBC	95	13.6
4	Others	61	8.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>700</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data**

Above table clears that out of 700 Respondents that 55.7% are SC/ST, 22% are BC, 13.6% are MBC and 8.7% are others. It is inferred that SC/ST people are highly participated in NREGS.

**Age and Community**

Below table reveals the age and Community

**Age and Community**

Age	Community				Total	
	SC/ST	BC	MBC	Others		
18-40	Count	155	51	33	22	261
	Expected Count	145.4	57.4	35.4	22.7	261.0
	% of Total	22.1%	7.3%	4.7%	3.1%	37.3%
41-60	Count	153	66	42	28	289
	Expected Count	161.0	63.6	39.2	25.2	289.0
	% of Total	21.9%	9.4%	6.0%	4.0%	41.3%
Above 60	Count	82	37	20	11	150
	Expected Count	83.6	33.0	20.4	13.1	150.0
	% of Total	11.7%	5.3%	2.9%	1.6%	21.4%
Total	Count	390	154	95	61	700
	Expected Count	390.0	154.0	95.0	61.0	700.0
	% of Total	55.7%	22.0%	13.6%	8.7%	100.0%

It is inferred from above the table that 261 respondents are at the age of 18-40, 289 respondents are at the age of 41-60 and 150 respondents are at the age of above 60.

The 390 respondents are SC/ST, 154 respondents are BC community, 95 respondents are MBC community and 61 respondents are other community.

**H0:** Age does not influence the Community

**H1:** Age influence the Community

Degree of freedom = 6

Calculated value = 3.391

Table value 5% level = 12.6

The calculated value is less than the table value, the null hypothesis is accepted, hence it is concluded that there is a relationship between the age influence and the community.

## CONCLUSION

The social upliftment and economic development variables of the respondents of the study and the inferences of this paper will help to present the summary of findings of the study. The highest per cent workers belong to SC/ST community. It is an instrument in the hands of the worker for enhancing levels of employment and earnings, the issues involved in empowering workers are in the range of enhancement of knowledge levels, development of literacy skills and organizing workers enhancing social security levels of workers also need to be considered.

## REFERENCES

### Books

Tamil Nadu Society of Social Economics, "Reading in Integrated Rural Development", Oxford and IBM publishing Company Private Limited, Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi, 2000.

Kapoor A.K, "Rural Development through NGOS", Rawat publications, New Delhi, 1997, p.645.

### Journals

Gopal K.S (2009), "NREGA Social Audit: Myths and Reality", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 44, No.3, January 17, 2009, pp.70-71.

Sankaran, K (2011) "NREGA wages: Ensuring Decent Work", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XLVI, No. 7, February 12, 2011, pp.23-25.

Harsha, A (2010), "NREGA: Transforming rural India" *Kurukshetra*, Vol. 58, No. 2, December, 2009, pp.7-10.