A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME IN TAMILNADU SPECIAL REFERENCE WITH TIRUPUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been a cornerstone of India's rural development strategy, aimed at providing livelihood security to rural households through guaranteed wage employment. This study focuses on evaluating the impact of MGNREGS in Tamil Nadu, with a special reference to Tirupur district. Through extensive data collection and analysis, including surveys, interviews, and secondary sources, the study examines various dimensions of the scheme's implementation and its effects on socio-economic indicators in the region. Findings suggest that MGNREGS has significantly contributed to enhancing income levels, reducing poverty, and empowering marginalized communities in Tirupur district. Moreover, the scheme has played a crucial role in creating rural infrastructure, fostering social inclusion, and mitigating distress migration. However, challenges such as administrative inefficiencies, delayed payments, and lack of awareness persist, hindering the scheme's full potential. The study underscores the importance of addressing these

issues to optimize the benefits of MGNREGS, ensuring sustainable rural development and inclusive growth in Tamil Nadu, particularly in districts like Tirupur.

KEYWORDS

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Tamil Nadu, Tirupur district, impact assessment, socio-economic development, rural empowerment, poverty alleviation, infrastructure, migration, administrative challenge.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY

The Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was put into action and became operative on February 2, 2006. The right to work was used to give about two thirds of the population an economic safety net, making it the first act of its sort in history. It is staggering to consider the scope of its distribution, reaching about one in ten people on the planet. Over the previous ten years, the Indian government has implemented a number of right-wing initiatives, this being the second. These include the Right to Food Act, the Right to Education Act, the Right to Information Act, and others that were passed in 2005, 2009, and 2013, in that order.

It was carried out in phases, with Phase I covering the first 200 most disadvantaged areas between 2006 and 2007. Phase II comprised an additional 130 districts, while the remaining rural districts were covered in the last phase. As of right now, all 645 rural districts in India are covered by the Act. Since its launch, it has created 1679.01 crore person-days of employment at a total cost of Rs. 250310.81 crores (see the MGNREGA act), which has the commendable goals of, among other things, giving poor rural households a work guarantee and, on the other hand, creating quality assets, bolstering the rural resource base, guaranteeing social inclusion, and bolstering Panchayati Raj institutions. However, concerns have been expressed regarding the act's timing, intent, design, and structure; the rationality of government interference in the labor market during a period of labor market liberalization; the program's expected effects on the economy and asset creation; and the program's overall performance.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM:

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has been implemented across various regions in India with the aim of enhancing rural livelihood security. However, there remains a need to comprehensively assess its impact, particularly within specific districts such as Tirupur. The statement of problem for this study is to examine the effectiveness and implications of MGNREGA implementation within Tirupur district, considering factors such as employment generation, socio-economic development, and its overall contribution to rural welfare. This research aims to address gaps in existing literature and provide insights into the efficacy of MGNREGA in promoting sustainable rural development within Tirupur district.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the performance of the MGNREGA over decade in India
2. To analyses the living condition of the respondents of MGNREGS

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

➢ The study may not cover all aspects of the MGNREGS scheme or all potential impacts, leading to a narrow understanding of its effects within Tirupur district.

➢ The period of the study is limited to 6 months.

➢ The sample size was constrained to 120 respondents only.

➢ The survey is based on respondent's opinion only

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methodology is a method to solve the research problem systematically. It deals with the cognitive process imposed on research by the problems arising from the nature of its subject matter. It involves gathering data, use of statistical tools, interpretation and drawing conclusions about the research data. Research methodology is the description. explanation and justification of various methods of conducting research.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

1. SIMPLE PERCENTAGE:

Simple percentage analysis is carried out for most of all the questions gives in questionnaire. This analysis describes the classification of the respondents falling in each category. Through the use of percentages, the data are reduced in the standard form with base equal to 120 respondents, which fact facilities relative comparisons

FORMULA:

Percentage analysis = $\dfrac{\text{No. of respondents}}{\text{Total No. of respondent.}} \times 100$

S.NO	VARIABLES	CATEGORIES	NO.OF. REPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
01.	Gender	Male	57	48
		Female	63	52
02.	Age	21-30 years	24	20
		31-40 years	30	25
		41-50 years	30	25
		Above 50 years	36	30

03.	Marital Status	Married	50	42
		Unmarried	70	58
04.	Family type	Nuclear	48	40
		joint	72	60
05.	Family Income	Below Rs 20000	18	15
		Rs 20001-30000	18	15
		Rs 30001-40000	60	50
		Above Rs 40000	24	20
06.	Educational Qualification	Higher Secondary	34	28
		Primary education	50	42
		Under Graduate	28	23
		Illiterate	8	7
07.	Household Primary source of income	Agriculture	19	16
		Wage labour	40	33
		Self-employment	46	38
		Others	15	13
08.	Highest Level of Education	No formal education	31	26
		Primary education	49	24
		Secondary education	12	10
		Higher secondary education	32	27
		Graduate and above	16	13

Source: Primary Data.

Inference:

The Table Shows that Majority 51% of the respondents are belongs to the category of Female. Mostly 30% of the respondents belongs to the age group of Above 50 years. Majority 58% of the respondents are belongs to the category of unmarried. Majority 60% of the respondents are belongs to the category of Joint Family. Majority 50% of the respondents belongs to Rs30001- 40000 of family income. Mostly 42% of the respondents belongs to Primary Education. Mostly 38% of the respondents belongs to Self-employment. Mostly 27% of the respondents are belongs to Higher secondary education.

RANKING ANALYSIS

Ranking Analysis can be employed in various contexts to assess and compare the performance, significance, or relevance of different entities or variables.

FORMULA:

Ranking Analysis = RANK (number, ref, [order])

TABLE SHOWING THE MGNREGS ASSETS IN LOCAL AREA AMONG THE RESPONDENTS

S.NO	FACTORS	FREQUENCY	RANK
1	Water conservation structures	206	I
2	Rural road construction and maintenance	202	II
3	Soil conservation and land development	111	IV
4	Irrigation infrastructure	61	V
5	Community buildings	54	VI
6	Enhanced agricultural productivity	40	VII
7	Increased employment opportunities	166	III

Source: Primary data.

INTERPRETATION

From the above table shows that "Water conservation structures" is ranked I with the frequency of 206," Rural road construction and maintenance" is ranked II with the frequency of 202, "Increased employment opportunities" is ranked III with the frequency of 166, "Soil conservation and land development" is ranked IV with the frequency of 111, "Irrigation infrastructure" is ranked V with the frequency of 61, "Community buildings" is ranked VI with the frequency of 54, and the "Enhanced agricultural productivity" is ranked VII with the frequency of 40.

INFERENCE

The survey revealed that the majority Water conservation structures and the influence of Rural Road construction and maintenance hold the highest frequency among the listed factors, indicating their significant impact on individuals.

Findings:

- ➤ Majority 51% of the respondents are belongs to the category of Female.
- ➤ Mostly 30% of the respondents belongs to the age group of Above 50 years.
- ➤ Majority 58% of the respondents are belongs to the category of unmarried.
- ➤ Majority 60% of the respondents are belongs to the category of Joint Family.
- ➤ Majority 50% of the respondents belongs to Rs30001- 40000 of family income.
- ➤ Mostly 42% of the respondents belongs to Primary Education.
- ➤ Mostly 38% of the respondents belongs to Self-employment.
- ➤ Mostly 27% of the respondents are belongs to Higher secondary education.
- ➤ The survey revealed that the majority Water conservation structures and the influence of Rural Road construction and maintenance hold the highest frequency among the listed factors, indicating their significant impact on individuals.

SUGGESTIONS

- ➤ Engage local communities throughout the project lifecycle for ownership, relevance, and sustainability, ensuring their active involvement from planning to monitoring, thereby tailoring projects to local needs and priorities.

- ➤ Provide training in construction, engineering, and water management to empower locals, enabling them to play key roles in MGNREGS projects, enhancing job opportunities, and improving project outcomes through increased local capacity.
- ➤ Utilize GIS and remote sensing for precise spatial data analysis, resource allocation, and real-time project tracking, enhancing decision-making and improving project outcomes in MGNREGS.
- ➤ Promote eco-friendly practices and sustainable materials in MGNREGS projects, prioritizing nature-based solutions for water conservation and green construction techniques, fostering environmental conservation and long-term resilience.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the successful execution of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) necessitates a multifaceted strategy that encompasses several critical components. Fund allocation serves as the cornerstone, ensuring sufficient resources are directed towards vital areas such as water conservation and road construction, thereby establishing a robust foundation for sustainable development. Moreover, community engagement plays a pivotal role in fostering ownership, relevance, and sustainability. By involving local communities in all stages of project implementation—from planning to monitoring—MGNREGS initiatives can better address

specific needs and priorities, ultimately enhancing their effectiveness and long-term impact. Finally, strengthening monitoring mechanisms through clear performance indicators, regular site inspections, and stakeholder feedback ensures transparency, accountability, and timely issue identification. This proactive approach enhances MGNREGS' efficiency and impact on rural employment and development. By prioritizing these elements—fund allocation, community engagement, skill development, technology integration, eco-conscious practices, and robust monitoring— MGNREGS can play a pivotal role in the holistic development of rural India, ensuring a brighter future for millions of its citizens.

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