



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME IMPACT ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN GUNTUR DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH

KAKARLA SRINIVASA RAO

Research Scholar

Department of Political Science and Public Administration

S.V.UNIVERSITY, TIRUPATI

ABSTRACT

The primary objective of the MGNREGS is to provide employment for the unemployed and impoverished members of society in order to reduce poverty and promote rural development. To ascertain the effect of MGNREGS on rural development, the opinions of respondents residing in rural areas have been gathered. Therefore, the data showed that this scheme's effects on social protection, livelihood stability, and democratic empowerment make it a potent tool for inclusive growth in rural areas. Through the development of long-lasting assets, enhanced water security, soil conservation, and increased land productivity, MGNREGS offer livelihood security to the impoverished. This programme has raised household income due to increased agricultural production, which has raised living standards for households. It has also resulted in significant salary increases for workers in rural areas.

Key Words: MGNREGS, Rural Development, Creation sustainable assets, Poverty Eradication

INTRODUCTION

On February 2, 2006, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was put into action. It was the first act of its sort in history to give around two thirds of the population an economic safety net through the right to labour. It is astounding how widely distributed it is, reaching about one in ten people on earth. It was the second of the Indian government's right-wing initiatives that it had implemented in the previous ten years. The remaining ones are the Acts on Information Rights (RTI), Education Rights (RTE), and Food Rights (Right to Food), which were enacted in 2005, 2009, and 2013, in that order. It was carried out in stages, with Phase I covering the first 200 most disadvantaged areas between 2006 and 2007.

The Phase II included 130 additional districts and the final phase covered the remaining rural districts. The Act currently covers all the 645 rural districts throughout India. It has generated 1679.01 crore person days of employment since its inception at a total expenditure of Rs. 250310.81 crores (refer to Table 1 for details). The MGNREGA act has commendable goals, including giving poor rural households a work guarantee; on the other side, it aims to create quality assets, enhance the rural resource base, guarantee social inclusion, and fortify Panchayati Raj institutions. However, concerns have been expressed regarding

the act's timing, intent, design, and structure; the rationality of government interference in the labour market during a period of labour market liberalisation; the program's expected effects on the economy and asset creation; and the program's overall performance.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Singh. S.P. and Nauriyal, D.K. (2009) in their article observed the major benefit of NREGS was the removal of these restrictions by making wage jobs available in or near the hamlet. They now have the chance to make money without having to give up their other responsibilities.

Pankaj, et.al., (2010) in their article revealed that the Additional impacts are also produced by the Account payment of wages. In addition to raising the likelihood of having more control over earnings, it promotes the formation of a saving habit. At first, the majority of these labourers would take out their whole paycheck all at once. They have gradually begun to retreat in accordance with their demands. Another benefit is that women can avoid unnecessary expenses by saving money, especially if their husbands or other male family members frequently spend money on things like alcohol. In the same bank, it was discovered that women invested in fixed deposit plans as well.

Dr Sanjay Kumar Pradhan, (2012), in his article stated that the goal of the self-targeting initiative NREGA is to support women and other marginalised groups in society by expanding outreach and assisting them in achieving financial and economic inclusion. It promises women empowerment and work opportunities in the rural environment.

Kumar (2014) in his paper examined that Rural areas are greatly impacted by that scheme. MGNREGA is essential to improving rural livelihood and creating jobs in rural areas. It is a significant wage employment programme that offers jobs in rural areas for a minimum of one hundred days. The panchayat raj organisation was crucial in the program's conception and execution. MGNREGA assists in creating wage jobs in rural areas.

Lamaan Sami and Anas Khan (2016) in their article revealed that their study is an empirical one that looks at how MGNREGA has helped the impoverished in a few Indian areas find work. Personal interviews were used to gather the data, which were then subjected to linear regression analysis. The data analysis showed that in certain Indian districts, MGNREGA was a major factor in creating jobs, raising respondents' incomes, and increasing their consumption.

T.Srikanth Reddy (2017) in his article concluded that the government is responding to these difficulties by implementing MGNREGA 2.0, which offers a wider range of employment options, institutionalizes social audits and audits at the local level, and gives states more flexibility. Many of these modifications are included in the revised MGNREGA operational guidelines. Therefore, MGNREGA continues to have a positive impact on the rural economy and the livelihoods of marginalised rural Indians, even though much more work has to be done to make it more effective.

Dr. G. Vedanthadesikan (2018) in his article stated that the Indian government is implementing numerous employment generating initiatives to close the employment generation gap in rural areas of the country. The first law in Indian history to guarantee employment and pay is the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. This study examines the impact of MGNREGA on job creation, the kinds of jobs carried out under this legislation, and the degree to which this initiative has reduced rural India's poverty. Numerous experts have discovered that this plan has a significant effect on rural India's employment structure.

OBJECTIVES

1. To Examine Impact of MGNREGA on Rural Development
2. To examine Satisfaction levels of respondents about income and livelihood security through MGNREGS

METHODOLOGY

The study adopts multi-stage random sampling method to select the sample units in Guntur district in of Andhra Pradesh. The Guntur district was selected purposefully because researcher belongs to Guntur district. The Guntur district consists of 4 Revenue Divisions, viz. Guntur, Tenali, Narasaraopeta and Gurajala For the purpose of this study 4 Revenue Divisions are selected. From each selected Revenue Division, one Mandal Parishad was selected randomly. From each selected Mandal Parishad, 3 Gram Panchayaths were selected and from each selected Gram Panchayath 30 MGNREGS workers were selected as sample respondents. Thus, the sample MGNREGS workers covered by the study are 360.

DATA ANALYSIS

Table-1: Impact of MGNREGS on Rural Development

	completely	to a great extent	to some extent	Not at all	Total
Creation sustainable assets	31 (8.61)	58 (16.11)	236 (65.56)	35 (9.72)	360 (100.00)
Usefulness of assets	24 (6.67)	49 (13.61)	258 (71.66)	29 (8.06)	360 (100.00)
Improved the drinking water availability	64 (17.78)	57 (15.83)	176 (48.89)	63 (17.50)	360 (100.00)
Improved the irrigation water availability	35 (9.72)	60 (16.67)	228 (63.33)	37 (10.28)	360 (100.00)
Improved the soil fertility	29 (8.06)	31 (8.61)	252 (70.00)	48 (13.33)	360 (100.00)

The impact of MGNREGS on rural development with reference to creation of sustainable assets, usefulness of assets, improvement of drinking water availability, irrigation water availability and soil fertility are presented in the Table-1. Out of total respondents 65.56 percent said to some extent the MGNREGS created sustainable assets in the rural villages, whereas 16.11 percent said to a great extent, 9.72 percent said not at all created sustainable assets. It can be understood from the table that 71.66 percent opined to some extent the usefulness of assets utilized in the rural villages, but 13.61 percent said to a great extent, 6.67 percent said completely usefulness and 8.06 percent said not at all usefulness of assets for their family.

It shows that 48.89 percent of the households felt that to some extent the improvement of drinking water availability in their villages, whereas 17.78 percent felt completely, 15.83 percent felt to a great extent and the rest 17.5 percent said not at all improved the drinking water availability in their villages. With reference to improvement of irrigation water availability in the study villages it is found that 63.33 percent said to some extent, but 16.67 percent said to a great extent, 9.72 percent said completely and 10.28 percent said not at all improved the irrigation of water availability in their villages. Regarding improvement of soil fertility in the study villages it is observed that 70 percent opined to some extent, 8.61 percent said to a great extent, 8.06 percent said completely improved and 13.33 percent said not at all improved the soil fertility in their villages.

Table-2: Satisfaction levels of respondents about income and livelihood security through MGNREGS

	completely	to a great extent	to some extent	Not at all	Total
MGNREGS is a steady source of income security	56 (15.56)	89 (24.72)	188 (52.22)	27 (7.50)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS has Improved Financial Status	43 (11.94)	94 (26.11)	182 (50.56)	41 (11.39)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS is an alternative employment source of income for poor families during un-season	52 (14.44)	74 (20.56)	202 (56.11)	32 (8.89)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS provide food security during lean season	49 (13.61)	75 (20.83)	200 (55.56)	36 (10.00)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS has led to increase family savings	22 (6.11)	35 (9.72)	155 (43.06)	148 (41.11)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS has led to reduce family debts	13 (3.61)	42 (11.67)	176 (48.89)	129 (35.83)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS has brought better work and wage opportunities for poor and weaker sections	41 (11.39)	73 (20.73)	182 (50.56)	64 (17.77)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS led to decreased migration of rural population to urban areas	299 (83.06)	42 (11.67)	12 (3.33)	7 (1.94)	360 (100.00)
MGNREGS impacts on poverty eradication	23 (6.39)	89 (24.72)	215 (59.72)	33 (9.17)	360 (100.00)
Employment generation in rural areas is possible through MGNREGS	16 (4.44)	62 (17.22)	190 (52.78)	92 (25.56)	360 (100.00)

Perceptions of the respondents on level of satisfaction regarding income and livelihood security through MGNREGS are presented in the Table-2. Out of total respondents that a dominated group of 52.22 percent is to some extent and 24.72 percent are yes, to a great extent in which MGNREGS is a steady source of income security. The data reveals that 50.56 percent are said to some extent group and 26.11 percent are said to a great extent in their MGNREGS has improved financial status.

Regarding the MGNREGS is an alternative employment source of income for poor families during unseason, in which 56.11 percent are yes, to some extent and 20.56 percent are to a great extent groups in their performance indicator. Whereas, 55.56 percent have yes, to some extent and 20.83 percent have to a great extent that provided food security during lean season under MGNREGA.

According to the data 43.06 percent is to some extent group and 9.72 percent is to a great extent group in their MGNREGS has led to increase family savings. It is also observed that 48.89 percent said to some extent and 11.67 percent said to a great extent in which MGNREGS has led to reduce family debts.

From this data, it can be understood that 50.56 percent said to some extent and 20.73 percent said to a great extent in which better work and wage opportunities for poor and weaker sections.

It is mentioned in the above table data that majority of respondents are 83.06 percent is completely and 11.67 percent is to a great extent that led to decreased migration of rural population to urban areas. Whereas, 59.72 percent said to some extent and 24.72 percent said to a great extent that impact on poverty eradication.

And finally, it is noticed from the data 52.78 percent are to some extent and 17.22 percent are to a great extent that due to employment generation in rural areas is possible through MGNREGS.

CONCLUSION

According to respondents from rural areas, the MGNREGS has a significant impact on social protection, livelihood security, and democratic empowerment. As a result, it is a potent tool for inclusive growth in rural areas. Through the development of long-lasting assets, enhanced water security, soil conservation, and increased land productivity, MGNREGS offer livelihood security to the impoverished. This programme has raised household income due to increased agricultural production, which has raised living standards for households. It has also resulted in significant salary increases for workers in rural areas. This programme benefits socially excluded people, women in particular, and the SC/ST community. Its plans may also serve as a key indication of the reduction of poverty in rural areas.

REFERENCES

1. Singh. S.P. and Nauriyal, D.K., System and Process Review and Impact Assessment of NREGS in the state of Uttarakhand, Professional Institutional Network, IIT Roorkee. 2009.
2. Pankaj, et.al., Empowerment Effects of the NREGS on Women Workers: A Study in Four States, Economic & Political Weekly EPW July 24, 2010.
3. Dr Sanjay Kumar Pradhan, The NREGA And Rural Women: Employment Opportunities And Challenges, Vol 1, No 2 (2012), International of Academic Conference.
4. Mukesh Chahal and Pardeep Kumar, Impact of MGNREGA on Employment, Journal of Economic Policy & Research, Volume 16 No 1, October 2020-March 2021 pp: 56-63
5. Kumar, S, Role of MGNREGA In Rural Employment: A Review, EPRA International Journal of Economic and Business Review. Volume 2(1), 2014,pp18-22.
6. Lamaan Sami and Anas Khan, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA): A Tool for Employment Generation, International Journal of Social Sciences and Management, Vol. 3, Issue-4, 2016, pp 281-286.

7. T.Srikanth Reddy ,MGNREGS: A Critical Study, International Journal of Research in Social Sciences, Vol. 7 Issue 12, December 2017, pp168-179.
8. Dr. G. Vedanthadesikan, MGNREGA – A Way to Create Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research, Volume 5, Issue 8, August 2018,pp1002-1005.
9. Tripurari Kumar ,A study of correlation between MGNREGA and women empowerment, International Journal of Research in Social Sciences, Vol. 9, Issue 4, April – 2019.

