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A study on Problems and Suggestions of MNREGA

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Abstract

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is an employment programme providing legal guarantee of employment. MNREGA Act would help to protect rural households from poverty and hunger. Rural poverty is the backbone of Indian economic developments. More than 65% of people reside in village. Rural poverty is due to result of low productivity and unemployment. This programme provides an opportunity to create useful assets in rural areas. The Act is likely to lead to a significant reduction of rural-urban migration. Primarily the rural labor obtained seasonal employment, but the resource poor farmers also participated in the scheme more to in Sultanpur district. The study findings indicated that the seasonal migration of rural labor has come down significantly due to the opportunities of employment provided under the scheme. The MNREGA Act 2005 that guarantees 100 days of wages employment in a year to every rural household where adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work. Guaranteed employment can be major sources of empowerment for women and is likely to change power equations in the rural society, and foster a move equitable social order, Creation of durable community, social and economic assets, and Development of infrastructure.

Funds for MNREGA are shared between the Central and State Governments in the proportion of 75:25. This scheme is applicable to families below poverty line (BPL) and above poverty line (APL) but one-third beneficiaries will be women. The main aim of this Act is to enhance the purchasing power of rural people.

The focus of rural development is all encompassing Along with individual, group, or family oriented benefits, it also focuses on community assets in the form of infrastructure, such as water conservation and water-harvesting, Drought proofing including afforestation and tree plantation, Irrigation works, land development, flood control, rural connectivity to provide all weather roads, crèche and first aids etc. This article highlights the issue and challenges being faced by rural institution and MNREGA job card holders.

Keywords: MNREGA, Rural Employment, Rural poverty, empowerment for women

1. Introduction

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) is an employment guarantee scheme implemented in India, which was enacted on 25 August 2005 by parliament. This scheme provides 100 days employment to the adult members of any rural household in every financial year, which is ready to do public work-related unskilled wages on the statutory minimum wage of 220 rupees per day.

This act was started with the objective of increasing the purchasing power of the rural people, mainly for the people living in rural India, semi-skilled or unskilled work, whether they are below the poverty line or not. About one-third of the fixed work force is made up of women. Initially it was called National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), but it was renamed on 2 October 2009.

Statement of Sustainable Development

“Sustainable Development is the process of using, conserving, and enhancing the community’ resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, can be increased.”

1.1. Objective of Research

- To evaluate the Issues and challenges of MNREGA.
- To analyze the implementation process.
- To understand the problem and suggestion of MNREGA by respondents.

1.2. Research Methodology

The present study is intended to identify the issues and challenges of MNREGA and findings and suggestions given by the respondents. Information’s are collected from primary and

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secondary resources. The respondents were selected through convenience sampling from the area of Dubepur block of Sultanpur district, UP.

Sultanpur district is selected purposively for the study undertaken. Another cause for its selection is the close familiarity of investigator with respect to area, people, officials, etc. Out of 13 Community development block in Sultanpur district, the Dubepur Block will be selected purposively for this study because of the criteria of nearer to surveyor villages and its easy accessibility.

The five villages were selected on the randomly basis. The names of village were collected from block office and they were arranged systematically out of five villages were selected for the preset project work.

After the selecting of the village the respondent were selected on the random basis 10 respondents were selected from each selected village In this way the total no. of respondent were selected for present project his 50.

2. Review of Literature

Many literature based on empirical studies are available on the importance of MNREGA to protect rural households from poverty and hunger. The role of MNREGA is achieving livelihood security and promoting sustainable development. These studies depicts that MNREGA programmes has shown mixed result so far in different Panchayats. A household is entitled for 100 days of work in a year. Within the household entitlement, all adult members of a rural household have right to demand employment within 15 days from submitting the application or from the date when employment is sought, employment should be provided by the Gram Panchayat. If the eligible applicant does not get employment within 15 days of demand of work or the date from which he sought work, he shall be provided unemployment allowance. The Gram Sabha will identify works to be taken up. The panchayats have the principle responsibility for planning, implementing and monitoring. Social Audit and Right to information will apply to each aspect of implementation. The Act will be notified in 200 districts identified by the central government in the first phase, with in years it will cover the whole country. This scheme will be financed 75:25 cost sharing basis between central and the state. The central governments launched the National Rural Employment Guarantee programme on 2nd Feb 2006 in a remote village Bandlapalli in Anantpur District of Andhra Pradesh.

2.1. Concept of MNREGA

MNREGA is a centrally sponsored scheme which administered by the Panchayats and Rural Development Departments. Providing guaranteed wage employment for to protect rural households from poverty. The focus of MNREGA is all encompassing. Along with individual, group, or family oriented benefits it also focuses on community assets in the form of infrastructure, such as roads, water conservation and water harvesting, drought proofing including afforestation and tree plantation, healthcare facilities etc. Communication of information is about these programmes through local people. To improve the quality of life of all the members of rural families living below the poverty line, particularly of the children and the women. The MNREGA involves participatory planning and implementation of the scheme through

- (i) Pioneer contribution of Gram Sabha.
- (ii) Hardly and continuous monitoring through social audit.
- (iii) Participation of common respondents at the bottom-up

level.

2.2. System and Procedure of MNREGA Scheme

2.2.1. Make a “shelf of project” which based on decision suggested by the meeting of Gram Sabha.

2.2.2. Make an action plan & transmit it to the B.P.O. office.

2.2.3. Find out the outlay for action.

2.2.4. Determine the felt need of respondents by which roles of MNREGA are complete.

2.2.5. The application for registration would be verified by the Gram Panchayat for finding out whether the applicant resides in that village and is an adult.

2.2.6. Within 15 days from submitting the application or from the date when employment sought, employment should be provided by Gram Panchayat.

2.2.7. Gram Panchayat will inform application where and when to report for worth within 15 days, by means of letter.

2.2.8. Wages are to be paid through bank account.

Monitoring & Evaluation

The principle authorities for monitoring and evaluation of the scheme are Panchayat at the district, intermediate and village levels. The Rural Development Department is going to engage national level monitors for special monitoring of implementation of schemes under MNREGA. The monitoring authority looks at the possibility of overlap of programme Rashtraiya Krishi Vikash Yojana, Bharat Nirman, and watershed development with MNREGA.

All the information will be collected from the field by programme officers. To analyses the performance of the MNREGA programmes by the programme division. The whole process will be completed within 20 days' time from the date of visits.

I. Problems in working of MNREGA

1. Primary aids not available at times.
2. Unavailability of crèche.
3. The MNREGA provide low wages than market wages.
4. Nobody is provides information related to MNREGA.
5. Unavailability of shade during the work at site.
6. In MNREGA the work is not available timely.
7. The goods of respondents/labour are not safe at working hour.

II. Suggestions to improve the working of MNREGA

1. Information should provide to respondent in timely.
2. The work should available when are need it.
3. Our goods and equipment should be protected.
4. Primary aids should be available.
5. Wages of MNREGA should equal to market.
6. Hundred days of work should available.

Complaint of respondent should considered and quick decision taken by Competent Authority.

Conclusion

MNREGA is a scheme that providing that providing 100 days of wage employment in a year to every rural household who is adult. The scheme aims at improving socio-economic condition of the rural households. These studies are focused on the finding and suggestions of MNREGA given by the respondents. Every block is the basic unit of implementation process in this programme. Under this scheme, the major focused on women empowerment and do not migrate towards urban. The collection of data is from the primary sources and

secondary sources. In primary sources is interview/ Questionnaire and in secondary sources are through journals and books. Execution of works and funding are by the government of India. The focus of rural development is all encompassing along with individual, group, or family oriented benefits; it also focuses on community assets community, flood control, water conservation and water harvesting, drought proofing, and land development.

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