



SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF THE MGNREGA BENEFICIARIES (A SPECIAL REFERENCE JEWARGI TALUKA KALABURAGI DISTRICT OF KARNATAKA)

Dr. Girish

Associate Professor of Sociology, Government First Grade College,
Kamalapur Dist: Kalaburagi

ABSTRACT

In 2005, India introduced a national anti-poverty program, now called the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, which offered up to 100 days of unskilled manual labor per year on public works projects. An impact evaluation of the project, however, showed that the program didn't function the way it was designed to and many people who needed work still didn't have it, especially in the poorest states—where work was needed most. The team further examined results from the state of Bihar, India's poorest, to better understand why the program was unable to provide work as intended. The results helped local policy makers design a new program that improved the ability of local government to provide better and more effective social protection programs. The NREGA is unique in the sense that it is sensitive to working conditions of workers, especially women as it advocates for providing accessible worksite (within five kilometer of the workers residence), crèches etc for women with children below six, at least one third of work opportunities must go to women and gender parity of wages, etc. Besides this, there are strong provisions to pre-empt corruption, regular and transparent maintenance of all NREGA documents especially muster rolls, job cards, utilization certificate, etc and their display at the respective Panchayat Offices. Under NREGA, rural laborers have a legal entitlement not only to work on demand but also to minimum wages. The study tries to evaluate the impact of MGNREGA on socio-economic profile of women in Jewargi Taluka of Kalaburagi district, Karnataka.

KEYWORDS : Minimum, Rural, Employment, Empowerment, Development.

INTRODUCTION:

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), also known as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) is Indian legislation enacted on August 25, 2005. The MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage. The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), Govt of India is monitoring the entire implementation of this scheme in association with state governments

This act was introduced with an aim of improving the purchasing power of the rural people, primarily semi or unskilled work to people living below poverty line in rural India. It attempts to bridge the gap between the rich and poor in the country. Roughly one-third of the stipulated work force must be women. Adult members of rural households submit their name, age and address with photo to the Gram Panchayat. The Gram Panchayat registers households after making enquiry and issues a job card. The job card contains the details of adult member enrolled and his /her photo. Registered person can submit an application for work in writing (for at least fourteen days of continuous work) either to Panchayat or to Programme Officer. The Panchayat/Programme officer will accept the valid application and issue dated receipt of application, letter providing work will be sent to the applicant and also displayed at Panchayat office. The employment will be provided within a radius of 5 km; if it is above 5 km extra wage will be paid.

The literature review carried out reflects that though some researchers have done study on NREGS most of those are confined to economic aspect only. It is not comprehensive. Very few people have emphasized on implementation aspects of NREGS. Social aspects are not much highlighted.

In this context an attempt has been made to study the socio-Economic profile of the women Beneficiaries of MGNREGA in Jewargi taluka of Kalaburagi district.

Methodology

Primary data was collated through interview schedule. Researcher has met to the rural women and collected the information through interview schedule.

The secondary data was collected mainly through published works in the form of books, articles, and internet resources.

Scope of the study

Scope means area of the study. The research was restricted to the Jewargi taluka of the Kalaburagi District, Karnataka.

Sampling

For the present study random sampling was resorted for selecting females of different socio economic aspect for the study 150 respondents were selected randomly in the study area.

Tools and techniques used

Both qualitative and quantitative data was analyzed in the backdrop of the research objectives. Quantitative data was tabulated and statistically analyzed using SPSS software. Qualitative data was interpreted based on the information collected from the field. The statistical technique employed to analyze the collected data is Percentage.

Analysis of Data

Socio-Economic Profile of the Beneficiaries:

It's very essential phase of the discussion while making the in-depth study of the social factors like, caste, sex, education, and religion. the economic factors like income land holdings occupation etc.

Age Structure of the beneficiaries :

Especially the programme provide 100 days wage employment for per house holds poor in the study areas actually there is no age limitations. The age classification of the beneficiaries is given in the bellow mentioned table.

Table – 1: Age of the respondents

Sl. No.	Age	Frequency	Percentage
1.	18-25	18	12.0
2.	26-35	56	37.3
3.	36-45	54	36.0
4.	46-65	22	14.7
Total		150	100.0

Source : Primary data

The above table no. 01 reveals that, out of 150 beneficiaries 37.3 respondents are in the age group of 26-35 years, next

highest number of beneficiaries are in the age group of 36-45 years, i.e. 36% respondents and only 12% beneficiaries belong to the age group of 18-25 years. The age group of 46-65 years respondents are 14.7% benefited this scheme. Therefore, the maximum number of beneficiaries come under the age group of 26 to 45 years.

Caste Structure:

Under the MGNREGA programme SC, ST caste people are given more than 50% preference to do work in the study areas. More number of SC, ST people they are living below poverty line. The below mentioned table shows the beneficiaries details according to caste.

Table -2: Caste Wise distribution of the Sample Beneficiaries

Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	GM	2	1.3
2.	SC	46	30.7
3.	ST	40	26.7
4.	OBC	62	41.3
Total		150	100.0

Source : Primary data

The above table-02 shows that, out of 150 respondents the major share is taken by OBCs i.e. 41.3% who belongs to Lingayat & Muslium community. Next 30.7% respondents comes under the social group of SC and 26.7% respondents belongs to ST community and only 1.3% respondents comes under the General casts. Therefore, the maximum benefit of the programme goes to OBC people in the study area.

Marital Status:

Marriage increases the responsibilities, obligations and burden of a person. Under the programme the marital status of the sample beneficiaries are given below table.

Table -3: Marital status of sample beneficiaries

Sl. No.	Marital Status	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Married	127	84.7
2.	Unmarried	9	6.0
3.	Widow	14	9.4
	Total	150	100.0

Source : Primary data

Table, 03 shows that the 84.7% respondents are married, 6.0% respondents unmarried, 0.7% widow and 8.7% widower are worked under the NREGA programme respectively in the study area. The maximum number of married respondents worked in this scheme.

Education level :

Education is one of the important factor, which is playing an important role in social and economic life of the people in the society. The below table shows the clear picture of the level of education.

Table -4: Educational level of sample beneficiaries

Sl. No.	Education Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	79	52.7
2.	Primary	51	34.0
3.	Secondary	20	13.3
4.	Graduate	--	--
5.	Technical	--	--
Total		150	100.0

Source : Primary data

Out of 150 more than half 52.7% respondents are illiterate and 47.3% respondent have education 47.3% the maximum number of people have attended school only primary level. i.e. 34.0% and only 13.3% of respondents have attended level

and none of them were graduate and technical educated. Therefore the table shows that those who have worked under the MGNREGA are illiterate and only primary level educated people.

Family Setup :

The economy of an Indian village is primarily based upon agriculture. Agriculture being the main source of livelihood agriculture land is the most valued property and is the basis of social status. In parsons (1956) view land is the major factor of production. The factor of land provides the most elementary structure of the economy

In Indian society, there are two types families, 1) Joint family and 2) Nuclear family every member of the society following the Indian tradition. The observation made through survey, large number of beneficiaries are belong to joint family.

Table -5: Type of Family

Sl. No.	Type of family	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Joint family	85	56.7
2.	Nuclear family	65	43.3
	Total	150	100.0

Source : Primary data

Above table, 05 exhibited that out of the 150 beneficiaries joint family respondents are 85 56.7% and that of nuclear family are 43.3% beneficiaries. Therefore joint families are gaining more benefits as compared to nuclear families.

Types of House:

Usually the people those work under the MGNREGA they are very poor and they don't have adequate houses in the village. The type of house hold was given below table.

Table -6: Types of House of Sample beneficiaries

Sl. No.	Types of House	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Katcha	34	22.7
2.	Semipucca	70	46.7
3.	Pucca	46	30.7
	Total	150	100.0

Source : Primary data

The above table shows that 46.7% respondent live in the semipucca house, 22.7% respondent live in the Katcha houses and only 30.7% respondent are live in pucca houses. Therefore the maximum number of people doesn't have any proper house in the study area. The Government interduce many housing programme but they are not reach to needful people properly.

Land Holding :

The Jewargi taluka District of Karnataka is most backward district compared to other districts of the Karnataka state. The people of this district are very poor. Among 150 respondents only 40.0% beneficiaries had their own land and 60% beneficiaries were don't have any land of agriculture.

Table -7: Land holdings of sample beneficiaries

Sl. No.	Land Holdings	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Irrigated	10	6.7
2.	Non - Irrigated	140	93.3
	Total	150	100.0

Source : Primary data

Above table 07 reveal that the maximum number of land holdings are dry land holdings i.e. 93.3% and only 6.7% respondents are had irrigated land in the study area. The all 60 land holders are marginal formers. Therefore the maximum beneficiaries are don't had their land and they go to work from village to metro stations.

CONCLUSION:

MGNREGA is widely acclaimed that it provides employment, income and help the rural people to come out of the poverty. The study concluded that despite these shortcomings, this programme enhance their standard of living of the vulnerable section of the society, particularly women who are social, political and economic empowerment of women. The study finds that the 100 days is not sufficient in this region which is facing frequent drought due to inadequate rainfall. Therefore additional 50 days of employment is very well solicited by the workers particularly women folk. There is a direct relationship between education and efficiency of a person. Education is the key that opens the door of prosperity in life which is essentially social in character. It is considered as the harbinger of social change which unlocks the gates of modernizations. Education is an important input for the development process. It is the key to progress as it equips persons with necessary attitude and knowledge for change. Education is the

REFERENCE:

1. Ambasta, J.P. and P. S. Vijay Shankar & Mihir Shah., (2009), "Two years of NREGAS, The Road Ahead", *Economic & Political Weekly*, Vol. 43, No.8, India, PP 70-72.
2. Shah, M. (2004) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act: A Historic opportunity, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol XXX (39), Pp: 5287-5291.
3. Chakraborty, Pinaki, (2007), "Implementation of Employment Guarantee: A Preliminary Appraisal", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 42, No.7, India, PP 545-547.
4. Gopa, K.S., (2009), "NREGA Social Audit: Myths & Reality", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 44, No.3, India, PP 69-71.
5. Mathur Lalit, (2007) "Employment Guarantee: Progress So Far." *Economics and Political Weekly*, December 2007.
6. V.B. Korishetti, (2003), *Female Education A study of Rural India*.