



Women Empowerment Through Mgnrega in Karnataka

Dr.Yankatappa Sabanna

Guest Faculty, Dept. of Women's Studies, P G Center Halalli Bidar

ABSTRACT

The eleventh five year plan marks a significant departure from the conventional way of looking at women in plan document. It tries to mark the centrality of women in all sectors. It explicitly recognizes, probably for the first time, that women are not just equal citizens but agents of economic and social growth. According to UN Women (2013) The Mahatma Gandhi Nation Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in India and the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) in South Africa are examples of important safety nets for women. The study tries to evaluate the impact of MGNREGA on socio-economic empowerment of women in Sedam taluka Kalaburagi district, Karnataka.

KEYWORDS

Women, Rural, Employment, Empowerment, Development

Introduction:

Rural development remains one of the major challenges to policy makers of country, government moving towards to eradicate maladies in rural area and create livelihood security to people. As Gandhi stated India lives in its villages, India village dominated society which more than 68 percent of population resides in rural area, country should provides employment facilities to all people.

A majority of the poor in rural areas of the country depend mainly on the wages they earn through unskilled, casual, manual labour. They are often on threshold levels of subsistence, and are vulnerable to the possibility of sinking from transient to chronic poverty. Inadequate labour demand or unpredictable crises that may be general in nature, like natural disaster or personal like ill-health, all adversely impact their employment opportunities. Progress of a nation is greatly shaped by the status of involvement of women along with their counterpart.

Meaning and Definition of MGNREGA

The National Rural Employment Act is one such policy of Employment Guarantee Scheme (EGS) which is introduced in recent past passed by the Lok Sabha on August 23, 2004 and signed by president of India on September 5, 2005. MNREGA which was launched in 2006 aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage – employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The ongoing programmes of SGRY and National food for work programme have been subsumed under NREGA in these districts, MNREGA will cover all districts of the country within five years.

Need of the study

The present study attempts to understand the impact of the MANAREGA on rural women in the Sedam taluka Kalaburagi, Karnataka. This research will focus on the role of GP to generate sufficient employment opportunities, the procedures for registration, issuance of job cards, and application for employment. This would enable us to understand and examine the institutional mechanisms under which the entire programme is being implemented. The problems and prospects of MGNREGA can then be better understood and accordingly, necessary measures can be devised to make the programme realize its set objectives.

Research Gap

The literature review carried out above 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. The present study discusses both implementation and the impact of NREGS in a rural women's all factors promoted to researcher to choose the present research topic entitled "**WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH MGNREGA IN KARNATAKA (A Special Reference to Sedam taluka Kalaburagi District of Karnataka)**".

Objectives of the study

1. To know the role of MGNREGA on socio-economic empowerment of women in Sedam taluka Kalaburagi
2. To measure the economic empowerment of women in the Sedam taluka through MGNREGA.
3. To suggest alternative ways and means to improve the MANAREGA scheme in the study area and in India.

Hypotheses of the study

- MGNAREGA have direct bearing on socio-economic empowerment of poor women.
- Availability of local employment opportunities reduced the migration of women.

Methodology

Primary data:

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

Secondary data:

The secondary data was collected mainly through published works in the form of books, articles, and internet resources. The investigator was made use of secondary data in order to understand literature review with respect to the topic. From these published works, the researcher has able to theoretically understand the research study.

Scope of the study

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

Sampling

For the study random sampling were resorted to, for females of different ages and deferent socio economy aspects women's. For the study 150 respondents was 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 following statistical techniques were employed to analyze the collected data: Tabulation, Graphical Presentation, Averages, and Percentages etc.

Socio-Economic Profile of the Beneficiaries :

It's very essential phase of the discussion while were making the in-depth study of the programme impact. The social factors like, caste, sex, education, and religion etc., any 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	No. of Respondents	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 reveals that, out of 150 beneficiaries 56(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. 54 (36%) respondents and only 18 (12%) beneficiaries belong to the age group of 18-25 years. The age group of 46-65 years respondents are 22 (14.7%) benefited this scheme. Therefore, the maximum number of men and women beneficiaries come under the age group of 26 to 45 years.

Caste Structure :

Under the NREGA programe SC, ST cast people are given more than 50% preference to do work in the study areas. Because of the Kalaburagi District had more number of SC, ST people and they are all very poor, they me living below poverty line the below mentioned table shows the beneficiaries among the different social groups.

**Table – 2
Caste Wise Classification of the Sample Beneficiaries**

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

Source : Primary data

The above table shows that, out of 150 respondents the major share is taken by OBCs i.e. 62 (41.3%) belongs to Lingayat & Muslium community. Secondary 46(30.7%) respondents comes under the social group of SC and 40 (26.7%) respondents are belongs to ST community and only 2 (1.3%) respondents comes under the General casts. Therefore the maximum benefit of the programme goes to OBC people in the study area.

Occupational Status :

It has been analysed the interview conducted by the beneficiaries the large number of respondents are involved in the field of non-agricultural labour and agricultural labour. Because of they are all very poor and unemployed.

**Table – 9
Occupational Status of Sample beneficiaries**

Sl. No.	Occupational Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Self Employment Agriculture	31	20.7
2.	Agriculture labour	48	32.0
3.	Self employed in non-agriculture	06	4.0
4.	Non- agriculture labour	65	43.3
	Total	150	100.0

Source : Primary data

It is observed that the above table out of 150 beneficiaries, 65 (43.3%) respondents are worked as a non- agricultural labour second highest is 48(32%) respondents are worked as a agricultural labour, 31(20.7%) respondent are worked their own agricultural land but only 6(4%) respondents are self employed in the study area. Therefore the maximum number of respondents are very poor and they are worked as a non-agricultural labour and agricultural labour respectively.

Work Days :

The main objective of NREGA is to provide 100 days employment per house holds of rural poor. During the time of Survey, it has been observed interview by beneficiaries, the maximum days of work is sufficient for your family or not and the all 150 respondents are said their opinion the maximum 100 days of work is not sufficient for them.

**Table – 4
Increase the work days of NREGA**

Sl. No.	Days of Work	Respondents	Percentage
1.	125	1	0.7
2.	150	82	54.7
3.	175	6	4.0
4.	200	61	40.7
	Total	150	100.0

Source : Primary data

Out of 150 sample beneficiaries the maximum number of respondents are demanded to increase the man day in NREGA up to 150 days i.e., 82(54.7) respondents 6(4%) respondents are demanded 175 days 61(40.7%) only 1(0.7) respondents are demanded 125 days. Therefore the maximum number of people wanted should be increase the man days of NREGA programme.

Opinion about the programme :

Among the 150 beneficiaries have excellent opinion about the scheme. It has helps to the rural poors at maximum level. The NREGA provide employment and reduce poverty in the study area. The programe specially reduce the migration in the study area. Each and every beneficiaries in favour of the scheme.

**Table – 5
Opinion about the scheme**

Sl. No.	Opinion about scheme	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Excellent	120	80.0
2.	Good	30	20.0
3.	Not good	--	--
	Total	86	100.0

Source : Primary data

The above table supports the fact of successfulness the scheme. Among 150 respondents 120(80%) respondents expressed their opinion about the scheme as excellent and 30(20%) of the respondent had good opinion about the scheme. The important thing is none of them had bad opinion about the scheme it has been proved that all beneficiaries

were taking benefit from the scheme and they had a excellent and good opinion about the scheme.

Suggestions

1. The success of the programme depends upon its proper implementation. Much of the pitfalls of MGNREGA implementation can be overcome if proper processes and procedures are put in place. Thus, there should be continuous efforts towards creating adequate awareness on different provisions of MGNREGS amongst the people. Creating awareness is necessary not only to motivate the people to work under the scheme but also to encourage them to participate in its planning and implementation.
2. There is also the important role of the Govt. in implementation of MGNREGS. Thus the Govt. must take immediate steps to stop corruption in its implementation by which the MGNREGA wages reaches to the workers directly. We can surely ensure that the money goes to those who need it.
3. There should be the ability and willingness of local Govt. and Panchayat to plan works and run the programmes effectively.
4. A proper monitoring mechanism should be developed that can assure correct procedure in job card.
5. Social Audit should carry out in regular interval

Conclusion:

NREGA 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.

Reference:

1. Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, Chennai (2009). Evaluation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act: In Districts: Cuddlore, Dindugal, Kanchipuram, Nagai, Thiruvallur: State: TamilNadu, May.
2. Jain,S.P. (2001). "Emerging Institutions for Decentralized Rural Development", NIRD Publication, Hyderabad.
3. Karalay, G.N. (2005). "Integrated Approach to Rural Development: Policies, Programmes and strategies", Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi.
4. Kashyap, C. L. (1989). "Management and Planning of Rural Development in India", Sterling publishers, New Delhi.