

A Study on Physical Performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREGS) Scheme in India

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Abstract

In this paper examine the Physical Performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in India between 2011-12 and 2015-16. Results of the analysis reveals that the number of employment demanded with an average of 46945886.8 in crore increases from the year 2012-13 to 2013-14 and gradually decrease thereafter, CAGR of 0.18 per cent on an average every year. The number of employment provided under MGNREG Scheme with an average of 43170757 in crore, declines continuously at CAGR of 4.07 per cent on an average every year, it is understood that declines continuously at CAGR of 2.74, 4.82 and 2.93 per cent of SCs, STs and Women, employment provided under MGNREGA Scheme in India. The CAGR of Women participation is higher than the SCs and STs Participation over all the period.

Key Words: MGNREGA, Physical Performance, Employment Demanded, Employment Provided, Coefficient of Variation (CV) and Compound Growth Rate (CAGR)

I. INTRODUCTION

“India lives in its villages. If villages perish India too perishes” – the statement of our father of nation – Mahatma Gandhi – is valid even today from political, social and economic perspectives. Using public employment as a social security measure and for poverty alleviation measure in rural areas has a long history in India. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005, also known as the "Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act", and abbreviated to MGNREGA. This act was notified by the Government of India on September 7, 2005 and was made effective w.e.f. 2nd February 2006. In India, in the first phase, the National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme (NREGS) was introduced in District Chamba and Sirmour on 2nd February, 2006 and was extended subsequently to additional 113 and 17 districts with effect from April 1st 2007 and May 15th 2007, respectively. The remaining districts were included under the Act with effect from April 1, 2008. Thus,

the Act now covers all the rural districts (659) of the country.

II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The harsh truth that is often lost sight of is that the mandated minimum wage does not have much sanctity in rural areas where the actual wages are determined by demand-supply equilibrium which varies with cropping season. Aligning wages under MNREGA with minimum wages would distort the rural labour market further. Besides, it would pose difficulties for the Centre to strike a balance in allocating MGNREGA funds to different states. A better bet would, perhaps, be to fix a reasonable central wage rate and let the state governments augment it from their own resources if they so wish. This apart, the guaranteed employment under MGNREGA has restrained the usual seasonal labour migration, which had become the mainstay of farming in agriculturally progressive, but labour-starved, states. This has caused acute shortage of labour for agriculture. Particularly hit are plantations in the southern states, notably Kerala, and the cultivation of labour-intensive crops like rice, wheat and sugarcane. The farmers are forced to incur additional expenses for using machines and energy for doing farm operations which were earlier performed manually by migratory labour at far lower costs.

III. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Dr.KalaraniRengasamy and B.Sasi Kumar (2011), made an attempted to analyze the state-wise performance of the MGNREGA and its impact on various streams of agriculture and rural agricultural wages. To start with, funding of the scheme has been very balancing between the state and centre. It ranges around 80:20 of share to the implementation of scheme between the Centre and the States. In terms of employability, states that around 13,332 crore person days are created and 7.08 lakh assets are built out of 25.98 lakh taken up under the programme. Of the total person days created, 51.02 percent are the person days by the women labourers. When it comes to coverage of population, the states that claim to have covered more than 50 percent of the households are Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, with both of

them having poverty rates that are much higher than the national average; followed by Bihar and Jharkhand, with over 30 per cent coverage but very high levels of poverty. Besides, at the total expenditures suggests that Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan have distributed Rs.10-17 billion as wage payments followed by Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Bihar, with the utilized amounts ranging between Rs.5 and 10 billion each. Ultimately, it is worth mentioning here that the MGNREGS has benefited the agricultural labourers not only directly, but also indirectly as the scheme pressured the Minimum Agricultural Wage Rate (MAWR) to be increased.

Dr.G.Xavier and G.Mari (2014), made an study tries to evaluate the impact of MGNREGA on socio- economic empowerment of women in Kalakannai Panchayat of Sivaganga district, Tamil Nadu. It further analyses various risk associated with the women during the working time of MGNREGA. The study finds that the MGNREGA increases income and expenditure of the households compared over the pre-MGNREGA period and the scheme significantly enhances the social and economic decision making power to women in the men dominated rural society. Hence the scheme ensures improved standard of living of the vulnerable poor, more specifically among women. It also finds that poor worksite facility, hot climate condition and reduction of leisure time put them much hardship during the working hours of MGNREGA.

Mehrag-ud-din Bhat, Nazia Wani and Imran Ahmad Khan (2015), this paper examines both financial and physical performance of MGNREGA in the State by focusing on the issues like job cards issued, man-days generated, employment provided to households, works taken up and completed and also the supportive staff engaged. After the proper analysis of the data it was found that performance of the scheme in the State is far from satisfactory and state has to work hard to make the scheme purposeful and goal oriented.

IV. STATUS OF MGNREGS IN INDIA

Table No.1 : Table Showing details about Number of Districts, Blocks and GPs in India as on 19.04.2017

1.Total No. of Districts	684
2.Total No. of Blocks	6,863
3.Total No. of GPs	2,62,839
Source: http://www.mgnrega.nic.in/netnrega/home.aspx	

Table No. 2 : Table Showing Job Card details about MGNREGS in India as on 19.04.2017

I Job Card	
1.Total No. of Job Cards issued [In Cr]	12.49
2.Total No. of Workers [In Cr]	25.31
3.Total No. of Active Job Cards [In Cr]	6.6
4.Total No. of Active Workers[In Cr]	10.2
5.(i)SC worker against active workers [%]	20.31
6.(ii)ST worker against active workers [%]	16.58
Source: http://www.mgnrega.nic.in/netnrega/home.aspx	

V. STATUS OF MGNREGS IN TAMILNADU

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was enacted in September 2005. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was launched on 02.02.2006 and was initially implemented in six districts, viz., Cuddalore, Dindigul, Nagapattinam, Sivagangai, Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram from 02.02.2006 onwards and in four more districts viz. Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Tirunelveli and Karur from 01.04.2007 onwards. From 01.04.2008 onwards, the scheme was extended to the remaining twenty districts of the State which are; 1. Ariyalur, 2.Dharmapuri, 3.Perambalur, 4.Pudukottai, 5.Ramanathapuram, 6.Namakkal, 7.Vellore, 8.Thoothukudi, 9.Virudhunar 10.Salem, 11.Erode, 12.Tiruchirapalli, 13.Kancheepuram 14.Theni, 15.Tiruvallur, 16.Madurai, 17.Nilgiris, 18.Kanniyakumari, 19.Coimbatore and 20.Krishnagiri and 21.Tiruppur.

A. Objective

The present research work is carried out with the objective of study the physical performance of MGNREGS under Panchayat Raj System in India.

B. Methodology

The convenient sampling technique is adopted to study the physical performance of MGNREGS in India.

C. Source of Data

The present study is primarily based on secondary data. The data were collected from annual reports of Ministry of Rural Development, journals, periodicals and websites.

D. Period of the Study

The present study covers a period of 5 years from 2011-12 to 2015-16. The reason for confining the study to this period is the availability of the latest data in the Government publications and various websites.

E. Statistical Techniques

To analyze the collected data, various statistical techniques like mean, standard deviation and co-efficient of variation and Compound Annual Growth Rate are used.

VI. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table No. 3 : Table showing Number of Households who have Demanded Employment and Provided Employment under MGNREGS Scheme in India

Year	Number of Households who have Demanded Employment in India (In Crore)	Number of Households Provided Employment in India (In Crore)
2011-12	4,12,91,854	4,07,56,698
2012-13	5,13,89,772	4,98,16,406
2013-14	5,17,52,717	4,75,62,524
2014-15	4,65,03,201	4,13,97,121
2015-16	4,37,91,890	3,63,21,036
Total	23,47,29,434	21,58,53,785
Mean	46945886.8	43170757
SD	4608836.23	5462243.39
CV	9.82	12.65
CAGR	0.18%	-4.07%

Source: Compiled from Annual Reports of Ministry of Rural Development

As seen from table -3 the number of employment demanded with an average of 46945886.8 in crore increases from the year 2012-13 to 2013-14 and gradually decrease thereafter and CAGR of 0.18 per cent on an average every year. The number of employment provided under MGNREG Scheme with an average of 43170757 in crore, declines continuously at CAGR of 4.07 per cent on an average every year.

Table No. 4 : Table showing Details of Employment provided to SC, ST and Women under MGNREGS Scheme in India

Year	SCs	STs	Women
Person days in Lakhs			
2011-12	3091.96	2435.71	6735.26
2012-13	5096.03	4075.49	11792.63
2013-14	4925.77	3722.21	11514.98
2014-15	3722.96	2830.26	6731.89
2015-16	3147.55	2283.30	7681.47
Total	19984.27	15346.97	44456.23
Mean	3996.85	3069.39	8891.25
SD	959.97	792.95	2553.266
CV	24.02	25.83	28.72
CAGR	-2.74%	-4.82%	-2.93%

Source: Compiled from Annual Reports of Ministry of Rural Development

From the observation of the above table, it is understood that declines continuously at CAGR of 2.74, 4.82 and 2.93 per cent of SCs, STs and Women, employment provided under MGNREGA Scheme in India.

Table No. 5 : Table showing Percentage of SC, ST and Women in Employment Participation under MGNREG Scheme in India

Year	% of SC Participation	% of ST Participation	% of Women Participation
Person days in Lakhs			
2011-12	22.50	17.73	49.02
2012-13	22.17	17.73	51.30
2013-14	22.63	17.10	52.90
2014-15	22.69	16.64	55.52
2015-16	23.32	19.92	56.92
Total	113.31	86.12	265.66
Mean	22.66	17.22	53.13
SD	0.42	0.49	3.18
CV	1.85	2.85	5.98
CAGR	0.95%	-1.56%	3.85%

Source: Compiled from Annual Reports of Ministry of Rural Development

It is inferred from the above table that SCs Participation, ranging between 22.17 per cent and 23.32 per cent, stands at 22.66 per cent on the average during the period. Further, the SCs participation remains stable throughout the study period. The STs Participation in MGNREGA Scheme in India is less than its SCs participation in all the years. On the average also, STs Participation is less than the SCs participation over the period. However the Women participation, ranging between 49.02 per cent and 56.92 per cent, stands at 53.13 per cent on the average during the period. Further, the women participation remains stable throughout the study period. The CAGR of Women participation is higher than the SCs and STs Participation over all the period.

VII. CONCLUSION

MGNREGS is most ambitious anti-poverty scheme launched anywhere in the world. It aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose member volunteer to do unskilled manual work. It also mandates one-third participation of women in total person days generated. Strengthening the livelihood resource base of the poor; proactively ensuring social inclusion and Strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Through this programme the Government tries to eradicate the poverty of society in India.

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