

Role Of MNREGA In Rural Women Empowerment**Dr.Ashok Kumar Bhati****Bikaner****Rajasthan**

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Abstract

The present study revealed that the participation level and women empowerment of females in MGNREGA. The study further reflected that decision making power of women improving after the implementation of this wage employment programme. MGNREGA is the first ever law that provide guarantees of wage employment to the rural population at an unprecedented scale and strengthening the natural resources through works. The main concern of this paper is to study the participation level of males and females in MGNREGA and also to find out the obstacles in the path of implementation of this scheme.

Keywords: Empowerment, Wage employment, MNREGA**Introduction**

Women not only play an important role in their domestic work but also active participant in outdoor activities as well. But beyond this, the status of women is always considered next to men and raises many problems related to women. MGNREGA is one of the initiatives to provide a guarantee of employment to rural population specifically unskilled labour, promote the concept of inclusive growth, Job within 15 days and guaranteed employment upto 100 days. In India, majority of population is residing in rural areas and their main source of occupation is agriculture. But now the scenario is that agriculture and its productivity is shown poor results over the period of time. Priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one third of benefit shall be given to women who have registered and requested for work. In ninth five year plan the conceptual strategy was made to empowerment of women in all aspects like service, infrastructure, resources and man-power. In tenth year plan also consider three aspects as social empowerment of women, economic development of women and gender Justice.

Review Literature

- Women always considered as undervalued, unacknowledged and invisible but actually they carry huge mass of unpaid household (Donahoe, 1999; Hirway, 2005).

- Liu and Deininger (2013) look at the impact of MGNREGA participation on nutritional consumption and asset accumulation in Andhra Pradesh. They find that this programme increases the consumption expenditure and asset accumulation.
- Sarkar, Kumar and Supriya (2011) suggest that this programme improved the socio-economic condition in West Bengal.
- Women's work is "never done, and poorly paid" (Ghosh, 2009).
- Women have limited paid employment opportunities outside of the home in India (Bourmpoula, Kapsos and Silberman, 2016; Mehrotra et al., 2016).
- Kar (2009) stated in his study that MGNREGA may women's empowerment, including:
 - (i) effects on income consumption (rise in income of women workers)
 - (ii) intra-household effects (allowing women to access paid work which enhance decision-making roles at home)
 - (iii) community effects (women's participation in local governance processes increased).
- Panjak and Tankha (2010) conducted a wide study in Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh and found that paid MGNREGA employment changed women status as they have greater choice and capabilities.
- Ghosh, J (2008) wrote in an article, that MGNREGA increasing employment level directly and indirectly and provides basic consumption stability to poor. The above literature shows that the women face many problems like economic dependence, inequality in wages, social discriminations, cultural barriers etc.

Conclusion

Women are an important part of our society but in India their status is always considered is next to men. MGNREGA had a positive impact on the socio-economic conditions of the female. It enabled the beneficiaries to have two square meals a day, reduced the level of poverty by providing job and contributed to increase in the consumption expenditure. From this they become self independent, active participator in the community development, improvement in the decision making process in the village and their family respectively. MGNREGA become a new light and hope of ray for rural women which provide recognition in the society through including the women in the community level work.

Policy Implementation

- Increase the Financial inclusion at village level from which more assert and employment created at the village level.
- Nature of work should be female supportive which helps to increase women participation.
- There is a need to improve the system of payment.
- The process of payment is early as possible as which neither influence the standard of living.
- Hilly areas mainly suffering from the employment opportunities as they have no source
- This program should be implemented effectively by providing large scale of employment in the hill areas which helps in to improve the standard of living.
- Increase the wage rate in MGNREGA.
- Proper auditing should be done through an extra government agency which helps in analysis that funding is properly utilized or not.

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