

Original Research Article

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MNREGA: Socio-Economic Profile of Women Empowerment in Purabazar Block of Faizabad District, India

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ABSTRACT

The present research was conducted in Purabazar block of Faizabad district to assess the impact of MNREGA on women empowerment. The data was collected through personal interview with help of interview schedule. The data finalized and tabulated was done with the use of percentage, mean and standard deviation for drawing the inferences with variables on the basis of data it was observed that the MNREGA job holder belongs to below poverty line. The results revealed that Age maximum number of the women respondents belongs to middle age (28–42 years) group that is (66%). Maximum numbers of the respondents were illiterate (52%) and literate (48%). The maximum number of respondents Scheduled caste (62.00%), followed by (23%) other backward caste, (12%) general caste and (3%) scheduled tribes respectively. The residing in joint family system (55%) respondent's followed by single family system (45%). That maximum (34.00%) of the respondents were found in the income categories of (Rs.61, 000-72,000), the average income was observed to Rs.58786.0 with a range of minimum (Rs.30000) and maximum (Rs.79500).

Keywords

MNREGA,
Women,
empowerment,
Participation,
Socio-economic.

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Introduction

The Government of India Has Passed the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, (NREGA) 2005 guarantees 100 days of employment in a financial year to any rural household whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work. The law was initially called the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and was renamed with the prefix “Mahatma Gandhi” on 2 October 2009, Gandhi’s birth anniversary (Anonymous, 2009). MNREGA is a job guarantee scheme for rural Indians. It was enacted by legislation on 25 August

2005, but the act was come into force on 2 February, 2006 and implemented in phased manner. In phase one; it was introduced from the Anantpur District of Andhra Pradesh in 200 districts of the most backward Districts of the country (Das *et al.*, 2013; Kumar, 2011; Patel, 2008). It was implemented in an additional 130 Districts in phase two during 2007-08. MNREGA covers the entire country with the exception of Districts that have a cent percent urban population. The scheme provides a legal guarantee for at least 100 days of paid employment in every financial

year to adult members of any household willing to do unskilled manual work related to public work at the statutory minimum wage of Rs.142 /day in 2013-14. If they fail to do so the government has to pay the salary at their homes. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) in September 2005 (Pratapmal, 2007). It addresses mainly to rural poor and their fundamental right to work and dignity. It also empowers local citizens to play an active role in the implementation of employment guarantee schemes through Grama Sabha, Social Audit, Participatory planning and other means. It is considered being a landmark in the history of poverty reduction strategies in India. This scheme intends to provide employment to the rural poor during lean agricultural season and aims to create village asset and bring sustainable development. Further, the attempt is to provide adequate employment to women at equal wage. The program there for requires 2/3 of all workers are women so many studies reveal that MGNREGA was implemented for the growth and development of rural area by ensuring 100 days of employment. There is 33% reservation for women and there are expectations that 40% of the employment benefits would go to women. The scheme would benefit the BPL families in that the income of at least one member and per capita expenditure will go up. When a detailed study conducted regarding this topic by selecting 100 samples from a panchayat, it is clear that, most of the panchayat has taken initiative to implement this scheme. The main objective of this study is to evaluate and understand the impact of MGNREG in socio-economic development and women empowerment.

Materials and Methods

The present study is intended to identify the impact of MNREGA on socio-economic development and women empowerment. The various methods and procedures that are used

in the selection of area, locale of study, sampling designs and procedures of data collection, different variables under study, their empirical measurements and statistical methods employed for the analysis of the data. Faizabad district was selected purposively for the study because its close familiarity to investigator with respect to area, people, officials, and the Pura Bazar block has been selected purposively for this study because of the criteria of nearer to researcher villages and its easy accessibility. A list of all the villages in the selected block i.e. Purabazar, procured from the block headquarter in which MNREGA was running. Then, the villages were arranged on the basis of fund utilization under MNREGA. From this list, the more than 300 women MNREGA job card holder, total number of villages were 105 from which 10 villages within surrounding area of the block headquarter were selected purposely. The selected 10 villages. Further the list of job card holder families was prepared and arranged on the basis of maximum number of women job card holder in each selected village. At second stage, a total 100 job card holder were selected from the prepared list on the basis of maximum number of women through proportionate random sampling technique from the selected villages. A structured schedule for data collection was designed and exercised by interviewing with few respondents for pre-testing. Then, the suitable modifications were made according to need of this study. Thereafter data were collected from the MNREGA respondent through personal interview method. And statistical methods used the 'percentage' and 'average' S.D and rank order were used for making simple interpretation.

Results and Discussion

Socio economic profile of women respondents in MNREGA: The data of socio-economic status of women respondents in

MNREGA presented in table 1 the result revealed that the majority of the 66 percent belong to age group of 28 to 42 years. The education status revealed that 52 percent of illiterate and they belong to schedule castes of

62 percent. The majority 55 percent women respondents of MNREGA belonging to joint family system and the majority 50 percent women respondents were having 6 to 10 members in a family.

Table.1 Socio economic profile of women respondents in MNREGA

socio economic profile of women respondent	No. of women respondent	percentage of women respondents
Age		
below 27	16	16.00
28 to 42	66	66.00
43 and above	18	18.00
Education level		
Illiterate	52	52.00
Literate	48	48.00
Can read and write	14	14.00
Primary	18	18.00
Middle	11	11.00
High school	5	5.00
Caste		
General caste	12	12.00
Other Back ward caste	23	23.00
Scheduled caste	62	62.00
Scheduled Tribes	3	3.00
Type of family		
Single family	45	45.00
Joint family	55	55.00
Family size		
up to 5 members	34	34.00
6 to 10 member	50	50.00
11 and above	16	16.00
Land holding (Area in acres)		
Land less	5	05.00
below 2.5 acre	91	91.00
2.5 to 5 acre	4	04.00
Type of house		
Hut	4	04.00
Kuchcha	26	26.00
Mixed	64	64.00
Paccka	5	05.00
Annual Income (Rs.)		
Below 40000	04	04.00
40001-50000	25	25.00
50001-60000	28	28.00
60001-70000	34	34.00
70001 and above	09	09.00

It is evidence from table 1 that the majority 91 percent of women respondents were having below 2.5 acers land. The majority 64 percent of women respondents mixed type of house. The majority 34 percent of the income group of Rs.60001–70000/annum. The studies on the impact of MGNREGA on women empowerment, the data pertaining to MGNREGA in the study area have been analyzed in the following pages. Data presented in table 1 showed that socio economic status of women respondents of MNREGA.

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