

# NEW ERA AGRICULTURE MAGAZINE

#### IMPACT OF MGNREGA IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Jyoti Verma<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Ravi Prasad Srivastava<sup>2</sup>, Aman Verma<sup>3</sup>

#### **ABSTRACT**

This paper analysis the extent to which the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 (MGNREGA) impacted women in rural areas. The scheme's impact on the rural labour market, on female empowerment and its indirect impact on education and poverty. The results suggest the progress and benefited to women. It increased their wages, reduced the gender gap, increase the probability of women being employed and increased the ability to meet there own needs. The poverty level of participants also reduced.

#### INTRODUCTION:

The act was enacted on 25th August 2005 as a National Rural employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). NREGA was first launched at Anantpur district of Andhra Pradesh in February 2006. The scheme provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult member of any rural household willing to

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do public work related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage of Rs. 100/day. All the manual wages are provided by the central government.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF MGNREGA:**

1. To address poverty:-The scheme aims to provide livelihood opportunities to the rural poor improve their income and reduce poverty.



#### Jyoti Verma<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Ravi Prasad Srivastava<sup>2</sup>, Aman Verma<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>P.G. Scholar, <sup>2</sup>Prof. & HOD, <sup>3</sup>Research Scholar <sup>1,2</sup>Department of Agricultural Extension, K.A.P.G. College Prayagraj. <sup>3</sup>Department of Extension Education, ANDUA&T Kumarganj Ayodhya

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#### 2. To Enhance Rural Infrastructure:-

The scheme provide employment opportunities in the creation of basic infrastructure like roads water harvesting and irrigation facilities.

- **To Empower Women**:- The scheme provides equal opportunities for women to participate in the work done and decent livelihood.
- 4. To Improve Agriculture

  Productivity:-The schemes also aims to improve agricultural productivity by investing in water conservation,land development and livestock management.
- 5. To Create Assets:- The work done MGNREGA create productive assets in rural areas which can lead to sustainable rural development.

## IMPACTS OF MGNREGA IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

The MGNREGA has positive impact on empowerment and employment pattern of women in recent years. It's aim at enhancing livelihood security by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household especially for women. It has also a positive impact on agricultural productivity, production-related expenditure and income per household.

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#### **ISSUES AND CHALLENGES:**

### 1. Demand for work and unemployment allowance

There is a conscious stopping of work by the state government during certain seasons. Rationing of demand greatly challenges the poverty alleviation potential of the scheme. Non-provision of dated receipts and work within 15 days and non-payment of unemployment allowance are the major process constraints.

#### 2. Impact on agricultural labours

Data from some studiesdemonstrate that there has been a change in the composition of the MGNREGA labour force where more agriculture labour is participating in the scheme. As in rural India there is the majority of structural unemployment which arises due to agricultural work, and in time where were unemployed, they get themselves involve in other unskilled work. Here MGNREGA plays a chief role by generating employment.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

MGNREGA is an effective device for poverty alleviation and improving socio-economic condition of the poor particularly rural women. It has played a significant role in bringing positive change in the life of rural women. It has been observed that women after working under MGNREGA have gained protection and opportunity to start saving their



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wages in the banks. The recognition for the rural women has increased which lead to their active participation in solving the common problems of the locality in general and individual problems of women in particular.

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