IJNRD.ORG ISSN : 2456-4184
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NOVEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (IJNRD) | IJNRD.ORG
An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

A Study on Impact of Employment Generation under MGNREGA in Theni District, Tamilnadu.

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Abstract

The study has examined the impact of Employment Generation under MGNREGA .This study is eminent based on the primary data collected from the sample respondents by applying the Random sampling method. The MGNREGA programme creating Employment Generation among skilled and unskilled workers. It is the world largest social welfare scheme. The unemployed youth in the age bracket of 18-30 got employment for 100 days a year. According to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), this scheme has played a vital role in reducing poverty among the poor as well as the socially weaker sections .No matter how good a program is, there is always scope for improvisation[1].

Key words: MGNREGA, Employment Generation, socio economic development.

Introduction

``Poverty is the parent of revolution and crime''-Aristotle.

Poverty as the condition where the basic needs of a family, like food, shelter, clothing and education are not fulfilled .It can lead to other problems like poor literacy, unemployment, malnutrition etc.A poor person is not able to get education due to lack of money and therefore remains unemployed.

The problem of rural unemployment had worsened after the initiation of the economic reforms in India in the early nineties. As a result of this, the gap between the rich and the poor, widened in urban areas. A healthy economy required a strong rural base in addition to, reduction in the achievement of poverty, creation of employment opportunities and in minimizing inequalities in the income level.

Few employment Generation programmes had created as much popularity as the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 or NREGA No. 42, later the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh renamed as the "Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act". (MGNREGA), is an Indian Labour law and social security measure that aims to guarantee the 'right to work'.[4&5]

Review of Literature

There are many studies conducted related to the impact of Employment Generation under MGNREGA, which are reviewed as follows:

Alam, ShabbirMd et al., (2014)[2] conducted a study on "Good Governance and Employment Generation through MGNREGA" with the objectives to analyze the mechanism of implementation of the MGNREGA in India, to examine the level of employment generated by the scheme in India and to evaluate whether MGNREGA is possible to achieve the good governance through its various features, to check whether participation of people Under MGNREGA is active or not

The Act is particularly a total of empowerment for the most vulnerable sections of the village communities as they are also victims of social exclusion and political marginalization. Secondly it has stimulated mobilization of the poor for livelihood within the legitimate frame work of governance.

Thirdly, MGNREGA has made a dent on poverty by both increasing employment opportunities and raising the wage rate. And fourthly, it has strengthened the process of participatory democracy through economic decentralization and by giving significant roles to the panchayatraj institutions (PRIs) the rural poor classes communities and the civil society groups.

Sarbajit Paul (2016)[3] conducted study on "Role of MGNREGA on Rural and Employment Generation and Development: A Descriptive Study". The objectives of the paper is to be make a comprehensive study on the MGNREGA to fulfill this objective an in-depth analysis on need of the MGNREGA, benefits and applicability of MGNREGA, challenges before MGNREGA implementation. The present status of MGNREGA in rural areas of India as well as West Bengal in recent years has been highlighted.

The researcher stated that the MGNREGA is the ever largest rural employment generation programmes in India since independence. This poverty alleviation initiative not only secures 100 days job and minimum earnings for every adult of every household but at the same time it satisfied some other important aspects e.g. environment protection and sustainable development, gender equality and women empowerment, sustainable asset creation and mitigation of the migration problem.

MGNREGA has come into the rural life as a ray of light. Participants of MGNREGA have been relieved from poverty and hunger. Poor villagers are releasing themselves from the high interest bearing local credit and create some household assets by the earnings of the scheme. Above all it is not overstated that the primary objective of the proposal the right to job for all and overall rural welfare has been fulfilled and the project creates job guarantee and strengthens the rural livelihood security.

Objective of the Study

- To study about the impact of employment generation under MGNREGA through economic status of the sample respondents in the study area.

Hypotheses

H0: There is no association between the MGNREGA Scheme and Employment Generation of the sample respondent.

Research Methodology

The researcher collected the primary data. A comprehensive interview schedule was used including information by personal interview method from the selected sample respondent.

Sample Design

In order to analyse the impact of Employment Generation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in Theni district, 613 sample respondent under the scheme were randomly selected on the basis of proportionate stratified Random sampling method from four villages Panchayat in Theni District.

Tools of Analysis

Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used for analytical purpose of the study and simple, statistical tools such as

- Paired sample 'T' Test

Paired Sample 'T' Test

This is not independent samples, but the same sample could be used to do a research study involving two measurements. This test is used in order to study the MGNREGA Sample Respondents, MGNREGA Scheme joining Before Employment, MGNREGA after Employment Generation.

Impact of Employment Generation under MGNREGA

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is the flagship programme aiming at enhancing livelihood security of rural households, by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

So people in rural area are more benefited out of this scheme. So it was decided to study the Employment Generation of the sample respondents Before and After joining the MGNREGA by testing Hypotheses.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

This chapter had made an attempt to present the socio-economic characteristics of the MGNREGA workers in the study area. In this chapter, the impact of employment Generation through MGNREGA Scheme on income and expenditure, pattern in Theni District of Tamil Nadu is discussed.

TABLE .1

Computed paired Sample `T' Test for Employment Generation

Variable	No. of sample Respondent	Mean	Std. Deviation
MGNREGA Before working days	613	160.1925	11.938
MGNREGA After working days		259.9804	11.477

Paired differences

Mean difference	Std deviation	t value	Degrees of freedom	2 tail significance
-99.7879	4.253	-580.85	612	.000

Estimated Results: Paired `T' test for Employment Generation

From the estimated results it is inferred that the estimated `t' value is -580.85 which is significant at 5% level. Therefore reject the null hypothesis that the MGNREGA programme does not generate employment. i.e. after joining MGNREGA scheme the no. of working days has been increased.

Table.2

Computed Paired sample `T' test for Income, Expenditure, estimated results

Variable	Mean difference	Std Deviation	T Value	Degree of freedom	2 tail Significance
Before After Income	-16060.8	580.765	-684.70	612	.000
Before After expenditure	-10866.2	1925.565	-139.65	612	.000

From the estimated results it is inferred that the estimated `t' value is Income -684.70, Expenditure -139.65 which is significant at 5% level. Therefore the rejected the null hypothesis. That is after joining MGNREGA scheme the influence the level of income, expenditure.

Conclusion

Amid the MGNREGA beneficiaries feel positive after joining MGNREGA scheme, because before the scheme sample respondents working days low. But this scheme providing 100 days wage employment in a financial year to every household. So before the scheme sample respondents Income, was very low in the study area. After the scheme increase there is an in the Income of family. Mainly the financial support from government to improve the economic status of MGNREGA sample respondents.

Findings

- The Paired sample't' test used. There is no association between the MGNREGA scheme and employment generation of the sample respondent.

- The inferred result that before and after employment generation `t' value of -580.85 being greater than significance level of 0.05. So the null hypothesis is rejected. The paired sample't' test used for income, expenditure, also conclude the result.
- There is no association between MGNREGA scheme and sample respondents income per annum.
- Before and after MGNREGA sample respondent income this `t' value of -684.70 being greater than the significance level of 0.05, so the null hypothesis rejected.
- There is no association between MGNREGA scheme and sample respondents expenditure per annum.
- Before and after MGNREGA sample respondent expenditure this `t'value of -139.65 being greater than the significance level of 0.05, so the null hypothesis rejected.

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