



IMPACT OF MGNREGS ON RURAL HOUSEHOLDS IN RAYALASEEMA REGION OF ANDHRA PRADESH.

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Abstract

About 27 per cent of the country's rural population is poor as per the Planning Commission Report 1999-2000 for the poor in rural parts of the country, addressing their basic needs and livelihood is still an issue. Degradation of natural resources, deforestation, recurring droughts and calamities are threatening the livelihood of the poor laying tremendous pressure on their day-to-day survival. This is sometimes resulting in migration of poor from rural to urban areas increasing their risk. Keeping in view of this rural scenario, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was promulgated on September, 2005 by the government of India. Hence the present study entitled "Administration and Implementation of poverty alleviation programmes with special reference to MGNREGP in Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh" makes an attempt to assess the administrative implications of scheme and its impact on rural livelihoods.

key words: *Rural Economy, Poverty, MGNREGS, Employment.*

Introduction

The conditions of rural people especially agricultural laborers and small and marginal farmers are quite deplorable. Besides, rural areas like Rayalaseema wherein droughts & famine situations are frequently occurring. Large number of small and marginal farmers in these areas are committing suicides due to frequently failure of crops. On the other hand, agricultural laborers are migrating to nearest towns for their livelihood and living & leading a miserable life. Keeping in view all these factors, policy -makers in India introduced various wage employment guarantee programmes. But they failed to yield desired results. The new UPA coalition government at the centre in its Common Minimum Programme promised that it would enact a legislation, which guarantees right to work for unskilled rural people. As promised, the MGNREGA legislation got passed in parliament. But unfortunately, soon after its implementation, various studies and reports noticed several drawbacks in the scheme.

Adeppa (2014) investigates a study on "implementation and impact of MGNREGS: A study on Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh". This study has been conducted in the gram panchayats covering and 90 beneficiaries of MGNREGAS. The study found that statutory minimum 100 days of work implemented in provided to only less 33 per cent of households and MGNREGA has a positive impact on the daily wage rate in the agriculture and allied sectors.

Debasish Biswas (2014) concludes that the level of performance of MGNREGA in Jalpaiguri district in West Bengal is quite satisfactory. In this study area 100 working days employment is very much satisfactory. Participation in this district is also above 40 per cent. At present 92 per cent fund has been utilized for planning, implementation and mentoring of MGNREGS. The average number of day's employment in Jalpaiguri district is 64.11 days.

Padma (2015) she conducted a study on "performance of MGNREGA in Andhra Pradesh". In her study found that the fact that job cards are not issued to 100 percent households and also the fact that very few households completed 100 days work through MGNREGA indicates that there is no scarcity of labour in rural areas (www.mgnrega.nic.in). Even if scarcity exists it is not due to MGNREGA but some other factor, which we have to look out. MGNREGA through wage employment and assets creation, which improve agricultural productivity, enhanced the demand in rural areas. Besides, public investment in employment and asset creation is necessary to compensate the deficiency of private investment to revive agrarian economy. MGNREGA is not only necessary but also it has to be strengthened through convergence of various departments to pool technology, skill and resource for efficient delivery. MGNREGA created employment and hence income to hitherto excluded sections and thereby it lead to achieve inclusive growth in rural areas.



Significance of the study

Unemployment and poverty are interrelated and predicament to economic growth of any country in general and India in particular. In India, these are the two problems that are severe in rural areas. The effective implementation of the MGNREG Act launched in the year 2006 brought satisfactory results in reaching the challenges of poverty, unemployment and building rural infrastructure. Therefore, the findings of the present study would help the policy-makers in framing new guidelines for effective implementation of MGNREGS in bringing socio-economic development of the region and also in mitigating the problems of poverty and unemployment in rural India.

Need for the study

The conditions of rural people especially agricultural laborers and small and marginal farmers are quite deplorable. Besides, rural areas like Rayalaseema wherein droughts & famine situations are frequently occurring. Large number of small and marginal farmers in these areas are committing suicides due to frequently failure of crops. On the other hand, agricultural laborers are migrating to nearest towns for their livelihood and living & leading a miserable life. Keeping in view all these factors, policy -makers in India introduced various wage employment guarantee programmes. But they failed to yield desired results. The new UPA coalition government at the centre in its Common Minimum Programme promised that it would enact a legislation, which guarantees right to work for unskilled rural people. As promised, the MGNREGA legislation got passed in parliament. But unfortunately, soon after its implementation, various studies and reports noticed several drawbacks in the scheme. There are a few studies on NREGS, but they have not focused more on administrative as well as operational aspects of the scheme in Rayalaseema districts of A.P. the present study is an humble attempt in this direction.

Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To review and study the Rural Developmental programmes in India.
2. To evaluate the functioning and progress of the MGNREGP Programme in the study area.
3. To analyse the perceptions of selected beneficiaries in study area about the programme.
4. To draw the conclusions.

Methodology

The methodological aspects of the study such as the area of the study, the universe of the sample, sources of data, analysis of data and the plan of the study have been hereunder.

Source of data

The data of the study is based on both primary and secondary sources. The primary sources material related to the field are collected through interview schedule from sample beneficiaries relating to the implementation and eliciting their opinions on various aspects of the scheme in the four districts of Rayalseema Region. Informal discussions were also made with the administrative officials who are linked with the programme on the practical problems being faced while implementation the programme.

The secondary sources material includes reports of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, Reports of the ministry of Rural Development, Government of Andhra Pradesh, reports of DWMA, Anantapuramu, Chittoor, Kadapa and Kurnool records of MPDOs offices, Statistical Abstracts of Government of Andhra Pradesh, various journals on Rural Development and also from relevant books, magazines, published and unpublished theses and leading news papers.

Sample Design

Table 1: Details of Selected Sample Respondents In The Study Area

S.No	Name of the District & Revenue Division	Name of the Revenue Mandal	Name of the Gram Panchayat	No. of Respondents
1	Anantapuramu (Anantapuramu)	Narpala	Narpala	50
			Bandla palli	50
			Gugudu	50
2	Chittoor (Madanapalle)	Chowdepalli	Chowdepalli	50
			Diguva palli	50
			Laddigum	50
3	Kadapa (Kadapa)	Pendlimarri	Pendlimarri	50
			Chimala penta	50
			Yellaturu	50
4	Kurnool (Adoni)	Pathikonda	Hosur	50
			Dudekonda	50
			Devarabanda	50
Total				600

Tools For Data Analysis

The study is descriptive and analytical in nature. Therefore, the collected data has been presented in the form of tables, charts and appropriate graphs for analytical purpose.

Stopping out migration of labour

Table 2: Impact of Mgnregs In Stopping Out Migration of Labour, Gender Discrimination And Discrimination of Scs/Sts At Work Place

S.No	Particulars	Opinion	
		Yes	No
1	Migration of labour	328	272
2	Gender discrimination	64	536
3	Discrimination against SC/ST	00	600

Source: Field Survey

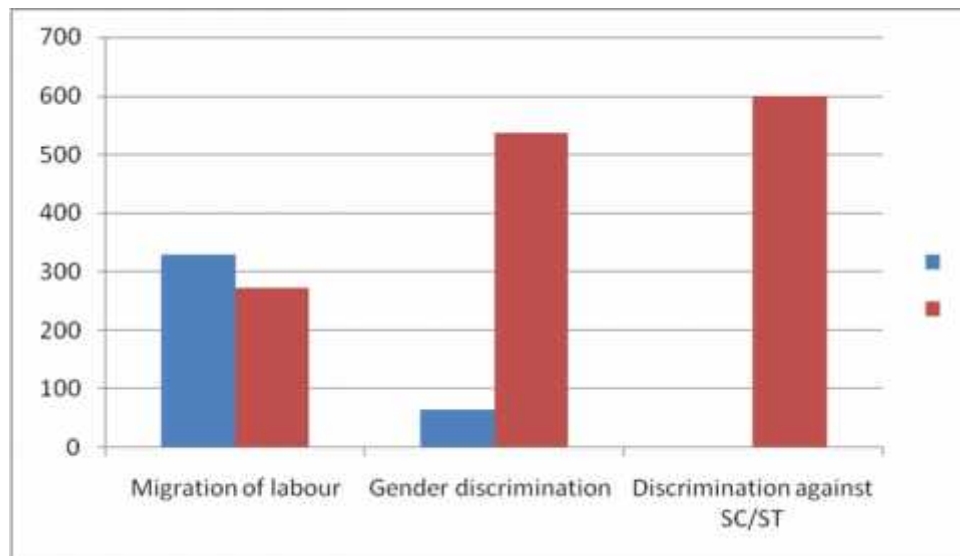


Fig 1

The table shows that, a major proportion of sample respondents reported that, the ongoing MGNREGS works in the study area are preventing migration of labour from the study area like Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh. In this study also found that there is no gender discrimination among the gender of MGNREGS worker and SC/ST communities in the present study.

Table 3: Impact of MGNREGS Different Activities In Study Area

S.No	Particulars	Opinion	
		Yes	No
1	SHG activities	64	536
2	Agricultural activities	156	444

Source: Field survey

The respondents' views about the impact of MGNREGS on SHGs and Agricultural activities are presented in table 3. It reveals that only 64 sample respondents of total respondents reported that MGNREGS weakened the SHGs activates in the study area.

Respondents' views about the impact of NREGS on agricultural activities in the study. It can be observed that nearly 156 sample respondents are reported the negative impact of MGNREGS on agricultural activities going on in the study area. Among the respondents who reported that there was negative impact of the MGNREGS on agriculture. Majority proportion of them pointed out that the agriculture is affected badly due to MGNREGS because of the MGNREGS labour became costly and scarce in the study area.

Table 4: Impact of MGNREGS on The Conditions of House Pattern

S.No	Type of House	Respondents	
		Before	After
1	Kacha	180 (30.00)	100 (16.67)
2	Semi Pucca	104 (17.33)	124 (20.67)
3	Pucca under Government	280 (46.67)	304 (50.67)
4	Pucca Owned	36 (06.00)	72 (12.00)
	Total	600 (100)	600 (100)

Source: Field Survey

The information relating to the impact of MGNREGS on the farm assets and households, durables across the respondents of the selected backward areas like Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh.

The impact of MGNREGS on the respondents farm assets is estimated by way of collecting information about the quantity and value of farm assets owned by the respondents before and after implementation of MGNREGS in the study area.

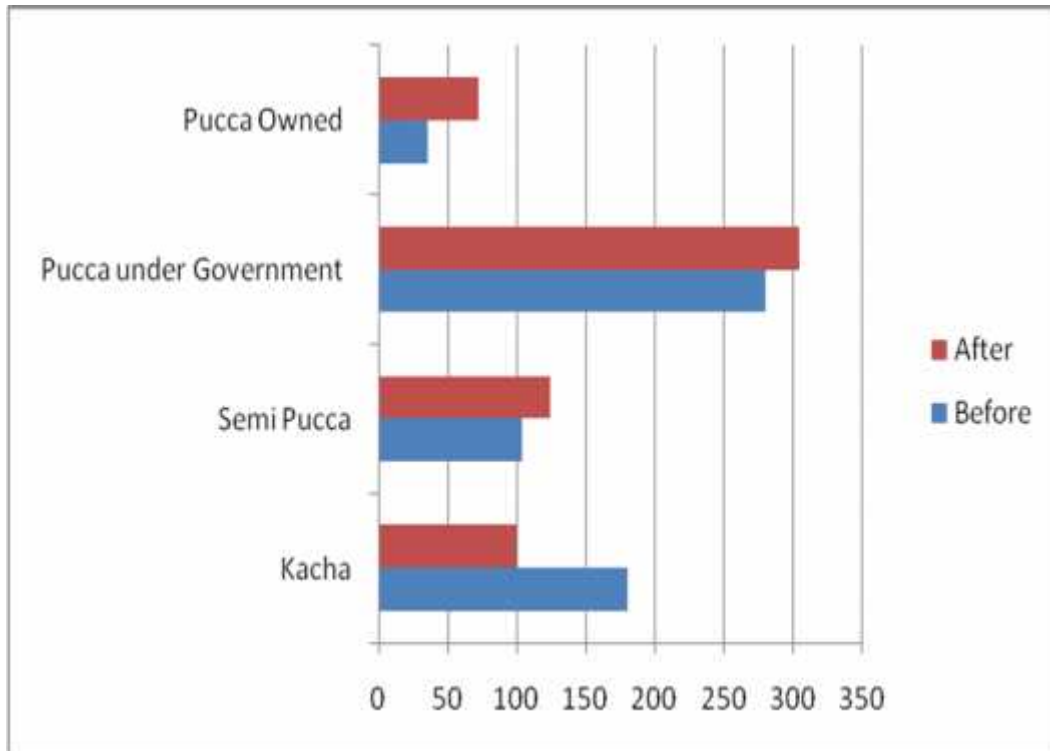


Fig.2

The statistical information regarding the net difference between the values of farm assets of the respondents reveals that much change is identified regarding their housing condition. It can be noticed from the table 4 that the impact of MGNREGS on the housing conditions of the respondents, the respondents it is found that a positive impact of MGNREGS on the housing conditions in the selected district.

Table 5: Impact of MGNREGS on The Consumer Durable Goods of Selected Samples

S.No	Particulars	Respondents	
		Before	After
1	Television	536 (89.33)	600 (100)
2	Electrical goods	48 (08.00)	120 (20.00)
3	Fans	576 (96.00)	600 (100)
4	Motor cycles	116 (19.33)	484 (80.67)
5	Bullock carts	64 (10.67)	88 (14.67)

Source: Field survey

Table 5 depicts the impact of MGNREGS on the selected households in Rayalseema region of Andhra Pradesh. It is found that, similarly in case of household durables, the respondents have after the implementation of MGNREGS is indicated a positive change across the respondents in the study area. The positive change is noticed too much extent regarding the durable items like motor cycle and electrical goods.

Table 6: Impact of MGNREGS on The Farm of Land of Selected Sample House Holds

S.No	Land particulars	Respondents	
		Before	After
1	No land	520 (86.67)	408 (68.00)
2	<3 acres	56 (09.33)	152 (25.33)
3	3-7 acres	24 (04.00)	40 (06.67)
	Total	600 (100)	600 (100)

Source: Field survey

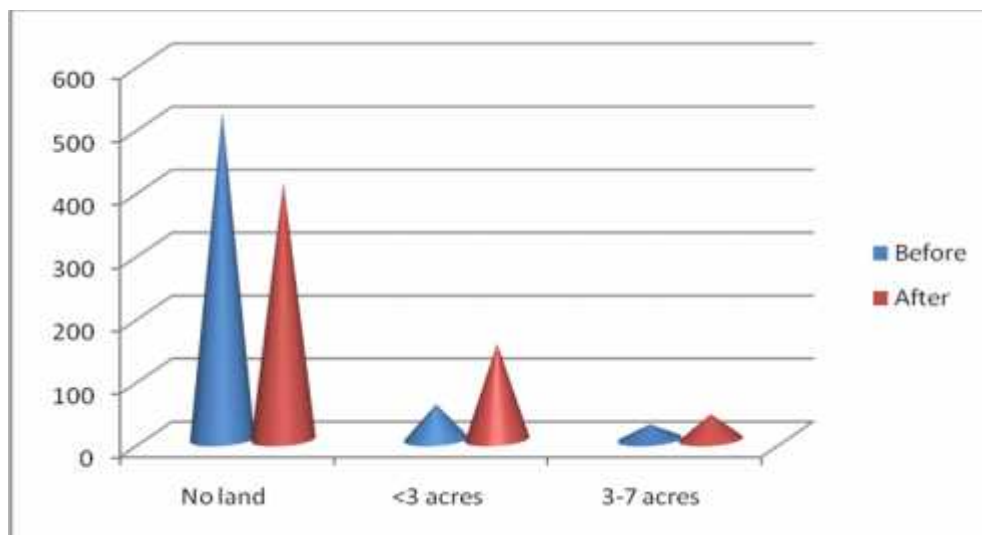


Fig 4

The impact of MGNREGS on the respondents' farm assets is estimated by way of collecting information about the quantity owned by the respondents before and after implementation of MGNREGS in the district. Table 6 shows that a positive increase of the fixed assets like land after implementation of MGNREGS programme.

Table 7: Satisfaction of The Sample Households on Implementation of MGNREGS

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents
1	Very Good	448 (74.67)
2	Good	124 (20.67)
3	Not-satisfaction	28 (4.66)
	Total	600 (100)

Source: Field survey

The statistical information relating to the respondents satisfaction about the implementation of the MGNREGS in the study area are presented in the table 7.6.

It is revealed from the table that, 74 per cent of the sample households opined that, MGNREGS programme is implemented very good by the government and 20 per cent of the MGNREGS labourers and they opined good

only. Only 5 per cent of the sample respondents are not satisfied about that programme. The main reason for not satisfaction of MGNREGS workers for irregular payments and their measurement of work in the backward district like Rayalaseema region.

Table 8: Impact of MGNREGS on Awareness of Sample Household on Different Activities

S.No	Particulars	Opinion	
		Yes	No
1	Changes of food habits	126 (21.00)	474 (79.00)
2	Changes in dressing pattern	96 (16.00)	404 (84.00)
3	Awareness about diseases and health care	378 (63.00)	222 (37.00)
4	Aware of children's education and its importance	415 (69.17)	185 (30.83)

Source: Field survey

The details of impact of MGNREGS on awareness of different activities in the Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh is presented in table 8. It shows that 21 per cent of the sample households have stated that change of food habits after the MGNREGS, 16 per cent of the MGNREGS workers change their dressing pattern, 63 per cent of the MGNREGS workers have aware about the diseases and health care, 69 per cent of the workers aware of children's education and its importance because of their participation MGNREGS programmes. It can be concluded that the workers are concentrating on health and their children education.

Table 9: Impact of MGNREGS on Different Activities of Sample Households

S.No	Particulars	Opinion	
		Yes	No
1	Service all desires of children's	129 (21.50)	421 (79.50)
2	MGNREGS helped for raising social status	86 (14.33)	414 (85.67)
3	MGNREGS has improved village conditions	236 (39.33)	364 (60.67)

Source: Field Survey

Table 9 shows that the details of sample respondents and their opinion on the development of society through the MGNREGS programme in the selected area. Table indicates that 129 sample households stated that serving all desires of children through MGNREGS and the remaining are not agree the said statement. In the matter of MGNREGS helped for raising social status of sample respondents, 14 per cent have positively responded and the remaining have negative response about that statement. In case of improved their villages through MGNREGS programme, nearly 40 per cent of the households are agree and remaining are not. It is clearly stated that majority of the sample households have not positive opinion said that all the statement.

Table 10: Impact of MGNREGS on Sample Households Income Level

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	Considerably increased	67	11.17
2	Increased some what	375	62.50
3	Not increased	158	26.33
	Total	600	100

Source: Field survey

The 10 table reveals that 62 per cent of the sample households opined that their income level is increased somewhat under working MGNREGS programme, 26 per cent of sample households have said that there is no increased income level after completion of MGNREGS works in the study area. And remaining 11 per cent of the sample households considerably increased their income level in the Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh. The study found that majority of the sample households told that there is no high impact on income level for working under MGNREGS because of the working days are limited. If the government initiates and increases the working days automatically their income level increases especially in Rayalaseema region.

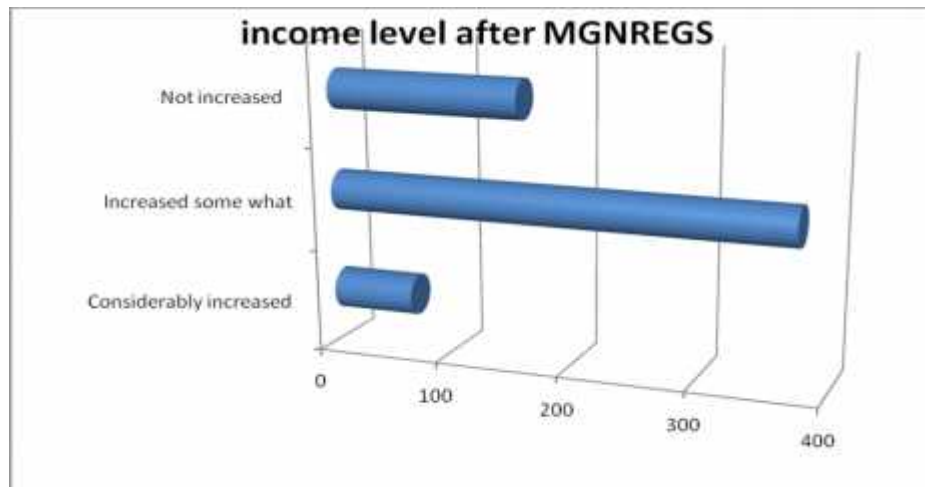


Table 11: Impact of MGNREGS on Children's Education of Sample Households

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	No drop-out of children's	65	10.90
2	Change in decision for opting higher education	92	15.30
3	No change	443	73.80
	Total	600	100

Source: Field survey

Table 11 depicts that the impact of MGNREG on sample household children education in the study area. It is found that out of 600, 443 sample households told that there is no change our childrens education after working under the MGNREGS programme in the study area followed 92 respondents are stated that change in decision for opting higher education of our children's because of the big amount is received at a time after completion of work, 65 sample households are said that there is no drop-out of children's respectively.

Table 12: Distribution of Sample Respondent Suggestions For Improvement of Facilities In Implementation of MGNREGS

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage To Total
1	Increase in wages	76	12.66
2	Increase in working days	388	64.67
3	Providing working tools	36	06.00
4	Providing medical treatment	28	04.67
5	Regular payment should be made	72	12.00
	Total	600	100

Source: Field Survey



It reveals that, higher proportion of the respondents 64.67 per cent were suggested an increase in the working days in different MGNREGS works. Increase of wages and regular payment will pay the who are working under MGNREGS programme is represented 76 & 72 sample households in the present study. Only 4 per cent and 6 per cent of sample respondents are represented on matter of providing medical treatment and providing working tools for improvement and effectiveness of MGNREGS programme in the backward areas like Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh.

It clearly found that majority of the sample households are suggest to the government agencies on the matter of increase the working days per annum.

Conclusion

The study can be concluded with the fact that there is a positive impact of sufficient income & education level on the improvement in standard of living. The income level provided to the beneficiaries of MGNREGA is sufficient to them for increasing their living standard. The majority of the responses received from the field survey had been in the favour of the act. It is concluded that, if properly implemented, it can be used not only as social protection program but also as rural transformation program. But one has to be pragmatic. We can not do miracles with 0.3% of GDP. Hence, the government will take favourable decision for increasing man days for improving living standards of rural people.

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