

Original Research Article

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Estimating Profile of the Beneficiaries of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted purposively in Aurangabad, Nanded, Beed and Jalna district of the Marathwada region of Maharashtra state during the year 2017-2018. From this four districts eight tahsils were selected purposively. From each selected taluka two villages were selected purposively for the study. Fifteen (15) beneficiaries of MGNREGA were selected randomly from each selected villages. Thus comprising total 240 beneficiaries were selected from Marathwada region for research study. For estimating profile of the beneficiaries of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. It was found that, majority (52.08%) of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were middle aged, 28.75 per cent educated up to primary school level, (40.84%) were found lower category, more than two third (66.25%) of them having medium family size and 34.16 per cent of them having small size of land holding. It was observed that, more than half (56.67%) of them having farming as main occupation, majority (53.75%) of them having medium annual income, 57.09 per cent were found joint family, nearly half (49.17%) of them having medium social participation, less than half (46.66%) of them having medium source of information, 59.58 per cent of them having medium level of extension contact and 45.41 per cent of them having medium level of economic motivation.

Keywords

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Introduction

Poverty and unemployment are the twin problem faced by the developing countries. According to the planning commission of India nearly 29.8% population is Below Poverty Line (BPL). Policy makers in India have realized the need for generating employment opportunities on large scale to

bring the teeming millions of population above poverty line (APL). While the labour force in India is increasing in numbers at every year. Majority of population (72.22 per cent) live in rural areas and many of them suffer owing to seasonal unemployment, under employment and disguised unemployment. (Source: Planning Commission). In India, GDP and Unemployment rates are going hand

in hand, causing fret for any democratic society. Unemployment and poverty are strongly related and hinder the economic growth and development of the country.

In India, these two problems are severe in rural areas, leaving it outside the growth path. Thus, Government of India aiming at balanced growth and to overcome above mentioned weaknesses of past employment programmes, passed National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) in 25 August 2005 in order to empower the rural labourers with right to get employment of 100 days per year per household during off-season. In accordance, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has been launched in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh on 2nd February, 2006, with effect from 1st April 2006 in 200 drought prone and backward districts in India. This was extended to additional 130 districts in the financial year 2007-2008.

The NREGA coverage has been expanded from 330 districts to 619 districts of India beginning April, 2008. In Maharashtra the NREGA was implemented during the 2006 in 12 districts (Dhule, Nandurbar, Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Hingoli, Nanded, Amravati, Gadchiroli, Yavatmal, Bhandara, Gondhiya and Chjandrapur) of Maharashtra state.

Thus NREGA covered that entire country with the exception of districts that have a hundred percent urban population. This programme has been formulated by merging early formulated programmes such as Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) of 2001 and National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) of 2004.

Again the Government of India on 2nd October, 2009 renamed its flagship rural job guarantee programme- National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted purposively in Aurangabad, Nanded, Beed and Jalna district of the Marathwada region of Maharashtra state during the year 2017-2018. Selected district eight tahsils were selected purposively. From each selected taluka two villages were selected purposively for the study. Fifteen (15) beneficiaries of MGNREGA were selected randomly from each selected villages. Thus comprising total 240 beneficiaries were selected from Marathwada region for research study. For estimating profile of the beneficiaries of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. Ex-post facto research design was adopted in this study. The data were collected with the help of pretested interview schedule. The statistical methods and tests such as frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation were used for the analysis of data.

Estimating profile of the beneficiaries of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

Results and Discussion

Personal and socio-economic characteristics of the beneficiaries of Mahatma Gandhi

National rural employment guarantee act

Age

It was observed from Table 1 that, more than half (52.08%) of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were belongs from middle age group i.e. (36 to 50 years). Whereas, 35.00 per cent of MGNREGA beneficiaries were from young age group i.e. (up to 35 years) and remaining 12.92 per cent of MGNREGA beneficiaries were old age group i.e. (51 and above years). It was observed from below table that, most of

the MGNREGA beneficiaries belong to middle age category i.e. 36 to 50 years.

Education

It was revealed from Table 2 that, (28.75%) of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were educated up to primary school level, followed by 21.25 per cent of them were educated up to can read and write, while 20.41 per cent of them middle school, 15.84 per cent of them can read only, 8.75 per cent of them were illiterate, 5.00 per cent of them were educated up to high level education.

Whereas none of them were educated up to college level education. It was observed from below table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were educated up to primary school education i.e. (1st to 4th standard).

Category

It is clear from Table 3 that, 40.84 per cent of beneficiaries of MGNREGA belonging to lower caste group i.e. (SC, ST and NT) followed by (31.25%) middle caste i.e. (OBC and Muslim) and (27.91%) of beneficiaries of MGNREGA from upper cast i.e. (Open). It was observed from above table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having lower cast (SC, ST and NT).

Family size

The data furnished in Table 4 indicated that, more than half (66.25%) of beneficiaries were belongs from medium family size i.e. 5 to 6 members, followed by 17.92 per cent and 15.83 per cent of them were with the big i.e. more than 7 members and small size i.e. less than 4 members of family, respectively. It was observed from below table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium family size i.e. 5 to 6 members.

Land holding

It was observed from Table 5 that, 34.16 per cent of MGNREGA beneficiaries were having small size of land holding i.e. 1.01 to 2.00 ha, followed by 25.00 per cent of them had semi-medium size of land holding i.e. 2.01 to 4.00 ha.

Whereas, 23.76 per cent and 13.75 per cent of them were having marginal size of land holding and land less beneficiaries respectively. 3.33 per cent medium size of land holding i.e. 4.01 to 10 ha and none of them were belongs from big size of land holding category. It was observed from below table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having small size of land holding i.e. 1.01 to 2.00 ha.

Occupation

It was observed from Table 6 that, majority (56.67%) of the MGNREGA beneficiaries had farming as their main occupation, followed by 30.00 per cent labourer, 8.75 per cent traditional occupation, 4.58 per cent business and none of the beneficiaries belonged to the service. It was observed from below table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having farming as main occupation.

Annual income

It was observed from Table 7 that, more than half (53.75%) of the MGNREGA beneficiaries had medium annual income i.e. (Rs.23017 to Rs. 51441), followed by 40.84 per cent of them were belonged from high annual income i.e. (Rs. 51442 and above) and 5.41 per cent of them were belonged from low annual income i.e. (Up to Rs. 23016) category. It was observed from above table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium annual income i.e. Rs. 23,017 to Rs. 51,441.

Family type

From the Table 8 it can be revealed that, 57.09 per cent of beneficiaries of MGNREGA were live in joint family and (42.91%) live in nuclear type of family.

Social participation

It was observed from Table 9 that, near about half (49.17%) of the beneficiaries had medium social participation, followed by 27.91 per cent of them had low social participation and remaining 22.92 per cent of them had high social participation. It was observed from below table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium social participation.

Source of information

It was observed from Table 10 that, near about half (46.66%) of the beneficiaries had medium level of sources of information. Whereas, 33.75 per cent and 19.59 per cent of them were categorized under low level and high level category of sources of information, respectively. It was observed from below table

that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium sources of information.

Extension contact

It was observed from Table 11 that, more than half (59.58%) of MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium level of extension contact. While 24.58 per cent and 15.84 per cent of them were having low and high level of extension contact. It was observed from below table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium extension contact.

Economic motivation

It is revealed from Table 12 that, less than half (45.41%) of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium economic motivation. While, nearly one third (30.83%) and 23.76 per cent of them had low and high economic motivation, respectively. It was observed from below table that, most of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were having medium economic motivation, followed by low and high respectively.

Table.1 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their age

Sr. No.	Category	Age	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Young	Up to 35 years	84	35.00
2.	Middle	36 to 50 years	125	52.08
3.	Old	51 and above years	31	12.92
Mean = 40.73			S.D. = 9.46	

Table.2 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their education

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	1	21	08.75
2.	Can read only	2	38	15.84
3.	Can read and write	3	51	21.25
4.	Primary school (1 st to 4 th standard)	4	69	28.75
5.	Middle school (5 th to 7 th standard)	5	49	20.41
6.	High school (8 th to 10 th standard)	6	12	5.00
7.	College level	7	00	0.00

Table.3 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their category

Sr. No	Caste	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
		Number	Percentage
1.	Lower Caste (SC,ST,NT)	98	40.84
2.	Middle Caste (OBC, MUSLIM)	75	31.25
3.	Upper Caste (OPEN)	67	27.91

Table.4 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their family size

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Small	Up to 4 members	38	15.83
2.	Medium	5 to 6 members	159	66.25
3.	Big	7 & above members	43	17.92
Mean = 5.37			S.D.= 1.60	

Table.5 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their land holding

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Land less	No land	33	13.75
1.	Marginal	Up to 1 ha.	57	23.76
2.	Small	1.01 to 2.00 ha.	82	34.16
3.	Semi-medium	2.01 to 4.00 ha.	60	25.00
4.	Medium	4.01 to 10.00 ha.	08	3.33
5.	Big	10.01 ha. and above	00	0.00

Table.6 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their occupation

Sr. No.	Category	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Labourer	72	30.00
2.	Traditional occupation	21	08.75
3.	Business	11	04.58
4.	Farming	136	56.67
5.	Service	00	00.00

Table.7 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their annual income

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low	Up to Rs. 23,016	13	05.41
2.	Medium	Rs. 23,017 to Rs. 51,441	129	53.75
3.	High	Rs. 51,442 & above	98	40.84
Mean = 51441.66			S.D. = 28425.57	

Table.8 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their family type

Sr. No	Type of family	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
		Number	Percentage
1.	Nuclear family	103	42.91
2.	Joint family	137	57.09

Table.9 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their social Participation

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low	Up to 2	67	27.91
2.	Medium	3 to 5	118	49.17
3.	High	6 & above	55	22.92
Mean = 4.67			S.D. = 2.42	

Table.10 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their source of Information

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low	Up to 65	81	33.75
2.	Medium	66 to 84	112	46.66
3.	High	85 & above	47	19.59
Mean = 83.73			S.D. = 19.22	

Table.11 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their impact of MGNREGA on occupational change

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Number	Percentage
1.	Low	Up to 1	21	08.75
2.	Medium	2 to 3	165	68.75
3.	High	4 & above	54	22.50
Mean = 5.01			S.D. = 1.94	

Table.12 Distribution of the MGNREGA beneficiaries according to their economic Motivation

Sr. No.	Category	Score	Beneficiaries (n=240)	
			Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low	Up to 8	74	30.83
2.	Medium	9 to 10	109	45.41
3.	High	11 & above	57	23.76
Mean = 10.10			S.D. = 2.52	

Majority (52.08%) of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were middle aged, 28.75 per cent educated up to primary school level, (40.84%) were found lower category, more than two third (66.25%) of them having medium family size and 34.16 per cent of them having small size of land holding. It was observed that, more than half (56.67%) of them having farming as main occupation, majority (53.75%) of them having medium annual income, 57.09 per cent were found joint family, nearly half (49.17%) of them having medium social participation, less than half (46.66%) of them having medium source of information, 59.58 per cent of them having medium level of extension contact and 45.41 per cent of them having medium level of economic motivation.

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