Impact of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme on Socio-Economic Development of Migrant Families of Odisha

Sanjit Kumar Swain*

Core Faculty in Quantitative Technique, Department of Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water, Government of Odisha, Extension Training Centre, Kalahandi, India

Abstract: **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is a flagship programme of Govt. which aims at enahancing the general livelihoods of the rural poor of India. In this paper, to study on Impact of MGNREGS on Socio-economic development of Migrant families of Kalahandi district of Odisha. The objective of the study to analysis of socio-economic development of migrant families getting benefits under MGNREGS and evaluate the creation of assets & employment opportunities etc. The study finds that 62.5 percent of migrant families have been more benefited from MGNREGS. It is observed that increasing in income, consumption of food & nutrition, healthcare, literacy rate, standard of living have improved. It shows that MGNREGS has made a positive impact on the migrant families.**

Keywords: **Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee act, socio-economic status, migrant families, standard of living, creation of assets.**

1. Introduction

The economic activities in villages are closely related to seasons. During certain seasons, there is enough demand for labour. At certain other times, there is little demand for labour. As a result, the rural poor and landless labourers do not get regular paid-work throughout the year. Most of the time, they remain unemployed or under-employed. An increase in our rural population makes the situation still worse. Wage and self-employment could be the most effective strategy for the alleviation of poverty, reduction of inequalities as well as the improvement of nutritional levels of people in rural India. This, in turn, would be instrumental in maintaining a relatively high rate of economic growth. Migration is a natural process that often happens depending on the socio-economic, demographic, cultural, political and environmental factors related to the migrant people. Migration is not a mere shift of people from one place of residence to another. It is most fundamental to the understanding of continuously changing space content and space relationships of areas (Gosal, 1961) [2]. Bogue (1959) [1]

considers it is an instrument of cultural diffusion and social integration which yields more meaningful redistribution of population. Smith (1960) has stated about three-fold impacts of migration on (1) the area of out- migration (2) the area of in-migration and (3) the migrants. The persons of the areas of out-migration decrease while the population of in-migration increases. The migration from rural to urban areas has been increasing slowly with industrialization and modernization in India. The main reason for migration is employment or business related migration. The male migration constitutes the highest level of migration in India due to employment purpose. The female usually migrates as accompanists of males through several other factors like after marriage or family transfer.

Migration data were recorded at the time of first census in 1881 based on the place of birth. In 1961, modification were made to include place of birth and duration of residence. In 1971, additional information on place of last residence and duration of stay at the place of enumeration were incorporated. Information on reasons for migration was incorporated in 1981 census and modified in consecutive censuses. In the census of India, migration is enumerated on the following two bases: (1) Place of birth: if the place of birth is different from the place of enumeration (known as life- time migrant) (2) Place of residence: if the place of last residence is different from the place of (known as migrant by place of last residence). Migration in India is primarily of two types (1) Long term migration- resulting the relocation of an individual or household (2) Short term migration- involving a back and forth movement between a source and destination. Mostly short term migration belongs to socially economically deprived groups such as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes having negligible educational attainment, limited assets and resource deficits. Between 2001-11, about 5.65 million people migrated annually. Migration is rising to 4.5 percent per annum in 2001-11 from 2.4 percent in 1991-2001. About 45.31 crore (37%) people in India are migrants and above 80 percent migrants are males

(Srivastava, 2011). The north Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have highest percentage of rural population with 18.6 and 11.1 percent of people living in villages in 2011. These states are largest migrants sending states. Substantial flow of labour migrants relocates from Uttar Pradesh to Maharashtra, Delhi, West Bengal, Punjab and Haryana. Other major migrants sending states are Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand. All the major sending states are characterized by low social and economic development. Cities of Mumbai, Delhi and Calcutta are largest destination for internal migration in India. Seasonal migration vary by area and industry. Numbers of people from drought prone areas including Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha migrate seasonally to work in brick making, construction, tile factory and crop cutting. About 90 percent of labourers in construction industry are internal migrants. Seasonal migration is also attracted by agricultural work such as rice harvest in West Bengal and sugar cane in Gujarat.

Odisha is one of the most backward state in India having a history of natural disasters, the presence of large scale poverty, low level of literacy and distress- migration. Drought and floods are a common phenomenon in the state. All these have led to the formation of a vicious cycle of poverty trapping the small and marginal farmers who are dependent on their land holdings for income generation. Although having high percentage of agricultural land, the irrigation facilities are very low in the state.   Agriculture, in a majority of the districts, is underdeveloped and subsistence-based. The absence of large-scale land holdings further aggravates the debt-ridden situation of the farmers and agricultural labourers. Acute pressure on the land due to the growing population and poor sectoral diversification, most of the people are reeling under acute poverty and mass unemployment. Every year in the absence of an adequate alternative source of wage employment and self-employment, the poor and ultra-poor category households are pushed out from their hearth and home for living in far off places during the lean agricultural season. The contribution of migration in sustaining rural livelihoods in Odisha, cannot be denied. With declining agricultural incomes and inability of rural households to sustain with farming alone, the countryside in Odisha is witnessing an emergence of what one can term "migrarian" livelihoods – where migration and agriculture form the major providers, accounting for more than 55-60 per cent of the annual incomes. NSS data shows that the dependence on domestic remittances has risen most strikingly in Odisha since the 1990s (Tumbe, 2010). In 2007-08, rural Odisha received 14.25 billion dollar in domestic remittances, 6th highest in the country (ibid). The policy prescriptions on livelihoods, on the contrary, do not account for migration as a significant contributor to rural incomes. If anything, lack of a policy stand on internal migration and poor safeguards for labour interests have given way to a perverse migrant labour economy thriving on abundant and unregulated access to cheap rural labur from Odisha, easily recruited, circulated and cast away at will.

2. Study Area and Justification

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the large section of people in India. It not only provides foods but also generates employment to the growing population. The role of agriculture cannot be ignored in the state of Odisha. It supports the state's economy in term of its contribution to State Gross Domestic Products (SGDP), employment and income generation, environmental sustainability, livelihood of dependency of rural people etc. According to the advance estimates of 2016-17, the share of agriculture sector to the state's SGDP has come down to 15.5% which was more than 70% in the early 1950s [1]. As per census 2011, about 61.82% population of the state depend on agriculture for sustaining their livelihood. But in Kalahandi district, one of the most backward districts of Odisha and also in India, the dependency on agriculture is about 77.4 per cent which is much higher than the state's dependency [2]. This indicates that more than 75 % of population of the district depends on agriculture for deriving their livelihood directly or indirectly. Hence, agriculture is considered as the main-stay for the people of Kalahandi district. However, the agricultural production in the state is considerably affected by the natural calamities like floods, cyclones and droughts. Particularly, in Kalahandi district, agriculture is highly monsoon dependent and is frequently affected due to the lack of irrigation facilities coupled with the severe the droughts. A series of droughts were historically witnessed by the district during 1868, 1884 and 1897. The famine of 1899 had severely affected the socio-economic condition of the people in the district. Subsequently, another series of droughts were occurred in the district during 1919-20, 1922-23, 1925-26, 1929-30, 1954-55, 1955-56, 1965-66, 1974-75 and 1985 [3]. Thus, it is said that the Kalahandi is the most drought hit region in the state. In the 1980's, the district became famous for drought, malnutrition and starvation of death. The recurrence of a series of severe droughts has affected the socio-economic condition of the people of Kalahandi to a marked extent. As a result, mass unemployment was created and as such high incidence of poverty was appeared among the poor section of the people in the district. This scenario still prevails in the district. As per the Ministry of Rural Development, there was about 85.77% BPL families in Kalahandi district in the 1992 BPL census which declined to 62.71% in the 1997 BPL census [4]. This is due to the fact that the employment opportunities in the district are limited. Besides, the agriculture is unable to generate enough employment opportunities for the growing workforces due to the occurrence of frequent droughts in the district. This situation compels the poor people of the district to migrate to the urban areas in search of jobs. Migration is a means of livelihood strategy for these poor people. In the district, migration has been a very serious issue. The incidence of migration is very high in the blocks like Golamunda, Dharamgarh, Kokasara and Bhawanipatna. But the workers also migrate from other blocks like Lanjigarh, Narla, M.Rampur, Thuamul Rampur and Kesinga [3]. Under this backdrop, the present study tries to cover 4 blocks i.e Bhawanipatna, Golamunda, Th. Rampur and Lanjigarh, those having more number of migration in Kalahandi district of Odisha.

Table 1
Status of Job-seekers under MGNREGS with respect to Odisha & India

Year	Odisha					India				
	No. of Active Job Cards	Active Workers				No. of Active Job Cards	Active Workers			
		SC	ST	Others	Total Workers		SC	ST	Others	Total Workers
2020-21	41.93	11.93	22.24	37.5	71.67	865.38	273.24	225.08	841.18	1339.54
2019-20	39.8	11.93	22.24	37.5	71.67	819.28	273.57	224.94	841.9	1340.46
2018-19	36.02	11.94	22.25	37.55	71.73	777.17	273.66	224.97	842.16	1340.82
2017-18	33.49	11.94	22.25	37.55	71.73	729.73	273.66	224.97	842.18	1340.84
2016-17	29.44	11.94	22.25	37.55	71.73	685.09	273.67	224.97	842.23	1340.88
2015-16	28.28	11.94	22.25	37.55	71.74	668.05	273.66	224.87	842.18	1340.75
2014-15	25.82	11.94	22.25	37.55	71.74	648.19	273.67	224.88	842.21	1340.8
2013-14	25.8	11.94	22.25	37.55	71.74	721.68	282.93	234.54	858.86	1376.24

The Government of India has introduced various anti-poverty schemes in the forms of self-employment programmes i.e DAY-NRLM, DDUGKY and wage-employment programmes i.e MGNREGS, CFC/SFC to provide work to migrant families. Out of those schemes the migrant families are more benefited from MGNERGS by getting maximum number of wage employment.

Before 2006, centrally sponsored different wage employment programmes such as Cash Scheme for Rural Employment (CSRE), Pilot Intensive Rural Employment Programme (PIREP), Food for Work Programme (FWP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojna(JRY), Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) were functional. Since 2nd February 2006, the wage employment programme like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes (MGNREGS) has been in operation. This has been done under the social legislation- National Rural Employment Guarantee Act- 2005. On 2nd October 2009, an amendment was made in the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 Mahatma, to change the nomenclature of the Act from the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (to be read as NREGA) to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (to be read as MGNREGA). The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act-2005 is a 'peoples' act in several senses. The Act was prepared through a wide range of consultation with people's organizations. Second, the Act addresses primarily the needs of working people and their fundamental right to a life with dignity. Third, the Act empowers ordinary people to play an active role in the implementation of employment guarantee schemes through Pallisabha/ Gram Sabha, Social Audit & participatory planning, and other means. More than any other law, MGNREGA is an Act of the people, by the people and for the people. This Act is an important step towards the realization of the right to work. It is also expected to enhance people's livelihoods on a sustained basis, by developing the economic and social infrastructure in rural areas. The choice of works seeks to address the causes of chronic poverty such as drought, deforestation and soil erosion. Effectively implemented, the employment generated under the Act has the potential of transforming the geography of poverty.

MGNREGA calls for the formulation of a Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme(REGS) by each state government. The basic objective of the Act is to enhance livelihood security in rural areas 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 works. This work guarantee can also serve other objectives like generating productive assets, protecting the environment, empowering rural women, reducing rural-urban migration and fostering social equity, among others. Now the state of Odisha gives more emphasis on implementing the MGNREGS for the development of Job-seekers of Odisha. But the status of Job-seekers under MGNREGS with respect to Odisha and India from 2013-14 to 2020-21 are given in Table 1

3. Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives of the study are indicated below
1. To assess changes in the socio-economic development of the migrant families under MGNREGS.
2. To evaluate the creation of assets, employment, man-days, etc.
3. To suggest appropriate policy intervention for the effective performance of migrant families.

4. Methodology and Sampling

In this study the data will be collected from two sources, i.e primary data will be collected through the process of interview method with the help of a well-structured schedules. The secondary data will be collected from the published data, i.e official records of the GP office, Block office, Govt. publications and annual reports etc. The methodology have been adopted to collect data and to analyse it, i.e

A three-stage sampling design was adopted with the first stage as the GP, the second stage as the village and the third stage as the household of a block. Four Blocks were selected out of 13 blocks of Kalahandi district of Odisha adopting a purposive sampling method. The selected blocks are (1) Bhawanipatna, (2) Golamunda, (3) Th. Rampur and (4) Lanjigarh. The list of households (i.e migrant families) who were employed under MGNREGS over the period under study (2017-2019) with their year of receiving the employment and caste group-wise break-up was obtained for each village within each G.P in the block of Bhawanipatna, Golamunda, Th. Rampur & Lanjigarh. A list was prepared based on the register (year-wise/village-wise) available with the blocks-Bhawanipatna, Golamunda, Th. Rampur & Lanjigarh. The village and G.P "sizes" are obtained from this updated list. The distribution of the number of households employed under

MGNREGS in all G.Ps of 4 blocks and in selected 4 G.Ps out of 36 G.Ps in Bhawanipatna, 1 G.P out of 28 G.Ps in Golamunda and 2 G.Ps out of 24 G.Ps in Th. Rampur, 4 G.Ps out of 26 G.Ps in Lanjigarh block were selected. The time-line of research is from 2017 to 2019. The details of Blocks & G.Ps of the present study are shown in Table 2.

Table 2
Distribution of Number of Sample Households employed under MGNREGS during the Year 2017-2019 in Kalahandi District

S. no	Name of Block	No. of sample G.Ps selected	No. of Sample Villages selected	No of Sample Beneficiaries
1	Bhawaniptna	4	5	20
2	Golamunda	1	1	20
3	Th. Rampur	2	6	20
4	Lanjigarh	4	10	20
	Total	11	22	80

At the second and third stage, the selected sample households are randomly drawn from villages of selected G.Ps of 4 Blocks of Kalahandi district, i.e 20 sample households from 5 villages of 4 G.Ps of Bhawanipatna, 20 sample households from 1 village of 1 G.P of Golamunda, 20 sample households from 6 villages of 2 G.Ps of Th. Rampur and 20 sample households from 10 villages of 4 G.Ps of Lanjigarh block are shown in Table 2. Thus, 4 blocks, 11 G.Ps, 22 villages and 80 sample households will be observed under the study. As it is a comprehensive evaluation, two types of data were collected (i.e Primary and Secondary) at three levels viz, District, Block and household. The primary data were collected from the field by one schedule for one respondent per household. Altogether 80 respondents were interviewed through a structured schedule. While secondary data were collected from official records of the Block/DRDA office, other important data like operational problems are collected by the help of intensive discussions with PRI Members, field officers and staff. Specific case studies were undertaken to ascertain the concreteness and depth of some of the typical quantitative data concerning problems affecting the beneficiaries during the implementation of MGNREGS at the field level.

5. Socio-Economic Profile of the Respondents

Some important socio-economic characteristics like age, sex, caste, educational status and occupational status, etc. of sample respondents are shown in Table 3 & 4.
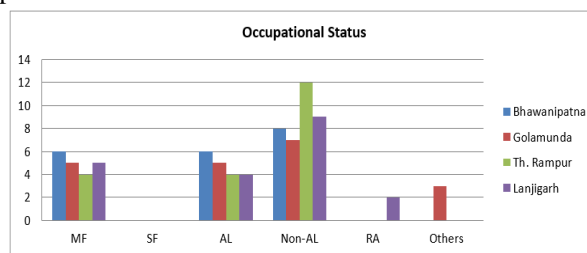

Fig. 1. The Graphical representation of Occupational status of the respondents

6. Results and Discussion

1) Income of Respondents

Table 5 attempts to show the difference in income of respondent households of 4 Blocks of Kalahandi district from MGNREGS and other sources.

There is three important aspects of the development strategy pursued in the rural area to create employment opportunities for the poor to particular in the economic growth process. These aspects are (i) different poverty reduction programmes like MGNREGS, CFC/SFC, Watershed Development etc. as adopted by the respondents, (ii) livelihood support i.e DAY-NRLM, DDUGKY, PMEGP are provided to them by the Government & (iii) creation of different assets like provision of irrigation facility, dug out farm pond, plantation, land development, afforestation, vermi composting, cattleshed, poultry shelter, goat shelter are constructed in the rural area. All these efforts and provide funds by Govt. aim at generating the higher income needed to reduce the number of households living below the poverty line. It may be seen from the Table 5 that the ST respondents availed 34.94%, OC respondents availed 33.66% and SC respondents availed 31.40% of the total fund from MGNREGS. In terms of the composition of the respondents OCs constitute 30.0%, STs constitute 46.25% and SCs constitute 23.75% of the migrant families. As against the total funds made available to all respondents, the average amount of financial support per migrant families comes to Rs. 10454.38. In terms of different categories of respondents, the amount of financial help to them is as follows:

The average amount of financial allotment for different category of respondents, i.e

Table 3
Distribution of Sample Respondents by Age, Sex, Caste & Educational Status

Name of Block	Age Group				Sex		Caste			Educational Status	
	18-32	33-47	48-62	62& above	M	F	SC	ST	OC	Literate	Illiterate
Bhawanipatna	5	10	5	-	20	-	4	15	1	13	7
Golamunda	-	11	8	1	19	1	-	10	10	7	13
Th. Rampur	6	4	7	3	20	-	8	10	2	12	8
Lanjigarh	4	13	3	-	20	-	7	2	11	12	8
Total	15	38	23	4	79	1	19	37	24	44	36

Table 4
Occupational Profile of Sample Respondents

Name of Block	MF	SF	AL	Non-AL	RA	Others	Total
Bhawanipatna	6	-	6	8	-	-	20
Golamunda	5	-	5	7	-	3	20
Th. Rampur	4	-	4	12	-	-	20
Lanjigarh	5	-	4	9	2	-	20
Total	20	-	19	36	2	3	80

Table 5
Income of Sample Respondent Households from different sources

Name of Block	Respondents			Income from MGNREGS (in Rs.)			Income from Other Sources (in Rs.)			Total Income (in Rs.)			Total (in Rs.)
	SC	ST	OC	SC	ST	OC	SC	ST	OC	SC	ST	OC	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14 (11+12+13)
Bhawanipatna	4	15	1	29120	95550	3640	75000	233250	20375	104120	328800	24015	456935
Golamunda	-	10	10	-	49492	69240	-	166000	166000	-	215492	235240	450732
Th. Rampur	8	10	2	106106	128720	27026	81300	116600	30400	187406	245320	57426	490152
Lanjigarh	7	2	11	127400	18420	181636	88600	26200	124000	216000	44620	305636	566256
Total	19	37	24	262626	292182	281542	244900	542050	340775	507526	834232	622317	1964075

Table 6
Distribution of Economic Position of Respondents were getting wages under MGNREGS

Name of Block	Below 12,000	12,000-17,999	18,000-23,999	24,000 & above	Total
Bhawanipatna	-	1	5	14	20
Golamunda	-	3	9	8	20
Th. Rampur	-	1	6	13	20
Lanjigarh	-	-	5	15	20
Total	-	5 (6.25)	25 (31.25)	50 (62.50)	80

The value within the parentheses denoted the percentage

- Per SC Respondents : Rs.13,822.42
- Per ST Respondents   : Rs. 7,896.81
- Per OC Respondents : Rs. 11,730.92

Respondents belonging to the SC category get larger financial assistance of Rs.13,822.42 per Respondents compared to the OC Respondents who get Rs. 11,730.92 by wages from MGNREGS.

Also, the average amount of other sources of income as a worker from agricultural work and other construction work, artisan, collection of forest goods, business for different category of respondents, i.e

- Per SC Respondents : Rs. 12889.47
- Per ST Respondents : Rs. 14650.00
- Per OC Respondents : Rs. 14198.96

Respondents belonging to the ST category get higher income from other sources like agriculture, minor forest produce, business, etc. of Rs. 14650.00 as compared to the OC and SC. Respondents of Rs. 14198.96 and Rs. 12889.47 respectively. It may thus be noted that per Respondent financial assistance including other sources of income is the highest in the case of ST Respondent than the OC and SC Respondent.

2) Annual Income of Respondents

Table 6 presents the distribution of respondents in the blocks with regard to annual family income. They have been grouped into 4 categories depending on the reported annual family income viz. below Rs.12,000/-, Rs.12,000/- -Rs.17,999/-, Rs.18,000/- -Rs. 23,999/- and above Rs.24,000/-. Out of 80 respondents working under MGNREGS, 50 (62.50 %) respondents are found above the poverty line, i.e the level of income of Rs.24,000/- & above per year of the per family. In case of 25 (31.25%) respondents are the level of income of Rs 18,000/- to 23,999/- per year of the per family and 5 (6.25%) respondents are the level of income of Rs.12,000/- to 17,999/- per year of the per family. These families form 37.50 % of total investigated respondents are inverse of crossing the poverty line soon if to increase 100 days work to 200 days work will be given to them shown in Table 6.
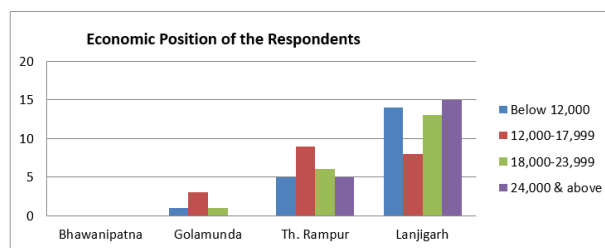

Fig. 2. The Graphical representation of Economic Position of the respondents

3) Comparison of Economic Position of Respondents

In order to assess income generation through the MGNREGS work provided to the respondents the position of the sample respondents in different income levels (income range) i.e the respondents were getting work under MGNREGS is analyzed in Table 7. It reveals that 50 (62.5%) of the respondents have been benefited from MGNREGS as they have increased their annual income is more than Rs.24,000/- per family. Again, 29 (37.5%) of the respondents are however marginally benefited from the scheme. Their income level is slow. The Table showed that there is a significant change in the economic standard of respondent families. The blocks like Bhawanipatna, Golamunda, Th. Rampur & Lanjigarh have shown an upward trend in income generation.
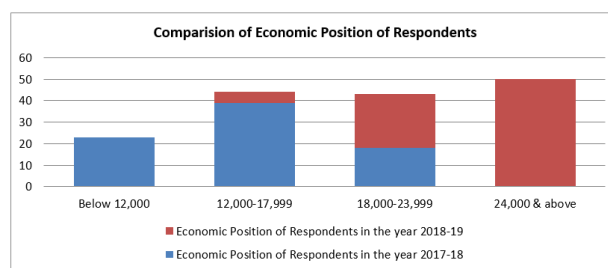

Fig. 3. The Graphical representation of Economic Position of the respondents

4) The Transformation in the Income Level

There has been a clear shift from lower to higher-income

groups. This was evident from the fact that percentage increase in some migrant families at different income groups i.e 12000/- to 17999/-,18000/- to 23999/- and 24000/- & above was 6.25%, 31.25% and 62.5% respectively. The shift of migrant families from lower to higher income groups is higher in Lanjigarh Block of Kalahandi District.

5) Improved Standard of Living

After implementation of MGNREGS it is noticed that the standard of living of the migrant families in Kalahandi district is improving. The job card holder of Kalahandi district has increased in the year 2018-19. Also increased the income of migrant people and it helps to reduce the poverty level. So the living condition of the migrant families is improved.

Table 7
Comparision of Economic Position of Respondents

Income Group	Below 12,000	12,000-17,999	18,000-23,999	24,000 & above	Total
Economic Position of Respondents in the year 2017-18	23 (28.75)	39 (48.75)	18 (22.5)	-	80
Economic Position of Respondents in the year 2018-19	-	5 (6.25)	25 (31.25)	50 (62.5)	80

7. Major Findings

The major findings of the study are as follows,

1. In all the selected migrant families, the income of the respondents has increased through wage employment under MGNREGS. But the enhancement in the income was not up to the desired level.

2. The PRI officials & Elected representatives are more involved for better implementation of the MGNREGS. Their main objective is to make the Job cards for the unskilled workers to provide work to them under MGNREGS. But most of the migrant families have done work for 35-45 days & got less income under the scheme.

3. It is implemented as a demand-based one. whenever work is sanctioned workers are asked to apply. They are encouraged to apply whenever they need employment. Officials can assess local requirements of employment properly.

4. There is a need to achieve convergence of MGNREGS with other programmes. This will be benefitted in several aspects. Presently low priority is accorded to schemes that improve the natural resource base as they are under the purview of other programmes. Convergence with other schemes helps in taking up these schemes under MGNREGS.

5. Work site facilities such as creche, drinking water, shade & first aid are available for the workers at the time of work under MGNREGS.

6. Assets like renovation of tanks, farm ponds, check dams, earthen dams, roads, plantation, playgrounds & land developments are found to be of good quality in 4 blocks of Kalahandi district.

7. Conducted Social Audit in Odisha twice in a financial year.

8. Suggestions

The following suggestions are made based on the findings of the study,

1. Organization of training programmes like Social Audit and convergence of MGNREGS Plan with various other plans for Officials and PRI Members.

2. Delay in wage payment has to be reduced by introducing modern methods of Information Technology in the measurement of works.

3. There is a need to plan for convergence with the line departments include Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Irrigation, Horticulture, Forestry, Fishery, Drinking Water & Sanitation, PWD, Women & Child Welfare, which will also help in maintaining labour & material ratio.

4. People should be enlightened on the need for strengthening natural resources like land and water.

5. Rural Sanitation projects like toilet building, soak pits and solid & liquid waste management have been included under MGNREGS.

6. Employment for women should be given top priority to increase their income which helps in the improvement of the family.

7. "Shelf of works" will be identified by the community for 5 years which can be taken up in their villages as per the job demand and entitled persondays.

8. MGNREGS and NRLM Convergence have launched a strategy to ensure productive use of MGNREGS works by the migrants and ensure their livelihoods around the year.

9. Social Audit & VMC are two important measures of transparency built into the scheme to improve its efficiency. Therefore, Social Audit should be conducted regularly in the rural areas.

9. Conclusion

This paper presented an overview of Impact of Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee scheme on socio-economic development of migrant families of odisha.

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