



A STUDY OF FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE NREGA IN NAGPUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

In this paper the researcher is to look at the financial and economic aspects of the NREGA in Nagpur district. It will be studying the implications for the rural Backward economy as a result of the minimum wage and Job-generation instituted by the Act. Also, the greater bargaining power of the rural Backward workforce and its implications on the job-markets will be looked at. Besides this, the effectiveness in Job-generation of the scheme will be studied.

KEYWORDS : rural Backward economy, minimum wage and Job-generation.

INTRODUCTION

NREGS is one of the most important programmes ever

launched' for rural Backward in India. Although it has been positioned and popularised as social security and livelihood scheme but it also have a very important connotations for economy as a whole. NREGS has not only emerged as ray of hope for millions of poor and marginalised families in rural Backward in India but also as a massive rural Backward investment program, which has promise to take India's growth in top gear. This scheme is gradually building physical assets in rural Backward in India which is visible, sustainable, and technically sound and being monitored by people themselves. This study discusses the appropriateness of these structures, their economic impact on rural Backward life and impact on livelihood of marginalised

population of rural Backward in India. It was also important to study the implications of NREGS from minimum wage and Job-generation point of view. The study also examines the multiplier effect of NREGS in context of agricultural productivity, scope for skill development in rural Backward areas and Job-generation generation outside NREGS.

The National Rural Job-generation Guarantee Act (NREGA) is a historic legislation passed by the Government of India in September 2005. Ministry of Rural Development claims it as a revolutionary program to transform the rural economy and improvement in livelihood with a promise of inclusive growth. The government has referred to it as an Act of the people, by the people, and for the people. The NREGS guarantees a hundred days of unskilled Job-generation to each household in every financial year at an equal wage rate for both male and female workers. Additionally, it guarantees the "right to work" as a legal right of every able-bodied adult in rural Backward in India. It is fundamentally different in a way from all other wage Job-generation programmes operating since 1980 is that these programmes do not

guarantee Job-generation as a legal right. It provides ample opportunities for creating rural Backward public assets, which has been largely neglected. It helps to enhance the purchasing power of rural Backward households, thereby contributing to poverty alleviation. The NREGS achieves twin objectives of rural Backward development and Job-generation. The NREGS stipulates that works must be targeted towards a set of specific rural Backward development activities such as water conservation and harvesting, afforestation, rural Backward connectivity, flood control and protection such as construction and repair of embankments, etc. Digging of new tanks/ponds, percolation tanks and construction of small check dams are also given importance.

Table 1: Responses about getting training regarding scheme in Nagpur district.

The responses of respondent, involved in Job-generation of NREGA about getting training regarding scheme Nagpur district is shown in following Table.

	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Yes	12	9.8
No	108	86.4
Can't Say	05	3.8
Total	125	100

Source: Survey Data

It is observed that out of total 150 respondents involved in Job-generation of NREGA 12 (9.8%) respondents got training regarding scheme in Nagpur district, whereas 108 (86.4%) respondents did not get training regarding scheme. In addition to this, 05 (3.8%) respondents were uncertain about receiving training regarding scheme.

It is observed from the Table 1 that majority of respondents involved in Job-generation of NREGA scheme did not receive training regarding scheme in Nagpur district. This may also be affect the success of scheme because the volunteers without training cannot able to guide properly to the beneficiaries.

Table 2: Responses about imparting proper training/knowledge about NREGA program Job-generation to respondents

The responses of respondent, involved in Job-generation of NREGA about imparting proper training/knowledge about NREGA program Job-generation to respondents are shown in following Table

	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Yes	10	7.8
No	89	71.2
Can't Say	26	21
Total	125	100

Source: Survey Data

It is observed that out of total 125 respondents involved in Job-generation of NREGA, according to 10 (7.8%) respondents' proper training/knowledge about NREGA program Job-generation was provided to them, whereas according to 89 (71.2%) respondents NREGA program Job-generation was not provided to them. In addition to this, 26 (21%) respondents were uncertain about imparting proper training/knowledge about NREGA program Job-generation to them.

It is observed from the Table 2 that according to majority of respondent's proper training/knowledge about NREGA program Job-generation is not provided to them.

Table 3: Responses of respondents regarding extent to which beneficiaries' benefited

The responses of respondent, involved in Job-generation of NREGA regarding extent of beneficiaries' benefit are shown in following Table.

	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Fully	49	39.4
Partially	47	37.8
To very less extent	29	22.8
Total	125	100

Source: Survey Data

It is observed that out of total 125 respondents involved in Job-generation of NREGA 49 (39.4%) respondents felt that beneficiaries were fully benefited with scheme, whereas 47 (37.8%) respondents felt that beneficiaries were partially benefited with scheme. In addition to this according to 29 (22.8%) respondents' beneficiaries were benefited to very less extent with the scheme.

It is observed from the Table 3 that according to majority of respondent involved in Job-generation of NREGA scheme, beneficiaries are fully benefited through NREGA scheme, However; it is also apparent from the results that considerable no. of i.e. 60.6% respondent felt that beneficiaries are partially benefited and benefited to a very less extent through scheme. These results showed that there is no clear cut agreement on benefits of NREGA to beneficiaries.

Table 4: Responses about facing problems while engaging beneficiaries on work under scheme

The responses of respondent, involved in Job-generation of NREGA about facing problems while engaging beneficiaries on work under scheme is shown in following Table

	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Yes	81	64.8
No	31	24.8
Can't Say	13	10.4
Total	125	100

Source: Survey Data

It is observed that out of total 125 respondents involved in Job-generation of NREGA, 81 (64.8%) respondents faced problem while engaging beneficiaries on work under NREGA scheme, whereas 31 (24.8%) respondents did not faced problem while engaging beneficiaries on work under NREGA scheme. In addition to this, 13 (10.4%) respondents were uncertain about-facing problem while engaging beneficiaries on work under NREGA scheme.

It is observed from the Table 4 that majority of respondents faced problem while engaging beneficiaries on work under NREGA scheme.

CONCLUSION

The majority of respondents involved in Job-generation of NREGA scheme did not receive training regarding scheme. It is also observed from the Table 1 that according to majority of respondent proper training/knowledge about NREGA program Job-generation is not provided to them.

It is observed from the Table 3 that according to majority of respondent involved in Job-generation of NREGA scheme, beneficiaries are fully benefited through NREGA scheme, however; it is also apparent from the results that considerable no. of i.e. 60.6% respondent felt that beneficiaries are partially benefited and benefited to a very less extent through scheme. These results showed that there is no clear cut agreement on benefits of NREGA to beneficiaries.

The Table 4 that majority of respondents faced problem while engaging beneficiaries on work under NREGA scheme. It is also observed from the Table .3 that significant no. of respondents faced problems such as lobbying, lack of adequate fund and inadequate facilities while engaging beneficiaries on work under NERGA scheme.

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