



PERFORMANCE OF MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE PROGRAMME IN KARNATAKA STATE – A MACRO LEVEL ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) launched in the year 2005, may be dubbed as one of the major indigenously schemed flagship strategies of the Govt. of India, in coherence with the Pursuit of the objective of removing poverty and unemployment. This has a special relevance as this was supposed to serve one of the basic millennium development goals of poverty alleviation intended to be achieved by the year 2015. In this perspective it may be specified that the basic aim of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is to enhance the livelihood security of the people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage employment in a financial year, to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The scheme has a special relevance as it is meant to promote peoples' empowerment and capability by enhancing asset base in the rural sector and promoting peoples' access to it. It is supposed to function as an act of the people, by the people and for the people. It is meant to serve an important social responsibility of the Govt. by recognizing peoples' right to work and right to earning. The unique importance of the scheme lies in its provision to enhance people's livelihoods on a sustained basis, by developing the economic and social infrastructure in rural areas. The present study aims at examining performance of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme in particularly in Karnataka state.

KEYWORDS: *Employment, Wage Rate, Occupation, Destination, Outlays, Outputs, Livelihood*