IMPACT OF MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE PROGRAMME ON RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION- A VILLAGE LEVEL INVESTIGATION IN BAGALKOT DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Employment opportunities have been increasing drastically in recent decade. In one or the other way, it is the impact of the globalization which has led to concentration of growth and development in urban areas in terms of development of industrial and service sectors. But with compared to other sectors, primary sector has failed to capture the fruits of globalization due to its long gestation. Any of the development oriented programmes and growth oriented policies if fail to improve the performance of the primary sector may be considered as failure of the programmes and policies in reaching the majority of the people dependent on agriculture, especially in developing countries like India. In this background the present study is an attempt to evaluate the effectiveness of MGNREGA programme in Bagalkot district of Karnataka state. Out of seven blocks I have chosen one block namely Mudhol, from this block tow grama panchayats in proportion to their numbers in each block were selected. In all 91 sample respondents are selected through Simple Stratified random sampling method ensuring representation to every selected gram panchyat. The present study focuses on the impact of this programme on the socio-economic conditions of the rural economy in Bagalkot district of Karnataka state

KEYWORDS:

MGNREGA, Rural Economy, Scoio-Economic Condition, Asset Creation

Section-I. INTRODUCTION

The sector of agriculture plays significant role in rural development. As we see in India more than 65 percent of the people depend on the agricultural sector for their sole employments. However, in the past it has been seen as a nonprofit able and agriculture is influenced by the monsoon which is attracting less numbers and pushing crores of people on the verge of unemployment. Because of the law of inheritance, the number of marginal and small farmers has been rising at a faster rate. Consequently, the extent of partial/ disguised unemployment has been rising at a high rate in rural areas in India. Due to such unemployed situation the level of poverty is also increasing in the rural regions. It is evidently found that there are numerous cases of migrations from villages to cities seeking employment.

In this background the present study is an attempt to evaluate the effectiveness of MGNREGA programme in Bagalkot district of Karnataka state. Out of seven blocks I have chosen one block namely Mudhol, from this block tow grama panchayats in proportion to their numbers in each block were selected. In all 91 sample respondents are selected through Simple Stratified random sampling method ensuring

representation to every selected gram panchyat. The present study focuses on the impact of this programme on the socio-economic conditions of the rural economy in Bagalkot district of Karnataka state

Section-II.STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Bagalkot district in Karnataka state are among the 200 backward districts in which this programme was implemented in II phase. Agriculture is predominant sector in the district economy with 65% of population employed in agriculture. But the district is a drought prone area. Agriculture is the largest employer in Bagalkot, with over 65% of the working population engaged in it; approximately 80% of female workers in Bagalkot are engaged in agriculture. Like most of north Karnataka, Bagalkot is very rich in black soil which is conducive to the cultivation of cotton. Bagalkot's economy was valued at US$5.6 billion, making it the 12th largest economy in Karnataka.

In this context the present study tries to analyze the impact of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme on socio-economic conditions in

Bagalkot district. And also tries to analyze the impact of the Programme on the livelihood of the people through examine distributional dimensions of MGNREGA in terms of income and consumption of the poor households in rural areas. The present study is confined itself to examine the effectiveness of the Programme provided by the Government from the angle of rural unskilled labourers' as well as to see the impact of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme in particularly on the socio-economic condition of the rural people in Bagalkot district in terms of employment generation and rural asset creations.

Section-III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study aims at examining the Role of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme in Socio-economic conditions of a people in Bagalkot District. For this purpose following objectives have been outlined.

i. To analyze the coverage of household in the programme.
ii. To analyses the wage, work conditions and the expenditure pattern of earnings from the study area.
iii. To examine the extent and nature of long term community assets created under the programme in the study area.

3.1. Hypotheses of the study

On the basis of the Review of literature and objectives of this study, to proceed in a systematic way, following hypothesis are formed for testing to arrive at some definite conclusions they are:

i. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme has generated stipulated employment.
ii. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme has created targeted number of community assets.
iii. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme minimizes the extent of migration of the rural people by providing employment opportunities in their respective places.

Section-IV. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

4.1. Database of the study

The study has been designed under the frame work of both primary and secondary data. The study covers the period from 2006-2016.

4.2. Selection of Sample Blocks:

The sample villages are selected in two categories like Developed village and Under Developed village which are in the neighborhood of main taluka road, the village which succeed in undertaking comparatively more activities under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme Programme. Keeping in view these parameters 02 Gram Panchayat villages are selecting i.e., 2 each from sample Taluka.

Table-4.1 Particulars of sample Gram Panchayat and Villages selected in Bagalkot District.

Block	Gram Panchayat	Village	No. of samples
Mudhol	Saidapur	Saidapur	49
	Rampur	Rampur	64
Total			**113**

Section-V.RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table-4.2 Caste Composition of the Sample Respondents in the Study Area

Sl. No.	Name of Taluka	Name of Gram Panchayat	Caste Composition of the Sample Respondents				
			SC	ST	General	OBC	Total
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	22	10	04	13	49
		Rampur	30	17	06	11	64
	Total		**52**	**27**	**10**	**24**	**113**

Source: Primary data

The social capital in this study is discussed in relation to caste and social networks. The identification of caste is still evident in every part of the rural Karnataka, and, in many ways, caste reflects people's social belonging and status. The above table represents the caste composition of the sample respondents in the study area. A large number of respondents i.e., about 42.66 per cent belong to SC category, and about 24per cent of respondents belong to ST category and only a little number 10 per cent of them belongs to General Category. The rest i.e, 23.33 per cent belongs to OBC categories are working under MGNREGA programme.

As the primary data reveals that even today the majority of the people working under MGNREGA are not only economically weaker but also socially weaker. Those who are in the lower strata of the caste hierarchy are in majority working under this programme. This signifies that there is a high co relation between socially backward and economically backward. As the analysis shows that the majority of the people who are residing in this region belonging to SC category are economically and socially weaker compared with the other categories of people.

Table-4.3 Literacy Status and Educational Level of the Sample Respondents

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Name of Gram Panchayat	Educational level				
			Primary	Secondary	High School	Illiterate	Total
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	29	07	04	24	64
		Rampur	14	04	02	34	54
Total			43	11	06	58	113

Source: Primary data

The above table 5.3 show that when all the villages taken together, the percentage of the illiteracy is 52 per cent. Whereas the respondents with secondary and high school education constitute only a little over 12 and 7 percentage. Rest are having primary education i.e., only 33 per cent, no any PUC and degree holder workers are found working under MGNREGA programme at the work site.. Further, it can also observed from the above table that out of the four villages selected for study, there is a significant pattern to be seen pertaining to education which can be applied to the national level studies. From the above analysis, it is found that relatively high illiteracy revels in the study area which means great deals of unskilled labour practices are found. The majority of the respondents are illiterate whereas they are facing tremendous difficulty in finding desirous jobs and at last MGNREGA comes for the rescue.

Table-4.4 Nature of Work of the Sample Respondents under MGNREGA

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Name of Gram Panchayat	Nature of work					Total
			Land develop ment	Flood control	Rural connec tivity	Water conser vation	Drought proofing	
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	29	04	07	22	07	69
		Rampur	26	02	03	28	02	61
	Total		55	06	10	50	09	113

Source: Primary data

The above table explains that a majority of workers have been assigned in the land development related work, it's 35.00 per cent. And 16.87 per cent of respondents are workers in the rural connectivity. 28.45% per cent of respondents work in water conservation and 11.56 per cent of the respondents work in drought proofing. The great thing is that 8.12 per cent of respondents are working in flood control work in the study area
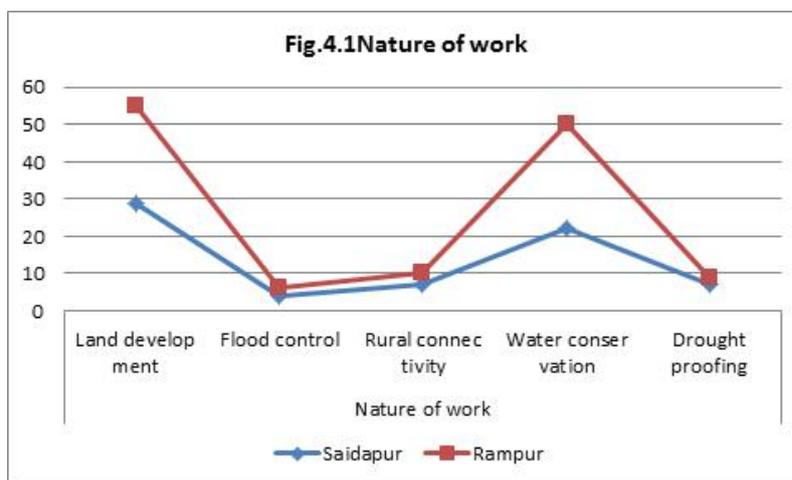

Fig.4.1 Nature of work

Table-4.5 Yearly Income of the Sample Respondents before Joining to MGNREGA Work

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Name of Gram Panchayat	Yearly income of the sample respondents before joining to MGNREGA work						Total
			5000	5001-8000	8001-12000	12001-16000	16001-20000	20001 <	
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	19	28	11	14	08	03	83
		Rampur	10	20	21	05	02	02	60
Total			29	48	33	19	10	05	113

Source: *Primary data*

It can be clearly observed from the above table that most of the respondents 29.6% from all the village are earning ₹ .5001 to Rs.8000 their yearly income which hows the very low income before they joined to MGNREGA work and 20.95 per cent of the respondents earn was ₹.9000 to ₹12000 of yearly income. About 15.93 per cent of the respondents' earnings was ₹.13000 to ₹16000 of Yearly income and 9.37 per cent of respondents earning was ₹170000 to ₹20000 and the rest of the 5.32 per cent of the respondents earning was above ₹.more than 20000 before they joined to MGNREGA work which shows the very low level yearly income in the Table-4.5.

Table-4.6 Yearly Income of the Sample Respondents after Joining to MGNREGA Work

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Name of Gram Panchayat	Yearly income of the sample respondents after joining to MGNREGA work						Total
			5000	5001-8000	8001-12000	12001-16000	16001-20000	20001 <	
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	08	16	18	24	12	06	84
		Rampur	04	12	08	15	05	04	48
	Total		12	28	26	39	17	10	113

Source: Primary data

The above table reveals that out of 300 sample respondents about 26.3 per cent of respondents yearly income was ₹ .12001 to ₹.16000 after they joined MGNREGA and 21 percent of the people had the income of ₹ 8001 to ₹12000 which greater than the income they used to earn. Further, it is interesting to note that 19.3 percent of people had the income of ₹5001 to ₹ 8000. As the analysis clearly shows that there is a significant impact on the increasing level of income of these people after started working under the MGNREGA programme and 10.93% per cent of the sample respondents are After joining the income was MGNREGA was above 5000 above in a month and the real fact is that the respondents earned more than they earned in their villages. But after the MGNREGA they are earning more money than previous days.

Table-4.7 Migration Status of the Sample Respondents before the MGNREGA Programme

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Name of Gram Panchayat	Migration status				Total
			Other village	Other district	Other state	Non-migrants	
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	11	23	15	22	71
		Rampur	14	20	22	23	79
	Total		25	43	37	45	113

Source: *Primary data*

As the above table depicts that the majority of the people 32.3 percent had migrated to other states. Before the implementation of the MGNREGA programme 25.6 percent respondents of the study migrated to other districts. It was also found that 25.3 percent of the people were non-migrants. Further, only 16.6 percent of the people had migrated to other villages. The above analysis of the data clearly indicates that there is a close relationship between the absence of MGNREGA programme and increasing migration from the villages to neighboring cities or states.

Table-4.8 Migration Status of the Sample Respondents after the MGNREGA Programme

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Name of Gram Panchayath	Migration status				Total
			Other village	Other district	Other state	Non-migrants	
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	08	20	05	22	71
		Rampur	10	08	10	23	79
	Total		18	28	15	52	113

Source: *Primary data*

As the above table depicts that the majority of the people 25.18 percent had migrated to other states. Before the implementation of the MGNREGA programme 30.00 percent respondents of the study migrated to other districts. It was also found that 12.35 percent of the people were non-migrants. Further, only 10 percent of the people had migrated to other villages. The above analysis of the data clearly indicates that there is a huge reduction in migration level after the implementation of the MGNREGA programme in the study area.
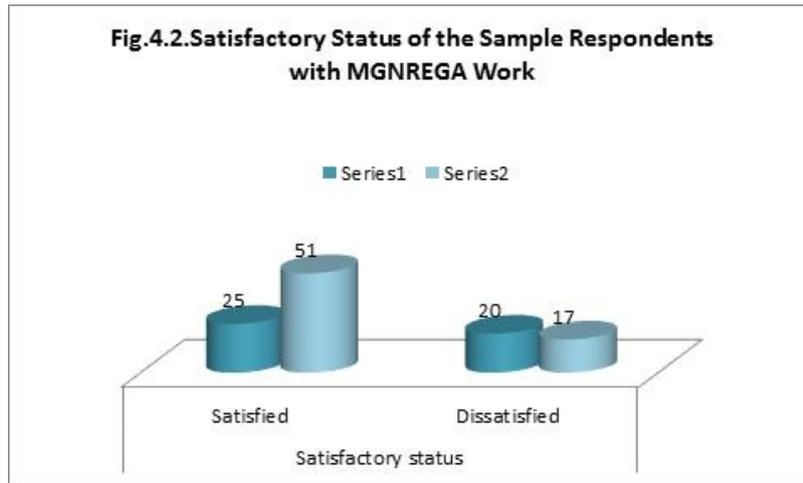
Table-4.9 Satisfactory Status of the Sample Respondents with MGNREGA Work

Sl. No.	Name of Taluk	Name of Gram Panchayath Village	Satisfactory status		Total
			Satisfied	Dissatisfied	
1	Mudhol	Saidapur	25	20	**45**
		Rampur	51	17	**68**
	Total		**76**	**37**	**113**

Source: Primary data

Table-4.9 shows that most of the respondents are satisfied with the MGNREGA works, which means 76 per cent and 24 per cent of the sample respondents are dissatisfied with the MGNREGA works under the programme of MGNREGA villagers obtained numerous employment opportunities which constrained them from migrating to cities.

Fig.4.2.Satisfactory Status of the Sample Respondents with MGNREGA Work

Section-VI. FINDINGS, POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONCLUDING REMARK

6.1. Findings: the study findings are as follows in below:

- The study found that caste composition of the sample respondents in the study area. A large number of respondents i.e., about 42.66 per cent belong to SC category, and about 24per cent of respondents belong to ST category and only a little number 10 per cent of them belongs to General Category. The rest i.e, 23.33 per cent belongs to OBC categories are working under MGNREGA programme.
- The found that 5.3 show that when all the villages taken together, the percentage of the illiteracy is 52 per cent. Whereas the respondents with secondary and high school education constitute only a little over 12 and 7 percentage.
- The study found that a majority of workers have been assigned in the land development related work, it's 35.00 per cent. And 16.87 per cent of respondents are workers in the rural connectivity. 28.45% per cent of respondents work in water conservation and 11.56 per cent of the respondents work in drought proofing.
- The study shows that most of the respondents 29.6% from all the village are earning ₹ .5001 to Rs.8000 their yearly income which hows the very low income before they joined to MGNREGA work and 20.95 per cent of the respondents earn was .9000 to .12000 of yearly income. About 15.93 per

cent of the respondents' earnings was .13000 to .16000 of Yearly income and 9.37 per cent of respondents earning was .170000 to .20000 and the rest of the 5.32 per cent of the respondents earning was above .20000 more than before they joined to MGNREGA work which shows the very low level yearly income.
- The study shows that the majority of the people 32.3 percent had migrated to other states. Before the implementation of the MGNREGA programme 25.6 percent respondents of the study migrated to other districts.
- The study shows that most of the respondents are satisfied with the MGNREGA works, which means 76 per cent and 24 per cent of the sample respondents are dissatisfied with the MGNREGA works under the programme of MGNREGA villagers obtained numerous employment opportunities which constrained them from migrating to cities.

6.2. Policy Implications:

Some suggestions are incorporated here on the basis of field observations and interactions with enlightened village people.
- Bagalkot districts deserve special attention in monitoring, supervision and follow-up action. Special monitors may be appointed to check things and bring all those involved in irregularities to book.
- The Grama Sabha should be made more participatory and strengthened to take up social auditing in the study area.
- Panchayat should be empowered financially and job responsibility should be distributed to all the

elected members. Some amount of MGNREGA programmes may be granted as remuneration to elected panchayat members in the study area.

- There should be frequent audit of accounts and registers of MGNREGA by the district/ state audit agencies.

- There is a need to streamline and intensify MGNREGA monitoring. The new guidelines of MGNREGA stipulates 100% verification of muster rolls.

- Using official machinery for this purpose may not yield desired results. Involving civil society organizations may be considered.

- As part of regular monitoring, specific tasks and relevant formats may be designed for Collectors, PDs, BDOs, Sectoral Heads of related line departments and ensure that these officials send feed back to district and state levels. The follow-up and corrective action should also be documented.

- The respondents have a suggestion to increase the wage rate from [* File contains invalid data | In-line.JPG *]250 to 300 to 400 because of increase in the food grain prices.

- In Bagalkot district some part of the villages are not having full awareness about the programme and the performance of the programme is very low in some pat of the talukas so the officials should take for the effective implementation of the programme in the backward areas.

- A package of work site facilities is also an important entitlement of workers. Apart from taking care of the welfare of workers, these facilities raise the level of productivity of workers. The strong monitoring of the facilities by the administration will be useful.

6.3. Concluding Remark:

There is also a need to carry out further research studies intensively in analyzing the various factors involving the effective implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme in the district which may help to develop an appropriate strategy to implement the programme very effectively in the Bagalkot district.

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