
Performance of MGNREGA in Mysore District, Karnataka

Ashok Kumar H

Institute of Development Studies, MG, Mysuru

ABSTRACT

The scheme provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage. The law was initially called the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. MGNREGA is being implemented in Karnataka since 2006. Now it covers all the 30 districts of the State. The objective is to ensure livelihood and food security by providing unskilled work to people through creation of sustainable assets. The Study mainly concentrated on to study the Performance and progress of MGNREGA in the study area. to study the Job card issued and employment generation in Mysuru District, to assess the financial inclusion of MGNREGA in Mysuru District and to analyse the constraints and to suggest remedial measure for improve the MGNREGA in Mysuru District. it can be said that if the is executed properly with accountability and obligation to the laws, MGNREGA can efficiently contribute towards the inclusive economic growth of the country.

Keywords: MGNREGA, Job Cards, rural employment, expenditure, fund available

INTRODUCTION

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is an Indian job guarantee scheme, enacted by legislation on August 25, 2005. On February 2, 2006, amidst great hype and hope, the MGNREGA came into force in 200 of India's backward districts. The scheme provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work-related unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage. The law was initially called the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) but was renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) on 2 October 2009.

This act was introduced with an aim of improving the purchasing power of the rural people, primarily semi or un-skilled work to people living in rural India, whether or not they are below the poverty line.

MGNREGA is being implemented in Karnataka since 2006. Now it covers all the 30 districts of the State. The objective is to ensure livelihood and food security by providing unskilled work to people through creation of sustainable assets.

Developing country like India needs inclusive growth for the overall development of the country. Inclusive growth is necessary for sustainable development and equitable distribution of wealth. In India, more than 70.00 per cent people live in rural areas and among rural population marginalized sections of the society are more vulnerable. In order to reduce the poverty, the inclusive growth should provide livelihood opportunities. In rural areas, still the problem of mass poverty is very severe even though India had already achieved a growth rate of more than 8.00 per cent in the Eleventh Plan. In this background, there is a need for the Government to enact the employment guarantee Act like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

Its main objective is to enhance livelihood and food security to the rural poor by giving 100 days of guaranteed employment to adult members of the family who are interested to participate in the unskilled manual work in a financial year. MGNREGA started in three phases, first in 2006 covering 200 districts, second phase in 2007-08 covering another 130 districts and in the third and final phase the remaining all the districts have been notified under NREGA with effect from 1st April 2008. Thus

**Address for correspondence:*

vaios@sch.gr

the whole nation was brought under the purview of MGNREGA with the exception of the districts which are having hundred per cent urban population. In 2nd October 2009 NREGA has been renamed as MGNREGA.

Table No. 1. Explains the various stages of MGNREGA where by the scheme got its modifications from 2005 to 2009. the programme was introduced in 200 most backward districts of the country in the first stage on 2nd February 2006 and further it was extended to another 130 districts in April 2007 and NREGA has been universalized throughout the country on 1st April 2008. On 2nd October 2009 it was renamed as MGNREGA.

Table1. MGNREGA implemented in different stages 2005 to 2009

Stages	Year	Notification
Programme Introduced by Central Government of India	August 25 th 2005	NREGA enacted by legalization
First Stage	September 5th, 2005, September 7th, 2005	Started Functioning in 200 most Backward districts from 2nd February 2006 and Notified in the Gazette of India
Second Stage	April 1st, 2007	Extended to 130 more districts in April 2007
Third Stage	April 1st, 2008	Extended to the whole country from 1st April 2008
Fourth Stage	October 2008	Started paying wages through banks/ post offices from October 2008
Fifth Stage	February 2009	MOU with postal department has been signed from February 2009
Final Stage	October 2nd, 2009	NREGA has been renamed as MGNREGA with effect from 2nd October 2009
	December 10th, 2010	SMS service was introduced
	April 20th, 2011	Report for daily expenditure
	July 5th, 2013	Workers Mobile number can be added in the data

Source: Various reports, MGNREGA

SALIENT FEATURES OF MGNREGA

The Following are the Salient Features of MGNREGA

1. Registration

Adult members of a rural household willing to do unskilled manual work, may apply for registration either in writing, or orally to the local Gram Panchayat (GP). The unit for registration is a household. Under the Act, each household is entitled to a 100 days of employment every year.

2. Job Card

After due verification of place of residence and age of the member/s (only adult members are eligible for employment), the registered household is issued a Job Card (JC). Job Card forms the basis of identification for demanding employment. A JC is to be issued within 15 days of registration. Each JC has a unique identification number. The demand for employment in the GP, or at block level has to be made against the JC number. Job Cards are also supposed to be updated with days of work and payment made to the beneficiary as and when the work is undertaken.

3. Application for Work

A written application seeking work is to be made to the GP or Block Office, stating the time and duration for which work is sought. The GP will issue a dated receipt of the written application for employment, against which the guarantee of providing employment within 15 days operates.

4. Unemployment Allowance

In case employment is not provided within 15 days, the state (as per the Act) will pay an unemployment allowance to the beneficiary.

5. Provision of Work

While allocating work, the below mentioned considerations are followed: Work is provided within 5 kilometres (kms) radius of the village. In case, work is provided beyond 5 kms, extra wages of 10 per cent are payable to meet additional transportation and living expenses. Priority is awarded to women, such that at least one-third of the beneficiaries under the scheme are women. At least 50 per cent of works, in terms of cost, are to be executed by the GPs.

6. Wages

Wages are to be paid as per the State-wise Government of India (GOI) notified MGNREGA wages. Wages are also to be paid according to piece rate, as per the Schedule of Rates (SORs). Payment of wages has to be done on a weekly basis and not beyond a fortnight in any case. Payment of wages is mandatorily done through the individual/joint bank/post office beneficiary accounts.

7. Planning

Plans and decisions regarding the nature and choice of works to be undertaken in a FY along with the order in which each work is to be taken up, site selection, etc. are all to be made in open assemblies of the Gram Sabha (GS) and ratified by the GP. Works that are inserted at Block and District levels have to be approved and assigned a priority by the GS before administrative approval can be given. The GS may accept, amend or reject them.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Debasish Biswas (2005), has studied that the performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in Jalpaiguri District of West Bengal and concluded that the level of performance of Jalpaiguri district in West Bengal is satisfactory as par MGNREGS is concerned, this district is giving more emphasis on rural connectivity, flood and land development purpose which is very much essential for overall upliftment of Jalpaiguri district.

Prasad (2012) has stated that the “Performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA): An overview”. The objective of the study was to explore the current status of MGNREGA, review the performance of MGNREGA and to explain the funding pattern of MGNREGA. The study concludes that MGNREGA serves as an effective safety net for the unemployed especially during famine and drought. It has enabled them with sufficient purchasing power and they are able to at least to supports their basic necessity.

Harish, Nagaraj, Chengappa and Basavaraj (2011) have conducted a study on “Impacts and Implications of MGNREGA on Labour Supply and Income Generation for Agriculture in Central Dry Zone of Karnataka”. The study evaluates the impact of MGNREGA on employment, income and savings of the MGNREGA workers, and analyzes the impact of MGNREGA wages on labour availability for agriculture and on workers’ gender and age. The outcome of the study indicates that the MGNREGA programme often poses the problem of labour scarcity for some of the agricultural operations linked to market wage rates.

Kadrolkar (2012) has analysed that the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantees Act’ (MGNREGA) In Karnataka”. The aim of the study was to study the socioeconomic background of the beneficiaries of the act, the perceptions of the beneficiaries about the act and to find out the lacunas in the implementation of the act and to offer suggestions for policy implications. The study suggested that job should be provided to all job card holders and there should be redress cell in case injustice met by the beneficiary.

Kaushik (2013) has presented a paper on “Challenges Faced by Women Entrepreneurs in India”, the aim of the study was to motivate and de-motivate internal and external factor of women entrepreneurship. The study focused on the socio-economic background and total investment made by the women entrepreneurs. The study also finds out the no. of hours devoted for their business. The study suggests that there is a need for providing assistance investment from financial institutions.

Anitha and Sritharan (2013) have findout that the “Problems Being Faced by Women Entrepreneurs in Rural Areas”. The study aims at undertaking the entrepreneurial development among women highlights their motivational forces and relationship between socio-economic background of women entrepreneurs, motivational factors and their existing entrepreneurial trait. It is suggested in the study that most of the women entrepreneurs are of the opinion that because of lack of training, they are not able to survive in the market. Hence, the government should conduct frequent training programmes with regard to new production techniques, sales techniques, etc.

Objectives of the Study

The Study mainly concentrated on the following objectives;

1. To study the Performance and progress of MGNREGA in the study area.
2. To study the Job cared issued and employment generation in Mysuru District

3. To assess the financial inclusion of MGNREGA in Mysuru District.
4. To analyse the constraints and to suggest remedial measure for improve the MGNREGA in Mysuru District.

Methodology

The study is based on the secondary data collected from Books, journals, articles, news papers and internet, Ministry of Rural Development (www.mgnregs.nic.in) for the for the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17. The data analysis is carried out by using statistical methods like percentage and average to draw the conclusions on developmental situation at the grassroots level. Suggestions and conclusion were made based on the analysis of the data.

Performance of MGNREGA

a) Fund Availability and Actual Expenditure on MGNREGA

Table No. 2 stated that the details of fund availability and actual expenditure made on MGNREGA. The overall total fund available to Mysuru District is 10798.73 lakhs and the actual expenditure incurred is 10030.05 lakhs. In the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, the actual expenditure is Rs. 4378.16, Rs. 3696.79 and 1955.10 respectively. But in rest of the years actual expenditure is less than the total fund available. The scheme is getting more importance now-a-days in Mysuru District.

Table2. Fund Availability and Actual Expenditure on MGNREGA in Mysuru District (Rs. In Lakhs)

Year	Fund Availability in Mysore District on MGNREGA	Total Expenditure	Actual Expenditure
2014-15	4616.58	4517.17	4378.16
2015-16	4171.48	3857.51	3696.79
2016-17	2010.67	1964.19	1955.10
Total	10798.73	10338.87	10030.05

Source: www.mgnrega.kar.nic.in.

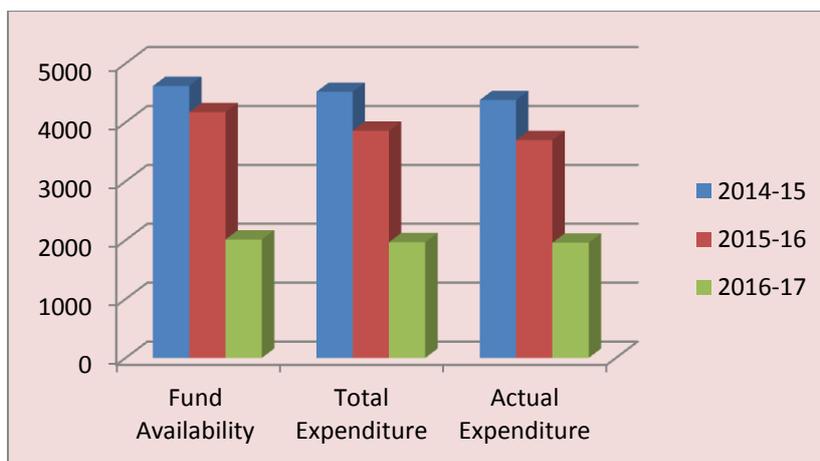


Figure1. Fund Availability and Actual Expenditure on MGNREGA in Mysuru District (Rs. In Lakhs)

b) Bank Account Details of MGNREGA

Table 3 depicted, Bank account Details of the workers in Mysuru District in period of 2014-15 to 2016-17. With The total bank accounts were 135585 in 2014-15, 143479 were 2015-16 and 143146 were 2016-17. In 2014-15 total individual bank accounts were 16173, 2015-16 were 17532 and 2016-17 were 17471 and total joint accounts were 119412 in 2014-15, 125947 were 2015-16 and 125675 in the period of 2016-17. In 2013-14 Amount distributed to bank account was Rupees 19,48,42,424 in 2014-15, Rupees 23,69,80,957 in 2015-16 and Rupees 10,54,81,514 in the period was 206-17.

Table3. Workers Bank accounts details in Mysuru district

Particulars	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Total bank Accounts	135585	143479	143146
Total individual Bank Accounts	16173	17532	17471
Total joint bank accounts	119412	125947	125675
Amount disbursed to bank account (INR)	19,48,42,424	23,69,80,957	10,54,81,514

Source: www.mgnrega.kar.nic.in

c) Job Cards Issued under MGNREGA

Table-4, reveals that the Employment generation in Mysuru district under MGNREGA for the financial year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17.in the financial year 2014-15 out of 1,90,797 job cards issued were under 35881 cards issued to SCs beneficiaries, 20567 Cards issued to STs beneficiaries and 1,34,349 cards issued to others category beneficiaries in the period of 2014-15. In 2015-16, out of total cards issued is 2,03,387, out of which 39,349 cards issued SC, 22,979 cards issued STs and 1,41,059 cards issued to other beneficiaries and 2016-17 total cards issued 2,04,645, out of which 39,636, 23,026 and 1,41,983 of SCs, STs and other category beneficiaries respectively.

Table4. Job Cards Issued in Mysuru district under MGNREGA

Year	Cumulative No. of HH issued job cards (Till the reporting month)			
	SCs	STs	Others	Total
2014-15	35881	20567	134349	190797
2015-16	39349	22979	141059	203387
2016-17	39636	23026	141983	204645
Total	114866	66572	417391	598829

Source: www.mgnrega.kar.nic.in.

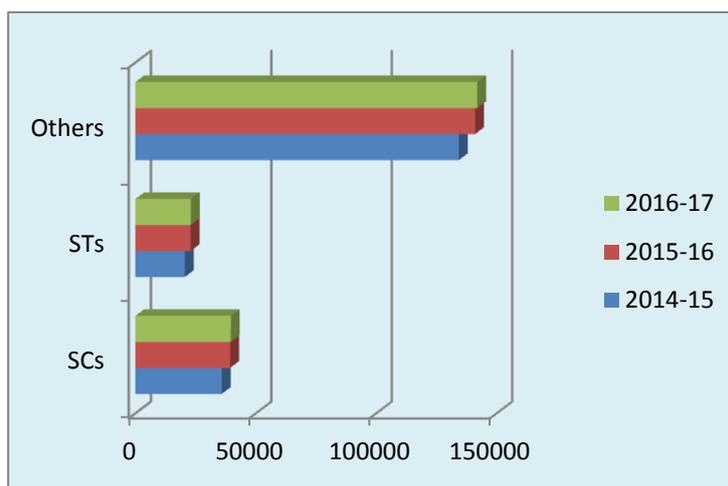


Figure2. Job Cards Issued in Mysuru district under MGNREGA

d) Demand and Provided Employment in MGNREGA

Table 5, reveals that demand for employment and provided employment on MGNREGA of Mysuru district for the financial year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17. Demand employment is 37,314 and employment provided is 24,582 in the period of 2014-15, in 2015-16, demand of employment and provided employment is 45,590 and 33,080 respectively. 2016-17, 21,374 households demand for employment, 8,584 households are provided employment.

Table5. Details of Demand and provided employment in MGNREGA of Mysore District

Year	Cumulative No. of HH Demand employment (Till the reporting month)	Cumulative No. of HH provided employment (Till the reporting month)	Cumulative No. of HH completed 100 days employment
2014-15	37314	24582	528
2015-16	45590	33080	1936
2016-17	21374	8584	25
Total	104278	66246	2489

Source: www.mgnrega.kar.nic.in.

e) Employment Provided to Women, SC & ST People

Table 6, represented the total employment provided to SC, ST, Others and Women. The overall employment provided is to be 24,27,854. In the year 2015-16 maximum numbers of people got employed and the number stood at 14,10,319. The minimum number of members got employment in the year 2016-17 and the number stood at 2,14,809. Of which the total, 5,08,193 were under SC category, 3,12,742 were under ST category, 16,06,919 belong to others category and 11,12,612 were women got employed under MGNREGA in Mysuru district.

Table6. Details of cumulative persondays generated in Mysuru District

Year	SC	ST	Others	Total	Women
2014-15	148925	98528	555273	802726	368963
2015-16	312104	183378	914837	1410319	643130
2016-17	47164	30836	136809	214809	100519
Total	508193	312742	1606919	2427854	1112612

Source: www.mgnrega.kar.nic.in.

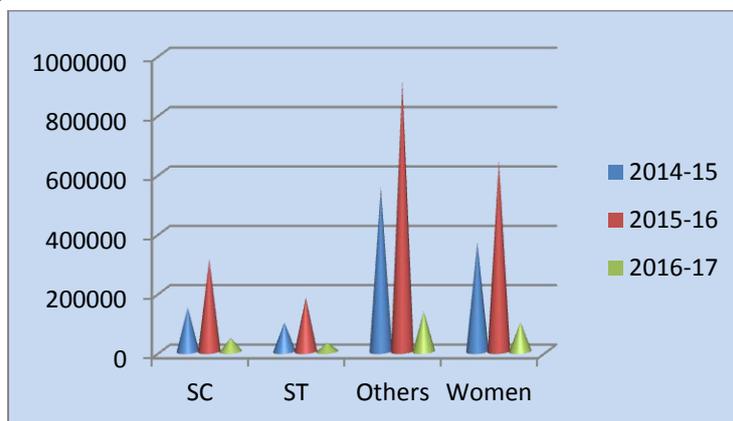


Figure3. Details of cumulative persondays generated in Mysuru District

Table7. Different works under MGNREGA in Mysuru District

Sl. No	Work undertaken	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Water conservation & water harvesting	45	126	50
2.	Flood control and protection	208	255	54
3.	Drought Proofing	72	375	85
4.	Micro irrigation works	13	21	8
5.	Land Development	247	195	36
6.	Provision of irrigation facility to land owned by	1974	3340	853
7.	Renovation of Traditional water Bodies	105	73	11
8.	Rural Sanitation	18472	3123	955
9.	Rural Connectivity	395	232	44
10.	Rural drinking water	0	55	20
11.	Anganawadi	2	4	1
12.	Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendra	7	9	4
13.	Fisheries	3	2	1
14.	Food Grain	0	4	0
15.	Play Ground	13	41	6
16.	Other Works	1269	621	55
Total Works		22825	8476	2183

Source: www.mgnrega.kar.nic.in.

Table 7, reveals that the different works completed under MGNREGA in Mysuru district. In 2014-15 total works is 22,825, 8,476 in 2015-16 and 2,183 in 2016-17. Of which the highest works under taken is rural sanitation among three financial year, followed by provision of irrigation facility land owner, other works, rural connectivity, land development, flood control and protection and water conservation and water harvesting etc.,

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The Major Findings of the Study are

1. The study had taken the data of 3 financial years pertaining to Mysuru District Karnataka State;
2. The total fund available in 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 was 10,978.73 lakhs and the actual expenditure was 10,030.05 lakhs.
3. The job cards issued during the period is 598829 cards, under SC category 114866, under ST category 66572, and others 21915119 cards were issued.
4. In the year 2013-14, the number of Job cards issued under MGNREGA for SC is 898512, ST is 440950 and for others 417391.

5. employment generation in the period total person days generated is 2427854, of which 1112612 women persondays generation in mysuru district.
6. In the district, the scheme has been oriented more towards the water conservation and water harvesting, drought proofing, flood control and protection of environment, which are more essential and urgent areas to focus upon.
7. MGNREGA also resulted in decline in rural unemployment, increase in agricultural production and improvement of rural communication.
8. In these period total employment provided was 66246 of which 100 days completed employment was only 2489 households.

SUGGESTIONS

The Following Are the Major Suggestions for the Study

1. All the State Governments should set up the office of Ombudsman at district level for redressal of grievances in a time bound manner; There should be enabled Management Information System (eMIS) in issuing of job cards, muster rolls, wage payments and for easy accessibility of information;
2. To create awareness regarding different provisions of MGNREGA among the people;
3. There should be the ability and willingness of local Govt. and Panchayat to plan, works and run the programmes effectively; and
4. Social Audit should carry out in regular interval.

CONCLUSION

In India more than 70.00 per cent of the population is living in rural areas. Hence, majority of them depend upon agriculture or migrate to cities in search of jobs. One the serious problem India is facing is poverty. Rural areas are the most affected with the problem of poverty. In this background, MGNREGA, an employment guarantee scheme provides 100 days guaranteed wage employment for all demands for work. For one-third of the share in total employment women are given guarantee. Other backward groups like SCs, STs and others are allowed to get developed own private lands.

It can be concluded that the performance of MGNREGA in Mysuru district has brought many positive changes in improving the livelihood of the poor people along with improvement in the infrastructure for sustainable growth. In the district, the scheme has been oriented more towards the water conservation and water harvesting, drought proofing, flood control and protection of environment, which are more essential and urgent areas to focus upon. MGNREGA also resulted in decline in rural unemployment, increase in agricultural production and improvement of rural communication. Thus, it can be said that if the is executed properly with accountability and obligation to the laws, MGNREGA can efficiently contribute towards the inclusive economic growth of the country.

REFERENCES

- [1] B.G., Harish., N., Nagaraj., M.G., Chandrakantha., P.S., Srikantha Murthy., G., Chengappa., and G., Basavaraj., (2011). conducted a study on “Impacts and Implications of MGNREGA on Labour Supply and Income Generation for Agriculture in Central Dry Zone of Karnataka”, Agricultural Economics Research Review Vol. 24 (Conference Number) 2011 pp 485-494.
- [2] Dr. K.V.S., Prasad., (2012). “Performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA): An Overview”, ISSN: 2230-9519 (Online) | ISSN: 2230-2463, IJMBS Vol. 2, Issue 4, Oct - Dec 2012.
- [3] Dr. Vilas M. Kadrolkar., (2012). “An Impact Assessment Study of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantees Act’ (MGNREGA) In Karnataka”, Global Research Analysis, Volume 1, Issue 4, September 2012, ISSN No 2277-8160.
- [4] Shenbagaraj., P., and Arockiasamy., S., (2013). “Impact of MGNREGA on local development: A study of Ottapidaram blocks in Thoothukudi district, Tamil nadu”, International Journal of Development Research Vol. 3, Issue, 04, pp.007-011, April, 2013.
- [5] Surendra Singh., (2013). “MGNREGA: 100 days Employment Guarantee in Bundelkhand (M.P.)?”, VOLUME No. 2 (2013), ISSUE No. 4 (March) ISSN (Online): 2320-0685.
- [6] Tina Ulvin., (2011). “Social Security for Poverty Reduction: A Study of the MGNREGA in Karnataka, India”.