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IMPACT OF NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME IN SOUTHERN DISTRICTS OF TAMILNADU

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ABSTRACT

The present study on evaluation of the NREG Scheme is intended to assess the impact of this scheme on the overall quality of life of people by gauging different parameters associated with the improvement of overall quality of life of rural people such as impact on income earning levels of each household, expenditure on food and non-food items, household and cultivable assets creation by the beneficiaries. This study also captured the socio economic factors of the scheme to arrest out-migration, views and feedback of the beneficiaries on various facets of implementation of the scheme at grass root level right from the stage of issue of job cards. With the above set of objectives, the study was carried out in southern districts spread throughout tamilnadu by targeting 700 beneficiaries. These beneficiaries are hailing from the diverse geography and social background of the rural employment people distributed evenly within the selected southern districts.

Keywords: NREG schemes, Rural employment, Awareness

Introduction

In the fifties, Arthur Lewis set the tone of the development era when he wrote first, it should be noted that our subject matter is only growth and not the distribution. In their pre-occupation with rising, the rate of saving and investment and the starting of capital intensive, import-intensives and industrialization programmes to attain self-generating growth, the development, economists and planners in their countries last sight of the ends of development. Development was associated with expanding industrial output. The advocates of development were busy defending their case by presenting impressive macro statics-aggregate output, aggregate-income, and aggregate-saving and so on In spite of economic development in the last 50 years, the gap between the rich and poor has widened in India. A large number of studies in developing countries including India during the last 80's and early 70's have revealed growing disenchantment with the generalized theories of development and failure of development of strategies. This has matesnations to turn to 'Rural Development' as the main objectives of development.

In a rural labour surplus economy, sections of rural population depend on the wages, they earn through unskilled, casual and manual labour. They are vulnerable to the possibility of sinking from transient to chronic poverty in the event of inadequate labour demand or in the face of unpredictable crises that may be general in nature. In the context of poverty and unemployment, workfare programmes are the important programme interventions in developed as well as developing countries for many years. These NREGS typically provide unskilled manual workers with short term employment on public works such as irrigation, infrastructure, deforestation, soil conservation and road construction. The rationale for workfare programme rests on some basic considerations. The programmes provide income transfers to poor households during slack agricultural seasons or years. In countries with high unemployment rates, transfer benefits from workfare programmes can prevent poverty from worsening, especially during lean periods. Durable asset programmes may create the potential to generate a second – round of employment benefits as necessary infrastructure is developed. The need to evolve a mechanism to supplement existing livelihood sources in rural areas was recognized early during development planning in India. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme 2005 referred as MNREGS was enacted on 25th August, 2005 and it came into force on 2nd February, 2006. It marked a paradigm shift from the previous wage employment programmes with its rights-based approach that makes the Government legally accountable for providing employment to those who demand it. The scheme aims at "Enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

Objectives of the study

1. To find out Socio economic factor to NREGS IN Southern District of Tamil nadu.
2. To trace the impact of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in Sothern District of Tamil nadu.

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