

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MGNREGS ON TRIBAL AREAS – A STUDY IN KHAMMAM DISTRICT OF TELANGANA

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**Abstract:** The Government of India Has Passed The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) In September 2005. A major section in world is facing problem of poverty and employment. Tribal people are the victims of this poverty and unemployment in order to eliminate those, government also under take some employment and poverty alleviation porgrammes like MGNREGS. This paper discuss socio-economic impact of MGNREGS on tribal areas and its implementation through this study we focus to identify the influence and role of MGNREGS is tribal development and growth of Khammam district and also suggested for the better implementation of this scheme.

**Keywords:** Implementation of MGNREGS, Socio-Economic benefits, Tribal Growth.

**Introduction:** MGNREGA is an ambitious scheme providing employment to rural people of India. The basic aim of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is to enhance livelihood security of household in rural area. By this scheme Govt. gives assurance of employment to unskilled rural laborer for 100 days. With better implementation such type of scheme may be an effective weapon to fight against poverty. It also aims at transforming the tribal areas by improving the socio-economic conditions of people. Rural economy is the back-bone of Indian economic development. Providing employment to tribal households will certainly boost the economy. It increases demand for goods and services. In this article an effort has been made to analyses the socio-economic impact of MGNREGA scheme on tribal people life of beneficiaries of Khammam district. The findings of the study revealed that the programme has brought the change in the lives of the beneficiaries.

**Concept of MGNREGS:** MGNREGA is the most significant act in the history of Indian polity in many ways like grass-root level participation of every citizen and beneficiary through democratic process, multi-layered social audit and transparency mechanism by involvement of civil society, comprehensive planning at tribal villages level towards sustainable and equitable development etc. Important salient feature of the Act is to improve the quality of life of tribal people who are vulnerable to out-migration in search of daily wage employment by channelizing the wage workforce towards developmental activities at the village level itself.

In many tribal areas there are few work opportunities outside of agriculture. Therefore, poor tribal households dependent on agricultural work for their survival are forced to migrate during lean seasons or some how survive through borrowing, etc. This is precisely the situation that MGNREGA is intended to address, through the creation of additional work opportunities during agricultural lean seasons.

## Methodology of the Study Area:-

Khammam District MGNREGS work card householders – 2,94087 Lakhs

SC	-	28.22 (17.72%)
ST	-	76.69 (48.15%)
Workers	-	92.11 (57.83%)
Others	-	54.36 (34.13%)

So many studies reveal that MGNREGA was implemented for the growth and development of tribal area by ensuring 100 days of employment. When I conduct a detailed study regarding this topic by selecting 150 samples from three mandals of Khammam, it is clear that, most of the villages has taken initiative to implement this scheme. The main objective of this study is to evaluate and understand the impact of MGNREG in socio-economic development of tribal areas in Khammam.

For the purpose of identifying the same, the primary and secondary data are used. The participants were selected through convenience sampling from the tribal areas of Khammam District.

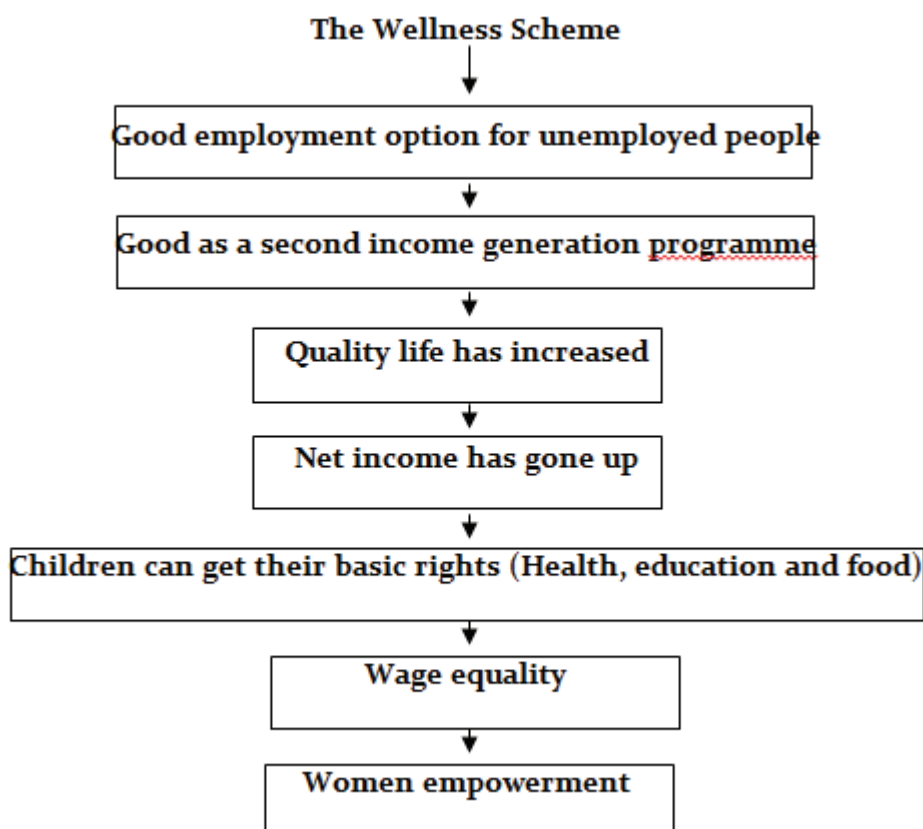
**Sources of Data:** Both primary and secondary methods will be used for collection of data. Semi structured questionnaire was used as primary source of collecting data for the completion of study. The questionnaire comprises different parts. Annual reports, Library research (articles, journals, dissertations books, accessed database, etc.) will be used as secondary source for collecting data.

**Objectives of the Study:**

- To analyze the socio-economic impact of MGNREGA on tribal area.
- To Evaluation of the impact of MGNREGA development factors in perspective of tribe's beneficiaries.

**Hypothesis:**

- MGNREGS provides economic employment to all tribal peoples in the study area.
- Tribal people may improve their living conditions by getting some extra income through MGNREGS Scheme.



For last several decades these villages have been suffering from poverty, lack of quality health services, poor infrastructure and inadequate facilities of education. The tribal economy mainly depends on agriculture. MGNREGS has a part in the climb of market wage of the workers. MGNREGA as designed is only a rudimentary right. If we raise the question whether the right to work as enshrined in NREGA is

a “right to a job” or “right to employment”, the answer is quite clear. NREGA does not guarantee a regular job. During the survey it was also noticed we also found short duration and temporary migration among tribe’s families. The female members of these households preferred local migration only.

**Table 1:** Sex Wise Distribution of The Respondents

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	ST		Total
		Male	Female	
Khammam	Kallur	14 (9.33)	36 (24.0)	50 (33.33)
	Enukur	22 (14.67)	28 (18.67)	50 (33.34)
	Julurupadu	19 (12.67)	31 (20.66)	50 (33.33)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>55 (36.67)</b>	<b>95 (63.33)</b>	<b>150 (100.00)</b>

**Source:** Field Study

From the above table it is to be noted that among 150 total tribal respondents from 3 mandals of Khammam district. 55 (36.67 per cent) respondents are male and female respondents are 95 (63.33 per cent). The female respondents percentage is more in three mandals. Because all labours have small land holders. Thus we observed majority tribal people involvement in this programme.

**Creating Community Assets:** The focus of the study are (Tribal) MGNREGS shall be on the following works.

- Water conservation and water harvesting.
- Drought proofing, including afforestation and tree plantation.
- Irrigation canals, including micro and minor irrigation works.
- Flood control and protection works, including drainage in water logged area.
- Land development
- Provision of irrigation facility to land owned by household to the SC/ST of land of the beneficiaries of land reforms.
- Renovating of traditional water bodies, including de-silting of tanks.

**Table 2:** MGNREGS Working Days of the Respondents

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	Upto 30 days	30-60 days	61-90 days	91-120 days	120 days above	Total
Khammam	Kallur	14 (9.33)	10 (6.67)	12 (8.00)	9 (6.00)	5 (3.33)	50 (33.33)
	Enukur	17 (11.33)	9 (6.00)	17 (11.33)	3 (2.00)	4 (2.67)	50 (33.34)
	Julurupadu	15 (10.00)	14 (9.33)	7 (4.67)	12 (8.00)	2 (1.33)	50 (33.33)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>46 (30.66)</b>	<b>33 (22.00)</b>	<b>36 (24.00)</b>	<b>24 (16.00)</b>	<b>11 (7.33)</b>	<b>150 (100.00)</b>

**Source:** Field Study

The table shows the working days of MGNREGS tribal works of the respondent got in a year. There are three mandals in Khammam district who work less than 30 days a year, they are upto 30.66 per cent, the MGNREGS, who have tribe’s work between 30 to 90 days a year are 46.00 per cent, 7.33 per cent of the tribal respondents have employment for more than 120 days in a year. Thus we find that majority of the tribal respondent provide the work less than 90 days in the study area.

**Table 3: Share of MGNREGS Income in Annual Income**

Name of the Mandal	Upto – 2,000	2,001 – 5,000	5,001 – 7,000	7,001 – 10,000	More than 10,000	Total
Kallur	12 (8.00)	9 (6.00)	15 (10.00)	8 (5.33)	6 (4.00)	50 (33.33)
Enukur	10 (6.67)	15 (10.00)	16 (10.67)	7 (4.67)	2 (1.33)	50 (33.34)
Julurupadu	7 (4.66)	13 (11.33)	17 (11.33)	8 (5.33)	5 (3.33)	50 (33.33)
<b>Total</b>	<b>29 (19.33)</b>	<b>37 (22.67)</b>	<b>48 (32.00)</b>	<b>23 (15.33)</b>	<b>13 (8.67)</b>	<b>150 (100.00)</b>

Source: Field study

The act stipulates that priority shall be given to women. Interms of implementation it mandates that a minimum of one-third of the beneficiaries are womens. The agriculture work is no standardization of now days. Hence the duration of work is not uniform. The table shows that share of MGNREGS Income due to the number of tribal workers got in a year. Out of 150 tribal respondents, 29 tribal respondents of three mandals have an average annual income below Rs.20,000/- about 37 tribal respondents have an average income between Rs.2,000 and Rs.5,000/-, 48 tribal respondents have an average income between Rs.5,000 – Rs.7,000/- and 8.67 per cent of MGNREGS respondent have their annual income above Rs.10,000/-. Thus we find that majority of tribal respondents earn less than Rs.7,000/- as their annual income in study area of Khammam District.

Generally, when income of a family increases, it has a profound impact on the expenditure pattern.

**Table 4: Impact of MGREGS Programme on the Lives of the Tribal Respondents**

Name of mandal	Employment level				Wage levels				Income levels			
	Increased	Decreased	No change	Total	Increased	Decreased	No change	Total	Increased	Decreased	No change	Total
Kallur	37 (24.67)	10 (6.67)	3 (2.00)	50 (33.34)	34 (22.67)	2 (1.33)	14 (9.33)	50 (33.33)	39 (26.00)	8 (5.33)	3 (2.00)	50 (33.33)
Enukuru	21 (14.00)	2 (1.33)	27 (18.00)	50 (33.33)	41 (27.33)	2 (1.33)	7 (4.66)	50 (33.34)	19 (12.66)	10 (6.67)	21 (14.00)	50 (33.34)
Julurupadu	22 (14.66)	12 (8.00)	16 (10.67)	50 (33.33)	35 (23.33)	7 (4.67)	8 (5.33)	50 (33.33)	25 (16.66)	15 (10.00)	10 (6.67)	50 (33.33)
<b>Total</b>	<b>80 (53.33)</b>	<b>24 (16.00)</b>	<b>46 (30.67)</b>	<b>150 (100.00)</b>	<b>110 (73.33)</b>	<b>11 (7.33)</b>	<b>29 (19.33)</b>	<b>150 (100.00)</b>	<b>83 (55.33)</b>	<b>33 (22.00)</b>	<b>34 (22.67)</b>	<b>150 (100.00)</b>

Source: Field study

The above table shows the impact of MGNREGS welfare programme on the lives of sample respondents. Due to the implementation of MGNREGS programme employment is generated in less season to the tribal poor out of 150 respondents, 80 respondents (53.33 per cent) opined that employment levels for the have increased, 46 tribal respondents have been field out of the implementation of the MGNREGS programme. There are 24 tribal respondents who feel that there is decreased employment. Thus we find their highest employment is generated through the MGNREGS programme in Kallur mandal are the lowest employment is increased in other two mandals. Out of 150 tribal respondents 73.33 per cent of the respondents feel that their age levels increased 7.33 per cent of the respondents feel that their wages level decreased and the remaining 19.33 per cent of the respondents feel that their wages levels have no change. Out of 150 tribal respondents, 55.33 per cent of the respondents feel that their incomes increased 22 per cent of the respondents feel that there is decreased income level and the remaining 22.67 per cent feel that there was no change in their incomes due to implementation of MGNREGS employment programme. The majority tribal respondents income level is increased in Kallur mandal. Thus we find that, majority of the skilled / unskilled tribal labourers utilized this MGNREGS programme.

**Table 5: Utilization of MGNREGS Income**

Utilization Pattern	No.of family	% (N=100)
Good food	122	81.33
Children's education	65	43.33
Health related expenditure	71	47.33
Buying things of agriculture	43	28.67
For irrigation work	21	14.0
Paid back loan	27	18.0
Insurance policy	10	6.67
Renovated the house expenditure	8	5.33

When those poor tribal households spend their additional MGNREGA money they create a depend for several commodities. In this study, we were interested in finding out how the MGNREGA wage money was spent by the beneficiaries. We found that majority of the families were spending the increased income from MGNREGA after better food basket followed by children's education and health. It shows that the MGNREGA money is being spent after improving the quality of life and human development released issues.

#### Findings:

- The study reveals that, 64% of participants are women workers
- The implementation process undertaken by villages are correct and within time bound
- This scheme enhance social skills like communication, mobility, participation, decision making among tribal women who participated in this scheme
- From this study, it is clear that most of the tribal workers have any one of the savings like RD, insurance, saving a/c etc. This will enable for the economic development.

#### Suggestions:

- MGNREGA should be diversified into the activities which need technical skill and ability
- More initiation and awareness should be given the tribal poor about this scheme
- Govt. should give importance to productive work in tribal area.

**Conclusion:** MGNREGA is an act that guarantees 100 days of employment to all tribal poor who attain the age of 18. Through this employment program govt. expect socio-economic development. My research work is focused on the socio-economic impact of MGNREGA on tribal area of Khammam district, from this study, it is clear that most of the tribal areas in Khammam implemented this program successfully. Tribal women workers are the major participants of this scheme. The major aim of this study is to identify role and relevance of MGNREGA in tribal growth and development. The main limitation of this study was the time limitation and reluctance from the part of members. On the basis of data collected from different sources for the detailed study regarding this topic, it can be concluded that MGNREGA has a great role and impact on the tribal development in coming future and it is better to expand this program in other relevant area like agriculture, industry, construction etc...

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