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IMPACT OF MGNREGA ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT (with special reference to madhubani district, Bihar)

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ABSTRACT

The Government of India passed employment scheme in September 2005 which is known as National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) 2005. The name of this scheme was changed to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in 2nd October 2009 by the Government of India. It is also known as MGNREA. Women empowerment means strengthening of financial, political, social and educational for individual women or group of women. Women workers are the major participants of this scheme. The study was conducted madhubani district of bihar covering a sample of 80 respondents.

Keywords- *women empowerment, income, saving, decision making power, MGNREGA.*

INTRODUCTION

The Government of India passed employment scheme in September 2005 which is known as National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) 2005. It guarantees an adult of each family 100 days of employment in each financial year. This schemes guarantee employment to registered adults in rural areas. The scheme was launched on 2nd February, 2006 in selected 200 districts. In the view of the positive impact of this scheme in selected districts, this act was implemented on 1st april 2008 across India. The name of this scheme was changed to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in 2nd October 2009 by the Government of India. Women empowerment means strengthening of financial, political, social and educational for individual women or group of women. Men often migrate from rural areas for employment, but women stay in village and take care of the family. Under MGNREGA women are provided employment near their home. Bihar has a total 38 districts. Madhubani ranks fourth in terms of population. The female population is 48% approx. There are 21 blocks in

madhubani districts. The main focus of our study is to analysis the impact of MGNREGA on women empowerment in Madhubani district.

OBJECTIVE

1. To study the concept of MGNREGA.
2. To analysis the impact of MGNREGA on Women empowerment in madubani district.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research work is based on primary as well as secondary data. The collection of secondary data has been done through the various sites, journal, magazines, newspaper, reports extra. At the same time the collection of primary data has been done through interviews and schedules. Four blocks of madhubani district have been selected for our research work which are Jhanjharpur, madhepur, laukhaha and phulparas. 20 female respondents have been selected randomly from each block. Thus our total sample size is 80. The average, percentage and chi-square technique are used to analysis the data.

Ho –There is no significant relationship between age and no. of year joining

Ho - There is no significant relationship between education and saving.

H0 - There is no significant relationship between income and saving.

Ho- There is no significant relationship between incomes and decision making power after joining MGNREGA.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A brief review of some published article in recent past is given below.

1. Dr Xavier, G., Mari, G. (2014) in their research article “Impact of MGNREGA on women empowerment with special reference to kalakkanmoi panchayat in sivgangai district, Tamilnadu.” had known his article that this scheme increased income through MGNREGA helps to fulfil the regular needs of the household. The study also finds that the 100 days is not sufficient in the kalakkanmoi panchayat in sivgangai district.
2. Barman, C.B., (2018) concluded in their research article on the “Empowerment of women empowerment through MGNREGA in Nadia District of West Bengal.” Had found that the overall level of women empowerment in the study area was not satisfactory. MGNREGA scheme has affected women empowerment but it was not as high as expect from the scheme.

Table 1
Demographic details

Age	No. of respondent	Percentage
Less than 20	3	3.75
20-30	31	38.75
30-40	36	45
More than 40	10	12.5
Education		
Illiterate	09	11.25
Literate	71	88.75
Marital status		
Unmarried	03	3.75
Married	72	90
Widows	05	6.25
No. of years joining		
Less than 2	14	17.5
2-4	13	16.25
4-6	25	31.25
6-8	11	13.75
More than 8	17	21.25

Source: Field survey

The above table shows the demographic status of the respondents. 45% women respondents are fall in 30-40 age groups while the lowest 3.75% respondents are belongs in less than 20 age groups. Above table also the education status of respondents. 88.75% respondents are literate while only 11.25% respondents are illiterate. Most of the respondents are married which is 90% while 3.75% are unmarried and 6.25% are widows. Most of the respondent joining the MGNREGA scheme have been 4 to 6 year, which are 25 womens or 31.25%. The lowest 6 to 8 years 13.75% respondents are joined.

Table 2
Income per annum after joining MGNREGA

Saving in rupees	No. of respondent	Percentage
Less than 10000	04	5
10000- 15000	08	10
15000- 20000	68	85
More than 20000	00	0

Source: Field survey

The table no 2 shows the Income level of the total respondents. The highest % of women respondents have 15000- 20000 of income per annum with 85% of the total respondents. 5% respondents earn less than 10000 and no one earns income more than 20000.

Table 3
Saving per annum after joining MGNREGA

Saving in rupees	No. of respondent	Percentage
Less than 2000	01	1.25
2000-4000	21	26.25
4000- 6000	15	18.75
More than 6000	43	53.75

Source: Field survey

The table no 3 shows the Income level of the total respondents. Most of the respondents have increased in saving per annum after joining this scheme. Here 43 respondents or 53.75% respondents saving more than 6000 in a financial year and only 1.25% or 1 respondent saving less than 2000.

Table 4
Empowerment after joining MGNREGA

Indicators	Agree	%	Disagree	%
Increase in economic independence	65	81.25	15	18.75
Increase in standard of living	54	67.50	26	32.50
Increase in self dependent	72	90	08	10
Increase in decision making power	55	68.75	25	31.25
Improved confidence to deal with bank	63	78.75	17	21.25

Source: Field survey

The above table describes the status of women empowerment after joining the MGNREGA scheme. According to this table most women agree that they have been empowered after joining the MGREGA scheme. 81.5% respondents agree that their economic independence has increased while 67.50% respondents admitted that their

standard of living had increased. 90% respondents increased in self dependent, 68.75% in decision making power and 78.75% in confidence to deal with bank after joining the scheme.

HYPOTHESIS

1. Ho- There is no significant relationship between age and no. of year joining

Age	No. of years joining					
	Less than 2	2-4	4-6	6-8	more than 8	Total
Less than 20	2	1	-	-	-	3
20-30	9	11	5	5	1	31
30-40	1	1	16	3	15	36
More than 40	2	-	4	3	1	10
Total	14	13	25	11	17	80
Pearson chi-square	Pearson chi- square value -21.026 (5% level of significance)					
Degree of freedom	12					
Calculated value	44.64853					
Ho	Rejected					

From the calculation we get calculated value of 44.64853 which is more than the table value of 21.026 (level of 5% significant). So the null hypothesis is rejected. There is a significance relationship between age and no. of years joining.

2. Ho - There is no significant relationship between education and saving.

Education	Saving				
	Less than 2000	2000-4000	4000-6000	More than 6000	Total
Illiterate	0	2	5	2	9
Literate	1	19	10	41	71
Total	1	21	15	43	80
Pearson chi-square	Pearson chi- square value- 7.815 (5% level of significance)				

Degree of freedom	3
Calculated value	9.391335
Ho	Rejected

The calculation shows that the calculated value is more than the table value. Thus we can say that there is a significance relationship between education and saving.

3. H0 - There is no significant relationship between income and saving.

Income	Saving				
	Less than 2000	2000-4000	4000-6000	More than 6000	Total
Less than 10000	0	3	1	0	4
10000-15000	1	3	3	1	8
15000-20000	0	15	11	42	68
More than 20000	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	21	15	43	80
Pearson chi-square	Pearson chi- square value-16.9199 (5% level of significance)				
Degree of freedom	9				
Calculated value	20.78093				
Ho	Rejected				

From the above calculation shows that the calculated value of 20.78093 which is more than the table value of 16.919 (level of 5% significant). So the null hypothesis is rejected. There is a significance relationship between age and no. of years joining.

4. Ho- There is no significant relationship between incomes and decision making power after joining MGNREGA.

Incomes	Decision making power		
	Agree	Disagree	Total
Less than 10000	3	1	4
10000-15000	5	3	8
15000-20000	47	21	68
More than 20000	0	0	0
Total	55	25	80
Pearson chi- square	Pearson chi- square value-7.815 (5% level of significance)		
Degree of freedom	3		
Calculated value	0.22246		
Ho	Accepted		

Here the Ho is accepted, there is no significant relationship between incomes and decision making power after joining MGNREGA because the calculated value of 0.22246 is less than the table value.

CONCLUSION

My research work is focused on impact of MGNREGA on women empowerment, from this study, it is clear that over all findings indicated that this scheme has been successful in madhubani districts. By the analysis the above table, we find that out of our four hypothesis testing, one is accepted while three hypothesis has been rejected. Here no significant relationship between incomes and decision making power after joining MGNREGA.

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