



## Research Paper on ‘MGNREGA’

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### Abstract:

*The scope of this study is Narmada, Bharuch districts of Gujarat State. From that 4 Talukas were selected from each district on Random Cluster Method and thereafter 5 villages of each taluka were selected by preparing slips of villages and the prescribed questionnaire is filled in form of specimen by visiting every selected village personally and meeting labourers at the place of work or staying at home and effort is made to collect data with reference to the objective as well as hypotheses.*

**Keywords:** Unemployment, labourer, Population

### 1. Introduction

Unemployment is a burning problem. As a result of that, 40% of India's population lives below poverty line, which even does not get two time's meals. They search for work for the sustenance. Government is also worried about this problem. Indian Parliament passed an Act on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2005 providing for minimum 100 days' work to unemployed rural family under which work is provided to labourer at a daily wage of Rs.100.

The research taken up on hand regarding MNREGA is with reference to the aboriginal (scheduled tribe) village of Bharuch-Narmada districts of southern Gujarat. The study mainly cover non-irrigated, hilly and forest area. Here, population of Vasava, Tadvi, Gamit etc. aboriginals (scheduled tribe) people is in majority. They are socially and economically backward. There is very limited industrial development. People sustain on agriculture (farming) which is dependent on monsoon rains. Their standard of living is that of the families living below poverty line. They want to work, but there are limited opportunities of employment. At such a junction, "MNREGA Act" has come as a blessing for them. This Act is being implemented under the administration of local civil bodies (panchayats). This Act is for providing employment and job to the poor people. This study is conducted to examine whether its purpose is served. Its technical details are as follows:

### 2. Objectives of the Study

1. To know as to how many days work a needy family gets during a year.
2. To know whether work is given regularly and timely and whether wage is paid adequately and timely.
3. To examine whether migration of people has decreased after this Act.
4. To examine public awareness, people participation and other impact of the scheme.
5. To know reactions with regard to administration of MNREGA. With such objectives this research is carried out.

In this research work, the respondent has remained head of the labour family. With this main tool, questionnaire were also filled in from Sarpanch (village head), Talati (Village officer) and School Principal as to what is the average impact of this scheme, what can be done for more effectiveness, and the observations and research during the visits have also been used.

Collected data was classified by frequency distribution and tabulated. The questions or opinions in the questionnaire were tabulated with reference to statements and analyzed, in which using tools like

statistical average, median and charts, logical and factual findings were arrived at. The important findings of the research are as under:

Here, let us see three (3) Tables as a specimen and know important findings.

**Table:1 Consent with regard to calling a meeting of village body for job card.**

Details	Valia		Jhagadia		Bharuch District		Dediyapada		Sagbara		Narmada District		Scope field	
	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%
Yes	31	62%	26	52%	57	57%	37	74%	40	80%	77	77%	134	67%
No	19	38%	24	48%	43	43%	13	26%	10	20%	23	23%	66	33%
Total	50	100%	50	100%	100	100%	50	100%	50	100%	100	100%	200	100%

It is clear from the above Table that out of 200 respondents of the study field, 67% (134) respondents had called meeting of village panchayat for job-card whereas 33% (66) respondents had not called any meeting of village panchayat for job card. Meaning thereby that 33% respondents had not received information regarding meeting of village panchayat or they were not serious about this meeting.

**Table:2 Agreement about the work for solution of basic issues of the village under this Scheme**

Sr.no.	Details	Valia		Jhagadia		Bharuch District		Dediyapada		Sagbara		Narmada District		Scope field	
		Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%
1	Yes	38	76	32	64	70	70	42	84	45	90	87	87	157	79.50
2	No	12	24	18	36	30	30	08	26	05	10	13	13	43	21.50
	Total	50	100	50	100	100	100	50	100	50	100	100	100	200	100

It is clear when we interpret above Table that out of 200 respondents, 79.50% respondents agree in regard to work for solution of basic issues of the village under this Scheme, whereas 21.50% (43) give negative consent. If we look district-wise, there are 70% and 87% respondents in Bharuch and Narmada districts respectively in regard to work of basic issue of the village under this Scheme, which means that the work of solution of basic issues of village is going well.

**Table :3 Details of benefits derived by the job-card holders because of MNREGA Scheme**

Sr.No.	Details	Valia		Jhagadia		Bharuch District		Dediyapada		Sagbara		Narmada District		Scope field	
		Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%	Fre- quency	%
1	Good	02	40	00	00	02	20	00	00	00	00	00	00	02	10
2	Medium	02	40	02	40	02	40	04	80	03	60	07	70	11	55
3	Less	01	20	03	60	04	40	01	20	02	40	03	30	07	35
	Total	05	100	05	100	10	100	05	100	05	100	10	100	20	100

It is clear when we interpret above Table that, it has come to the fore that, in the villages under study, benefit to the job-card holders by MNREGA Scheme was medium in villages of 55% (11) Sarpanchas, less benefit in villages of 35% (07) Sarpanchas. Whereas in villages of 10% (02) Sarpanchas, very good benefit has happened. In conclusion, it could be said that the unemployed have received work due to MNREGA Scheme. At a slow pace but important contribution is there in the sustained development. Today World Bank has identified MNREGA Scheme as the largest employment giving Scheme of the World. With reference to India 4.48 Crore homes have received employment, out of which 38% benefit is derived by Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (S.C. and S.T.) and 64.54 lakhs works of various types have been carried out.

**Table:4 Improvement has taken place in the financial condition of labourers because of MNREGA.**

Sr. No.	Details	Bharuch District					Bha-ruch total	Narmada District					Narm-ada total	Scope field
		A	B	C	D	E		A	B	C	D	E		
1	Sarpanch	06	02	-	02	-	10	04	05	01	-	-	10	20
	%	60%	20%	-	20%	-	100%	40%	50%	10%	-	-	100%	100%
	Evaluation	30	08	-	04	-	42	20	20	03	-	-	43	85 (4.25)
2	Talati	05	03	-	01	01	10	03	04	01	01	-	02	10
	%	50%	30%	-	10%	10%	100%	30%	40%	10%	10%	-	20%	100%
	Evaluation	25	12	-	02	01	40(4)	05	16	03	02	-	36 (3.6)	76
3	Principal	02	02	04	01	01	10	03	02	04	01	-	10	20
	%	20%	20%	40%	10%	10%	100%	30%	20%	40%	10%	-	100%	100%
	Evaluation	10	08	12	02	01	33 (3.3)	115	08	20		-	38	70 (3.5)

The objective of this Scheme is to fulfill financial need of the people and to improve their condition. In view of evaluation, evaluation by Sarpanch is 4.25, that of Talati and Principal is 3.8 and 3.5 respectively which shows that expected improvement is not there in the financial condition of the labourers.

### 3. Other important findings

This Scheme provides work to the poor rural aboriginal community. Their migration has decreased. Wages are paid to the labourers in time. Responsible leaders of the village are active in running this Scheme. In every village covered under this study, this Scheme is running and labourers are getting income. Local situation is such that if they do not get work under this Scheme, labourers will have to look for work elsewhere by migrating or may have to suffer unemployment.

Through this Scheme, people can fulfill their basic necessities. Social awareness has also resulted. People have become aware of their rights.

From the opinions obtained from the Sarpanches and Talatis, the satisfaction level is derived up to 4.5 out of 5, whereas opinion regarding satisfaction level from the School Principals is 3.1 out of 5, which shows overall success of the Scheme.

It is seen that due to benefits from this Scheme, there is an improvement in life-style of the people in the society. Basic necessities of life are available and improvement is there in social life standards and people have received prestige in the society.

100 days work is given in a year under MNREGA Scheme. Here labourers wish that if more than 100 days work is given, then they may not have to sit idle.

For the purpose of higher study of P.H.D., following important suggestions are made on the basis of scientific standards in this research paper :

#### 4. Suggestions

- Wages are paid in cash. Instead of that if the wages are deposited timely in Bank account, it would be more advisable.
- Still, Panchayats are not able to give 100 days work to labourers under this Scheme, for which specific planning has to be done.
- In today's time, Rs.100/ paid to the labourer as a legal daily wage is less looking to today's high prices and compared to wages paid in local industrial area. It needs to be reviewed. Talatis, Sarpanchas will have to remain eager to provide more work to the job-aspirants. Of course it is accepted that if work is not given, employment allowance may be given. But practically, its success is partial or limited.
- Administration has to take constant care in the matters like complaints of the labourers reach the administration effectively and in time etc.
- Adequate budget is allotted at State and Central level, it is available at lower level within time limit and its evaluation is done, etc. are the fundamentally important matters for achieving objectives of "MNREGA".
- We are aware that the Scheme implemented by the U.P.A. Government has also been continued by the BJP Government, which shows the importance of the Scheme. Of course, for that effective administration and implementation is necessary and finally it is income which provides the basic necessities. If employment is provided to people, standard of life will improve. Society will not move towards social conflict. Otherwise, if hungry classes are neglected, they can endanger the palaces of wealthy people.

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