

Performance of MGNREGA in Uttarakhand

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Abstract: In developing countries like India there are two main problems poverty and unemployment. Rural people are the worst sufferers of unemployment and poverty. To eliminate these problems, the government of India launched MGNREGA scheme with the objective to enhance the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guarantee 100 days of employment in financial year to rural people. The present paper focus on the performance of MGNREGA in Uttarakhand through indicators like job cards issued and category wise job card issued.

Keywords: MGNREGA, Job card issued and performance.

Introduction

Uttarakhand was formed on the 9th Nov 2000 as the 27th state of India, when it was carved out of northern Uttar Pradesh. Located at the foothills of the Himalayan mountain ranges. It is largely a hilly state, having international boundaries with China (Tibet) in the north and Nepal in the east. On its north-west lies Himachal Pradesh, while on the south is Uttar Pradesh. It is rich in natural resources especially water and forests with many glaciers, rivers, dense forests and snow clad mountain peaks. Char Dhams, the four most sacred and revered Hindu Temples of Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamnotri are nestled in the mighty mountains. It's truly God's land (Dev Bhoomi) Dehradun is the capital of Uttarakhand. It is one of the most beautiful resorts in the sub mountain tracts of India, Known for its scenic surroundings. The town lies in the Dun Valley on the watershed of the Ganga and Yamuna rivers.

Meaning of MGNREGA

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005(or NREGA NO.42) was later renamed as the "Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act" (or, MGNREGA) is an Indian Labour Law and social security measures that aims to guarantee the 'right to work'. It aims to ensure livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of wage employment in financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Starting from 2006, the NREGA covered all the district of India from 1 April 2008. The statute is hailed by the government as the largest and most ambitious social security and public work programme in the world." In its world development Report 2014, the World Bank termed it a "stellar "example of rural development.

In the Phase-I NREGS was implemented only in three districts namely Chamoli , Champawat and Tehri. In all these districts the NREGs work practically. Since 2006-07. In the phase II (2007), Haridwar and Udham Singh Nagar district were also brought within NREGs operations while all remaining districts were included in the scheme from 1 April 2008.

Objectives of the study

- To Know about MGNREGA in Uttarakhand.
- To analyze the current status of MGNREGA in Uttarakhand.

Research Methodology

The present study is based on secondary data collected from MGNREGA website. Present study covers the performance analysis of MGNREGA during four consecutive years from 2010-11- 2013-2014.

Review of Literature

Biswas (2012) in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal analyzed that the level of performance of MGNREGA is satisfactory. The district is giving more emphasis on rural connectivity, flood and land development purpose as it is concluded that MGNREGA is not only providing employment but for sustainable solutions to all major problems.

Kaur (2013) in his study shows that poor people are found to be more inclined to get employed under MGNREGA, as an average. More than one worker per household was getting employment in such activities. This shows that MGNREGA had apposite impact. It is further concluded that the variation in MGNREGA wages and agricultural wages as indicated by standard deviation of wages concluded that there was less variation in MGNREGA wages across states in India.

Sisal and Sharma (2014) in their study on Doimukh Panchayat concluded that the beneficiaries do not have the proper knowledge about the MGNREGA programme. The job card holders do not get actual wage as per MGNREGA. They do not have bank account. Hence it is concluded that if government actively monitors all the under MGNREGA, there will be a greater possibility that knowledge and attitudes will change in future about MGNREGA.

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Number of Job Card issued

Year	Job Cards Issued
2010-2011	1031941
2011-2012	1055448
2012-2013	1072977
2013-2014	1113225

Source:nrega.nic.in

The table shows that no. of Job Card Issued is increasing year by year; In 2010-11 it was 1031941 which rose to 1113225 in 2013-14.This shows that demand for undertaking employment is increasing year by year in the state.

Category wise Job Card Issued

Year	Category	No. of Cards
2010-2011	SC	213266
	ST	37444
	NON SC/ST	781231
	TOTAL	1031941
2011-12	SC	218121
	ST	37814
	NON SC/ST	799513
	TOTAL	1055448
2012-2013	SC	219711
	ST	37543
	NON SC/ST	815723
	TOTAL	1072977
2013-2014	SC	224307
	ST	39948
	NON SC/ST	848970
	TOTAL	113225

Source:nrega.nic.in

The table shows that out of the total job card issued in 2010-2011, 213266 were issued to SC; in 2013-2014 it rose to 224307. Total job card issued to ST in 2010-11, 37444 which rose to 39948 and to Non SC/ST in 2010-11, 781231 which rose to 848970. The difference in number of job card issued in different category is due to variations in population and due to their economic conditions. However number of job card issued is increasing year by year in different categories. As different categories are interested in undertaking employment activities to improve their economic condition.

Conclusion

From the study it is concluded that the performance of MGNREGA in the state is satisfactory and the demand for jobs are increasing year by year and all categories are actively participating in MGNREGA scheme.

Further Study.

The present study is limited only to one state Uttarakhand it can be expected to more states. The performance is measured only through job card issued and category wise only it can be measured through financial also.

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