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Impact of MGNREGA on farm women's empowerment in Garhpura Block, Begusarai

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Abstract

The study assessed the impact of MGNREGA on women's empowerment in Garhpura block, Begusarai district, using data from 120 respondents. Results showed that socio-economic factors like family type, income, extension contact, and economic motivation strongly influenced adoption of MGNREGA, while age, caste, and occupation had weaker effects. Most respondents were middle-aged with medium knowledge and income. The findings highlight MGNREGA's contribution to enhancing rural women's social and economic empowerment.

Keywords: MGNREGA, women's empowerment, farm women, socio-economic factors

Introduction

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was passed in 2005 by the Indian Parliament. It was originally known as the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act This project "UNNATI" intends to upgrade the skill-base of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers, and thereby improve their livelihoods, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full employment and thereby reduce their dependence on Mahatma Gandhi MNREGS. The workers, and thereby improve their livelihoods, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full employment and thereby reduce their dependence on This project "UNNATI" intends to upgrade the skill-base of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Mahatma Gandhi MNREGA. (Rural Development Department)

Research Methodology

Begusarai district is located in Bihar. The district Begusarai divided into 18 blocks, one of which was choose at purposely for the study. The present study was conducted in ten selected villages under Garhpura block. Descriptive research design was followed for the present study. A total 120 respondents were.

Selected by proportionate random sampling for the present study. The data collected from the respondents where scored. Tabulated and analyzed by using suitable statistical method.

Objectives of the study

1. To Study Socio-Economic and Personal Factors of MGNREGA respondents.
2. To identify and analysis the Women empowerment factors of MGNREGA beneficiary.

Table 1: Socio-economic profile and selected Independent Variable of the respondents in the study.

S. No	Independent Variables	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age	Young (Up to 35 years)	48	40.00
		Middle (36 to 50 years)	51	42.50
		Old (Above 50 years)	21	17.50
2.	Education	Illiterate	51	42.50
		Primary school	36	30.00
		High School	18	15.00
		Intermediate	15	12.50
3.	Caste	General	8	6.67
		OBC	43	35.83
		SC	60	50.00
		ST	9	7.50
4.	Family Type	Nuclear	82	68.33
		Joint	38	31.63

5.	Family size	Small (Up to 5 members)	70	58.33
		Medium (6-10 members)	38	31.67
		Large (Above 11 members)	12	10.00
6.	Occupation	Agriculture	58	48.33
		Agriculture + Labor	47	39.17
		Caste based occupation	10	8.33
		Other	5	15.00
7.	Annual income	Low (up to 50000)	85	70.83
		Medium (51000 to 1lakh)	35	29.17
		High (1,00,000 to 1.10 lakh)	0	00.00
8.	Housing Pattern	Pakka	12	10.00
		Mixed	69	57.50
		Kaccha	28	23.33
		Hut	11	9.16
9.	Land holding	Marginal	83	69.17
		Small	37	30.83
		Medium	-	-
		Large	-	-
10.	Mass media exposure	Television	49	40.83
		Radio	29	24.17
		Newspaper	17	14.17
		Internet	34	28.33
		Social Media	23	19.17
11.	Economic Motivation	Low (Up to 8)	35	29.17
		Medium (9 to10)	56	46.67
		High (11 and above)	29	24.17
12.	Extension Contacts	Low (Up to 34)	25	20.83
		Medium (53 and above)	68	56.67
		High (14-16)	27	22.50
13.	Knowledge level	Low (21-30)	28	23.33
		Medium (31-40)	75	62.50
		High (41-75)	17	14.16
14.	Perception	Low (Below 15)	25	20.83
		Medium (16to 17)	61	50.83
		High (18and above)	34	28,83

S. No.	Variables	Correlation coefficient between variables and adoption level
1.	Age	-0.1118
2.	Education qualification	0.1225
3.	Cast	-0.0957
4.	Family Type	0.2961**
5.	Family Size	0.0285
6.	Occupation	-0.0406
7.	Annual Income	0.19990*
8.	Housing Pattern	-0.719
9.	Mass Media Exposure	0.0074
10.	Economic Motivation	0.2214*
11.	Landholding	-0.0935
12.	Extension Contact	0.1987*

*Significant at 0.05 Probability level =0.05
** Significant at 0.01 Probability level=0.01

From the it revels: that the variables like family size, family type and extension contacts were found to have significant and positive relationship with the adoption of the respondents, whereas the relationship with the education qualification, mass media exposer caste, scientific orientation have non-significant and had positive correlation ship. But occupation, age, land holding, farming experience, occupation, annual income, housing pattern were found negatively insignificant with respect to adoption of the respondent.

Knowledge
Knowledge is generally understood as a justified true belief. It is information, understanding, or skills acquired through experience or education

Table 2: Classification of respondents according to their level of Knowledge

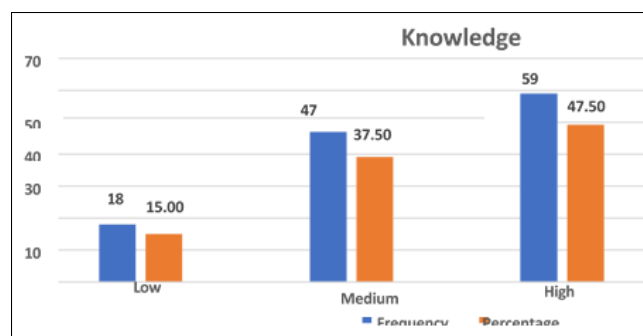| S. N.	Category	Beneficiaries N = 120	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Low (Below 14)	18	15.00
2.	Medium (15 to 16)	45	37.50
3.	High (17 and Above)	57	47.50

Fig 1: Classification of respondents according to their level of Knowledge

The chart titled "Knowledge" shows the distribution of knowledge levels categorized as Low, Medium, and High. The data indicates that a small proportion of the sample has a late level of knowledge, with percentage (15.00%). The Medium knowledge category is represented percentage (37.50%), while the High knowledge category has the highest sensation percentage (47.50%). This suggests that the majority of individual fall within the Medium to High knowledge levels.

Conclusion
The study highlights that MGNREGA plays a vital role in empowering rural women by providing employment opportunities and enhancing their socio-economic status. Findings revealed that factors such as age, education, caste, family type, landholding, and income significantly influenced the adoption of MGNREGA practices. Most beneficiaries were middle-aged, with medium levels of education and income, and primarily engaged in agriculture. The majority showed medium to high levels of knowledge and adoption. Strengthening extension services, improving access to resources, and addressing socio-economic constraints are essential to maximize the benefits of MGNREGA and ensure sustainable women empowerment in rural areas.

Acknowledgement

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