

ROLE OF MGNREGA IN THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEOPLE: A STUDY OF TWO BLOCKS IN NADIA DISTRICT, WEST BENGAL

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Abstract

The present study is an attempt to identify the Role of MGNREGA in the Socio-Economic Development of the People: A Study of two Blocks in Nadia District, West Bengal. Rural India is lagging behind in the fields of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, ill-health, lack of sanitation and safe drinking water etc. The problems of unemployment and poverty have always been major obstacles to economic development of developing countries like India. So, Indian government has implemented various employment programmes to eradicate rural poverty by fixed employment wages in every financial year. Among these schemes, the NREGA was considered a unique scheme after independence as it provides them statutory right to employment. Indian Government has a statutory obligation to provide employment to every rural household in a financial year. NREGA is being considered as a 'Silver Bullet' for the development. It has been eradicating rural poverty and unemployment by generating employment demand for a productive labour force in villages. It runs through both the Central Government sponsored and implemented by State Government. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) was enacted on August 23, 2005. This scheme was passed and implemented in September 2005. It has been eradicating rural poverty and unemployment by the way of generating 100 days employment in a financial year for any rural household whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work. The comparative study of two blocks i.e., Nabadwip and Krishnagar II block would help in understanding the socio-economic development of peoples in Nadia district. It will prove very helpful to create social awareness and to provide employment opportunities among the rural poor people. It will help in formulating the better policy and implementation strategy for the future MGNREGA in all blocks of Nadia district.

So, the above said topic is a thrust to know about proper implementation and performance of MGNREGA in selected blocks of Nadia district with an empirical approach.

(Keywords: MGNREGA, Poverty, Employment, Development etc.)