

Millennium Development Goals through MNREGA

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Abstract

The MDGs have been the focal point of almost all global discussions on development issues. It is the most ambitious goal the United Nations Organization has put forth in the past ten years. The 192 countries who committed to use every effort to meet the MDGs by 2015 began implementing various types of development projects as soon as they were originally announced in September 2000. In India, the same was carried out. The Millennium Development Goals have accelerated India's pace of initiatives for reducing poverty by mobilising more budget resources, setting deadlines for quantifiable deliverables, and connecting with global frameworks of action. India is on track to advance towards inclusive growth and meet the MDGs. India has made great progress thanks to the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), an important piece of legislation. Following a successful push for laws guaranteeing jobs, this was passed. The MDGs and inclusive growth measures in India, where efforts are being made to eradicate poverty entirely by 2015, are directly tied to it. Due to its Rights Based approach, MNREGA marks a paradigm shift from all other development projects that have historically been supply-led. The implementation of this statute, which is centrally funded completely from domestic resources, is supported by a budget based on employment demand. The Act has developed over the past six years into an essential tool for supporting local democratic processes and replenishing India's depleting natural resource base, in addition to providing livelihood for millions of people.

The goal of the current study is to assess how MNREGA has affected the well-being of underprivileged women in rural India. Additionally, it examines the effectiveness of MNREGA in reducing poverty and providing rural poor people with employment opportunities MNREGA was able to help ecological restoration through its design.

As a result, the current study carefully considers how the MNREGA will affect rural poverty, ecological regeneration, and the job situation—all key components of the MDGs. The study's main subject is MNREGA's female workforce. Additionally, the article emphasized the MNREGA's significant visible and invisible effects on disadvantaged rural women.

Introduction

The UN organized a number of international conferences in the 1990s in response to dissatisfaction with the rate of human development in the 1980s in order to highlight the issues at hand and commit the international community to resolving them [1]. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were established at both Global Summits, have since been used as the framework for organizing the development-related activities of international organizations. The paucity of resources has received a lot of attention in the ongoing discussion of the method of operation and the viability of reaching these goals. While resources are unquestionably necessary, it is also critical to adopt the proper institutions and policies. This study makes the case shows a well-designed employment policy can significantly help some human development outcomes related to inclusive growth and the MDGs.

India has increased the budget resources allocated to methods for reducing poverty, set timelines for quantifiable achievements, and linked constantly. Throughout the past 20 years, despite the high rates of general

economic growth in many Asian nations, including India, many policymakers in Asia and in international organizations have grown increasingly concerned. The targets of the millennium development goals will be met by India, which is on track to advance towards inclusive growth.

Much progress has been made thanks to the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), an important piece of Indian law that was adopted after a successful push for employment guarantee legislation. It has a direct bearing on the programmes being implemented in India to promote inclusive growth and the MDGs. By 2015, it is intended to totally abolish poverty [3]. Because of its rights-based methodology, NREGA represents a paradigm shift from all earlier development programmes, which were largely supply led. The implementation of this statute, which is centrally funded completely from domestic resources, is supported by a budget based on employment demand. The Act has developed over the past six years into an essential tool for supporting grassroots democratic processes and replenishing India's depleting natural resource base. In addition to giving livelihood to millions of people, that the rate of income disparity has increased frequently as well as how uneven this rise has been. Also, it seemed that disadvantaged groups like women, rural dwellers in far-off places, and those from ethnic minorities had not benefited. Proportionately as a result of this swift economic growth. Political debates in India during the 2004 general election largely emphasized the possibility that growth would leave the underprivileged and impoverished behind. The new administration placed a strong emphasis on inclusive growth to address these injustices and disadvantages. As a matter of fact, India's Eleventh Five-Year Plan, 2007-2012, was themed "Inclusive Growth" and featured specific strategies to encourage the wellbeing and participation of underprivileged groups.

The Ministry of Rural Development of India stressed that the NREGA promotes the accomplishment of the following three MDGs as part of efforts to reduce poverty:

Goals 1 promote gender equality and women's empowerment, while

Goal 2 ensures environmental sustainability. Goal 1: End extreme poverty and hunger.

MNREGA was praised by the UN Global Assessment Report (GAR) as a supported employment programme, and cash transfers to socially marginalized groups as significant strategies that have the potential to reduce disaster risk and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and it urged other countries to model their programmes after the one that has helped millions of socially marginalized people achieve independence

Eradication of Hunger and Poverty through Employment Generation

Eliminating extreme poverty and hunger, the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG), intends to cut in half between 1990 and 2015 the percentage of people with an annual income of less than \$1. They include establishing 70 million new job possibilities, increasing the real wage rate for unskilled workers by 20% and lowering the consumer poverty headcount ratio by 10%. The National Sample Survey Organization estimates that 300 million Indians are living in abject poverty. According to estimates from the Tendulkar Committee, India's overall poverty head count ratio very slightly decreased from 45.3 percent to 37.2 percent between 1993–1994 and 2003–2004. Similar to how urban poverty has decreased, rural poverty has decreased from 41.8 percent to 50.1 percent from 31.8 percent to 25.7 [5]. According to these figures, 42 out of every 100 rural residents still struggle to make a decent living. By boosting work Providing chances and ensuring equitable pay distribution Poverty in rural areas has been "significantly dented" by the introduction of MNREGA, which has increased rural households' salaries and, as a result, raised their capacity to buy. 2.10 crore families got jobs during the first year of implementation (2006-07), and 90.5 crore person days were produced. Across 330 districts, 143.59 crore person days were added in 2007–2008, giving 3.39 crore families a place to work. In 2008–09, 216.32 crore person days were created nationwide, providing employment to 4.51 crore households. 5.49 crore families received jobs from 2009 to 2010 and 5.29 crore from 2010 to 2011 [6].

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

The Employment Guarantee Act can also support women's empowerment by providing them with the opportunity to generate their own independent income. MNREGA mandates that women should receive 30 percent of all available jobs. The MNREGA's implementation has had a significant positive impact on women's empowerment, especially in the ways that the work is organized by women's groups, which automatically incorporates a gender perspective, and that for the first time, equal pay is actually offered, which has increased women's salaries. The woman's intra-household standing has improved in line with the increase in bank deposits since she has control over considerable economic resources and is the only one who can withdraw money.

The MNREGA's primary goals and original intents did not include or include women's empowerment. However, in order to guarantee that The Act included provisions that specifically help rural women, such as giving women a priority One-third of all workers must be women in order to guarantee equal pay for men and women. providing crèches for the kids of women employees and ensuring equal pay for men and women. Rural women have benefited from features like work within a five-kilometer radius of the home, the lack of a supervisor and a contractor, and flexibility in deciding the length of the working relationship, despite the fact that these were not created expressly for them. Nevertheless, women have done so. How much of this developed on its own is interesting. In terms of person-days, women participated more in MGNREGS than they did in earlier employment-creating programmes like the Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Plan and the Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) (MEGS). There are considerable differences in the percentage of women who work days between districts, within states, and between states. Women's engagement has increased dramatically nationally, from 40.65 percent in 2006–07 to 47.72 percent in 2010.

During the fiscal year 2010–11, states with the lowest participation rates for women included Punjab (33), Arunachal Pradesh (33), West Bengal (33), Assam (26.4), Bihar (28.5), and Mizoram (33) at the state level, ahead of Tamil Nadu (82.59), Pondicherry (82), and Rajasthan (68.34). Women are now participating at considerably higher rates. Women's participation has surpassed men's participation in a number of states. In Kerala, where women make up more than 90% of the population, social organizations like Kudumbashree are essential to their participation. As a result, it has been dubbed a "Women Program." The Employment Guarantee Act has a greater impact on empowering rural women in Uttar Pradesh, a region where they are typically confined to their homes. Reducing gender inequality among rural women. Consequently, it demonstrates that under this aristocratic political system, the bulk of those with disadvantages are not totally ignored. Their demands can outweigh privileged interests with sufficient political Organisation.

MNREGS: A Tool for Ecological Regeneration

One of the best aspects of the MNREGA is the ecological act, which. establishes a balance between human activity and natural resources, assures the creation of green jobs that will contribute to long-term economic stability and the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goal of environmental sustainability. In addition to paying workers for their labour, the MGNREGS needs to be developed and expanded to provide jobs that will promote ecological regeneration. MNREGA's design has also made it possible to aid in ecological restoration. The main natural resources that influence agricultural and animal productivity are water, soil, and land, and these three resources are directly tied to the MGNREGS-covered activities. They may have a favorable or unfavorable impact on these natural resources, which may or may not affect their capacity to offer environmental services. Groundwater recharge, increased rainwater percolation, water conservation, increased irrigation area, restoring damaged agriculture and grazing fields will preserve biodiversity, minimise soil erosion, improve soil fertility, and boost access to leaf manure, fuel wood, and non-wood forest products. , and carbon sequestration are a few examples of environmental services. The objective of MGNREG Activities must be the preservation of natural resources and the improvement of environmental services to support the production of food and livestock, more clean drinking water, as well as more grass and forest goods. One could

describe to the benefits that come from the MNREGA-approved activities as "services supplied". According to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA 2005), people are an essential part of the natural ecosystem. In contrast to conventional approaches that make distinctions between humans and other animals.

Humans as unnatural beings. The method takes into account human well-being as a parallel theme to the operation of the natural environment, which also tackles the sustainability of resources and livelihoods. Seven of the nine chosen work areas under the MNREGA have a conservation theme.

any other responsibility that the federal government may announce following consultation with the state governments. Watershed management, water conservation, drought resistance, flood protection, land development, minor irrigation, and rural connectivity are among the tasks that need to be prioritized. To strengthen the ecological pillars of sustainable agriculture, such action is vital. Unquestionably, the MNREGA is the biggest environmental security initiative now in place. With the important caveat that monetary contributions made to a project that guarantees employment must go towards useful, long-lasting assets. This would guarantee that the ensuing growth dynamic is both inflation-free and sustainable (by regenerating the environment) (by removing the agrarian limitation)

The Union Ministry of Rural Development has taken steps to accomplish the merger of brainpower and muscle by enlisting the aid of other Ministries and Departments. The increased productivity of farms without harming the environment will result from such a confluence of knowledge for sustainable growth. Also, it is important to boost MNREGA employees' self-esteem and make them proud of their job in halting environmental degradation. Through "Environment Saviour Awards," MNREGA organisations that have made significant contributions to water collection, watershed development, and soil health could receive the recognition they deserve. This will contribute to raising awareness of the crucial function MNREGA employees do.

Conclusion

The Millennium Development Goals for India are a policy and programmes commitment. By 2015, all forms of poverty are to be completely eradicated. The network of UNDP connects and synchronises national and international efforts to accomplish these Goals. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) reached their halfway point in 2009, however important development policies and financing are still not consistently in line with the MDGs. The UNDP is attempting to close this gap as part of its responsibilities to reduce poverty. . UNDP is supporting a unique low-cost ATM pilot programme for the implementation of NREGA. A pilot IT initiative being implemented by the United Nations Development Programme and the Ministry of Rural Development will also enable 200 District Collectors to connect remotely via the UN Country Team Solution Exchange Model. To analyse MNREGA implementation and compliance, five important research institutions have been established. Moreover, UNDP is currently commissioning up to 20 additional TV ads that highlight best practises for MNREGA implementation from other states.

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