

Rural Empowerment and Livelihood Options under Mgnrega in Lakhimpur of Assam

Ramen Lagachu

Assistant Professor

*United Tribal Degree College Department of English
Dhakuwakhana, Lakhimpur, Assam*

ABSTRACT:

It is a pace of modern and the time of globalization where the life of the people gradually coming towards sophisticate. The government has also been introducing many schemes for both rural and urban till sustain their life and measures. The people use food, cloth and houses and over and above these basic needs of life, many different kinds of good such as utensils, household goods, table, chair, books, pen, shoes, watch, medicine, bicycle, radio, television, motor car etc. Among the various services, we may mention the transport services of rickshaws, hand carts, bullock carts, buses, trucks, railways, boats and ships for the transport of men and materials from one place to another; the communication services of post office, telegraph, telephone, internet etc, medical services of doctors, nurses, hospitals and pharmacies, educational services of school, colleges, universities and teachers, services of water supply, milk, electricity and gas, services of traders and commercial organizations, services bank and insurance companies for transaction of money for saving and investment etc. In modern times, different people, according to their own convenience, produce some goods and in many cases, they supply their labour and other resources to another producer or some producing organization. In this way, they earn money and buy necessary goods. As a producers sell their produced goods in the market, so different people, according to that needs and capability buy them and use or consume them. In this way, goods produced by different persons and organizations and distributed among people in the society. The topic will consist several important view of points like-historical overview, statistical records, methodology, review of literature, some understanding up to sustaining measure, conclusion along with few major findings and references etc.

Date of Submission: 07-08-2020

Date of Acceptance: 21-08-2020

I. INTRODUCTION:

The demand for affirmative action for rural empowerment continues to be deeply contentious issues in India, even as the date for the enlargement of livelihood options. In fact, the policy of MGNREGA has expanded to cover different classes in various states i.e. with the government of those states announcing its terms and conditions for those rural inhabitants depending on the contingencies of case policies in those respective states in general and Lakhimpur as particularly. The Rural Development is an imperative and most significant task for the rural and village areas development of our country. The term Rural development is used in different ways in vastly divergent contents as a concept, it connotes overall development of rural areas with a view to improve the quality of life of rural people. As a phenomenon, it is the result of various physical, technological, economic, socio-cultural and institutional factors. As a discipline, it is multi-disciplinary in nature representing an intersection of agricultural social, behavioral Engineering and Management Science. As a researcher, it has been observed that industrialization and advancement of economic in western societies was achieved and seemed it is effecting institutional changes in rural societies. Since the industrial revolution in England, the growing of Japanese industry and also in Europe were all preceded by far accomplishment changes in agrarian societies in the terms of employment guarantee to bring it in instrumental form in rural economics. Industrial growth and modernization were accompanied by boost productivity in the most rural areas and inspiring by it to generate freedom in the livelihood motion. Moreover, the research hopes that the study of this topic must have to be focused how the societies, stakeholders or individual respondents are able to reduce not only their poverty but unemployable measures in day to day basis and increase the role of non-agricultural activities in the economy and commerce.

In fact, the role of the Mahatma Gandhi National rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in rural development specially in Lakhimpur district is the great significant to study for the upliftment of common people. In the name of MGNREGA the govt. has taken the plan to provide right to rural people for the work. It

was enacted in order to address the crucial issues of unemployment and poverty rural India. Earlier implementation is a first ever law internationally that guarantees wage employment, at an unprecedented scale. NREGA aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in financial years to every household whose adult member volunteers to do unskilled manual works. The programme was launched on February 2, 2006 in 200 districts in the first phase of its implementation. The amount of rupees 16,419 crore has been allocated for the implementation of NREGA in 2006-07. NREGA marks a paradigm shift from all earlier and existing wage employment programme, because it is an Act and not just a scheme. Gradually, it has come as MGNREGA to fulfill Mahatma Gandhi's dream of 'Gram Swaraj' and also to create the change of morality among all the stakeholders of the scheme, the Government of India renamed the scheme as Mahatma Gandhi National rural Employment Guarantee Act in 2009 expecting a better implementation of the scheme. It can be said that the development of the rural people and the MGNREGA as well as the great wings for empowerment.

Presently, the majority of the population in developing countries lives in rural areas, tied with the existence of widespread rural poverty, has increased the significance of rural development. Since 1950s accompanied by the magnitude of rural unemployment in these countries has also made rural development more pertinent. Added to this is the realization that the more growth of the agricultural sector has not been able to fulfill the needs of the vast majority of the peasantry. Disbursement under the poverty-focused self-employment programmed Swarna Jayanti Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) meant for families below the poverty line. A scheme MGNREGA is formed when members of a community, who have the same or similar problem, come together, meet, share experiences, have discussions, and there by arrive at solutions. Internationally such groups have been formed around medical problems and addictions. Self-help is seen as an inexpensive way of providing vital community services. It is an ethos, a MGNREGA symbolizes community initiative to tide a problem over and achieve a level of self sufficiency. The MGNREGA has evolved over time all over the India and the journey has been at several levels-from labour/ kind/ premonitory currency to deposit at account; from rotating to non-rotating patterns from short lived to semi permanent or supposedly permanent groups; and from savings only to savings driven credit groups.

Globalization in the era of late capitalism has brought about a paradigm shift in the approaches to rural development. This shift may have serious consequences for the development of rural masses. To understand this shift and its consequences we need to look at the history of the discipline of rural development. All over the world rural development has become an important subject of study. As a discipline, it is a multi-disciplinary in nature, representing an intersection of agriculture, social, behavioural, engineering and management sciences. As a concept rural development embraces economic growth and social justice, improvement in the living standard of the rural people by providing adequate and quality social services and minimum basic needs. Like many other branches of studies of modern disciplines rural development as a modern field of study and research began in the west. During the period 1890-1920, some scholars like Henry Maine, Eton, Baden Powell and Stemann became deeply interested in the socio-economic problems faced by the rural societies of America. The studies carried out by those scholars led to the establishment of rural sociology as an academic discipline. It is from this discipline that over the years rural development emerged as an independent field of study. The future prospects of MGNREGA in the North-East seems to be immense if improved efficiency and profitability of production could be achieved by incremental changes to better utilize the existing resources through innovative community-based programs implemented by cluster management. The entrepreneurship miracle in other countries is an engine for job creation, innovation and diversity. The role of entrepreneurship in global business of the developing countries like India is also significant. Assam occupies a unique position in entrepreneurship development for all verities having prospects largely. In order to achieve the objectives of the present study, seven districts were selected for field investigation from the Brahmaputra.

UNDERSTANDING OF MGNREGA:

Rural development is the main agenda of the developing Countries. The fact that the majority of the population in India lives in rural areas, coupled with the existence of widespread rural poverty, has increased the relevance of rural development the rapid increase in rural population since the 1950s accompanied by the magnitude of rural unemployment in our nation has also made rural development more relevant. Added to this is the realization that the more growth of the needs of the vast majority of the peasantry. All these factors have enhanced the importance of rural development. MGNREGA marks to form an energetic apparatus from all precedent wage employment programmes, providing a statutory guarantee of wage employment. The rural development and Panchayat Raj Department is responsible for the implementation of various centrally sponsored, state funded and externally aided schemes for poverty alleviation, employment generation, sanitation, capacity building, women's social and economic empowerment etc. The department is also entrusted with the responsibility of enabling the various Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to function as effective units of local self-Government. To provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the people households in rural

areas of the country by providing at least one hundred day of guarantee wage employment in every financial year to every house household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto: BE it enacted by parliament in the Fifty-fifth year of the Republic of India as follows: This Act may be called the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2004, It extends to the whole of India except the States of Jammu and Kashmir. It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; And different dates may be appointed for different States or for different areas in a State and any reference in any such his Act; provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the coming into force of that provision in such States or, as the case may be, in such areas.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

It is widely accepted that the main focus of the poverty alleviation programme is fold, first, development of the backward areas and second, the improvement in socio-economic conditions of the weaker sections through raising their employment and income opportunities.

The main objectives of the study are

1. To give attention on the major rural development programmes on worker section of the society
2. To examine the impact of the programmes on the socio-economic conditions of the people in rural areas.
3. To examine the details of the performance of the working of poverty alienation programmes, the type of beneficiaries, the extent of benefits that have been occurred, the impact of the programmes on income and employment of the target groups and difficulties that are faced by the government officials in implementing the programmes.
4. To assess the different level of employment opportunity how to increase households providing under MGNREGA in different Blocks of Lakhimpur.
5. To give attention for major rural development programmes to the society and promoting equity by the programme as a high workforce participation of marginalized group.
6. To examine the details of the performance of the beneficiaries and difficulties are faced by the government officials in implementing the programmes.

The method for the study will be collected both from primary and secondary sources with the help of database survey and sampling collection, technique with the help of performer questionnaire through schedules will be carry out. The various Journals, newspaper, website, official documents and other relevant information would be incorporated from different reference books and official documents of the Government department concerned. The study will base on both primary and secondary data. The primary data must have to be collected from the survey of the selected beneficiaries of different MGNEGA in the study area. For the survey work, a structural schedule will be designed and prepared in a manner of reflect the production, generation, redistribution, employment and changes in the socio-economic conditions of the beneficiaries for each programme. While it will be presenting the results, both inter-temporal and cross-sectional approaches are used in the study in order to evaluate the impact of the programme on the employment conditions of the rural poor. The secondary data to be collected from the published reports of the DRDA, development Blocks of the district. For the survey work, a structural schedule will be designed and prepared in a manner of react the production, generation, redistribution, employment and changes in the socio-economic conditions of the beneficiaries for each programme will be presenting the results.

The literary documents are not available relating to development of the MGNREGA and the government's flagship rural jobs guarantee programme has taken a different path in Assam. In spite of this, some programmes for its empowerment and many other aspects from livelihood option may be help for study. The most important issue in present political movement is about the rural poor. It has always attracted the attention of scholars both in India and abroad, academicians, political leaders, bureaucrats and researchers. Their contribution has come to light in the forms of books, seminars, committee reports, conference reports, research works, papers and articles public in newspapers. The eminent scholars from various angles have so far conducted a number of studies on MGNREGA and its resources. But they do not emphasize on need based schemes belonging to marginal farmers in the areas. Therefore a synoptic review of a few important works is entrusted from M. Gopinath Reddy, portrayed about how implementation of the MGNREGA has taken a unique turn in Andhra Pradesh and the wages teenager will earn from the job under the MGNREGA will go toward realizing the dream of attaining a management degree and becoming a cooperate executive. Rangaswamy elaborate about many poor households in the Rayalaseema region, prone to prolonged droughts and plagued by poverty, have benefited from MGNREGA, which offers 100 days of work a year to at least one member of every rural family in the country.

The reference extents from Muhammad Anu in his book which indicates the Employment Guarantee Act as a universal entitlement to relief employment on demand is the only known way of protecting most rural

households from economic insecurity. The then Minister of Rural Development succinctly opines in a bill that to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the poor households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household. In this connection it may also be recommended that unemployment refers to a situation in which people who are able and willing to work to do not get employment opportunities and jobs that match their capabilities and skill. Various unpublished official records constitute the in proceedings collected from different Blocks of the district, District Rural Development Authority, Lakhimpur, comprehensive study of the different community development programmes, organization relating to the rural employment guarantee in the districts are important.

However, some of the Souvenir, magazines, Newspapers, and sample survey organization etc. will be helped for study towards collecting the primary data. The Gram Panchayats of Lakhimpur district, Scheme provider authorities, and Zila Parisad of Lakhimpur has been playing an important role in the literary, scientific and organizational development can be considered as secondary source for this research work. In this ways a relevant review of literature is tried to be presented above. Keen interest of investors from within and outside of the state also throws light on significant improvement in industrial scenario of the state. A total of 27913 units in small scale industries in state play a pivotal role in the network of industrialization and generation of employment opportunities to nearly more than 1 lakh persons. Unemployment youths of the state have been encouraged by setting up SSI through PMRY scheme. Introduction of new projects like trade centre, extraction of bio-diesel from jatropaha plant, setting up to central research institute, setting up of national

MAJOR FINDINGS

The industrial atmosphere and the infrastructural facilities do not allow this district for the development of large and medium scale industries. But at the same time, availability of waste land, local available resources and enough manpower indicate that Lakhimpur can fairly be adopted for the development of industries as adumbrated above lead us to think that the district has the enough potentiality for setting up of the following kinds of industries.

1. **Angro based Industries:** About 90% total population in the district live in rural areas. Most of them are paddy farmers and hence it can be expected that based on locally available raw-materials different kinds of agro-based industries (e. G. Rice-mill, Chra mill, oil mill, spice mill) can be developed.
2. **Forest Based Industries:** This district has 84,321,26 sq. K.m. of reserved forest areas . The reserved forest have the valuable trees like sal, segun, chafa, simolu, cane and bamboo etc. Based on these resources match, furnitures industries can be developed.
3. **Food processing Industries :** The district has also the greater potentiality is established food processing and preservation industries like jam, jelly etc. Etc.
4. **Cottage industries: Cottage industries have a scope in the district too. These will include handloom, cane and bamboo and handicrafts etc.**
5. **Plantation Development industries:** Such as rubber, coffee, small tea gardens, flowers etc. can also be developed
6. **Animal husbandary resource based:** Animal husbandary resource based industries such as dairy farming, piggery, poultry, farming etc. Etc. Have the potentiality for the development of industries in the district.
7. **Bee-keeping industries:** Bee-keeping industries can also be developed.
8. **Development Pisciculture:** Development Pisciculture we can develop packet freezing fish, dry fish industries, fish nursery etc.
9. **Waste product industries:** By using waste product of tea, coffee in production industries can be developed in the district. The tea packaging industries can be developed.

II. CONCLUSION:

Over and above discourse on rural empowerment and enlargement of the Livelihood options under MGNREGA in Lakhimpur District of Assam considers as struggle for an effective Employment Guarantee. However this is unlikely to happen without a strong expression of popular demand for full-fledged employment guarantee for which it an interesting challenge here for the labour movement and all organizations committed to right to work. To feed the future generations without degrading our resources, livelihood options have to be economically viable and ecologically sustainable. Equipping the rural people with necessary skill and technology besides making them economically independent and self-reliant and encouraging them to become rural entrepreneurs in small and tiny sectors will be the measures to protect them in this era of globalization. Specially, the Blocks of the Lakhimpur have faced different problems after the implementation of the scheme like MGNREGA; because of it the researcher has chosen this topic. Mainly, as a researcher it has prime aim to investigate different problems to search its drawbacks for using without any hesitation of the mind of common people. Although, the concept of the scheme is more democratic but without having need base implement,

system analysis for produce, true sense in livelihood options, greedy and pre-occupied mind of desire persons has compelled to study.

REFERENCE:

- [1]. Maheswari S.R.(1985): Rural Development In India, Saga Publication, New Delhi
- [2]. Singh H (1985): Rural Development in India, Print well Publication, Jaipur
- [3]. Choudhary D. Paul (1978): New Partnership In Rural Development, M.N. Publishers, New Delhi
- [4]. Reddy G. Ram (1977), New Partnership of Panchyat Raj in India, The Macmilan Company of India Ltd.
- [5]. Rao V.V. (1972): Local Self Government, Bani Prakesh Publishers, Assam, Guwahati
- [6]. Hatiboruah, D., Administration of Rural Development of India, M.N. Publishers, New Delhi
- [7]. Gohain N., Das D.: Administration of Rural Development of India, M.N. Publishers, New Delhi
- [8]. Arora R.C. (1990), "Integrated Rural Development", S Chand and Company, New Delhi.
- [9]. Bera S.K. (2011), "A study of SHG-Microfinance Initiative in Purbo Midnapore District of West Bengal", Economic Affairs, Vol. 56, No. 2, June,
- [10]. Bhai L.T, Karuppiah C and Geetha B (2004), "Micro credit and social capitalism in rural Tamil Nadu", Social Welfare, Vol. 50, no. 10,
- [11]. Census data 2011 of Lakhimpur District, Country Focus: India: Assam: Lakhimpur District: District Profile, <http://lakhimpur.nic.in/profile.htm> , on 20th August 2011.
- [12]. Joseph E. Imhanlahimi, (2010), "Poverty Alleviation through Micro financing in Nigeria- Prospects and challenges", Journal of Financial Management and Analysis, No. 23(1)
- [13]. K. Sivachithappa, (2008), "Success story of Poverty Alliviation Through Self-Help Groups", Kurukshetra, Journal on Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi, vol. 57 No. 2, December,
- [14]. Kannan K. P. and Pillai N. Vijayamohan, (2009), "Basic Socio-economic security in rural India and China-a comparative study of selected villages", Indian Journal of Human Development, vol. 3, no. 2,

Ramen Lagachu. "Rural Empowerment and Livelihood Options under Mgnrega in Lakhimpur of Assam." *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*, 25(8), 2020, pp. 55-59.