



**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

**MNREGA: Constraints of women empowerment in Purabazar block of Faizabad District, India**

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**ABSTRACT**

*The present research was conducted in Purabazar block of Faizabad district. To assess the impact of MNREGA on women empowerment. The data was collected through personal interview with help of interview schedule. The data finalized and tabulated was done with the use of percentage, mean and standard deviation for drawing the inferences with variables on the basis of data it was observed that the MNREGA job holder belongs to below poverty line. The constraints of women empowerment. General aspect, 60:40 wage and material ratio is not maintained" was ranked 1, mean score and percentage of 100, selection and registration aspect, "Job cards are issued less in comparison to registration" was ranked 1, mean score and percentage of 36.00. "Lack of facilities such as water shade" mean score and percentage 81.00, and "medicine at worksite, Monitoring by NGOs and civil societies is not done", "Withdrawal of money from bank is time taking", and "Non-cooperation from family members" were reported important by maximum respondent. The suggestion given by respondents "The job card should be issued within 15 days of application" and "Worksite facilities such as crèche, drinking water, medicine and shade should be provided" a like found to be important for further consideration.*

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**INTRODUCTION**

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was notified in 200 districts in the first phase with effect from 2nd February, 2006 and then extended to additional 130 districts in the financial year 2007-2008. The remaining districts have been notified under the MNREGA with effect from April 1, 2008. MGNREGA is the world's biggest employment guarantee programme and aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household. Its primary objective is to augment wage employment and strengthen natural resources management. This act stipulates that wages will be equal for men and women and also committed to ensuring that at least 33 percent of the workers shall be women. The economic dependence of women on men in rural India plays a major role in the subjugation of women, and in this respect the MNREGA is an important tool of social change. MNREGA can play a substantial role in economically empowering the women and laying the basis for greater independence and self-esteem. The flagship programme of Government of India, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has been designed in such a way that it incorporates a number of features that explicitly tackle some of the challenges women

Face in the rural economy and to a certain extent women's differential experiences of poverty and vulnerability. The main aim of the rural wage employment programme. The empowerment of women is very much needed for the development of a country. Thus various provisions are made under the act and its guidelines which ensure that women have equitable and easy access to work, decent working conditions, equal payment of wages and representation on decision making process. The paper analyses the contribution of MGNREGA in empowering women socially and economically and the constraints faced by them.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study is intended to identify the MNREGA Constraints of women empowerment in Purabazar. The various methods and procedures that are used in the selection of area, locale of study, sampling designs and procedures of data collection, different variables under study, their empirical measurements and statistical methods employed for the analysis of the data. Faizabad district was selected purposively for the study because its close familiarity to investigator with respect to area, people, officials, and the Purabazar block has is in selected purposively for this study because of the criteria of nearer to researcher villages and its easy accessibility. A list of all the villages in the selected block i.e. Purabazar, procured from the block headquarter in which MNREGA was running. Then, the villages were arranged on the basis of fund utilization under MNREGA. From this list, the more than 300 women MNREGA job card holder, total number of villages were 105 from which 10 villages within surrounding area of the block headquarter were selected purposely. The selected 10 villages. Further the list of job card holder families was prepared and arranged on the basis of maximum number of women job card holder in each selected village. At second stage, a total 100 job card holder were selected from the prepared list on the basis of maximum number of women through proportionate random sampling technique from the selected villages. A structured schedule for data collection was designed and exercised by interviewing with few respondents for pre-testing. Then, the suitable modification were made according to need of this study. There after data were collected from the MNREGA respondent through personal interview method. And Statistical methods used the "percentage" and "average" S.D and rank order were used for making simple interpretation.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Constraints of women respondents in MNREGA

The data of constraints of women respondents in MNREGA presented in table 1

**Table.1** constraints of women respondents in MNREGA

Constraints	No. of women respondent	percentage of women respondents
<b>General</b>		
More funds are being expended for administrative maintenance than actual scheme benefit.	27	27.00
60:40 wage and material ratio is not maintained.	100	100.00
Guidelines for proper work are not given.	80	80.00
Poor administration at many levels.	54	54.00
Delay on wage disbursement which compels the respondent not to come for further work.	45	45.00
Lack of proper awareness about scheme.	84	84.00
<b>Selection and registration</b>		
Less opportunity is given to poor people.	25	25.00
Job cards are issued less in comparison to registration.	36	36.00
Unemployment allowance not provided in case of delay in job.	24	24.00
Job card not held by real respondent.	20	20.00
<b>Preparing job cards</b>		
Lack of written and signed receipt for jobs.	55	55.00
Jobs cards are not issued within 15 day of application consequently wastage of time.	87	87.00
If a job card is lost the new card are not made in time.	25	25.00
False payments through false signature / thumb impression are made on muster rolls.	43	43.00
Job cards are issued to persons who do not deserve.	15	15.00
<b>Allotment of work</b>		
Employment is not provided within 15 days of application for work.	78	78.00
The minimum days of employment is not given continuously consequently, unemployment allowance is missed.	22	22.00
The 100 days wage employment is not given in a financial year.	92	92.00
Proper work is not provided during lean month.	14	14.00

<b>Worksite amenities</b>		
Hard work is taken.	10	10.00
Lack of facilities such as water, shade, and medicine at worksite.	81	81.00
Child care facilities are not available at worksite.	40	40.00
<b>Auditing and monitoring</b>		
Monitoring by NGOs and civil societies is not done.	72	72.00
Malpractices and ineffective social audits are adopted.	45	45.00
Officials do not visit ongoing work under scheme.	43	43.00
<b>Opening of account and withdrawal of money.</b>		
Problem in opening of account.	36	36.00
Rojgarsevak does not help in opening of an account.	30	30.00
Withdrawal of money from bank is time taking.	72	72.00
<b>Personal and family constraints</b>		
Too much work load in family.	85	85.00
Non-cooperation from family members	90	90.00
Domestic work neglected.	82	82.00
No extra work can be taken up due to fatigue and debility.	75	75.00
Farm and cattle care activities not attended properly.	87	87.00

The constraints perceived by beneficiaries were studied on various aspects *viz.*, general, selection and registration, preparing job cards, allotment of work, worksite amenities, auditing and monitoring as well as opening of account and withdrawal of money, Personal and family constraints. The emphasizes the degree of constraints studied under above aspects. As for as general aspect, "60:40 wage and material ratio is not maintained" was ranked I, mean score and 100 percent and selection and registration aspect, "Job cards are issued less in comparison to registration" was ranked I, mean score and percentage 36.00. Preparing job cards aspect, "Jobs cards are not issued within 15 day of application consequently wastage of time" was ranked I, and percentage of 87.00. The Under allotment of work aspect, "The 100 days wage employment is not given in a financial year" was ranked I, and percentage of 92.00. The Under worksite amenities aspect, "lack of facilities such as water, shade, and medicine at worksite" was ranked I, and percentage of 81.00. The auditing and monitoring, "monitoring by NGOs and civil societies is not done" was ranked I, mean score and 72 percent. Under opening of account and withdrawal of money aspect, "withdrawal of money from bank is time taking" was ranked I, and percentage of 72.00 and last constraints Personal and family constraints aspect, "Non-cooperation from family members" was ranked I, and percentage 90.00. The studies on the impact of MGNREGA on women empowerment, the data pertaining to MGNREGA in the study area have been analyzed in the following pages. Data presented in the Table-1 showed that constraints of women respondents of MNREGA.

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