



Journal Homepage: -www.journalijar.com

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH (IJAR)

Article DOI:10.21474/IJAR01/11262
DOI URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21474/IJAR01/11262>



RESEARCH ARTICLE

ECONOMIC AND LIVELIHOOD SURVEY ON MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT (MGNREGA) PROGRAMME IN KARNATAKA STATE

Triveni Mithra C.V, Basavarajaiah D.M, Narasimhamurthy B. and Krishnaiahgowda H.R
Kalinga University, Village Kotni, Near Mantralya, Naya Raipur Chattisgarh.

Manuscript Info

Manuscript History

Received: 05 May 2020
Final Accepted: 10 June 2020
Published: July 2020

Key words:-

MGNREGA, NSSO, SES, Poverty,
Programmes, Augmentation, Economic
Change

Abstract

The Government of India has greatly focused on rural economy way back in 1956 to integrate the co axial changes of poverty eradication of Poor people living in Rural areas, as per the national sample survey (NSSO) organization many unfold programmes has been implemented and vein for the development of unemployed youths and the poor. In which ,the MNREGA is one of the unique programmes implemented by the Government of India across the country , the programme aims at enhancing livelihood security of people in Rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage employment in a financial year to the rural house hold whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work to lead a sustainable livelihood and increase the annual Income of family. These development programmes focus in strengthening the social aspect of human being by providing an array of various services that cater the basic needs like education , health ,shelter and economic augmentation to maintain overall quality of life (QOL) . Various issues and challenges pose to evaluate the existing policy due to lack of human resources, skilled experts, dishonesty of government officials and numerous problems derived for the economic and livelihood assessment of the MGNREGA. In this view , the present study attempts to evaluate the practical impact of MGNREGA augmented for socio economic changes among economically weaker section population in the selected districts of Karnataka. Three districts namely Tumkur, Ramanagaram and Hassan was purposively selected for the study purpose with three stage stratified random sampling. Beneficiaries were selected based on the participation level (>200 days actively participated) , and individual respondents were selected from each district .A total of 95 respondents (total 285) were selected based on the population density and retention rate of programme. The Pretested and structured questionnaires were administered for beneficiaries to know the socio economic status. The collected data was analysed by using SPSS -16.50 statistical software version. Multiple logistic and step wise regression methods were used for testing the hypothetical statement of the research objectives. The results revealed that, after involvement of MGNREGA , the family income shows sub optimal stage and economic trend move positively and strongly correlated with education of children ,

food , shelter and fulfilled basic needs and necessities in leading their sustainable life. In addition to that, the study found that, Tumkur is the highest economic index (63) $p < 0.05$ followed by Hassan (62) , $p < 0.05$ and Ramanagaram (58). More sensitization programme need to be focused to illiterate population in order to increase the participation level, especially virtual registration should be made easy to receive identification cards and need to orient the unemployed educated youths through virtual mode to increase participation level . Apart from the development of economy level, on time performance should be made by the concerned government authority.

Copy Right, IJAR, 2020,. All rights reserved.

Introduction:-

In India approximately 40% of the population driven by the poverty , hunger and unable to fulfil the daily requirements and basic needs for leading their sustainable life (NSSO,2018). Despite of eradication of poverty and sustainability, our Government of India has initiated too many development programmes in the interest of poor people and downtrodden population by rural development ministry. So many programmes have already intervene and supplements the basic needs and augmented for social , economical and livelihood changes in the rural people . As per the literature of NSSO , the Karnataka state approximately has twelve developmental programmes and have been incepted in varied geographical locations (spread across 30 districts). One of the centralised developmental programme or scheme named ‘The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005’ (NREGA) renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is the most pragmatic approach to solve the problems of rural poverty and unemployment. The programme which is being implemented in thirty district of Karnataka state with accrual budget of 165.25 crores rupees , the programme budget is strictly allocated for conservation of natural resources , renovation works , flood control and protection, drought proofing , water conservations and harvesting , renovation of traditional water bodies , land development , rural connectivity and creation of employment for rural youths ,women and jobless population .In fact that , the MGNREGA ensures the economic security of the rural poor by providing guarantee wage employment. As per the national sample survey organization (NSSO) and Ministry of statistics and programme implementation, GOI, the MGNREGA shows positive impact on employment pattern of rural women, unemployed youths and SC/ST downtrodden population. Subsequently ,the programme is being augmented and largely focuses on land and water resources which include water harvesting and conservation , soil conservation and protection , irrigation provisioning and improvement , renovation of traditional water bodies etc. The entire programme will be greatly associated with sustainability and conservation of natural resources like flora and fauna at larger extent and also provides historical ethos of Indian culture and tradition in agricultural practices . Apart from this conservation MGNREGA has provided full blown employment opportunities for rural jobless population irrespective of the caste, creed and religion. In Karnataka State MGNREGA has been implemented way back in 2006, now it covers or is spread across 30 districts of the state .The main objective of the programme is to ensure the livelihood and food security by providing unskilled work to people through creation of sustainability assets . The Government of Karnataka strives to implement the scheme in the most transparent and effective way in the catering the needs of poor people living in Rural areas. A recent literature (Sivasankari et al. 2012; Das et al. 2013 and Garje et al. 2012) showed that, the MGNREGA programmes mainly emphasis on the rural development for improvement of both social and economic indicators by launching the programme in varied set up . Implemented programmes significantly aims that , the strengthening of social aspect of human being by providing an array of various services that cater the basic need like education , health ,shelter and economic augmentation to maintain the overall quality of life and sustainable livelihoods of rural economically weaker section population or rural youths. Various issues and challenges has been posed for the economic and livelihood assessment of existing and ongoing policies due to lack of human resource, skilled experts, dishonesty of government officials and numerous problems were derived for the impact assessment . In this regard ,the present study attempts to evaluate the practical impact of MGNREGA augmented for socio economic changes among economically weaker section population and poorest of the poor in selected districts of Karnataka State.

Methodology:-

The study was conducted in selected districts of Karnataka State, three districts Tumkur, Ramanagaram and Hassan were purposively selected for the study purpose. Three stage stratified random sampling method was used for selection of individual respondents, each districts 95 respondents (total 285) were selected based on the population density. Before induction of research intervention, at primary stage we compare the beneficiary absolute and original list (obtained from the state line department and official on line web). Pretested and Structured questionnaires were administered for beneficiaries to know the socio economic status. The Standard of living – Procedure followed by Jayanta Ray (2011) and Economic orientation – Scale developed by Trivedi (1963) scale was used for collection of primary data sets. Nominal scale of data was assigned by ranks sets; original data was converted in to transformed scale in the form of scores. All collected datasets were scrutinised and cross checked randomness-normality. The observed score was converted into transformed scale by suitable scale of measurements and statistical methods. After completion of process of randomness, the collected data was analysed by using SPSS -16.50 statistical software version. Multiple logistic and step wise regression statistical methods was used for testing the hypothetical statements of the research objectives.

Results:-

Table 1:- Demographic profile of respondents in selected districts.

Variables	(n=95) Ramanagaram	(n=95) Tumkur	(n=95) Hassan
Mean Age of the respondent (yrs)	36.52±1.22	37.88±1.25	33.02±1.63
Gender			
Male	56(58.94%)	65(68.42%)	71(74.73%)
Female	39(41.03%)	30(31.57%)	24(25.27%)
Sex ratio	2:1.5	2:1	3:1
Family type			
Nuclear	61(64.21%)	78(82.10%)	83(87.36%)
Joint	34(35.78%)	17(17.89%)	12(12.64%)
Family size			
<3 Members	35(36.80%)	39 (41.05%)	40(42.10%)
3-6 Members	33(34.7%)	36(37.89%)	33(34.73%)
7-10 members	19(20.0%)	13(13.68%)	20(21.05%)
>10 Members	8(8.4%)	7(7.36%)	2(2.10%)
Economic status			
Low	85(89.5%)	92(96.84%)	90(94.73%)
Medium	10(10.5%)	3(3.15%)	5(5.27%)
High	0(%)	0(%)	0(%)
Literacy status			
Literate	63(66.30%)	56(58.94%)	58(61.02%)
Illiterate	32(33.7%)	39(41.05%)	37(38.94%)
Average income (rupees)	15000	25000	32000
Occupational status			
Job less	74(77.90%)	60(63.15%)	68(71.57%)
Agriculture and allied	16(16.80%)	28(29.47%)	18(18.94%)
Agriculture level	5(5.30%)	7(7.36%)	9(9.47%)
Land Holdings			
Land less	71(74.70%)	80(84.24%)	73(76.84%)
<1 acres	12(12.60%)	10(10.52%)	15(15.78%)
1-2 acres	8(8.4%)	3(3.15%)	5(5.26%)
2.5-50 acres	4(4.20%)	2(2.10%)	2(2.10%)
Caste			
SC/ST	22(23.20%)	26(27.36%)	28(29.47%)
Vokkaliga	18(18.90%)	15(15.78%)	23(24.21%)
Veerashyva	10(10.50%)	10(10.52%)	13(13.68%)

Kuruba	8(8.4%)	4(4.21%)	10(10.52%)
Gange math	13(13.70%)	15(15.78%)	9(9.47%)
Golla	11(11.60%)	9(9.47%)	5(5.26%)
Adhijambava	8(8.4%)	10(10.52%)	4(4.21%)
Others	5(5.3%)	6(6.31%)	3(3.15%)

Total 95 respondents participated in MGNREGA were drawn from each strata, the stratified random sampling was used for selection of beneficiaries MGNREGA. Three districts Tumkur, Ramanagaram and Hassan were purposively selected for study because, more number of beneficiaries engaged with MGNREGA programme (State RDPAR report, 2012, 2018). The structured and tested questionnaires were administered for obtaining primary data sets, each facets of questions were inclusion with numerous direct and indirect questions related to economical indicator and quality of life of the beneficiaries. Selected site's 95 beneficiaries were randomly listed based on the economic level and family member's economic status. The collected data was analysed by SPSS-16.50 statistical version. Absolute real data was transformed by suitable scale of measurement and statistical methods. As per the resulted findings, the mean age of the benefices was 35.28 with SD 1.05 years, relative comparison figures presented in (Table 1.1) in case of Ramanagaram male comprises 56 (58.94 and female was 39 (41.03); Tumkur male 65 (68.42%) female 30 (31.57%); Hassan male 71 (74.73%) and female was 24 (25.27%) respectively. Majority of the males participated in MGNREGA due to lack of literacy and family financial commitment besides food security etc. Majority of the respondents belong to nuclear family and family members living between < 3 members 114(40%) followed by 3-6 members 52(18.24%); 7-10 members 52 (18.25%) and fewer number > 10 members 17(5.96%). The economic status was assessed during the study intervention, majority of beneficiaries fall on low income and belong to the poor (below APL), the income of the family was marginally very less (less than the average national income). All family members were unable to meet their daily requirements like food, shelter and proper houses. As per the findings low income was 267(93.68%) followed by medium income 18(6.31%). The literacy is a very important indicator to improve the social standard of human being, the literacy level has not been up to the mark in economically weaker section population and downtrodden population, in our threat area, majority of the beneficiaries were illiterate 177 (62.10%) followed by literate 105 (37.89%) with marginal error 10% and it was found to be statistically significant for the overall quality of life ($p < 0.05$). Literate beneficiaries were prone to be participating in various government development programmes and his overall quality of life was improved with marginal error 10-15% and economic level was attained (35%) (index score was 63). An occupational status of each respondent was recorded, majority of the respondents were jobless 202 (70.87) with well expertise experience in Agriculture and allied activities 62(27.75%); Agriculture labour 21(5.26%). The Land holding was assessed, majority of beneficiaries land less 224(78.59%); < 1 acres 37(12.98%); 2.5-5.0 acres of land owned by the respondents was 8(2.80%) with various hierarchical caste system SC/ST 76(26.66%); Vokkaliga 56(19.64%); Veerashaiva 33(11.57%) Kuruba 22(7.71%); Gangematha 37(12.98%); Golla 25(8.77%); Adhijambava 22(7.71%) and fewer number of upper castes members participated in the development programme 14(4.91%)

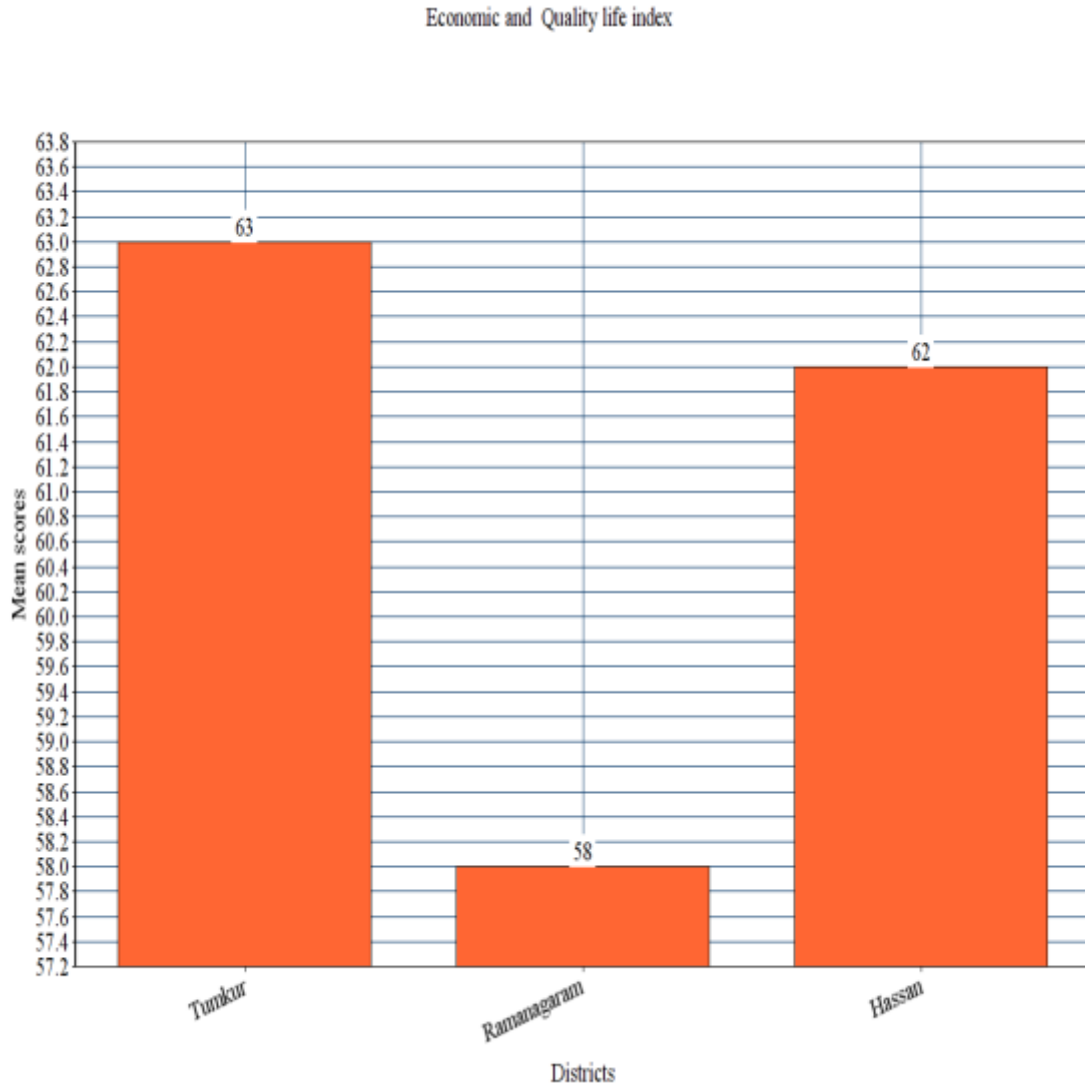


Fig.1.1:- Economic index of selected sites after MGNREGA.

The economic index indicator was greatly associated with quality of life and wellbeing of the human being, despite of low income index escalates the low standard of living impart with many quality life domain and psychological attainment of the person. Economic integrity was most strongly associated to all indicators of late life health, prosperity and social standards. Observed findings were modelled with statistical derivation and was formed to determine the index of economic level by using various indicators of economy of beneficiaries quality life domains (physical, psychological, level of independence and general wellbeing of the society). Collected individual facet data was pooled and formulated a mathematical derivation to obtain a single value economic intuition level. In the fully patrimonial mathematical models, education, participation level, age and gender besides with family income is fully adjusted to the model to fit with overall quality of life (score 0-100). The results found that after involvement of MGNREGA family Income the sub optimal stage increased and it was positively correlated with education of children, food, shelter and other necessities to leading their lives. The study found that Tumkur has the highest economic index (63) $p < 0.05$ followed by Hassan (62) $p < 0.05$ and Ramanagaram (58) $p < 0.05$ (Fig. 1.1) and (Fig 1.2)

Economic and Quality life index

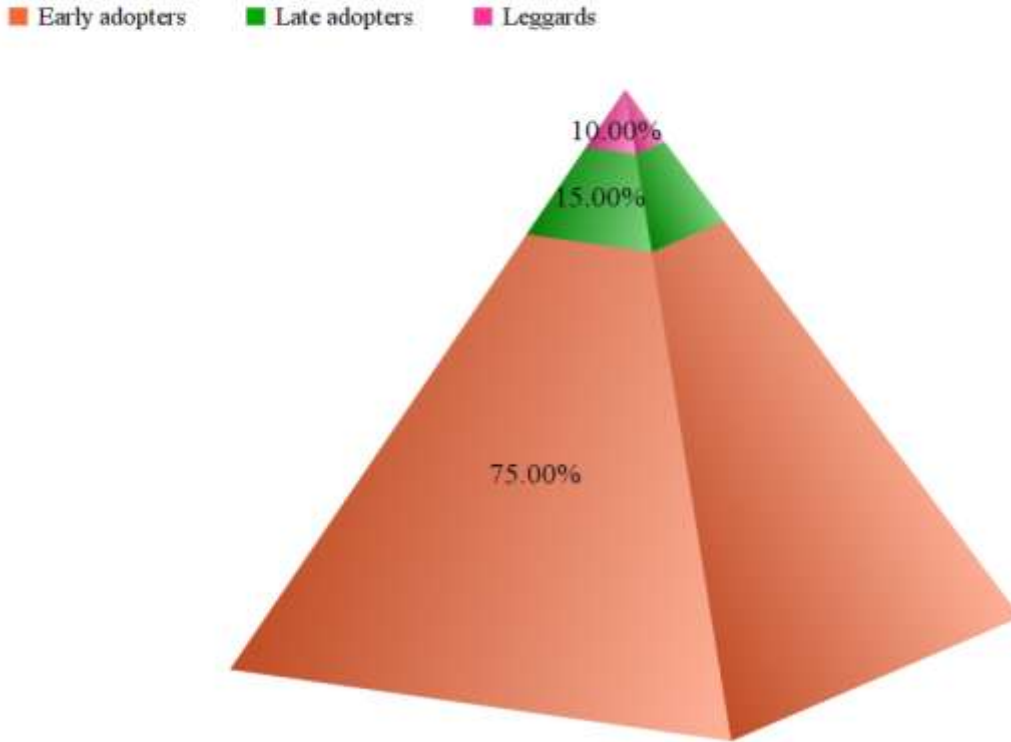


Fig .1.2:- Mean Percentage Adoption level of MGNREGA by economic weaker section population.

Table 1.2:- Correlation of Economic indicators in selected districts.

Variables	Tumkur			Ramanagaram			Hassan		
	t	Correlation co efficient	P value	t	Correlation co efficient	P value	t	Correlation co efficient	P value
Source of livelihood a)MGNREGA b) Others	2.3**	0.85	≤0.05	3.88	0.74	≤0.05	3.99	0.77	≤0.05
Best alternative generating income	-1.25	0.22	≥0.05	2.16	0.65	≤0.05	2.88	0.89	≤0.05
Interest in employment other than NEREGA	4.5**	0.74	≤0.05	6.25	0.82	≤0.05	6.51	0.74	≤0.05
Family members of working for employment other than NEREGA	-.263	0.11	≥0.05	1.88	0.26	≥0.05	3.62	0.76	≤0.05
No of people in household management	1.58	0.16	≥0.05	2.33	0.39	≥0.05	4.11	0.69	≤0.05
Educational attainment for children	3.62**	0.82	≤0.05	0.98	0.34	≥0.05	3.21	0.81	≤0.05
Distance travelled for livelihood region or area work >10 kms	2.44*	0.68	≤0.05	0.63	-0.22	≥0.05	1.26	0.58	≥0.05
Perceived problems and threat to livelihood	-0.98	-0.23	≥0.05	-0.12	-0.19	≥0.05	-0.82	0.21	≥0.05

Acceptability level of Government programme	6.98**	0.92	≤0.05	7.66	0.88	≤0.05	0.69	-0.19	≥0.05
Source of income (Wages , Agriculture crop, Animal husbandry – dairying , Horticulture and Others)	-0.52	-0.17	≥0.05	-1.25	0.22	≥0.05	0.17	-0.32	≥0.05

An income was found to be statistically significant associated with all quality of life outcomes and catering the needs. Many indicators (Table 1.2) were simulated by multiple step wise regression analysis, the model clearly depicted that the variables will be significantly associated for the economic index. The high income group consequently had lowest probabilities of adverse health outcomes of all income groups. An individual household income of beneficiary was considered for model building, each variable was smoothed and extrapolated. The results revealed that (table 1.2) source of livelihood with MGNREGA, interest in employment other than NREGA (p<0.05), Educational attainment for children (p<0.05), Distance travelled for livelihood, region or area work >10 kms (p<0.05), Acceptability level of Government programme (p<0.05) parameters were strongly associated with overall quality of life (p<0.05) of beneficiaries. Majority of the students school dropout ratio was showed to be declined and statistically different before and after the involvement of MGNREGA programme (Table 1.4)

Table 1.4:- Shavings status before and after MGNREGA participation by EWS.

Shavings	Score	Tumkur		Ramanagaram		Hassan		β	SE				
		Before	After	Before	After	Before	After						
2000 and above	7	-2.6	3.22	1.8	0.2	-3.6	0.22	2.5	0.12	-3.3	0.22	6.3	0.14
1000-1999	6	-3.22	2.22	2.11	0.1	-4.5	0.16	2.1	0.21	-4.2	0.13	6.8	0.23
750-999	5	-1.89	1.96	3.69	1.2	-5.6	0.14	1.2	0.18	-3.2	0.87	7.1	0.26
500-749	4	-2.11	2.33	1.17	0.86	-2.1	0.23	3.6	0.13	-3.6	0.26	2.4	0.22
300-499	3	-1.55	3.62	2.36	0.2	-2.2	0.18	3.1	0.11	-1.8	0.12	2.3	0.17
Rs 101-299	2	0.98	1.52	1.88	0.1	-1.5	0.22	2.8	0.52	-2.5	0.33	1.8	0.23
<100	1	0.25	0.85	-0.12	0.22	-2.3	0.31	3.2	0.19	-1.2	0.42	3.9	0.14

Discussion:-

Many studies conducted at sample level in various states, a similar study reported by (Sivashakari et al. 2012) opined that the awareness of beneficiaries MGNREG was significantly associated with marginalized economic level to cater the basic needs of family members like purchasing of medicine for old age dependents, income was utilized for children education, food and shelter. The results of the published study revealed that beneficiaries have adequate awareness in registration for employment, wage employment through Government virtual method. Our study indicates that, after involvement of MGNREGA, the family income was found to be sub optimally increasing and was positively oriented with education of children, food, shelter and fulfil basic necessities for leading their lives. In addition to that, demographic factors like literacy, awareness and participation level is very important for the economic indices of sustainability. (Garje et al. 2012) studied the impact of NREGS wages on poverty, agriculture, non agriculture and food inflation and importance of NREGA work and need of high wages in unorganized sector reduce the poverty and migration in Rural

India and also standardize our epitome of social values and ethics at population level. Similar study reported by (Singh et al. 2009) assessed the impact of MGNREGS in three districts of Uttarakhand and research study found that NREGS activities were found to be supplementing the fewer income of the house hold to an extent of 10-20 percent and hence not seen significant results in their earned income and employment opportunities. In addition, the marginal improvement in curtails of migration and indebtedness were found. Increase in consumption levels and savings also mitigate the marginal improvement among economically weaker section of population. The report indicates that, lack of procedures, low levels of awareness and weak participation in government policy development programmes etc. (Darin Matson et al. 2017) describes different indicators of socio economic status and their relative importance as determinants of health in old age, his results revealed that, SES has been operationalized in a variety of ways, the most common indicator is education, social class or income. In his study, use of occupational complexity trait to explore the SES index as an alternative measure of socioeconomic status. The published research work shows that in analyses of health and inequalities in the general population, the choice of indicators influence the magnitude of observed inequalities. Less is known about the influence of indicator choices in studies of older adults, in Indian context similar study reported by (Mukherjee et al. 2008); (Subbarao et al. 1997) concluded that, the level of the wage rate is critical in determining the uniform distribution of benefits from the programme as well as how much of the program is targeted towards the poor living in Rural areas.

Conclusion:-

The summing of the results concludes that, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) programme in Karnataka State has been effectively operating in 30 districts to improve the well being of poor people's living in rural areas. After the implementation of policy, the newer economic changes were seen in all poor families with marginalised social mobility and standard of living, while overall quality of life would be at suboptimal stage and beneficiaries need to attend more developmental programmes to increase the income level (being established by the Government of Karnataka as well as Government of India). However more sensitization programme need to focus on illiterate population, especially for the virtual registration to obtain identification cards and organize an orientation program for the unemployed educated youths through virtual mode apart from on time performance by the concerned government authority.

References:-

1. Basu, Arnab K. (2011). "Impact of Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes on Seasonal Labour Market: Optimum Compensation and Workers' Welfare", Discussion paper no. 5701, College of William and Mary, ZEF, University of Bonn and IZA, Mimeo.
2. Chatterjee, S. (2009) Employment programmes and rural development in India. Jaipur: RBSA Publication
3. Darin-Mattsson, A., Fors, S. & Kåreholt, I. Different indicators of socioeconomic status and their relative importance as determinants of health in old age. *Int J Equity Health* **16**, 173 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-017-0670-3>
4. Das S. K. (2013), A Brief Scanning on Performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in Assam, India. *Ame. J. of R. D.* 1(3): 49-61.
5. Debnath, N. & Neogi, D. (2013). "A study on the impact of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) on generation and distribution of sustainable assets among tribal and non tribal population in Tripura state of North-East India. *Intern. J. of Advanced Res.*, 1(8), 711-721
6. Dey, A. (2008). Impact of rural development on eradication of poverty; A case study of Meghalaya. Ph.D. Thesis, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong
7. Garje R.R. (2012), Impact of NREGS Wages on Poverty, Agriculture sector, Non Agriculture Sector and Food Inflation. *Vario. Multi-Dis. e-Res. J.* 2(IV):1-18 Fors S, Lennartsson C, Lundberg O. Health inequalities among older adults in Sweden 1991–2002. *Eur J Pub Health.* 2007;18:138–43.
8. K. Subbarao (1997). "Public Works as an anti Poverty Programme: An Overview of Cross-Country Experience", *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, Vol. 79, No. 2, PP. 678-683.
9. Mukherjee, S. and Ghosh, Saswata, (2008). "What Determiners the Success of 100 Days Work at Panchayat Level? A Study of Birbhum district in West Bengal", Employment Seminar at CDS, April 3-5,
10. NREGA Operational Guide Line-2008. Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India (2008), 3rd Edition.
11. S. P. Singh and D. K. Nauriyal, (2009), "System and Process Review and Impact Assessment of NREGS in the state of Uttarakhand", Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, July 2009.

12. S. Patel, (2006). "Empowerment, Co-option and Domination Politics of Maharashtra's Employment Guarantee Scheme", Economic and Political Weekly, December 16, pp. 5126-5132.
13. Singh A. (2014), "Assessing the Status and Environmental Implication of Work Under MGNREGA in Uttarakhand", J. of Studies in Dyn. and Change (JSDC), Vol.1 No.2, pp 113-124.
14. Singh S, Negi R.S., Dhanai R. and M.K. Parmar.(2014),"Performance of MGNREGA to Poverty Reduction: Study in Pauri Garhwal District, Uttarakhad. Int. J. for Inno. Res. & Tech ;Vol.1 No.7, pp 257-260
15. Sivasankari R. and Bharathi V. (2012), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA): A Study of Awareness In Tirunelveli District. Inter. J. of Mgt. Res. and Review. 2(6):1490-1497,
16. www.nrega.nic.in.
17. www.pauri.nic.in
18. <http://www.irjmsh.com/abstractview/9235>.