

MGNREGA

Salient features

All rural households in rural areas, whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work eligible

Job card under the Act is the right of every rural household willing to work on NREGA and applies for it

Choice of works done through village level plans and 50% or more of work to be executed by panchayati raj institutions

Work focuses on areas like water conservation, land development, provision of irrigation facility on private land of people below the poverty line, rural connectivity etc.

Contractors are totally banned in NREGA works

Unemployment allowance to be paid if Government unable to provide jobs within 15 days of application. Social audit made mandatory

Programme has led to creation of very important infrastructure for rural India.

Programme along with creation of infrastructure has also been able to uplift rural women, scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people

Out of the total jobs created so far, the percentage of hours put in by women has increased steadily, much above the statutory minimum of 33%.

Out of all the workers benefited under the scheme, the percentage of Scheduled Caste workers has consistently been about 20% and of ST workers has been about 17%.

Success

About

It was in 2006, that MGNREGA was for the first time notified on an experimental basis in 200 odd districts across the country.

MGNREGA for the first time provided a legal guarantee for wage employment.

MGNREGA is considered as one of the biggest social welfare programme in the world. This programme has been designed as a poverty alleviation programme.

It provides legal guarantee for 100 days of wage employment to every household in the rural areas of the country each year.

It combines the twin goals of providing employment and asset creation in rural areas.

Problem Areas

Success of the programme is very much related to the way of governance in the state.

Delayed measurement of the work leads to delayed payment to the worker.

Muster rolls are being falsely created to show the demand while there is none.

There is also the problem of elite groups within the workers capture most of the job cards.

Biggest problem associated with this programme is infrastructure created by MGNREGA workers is not good enough.

There is also an allegation that scheme is not been able produce the amount of actual labour that is being demanded by the people.