

# A study on Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee program (MGNREGP) in Thuinjapuram block Thiruvannamalai district in Tamilnadu

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## Abstract

In 2005, India's parliament passed the national rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGAA) which is the central government's response to the constitutionally manifested right to work and a means to promote livelihood security in India's rural areas. To this end, the act guarantees 100 days of manual employment at statutory minimum wage rates to any rural household whose adult members willing to do unskilled manual work. The manual work needs to create sustainable assets that promote the economic and infrastructure development of village.

This act was introduced with an aim of improving the purchasing power of the rural people, primarily semi or unskilled work to people living in rural India, whether or not they are below the poverty line. Around one third of stipulated work force is women. It was initially called the national rural employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) but it was renamed on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009- namely mahatma Gandhi national rural Employment Programme.

**Keywords:** MGNREGP, poverty, national rural employment Guarantee

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## INTRODUCTION

Unemployment breeds poverty, poverty is one of the most critical issues in the country. It is conventionally measured by the income and expenditure level that can sustain a bare minimum standard of living. But measuring standard of living is a tricky issue. Income or consumption levels and access to minimum level of social amenities are the important aspects of living standards. The factors giving supplementary information of poverty are life expectancy, infant mortality rate, nutrition literacy, access to primary schools, health clinic and drinking water etc., Absolute poverty views the poverty line as the expenditure required to purchase subsistence bundle of items by the individuals (1).

### **Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee programme: (MGNREGAP).**

In 2005, India's parliament passed the national rural employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), which is the central government response to the constitutionally manifested right to work and a means to promote livelihood security in India's rural areas. To this end, the act Guarantees 100 days of manual employment at statutory minimum wage rates to any rural household whose adult member's willing to do unskilled manual work. The manual work needs to create sustainable assets that promote the economic and infrastructure development of village.

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called the national rural Employment guarantee act (NREGA) but it was renamed on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 namely Mahatma Gandhi National Rural employment Guarantee programme.

### **Statement of the problem**

In the rural areas the major economic activities are irregular and intermittent and seasonal fluctuations. This leads to periodic with drawl of labour force, especially on the part of marginal labours, often women, who shift back and forth between what is reported as domestic and gainful work. The poor economic status of rural people has forced them to use their children for some work. Such with drawl of children from school is another dimension of problem persisting in the rural areas. All these facts articulate for protection and sympathy from the government to safeguard the rural population in our county. As a result, many employment generation programme have been attempted in the state.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The data base for this research study consists of both primary and secondary data. Thurunjapuram block in Thiruvannamalai District is purposively selected for the present research work. In the block two villages were purposively. Chosen for miss study Vadakaringalipadi and Naidumangalam. The sample villages were chosen because the MGNREGP programmes have been implemented for a long time. Then 100 sample beneficiaries were chosen randomly consisting of 50 in vadakaringalipadi, 50 in Naidumangalam. The sample beneficiaries were contacted with a specially prepared and pre tested questionnaire and testing of hypothesis.

### **HYPOTHESIS**

The present study is based on the formation of the following hypothesis. The validity of some of them has been tested with available data using appropriate analysis.

1. The significant increase the socio economic conditions of beneficiaries under the study area,

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2. The MGNREGP has significantly improved the employment opportunities.
3. There is a significance difference of the percentage of population beneficiaries under this scheme.
4. The MGNREGP has significantly increased the income level of the beneficiaries in the study area.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The attack on poverty has been sharpened and strengthened by restricting and revamping income and the levels of living of the poorest of the poor. The war on poverty is our priority our goal is to remove poverty and create fuller employment (2).

The national employment Guarantee act (NREGA) is poised to bring cheers to the dives of millions of rural poor with the inclusion of new works under its ambit and the convergence with other flagship programmes. Efforts are on to bring in more transparency and accountability in it with district ombudsmen being envisaged to ensure that the benefits reach out to the poor and the needy villagers (3).

The most important factor which influences the status of a poor is employment. This was viewed in different angles by various experts. Bishiho assumed employment as a state of being engaged in production (4). Amathyasen considered employment is one which gives income to the employed, yields output and gives a person to recognition of being engaged in something worthwhile (5).

Realizing the seriousness of this problem many experts under took various solutions. Bhattacharya characterized rural unemployment is a condition under which the worker would be willing to work longer hours or more intensively for a higher income but could have no opportunity of doing so due to the absence of opportunities for working 6. Singh opined that rural unemployment was in the nature of lack of full utilization of labour. Those could be tackled by the redistribution of land in proper way (7).

Memoria estimated the level of serve under employment as 2 or less day in a work. Moderate under employment as 3 or 5 days and mild under employment as 6 days in a week (8).

There are useful for lifting the life of the targeted people from below the poverty line. Umalela defined rural development as a process of improving the living standard of the low income population residing in rural areas and make developmenta self sustainsone (9). As a process of altering the problems of rural areas and to create change in the existing line (10). Welfare is the most crucial issue of the present day especially in underdeveloped countries. Various

authors have various connotations on this issue. Lional Raobbins defined welfare as a state of mind influenced by various economic factors.

### Profile of Thuranjapuram Panchayt Union

In 1989 Thiruvannamalai district is formed with 18 panchayat union blocks, in which 860 Grama panchayat are there. Out of these 18 panchayat union blocks a Thuranjapuram union block is one of them. In has got 47 Garma panchayat and 60 revenue villages, 268 subsidiaries villages. Thuranjapurum block development office building is madras state Mr. K. Kamarajar and this union started functioning form 1960.

### Profile of Sample Village. Vadakarigali Padi

Vadakaringalipadi village is located near to Thiruvannamalai Taluk about 15Km. in the year 2006 Mr.P. Sasikumar has been elected as president in panchyat election by people of this village. This is known as one of the model village for the thuranjapuram union. This village also well connected by road and rail to capital of the district. This village got 11 streets and one subsidiary village namely Kottavur which is having 1 street and 5 family. The village also got one elementary school and one nursery school in this village 210 families is living and the population of this village is currently 783. This consists of 27 male and 35 female form scheduled caste, 36 male and 42 female form scheduled tribes.

### Profile of Sample Village. Naidumangalam

Naidumangalam village is located near to Thiruvannamalai Taluk about 20km. in the year 2006 Mr. E. Chinnathambi has been elected as president in panchayat election by people of this village. All state and central government schemes are well established by this village. This village also well connected by road and rail to the capital of the district. This village got 15 streets and one subsidiary village namely Agaramchipandi which is having 1 commercial street, and 1 rail way station. The village also got one elementary school higher secondary school and one nursery school.

## SOCIO ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SAMPLE MGNREGP RESPONDENTS.

### Social Charactristics

The social characteristics taken up for analysis are the age of the respondent, caste, sex and educational status size of family, type of the MGNREGP respondent are given below.

Table.1 Sex-wise distribution of the sample respondents.

S.No	Sex	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	Male	51	51.0
2.	Female	49	49.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey date.

The above the table 1.1 Explains the sex-wise distribution of the sample respondents. The male percentage was 51 and female respondents were 49 percentages in the sample area. The

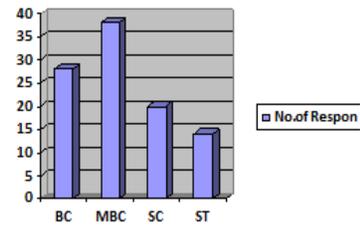
percentage of male population is more than the female population in the sample respondents.

Table 1.2 Caste- wise disribution of the sample respondents.

S.No	Caste- wise	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	BC	28	28.0
2.	MBC	38	38.0
3.	SC	20	20.0
4.	ST	14	14.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey date.

The table makes interesting reading caste-wise distribution of the respondent. The overall percentage of most backward class (MBC) sample respondents 38 percentage more than backward class 28 percent, scheduled caste certified 20 percent and scheduled tribes respondents 14 percents.



**Bardiagram**

Table 1.3 Religion-wise distribution of the respondents.

S.No	Religion	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	Hindu	95	95.0
2.	Muslim	2	2.0
3.	Christian	3	3.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey date.

The table 1.3 reveals the religion-wise distribution of the sample village respondents Hindu were 95 percent, Muslim certified 2 percent, and Christian 3 percent.

Table 1.4 Occupation of the responts.

S.No	Occupation	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	Self employment in Agriculture	1	1.0
2.	Agriculture labour	65	65.0
3.	Other labour	34	34.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

The table 1.4 gives the employment details of the sample respondents. Sixty five percent of the respondents were agriculture labours. Thirty four percent of the respondents were working in over

works life daily wage, construction coolies etc., only one percent is the other labour in respondent.

Table 1.5 Job cards in the family number in MGNREGP

S.No	Job cards	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	1 member	5	5.0
2.	2 member	76	76.0
3.	3 member	10	10.0
4.	4 member	8	8.0
5.	5 member	1	1.0
	Total	100	100.00

Source: computed from survey data.

The above table 1.5 states job card facilities in them GNREGP more than 76percent job card facilities 2 members on the family respondents and 5 member job card facility having 1 percent the

respondent. Hence one member job card facilities in only 5 percentages of the sample respondents.

Table 1.6 Price job card is free in MGNREGP

S.No	Cost of job card	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	Free	100	100.0
2.	Paid	-	-
3.	Not given	-	-
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

The above table 1.6 explains price of the card is free in MGNREGP. The respondents have in 100 percentage of free job

card in this programme do not given the money in the MGNREGP respondents.

Table 1.7 MGNREGP job card if no. the amount.

S.No	Amount	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	Not applicable	100	100.0
2.	Applicable	-	-
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey date.

The table 1.7 states MGNREGP job card 100 percentage respondents they are not given the amount of job card in the

applicable. This programme there are applicable do not given the amount of the respondents.

Table 1.8 Time lag between registration and job in MGNREGP.

S.No	Time lag	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	16-30 days	100	100.0
2.	15 days	-	-
3.	Within in a week	-	-
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

The above table 1.8 shows time lag between registrations in job in MGNREGP. The 100 percentage respondent job care lag after 16-30 days to approved work in the job registered. There is 15 days and

within a week do not registered in the job registered in sample respondents.

Table 1.9 Gap in getting job in MGNREGP.

S.No	Gap in Getting Job	No. of . Respondents	Percentage
1.	Within 15 days	100	100.0
2.	15 days to 20 days	-	-
3.	20 days to 30 days	-	-
4.	Above 30 days	-	-
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

Table 1.9 states gap in getting job in MGNREGP within 15 days getting in the job 100 percent respondent. 20 and 30 days do

not getting in the not applicable. The applicable job 15 days in the MGNREGP sample respondents.

Table 1.10 MGNREGP IN RESTRICTION OF FAMILY.

S.No	Restriction of family	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Migration	9	9.0
2.	Not Migration	91	91.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey date.

Table 1.10 explains this programme restriction if family migration and do not migrations. More than 91 percentage of respondents do not migration of in this programme and only 9

percentage of respondents migration of this programme.

Hence those programme high level percentage of do not migration of the sample respondents.

Table 1.11 Registration of daily attendance for the MRNREGP.

S.No	Attendance	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Attendance taken	72	72.0
2.	Attendance not taken	28	28.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey date.

The table 1.11 states that the registration of attendance in the

work spot. Seventy two (72%) percent of the respondents stated that

attendance is taken at the work spot every day and the remaining 28 percent of person dents stated that the attendance is not necessary in this programme.

Table 1.12 WEGE RECEIVED PER DAY IN MGNREGP.

S.No	Wage per day (in Rs)	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	80	50	50.0
2.	90	50	50
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

The table 1.12 reports that the wage received per day by the sample respondents. The 50 percent of respondents taken form wage Rs-80 received per day. The two sample village per day wage compare to the wage difference from Rs 10 of the MGNREGP in the sample respondents.

Table 1.13 Payments of wages.

S.No	Payment of wages	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Daily	-	-
2.	Weekly	100	100.0
	Total	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

The payment getting from payment of wages getting from MGNREGPS the payment getting form weekly basis of 100 percent respondents.

It is overall respondent's states payment getting from weekly in these programmes.

Table 1.14 Annual income in MGNREGP.

S.No	Annual income MGNREGP	Before		After	
		No. of Respondents	Percentage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Less than Rs 5000	18	18.0	7	7.0
2.	Rs 5000 -10000	40	40.0	43	43.0
3.	Rs 10001-15000	22	22.0	24	24.0
4.	Rs 150001-20000	8	8.0	12	12.0
5.	Rs 20001-25000	6	6.0	5	5.0
6.	More than 25001	6	6.0	9	9.0
	Total	100	100.0	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

The table 1.14 explains annual income after joining the increased, before joining MGNREGP they had less than Rs 5000 annual income 18 percentage of respondent. And after joining decrease level of 7 percent and increased the level of income. Before joining 40 percentage of respondent annual income ranged

between Rs 5001-10,000. After joining 43 percent increased the 6 percent of respondent more than Rs 25001 income before joining after joining 9 percent increased the MGNREGP Joining the annual income level increased in the respondents in the sample village

Correlation analysis				
X	X <sup>2</sup>	Y	Y <sup>2</sup>	XY
18	324	7	49	126
40	1600	43	1849	1720
22	484	24	576	528
8	64	12	144	96
6	36	5	25	30
6	36	9	81	54
100	2544	100	2724	2554

$$r = \frac{\sum x Y}{\sqrt{\sum X^2 \times \sum Y^2}}$$

$$= \frac{2554}{\sqrt{2544 \times 2724}}$$

$$= \frac{2554}{\sqrt{6929856}}$$

$$= \frac{2554}{2632.46} = 0.97$$

The correlation value is 0.97. So it is positive correlation.

Table 1.15 Monthly expenditure pattern of MGNREGP.

S.No	Monthly expenditure (in Rs)	Before		After	
		No. of Respondents	Percentage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Less than Rs 5000	1	1.0	-	-
2.	Rs 500 -700	3	3.0	-	-
3	Rs 701-800	8	8.0	3	3.0
4	Rs 801-1000	29	29.0	16	16.0
5	More than Rs 1001	59	59.0	81	81.0
	Total	100	100.0	100	100.0

Source: computed from survey data.

The table 1.15 shows consumption pattern of the sample respondents have been analyzed based on their expenditure on food during the study period. The table explains that the expenditure on food was more after joining the scheme compared to the before joining Rs 701-800 in expenditure 8 percent after joining 16 percent

increased. More than Rs 1001 expenditure on 59 percent of respondents before joining and after joining 81 percent increased expenditure in the sample village respondents.

Hence 81 percentage of respondent in expenditure increased in this programme.

Table 1.16 Savings and gold position of respondents.

S.No	Savings and gold	Before		After	
		No. of Respondents	Percentage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	No. of Savings & gold	1	1.0	1	1.0
2.	Less than Rs.25000	27	27.0	21	21.0
3	Rs 25001-50,000	26	26.0	25	25.0
4	Rs 50001 – 75000	22	22.0	22	22.0
5	Rs 75001-1,00,000	9	9.0	11	11.0
6	Rs 1,00,001-1,25,000	3	3.0	6	6.0
7	More than Rs 1,25,000	12	12.0	14	14.0
	Total	100	100.0	100	100.0

Correlation analysis				
X	X <sup>2</sup>	Y	Y <sup>2</sup>	XY
1	1	1	1	1
27	729	21	441	567
26	676	25	625	650
22	484	22	484	484
9	81	11	121	99
3	9	6	36	18
12	144	14	196	168
100	2124	100	1904	1987

$$r = \frac{\sum x Y}{\sqrt{\sum X^2 \times \sum Y^2}}$$

$$= \frac{1987}{\sqrt{2124 \times 1904}}$$

$$= \frac{1987}{\sqrt{4044096}}$$

$$= \frac{1987}{2010.99} = 0.98$$

The correlation value is 0.97. So it is positive correlation.

Test of hypothesis: annual income before joining MBGNREGP and monthly expenditure - gress tabulaiton.

Monthly Expenditure	Annual income before joining MGNREGP						Total
	Less then Rs.5000	Rs 5001 -10,000	Rs 10,001 – 15000	Rs 15001 – 20,000	Rs 20001- 25000	More than Rs 25001	
Less than Rs 500	0	1(10.0)2.5 1.0	0	0	0	0	1(100.0)1.0 1.0
Rs 501-700	0	1(33.3)2.5 1.0	2(66.7) 9.1 2.0	0	0	0	3(100.0) 3.0
Rs701-800	2(25.0) 11.1, 2.0	4(50.0) 10.0 4.0	2(25.0) 9.1 2.0	0	0	0	8(100.0) 3.0
Rs 801-1000	8(27.6) 44.4 8.0	5(17.2) 12.5 5.0	13(114.8) 59.1 13.0	3(10.3) 37.5 3.0	0	0	29(100.0) 29.0
More than Rs 1001	8(13.6) 44.4 8.0	29(49.2) 72.5 29.0	5(8.5) 22.7 5.0	5(8.5) 62.5 5.0	6(10.2) 100.0 6.0	6(10.2) 100.0 6.0	59(100.0) 59.0
Total	8(18.0) 100.0 18.0	40(40.0) 100.0 40.0	22(22.0) 100.0 22.0	8(8.0) 100.0 8.0	6(6.0) 100.0 6.0	6(6.0) 100.0 6.0	100(100.0) 100.0

The above data express that 66.7 percent of the respondents monthly expenditure Rs 501-700 and their annual income in Rs 1001-15000. Nearly half (44.8 percent) of the respondents family monthly expenditure Rs 801-1000 and their family monthly income in Rs 10001-15001. Annually minimum 10.2 percent of the

respondent's monthly expenditure is more than Rs 10 percent and their income is more than Rs.25001.

The researcher him of conducted that house hold income is less than their expenditure also reduced. It is all depends upon their family income.

Chi-Square Test.

	Value	Df	Asymp.sig (2-Sided)
Pearson chi-square	33.452 <sup>a</sup>	20	0.030
Likelihood Ratio	39.095	20	.097
Linear-by-linear	2.456	1	0.097
Not valid cases	100		

Thus the data reveal that there is relationship between annual income of the family and total expenditure of the family.

Ho: there is relationship between monthly Expenditure of the family before joining MGNREGP and total income of the family before joining MGNREGP.

Hi: There is relationship between monthly expenditure of the family before joining MGNREGP and total annual income of the

family before joining MGNREGP.

The Chi-Square Value is 0.030. Since the level of significance value is (0.05), so the chi-square value is 0.030. Hence there are significant changes in income before and after implementing MGNREGP. The Researcher conducted that there is a relationship between monthly expenditure and annual income before and after implementation of MGNREGP. So null hypo thesis is rejected and

alternate hypothesis is accepted.

**ANNUAL INCOME BEFORE JOINING MGNREGP AND AFTER JOINING MGNREGP-GROSS TABULATION**

The below analysis express that majority (80%) of the respondents have express their annual income (Rs 5001-10,000)

before joining MGNREGP and nearly one fourth of the respondents have express that and their family income (Rs 5001-10,000) from MGNREGP. one fourth (75%) of the respondents family income (Rs 15001-20000). Finally very limited no. of the family total income is more than Rs 25,000.

Annual income before joining MGNREGP and after joining MGNREGP- Gross Tabulation.

Annual income before joining MGNREGP	Annual income before joining MGNREGP						Total
	Less than Rs.5000	Rs 5001 -10,000	Rs 10,001 – 15000	Rs 15001 – 20,000	Rs 20001- 25000	More than Rs 25001	
Less than Rs 5000	7(88.9) 100.0	11(61.1) 25.6	0	0	0	0	18(100.0) 18.0
Rs 5001-10000	0	32(80.0) 74.4	8(20.0) 33.3	0	0	0	40(100.0) 40
Rs 10001 – 15000	0	0	16(72.0) 66.7	6(27.3) 50.0	0	0	22(100.0) 22.0
Rs15001 – 20000	0	0	0	6(75.0) 50.0	2(25.0) 40.0	0	8(100.0) 8.0
Rs 20,000-25,000	0	0	0	0	3(50.0) 60.0	3(50.0) 33.3	6(100.0) 6.0
More than Rs 25001	0	0	0	0	0	6(100.0)66.7	6(100.0) 6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.(88.9) 100.0</b>	<b>43(43.0) 100.0</b>	<b>24(24.0) 100.0</b>	<b>12(12.0) 100.0</b>	<b>5(5.0) 100.0</b>	<b>9(9.0) 100.0</b>	<b>100(100.0) 100.0</b>

The researcher has to conclude that when annual income is increased, than they could maintain the family easily and invest

some other purpose, because of MGNREGP.

Chi-Square Tests.

	Value	D.f	Asymp.sig(2-sided)
Pearson chi-square	24.437 E2a	25	.000
Likelihood Ratio	195.313	25	.000
Hinear-by-linear association	89.992	1	.000
No. of valid cusses	100		

Thus, the data reveals that there is relationship between annual income before joining MGNREGP and after joining MGNREGP.

Ho: There is no relationship between annual income before joining MGNREGP and annual income after joining MGNREGP.

H1: There is no relationship between annual income before joining MGNREGP and annual income after joining MGNREGP.

The chi-square value is 0.000.

Since the chi-square value is less than 0.05, the alternative hypothesis is accepted and null hypothesis is rejected. The researcher concluded that there is Relationship between annual income before joining MGNREGP and annul income after joining MGNREGP. Thus it may conclude that the total annual income progressively changes in the family because of MGNREGP.

**SUMMARY CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

A person who is not gainfully employed is called unemployed. In India, the problem of unemployment has become very serious as around 9 percent of the labour force is unemployed. Not only there is open unemployment is structural in nature. In urban areas, unemployment is mainly industrial and educational in nature. In rural areas, it is seasonal and disguised in nature. Thus various causes responsible for high incidence of unemployment in India are growing population, in appropriate technology, faulty education system and failure of growth process in generation appropriate and adequate jobs.

This approach seeks solution to the unemployment problem not through emphasizing any particular pattern of resource allocation technological choice but through special employment schemes especially rural public works like mahatma Gandhi National rural

employment guarantee programme (MGNREGP). This approach regards the regular development process as being incapable of alleviating the problem of unemployment and under employment in the foreseeable future.

The objectives are to analyze the socio-economic conditions of the percentage of population benefits under the scheme to find out the income level of beneficiaries, to find out how this programee is being successful in the study area in this programme.

**SUGGESTIONS**

1. The government has to ensure the benefits are justified and reached.
2. Awareness committee can be formed consisting of educated youth who would bring communication effectiveness of village building initiatives at district /block level.
3. Give full wages.
4. Increasing infrastructure provision like create water, and first aid box.
5. Low level of instructions of receiving wages.
6. Peoples all are participated in the Grama Sabha meeting.
7. Remove the corruption problem
8. Government employees should distribute the wages
9. Increasing wage rate
10. To include new ideas of the job.

11. Increasing no of working days.

12. To create the new employment.

The non-agricultural and self employment is precarious. The MGNREGP should provide more employment. The mandatory employment of 100 days should be increased in the agenda of the programme. The study found significant increase in the income level of the respondents.

Almost all MGNREGP works of rural TamilNadu is focused on building poverty alleviation initiatives like water harvesting renovation of water bodies, etc. these works are very much gelling with the visions of the programme i.e ensuring unskilled work to rural people to raise their livelihood. The programme should also address specific infrastructure initiatives that would deliver multiplying effects to their village. For a developing rural economy, the programme is definitely a boon but it needs to metamorphose fitting to the locality needs and there by maturing its activities from being just means of "short term job provider" to long term sustainable livelihood enhancement initiatives.

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