

**IMPACT OF MGNREGA ON EMPLOYMENT  
GENERATION AND ASSETS CREATION IN  
TUMKUR DISTRICT OF KARNATAKA STATE**

**KANTHARAJU C.N.**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION  
UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
GKVK, BENGALURU-65**

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**OCTOBER, 2011**



*Affectionately  
dedicated to my  
parents and  
chairperson*

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION  
UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, BENGALURU**

**CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the thesis entitled **“IMPACT OF MGNREGA ON EMPLOYMENT GENERATION AND ASSETS CREATION IN TUMKUR DISTRICT OF KARNATAKA STATE”** submitted by **Mr. KANTHARAJU C.N.** ID No. **PAK 9111** for the award of the degree of **MASTER OF SCIENCE (AGRICULTURE)** in **AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION** to the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, is a bonafide record of research work carried out by him during the period of his study in this University under my guidance and supervision and thesis has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma, associateship, fellowship or other similar titles.

**BENGALURU  
October, 2011**

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**Bengaluru**  
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**(Kantharaju C.N)**

## **THESIS ABSTRACT**

### **IMPACT OF MGNREGA ON EMPLOYMENT GENERATION AND ASSETS CREATION IN TUMKUR DISTRICT OF KARNATAKA STATE**

**Kantharaju, C.N.**

The study was conducted on Impact of MGNREGA towards Employment Generation and Assets creation among randomly selected 120 beneficiaries from 4 Taluks in Tumkur District of Karnataka State. The findings of the study revealed that, half (50.00 %) of the beneficiaries were middle aged, 53.33 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to Other Backward Castes (OBCs), 33.33 per cent of the beneficiaries were completed primary school, 61.67 per cent of beneficiaries were small farmers, majority of the beneficiaries belonged to the above poverty line (65.83 %), 14.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were member to self help group. Agriculture was the main occupation of cent per cent of the beneficiaries and had knowledge about the objectives of MGNREGA on providing 100 days of wage employment. About 23.33 per cent of the beneficiaries got employment of 71-80 man days in a year, the major individual farm works were horticultural planting (33.33 %), 21.35 per cent of the beneficiaries were participated in desiltation of tanks and cleaning of community ponds in case of community assets creation. The variables such as education, urban contact, social participation and caste had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level and farm assets created by the beneficiaries. The variables such as caste, land holding annual income and urban contact had negative and significant relationship with employment generation and community assets created by the beneficiaries. Higher caste had significantly contributed in explaining the variation of knowledge, employment generation and assets creation by the beneficiaries. Delay in payment of wages, insufficient wage rate and creation of poor quality assets were the major constraints expressed by the beneficiaries. There is need to enhance the wage rate, transparency in evaluating the works undertaken under MGNREGA, wages should be paid in time and proper publicity for Grama Sabha were the major suggestions given by beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA.

Dept. of Agricultural Extension  
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Major Advisor

## ಪ್ರಭಂದ ಸಾರಾಂಶ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಆಸ್ತಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯ  
ಮೇಲೆ ಮಹಾತ್ಮ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಖಾತ್ರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಪ್ರಭಾವ

ಕಾಂತರಾಜು, ಸಿ. ಎನ್.

ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಅಧ್ಯಯನದಲ್ಲಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಆಸ್ತಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಹಾತ್ಮ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಖಾತ್ರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಪ್ರಭಾವವನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಯಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ೨೦೧೦-೧೧ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಯಿತು. ಒಟ್ಟು ೧೨೦ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಅಧ್ಯಯನಕ್ಕೆ ನಾಲ್ಕು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳಿಂದ ಆರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಯಿತು. ಈ ಅಧ್ಯಯನದಿಂದ ತಿಳಿದು ಬಂದ ವಿಷಯಗಳೆಂದರೆ ಸುಮಾರು ಅರ್ಧದಷ್ಟು (೫೦%) ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಮಧ್ಯವಯಸ್ಕರಾಗಿದ್ದು ಶೇಕಡಾ ೫೫.೩೩ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಇತರೆ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ಜಾತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿದವರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಶೇಕಡಾ ೩೦.೩೩ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಿದ್ದು ಶೇಕಡಾ ೬೧.೬೬ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಸಣ್ಣ ರೈತರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು (೬೫.೮೩%) ಬಡತನ ರೇಖೆಗಿಂತ ಮೇಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಶೇಕಡಾ ೧೪.೧೩ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಸ್ವಸಹಾಯ ಸಂಘಕ್ಕೆ ಸದಸ್ಯರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಶೇಕಡಾ ೧೦೦ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಕೃಷಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಎಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಮಹಾತ್ಮ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಖಾತ್ರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಗುರಿಯಾದ ನೂರು ದಿನಗಳ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಒದಗಿಸುವುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಜ್ಞಾನವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸುಮಾರು ಶೇಕಡಾ ೨೩.೩೩ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ೭೦ ರಿಂದ ೮೦ ದಿನಗಳ ಉದ್ಯೋಗವನ್ನು ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಅಂದರೆ ಶೇಕಡಾ ೩೩.೩೩ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಜಮೀನಿನಲ್ಲಿ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕಾ ಸಸಿಗಳ ನಾಟಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಶೇಕಡಾ ೨೫.೩೩ರಷ್ಟು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಕೆರೆಯ ಉಳಿತ್ತುವುದು, ಸಮುದಾಯ ಹೊಂಡಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವಚ್ಛಗೊಳಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಸಮುದಾಯ ಸ್ವತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ವಿಧ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸ, ನಗರ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ, ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಜಾತಿ ಇವುಗಳು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ತಮ್ಮ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಧನಾತ್ಮಕ ಮತ್ತು ಗಮನಾರ್ಹ ಸಂಭಂದವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಜಾತಿ, ಭೂಪ್ರಮಾಣ, ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಆದಾಯ ಮತ್ತು ನಗರ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಇವುಗಳು ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮುದಾಯ ಸ್ವತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುವುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಋಣಾತ್ಮಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಗಮನಾರ್ಹ ಸಂಭಂದವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಜಾತಿಯು ಜ್ಞಾನ, ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುವುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಗಮನಾರ್ಹ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ವೇತನ ಪಾವತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಳಂಬ, ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ವೇತನ ದರ ನೀಡದಿರುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಕಳಪೆ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಸ್ವತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುವುದು, ಇವು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಾಗಿ ಕಂಡು ಬಂದಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಕೆಲಸ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ, ವೇತನ ದರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ, ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸರಿಯಾದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ವೇತನ ನೀಡುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸಭೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸರಿಯಾದ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಇವು ಮಹಾತ್ಮ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಖಾತ್ರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಯಶಸ್ವಿ ಕಾರ್ಯರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಸಲಹೆಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತವೆ.

ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಸ್ತರಣಾ ವಿಭಾಗ

ಕೃ. ಎ. ಎ. ಜಿ.ಕೆ.ವಿ.ಕೆ., ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

ಕೆ. ನಾರಾಯಣಗೌಡ

(ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶಕರು)

## CONTENTS

| CHAPTER | TITLE                | PAGE No. |
|---------|----------------------|----------|
| I       | INTRODUCTION         |          |
| II      | REVIEW OF LITERATURE |          |
| III     | METHODOLOGY          |          |
| IV      | RESULTS              |          |
| V       | DISCUSSION           |          |
| VI      | SUMMARY              |          |
| VII     | REFERENCES           |          |
|         | APPENDICES           |          |

## LIST OF TABLES

| <b>Table No.</b> | <b>Title</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>Page No.</b> |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1.               | Socio-economic and psychological profile of the beneficiaries                                                                         |                 |
| 2.               | Knowledge level of beneficiaries about MGNREGA                                                                                        |                 |
| 3.               | Employment generation under MGNREGA                                                                                                   |                 |
| 4.               | Gender wise classification of employment generated under MGNREGA                                                                      |                 |
| 5.               | Employment generated on community and individual lands under MGNREGA                                                                  |                 |
| 6.               | Individual farm assets created under MGNREGA during the previous year                                                                 |                 |
| 7.               | Community assets created under MGNREGA during the previous year                                                                       |                 |
| 8.               | Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with knowledge level about MGNREGA                     |                 |
| 9.               | Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with employment generated under MGNREGA                |                 |
| 10.              | Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with farm assets created under MGNREGA                 |                 |
| 11.              | Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with community assets created under MGNREGA            |                 |
| 12.              | Multiple regression analysis of knowledge of beneficiaries with their socio-economic and psychological characteristics                |                 |
| 13.              | Multiple regression analysis of employment generated by the beneficiaries with their socio-economic and psychological characteristics |                 |
| 14.              | Multiple regression analysis of farm assets created by the beneficiaries with their socio-economic and psychological characteristics  |                 |

| <b>Table No.</b> | <b>Title</b>                                                                                                                              | <b>Page No.</b> |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 15.              | Multiple regression analysis of community assets created by the beneficiaries with their socio-economic and psychological characteristics |                 |
| 16.              | Constraints experienced by the MGNREGA beneficiaries                                                                                      |                 |
| 17.              | Suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA                                                         |                 |

## LIST OF FIGURES

| <b>Figure No.</b> | <b>Title</b>                                                                                                                                           | <b>Between Pages</b> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1.                | Map of the study area: Tumkur district of Karnataka State                                                                                              |                      |
| 2.                | Conceptual model of the study depicting the relationship between dependent and independent variables                                                   |                      |
| 3.                | Farm works crated under MGNREGA during the previous year                                                                                               |                      |
| 4.                | Beneficiaries participation in the community assets creation under MGNREGA during the previous year                                                    |                      |
| 5.                | Empirical model showing relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with knowledge level about MGNREGA              |                      |
| 6.                | Empirical model showing relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with employment generated under MGNREGA.        |                      |
| 7.                | Empirical model showing relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with farm assets under MGNREGA.                 |                      |
| 8.                | Empirical model showing the Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with community assets created under MGNREGA |                      |



## **I. INTRODUCTION**

In India majority of the poor are living in rural areas and belongs to land less agriculture labourers, marginal and small farmers categories. Nearly 30 per cent of rural households have no adequate employment for their working members, most of them have no regular fulltime jobs (National Sample Survey 2000). The slow down in employment growth has been more marked in rural sector from 1.36 per cent per annum during 1983-1988 to 0.58 per cent during 1994-2000 (Ghosh 2001). Considering these facts, the successive Governments in the country have implemented several rural development programmes to improve the living conditions of rural poor.

Kartar singh (1999) has defined rural development as a strategy to improve the socio- economic life of a specific group of people- the rural poor. The group includes small, tenant and landless people. The critical element in rural development is improving the living standard of the poor through opportunities for better utilization of their physical and human resources. Since beginning of the five year plans such opportunities are being provided to the rural people by the Central and State Governments. The path of rural development has not remained static over the years. The picture is multi- coloured and it has shifting policy scenario. Between 1952-1977 three different types of experiments were undertaken to bring about rural development. Those were; Community Development Programmes (1952-60), Integrated Area Development Programme (1960-69) and Target Group Approach programmes (1970-77). However these programmes were either area or clientel specific and hence, could not make much dent in achieving the all round development of rural people. The evaluation committees constituted for appraising these programmes, therefore, suggested for holistic approach for rural development. Based on the recommendations of these committees and experiences gained in the

past, the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was launched to eradicate poverty, unemployment and up lifting the families of weaker sections of the society by providing them gainful employment and creating economically viable assets. Since inception of IRDP till 1998-99 there was 53.50 million families have been covered at an expenditure of Rs 13,700.13 crores.

Employment generation, particularly in rural areas, appears to be most challenging task for planners and policy makers. The employment situation has worsened over a period of time. One of the main objectives of various five year plans is to create employment avenues for over six million rural people every year. In addition, the number of unemployed in rural areas is reportedly increasing at the rate of one million per year. The rural labour force is adversely affected due to meager wage rates and rising unemployment. The Government sought to improve the plight of rural labourers by implementing special programmes for supplementing work opportunities and programmes for increasing labour absorption in agriculture. The programmes so far implemented to enhance the labour absorption capacity of agriculture sector have failed to reach the point of success.

According to the National Sample Survey Organization, 300 million Indians live in extreme poverty. A majority of them earns their livelihood through unskilled, casual manual labour and exploiting of the natural resource base. This dependence makes them more vulnerable to crises, like climate change, natural disaster, ill-health, *etc*, all of which adversely impact their employment opportunities and reduce their ability to move out of the poverty trap. Considering these realities the Government of India has adopted a multifaceted development strategy that promotes economic growth and also addresses the needs of the poor by ensuring their basic rights. The Ministry of Rural Development has agamut of programmes which aim at providing direct employment, self employment, social security,

housing, building rural infrastructure and managing land resources to alleviate poverty. Since the First Five year Plan, many programme interventions have been promoted. Although there has been an improvement in employment generation through these programmes in rural areas over the years, particularly certain sections of the rural population, especially those unskilled, casual, manual labourers remained unaffected to a greater extent by these measures. This was mainly because these developmental programmes typically offered only relief-type employment opportunities rather than creating productive assets. Moreover, there was no guarantee of employment for longer durations or payment of the wages, which compelled the Government to ensure guaranteed jobs for substantial period of a year and minimum wages. In the words of **Mahatma Gandhi**:*“To a people famishing and idle, the only acceptable form in which God can dare appear is work and promise of food as wages”*. This guaranteed job provides wage employment to those who demanded it and thereby, gave a statutory framework to the wage employment programme. Though short term employment, these programmes provide income transfers to poor households during critical times such as lean agricultural seasons, and enable consumption smoothening. Over time, this will facilitate the transition of the village economy from subsistence to self-sustenance by increasing agricultural productivity and creation of durable assets for regeneration of the natural resource base. Based on the experience of such programmes, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) was enacted in 2005.

The NREGA is not the first wage employment programme in India, which has almost 56 years of experience of other rural employment programmes implemented in the country. The Government of India has implemented a series of wage employment programmes right from the 1960s when the first programme, Rural Works Programme was introduced. This programme was followed by

several other programmes such as, Crash Scheme for Rural Employment (1971), Food for Work Programme (1977), Training of Rural Youth for Self-employment (1979), National Rural Employment Programme (1980), Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (1989) and National Food for Work Programme (2004). Though these programmes generated adequate wage employment for the unemployed, underemployed and poor, however, they suffered from the shortcomings, like low allocation and utilization of funds, the number of person-days of wage employment provided per family was very low, the work sites were devoid of any facilities, women participation rate was low and more importantly these programmes were supply-driven.

#### **NREGA-** A pedestal for growth in rural India

In order to address poverty effectively through provision of wage employment, the Central Government formulated the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) in 2005, a paradigm shift from earlier programmes. With its legal framework and right-based approach, NREGA provides employment to those who demand it- an exclusive feature, which differentiates it from routine schemes. Notified on September 7, 2005, it was formally launched by Dr. Manmohan Singh and by the United Progressive Alliance Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhi at Bandlapalle Village in Ananthpur District of Andhra Pradesh on February 2, 2006. NREGA aims at enhancing livelihood security by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The Act covered 200 districts in its first phase, implemented in 2006 and was extended to 130 additional districts in 2007-2008. All the remaining rural areas have been notified with effect from April 1, 2008. This Programme was formerly known as National Food for Work Programme. Again the Government of India (GOI) on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009 renamed its flagship Rural Job Guarantee Programme- the

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

MGNREGA is the first ever law internationally, that guarantees wage employment at an unprecedented scale. The potential of MGNREGA spans a range of possibilities. The primary objective of the Act is augmenting wage employment. The choice of works suggested in the Act addresses chronic poverty through measures like drought proofing, regeneration of vegetative cover and soil and water conservation, so that the process of employment generation is maintained on a sustainable basis. The Act is also a significant vehicle for strengthening decentralization and deepening processes of democracy by giving a prime role to local governance bodies, that is, the Panchayat Raj Institutions. Hence, MGNREGA is the most significant Act in the history of Indian polity in many ways like grass-root level participation of every citizen and beneficiary through democratic process, multi-layered social audit and transparency mechanism by involvement of civil society organizations, comprehensive planning at village level towards sustainable and equitable development, is getting monitored at various levels. Gram Sabha monitors the work at the village level, while Gram Panchayat monitors works executed by other implementing agencies. Intermediate Panchayat and Programme Officer check the registration of households, employment provided, unemployment allowance paid, social audit, flow of funds, payment of wages, progress and quality of work. District Panchayat and District Programme Coordinator keep monitoring all aspects of implementation. State Government keeps watch on performance of all districts. State level and district level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees are constituted by Ministry of Rural Development to supervise MGNREGA.

## **Objectives of MGNREGA**

The basic objective of the Act is to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. This work guarantee can also serve other auxiliary objectives like generating productive assets, protecting the environment, empowering rural women and reducing rural-urban migration. Under MGNREGA since its inception till the end of December 2010, 879 crore man days of employment were generated and so far 4.1 crores households were provided employment during 2010-11.

## **Salient features of the Act**

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act differs from all the previous employment programmes by bearing the special features like legal guarantee of 100 days of employment for the adult members of a rural household who are ready to do unskilled manual work, assurance of employment within 15 days of application failing which un-employment allowance shall be paid, wages are to be paid according to the Minimum Wages Act which will not be less than Rs. 125/day as stipulated in 2010, disbursement of wages only through the bank or postal accounts, at least 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the beneficiaries shall be women and another striking feature of the Act is to provide basic facilities like drinking water, shade, first aid box and crèche at the worksite.

## **Problem**

Low level of income continues to be the barrier for the poor to escape from the poverty trap. Most of the initiatives of self employment and skill building aim to provide the safety net to the poor from the “poverty that kills”. Besides the legal guarantee of 100 days of work in a financial year, MGNREGA households are also

assured of basic minimum income. Higher incomes are expected to raise household savings, accelerating economic diversification and household investments in human capital. Land degradation, depletion of natural resources like grass lands and forests; price shocks, and population growth are already a major concern for sustaining agricultural productivity. In this endeavor, the MGNREGA focuses on natural resource base generation and addresses growing concerns of the food security with emphasis on water and soil conservation and groundwater recharge for increased production and productivity. On the contrary, of late many farmers have been expressing that there has been acute shortage of labour for agricultural activities after the implementation of MGNREGA in the state. This has severe implications on agricultural production and productivity.

### **Rationale of the study**

As MGNREGA being the world's largest employment guarantee Act implemented by Government of India by mobilizing greater budget resources, it becomes extremely pertinent to look at the effectiveness of the Act in providing both short and long term food security through work on improvement of agriculture. There have been a number of studies examining the effective implementation of the Act in terms of employment created as well as issues of wages, processes of implementation, feedback mechanisms and assessment of the impact of the MGNREGA in terms of the realization of its development potential and so on. Yet, the potentials of MGNREGA in reaching the rural poor is unsurpassed as it is now being implemented in all the districts of India. Though MGNREGA was implemented during the year 2006, there were no concrete studies have been taken up to assess the knowledge level of beneficiaries about MGNREGA and to examine its impact in terms of employment generated, assets created in the village and on the beneficiary farms, merits and demerits associated with the Act. In this regard, the present study is a modest attempt in evaluating the Impact of MGNREGA on Employment

generation and assets creation in Tumkur District of Karnataka State. In addition, this study also addresses the constraints in implementation of MGNREGA and suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for its successful implementation.

### **Objectives of Investigation**

1. To measure the knowledge of beneficiaries about MGNREGA.
2. To assess the employment generation under MGNREGA.
3. To document the assets created on the farms of beneficiaries under MGNREGA.
4. To enlist the community assets created in the village under MGNREGA.
5. To analyze the socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and to determine their relationship with knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA.
6. To record the constraints experienced and suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA.

### **Limitations of the study**

The present investigation was confined to only four taluks of Tumkur district viz; Tumkur, Kunigal, Pavagada and Madhugiri. The study needs to be replicated in other districts. So that the inference drawn can be generalized to a greater extent.

### **Presentation of the study**

The thesis is divided into seven chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction, wherein, the introduction, objectives, scope and

limitations of the study is given. The second chapter 'Review of literature' deals with the review related to the study in light of the present investigation. The third chapter is devoted to the details of 'Methodology' used in the process of investigation, followed by presentation of 'Results' in fourth chapter. The 'Findings' of the study have been discussed in fifth chapter and sixth chapter summarizes the study followed by the 'References' in the seventh chapter and appendices.



*REVIEW OF LITERATURE*

## **II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

A review of past research studies helps in understanding the theoretical and conceptual framework relevant to the study. In addition, the review of studies provides insight about missing research gaps and up to date status of the research in the field of study. This will enable the researcher to collect relevant data, analyze and interpret the same so as to draw meaningful interpretations. This chapter attempts a brief review of the relevant studies related to the theme of research. Keeping in view the objectives of the study, reviews are presented under the following headings.

### **2.1. Knowledge level of beneficiaries about MGNREGA**

Naidu and Singh (1990) conducted study in Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu and revealed that 67.00 per cent of the respondents were aware of DPAP whereas 52.00 per cent of the respondents were aware of role played by Government in DPAP.

Venktaramiah and Srinivasalu (1992) conducted study in coastal Andrapradesh and reported that majority of the beneficiaries were aware of different officers executing the schemes of IRDP, mean knowledge level of beneficiaries was higher and significant than those of non beneficiaries.

Kalivardhan *et al.* (1995) conducted study in Pondicherry region and revealed that 5.00 per cent of the IRDP beneficiaries possessed low level of awareness, 30.00 per cent had medium level of awareness 48.00 per cent of women were aware of credit facilities for purchase of milch animals, while 44.00 per cent were aware of distribution of bullock scheme.

Joshi *et al.* (2008) noted that knowledge about NREGA was limited as just another Government programme in most villages.

Awareness about NREGA was confined to 100 days of employment per family. However, knowledge about minimum wages varied across districts from 35.00 per cent. Job cardholders reporting that they know about minimum wages in Jalore, but only 2.4 per cent in Karauli. In Dungarpur, 63.73 per cent have knowledge about facilities available in MGNREGA. But only 20 per cent in Karauli is found to be aware of these facilities. It was again in Dungarpur and Jalore that people were well versed with work availability within 5 km distance. On the issue of planning of projects and statutory provisions, very few job cardholders had any knowledge though around 8.00 per cent in Dungarpur and Jalore were well versed with it. On the role of Gram Panchayat, the awareness was insignificant across the districts. Thus, lot needs to be done. However, compared to 2006, in 2008, people are more articulate about the programme. Regarding Unemployment allowance, households were mostly unaware about the provision with an exception in only few cases but even they too did not know the amount or duration of unemployment allowance. There has been no instance of any unemployment allowance dues are given till the time of the survey.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) reported that in Andhra Pradesh beneficiaries were much more aware of essential features about NREGA (94.00 % in Ananthpur and 73.60 % in Adilabad) compared to Karnataka (12.90% in Gulbarga and 17.20% in Raichur). There is a need for an awareness campaign on NREGA in the two Karnataka Districts. This campaign should inform beneficiaries of their rights and entitlements, including the provision for payment of compensation if work is not provided in time (unemployment allowance).

Ninety eight point four per cent of the respondents were aware of the minimum wages prescribed under MGNREGA (Anonymous, 2010a).

More than 75 per cent of the beneficiaries were aware of MGNREGA. As per the provision of the Act, employment should be given within 15 days of the request. If employment is not given to the workers, they are entitled for unemployment allowance. More than 50 per cent of the respondents reported that they were aware of this. In Akola, about 70 per cent of the respondents were aware of unemployment allowance. (Anonymous, 2010b).

Garg and Yadav (2010) conducted study in Rewari district of Punjab and observed that only 17.00 per cent of the respondents agreed that they have knowledge of an unemployment allowance.

Shobha and Vinitha (2011) conducted study in Sulur taluk of Coimbatore District and reported that in both Peedampalli and Pattanam Panchyats women beneficiaries were fully aware about rules and regulations of MGNREGA regarding 100 days of work, minimum wages, equal wage for men and women, medical aid, work site facilities, job card should have photo, providing job within 15 days from the date of application and weekly or fortnight wages. About 94.00 per cent of the women beneficiaries in Peedampalli were aware about the work within 5 Km radius, but this was 88.00 per cent in the case of Pattanam. The number of beneficiaries who had awareness about the eligibility of unemployment allowance within 15 days of application was 66.00 per cent and 86.00 per cent in Peedampalli and Pattanam Panchyats, respectively.

From the above study it can be concluded that Awareness about NREGA was confined to 100 days of employment per family. There is a need for an awareness campaign on NREGA. This campaign should inform beneficiaries of their rights and entitlements, including the provision for payment of compensation if work is not provided in time (unemployment allowance).

## **2.2. Employment generation under MGNREGA**

Soundarapandiun (1991) conducted survey in Kamarajar district of Tamil Nadu and revealed that 74.66 per cent of the TRYSEM beneficiaries got wage employment and 11.51 per cent got self employment with the financial assistance of banks. The remaining 13.83 per cent of the beneficiaries were still unemployed. Nearly 62.39 per cent of self-employed category got employment through village small scale industries (VSI) sector works after receiving benefits from the TRYSEM programme.

In a study by Reddy (1995) on Impact of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in Ranga Reddy district of Andhra Pradesh reported that after the introduction of JRY programme, in 71 families, one each of the family members had been given additional employment in off season. In 20 families, two persons each were employed and in three families, three each were benefited. Thus the study inferred that, at least one member of the family was benefited by additional employment under JRY.

Arulprakash (2004) after getting assistance from SGSY, 72 per cent of the beneficiaries were fully employed and 34 beneficiaries (28.00 %) changed from being wage earner to self employed. The study also revealed that, nearly half of the beneficiaries were able to get 101 to 200 man days of employment, 15.83 per cent and 9.16 per cent of them got the benefit of 201 to 300 man days and more that 300 man days of employment opportunities respectively.

Dogra (2005) revealed that during the eighth five year plan (1992- 1997) 5,120 million man days of employment were generated under various rural wage employment programmes including JRY and EAS.

Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007) reported that 20.5 lakh person-days of employment were generated during 2006-07 in the Kerala State, 11.57 lakhs in Palakkad and 8.93 lakhs Wayanad. On an average, a NREGS district in the State generated 10.25 lakh person days of employment.

Mathur (2007) revealed that out of 2.16 crore households who sought employment, 2.10 crore households (97.00 %) were provided work of 90 crore man days, an average of 45 days in the year. The objective of 100 days of employment was not achieved in any state. However, employment provided per households and average man days were comparatively high in Madhya Pradesh (1.6 lakh households, 68 days), Orissa (0.7 lakh households, 57 days), Chhattisgarh (1.7 lakh households, 54 days) and Rajasthan (two lakh households, 83 days). In West Bengal and Tamil Nadu although three lakh and 1.2 lakh households respectively worked under the NREGA, they could do so only for 14 and 26 days, respectively. In Gujarat and Maharashtra, only 30,000 and 40,000 households per district availed of the employment guarantee. It would appear that some “backward” states have done better than several of the progressive districts.

Vidhya and Pramod (2007) found that Orissa state has been projected as the first state in implementation of NREGS. The state claims to have issued job cards to 23.30 lakh households and provided employment to 11.19 lakh households. On an average, each household has been provided with 31 days of employment, while no household has completed 100 days of employment.

Anish Vanaik (2008) found that employment generation under NREGS in Hazaribagh of Jharkhand was quite low. In 2007-08, the average employment generated for the 1.23 lakh households that demanded work was only around 34 days until June 2008, only 31,658 households had been provided with employment under NREGS.

Mahapatra *et al.* (2008) observed that twenty out of 27 states reported an average of less than 50 employment days per households. Only Rajasthan was able to generate more than 50 average persons days of employment against the guarantee of 100 days during 2006-07. States such as Andhra Pradesh (25.37 person days), Uttar Pradesh (22.23 person days), Bihar (18.46 person days), Chhattisgarh (38.65 person days), Orissa (32.27 person days) and Madhya Pradesh (39.9 person days) are far behind from the target of providing 100 days of employment at the half way mark of the current fiscal year.

Joshi *et al.* (2008) reported that 3293 job cardholding households have worked for 2, 72,252 man days with average of 83(approx) days per family. The total working days for the family range from 71 (approx) days in Jhalawar to 88.58 days in Dungarpur.

Abraham (2009) in his study reported that employment growth in India revealed that there was a turnaround in employment growth in rural India after a phase of jobless growth during 1990's. Paradoxically, this employment growth occurred during a period of widespread distress in the Agriculture sector with low productivity, price instability and stagnation leading to indebtedness. Further, the study also indicated that employment growth in the rural areas was a response to the income crisis.

Kumar (2009) in his study observed that in eastern region the share of non-farm sector in rural employment has increased, from 21 per cent in 1983 to 30 per cent in 2004-05. The crop sector accounted for 95 per cent of rural agricultural employment in the eastern region, ranging from 93 per cent in West Bengal to 97 per cent in Bihar in 2004-05.

Nair *et al.* (2009) conducted study in Kasaragod district of Kerala state and reported that the programme had provided employment to 6.8 lakhs households and generated 151.6 lakhs

person-days of employment. The proportion of person-days generated for socially deprived and vulnerable groups, namely scheduled castes (SC) and scheduled tribes (ST) and other categories are 19.31 per cent, 9.38 per cent and 71.31 per cent respectively.

Raghuraman (2009) observed that for three years during which NREGA has been in operation, on an average only 50 per cent of the households were registered under the scheme actually got employment. Further, the average number of days each household got employment was only 45 against the promised 100. In short, at best a half of what was promised has been delivered. In terms of the average number of person days of employment per household, there was wide variation ranging from 22 in West Bengal to 79 in Rajasthan. The disaggregated picture shows that there is considerable scope for improving the implementation of the scheme in some of the states.

There were 3.81 crore households had registered under the Act, Out of this 2.12 crore households had demanded employment, 2.10 crore households were provided employment during 2006-07 (Anonymous, 2010a).

Chhabra and Sharma (2010) found out that employment provided to the rural household in financial year 2006-07 was 2.10 crores. In financial year 2007-08 it was 3.39 crore households and in 2008-09 employment provided to the rural household was 3.11 crore households (up to October).

Harish (2010) studied that the number of days the beneficiaries were employed in different works under NREGA. The maximum number of days the households employed was in road construction i.e. 8.75 days which contributes to 29 per cent of the total number of days employed (32.01). On the contrary, the least number of days employed was towards digging works accounting for 6.74 per cent of the total number of days employed. Other works in which workers

were employed were construction of check dams (5.5 days), desilting of existing tanks (4.33days), construction of drainages (4.11 days), planting (2.48 days), land development works like construction of bunds, planting in the SC, ST fields, mulching *etc.*, (2.44 days) and construction of farm ponds (2.17 days). Only, ten per cent of the households completed 100 days of work which is guaranteed by the Act.

Jeyshree *et al.* (2010) in their study observed that there was highest increase in employment generation to the extent of 39.15 per cent was in agricultural activities. This could be because of afforestation, tree plantation *etc* under MGNREGA.

The number of man days employed per household has increased from 23.6 lakh man days in 2006 07 to 61.5 lakh man days in 2008-09 in Wayand. In Palakakd the number of man days of employment has increased from 12.8 lakh man days to 53.2 lakh man days (Anonymous, 2010b).

During the first year of implementation of MGNREGA (Financial year (FY) 2006-07) in 200 districts, 2.10 crore households were employed and 90.5 crore person days were generated. In 2007-08, 3.39 crore households were provided employment and 143.59 crore person days were generated in 330 districts. In 2008-09, 4.51 crore households were got employment and 216.32 crore person days of employment generated across the country (Anonymous, 2010c).

The employment generation per household for the year 2007-08 indicates that 10 states could generate more than 50 days of employment against the target of 100 days, 7 states could generate an average 40-50 employment days per household. Remaining 17 states (50.00 %) could generate only less than 40 days on an average. The figure for the year 2009-10 shows a promising trend as 12 out of 34

states have generated more than 40 days within a period of 7 months (Anonymous, 2010d).

Garg and Yadav (2010) observed during the survey that MGNREGA also contributed to Community Development. The unemployment is a major speed breaker in the path of Community Development Programme in India. Employment scheme like MGNREGA helps to provide maximum employment.

All the above studies indicated that after being employed/benefited by the employment programmes like TRYSEM, IRDP, NREP, EGS and recently under MGNREGA, the level of employment opportunity for the beneficiaries has increased significantly.

### **2.3. Assets created on the farms of beneficiaries under MGNREGA**

Arun and Richard (2006) reported that in Palakkad district of Kerala, much of the works undertaken were land development, bunding, water channel creation and similar sort of works.

Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007) observed that 295 works completed in the State in the sector of Land Development 56 works in Palakkad and 239 works in Wayanad.

Mathur (2007) observed that the beneficiaries taken the works on their farms were water conservation (54.00 %) irrigation on SC and ST landholdings (10.00 %) and land development (11.00 %).

Kareemullah *et al.* (2009) found that land development (34.00 %) followed by water conservation (30.00 %) were the two major interventions done under the NREGS in Andhra Pradesh. During the past 3 years, 22,375 works were completed in the Anantapur district contributing to natural resources development in farmers land.

Nair *et al.* (2009) conducted study in Kasaragod district of Kerala state and reported that land development activities in the

action plan include activities for soil and water conservation in the fields of SC and ST households and general category households with less than 5 acre land holdings.

NREGA has aided in enhancement of agricultural productivity through water harvesting, check dams, ground water recharging, improve moisture content, check in soil erosion and micro irrigation (Anonymous 2010 a).

Total number of works taken up has increased from 8.35 lakhs in 2006-07 to 27.75 lakhs in 2008-09. Around 50 per cent of the works were related to water conservation 20 per cent of the works were related to provision of irrigation facility to individual beneficiaries and around 15 per cent to land development indicating that a vast chunk of the funds has been spent on soil and water conservation leading to improved livelihood security to rural households (Anonymous, 2010b).

Anonymous (2010c), assets were created in the land of farmers belonging to Scheduled Tribes (ST), Schedule Castes (SC), Below Poverty Line category (BPL) and marginal farmers. The progress of implementation of individual scheme in general was very slow, as in many cases the schemes could not complete in the same fiscal year and took longer time, even two to three years in some cases. This has resulted in lack of interest from the beneficiaries side as it took longer time for the beneficiaries to realize the importance of work for improving the livelihood condition.

From the above study, it can be concluded that more works taken up under SC/ST farmer's field. The major works taken up under beneficiaries farms were land development, bunding, water channel creation etc.,

#### **2.4. Assets created in the village under MGNREGA**

Hazra (1997) studied the Tejpura Watershed of Uttar Pradesh and indicated that, about 23 ha of rainwater were stored in 5 check dams. This increased ground water table by 3 to 7 meters and led to a subsequent increase in digging of wells from 5 to 380 wells and is a prima facie evidence of ground water recharge. This change in water supply is reflected in increased land area under irrigation (3.8 % to 10 %) and an increase in the cropping intensity (82 % to 218 %). This increased the productivity incomes by 12 times over the base and in addition 128 hectare of degraded land was brought back to cultivation. Further, forage and fuel wood resources greatly increased and milk production doubled. Soil and water conservation reduced run off by 66 per cent and soil loss by 99 per cent.

Pandey *et al.* (2005) in their study at Rozam tribal village in Dahod district of Gujarat and observed that the desiltation of tanks resulted in increased water table from an average of 2.1 meter to 2.57 meter from 2002 to 2003 in fifty open wells. The water yield in the wells increased from 0.64 liters per second to 1.5 liters per second during 2002 to 1.72 liters per second in 2003. They also observed an increase in area under different crops from 88.42 acres (2003) to 129.24 acres (2004), resulting a significant improvement in people's lives.

Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007) reported that among the total work completed in two district of Kerala. The rural connectivity (5.00%), flood control and protection (24.00%), water Conservation and harvesting (34.00%), drought proofing (1.00%), micro irrigation (7.00%), provision of facility to SC/ST/Beneficiaries of IAY (4.00%), renovation of traditional water bodies (16%) and land development (9.00%).

Anonymous (2008) study on potential for creation of natural resource wealth under NREGA in Indian villages revealed that in Nuapada district, 15.38 per cent of the respondents said that NREGA has led to increased water availability in the tanks because of desiltation works taken up under the Act. This figure seems high considering that maximum of NREGA works in Nuapada district consisted of road construction and repair. The study also revealed that Nuapada district has 48 per cent of its land under forests. The dependence of the village people on forests was very high as 71.61 per cent of the respondents stated that they were dependent on forest resources like fuel wood for cooking and fodder for the animals. In response to survey conducted, 43 per cent of respondents felt that availability of fuel wood or fodder had increased slightly due to NREGA works like plantation and construction of check dams. Hence, villagers were often not going to the forest in search of fuel wood or fodder as their availability got increased in the village itself. So, the study concluded that NREGA works had positive impacts on forest conservation.

Joshi *et al.* (2008) observed that in Karauli district of Rajasthan, the job cardholding household had worked mainly pond construction (38.92%), small dam construction- anicuts (34.73%) and road construction (15.17%) out of total work done. In Banswara, road construction (27.93%), pond construction (13.96%) and small dam construction (11.80%) were the main activities, while small dam construction (46.49%), pond construction (35.73%) and tree plantation (6.40%) were the three top activities in Dungarpur. In Jhalawar, pond construction (42.14%), road construction (15.72%) and small dam construction (8.81%) were the three major activities where people have worked in. In Jalore district, small dam construction (50.00%), pond construction (20.00%) and road construction (8.75%) were the main works.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) reported that the major works undertaken were canal repair and construction, roads, jungle cutting, and planting trees.

Rajath and Prasanna (2008) in their study on role of NREGA in providing additional employment for tribal's and curtailing migration reported that four types of soils in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh like markan, tikra, gawar and maal. The first two types of soils are hardly suitable for agriculture as water retention is very poor. After land leveling and bunding works under NREGS, the water retention capacity improved and the nature of land changed, converting the markan and tikra into gawar which is better suited for agriculture. Initially, the farmers cultivated that variety of rice whose production was less and fetched low price. But after land improvement, the farmers cultivated the saphri variety whose yield is better and fetched higher price.

Mahapatra *et al.* (2008) reported that in the first year of NREGA (February 2006 to March 2007), 7, 65,132 works were taken up. Out of this, 3, 15,743 were related to water conservation and renovation of traditional water bodies thus constituting around 41 per cent of the total works. Rural connectivity comprised of 1, 82,900 works (23.00 %). During the financial year (April 2007 till Jan 2008), 12, 99,025 works were taken up. Out of this, 4, 62,796 works were related to water conservation and renovation of water bodies (35.00 %). Rural connectivity in the same year accounted for 16 per cent (2, 18,955) of total works. Land development works has also increased from 2 per cent in 2006- 07 to 14 per cent in 2007- 08. In Chitrakoot district of Uttar Pradesh, out of 701 works initiated under NREGA, only 18 pertain to water conservation, while, 157 road construction projects. The remaining 526 works are related to drought proofing and renovation of traditional water harvesting structures.

Karemullah *et al.* (2009) among different types of work completed under the scheme, water conservation accounted for the highest share (56.00 %) followed by land development (29.00 %), irrigation facilities (4.00 %), renovation of traditional water bodies (3.00 %), drought proofing and plantation (3.00 %), rural connectivity (3.00 %) and micro and minor irrigation works (1.00 %).

Nair *et al.* (2009) conducted study in Kasaragod district of Kerala state and reported that in trikarapur out of the 76 projects only 7 were leading to asset creation- 3 canals, 3 drainages, and 1 road. The majority of the works (69 projects) done were asset renovation activities.

Chhabra and Sharma (2010) revealed that 19.00 lakhs Works were taken up under MGNREGA in 2008-09, under this majority (64.00%) of the work were water conservation & irrigation facility.

Majority of the respondents were found to have participated in works like road connectivity (56.40%), flood control and protection (35.50%), cleaning of irrigation canals and channels (26.60%), renovation of traditional water bodies (22.6%) and water conservation and harvesting (19.40%). (Anonymous, 2010 b).

In Financial year (FY) 2008- 09, 27.75 lakhs works were undertaken with 46 per cent water conservation works. Similarly, in FY 2009-10, 36.51 lakhs works were undertaken, out of which 51 per cent constituted water conservation, 16 per cent rural connectivity, 14 per cent land development and provision of irrigation facility to individual beneficiaries constituted around 17 per cent with remaining 2 per cent works related to other activities. (Anonymous, 2010 c).

It can be concluded from the above that the MGNREGA works like construction of check dams, bunding had a positive impact on natural resource conservation in terms of curbing the intensity of soil

and water erosion. The Act provided the alternate employment opportunity to the beneficiaries at their doorstep.

## **2.5. Socio-economic and psychological profile of MGNREGA beneficiaries**

### **Age of the beneficiaries**

Hemalatha Prasad (1995) revealed that majority of DWCRA beneficiaries were in age group of 26-40 years of age.

Hardikar (1998) observed that majority of IRDP and DWCRA beneficiaries were found in middle age group.

Mohanan (1999) reported that majority (68.00 %) of the WEP beneficiaries were less than 35 years of age representing the youth.

Usharani (1999) observed that majority DWCRA beneficiaries were found in young age (35 and above) category.

Satyanarayana (2002) depicted that majority (60.00%) of SGSY beneficiaries, belonged to middle age group.

Arulprakash (2004) reported that majority of the SGSY respondents in Thiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu (56.66 %) were middle aged while 28.34 per cent were young and remaining (15.00 %) were old aged.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) found out that 393 randomly selected households in the Penukonda and Puttaparthi mandals of Anantapur district, the maximum age among the respondents were 80 years and the average age was 25 years, the average age of the respondents was 28.2 years.

Pattanaik (2009) indicated that majority (40.00%) of the NREGS beneficiaries were middle aged in the age group of 35 to 45 years.

Sankari and Muruga (2009) indicated that 40 per cent of the NREGA beneficiaries belonged to the age group of 26 to 35 years representing the youth.

The age-wise distribution of population of the sample households reveals that around two-third of the population are in the productive age group of 19 to 60 years. Further disaggregation shows that 30.32 per cent were in the age group of 19-35 years and 33.41 per cent were in the age group of 36 to 59 years (Anonymous, 2010 a).

Gaiha *et al.* (2010) revealed that in all three states, as the age increased the likelihood of participating in NREGA increased, but this likelihood was reversed after a certain age (i.e. older persons were less likely to participate in manual labour).

Naidu *et al.* (2010) conducted study in four selected gram panchyath of Andhra Pradesh state and revealed that among 85 respondent 38 per cent were found to be aged of 26-40 years, 40 per cent to be aged 41-60 years and 7 per cent aged over 60 years.

Shobha and Vinitha (2011) found out that in Peedampalli Panchyat about 48 per cent of the women beneficiaries belonged to age group of 40-60 years, but this percentage were 42 in case of Pattanam Panchyat.

### **Gender wise participation in MGNREGA**

In a study by Mohanan (1999) on Impact assessment of wage employment programmes (WEP) in Andhra Pradesh, a high proportion (82.00%) of WEP beneficiaries were male and remaining 18 per cent of the beneficiaries were female.

Ghosh (2006) reported that higher participation of women in Dungarpur district of Rajasthan, where 90 per cent of the workers under the NREGS were women and 10 per cent were men. The author

justified the lower participation of men, as the male workers were often showing reluctance to work under NREGA because of lower wage rates. While, women were happy with the NREGA wage rate and moreover they were often being assigned with the easier works.

Mathur (2007) observed that the participation of women in MGNREGA works were 41 per cent.

Datta (2008) reported that NREGA indicated that around 4.49 crores of rural unskilled wage labour, wherein the male labour force constitutes around 50.85 per cent and women around 49.15 per cent.

Joshi *et al.* (2008) observed that women participation was higher in these districts as men on an average had worked for less number of days (31days) compared to 52 days for women. The men have worked for minimum of 22 days in Jalore and maximum of 34 days in Jhalawar, while women have worked for 37 days on an average in Jhalawar and 66 days in Jalore.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) reported that in Anantapur district out of 1516 individuals, 821 respondents were male and 695 were female, making it a gender ratio of 84 females for every 100 males in the sample.

Kumar (2009) revealed that the share of allied activities (forestry, animal husbandry and fishing) within the agriculture sector in eastern region in 1983 was 5.05 per cent for males and 18.21 per cent for females, which came down to 3.22 per cent and about 7.89 per cent, respectively in 1993-94.

Nair *et al.* (2009) conducted study in Kasaragod district of Kerala state and reported that women were identified as the largest direct beneficiaries of the project, which generated 126.6 lakhs person-days of employment (83.49%) solely for women and also reported that out of the total individuals registered in Madikkai, 60.8

per cent were women. in Ajanoor and Trikarapur, women registration was 62.1 per cent and 54.1 per cent respectively.

Pattanaik (2009) studied that participation rate of women in NREGS was 37.78 per cent whereas in case of male 62.22 per cent.

Sankari and Muruga (2009) reported that majority (78.00%) of the NREGA beneficiaries was men and the rest of the beneficiaries were women.

The gender wise distribution of the population shows a slightly higher percentage of female population (50.42 %). More or less similar pattern can be observed in all the districts except Alapuzha, where the male population was marginally high (50.14 %) (Anonymous, 2010a).

Women participation in FY 2008-09 was 48 per cent. The highest women participation in FY 2008-09 was reported in Tamil Nadu (80.00%) and Kerala (84.00 %) respectively. In FY 2007-08 the participation of women in Tamil Nadu (82.00%) and in Kerala (73.00%). Women participation was more than 61 per cent in 5 states in 2008-09 and 2009-10. It ranged between 30 and 60 per cent in 19 states during 2008-09 and in 21 states during 2009-10 respectively. In the remaining states, it was less than mandated 30 per cent. It can be concluded that, women participation was far better than the minimum prescribed norms under the Act in majority of the states (Anonymous, 2010b).

Women's participation in the NREGS, however, varies across regions. The share of women in total person-days was relatively high (exceeding 50.00%) in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, and Tripura in all the three years, that was, 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09 respectively (except in Tripura where it was less than 50.00% in 2007-08). It exceeded the national average (47.88%) (Anonymous, 2010d).

Chhabra and Sharma (2010) revealed that in FY 2007-08, women participation was 43 per cent, which was increased to 50 per cent up to in FY 2008-09 (upto mid-August) including states like Kerala with 85 per cent women workforce participation.

Gaiha *et al.* (2010) observed that households with more adult males were more likely to participate while households with more adult females were less likely to participate in the NREGA. Married persons were less likely to participate, as compared to others.

Holmes *et al.* (2010) conducted study in Madhya Pradesh and reported that Women's employment in the labour force in Madhya Pradesh is slightly above the national average. However, women's rate of employment (wages paid in cash) in the private agriculture sector relative to men was much lower. Nevertheless, women's representation in MGNREGA in the state is almost equal to men's. The most recent data (2010) showed that 43.50 per cent of women were employed in MGNREGA, just below the national average (48.25 %), demonstrating relatively high access to MGNREGA employment in the state.

Jeyshree *et al.* (2010) reported that among MGNREGA workers 43 per cent were male and 57 per cent were female.

Naidu *et al.* (2010) observed that 60 per cent of the respondent comes under male category and 40 per cent were female.

Ratna and Sudarshan (2010) revealed that women's participation in NREGA in selected areas of three states, Kerala, Himachal and Rajasthan. These states were selected for study for a number of reasons. While Kerala and Rajasthan show a very high proportion of works days generated being taken up by women, Himachal Pradesh was a contrast with very low share of women. Rajasthan leads the country in the total number of work days generated.

Pankaj and Tankha (2010) revealed that Women workers had a national average share of 40.65 per cent of total NREGS person-days in 2006-07, 42.52 per cent in 2007-08 and 47.88 per cent in 2008-09, exceeding expectations and the stipulated 33 per cent share.

### **Caste wise distribution of the beneficiaries**

Mathur (2007) revealed that the participation of scheduled castes were 25 per cent and scheduled tribes participation in MGNREGA works high that was 36 per cent. Whereas, higher cast people participated less in MGNREGA works.

Joshi *et al.* (2008) observed that women of higher castes like Brahmins and Rajput who never worked outside their homes under NREGA. In most cases, it was found that it was the decision of women themselves to go for work.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) reported that majority of the respondents (90.50%) were Hindu, out of which 18 per cent belonged to the Kurubaru caste. Around 19 per cent of the respondents stated that they belonged to SC and 15 per cent of them stated that they belonged to ST without giving sub-caste details.

Nair *et al.* (2009) conducted study in Kasaragod district of Kerala state and reported that the extent of SC households registered in NREGA in Trikarapur was 54.90 per cent of the total SC households whereas in Madikkai and Ajanoor the percent of SC households registered were 41.90 per cent and 23.80 per cent respectively. Madikkai was the highest ST registration with 73.80 per cent and Ajanoor stands second with 66.30 per cent.

The Programme had high workforce participation of marginalized groups like SC/ ST (54.00%) in FY 2008-09 (Anonymous, 2010a).

The average number of days employed was high among the SC/ST households indicating their active participation in the scheme. Yet another sign of active participation was the percentage of households employed for 100 days. It has increased from 2 per cent to 14 per cent. Wayanad leads with 30 per cent of the households employed for 100 days (Anonymous, 2010b).

Chhabra and Sharma (2010) revealed that workforce participation of marginalized groups was high with 57 per cent (SC/ST) in 2007-08 and 55 per cent up to mid-August 2008.

Gaiha *et al.* (2010) among the MGNREGA participants, the largest share was that of the STs, followed by the OBCs and then the SCs in Rajasthan. Among the STs, the participants accounted for the highest share (75.00 %). In Andhra Pradesh, the OBCs accounted for nearly half the participants and the STs for barely 11.50 per cent. About 94 per cent of the SCs and STs participated in the MGNREGA. In Maharashtra too, just under half of the participants were OBCs, slightly below their share in the population. However, within-group share of participants was highest among the SCs (83.00 %), followed by the STs (73.00%). SCs and STs as being the more deprived and socially excluded, in all three states, these groups were more likely to participate in the MGNREGA, as compared to the others. Also, the OBCs were more likely to participate in Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. The marginal effects for each of these deprived groups were stronger in Andhra Pradesh.

Jeyshree *et al.* (2010) observed that SC category workers were predominant among MGNREGA workers that was 40 per cent followed by OBC (32.00%).

Naidu *et al.* (2010) revealed that out of 85 respondents 38 per cent were SCs, 9 per cent were STs, 32 per cent were OBCs and 21 per cent were OCs in all four Panchayat.

### **Marital status of the beneficiaries**

Shobha and Vinitha (2011) conducted study in Sulur taluk of Coimbatore District and reported that the number of married women beneficiaries was 78 per cent in Pattanam which were more than the women beneficiaries (68.00 %) in Peedampalli.

### **Education status of MGNREGA beneficiaries**

Kaushik (1993) indicated that majority (87.00%) of IRDP beneficiaries were illiterate.

Hemalatha Prasad (1995) revealed that majority DWCRA beneficiaries were illiterate.

Hardikar (1998) observed that majority IRDP and DWCRA beneficiaries were illiterate.

Usharani (1999) reported that majority (60.00%) of DWCRA beneficiaries were illiterate.

Satyanarayana (2002) revealed that majority (68.57%) of SGSY beneficiaries were illiterate.

Arulprakash (2004) he found that nearly 40 per cent of the beneficiaries had primary education followed by 21.66 per cent having middle school level of education, 14.17 per cent and 6.67 per cent of the beneficiaries had high school, PUC and above level of education respectively, and 20 per cent of the beneficiaries were illiterate.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) in their study reported that in Raichur district level of illiteracy was high (51.00%), 20 per cent of the respondents had done primary schooling only. And in Anantapur district the level of illiteracy was high (41.00%), only primary schooling was done by another 14 per cent of the respondents. Middle,

secondary and high school account for another 28 per cent of the respondents. Very few (2.00%) were graduate and above.

Jeyshee *et al.* (2010) conducted study in Thevarkulam Panchyath of Tamilunadu and reported that 80 per cent of MGNREGA workers were illiterate.

Gaiha *et al.* (2010) in their study observed that in Andhra Pradesh, educated persons were significantly less likely to participate in the NREGA, with the most educated (i.e. above higher secondary) least likely to participate, relative to illiterates.

### **Land holding status of MGNREGA beneficiaries**

Kaushik (1993) observed that majority of IRDP beneficiaries were landless.

Gupta and Sandhu (1995) studied that majority of IRDP beneficiaries were marginal farmers.

Sukdev singh (1997) studied that majority of IRDP beneficiaries were landless and marginal farmers.

Hardikar (1998) revealed that majority of IRDP and DWCRA beneficiaries were landless.

Arulprakash (2004) he reported that nearly three forth of the beneficiaries was landless and only one fourth of the beneficiaries were land owners. Among the land owners, 46.87 per cent were small farmers followed by marginal farmers (34.37 %) and semi-medium farmers (18.75 %).

Satyanarayana (2002) studied that majority of SGSY beneficiaries were landless.

Narayanan (2008) shown from his study of NREGA in Tamil Nadu that, only one third of the respondent households owned land and the average land ownership was only 0.5 to 1.0 acre.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) reported that in Gulberga district 173 households (75.00%) stated that they owned some land, the average of which was around 5.1 acres. 135 households (58.00%) also said that they possessed land of around 5.5 acres on an average. In Anantpur district amongst the families surveyed, 75.6 per cent stated that they owned some land, the average of which was around 3.6 acres. The percentage of households who had mortgaged land was small (2.30%).

Gaiha *et al.* (2010) observed that the participation of landless labour in MGNREGA was highest in Andhra Pradesh (47.00%), followed by Maharashtra (43.00%). To the extent that the landless were most prone to poverty, these shares suggested that the MGNREGA was targeted well.

Naidu *et al.* (2010) observed that 42 per cent of the farmers own less than 2.5 acres of land. Due to this rural households not getting sufficient income from agriculture and so they may be depending on employment generation programme like NREGA.

### **Annual income of the beneficiaries**

Padmanabhan (1990) observed that average annual income of the IRDP beneficiaries was Rs. 3284.

Soundarapanian (1991) revealed that 96 per cent of the TRYSEM beneficiaries had income below Rs.4800.

Kaushik (1993) observed that majority (58.00%) IRDP beneficiaries had income below Rs. 6400.

Dwarakanth (2001) studied that 75 per cent of the DWCRA beneficiaries had income Rs. 6400.

Arulprakash (2004) Three fourth of the beneficiaries of SGSY were grouped under BPL category and the rest were grouped in the above poverty line category.

Satyanarayana (2002) revealed that 80 per cent of the SGSY beneficiaries had an annual income below Rs 20,000.

Jeyshree *et al.* (2010) observed that the annual house hold average income of the agricultural labourer increased by 36 per cent and it increased by 26 per cent for non- agricultural laborer.

The details on annual income of the respondents indicate that more than one-third of the respondents still live below poverty line (less than Rs. 24,000). The percentage of people having less than Rs.24,000 per annum was found to be high in Alapuzha (48.7%) followed by Palakkad (36.5%), Idukki (31.3%) and Wayanad (26.3%). Around 24 per cent of the households have an annual income of more than Rs.48,000. After the implementation of the scheme the average family income in these districts is found to have increased by a minimum of Rs. 1479 in Palakkad and Rs.2601 in Idukki District (Anonymous, 2010b).

### **Occupation of the beneficiaries**

Usharani (1999) revealed that 54.37 per cent of DWCRA beneficiaries were agricultural labourers.

Gayatridevi (2000) studied that half of the TRYSEM and DWCRA beneficiaries were housewives followed by peasants.

Satyanarayana (2002) revealed that majority of SGSY beneficiaries were farm labourers.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) conducted study in four districts of two states. Anantapur, Adilabad, Raichur and Gulbarga and revealed that Coolie, agriculture and others (not specified by the respondents)

accounted for the main occupations in Anantapur. The percentages for these were 19 per cent, 16 per cent and 32 per cent respectively. The percentage of non-respondents (54.00%) in this section was large. In Adilabad district amongst the families surveyed, 75.60 per cent stated that they owned some land, the average of which was around 3.6 acres. The percentage of households who had mortgaged land was small (2.30%). In Raichur although most families owned land, they did not describe their primary occupation as agriculture, 34 per cent were in tailoring, 12 per cent in basket making, and 16 per cent in agriculture. The rest were in various small trades or occupations like carpenter, mason, electrician, decorator, petty shop keeper and so on. In Gulbarga district around 59 per cent of the respondents said that they had no skills for any specialized jobs.

Anonymous (2010a) reported that agriculture was the main occupation of the villagers. Farmers depend on monsoon for irrigation and mainly engaged in the Kharif season for agriculture related work.

The study revealed that 31.18 per cent of the working population was agricultural labourers. Farmers constitute 11.41 per cent of the working population. Skilled labourers constitute 6.19 per cent while unskilled labourers account for 13.26 per cent. Quite an interesting observation was that NREGA has emerged as the main occupation to a sizeable section of the working population (16.49%). It was quite high in Wayanad district with 28.81 per cent of respondents responded NREGA as the main occupation. In other districts, it covers around 12 to 13 per cent. Farming as main occupation was high in Idukki district (23.56%) while it was low (2.04%) in Alapuzha district (Anonymous, 2010b).

### **Family type of the beneficiaries**

Hemalatha Prasad (1995) revealed that majority of the DWCRA beneficiaries belonged to joint family.

Usharani (1999) observed that 92 per cent of the DWCRA beneficiaries belonged to nuclear family.

Satyanarayana (2002) revealed that 65.71 per cent of the SGSY respondents belonged to nuclear family.

### **Family size of the beneficiaries**

Padmanabhan (1990) observed that IRDP beneficiaries had average family size of 5 to 8.

Kaushik (1993) observed that majority of IRDP beneficiaries had belonged to large family.

Hemalatha Prasad (1995) revealed that DWCRA beneficiaries average family size was 6 to 7.

Tejashwini (1996) studied that majority (54.00%) of DWCRA beneficiaries had up to five members in family.

Gayatridevi (2000) studied that 57.14 per cent of TRYSEM and DWCRA beneficiaries were belonged to small family.

Gaiha *et al.* (2010) revealed that between the two household size groups, <4 persons and between 5-8 persons, the shares of MGNREGA earnings vary across the states. While in Rajasthan the share of MGNREGA earnings was about 17 per cent in the small households, in Andhra Pradesh it was about 24 per cent and in Maharashtra a little over 9 per cent. In Andhra Pradesh the larger households also depended heavily on MGNREGA.

### **Social participation of the beneficiaries**

Tejashwini (1996) studied that majority of DWCRA beneficiaries had low social participation.

Hardikar (1998) revealed that more than four-fifth of the IRDP beneficiaries had low social participation.

Usharani (1999) studied that 36.25 per cent of the DWCRA beneficiaries were members of Mahila mandals.

Satyanarayana (2002) revealed that 88.57 per cent of the SGSY beneficiaries did not participate in social organization.

Out of the 620 respondents, 96.30 per cent used to attend Grama sabha meeting. 80.00 per cent of the respondents were members in caste based associations while 60.20 per cent were SHG members. Around 10.00 per cent were members in local co-operatives, SHG federations. Thus it can be concluded that the respondents were actively participating in local social forums (Anonymous, 2010c).

Gaiha *et al.* (2010) revealed that, in Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh, the higher the share of households participating in a public meeting in the village, the higher was the probability of a household participating in MGNREGA. In the latter, however, the positive effect weakened with higher values of participation in a public meeting. Somewhat surprisingly in Maharashtra higher the percentage of households with cell phones and televisions in a village, the lower was the probability of participation in MGNREGA. However, when it is interacted with the percentage of households who attended a village meeting, the positive coefficient weakens the negative effect slightly. Presumably, TVs and cell- phones as conduits of information substitute for attendance in these meetings. Altogether, the link between attendance in these meetings and participation in MGNREGA is corroborated. However, it would be naïve to assert that more information is largely to the advantage of the poor, as some other evidence suggests that it favoured the entry of non-poor while the acutely poor, who neither possessed TVs or cell phones nor attended public meetings did not know and therefore did not participate.

However, with more information corruption at the implementation stage reduces and had the potential of serving the interests of the poor better.

Holmes *et al.* (2010) conducted study in Madhya Pradesh and reported that with regard to social capital the majority of respondent households (81.00%) were not belonged to any kind of formal or informal groups. Only 12 per cent belong to a self-help group and 5 per cent to a savings/credit group. Limited access to formal or informal groups is reflected in the number of other strategies that households employed to cope with economic and social vulnerabilities. Almost 40 per cent of households receive no form of government support (36.00% hold BPL cards and a small number participate in *Antodhaya Yojana* food-based assistance programme or receive a pension), and the majority of households do not have savings (only 8.00% save some money every month).

Pankaj and Tankha (2010) revealed that positive development was increased participation of women in gram sabha meetings. 45 per cent of them had attended Gram Sabha meetings held in connection with the NREGS. Women's participation in gram sabha was the highest in Kangra (89.00%), followed by Dungarpur (55.00%), Ranchi (26.00%), and Gaya (14.00%).

### **Mass media participation of the beneficiaries**

Umadevi (1992) observed that majority of WYTEP respondents belonged to medium level of mass media participation.

Tejashwini (1996) revealed that majority of DWCRA beneficiaries had low mass media participation.

Usharani (1999) studied that majority (65.62%) of DWCRA beneficiaries belong to medium level of mass media participation.

Gayatri Devi (2000) revealed that majority of the TRYSEM beneficiaries belonged to low level of mass media participation.

Satyanarayana (2002) revealed that majority SGSY beneficiaries, (71.43 %) had very low level of mass media participation.

Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007) observed that the message of NREGA was conveyed to the community through Grama Sabha's meetings of Neighborhood Groups of Kudumbasree Mission, posters, banners, cinema slides, media *etc.* in both the districts. Political parties and class and mass organizations affiliated to them also played a significant role.

Joshi *et al.* (2008) revealed that Wardpanch was the major source of information and instrumental in generating awareness about NREGA in all districts except for Jhalawar. In Jhalawar, Mate was credited for awareness generation. The role of the secretary was found to be only marginal, whereas other sources of communication like TV and newspapers were quite effective in Banwara, Jhalawar and Dungarpur Districts of Rajasthan State.

The Information Educational and Communication (IEC) strategies include newspapers, TV and radio spots, pamphlets and brochures to create awareness. States organised Gram Sabha to communicate key features of the Act (Anonymous, 2010a).

The analysis on the sources through which the households come to be aware of the scheme indicates that the Panchayat played a key role in creating awareness about the scheme followed by SHGs. Media like newspapers, radio, television were also found to have played a significant role in generating awareness about the scheme (Anonymous, 2010b).

More than 75 per cent of the respondents had received the information about MGNREGA from Gram Panchayat. Other sources of

information were Grama Sabha, and other villagers. At Akola, the awareness generation was done by displaying the MGNREGA related information at every Grama Panchayat. However, this was not observed in Thane district (Anonymous, 2010d).

The above reviews related to the socio- psychological characteristics of the beneficiaries of rural development programmes revealed that majority of them belong to middle aged group, illiterate, belong to nuclear family, landless, small farmers and majority had low social participation as well as mass media participation.

## **2.6. Constraints experienced by the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

In a study by Jain (1989) on impact of NREP on employment and income of the beneficiaries in selected areas of Reva district of Madhya Pradesh found that most of the NREP beneficiaries reported their problems as inadequate staff, lack of proper accountability, inadequate employment generation, less coverage of programme, lack of productive works, lack of technological and economic management in selection of work, more involvement and miss behavior of contractors and more number of incomplete works.

Jaffer (2007) studied on NREGA in Gulbarga district of Karnataka, reported that problems under NREGA were lack of knowledge on NREGA with target people, ignorance of Gram Pradhan and Gram Vikas Adhikari regarding provisions of the Scheme, demand of money to prepare job cards, lack of proper payments and minimum wages Act was not followed. In certain areas, machineries (tractors) were used instead of engaging the people and lack of facilities for women who carry their children to working place.

Ambasta *et al.* (2008) pointed out some of the lacunas in implementation of the NREGA like lack of professionals, understaffing, administrative delays, lack of people's planning, poor quality

of work undertaken, inappropriate wage rates and poor social audit process.

Gladson (2008) observed that several problems associated with NREGA like the scale of the works were inadequate and delay in the payment of wages was widespread in certain districts. Another problem was lack of basic facilities like water, shade, first-aid and child care that was promised under the Act. Beside these failures, there were deep structural problems, including poor flow of funds, staff shortage, flawed record-keeping and the lack of a grievance redressal mechanism. Corruption was found to be widely prevalent in all the states with the only exception of Rajasthan. Officials and middlemen often created muster rolls with fictitious names and misappropriated the funds. The situation has not shown much improvement even after the government decided to pay the workers through the banks and post-offices, as even in this case middlemen siphoned off the money in the name of NREGA workers, often with the help of the bank managers themselves.

Mehrotra (2008) examined the performance of NREGA and shown the following perennial weaknesses those were low programme coverage, more than 50 per cent of the beneficiaries not from most needy group, little participation of community in planning, work to women lower than stipulated norm of 30 per cent, only 16-29 days employment provided to household, assets created were not durable and reports of false muster rolls payment often less than prescribed wages.

Kohli (2009) indicated that the major problems in implementation of the NREGA were definition of a household, denial of registration, delay in distribution of job cards, unsolicited fees being charged for work application forms, non-issuance of receipts, absence of worksite facilities, presence of contractors, non-availability of muster rolls at the worksites, shortage of staff and delay in

appointments, stopping of works, disruption due to imposition of election code of conduct, delay in wage payments and payment of less than the minimum wage.

Gopal (2009) studied in Andhra Pradesh (AP) revealed that AP has a massive rural housing scheme where each house owner gets a loan and subsidy. To fund the subsidy Rs 3,200 of NREGA money is transferred directly to all housing beneficiaries. A fourth of NREGA money utilized was used for this and two thirds of those receiving the cash transfer did not work even for one day on any other NREGA works. As housing is not allowed in NREGA, the transfers to housing were listed under land development in the website. The Government had engaged thousands of personal in the field along with technical and computer staff for NREGA but their salaries are booked as daily wage workers and recently these salaries are doubled.

Maulick (2009) recorded some failures related to NREGA in Uttar Pradesh such as delay in distribution of job cards, wrong selection of beneficiaries, needy households unreached, lack of professionals, under staffing, administrative delays, lack of people's planning, poor quality of work undertaken and poor social audit process.

Anonymous (2010a) reported that the workers had come across certain problems at the worksite which includes heavy tools, inability to work continuously in water-logged areas, inability to adhere to the time schedule, lack to toilet facility, *etc.*

Anonymous (2010b) two important problems faced at the worksite as reported were i) tools are not good (67.70%); and ii) too heavy tools to work (25.30%). There are few location specific problems like snakebite at the worksites (8.90%) and difficulties in working continuously in water bodies (12.00%). Women have reported certain specific problems during the focus group discussion they were not

able to strictly follow the time schedule as they have responsibilities at home, a few were not accustomed to hard physical work, tools were not women friendly and toilets were not made available at certain worksites.

Anonymous (2010d) examined that the common deficiencies indicated by studies were a) Delay in the distribution of job cards b) False muster rolls c) Use of contractors d) Delay in payments and e) Poor quality of works. While, the good practices were being highlighted by the above studies are payment of NREGA wages through bank or postal account and arrangement for worksite facilities.

Joshi *et al.* (2008) identified some of the problems were 1. Job cards do not have proper and accurate information. 2. Women mentioned that for pregnant women there should be additional consideration while distributing work. 3. The villagers complained that the measurement is not done on regular basis nor are they proper. At places when verified by the research team it was found that the measurements were not recorded properly. This actually led to improper and lower payment of wages. 4. Payment of wages was not timely. 5. In some districts, the villagers complained about the discrepancies and favoritism for the number of days of employment. 6. Where there is a male mate, women face a lot problem, as they are not sensitive. Women feel safer working with a women mate.

Kamath *et al.* (2008) reported that Overall 79.3 per cent of the respondents said that there was no major problem with the way NREGA was implemented. However, there were some caveats. About 40.6 per cent said that work was not provided on a regular and timely basis, 50 per cent said that payments were not made on time and 52 per cent said that NREGA wage rates were not good. Perhaps the last finding reflects the fact that most people would always like higher wages. In addition, a rather large 88.4 per cent felt that NREGA implementation can be further improved. And also reported that 20

per cent of the respondents perceived that they will not get work on time, while 2 per cent also felt that they might not be paid on time. Since the number of people who had got job-cards in Gulbarga district.

From the above study revealed that the common problems faced by the beneficiaries were poor worksite facilities, insufficient wage rate, delay in the distribution of job cards, false muster rolls, use of contractors, delay in payments and Poor quality of works undertaken under MGNREGA.

### **2.7. Suggestion offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA**

Joshi *et al.* (2008) given some of the suggestions were 1. For each revenue village, there should be one Raozgar Shayak for maintaining the paper work properly. 2. Instead of 100 days, the work should be for 150-200 days. 3. Wheat should be given as part payment. 4. On worksites like farm ponds family members should not be given any work on their own farms. They should also not have a mate of their own choice. 5. The mate training should be given to the labourers also and the mate should be chosen from among the workers.

Anonymous (2010a) the suggested to take the scheme to greater heights and make it sustainable as recommended by stakeholders at different levels include; i) 100 days of employment per adult member per household instead of per household; ii) temporary suspension of NREGS works during the peak agricultural season; iii) permission to take up land improvement in private lands with the financial participation of land owners; iv) upward revision of wages taking into account the local situation; iv) flexibility in schedule of working hours; vi) region based specific plans instead of adapting blue-print type of guideline; vii) permission to take up work involving material cost; viii)

delegation of responsibilities and power from the block to the Panchayat; ix) appointment of skilled personnel wherever required and x) providing better infrastructure like improved tools, computers with BSNL internet connectivity, vehicles and human resources at Panchayat level.

Anonymous (2010d) indicated following Suggestions offer by the beneficiaries 1) 100 days of employment per adult member of rural household should be guaranteed instead of 100 days per rural household. This would help improve the income level of households who primarily depend on NREGS for their livelihood. 2) A major complaint about NREGS is that it affects the agricultural operations especially during the peak season. Hence, NREGS work may be temporarily suspended during the peak season to facilitate the smooth operation of agricultural activities. In fact, such arrangements have been informally made in some of the panchayats visited by the study team. 3) Land improvement and soil conservation works in private agricultural lands and construction of farm ponds in the lands of small farmers may be taken up in the larger interests of enhancing agricultural production in various regions. Such kinds of work may be taken up with matching financial contributions of the land owners.4) Panchayat should be allowed to take up works involving material cost (even if it exceeds the prescribed limit) as one cannot always find labor-intensive works in certain pockets of districts and the state.

Jeyshree *et al.* (2010) reported that a separate staff should be appointed at the district as well as at union level for effective implementation of the programme and also reported that wage rate should be increased in relation to inflation rate weekly wage payment should be adopted. Awareness among target group should be improved. In some cases, there is non availability and irregular supply of workers, to ensure that regular supply of labour.

Garg and Yadav (2010) suggested some of the following 1. There should be a separate set-up to carry out the work under the MGREGA scheme at District, Block and Gram Panchayat Levels. 2. States should ensure more publicity at the grassroot level in particular through displays at Panchayat Ghars and implementing agencies so as to ensure adequate involvement of Gram Sabha. 3. Use of ICT (information and Communication Technology) intervention must be initiated in the implementation of MGNREGA everywhere for communication and mobilization, planning, monitoring and grievance redressal system. 4. Both the Act and the operational Guidelines stipulate that under no circumstances shall the labourers be paid less than the minimum wages. Non-payment of minimum wage or delayed payment of wages is a violation of MGNREG Act. The offenders need to be indentified and punished in terms of provision of the Act.

From the above study observed that the common suggestions expressed by the beneficiaries were 100 days of employment per adult member per household instead of per household. Works should be suspended during peak agricultural season.



## *MATERIAL AND METHODS*

### **III. MATERIAL AND METHODS**

The material and methods used in the present study are presented in the following headings:

3.1. Locale of the study

3.2. Selection of taluks and Panchayats

3.3. Selection of respondents

3.4. Research design

3.5. Variables and measurement tools employed in the study

3.6. Measurement of variables

3.6.1. Measurement of dependent variables

3.6.2. Measurement of independent variables

3.7. Developing interview schedule

3.6. Data collection

3.7. Statistical tools employed for analysis of data

#### **3.1 Locale of the study**

##### **General characteristics of the study area**

The present study was undertaken in Tumkur District of Karnataka state during the year 2010-11. Tumkur district is situated between 12°45' N to 14°20' N latitudes and 76°20' E to 77°31' E longitudes. It covers an area of 10648 sq. km. Tumkur district has an average elevation of 822 metres (2696 feet) from the mean sea level. It

is situated at a distance of 70 kilometers north west of Bangalore city along National Highway number 4.

The district covers a total geographical area of 12,93,382 hectares of which 45,177 hectares constitutes the forest land. The net cultivable land is 5.27 lakh hectares and of this 2,51 lakh hectares of land is irrigated. A part of command area of the Hemavathy project falls in Tumkur district. There are two medium projects namely Marconahalli reservoir (Kunigal taluk) and Sri Gayatri reservoir (Hiriyur taluk and Chitradurga District) irrigating parts of C.N.Halli taluk irrigating 4610 and 1210 ha. of land respectively. There are 1,462 minor irrigation tanks in the district irrigating 57,132 ha. of land. The Hemavathy project which on completion is expected to irrigate 2,37, 00 acres of land in Tumkur district out of 5,82,687 hectares of net area sown. An area of 2,470 hectares was irrigated by canal in the district. There are 13,585 dug wells and 77,064 bore wells in the district, area irrigated by them is 2,680 and 1,17,246 hectares respectively. The climatic conditions of the district are favourable to grow a variety of crops like paddy, jowar, ragi, pulses and groundnut. The district can be divided into three major agro-climatic zones: the central dry zone comprising of 7 taluks, namely, Madhugiri, Pavagada, Sira, Koratage, Arasikere, Tiptur and Chikanakanahalli. Tumkur and Gubbi taluks comes under eastern dry zone and Kunigel is a part of southern dry zone. Soil is red sandy loam in most of the areas of the district. The annual rainfall ranges from 450mm to 888 mm in dry zones. The average annual rainfall of the district is 540.7 mm. The temperatures start rising from january to peak in may, around 40° C is common. Thereafter it declines during the monsoon period. The humidity is lowest during the dry season and highest during the monsoon period. The annual potential evapotranspiration is over 1800 mm with monthly rates less than 100 mm during december and january and over 250 mm during may.

## **Demographic feature of the study area**

The total population in the district is around 2,681,449 (as per 2011 census), out of which rural population constitutes 20.78 lakhs. The Male population constitutes 13.54 lakhs and female population constitute 13.26 lakh. The sex ratio in the district is 979 females for every 1000 males. Population density is 253 per sq km. The district has 10 Taluks. The literacy rate is around 74.32 per cent and 80.05 per cent, 66.45 per cent are the male and female literacy rate. Tumkur district population constituted 4.39 percent of total Karnataka population.

### **3.1. Selection of the Taluks and Panchayats**

For the present study Tumkur District was selected purposively because of convenience of the researcher. Tumkur district consist of ten taluks, out of which four taluks viz., Tumkur, kunigal, Madugiri and Pavagada were selected based on highest budget allocation under MGNREGA. From each of these taluks two Grama Panchayat were selected based on same criteria of budget allocation (Fig. 1).

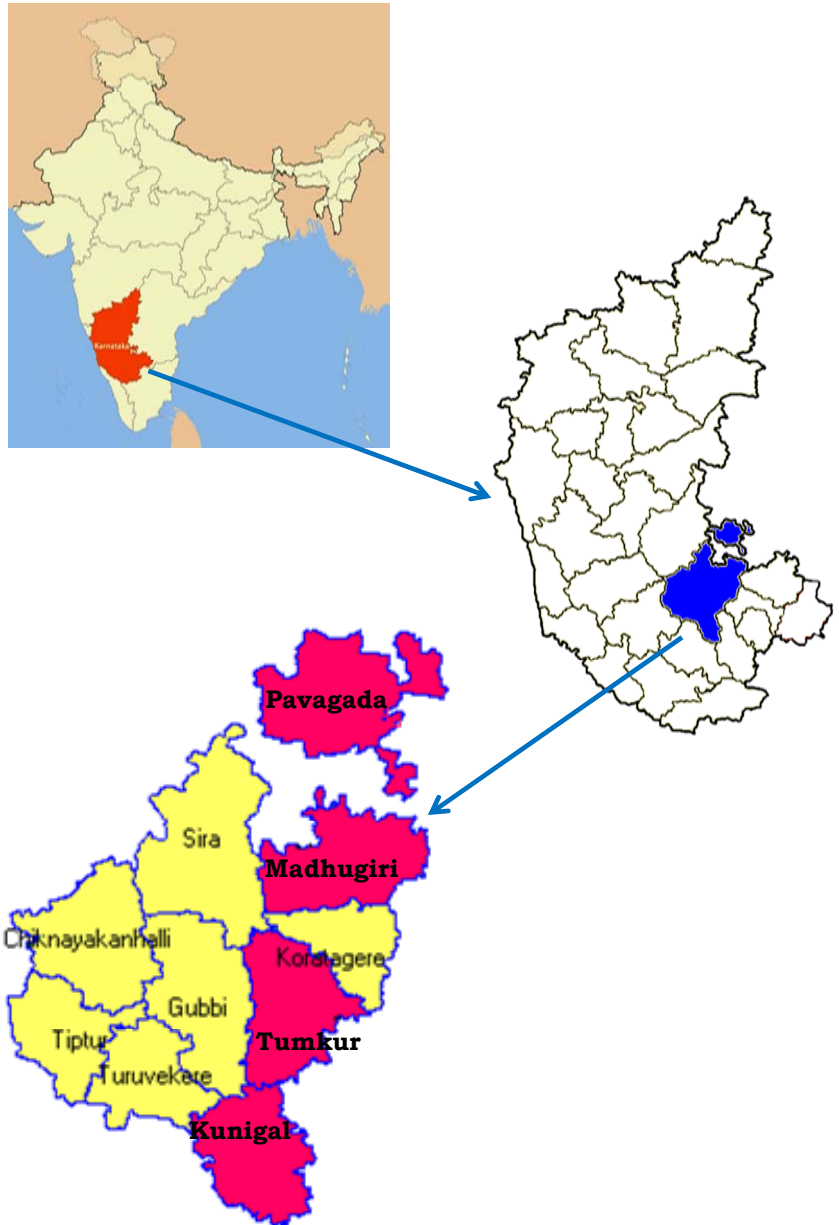


**Figure 1. Locale of the study**

### 3.3. Selection of respondents

From each of the selected Grama Panchayats fifteen farmers and farm women who possessed job card and created assets in their farm under MGNREGA were selected by applying simple random sampling technique. Thus, 120 respondents constitute the sample of the study. The name of the Grama Panchayats and distribution of respondents is presented in Table 3.2.

**Table 3.2. Grama Panchayats wise respondents selected for the study**

| <b>Taluks</b>               | <b>Grama Panchayat</b> | <b>No. of respondents</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tumkur                      | Bugudanahalli          | 15                        |
|                             | Belagumba              | 15                        |
| Kunigal                     | Baktharahalli          | 15                        |
|                             | Keggegre               | 15                        |
| Madugiri                    | Midigeshi              | 15                        |
|                             | Chennenahalli          | 15                        |
| Pavagada                    | Rangasamudra           | 15                        |
|                             | Nyadagunte             | 15                        |
| Total number of respondents |                        | 120                       |

### 3.4. Research design

“Ex-post facto” research design was employed in the present study. The Ex-post facto research design is defined as any systematic empirical inquiry in which the independent variables have not directly manipulated because they have already occurred or because they are inherently not manipulable. The independent variables considered in the study have already occurred and are not directly manipulated by the researcher. Keeping in view the adaptability of the proposed design with respect to the type of variables under consideration, sample size and the phenomenon to be studied, the selected design was considered to be appropriate.

### 3.5. Variables selected for the study and measurement tools employed

A total of 14 independent and three dependent variables were selected for the study. The variables and their empirical measurement are listed in the Table 3.3.

**Table 3.3. Variables and measurement tools employed**

| <b>Variables</b>             | <b>Empirical measurement</b>                                               |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Dependent variables</b>   |                                                                            |
| 1. Knowledge                 | Schedule developed for the study                                           |
| 2. Employment generation     | Schedule developed for the study                                           |
| 3. Assets creation           | Schedule developed for the study                                           |
| <b>Independent variables</b> |                                                                            |
| 1. Age                       | Chronological age of respondents in completed years at the time of enquiry |
| 2. Gender                    | Schedule developed for the study                                           |
| 3. Caste                     | Schedule developed for the study                                           |
| 4. Marital status            | Schedule developed for the study                                           |
| 5. Education                 | Scale developed by Trivedi (1963)                                          |

|                              |                                                      |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 6. Land holding              | Schedule developed for the study                     |
| 7. Occupation                | Schedule developed for the study                     |
| 8. Family type               | Procedure followed by Arulprakash (2004)             |
| 9. Family size               | Procedure followed by Usharani (1999)                |
| 10. Annual income            | Schedule developed for the study                     |
| 11. Urban contact            | Schedule developed by Somasundaram (1976)            |
| 12. Social participation     | Procedure followed by Trivedi (1963)                 |
| 13. Extension contact        | Schedule developed by Sahana (2003)                  |
| 14. Mass media participation | Procedure followed by Patil (1990) with modification |

### **3.6. Measurement of variables**

#### **3.6.1. Measurement of dependent variables**

##### **3.6.1.1. Knowledge level of the beneficiaries**

English and English (1958) defined knowledge as a body of information possessed by an individual which is in accordance with established fact.

Knowledge is a familiarity with someone or something, that can include facts, information, descriptions, and/or skills acquired through experience or education. It can refer to both theoretical or practical understanding of a subject.

In the present study knowledge refers to concepts, rules, regulations, activities and facilities of MGNREGA understood by the beneficiaries.

Knowledge test questions were carefully framed mainly on the basis of MGNREGA guidelines stipulated by the Government of India (GOI) during 2005. From this reference material a total of 30

appropriate knowledge components were prepared in consultation with programme officers (Taluk Panchayat), Panchayat Development officers (PDO) and Grama Panchayat Secretaries and extensional professionals of the University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore.

The knowledge level of beneficiaries was measured quantitatively on a two point scale – knowing or not knowing a particular facility or an activity or a rule related MGNREGA. The knowledge components included in the study are enclosed in Appendix I. The correct response was given a score of one and incorrect, zero.

The aggregate knowledge score of each respondent was obtained by adding respective score for each component. The maximum score one could get was 30 and minimum score was 0.

#### **3.6.1.2. Employment generation**

Employment is an activity in which one engages or the act of giving a job to someone.

In the present study employment generation refers to the creation of job opportunity for the beneficiaries households under MGNREGA. Employment generated in man days for a specific period of one year for MGNREGA beneficiaries households were worked out.

This variable was quantified using frequencies and percentages. Total employment generated to male and female beneficiaries households on community land and also on individual farm land for a financial year were worked out.

Employment generated for each assets created under both community and farm assets were worked out separately.

### **3.6.1.3 Assets creation**

International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) during 2006 defined that an asset is a resource controlled by the entity as a result of past events and from which future economic benefits are expected to flow to the entity. Or assets are probable future economic benefits obtained or controlled by a particular entity as a result of past transactions or event.

Assets are the valuable items that are owned by individual or a community. In the present study assets refers to the creation of valuable resources which helps to generate benefits to the rural community as well as individual farmers.

### **3.6.1.4. Farm assets**

Farm assets are valuable farm resources which generate benefits or income to the farmers. In the present study farm assets created under MGNREGA were worked out.

The total number of farm assets created under MGNREGA were quantified and expressed in terms of standard units. The procedure followed to quantify the assets created is given below. The number of farm assets created is expressed in terms of frequency and percentage.

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Farm assets</b>     | <b>Quantity</b> | <b>Units</b> |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1              | Horticultural planting | 10 plants       | 1            |
| 2              | Bunding                | 0.5 acres       | 1            |
| 3              | Land levelling         | 0.5 acres       | 1            |
| 4              | Farm pond construction | 1 No.           | 1            |

|   |                                       |                   |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 5 | Farm pond renovation                  | 2 No.             | 1 |
| 6 | Fodder crops                          | 0.25 acres        | 1 |
| 7 | Small irrigation channel construction | 10 m <sup>3</sup> | 1 |
| 8 | Tree plantation                       | 10 plants         | 1 |

For taking up each of the above eight farm assets creation activities one score was given. The minimum and maximum score was zero to eight respectively. The quality of assets created was quantified by assigning the following scores.

| Quality | Scores |
|---------|--------|
| Good    | 2      |
| Average | 1      |
| Poor    | 0      |

#### **3.6.1.5. Community assets**

Community assets are the valuable resource which helps to generate benefits to the rural community.

In the present study all the community assets created under MGNREGA in the study area were enlisted by utilizing the secondary sources of information.

To make meaningful understanding about assets creation, in consultation with civil engineers each assets created were expressed in terms of standard units. The community assets created under MGNREGA were quantified in terms of units by equating the amount of work turned out in creating a assets by utilizing ten man days as one unit of assets created. Accurately community assets created were quantified as per the details shown in the table below.

| <b>SL NO</b> | <b>Community assets</b>                         | <b>Man days</b> | <b>Quantity</b>    | <b>Units</b> |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1            | Road works                                      |                 | -                  | -            |
|              | a. Formation of new earthen road                | 10              | 500 m <sup>2</sup> | 1            |
|              | b. Formation of metling road                    | 10              | 225 m <sup>2</sup> | 1            |
|              | c. Only application of metlings on earthen road | 10              | 750 m <sup>2</sup> | 1            |
| 2            | Drainage works                                  |                 | -                  | -            |
|              | a. Earthen drainage                             | 10              | 15 m <sup>3</sup>  | 1            |
|              | b. Concrete/stone stab drainage                 | 10              | 10 m <sup>3</sup>  | 1            |
|              | c. Cleaning of earthen drainage                 | 10              | 40 m <sup>3</sup>  | 1            |
|              | d. Cleaning of concrete/stone stab drainage     | 10              | 20 m <sup>3</sup>  | 1            |
| 3            | Irrigation channel                              |                 | -                  | -            |
|              | a. Digging of irrigation channel                | 10              | 10 m <sup>3</sup>  | 1            |
|              | b. Cleaning of irrigation channel               | 10              | 20 m <sup>3</sup>  | 1            |
| 4            | Check dam construction                          | 10              | 5 m <sup>3</sup>   | 1            |
| 5            | Check dam renovation                            | 10              | 10 m <sup>3</sup>  | 1            |
| 6            | Desiltation of tanks                            | 10              | 5 m <sup>3</sup>   | 1            |
| 7            | Community pond cleaning                         | 10              | 100 m <sup>2</sup> | 1            |
| 8            | Afforestation and tree plantation               | 10              | 0.25 Ac.           | 1            |
| 9            | Community building                              | 10              | 100 m <sup>2</sup> | 1            |
| 10           | Compound construction works                     | 10              | 100 m <sup>2</sup> | 1            |

The beneficiaries participated in each of the community works a score of one was given, accordingly a minimum of zero and maximum of ten score were assigned. The participation of the beneficiaries expressed in terms of frequency and percentage. The quality of assets created worked out by giving following scores.

| <b>Quality</b> | <b>Scores</b> |
|----------------|---------------|
| Good           | 2             |
| Average        | 1             |
| Poor           | 0             |

### **3.6.2. Measurement of independent variables**

#### **3.6.2.1 Age**

Age was measured in terms of number of chronological years completed by a respondent at the time of investigation. Depending upon the age of individual they were grouped into the three categories as follows.

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Age in years</b> |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Young           | 18- 35 years        |
| Middle          | 36 to 50 years      |
| Old             | Above 50 years      |

#### **3.6.2.2. Gender**

The respondents were classified into two groups i.e. male and female. This variable was quantified as per the score given below.

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Male            | 1            |
| Female          | 2            |

#### **3.6.2.3. Marital status**

Based on marital status, the respondents were classified into married and unmarried. The scoring followed is as follows.

| <b>Category</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Married         | 1            |
| Unmarried       | 2            |

#### **3.6.2.4. Caste**

Caste refers to the status an individual farmer enjoyed in the society by virtue of belonging to a particular caste and as per government notification. The caste of respondents was quantified and scores were assigned as detailed below.

| Caste   | Score |
|---------|-------|
| SC/ST   | 1     |
| OBC     | 2     |
| General | 3     |

#### **3.6.2.5. Education**

It refers to the number of years of formal education acquired by the respondent. In this study, the scale developed by Trivedi (1963) was used with slight modification to measure the educational status. The scoring pattern was as follows.

| Sl.No. | Level of education | Scores |
|--------|--------------------|--------|
| 1      | Illiterate         | 0      |
| 2      | Primary school     | 1      |
| 3      | Middle school      | 2      |
| 4      | High school        | 3      |
| 5      | P U C              | 4      |
| 6      | Degree and above   | 5      |

The results were expressed in frequency and percentages.

#### **3.6.2.6. Land holding**

The extent of land actually possessed by the farmers was recorded and this was converted in to standard acres based on Karnataka land reforms act 38 of 1966. According to this act, one acre of garden and wet land was considered equal to 2.50 acres of dry land

(source- Agricultural census 2005-2006, Directorate of economics and statistics). The scores were assigned as per the details given below.

| <b>Category</b>     | <b>Land holding</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Marginal Farmers    | ≤ 2.5 acres         | 1            |
| Small Farmers       | 2.51 – 5.0 acres    | 2            |
| Semi medium farmers | 5.0 -10.0 acres     | 3            |
| Medium farmers      | 10.0-25.0 acres     | 4            |
| Big farmers         | >25.0 acres         | 5            |

### **3.6.2.7. Occupation**

This was operationalised as the activities in which the farmers and their family are regularly engaged and generate income out of it to met the family expenditure.

The scoring procedure is given below.

| <b>Occupation</b> | <b>Scores</b> |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Agriculture       | 1             |
| Subsidiary        | 1             |

### **3.6.2.8. Family type**

Respondents were categorized as either nuclear or joint family. Further, the results were expressed in frequency and percentages

| <b>Categories</b> | <b>Operational definitions</b>                                                             |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nuclear family    | Nuclear family means living with father and mother or with son and daughter                |
| Joint family      | Joint family means living with father, mother, aunt, uncle, grandfather, grandmother etc., |

| <b>Family type</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Nuclear family     | 1            |
| Joint family       | 2            |

#### **3.6.2.9. Family size**

The family taken as a group of closely related persons living together in a single household with a common kitchen. It was measured as the absolute number of members in the household sharing the same economic unit. Beneficiary families were classified into two categories. This procedure was followed by Usha rani (1999)

| <b>Family size</b> | <b>Number</b> |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Small family       | 5 and below   |
| Big family         | Above 5       |

| <b>Family type</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Small family       | 1            |
| Big family         | 2            |

#### **3.6.2.10. Annual income**

It was operationally defined as total income earned by the beneficiaries from both agriculture and allied activities in one year expressed by them in rupees. The beneficiaries were grouped into two as per the norms followed by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India in delineating the poverty line (No.Q-16015/2/2009 (economic and monitoring wing))

Based on annual income of the beneficiary family were categorized into family below poverty line (BPL) and family above poverty line (APL). Further, the above poverty line families were grouped into creamy layer and non creamy layer. The actual income obtained in rupees were used to measure this variable.

| <b>Category</b>           | <b>Income limit</b>    |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Below Poverty Line (BPL)  | Up to Rs. 11,000       |
| Above Poverty Line ( APL) |                        |
| 1. Non creamy layer       | Rs.11,000 – 2,50,000   |
| 2. Creamy layer           | More than Rs. 2,50,000 |

### **3.6.2.11. Urban contact**

Urban contact was operationlized as the frequency of visits made by a farmer to nearby towns and cities in a year. The scores given by Somasundaram (1976) was followed in this study. The scoring pattern is as follows. Accordingly an individual was given a minimum of zero and a maximum of 13 scores.

| <b>Sl.No.</b> | <b>Questions</b>                             | <b>Response</b>                                                                                           | <b>Scores</b>                              |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1             | Have you ever visited nearby towns or cities | Yes<br>No                                                                                                 | 1<br>0                                     |
| 2             | How often do you visited towns or cities     | Daily<br>Thrice a week<br>Weekly<br>Fortnightly<br>Monthly<br>Quarterly<br>Half yearly<br>Yearly<br>Never | 11<br>9<br>7<br>6<br>5<br>3<br>2<br>1<br>0 |
| 3             | Purpose of visit                             | Agricultural<br>Non agricultural                                                                          | 1<br>0                                     |

### **3.6.2.12. Social participation**

It is the degree of involvement of the respondents from mere membership to organisational position and their active participation in the activities of local formal organisations like, Grama Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat, Zilla Panchayat, Co-operative society and others. This was quantified by using the method suggested by Trivedi (1963) with suitable changes in the items and weightage. The data collected on membership and extent of participation in an organisation. The minimum and maximum score was 0 to 42, respectively.

| <b>Items</b> |                                             | <b>Scores</b> |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------|
| .            | Membership/Office bearer                    |               |
|              | i) Member of an organisation                | 1             |
|              | ii) Office bearer of an organisation        | 2             |
| .            | Extent of participation in the organisation |               |
|              | i) Never                                    | 0             |
|              | ii) Often                                   | 1             |
|              | iii) Occasional                             | 2             |
|              | iii) Regular                                | 3             |

### **3.6.2.13. Extension contact**

This was operationally defined as the degree of contacts made by the farmers with different extension workers in order to seek information of different enterprises and marketing. This procedure was followed by Sahana (2003).

| <b>Extension Contact</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Regularly                | 3            |
| Occasionally             | 2            |
| Often                    | 1            |
| Never                    | 0            |

The maximum and minimum scores obtained were 27 and 0, respectively.

#### **3.6.2.14. Mass media participation**

It referred to the participation of individuals in different mass communication media related activities such as listening to radio, viewing television and reading newspapers.

The quantification of mass media participation was done according to the procedure followed by Patil (1990).

| <b>Subscription/Ownership</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Subscriber/owning             | 1            |
| Non-subscriber/not owning     | 0            |

| <b>Participation</b> | <b>Score</b> |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Regular              | 2            |
| Occasional           | 1            |
| Never                | 0            |

The possible maximum and minimum score for each respondent were 20 and 0. Higher score reveals greater participation in mass media by the respondent.

### **3.7. Developing interview schedule**

In consideration of the scope and objectives of the study, a draft interview schedule was prepared on perusal of the available literature and in consultation with Programme officers (Taluk Panchayat), Panchayat Development Officers (PDOs), Grama Panchayat secretaries and extension functionaries in the Agricultural University. After incorporating suggestions of the experts, a well structured interview schedule was finalized. It was pre-tested in non sample area for its reliability and validity. After pre-testing necessary changes were incorporated in the schedule. A final form of interview schedule is given in Appendix-I.

### **3.8. Collection of data**

Data were collected with help of pre-tested schedule by employing personal interview method and PRA technique in an informal atmosphere at the work place.

### **3.9. Statistical tools employed for analysis of data**

Appropriate statistical tools were used for analyzing the data of investigation. The data collected from the respondents were scored, tabulated and analysed using the following statistical tools and techniques.

#### **Mean**

Sum of observed values of a set divided by the number of observations in the set is called a mean or an average.

#### **Standard deviation**

The positive square root of the variance is called standard deviation. It explains the average amount of variation on either side of

the mean. Mean and  $\frac{1}{2}$  SD was used to categorize the respondents into low, medium and high groups.

### **Percentage (%)**

Percentages were used for simple comparison.

### **Correlation test**

Simple correlation test was used to find out the nature of relationship between independent variables and dependent variables.

### **Multiple Linear Regressions:**

This test was employed to know the nature and extent of effect on the dependent variables, which is caused by the independent variables. Further,  $R^2$  was used to assess the level of contribution between the variables under study.

### Independent Variables

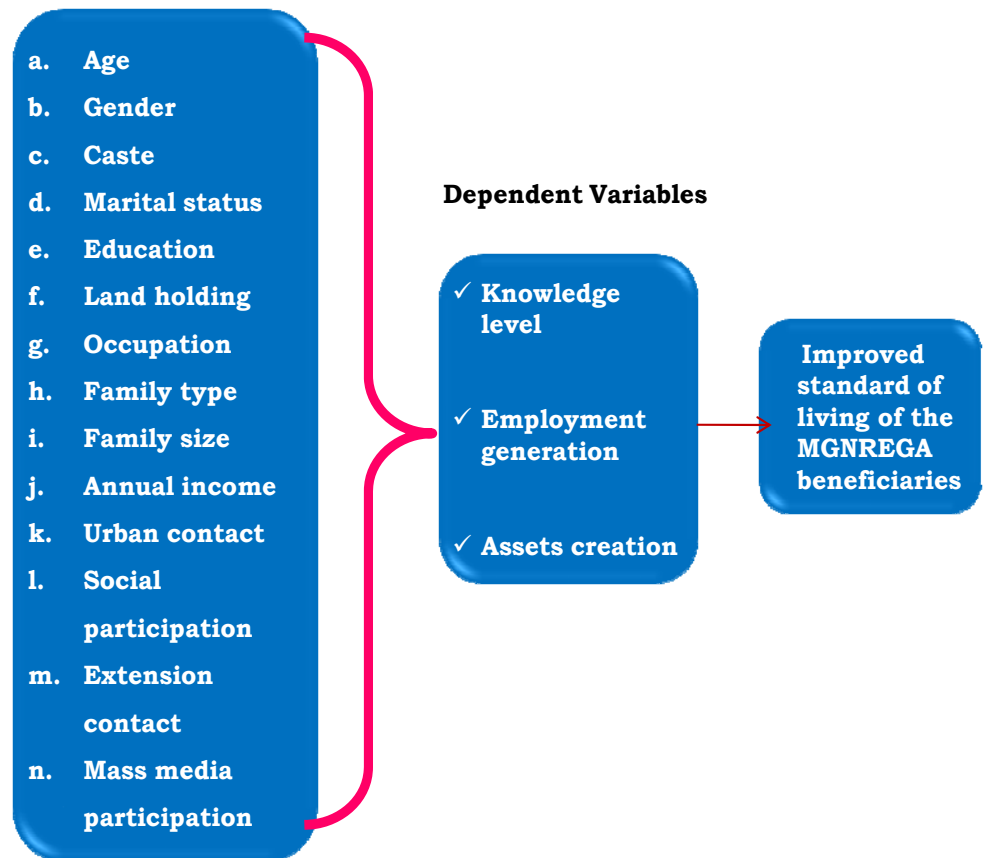


**Figure 2. Conceptual Research Frame of the study**



## **IV. RESULTS**

This chapter deals with the results of the present study. The findings have been presented on the basis of analysis of data using relevant statistical tools and techniques in relation to the specific objectives of the study. The results of the study are presented under the following sub headings:

- 4.1.1.** Socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries
- 4.1.2.** Knowledge of beneficiaries about MGNREGA
- 4.1.3.** Employment generation under MGNREGA
- 4.1.4.** Assets created on the farms of beneficiaries under MGNREGA
- 4.1.5.** Community assets created in the village under MGNREGA
- 4.1.6.** Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA.
- 4.1.7.** Contribution of socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries to knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA.
- 4.1.8.** Constraints experienced by the MGNREGA beneficiaries
- 4.1.9.** Suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA.

### **4.1 Socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries**

The data in Table 1 depicts the socio-economic and psychological characteristics of MGNREGA beneficiaries. The results are presented under the following paragraphs.

#### **4.1.1. Age**

It is found that half (50.00 %) of the beneficiaries were under middle age category followed by old (35.83 %) and young (14.17 %) age categories.

#### **4.1.2. Gender**

Majority (68.33 %) of the beneficiaries were male and 31.67 per cent of the beneficiaries were female.

#### **4.1.3. Marital status**

The table shows that a great majority (97.50 %) of the beneficiaries were married and remaining 2.50 percent were unmarried.

#### **4.1.4. Caste**

It could be seen from the table that about 53.33 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to Other Backward Castes (OBCs) and 36.67 per cent beneficiaries belonged to Scheduled Castes (SCs)/ Scheduled Tribes (STs) followed by General castes (10.00%).

#### **4.1.5. Education**

It is clear from table that about 33.33 per cent of the beneficiaries were completed primary school, 27.50 per cent of the beneficiaries had middle school education, 14.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were illiterate, 13.33 per cent of the beneficiaries completed high school education, another 6.67 per cent of the beneficiaries had pre-university education and only 5.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were completed graduation.

**Table 1. Socio-economic and psychological profile of the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

**n=120**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Characteristics</b> | <b>Category</b>                                                                                                                                | <b>Frequency</b>                      | <b>Per cent</b>                                            |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1.</b>      | <b>Age</b>             | Young (18-35)<br>Middle (36-50)<br>Old (>50)                                                                                                   | 17<br>60<br>43                        | 14.17<br>50.00<br>35.83                                    |
| <b>2.</b>      | <b>Gender</b>          | Male<br>Female                                                                                                                                 | 82<br>38                              | 68.33<br>31.67                                             |
| <b>3.</b>      | <b>Marital status</b>  | Married<br>Unmarried                                                                                                                           | 117<br>3                              | 97.50<br>2.50                                              |
| <b>4.</b>      | <b>Caste</b>           | SC /ST<br>OBC<br>General                                                                                                                       | 44<br>64<br>12                        | 36.67<br>53.33<br>10.00                                    |
| <b>5.</b>      | <b>Education level</b> | Illiterate<br>Primary school<br>Middle school<br>High school<br>PUC<br>Graduation                                                              | 17<br>40<br>33<br>16<br>8<br>6        | 14.17<br>33.33<br>27.50<br>13.33<br>6.67<br>5.00           |
| <b>6.</b>      | <b>Land holding</b>    | Marginal farmers (<2.5 Ac)<br>Small farmers (2.5-5 Ac)<br>Semi medium farmers (5-10 Ac)                                                        | 12<br>74<br>34                        | 10.00<br>61.67<br>28.33                                    |
| <b>7.</b>      | <b>Occupation</b>      | <b>a. Agriculture</b><br><b>b. Subsidiary occupation</b><br>Dairy<br>Poultry<br>Seep and goat raring<br>Sericulture<br>Others<br>No occupation | 120<br>42<br>1<br>20<br>23<br>3<br>31 | 100.00<br>35.00<br>0.83<br>16.66<br>19.16<br>2.50<br>25.83 |
| <b>8.</b>      | <b>Family type</b>     | Nuclear<br>Joint family                                                                                                                        | 91<br>29                              | 75.83<br>24.17                                             |
| <b>9.</b>      | <b>Family size</b>     | Small family (up to 5)<br>Big family (above 5)                                                                                                 | 82<br>38                              | 68.33<br>31.67                                             |
| <b>10.</b>     | <b>Annual income</b>   | <b>Below Poverty Line (&lt; 11,000)</b><br><b>Above Poverty Line (APL)</b><br>Non creamy layer(11000- 2.5 lakh)<br>Creamy layer (>2.5 lakh)    | 31<br>89<br>0                         | 25.83<br>74.17<br>0.00                                     |

#### **4.1.6. Land holding**

It is evident from table that majority (61.67 %) of beneficiaries were small farmers followed by 28.33 per cent of beneficiaries were semi medium farmers and 12.00 per cent were marginal farmers.

#### **4.1.7. Occupation**

It could be observed from the table that cent per cent of the beneficiaries main occupation was agriculture and dairy was the major subsidiary occupation (47.19 %). Whereas, 25.83 per cent of the beneficiaries had no subsidiary occupation. While, 19.16 per cent of the beneficiaries had sericulture as the subsidiary occupation followed by sheep and goat rearing (22.47 %), and other occupation (3.37 %) like pretty shop and business and poultry (1.12 %) was the least subsidiary occupation.

#### **4.1.8. Family type**

It can be noticed from the table that 75.83 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to nuclear family whereas 24.17 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to joint family.

#### **4.1.9. Family size**

A cursory look at table indicates that majority (68.33 %) of the beneficiaries belonged to small family followed by big family (31.67%).

#### **4.1.10. Annual income**

Glance at the table indicates that majority of the beneficiaries belong to the non creamy layer of APL family (74.17 %) and remaining 25.83 per cent of the beneficiaries belong to the BPL family.

#### **4.1.11. Urban contact**

It is evident from the Table 1.1 that cent per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns and with regard to period of visit, about 30.00 per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns once in month followed by fortnightly (25.83 %), weekly (22.50 %), thrice a week (15.83 %), daily (3.33 %) and least number of the beneficiaries visited nearest town quarterly (2.50 %). Further, majority (69.17 %) of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns for agricultural purpose either to seek information on agriculture or to sell their agricultural produce and remaining 30.83 per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns for non agricultural purpose.

#### **4.1.12. Social participation**

The result presented in Table 1.2 indicated that, 14.17 per cent beneficiaries were the members of Self Help Groups, Gram Panchayat (4.17 %), Co-operative Society (7.50 %), Farmers Association (2.50 %) and Taluk Panchayat (1.67 %).

With regard to extent of participation in social institutions, 26.67 per cent of the beneficiaries participated in Co-operative Society activities regularly, 25.83 per cent in Grama Panchayat and only 7.50 and 6.67 per cent of the beneficiaries regularly took part in Self Help Group and Taluk Panchayat activities, respectively and least number (1.67 %) of beneficiaries participated regularly in Farmers Association activities. About 24.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were oftenly participated in Grama Panchayat, Self Help Group (19.17 %) and equal per cent (15.00 %) in Taluk Panchayat and Co-operative society activities and least number of beneficiaries took part in Zilla Panchayat (1.67 %) and Farmers association activities (2.50 %). About 30.83 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasionally participated in Grama Panchayat, Self Help Group (19.17 %) and least number of beneficiaries participated in Farmers association activities (5.00 %).

**Table 1.1. Urban contact of MGNREGA beneficiaries****n= 120**

| <b>Urban Contact</b>            |     | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1. Visited to near towns</b> | Yes | 120              | 100               |
|                                 | No  | 0                | 0                 |
| <b>2. Period of visits</b>      |     |                  |                   |
| a. Daily                        |     | 4                | 3.33              |
| b. thrice a week                |     | 19               | 15.83             |
| c. weekly                       |     | 27               | 22.50             |
| d. fortnightly                  |     | 31               | 25.83             |
| e. monthly                      |     | 36               | 30.00             |
| f. quarterly                    |     | 3                | 2.50              |
| <b>3. Purpose of visit</b>      |     |                  |                   |
| a. Agricultural                 |     | 83               | 69.17             |
| b. Non Agricultural             |     | 37               | 30.83             |

**Table 1.2. Social participation of MGNREGA beneficiaries****n=120**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name of the organization</b> | <b>Membership</b> |          |                      |          | <b>Extent of participation in educational activities</b> |          |              |          |                   |          |              |          |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|--------------|----------|
|                |                                 | <b>Member</b>     |          | <b>Office bearer</b> |          | <b>Regular</b>                                           |          | <b>Often</b> |          | <b>Occasional</b> |          | <b>Never</b> |          |
|                |                                 | <b>No.</b>        | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>           | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>                                               | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>   | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>        | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>   | <b>%</b> |
| 1              | Grama Panchayat                 | 5                 | 4.17     | 2                    | 1.67     | 31                                                       | 25.83    | 29           | 24.17    | 37                | 30.83    | 23           | 19.17    |
| 2              | Taluk Panchayat                 | 2                 | 1.67     | 1                    | 0.83     | 8                                                        | 6.67     | 18           | 15.00    | 20                | 16.67    | 74           | 61.67    |
| 3              | Zilla Panchayat                 | 0                 | 0.00     | 0                    | 0.00     | 0                                                        | 0.00     | 2            | 1.67     | 7                 | 5.83     | 111          | 92.50    |
| 4              | Farmers association             | 3                 | 2.50     | 0                    | 0.00     | 2                                                        | 1.67     | 3            | 2.50     | 6                 | 5.00     | 109          | 90.83    |
| 5              | Co-operative Society            | 9                 | 7.50     | 4                    | 3.33     | 32                                                       | 26.67    | 18           | 15.00    | 17                | 14.17    | 53           | 44.17    |
| 6              | SHG                             | 17                | 14.17    | 3                    | 2.50     | 9                                                        | 7.50     | 23           | 19.17    | 19                | 15.83    | 69           | 57.50    |
| 7              | Youth club                      | 0                 | 0.00     | 0                    | 0.00     | 0                                                        | 0.00     | 5            | 4.17     | 9                 | 7.50     | 106          | 88.33    |

Majority of the beneficiaries never participated in the educational activities organized by the Zilla Panchayat (92.50 %), Farmers association (90.83 %) and youth club (88.33 %).

#### **4.1.13. Extension contact**

Table 1.3 reveals that about 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries contacted Gram Panchayat Members regularly to obtain information about MGNREGA. Whereas, 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries oftenly contacted to the Gram Panchayat Secretary and Gram Panchayat President by 42.50 per cent of the beneficiaries and Panchayat Development Officer was contacted by 34.17 per cent of the beneficiaries. Whereas, 47.50 per cent of the beneficiaries contacted Assistant Agriculture Officer (AAO) occasionally, 75.83 per cent of the beneficiaries never contacted Executive Officer (EO), 43.33 per cent of the beneficiaries contacted Agriculture Officer (AO) occasionally and 63.33 per cent and 89.19 per cent of the beneficiaries never contacted Assistant Horticulture Officer (AHO) and Krushi Vignana Kendra (KVK), respectively.

#### **4.1.14. Mass media participation**

The data in the Table 1.4 depicts the detailed analysis of mass media participation of the beneficiaries. Radio was possessed by 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries and among them 44.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasional listeners and 30.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular listeners of radio programmes. Television was possessed by 65.00 per cent of the beneficiaries and from among them 44.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular viewers and 35.83 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasional viewers of TV programmes.

**Table 1.3. Extension contact of MGNREGA beneficiaries****n=120**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Source</b>                        | <b>Frequency of contact</b> |          |              |          |                   |          |              |          |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------------|----------|--------------|----------|
|                |                                      | <b>Regular</b>              |          | <b>Often</b> |          | <b>Occasional</b> |          | <b>Never</b> |          |
|                |                                      | <b>No.</b>                  | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>   | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>        | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>   | <b>%</b> |
| 1              | Gram Panchayath Members              | 47                          | 39.17    | 39           | 32.50    | 34                | 28.33    | 0            | 0.00     |
| 2              | Gram Panchayath Secretary            | 32                          | 26.67    | 47           | 39.17    | 41                | 34.17    | 0            | 0.00     |
| 3              | Gram Panchayath Chairman             | 37                          | 30.83    | 51           | 42.50    | 27                | 22.50    | 5            | 4.17     |
| 4              | Panchayath Development Officer (PDO) | 21                          | 17.50    | 41           | 34.17    | 35                | 29.17    | 23           | 19.17    |
| 5              | Assistant Agriculture Officer (AAO)  | 8                           | 6.67     | 42           | 35.00    | 57                | 47.50    | 12           | 10.00    |
| 6              | Executive Officer (EO)               | 1                           | 0.83     | 3            | 2.50     | 25                | 20.83    | 91           | 75.83    |
| 7              | Agriculture Officer (AO)             | 2                           | 1.67     | 19           | 15.83    | 52                | 43.33    | 48           | 40.00    |
| 8              | Assistant Horticulture Officer (AHO) | 7                           | 5.83     | 13           | 10.83    | 24                | 20.00    | 76           | 63.33    |
| 9              | Krushi Vignana Kendra (KVK) (SMS's)  | 0                           | 0.00     | 0            | 0.00     | 13                | 10.83    | 10           | 89.17    |

**Table 1.4. Mass media participation of MGNREGA beneficiaries****n=120**

| <b>Sl.<br/>No.</b> | <b>Source</b>                       | <b>Subscriber<br/>/ owner</b> |          | <b>Listening/ viewing/ reading habit</b> |          |                   |          |              |          |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|--------------|----------|
|                    |                                     |                               |          | <b>Regular</b>                           |          | <b>Occasional</b> |          | <b>Never</b> |          |
|                    |                                     | <b>No.</b>                    | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>                               | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>        | <b>%</b> | <b>No.</b>   | <b>%</b> |
| 1                  | Radio                               | 47                            | 39.17    | 36                                       | 30.00    | 53                | 44.17    | 31           | 25.83    |
| 2                  | Television                          | 78                            | 65.00    | 53                                       | 44.17    | 43                | 35.83    | 24           | 20.00    |
| 3                  | Newspaper                           | 17                            | 14.17    | 15                                       | 12.50    | 23                | 19.17    | 82           | 68.33    |
| 4                  | Magazines/<br>journals              | 3                             | 2.50     | 2                                        | 1.67     | 17                | 14.17    | 101          | 84.17    |
| 5                  | Wall<br>writing                     | -                             | -        | 39                                       | 32.50    | 47                | 39.17    | 34           | 28.33    |
| 6                  | Hand bills                          | -                             | -        | 12                                       | 10.00    | 28                | 23.33    | 80           | 66.67    |
| 7                  | Public<br>Adress<br>System<br>(PAS) | -                             | -        | 9                                        | 7.50     | 16                | 13.33    | 95           | 79.17    |
| 8                  | Public<br>meeting                   | -                             | -        | 11                                       | 9.16     | 30                | 25.00    | 79           | 65.83    |

Newspaper was subscribed by 14.17 per cent of the beneficiaries and among them 12.50 per cent of beneficiaries were regular readers of newspaper and majority (68.33%) of the beneficiaries had no subscription to the newspaper. Magazines were subscribed by only 2.50 per cent of the beneficiaries and among them 1.67 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular readers of magazines and majority (84.17%) of the beneficiaries have not subscribed to magazines.

About 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries occasionally get the information from wall writing and 32.50 per cent of the beneficiaries regularly get the information and 28.33 per cent of the beneficiaries never get the information from wall writing. Majority (66.67 %) of the beneficiaries never have reading habit of hand bills and only 23.33 per cent of the beneficiaries have occasional reading habit. Majority (79.17%) of the beneficiaries never acquire the information from PAS and only 13.33 per cent of the beneficiaries occasionally get the information from PAS. About 65.83 per cent of the beneficiaries never get the information and only three by fourth (25.00%) of the beneficiaries occasionally get the information from public meeting and least number (9.16%) of the beneficiaries regularly gets the information.

#### **4.1 Knowledge of beneficiaries about MGNREGA**

##### **4.2.1. Item wise Knowledge of beneficiaries about MGNREGA**

The results presented in Table 2 depicts item wise analysis of knowledge level of beneficiaries about MGNREGA. Cent per cent of the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'objective of MGNREGA providing 100 days of wage employment' 'adult members of rural household are eligible beneficiaries of MGNREGA' and 'equal wages for men & women'. Equal percentage (99.16 %) of beneficiaries had knowledge about items like 'job card application must be submitted to Grama Panchyat' 'wages are paid

**Table 2. Knowledge level of the beneficiaries about MGNREGA****n=120**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Knowledge components</b>                                                 | <b>Beneficiaries having correct knowledge</b> |                   |             |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
|                |                                                                             | <b>Frequency</b>                              | <b>Percentage</b> | <b>Rank</b> |
| 1              | Objective of MGNREGA is to provide a minimum of 100 days of wage employment | 120                                           | 100.00            | I           |
| 2              | Adult members of rural household are eligible beneficiaries of MGNREGA      | 120                                           | 100.00            | I           |
| 3              | Equal wages for men and women                                               | 120                                           | 100.00            | I           |
| 4              | Job card application must be submitted to Grama Panchyat (GP)               | 119                                           | 99.16             | II          |
| 5              | Wages are paid through post office/ bank                                    | 119                                           | 99.16             | II          |
| 6              | Wages are paid even if they work on their own farm lands                    | 119                                           | 99.16             | II          |
| 7              | GP identifies the beneficiaries of MGNREGA                                  | 118                                           | 98.33             | III         |
| 8              | Person below 18 years are not permitted to work under MGNREGA               | 117                                           | 97.50             | IV          |
| 9              | Bank account will be opened free of cost for the beneficiaries              | 116                                           | 96.66             | V           |
| 10             | Job cards are issued free of cost by the GP                                 | 112                                           | 93.33             | VI          |
| 11             | Machineries are not to be used                                              | 106                                           | 88.33             | VII         |
| 12             | 33.3 per cent of the beneficiaries should be women                          | 102                                           | 85.00             | VIII        |
| 13             | Grama Sabha (GP) will identify projects for the village                     | 98                                            | 81.67             | IX          |
| 14             | Workers will get wages of Rs.125 /day under MGNREGA                         | 98                                            | 81.67             | IX          |
| 15             | Contractors are not to be used                                              | 97                                            | 80.83             | X           |
| 16             | Works should be within 5 Km radius of the village                           | 93                                            | 77.50             | XI          |
| 17             | Job card should be issued within 15 days of submitting application          | 92                                            | 76.66             | XII         |
| 18             | The MGNREGA Grama Sabha meeting should be held at-least                     | 89                                            | 74.16             | XIII        |

|    |                                                                                                                                                 |    |       |       |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------|-------|
|    | every six months                                                                                                                                |    |       |       |
| 19 | Social audit has to be done by Gram Sabha                                                                                                       | 88 | 73.33 | XIV   |
| 20 | Employment has to be given within 15 days of submitting application for work                                                                    | 87 | 72.50 | XV    |
| 21 | Wage Payment should be on weekly basis                                                                                                          | 81 | 67.50 | XVI   |
| 22 | Medical assistance must be provided at the worksite                                                                                             | 67 | 55.83 | XVII  |
| 23 | Beneficiaries are entitled to get unemployment allowance                                                                                        | 65 | 54.16 | XVIII |
| 24 | Child care facilities should be provided                                                                                                        | 63 | 52.50 | XIX   |
| 25 | In social audit forum verify the financial expenditure, quality of work                                                                         | 49 | 40.83 | XX    |
| 26 | Local Vigilance and Monitoring Committee(LVMC) has been constituted to look after MGNREGA works                                                 | 43 | 35.83 | XXI   |
| 27 | Public can obtain MGNREGA information under Right to Information Act                                                                            | 41 | 34.16 | XXII  |
| 28 | Beneficiaries will get unemployment allowance 25 per cent of the wage rate up to 30 days and 50 per cent for remaining period of financial year | 30 | 25.00 | XXIII |
| 29 | The Gram Sabha will elect the members of LVMC                                                                                                   | 18 | 15.00 | XXIV  |
| 30 | There should be 50 per cent of the members from among MGNREGA workers in LVMC                                                                   | 12 | 10.00 | XXV   |

even if they work on their own farm lands' and 'wages are paid through post office/ bank'. Majority (98.33 %) of the beneficiaries had knowledge about components like 'Grama Panchyat identifies the beneficiaries of MGNREGA' 'person below 18 year are not permitted to work under MGNREGA' (97.50 %), 'bank account will be opened free of cost for the beneficiaries' (96.66 %) and 'job cards are issued free of cost by the Grama Panchyat' (93.33 %).

About 88 per cent of the beneficiaries had information about knowledge items such as 'machineries are not allowed to work under MGNREGA' followed by '33.33 per cent should be women beneficiaries' (85.00 %) and equal percentage (81.67 %) of the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'workers will get wages of Rs.125 /day under MGNREGA' and 'Grama Sabha will identify Projects for the village'. Further, 80.83 per cent of the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'contractors are not allowed to work under MGNREGA' followed by 'works should be within 5 Km radius of the village' (77.50 %), 'job card should be issued within 15 days of submitting application' (76.66 %), 'the MGNREGA Grama Sabha meeting should be held at-least every six months to review all aspects of social audit' (74.16 %), 'social audit has to be done by Gram Sabha' (73.33 %) and 'employment has to be given within 15 days of submitting application for work' (72.50 %).

Around 67 per cent the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'payment of wages has to be given within 15 days of work and it should be provided on weekly basis' followed by 'medical assistance must be available at the worksite for injury if, any' (55.83 %), 'beneficiaries are entitled to get unemployment allowance incase Gram Panchayat fail to give employment within 15 days of application for work' (54.16 %), 'if more than five children under the age of six years are present, child care facilities should also be provided at work site' (52.50 %), 'social audit

forum verify the financial expenditure, examine the provision of entitlement, critically evaluate the quality of work as well as services of programme staff' (40.83 %), 'at Gram Panchayat level a Local Vigilance and Monitoring Committee(LVMC) has been constituted to look after MGNREGA works' (35.83 %), 'under Right to Information Act public can get information related to MGNREGA' (34.16 %), 'beneficiaries will get unemployment allowance 25.00 per cent of the wage rate up to 30 days and for 50.00 per cent for remaining period of financial year' (25.00%), 'the Gram Sabha will elect the members of LVMC and priority should be given to SC/ ST and women' (15.00 %) and 'there should be 50.00 per cent of the members from among MGNREGA workers in LVMC' (10.00 %).

#### **4.3. Employment generation under MGNREGA during the year 2008-09**

An examination of Table 3 reveals that about 19 per cent of the beneficiaries households were employed for 91-100 man days in a year 2008-09 and 23.33 per cent of the beneficiaries households were employed for 71-80 man days. Further it is observed that 16.17 per cent of the beneficiaries household were employed for 61-70 man days followed by 51-60 man days (13.33 %), 81-90 man days (11.76 %), 41-50 man days (8.33 %), 31-40 man days (5.00 %) and least number (2.50 %) of the beneficiaries were employed of 21-30 man days in a year.

##### **4.3.1. Gender wise classification of employment generated under MGNREGA**

It is evident from Table 4 that a total 8967 man days of employment was generated for a sample size of 120 beneficiaries households under MGNREGA during 2008-09 out of which 5635 and 3332 man days were generated on individual farms and community

**Table 3. Employment generation under MGNREGA during the year 2008-09**

**n=120**

| <b>Employment generated<br/>(man days)</b> | <b>Frequency of<br/>respondents</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 91-100                                     | 23                                  | 19.17             |
| 81-90                                      | 14                                  | 11.67             |
| 71-80                                      | 28                                  | 23.33             |
| 61-70                                      | 20                                  | 16.67             |
| 51-60                                      | 16                                  | 13.33             |
| 41-50                                      | 10                                  | 8.33              |
| 31-40                                      | 6                                   | 5.00              |
| 21-30                                      | 3                                   | 2.50              |

**Table 4. Gender wise classification of employment generated under MGNREGA**

**n= 120**

| <b>Type</b> | <b>Working on farm land</b> |                   | <b>Working on Community<br/>land</b> |                   | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|             | <b>Man days<br/>created</b> | <b>Percentage</b> | <b>Man days<br/>created</b>          | <b>Percentage</b> |              |
| Male        | 3181                        | 56.45             | 2025                                 | 60.77             | 5635         |
| Female      | 2454                        | 43.55             | 1307                                 | 39.23             | 3332         |
| Total       | 5635                        | 100.00            | 3332                                 | 100.00            | 8967         |

works respectively. Further, from the table it is observed that 56.47 per cent and 43.55 per cent of employment was generated on the farm for male and female members respectively. Whereas, community works has generated 60.77 per cent and 39.23 per cent of employment on gender scale for male and female, respectively.

#### **4.3.2 Employment generated in community and individual lands under MGNREGA in the year 2008-09**

##### **4.3.2.1. Community lands**

It is evident from the Table 5 that construction of building and compound works generated 738 man days which was ranked first in generating employment to the beneficiaries households followed by desiltation of tanks and cleaning works of community pond (679 man days), road works (587 man days), drainage and cleaning works (521 man days), irrigation channel and cleaning (368 man days), afforestation and tree plantation (243 man days) and least employment was generated through construction of check dam and renovation of canals (196 man days).

##### **4.3.2.2. Individual farm lands**

It could be seen from the Table 5 that maximum employment was generated under horticulture planting works (1698 man days) followed by bunding and land leveling works (1137 man days), tree plantation (979 man days), small irrigation channel construction (864 man days), farm pond construction and renovation (872 man days) and least man days of employment was generated in cultivation of fodder crops (85 man days).

**Table 5. Employment generation on community and individual lands under MGNREGA in the year 2008-09**

| Sl. No.   | Nature of work                                         | Employment generated (man days) |      |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|
|           |                                                        | Number of days                  | Rank |
| <b>I</b>  | <b>Community lands</b>                                 |                                 |      |
| 1         | Road works                                             | 587                             | III  |
| 2         | Drainage and cleaning works                            | 521                             | IV   |
| 3         | Irrigation channel and cleaning                        | 368                             | V    |
| 4         | Check dam construction and renovation                  | 196                             | VII  |
| 5         | Desiltation of tanks and community pond cleaning works | 679                             | II   |
| 6         | Afforestation and tree plantation                      | 243                             | VI   |
| 7         | Construction of buildings and compound                 | 738                             | I    |
|           | Total                                                  | 3332                            |      |
| <b>II</b> | <b>Individual farm land</b>                            |                                 |      |
| 1         | Planting of horticulture crops                         | 1698                            | I    |
| 2         | Bunding and land leveling works                        | 1137                            | II   |
| 3         | Farm pond construction and renovation                  | 872                             | V    |
| 4         | Fodder crops growing                                   | 85                              | VI   |
| 5         | Small irrigation channel construction                  | 864                             | IV   |
| 6         | Tree plantation                                        | 979                             | III  |
|           | Total                                                  | 5635                            |      |

**n =120**

#### **4.3 Assets created on the farms of beneficiaries under MGNREGA**

From the Table 6 and Fig. 3 it can be observed that a total of 207 farm works were under taken by the beneficiaries on their farm lands during the year 2008-09 by utilizing the funds of MGNREGA out of which 33.33 per cent of the works were related to horticultural planting followed by bunding and land leveling works (25.60 %), small irrigation channel construction (15.46 %), tree plantation (14.49 %), farm pond construction and renovation (7.73 %) and fodder crops (3.38 %). A total 885.00 units of assets created by the beneficiaries on their farm land during the previous year of the study out of which the beneficiaries created 604 units of horticultural planting in their farms land followed by bunding and land leveling works (76.50 units), small irrigation channel construction (13.00 units), tree plantation (97.00 units), farm pond construction and renovation (13.00 units) and fodder crops (12.00 units).

The beneficiaries perceived that about 52.17 per cent of the horticulture planting works were in good quality followed by 24.64 and 23.19 per cent of the works were in poor and average quality, respectively. In bunding and land leveling works 58.49 per cent of the works were in good quality followed by average (33.96 %) and poor (7.55 %). About 68.75 per cent of the farm pond construction and renovation works were in good quality and 18.75 and 12.50 per cent of the farm pond construction and renovation works were in average and poor quality, respectively. In fodder crops 42.86 and 57.14 per cent of the works were in good and average quality, respectively. In small irrigation channel construction 56.25, 31.25 and 25.00 per cent of the works were in good, average and poor quality, respectively. In tree plantation works 36.67 per cent of the works were in good quality followed by average (33.33 %) and poor (30.00 %) quality.

**Table 6. Individual farm Assets created under MGNREGA during previous year**

**n=120**

| Individual farm assets |                                       |                |       |        | Quality of assets created as perceived by the respondents |       |         |       |      |       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|------|-------|
|                        |                                       |                |       |        | Good                                                      |       | Average |       | Poor |       |
| Sl. No.                | Type of Assets                        | Assets created |       |        | No.                                                       | %     | No.     | %     | No.  | %     |
|                        |                                       | No.            | %     | Units  |                                                           |       |         |       |      |       |
| 1                      | Planting of horticulture crops        | 69             | 33.33 | 604    | 36                                                        | 52.17 | 16      | 23.19 | 17   | 24.64 |
| 2                      | Bunding and land leveling works       | 53             | 25.60 | 76.50  | 31                                                        | 58.49 | 18      | 33.96 | 4    | 7.55  |
| 3                      | Farm pond construction and renovation | 16             | 7.73  | 13.00  | 11                                                        | 68.75 | 3       | 18.75 | 2    | 12.50 |
| 4                      | Fodder crops                          | 7              | 3.38  | 12.00  | 3                                                         | 42.86 | 4       | 57.14 | 0    | 0.00  |
| 5                      | Small irrigation channel construction | 32             | 15.46 | 82.50  | 18                                                        | 56.25 | 10      | 31.25 | 8    | 25.00 |
| 6                      | Tree plantation                       | 30             | 14.49 | 97.00  | 11                                                        | 36.67 | 10      | 33.33 | 9    | 30.00 |
|                        | Total assets                          | 207            | 100   | 885.00 |                                                           |       |         |       |      |       |

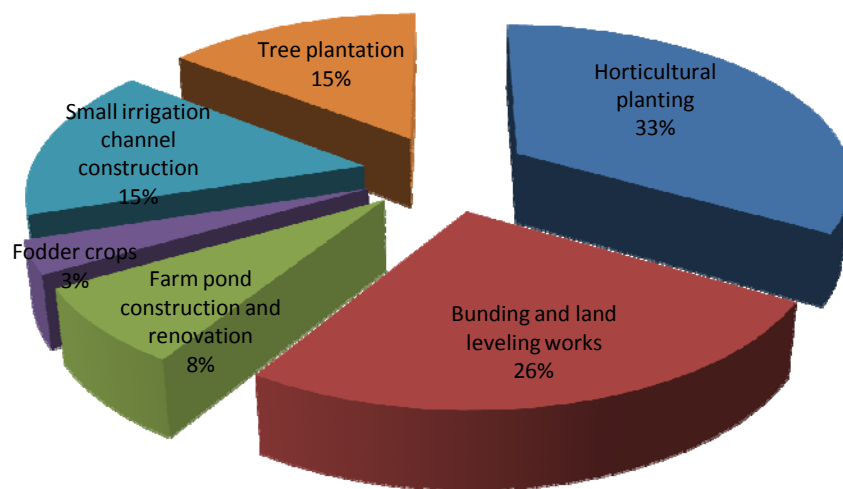


**Fig .3. Pi-chart showing farm works performed under MGNREGA during year 2008-09**

#### **4.5. Community assets created in the village under MGNREGA**

Table 7 and Fig. 4 reveals that a total 4222.50 units of assets created in the village out of which 2695.68 units of assets created in desiltation of tanks and cleaning of community pond followed by irrigation channel and cleaning (505.00 units) road works (288.91 units), construction of building and compound works (248.00 units), drainage and cleaning works (148.66 units) check dam construction and renovation (128.25 units) and afforestation and tree plantation created 44.00 units of assets.

About 21.35 per cent of the beneficiaries were participated in desiltation of tanks and cleaning of community pond followed by construction of building and compound (20.83 %), road works (17.18 %), drainage and cleaning works (15.63 %), irrigation channel and cleaning (12.50 %), afforestation and tree plantation (6.77 %) and check dam construction and renovation (5.73 %).

Nearly two fourth (45.45 %) of the beneficiaries perceived that road works were in average quality followed by good (30.30 %) and poor quality (24.24 %). Forty per cent of the beneficiaries perceived that drainage and cleaning works were in average quality followed by good (36.67 %) and poor (23.33 %). About 45.83 per cent of the beneficiaries perceived that irrigation channel and cleaning works were in average quality followed by poor (33.33 %) and good (20.83 %). Nearly less than two fourth (45.45 %) of the beneficiaries perceived that check dam construction and renovation were in average quality followed by good (36.36 %) and poor (18.18 %). Around 46.34 per cent of the beneficiaries perceived that desiltation of tanks and cleaning of community pond were in average quality followed by good (39.02 %) and poor (26.83 %). About 38.46 per cent of the beneficiaries perceived that afforestation and tree plantation works were in good quality and equal per cent (30.77 %) of the beneficiaries perceived that afforestation and tree plantation works

**Table 7. Community Assets created under MGNREGA during previous year**

**n=120**

| Community Assts |                                                     |                               |       |                                |       | Quality of assets created as perceived by the respondents |       |         |       |      |       |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|------|-------|
|                 |                                                     |                               |       |                                |       | Good                                                      |       | Average |       | Poor |       |
| Sl. No.         | Type of Assets                                      | Assets created in the village |       | Participation of beneficiaries |       | No.                                                       | %     | No.     | %     | No.  | %     |
|                 |                                                     | Units                         | %     | No.                            | %     |                                                           |       |         |       |      |       |
| 1               | Road works                                          | 288.91                        | 6.84  | 33                             | 17.18 | 8                                                         | 24.24 | 15      | 45.45 | 10   | 30.30 |
| 2               | Drainage and cleaning works                         | 148.66                        | 3.52  | 30                             | 15.63 | 11                                                        | 36.67 | 12      | 40.00 | 7    | 23.33 |
| 3               | Irrigation channel and cleaning                     | 505.00                        | 11.96 | 24                             | 12.50 | 5                                                         | 20.83 | 11      | 45.83 | 8    | 33.33 |
| 4               | Check dam construction and renovation               | 128.25                        | 3.04  | 11                             | 5.73  | 4                                                         | 36.36 | 5       | 45.45 | 2    | 18.18 |
| 5               | Desiltation of tanks and cleaning of community pond | 2695.68                       | 63.84 | 41                             | 21.35 | 16                                                        | 39.02 | 19      | 46.34 | 11   | 26.83 |
| 6               | Afforestation and tree plantation                   | 44.00                         | 1.04  | 13                             | 6.77  | 5                                                         | 38.46 | 4       | 30.77 | 4    | 30.77 |
| 7               | Construction of building and compound works         | 248.00                        | 8.24  | 40                             | 20.83 | 13                                                        | 32.50 | 17      | 42.50 | 10   | 25.00 |
| Total           |                                                     | 4222,50                       | 100   | 192                            | 100   |                                                           |       |         |       |      |       |

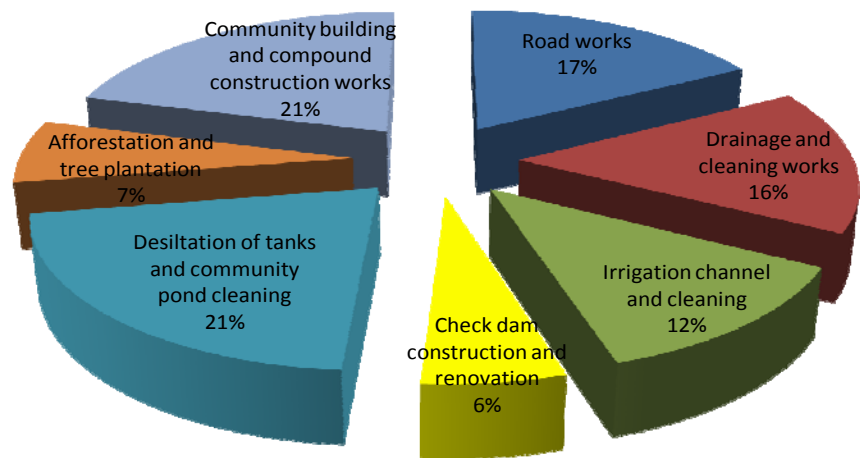


**Fig.4 . Pie-chart showing beneficiaries participation in the community assets creation under MGNREGA during the year 2008-09**

were in average and poor quality. The construction of building and compound works were in average quality (42.50 %) as perceived by the beneficiaries followed by good (32.50 %) and poor (25.00 %).

#### **4.6 Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA**

##### **4.6.1 Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and Knowledge level about MGNREGA**

It is evident from the Table 8 that variables such as education and mass media participation had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, caste, urban contact, social participation and extension contact had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance. Other variables such as age, gender, marital status, land holding, occupation, family size, family type and annual income were found to have non-significant relationship with knowledge level of the beneficiaries.

##### **4.6.1.1 Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and Employment generation under MGNREGA**

The data presented in Table 9 depicts that the variables such as caste, land holding and annual income had negative and significant relationship with employment generation at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, occupation and urban contact had negative and significant relationship with employment generation at five per cent level of significance. There was no significant relationship with other variables such as age, gender, marital status, education, family size, family type, social participation, extension contact and mass media participation.

**Table 8. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with knowledge level about MGNREGA**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Independent Variables</b> | <b>Correlation co-efficient (r value)</b> |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1              | Age                          | 0.090 NS                                  |
| 2              | Gender                       | 0.170 NS                                  |
| 3              | Marital status               | 0.014 NS                                  |
| 4              | Caste                        | 0.204*                                    |
| 5              | Education                    | 0.333**                                   |
| 6              | Land holding                 | 0.111 NS                                  |
| 7              | Occupation                   | 0.128 NS                                  |
| 8              | Family size                  | 0.002 NS                                  |
| 9              | Family type                  | 0.089 NS                                  |
| 10             | Annual income                | 0.061 NS                                  |
| 11             | Urban contact                | 0.198*                                    |
| 12             | Social participation         | 0.254*                                    |
| 13             | Extension contact            | 0.230*                                    |
| 14             | Mass media participation     | 0.376**                                   |

**\* Significant at 0.05 level**

**\*\* Significant at 0.01 level**

**NS= Non Significant**

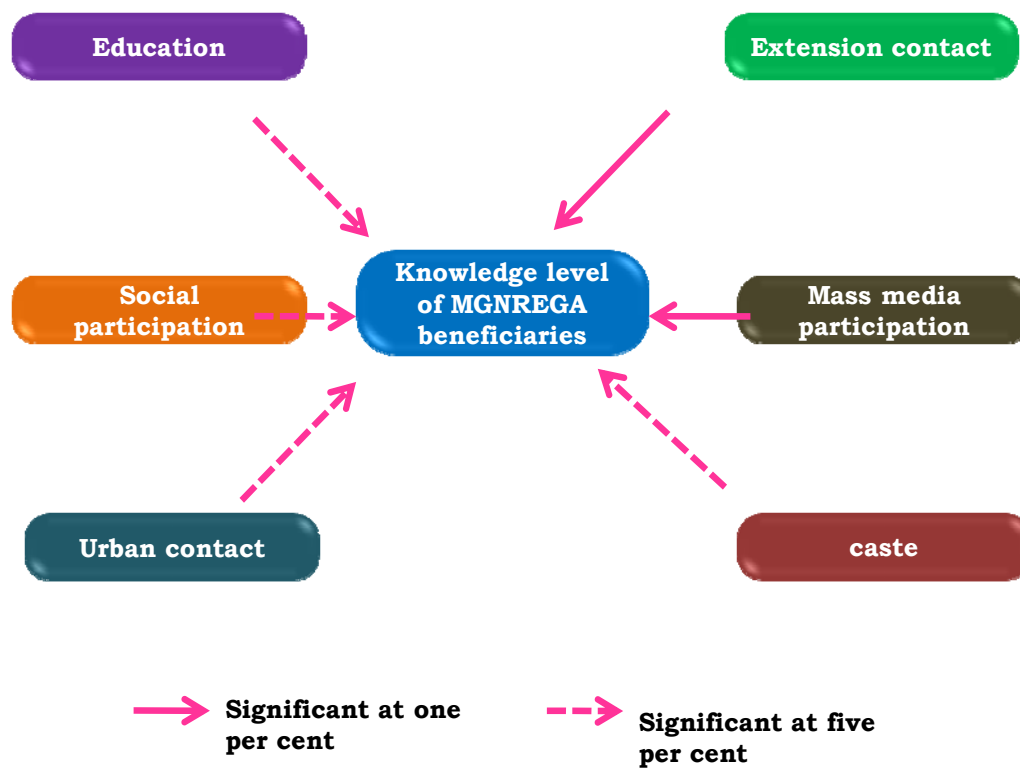


**Figure 5. Empirical model showing relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with Knowledge level about MGNREGA**

**Table 9. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with employment generated under MGNREGA**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Independent Variables</b> | <b>Correlation co-efficient (r value)</b> |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1              | Age                          | 0.050 NS                                  |
| 2              | Gender                       | 0.050 NS                                  |
| 3              | Marital status               | 0.035 NS                                  |
| 4              | Caste                        | -0.398**                                  |
| 5              | Education                    | -0.070                                    |
| 6              | Land holding                 | -0.375**                                  |
| 7              | Occupation                   | -0.236*                                   |
| 8              | Family size                  | 0.011 NS                                  |
| 9              | Family type                  | 0.167 NS                                  |
| 10             | Annual income                | -0.343**                                  |
| 11             | Urban contact                | -0.210*                                   |
| 12             | Social participation         | -0.158 NS                                 |
| 13             | Extension contact            | 0.060 NS                                  |
| 14             | Mass media participation     | 0 .038 NS                                 |

**\* Significant at 0.05 level**

**\*\* Significant at 0.01 level**

**NS= Non Significant**

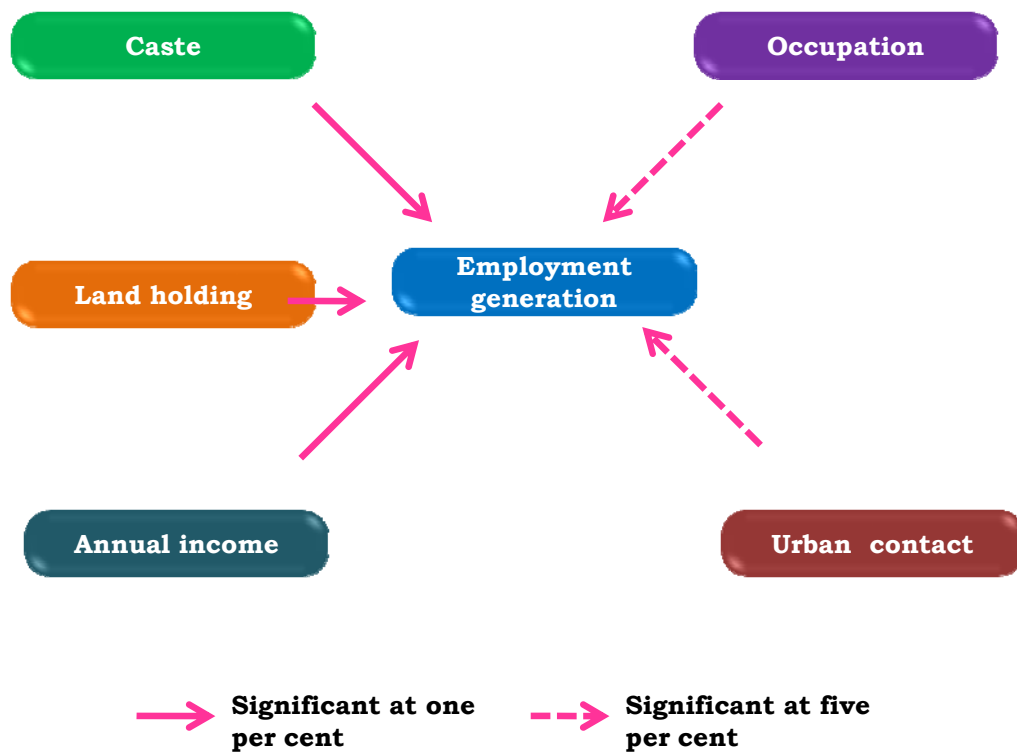


**Figure 6. Empirical model showing relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with Employment generated under MGNREGA.**

#### **4.6.3 Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and Farm assets created under MGNREGA**

It is evident from the Table 10 that variables such as caste and education had positive and significant relationship with farm assets created by the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, land holding, urban contact and social participation had positive and significant relationship with farm assets created by the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance. But there was no significant relationship with other variables such as age, gender, marital status, family size, family type, extension contact and mass media participation.

#### **4.6.4 Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and Community assets created under MGNREGA**

The results depicted in Table 11 explain that variables such as land holding, annual income, urban contact, extension contact and mass media participation had negative and significant relationship with community assets created by the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, caste, education and social participation were exhibited negative and significant relationship with community assets created by the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance. There was no significant relationship with other variables such as age, gender, marital status, occupation, family size and family type.

**Table 10. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with Farm assets created under MGNREGA**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Independent Variables</b> | <b>Correlation co-efficient (r value)</b> |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1              | Age                          | 0.102 NS                                  |
| 2              | Gender                       | -0.183 NS                                 |
| 3              | Marital status               | -0.043 NS                                 |
| 4              | Caste                        | 0.316**                                   |
| 5              | Education                    | 0.245**                                   |
| 6              | Land holding                 | 0.196*                                    |
| 7              | Occupation                   | 0.024 NS                                  |
| 8              | Family size                  | -0.100 NS                                 |
| 9              | Family type                  | -0.070 NS                                 |
| 10             | Annual income                | 0.157 NS                                  |
| 11             | Urban contact                | 0.194*                                    |
| 12             | Social participation         | 0.228*                                    |
| 13             | Extension contact            | 0.092 NS                                  |
| 14             | Mass media participation     | 0.016 NS                                  |

**\* Significant at 0.05 level**

**\*\* Significant at 0.01 level**

**NS= Non Significant**

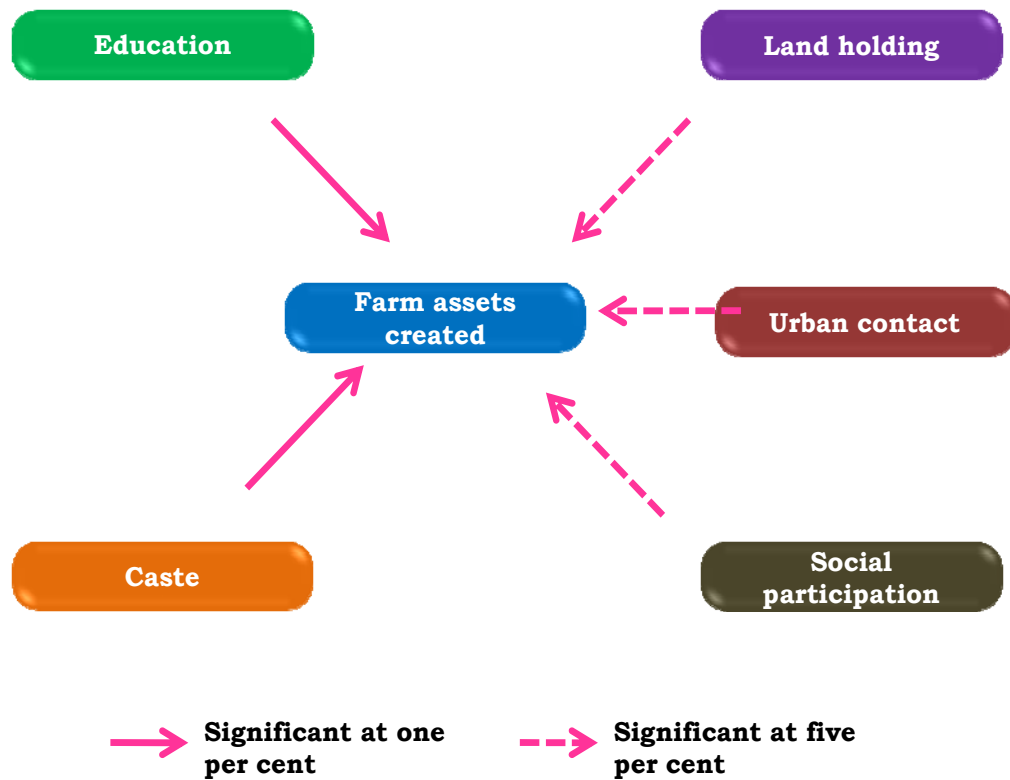


**Figure 7. Empirical model showing relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with farm assets under MGNREGA.**

**Table 11. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with Community assets created under MGNREGA**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Independent Variables</b> | <b>Correlation co-efficient (r value)</b> |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1              | Age                          | -0.035 NS                                 |
| 2              | Gender                       | 0.161 NS                                  |
| 3              | Marital status               | -0.010 NS                                 |
| 4              | Caste                        | -0.221*                                   |
| 5              | Education                    | -0.264*                                   |
| 6              | Land holding                 | -0.441**                                  |
| 7              | Occupation                   | 0.029 NS                                  |
| 8              | Family size                  | 0.115 NS                                  |
| 9              | Family type                  | 0.138 NS                                  |
| 10             | Annual income                | -0.324**                                  |
| 11             | Urban contact                | -0.383**                                  |
| 12             | Social participation         | -0.222*                                   |
| 13             | Extension contact            | -0.407**                                  |
| 14             | Mass media participation     | -0.300**                                  |

**\* Significant at 0.05 level**

**\*\* Significant at 0.01 level**

**NS= Non Significant**

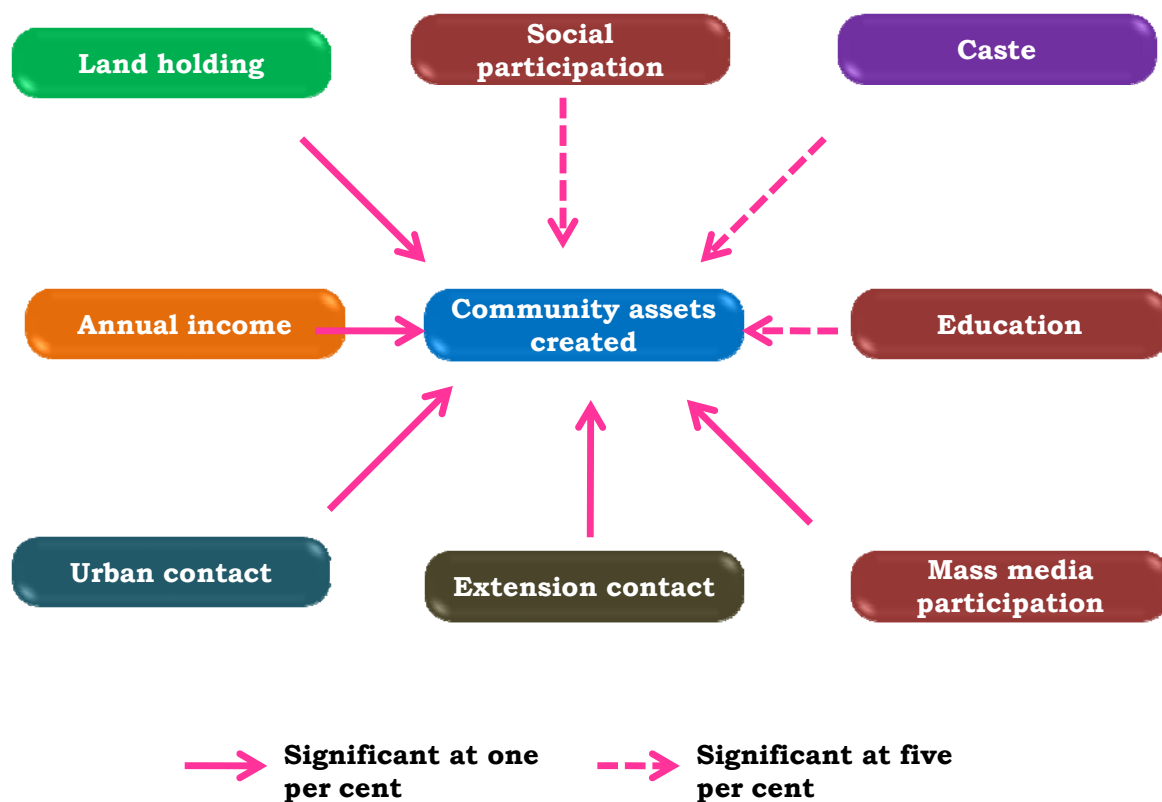


**Figure 8. Empirical model showing the Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with Community assets created under MGNREGA**

**Table 12. Multiple regression analysis of knowledge of beneficiaries with their socio economic and psychological characteristics**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Variables</b>         | <b>Regression coefficients (<math>\beta</math>)</b> | <b>Standard Error (S.E)</b> | <b>t-value</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Age                      | -0.085                                              | 0.033                       | -2.617*        |
| 2              | Gender                   | -0.823                                              | 0.692                       | -1.189 NS      |
| 3              | Marital status           | 0.044                                               | 1.978                       | 0.022 NS       |
| 4              | Caste                    | 1.416                                               | 0.498                       | 2.842*         |
| 5              | Education                | 0.574                                               | 0.268                       | 2.138*         |
| 6              | Land holding             | -0.223                                              | 0.140                       | -1.598NS       |
| 7              | Occupation               | -0.889                                              | 0.747                       | -1.190NS       |
| 8              | Family size              | -0.534                                              | 0.714                       | -0.747 NS      |
| 9              | Family type              | 2.475                                               | 1.379                       | 1.794 NS       |
| 10             | Annual income            | -1.420                                              | 0.000                       | -0.076 NS      |
| 11             | Urban contact            | 1.233                                               | 0.41                        | 3.008*         |
| 12             | Social participation     | 1.285                                               | 0.398                       | 3.231*         |
| 13             | Extension contact        | 1.178                                               | 0.510                       | 2.311*         |
| 14             | Mass media participation | 1.258                                               | 0.156                       | 3.535**        |

*\*Significance at 0.05 level*

**$R^2=0.627$ ,  $F=9.145$**

*\*\*Significance at 0.01 level*

**NS= Non Significant**

**Table 13. Multiple regression analysis of employment generated by the beneficiaries with their socio economic and psychological characteristics**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Variables</b>         | <b>Regression coefficients (<math>\beta</math>)</b> | <b>Standard Error (S.E)</b> | <b>t-value</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Age                      | 0.078                                               | 0.174                       | 0.451 NS       |
| 2              | Gender                   | 1.627                                               | 3.698                       | 0.440 NS       |
| 3              | Marital status           | -0.401                                              | 10.568                      | -0.038 NS      |
| 4              | Caste                    | -5.530                                              | 2.662                       | -2.077*        |
| 5              | Education                | 0.411                                               | 1.434                       | 0.286 NS       |
| 6              | Land holding             | -1.685                                              | 0.746                       | -2.259*        |
| 7              | Occupation               | 1.293                                               | 0.591                       | 2.189*         |
| 8              | Family size              | 2.658                                               | 3.816                       | 0.697 NS       |
| 9              | Family type              | -5.289                                              | 7.372                       | -0.717 NS      |
| 10             | Annual income            | 1.155                                               | 0.45                        | 2.559*         |
| 11             | Urban contact            | 1.332                                               | 0.42                        | 3.172*         |
| 12             | Social participation     | -1.301                                              | 0.864                       | -1.505 NS      |
| 13             | Extension contact        | 0.495                                               | 0.564                       | 0.878 NS       |
| 14             | Mass media participation | 0.536                                               | 0.836                       | 0.642 NS       |

***\*Significance at 0.05 level***

***R<sup>2</sup>= 0.721, F=11.080***

***\*\*Significance at 0.01 level***

***NS= Non Significant***

#### **4.7 Contribution of socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with on knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA**

##### **4.7.1. Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on knowledge of MGNREGA beneficiaries**

The results in the Table 12 revealed that 62.70 per cent variation in knowledge level of beneficiaries was explained by all the fourteen variables included in the study as evidenced by  $R^2$  value. The results revealed that mass media participation had significantly and positively contributed at one per cent level of probability. Whereas, caste, education, urban contact, social participation and extension contact had a positive influence on the knowledge level which was found to be significant at five per cent level of probability.

##### **4.7.2 Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on employment generated by the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

It can be observed from the Table 13 that independent variables such as caste, land holding, annual income, occupation and urban contact had shown significant contribution at five per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of employment generated for the beneficiary households.

##### **4.7.3 Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on farm assets created by the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

The results in Table 14 indicated that independent variables such as caste, education land holding, annual income, urban contact social participation and mass media participation were significant at five per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of farm assets created by the beneficiaries. Further, other variables did not show any significant

**Table 14. Multiple regression analysis of farm assets created by the beneficiaries with their socio economic and psychological characteristics**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Variables</b>         | <b>Regression coefficients (<math>\beta</math>)</b> | <b>Standard Error (S.E)</b> | <b>t-value</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Age                      | 0.000                                               | 0.007                       | -0.086 NS      |
| 2              | Gender                   | -0.085                                              | 0.142                       | -0.597 NS      |
| 3              | Marital status           | 0.037                                               | 0.407                       | 0.091 NS       |
| 4              | Caste                    | 0.815                                               | 0.303                       | 2.691*         |
| 5              | Education                | 1.165                                               | 0.455                       | 2.561*         |
| 6              | Land holding             | 0.657                                               | 0.329                       | 1.997*         |
| 7              | Occupation               | -0.063                                              | 0.154                       | -0.411 NS      |
| 8              | Family size              | -0.236                                              | 0.147                       | -1.603 NS      |
| 9              | Family type              | 0.000                                               | 0.284                       | 0.000 NS       |
| 10             | Annual income            | 1.005                                               | 0.000                       | 2.616 *        |
| 11             | Urban contact            | 0.982                                               | 0.343                       | 2.864*         |
| 12             | Social participation     | 0.886                                               | 0.333                       | 2.661*         |
| 13             | Extension contact        | -0.033                                              | 0.022                       | -1.522 NS      |
| 14             | Mass media participation | 0.038                                               | 0.032                       | 1.180*         |

**\*Significance at 0.05 level**

**\*\*significance at 0.01 level**

**NS= Non Significant**

**$R^2=0.744$ ,  $F=10.420$**

**Table 15. Multiple regression analysis of community assets created by the beneficiaries with their socio economic and psychological characteristics.**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Variables</b>         | <b>Regression coefficients (<math>\beta</math>)</b> | <b>Standard Error (S.E)</b> | <b>t-value</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Age                      | -0.002                                              | 0.007                       | -0.224 NS      |
| 2              | Gender                   | -0.091                                              | 0.151                       | -0.601 NS      |
| 3              | Marital status           | -0.103                                              | 0.430                       | -0.238 NS      |
| 4              | Caste                    | -0.980                                              | 0.408                       | -2.403*        |
| 5              | Education                | -1.800                                              | 0.658                       | -2.736*        |
| 6              | Land holding             | -0.078                                              | 0.030                       | -2.559*        |
| 7              | Occupation               | 0.059                                               | 0.163                       | 0.361 NS       |
| 8              | Family size              | -0.053                                              | 0.155                       | -0.340 NS      |
| 9              | Family type              | 0.075                                               | 0.300                       | 0.249 NS       |
| 10             | Annual income            | -0.818                                              | 0.344                       | -2.38*         |
| 11             | Urban contact            | -0.012                                              | 0.046                       | -0.269 NS      |
| 12             | Social participation     | 0.600                                               | 0.235                       | -2.554*        |
| 13             | Extension contact        | -0.821                                              | 0.223                       | -3.683**       |
| 14             | Mass media participation | 1.263                                               | 0.534                       | -2.367*        |

**\*Significance at 0.05 level**

**$R^2=0.663$ ,  $F=9.739$**

**\*\*significance at 0.01 level**

**NS= Non Significant**

contribution. However, all the variables put together explained the variation to the extent of 74.40 per cent with regard to farm assets creation by the beneficiaries.

#### **4.7.4. Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on community assets created by the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

The results in Table 15 showed that mass media participation were significant at one per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of beneficiaries with regard community assets created. Further, independent variables viz., land holding, annual income, urban contact, extension contact, caste, education and social participation were significant at five per cent level of probability. The other variables did not show any significance. Further, it could be concluded that, 66.30 per cent of the variation among the beneficiaries with regard to community assets created.

#### **4.8 Constraints experienced by the beneficiaries of MGNREGA**

Results in Table 16 reveals the constraints experienced by the MGNREGA beneficiaries were; delay in payment of wages (Rank I), insufficient wage rate (Rank II), poor quality of assets created (Rank III), no proper publicity for Grama Sabha (Rank IV) and poor worksite facilities (Rank V). The other constraints expressed by MGNREGA beneficiaries were; Gram Panchayat members and other politician getting more benefits (Rank VI), favoritism attributes of supervisors and GP members (Rank VII), lack of efficient management at Gram Panchayat level (Rank VIII), existence of intermediaries (Rank IX), poor transportation facilities (Rank X) and no proper prioritization of works (Rank XI).

**Table 16. Constraints experienced by the MGNREGA beneficiaries****n=120**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Problems</b>                                                         | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> | <b>Rank</b> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1              | Delay in payment of wages                                               | 84               | 70.00             | I           |
| 2              | Insufficient wage rate                                                  | 76               | 63.33             | II          |
| 3              | Poor quality of assets created under MGNREGA                            | 67               | 55.83             | III         |
| 4              | No proper publicity for Grama Sabha                                     | 58               | 48.33             | IV          |
| 5              | Poor work site facilities                                               | 43               | 35.83             | V           |
| 6              | Getting more benefits by Gram Panchayat members and other influentories | 41               | 34.17             | VI          |
| 7              | Favoritism attributes of supervisors and GP members                     | 24               | 20.00             | VII         |
| 8              | Lack of efficient management at Gram Panchayat level                    | 22               | 18.33             | VIII        |
| 9              | Interference of middleman                                               | 19               | 15.83             | IX          |
| 10             | Poor transportation facilities                                          | 14               | 5.83              | X           |
| 11             | No proper prioritization of works                                       | 13               | 10.80             | XI          |

#### **4.9 Suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA**

The suggestions offered by beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA were presented in the Table 17. Majority of the beneficiaries said that there is a need to enhance the wage rate (Rank I), transparency in evaluating the works undertaken (Rank II), wages should be paid in time (Rank III), proper publicity for Grama Sabha (Rank IV), strict adherence to rules and regulations by GP (Rank V), works should suspend during peak agriculture season (Rank VI), works should be prioritized properly (Rank VII), provide works per family member instead of per household (Rank VIII), minimum of 100 man days was to be increased to 150- 200 man days (Rank IX), proper management is required to look after the MGNREGA works in Gram Panchayat (Rank X) and need to minimize the procedures to take up projects by individual beneficiaries (Rank XI).

**Table 17. Suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA**

**n=120**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Suggestions</b>                                                      | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> | <b>Rank</b> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1              | Need to enhance the wage rate                                           | 78               | 65.00             | I           |
| 2              | Transparency in evaluating the works undertaken                         | 72               | 60.00             | II          |
| 3              | Wages should be paid in time                                            | 69               | 57.50             | III         |
| 4              | Proper publicity for Grama Sabha                                        | 65               | 54.17             | IV          |
| 5              | Strict adherence to rules and regulations by GP                         | 58               | 48.33             | V           |
| 6              | Suspension of work at peak agriculture operation season                 | 52               | 43.33             | VI          |
| 7              | Proper prioritation of works                                            | 47               | 39.17             | VII         |
| 8              | Provide 100 days of employment per member instead of per household      | 45               | 37.50             | VIII        |
| 9              | Increase the man days to 150 or 200 days per year from 100 man days     | 40               | 33.33             | IX          |
| 10             | Proper management is required at Gram Panchayat                         | 38               | 31.67             | X           |
| 11             | Minimize the procedures to take up projects by individual beneficiaries | 26               | 21.67             | XI          |



*DISCUSSION*

## **V. DISCUSSION**

The findings of the investigation are discussed in this chapter under the following headings.

- 5.1** Socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries
- 5.2** Knowledge of beneficiaries about MGNREGA
- 5.3** Employment generation under MGNREGA
- 5.4** Assets created on the farms of beneficiaries under MGNREGA
- 5.5** Community assets created in the village under MGNREGA
- 5.6** Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA.
- 5.7** Multiple regression analysis of socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA.
- 5.8** Constraints experienced by the MGNREGA beneficiaries
- 5.9** Suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA.

### **5.1. Socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries**

The data in Table 1 depicts the socio-economic and psychological characteristics of MGNREGA beneficiaries. The discussion is presented under the following paragraphs.

#### **5.1.1. Age**

It is found that half (50.00 %) of the beneficiaries were under middle age category followed by old (35.83 %) and young (14.17 %) age categories.

The probable reason for majority of the respondents were in middle age category might be due to fact that, most of the old age people can't perform physical work under MGNREGA. And also predominance of middle aged beneficiaries might be due to their presence in large number in the society and being more responsible citizens than their younger counterparts. The above mentioned findings were in consonance with the findings of Satyanarayana (2002), Arulprakash (2004), Pattanaik (2009) and Nair *et al.* (2010). The findings were contradicting the results of Hemalatha Prasad (1995) and Sankari and Muruga (2009).

#### **5.1.2. Gender**

Majority (68.33 %) of the beneficiaries were male and 31.67 per cent of the beneficiaries were female. The above findings may be attributed to the fact that MGNREGA promotes the participation of women and reservation of 33.00 per cent is enmarked for women in the village, hence, the present trends. Above findings more or less supported by Mohanan (1999), Kamath *et al.* (2008) and Shankari and Muruga (2009). And the findings were contradicting with findings of Nair *et al.* (2009)

#### **5.1.3. Marital status**

The table shows that a great majority (97.50 %) of the beneficiaries were married and remaining 2.50 percent were unmarried. Because only adult people are eligible beneficiaries under MGNREGA who have ability do unskilled/skilled manual work, majority of people were in age group of more than 36 years and because of their age concern they might have married. The above findings was supported by Gaiha *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.1.4. Caste**

It could be seen from the table that about 53.33 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to Other Backward Castes (OBCs) and 36.67 per cent beneficiaries belonged to Scheduled Castes (SCs)/ Scheduled Tribes (STs) followed by General castes (10.00%).

This might be due to fact that in MGNREGA importance was given to uplift the rural poor people who were placed below poverty line and not crossed the creamy layer in the society. Hence majority of the beneficiaries belonged to OBC and SC/ST categories. The above mentioned findings were in consonance with the findings of Mathus (2007), Gaiha *et al.* (2010), Jeyshree *et al.* (2010) and Naidu *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.1.5. Education**

It is clear from table that about 33.33 per cent of the beneficiaries were completed primary school, 27.50 per cent of the beneficiaries had middle school education, 14.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were illiterate, 13.33 per cent of the beneficiaries completed high school education, another 6.67 per cent of the beneficiaries had pre-university education and only 5.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were completed graduation.

This situation might have arisen due to low financial position of the family, poor education facilities during their childhood days, school located is far away places and negligence of elders. However, few beneficiaries have obtained education up to graduation level because of awareness about the importance of education in their family. However 41.67 per cent of the beneficiaries have studied up to middle school, mainly due to presence of such schools in their locality. This result is in accordance with the findings given by Hemalatha Prasad (1995),

Hardikar (1998), Arulprakash (2004), Kamath *et al.* (2008) and Naidu *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.1.6. Land holding**

It is evident from table that majority (61.67 %) of beneficiaries were small farmers followed by 28.33 per cent of beneficiaries were semi medium farmers and 12.00 per cent were marginal farmers.

The results of the study are in line with the findings of Gupta and Sandhu (1995), Arulprakash (2004), Kamath *et al.* (2008) and Gaiha *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.1.7. Occupation**

It could be observed from the table that cent per cent of the beneficiaries main occupation was agriculture and dairy was the major subsidiary occupation (47.19 %). Whereas, 25.83 per cent of the beneficiaries had no subsidiary occupation. While, 19.16 per cent of the beneficiaries had sericulture as the subsidiary occupation followed by sheep and goat rearing (22.47 %), and other occupation (3.37 %) like pretty shop and business and poultry (1.12 %) was the least subsidiary occupation.

It could be inferred from the findings that all the beneficiaries pursuing agriculture as the main occupation because all the respondents possessed farm land which was one of the criteria stipulated for selection of respondents in the present study, the dry land farmers were practicing sericulture and goat farming as the subsidiary occupations and poultry has the least practicing subsidiary occupation. This finding is more or less supported by Kamath *et al.* (2008) and Anonymous (2010a).

#### **5.1.8. Family type**

It can be noticed from the table that 75.83 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to nuclear family whereas 24.17 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to joint family. Because of modernization people would prefer to live in nuclear family for the sake of close contact and to satisfy the basic needs. The respondents might have felt it would be easy to look after small family than the large family. The above results get support by the studies conducted by Usharani (1999) and Satyanarayana (2002).

#### **5.1.9. Family size**

A cursory look at table indicates that majority (68.33 %) of the beneficiaries belonged to small family followed by big family (31.67%). This might be due to their awareness regarding the increased cost of living and difficulties in maintenance of big family and they might have found beneficial to have small families to lead a better and comfortable life. The results were in conformation with the findings of Gayatri Devi (2000) and Gaiha *et al* (2010).

#### **5.1.10. Annual income**

Glance at the table indicates that majority of the beneficiaries belong to the non creamy layer of APL family (74.17 %) and remaining 25.83 per cent of the beneficiaries belong to the BPL family. The respondents of the present study were basically farmers and majority of them possessed agriculture land up to 2.5 acres and few of them were semi medium farmers. From this land resources the respondents might have got some income by growing crops and undertaking subsidiary occupation. Further, the wages earned from MGNREGA works also might have added in increasing the income of the respondents substantially.

Hence majority of the respondents belongs to non creamy layer of APL family and only 25.83 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to BPL families. These findings are contradicting the findings of Padmanabhan (1990), Dwarakanth (2001) and Arulprakesh (2004).

#### **5.1.11. Urban contact**

It is evident from the Table 1.1 that cent per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns and with regard to period of visit, about 30.00 per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns once in month followed by fortnightly (25.83 %), weekly (22.50 %), thrice a week (15.83 %), daily (3.33 %) and least number of the beneficiaries visited nearest town quarterly (2.50 %). Further, majority (69.17 %) of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns for agricultural purpose either to seek information on agriculture or to sell their agricultural produce and remaining 30.83 per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns for non agricultural purpose. This trend of urban contact may be attributed to fact that All the beneficiaries visited nearest towns this may be due to fact that towns viz; Tumkur, Kunigal Madugiri, and Pavagada are near to respective villages where the study was undertaken and also may be due to one or other official works in Taluk Panchayat, other developmental departments, besides to make purchases required for their house hold and agriculture related purpose from the shops located in the towns they might have visited nearby town more frequently.

#### **5.1.12. Social participation**

The result presented in Table 1.2 indicated that, 14.17 per cent beneficiaries were the members of Self Help Groups, Gram Panchayat (4.17 %), Co-operative Society (7.50 %), Farmers Association (2.50 %) and Taluk Panchayat (1.67 %). With regard to extent of participation in social institutions, 26.67 per cent of the beneficiaries participated in Co-

operative Society activities regularly, 25.83 per cent in Grama Panchayat and only 7.50 and 6.67 per cent of the beneficiaries regularly to took part Self Help Group and Taluk Panchayat activities, respectively and least number (1.67 %) of beneficiaries participated regularly in Farmers Association activities. About 24.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were oftenly participated in Grama Panchayat, Self Help Group (19.17 %) and equal per cent (15.00 %) in Taluk Panchayat and Co-operative society activities and least number of beneficiaries took part in Zilla Panchayat (1.67 %) and Farmers association activities (2.50 %). About 30.83 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasionally participated in Grama Panchayat, Self Help Group (19.17 %) and least number of beneficiaries participated in Farmers association activities (5.00 %). Majority of the beneficiaries never participated in the educational activities organized by the Zilla Panchayat (92.50 %), Farmers association (90.83 %) and youth club (88.33 %). About 30.83 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasionally participated in Grama Panchayat, Self Help Group (19.17 %) and least participated in Farmers Association (5.00 %). Majority of the beneficiaries were never participated in Zilla Panchayat (92.50 %), farmers association (90.83 %) and youth club (88.33 %).

More than 25 per cent of the respondents have regularly participate in the activities organized in the Co-operative society and Grama Panchyat. The possible reason for this results can be substantiated due to the fact that the Grama Panchyat and Co-operative societies are decentralized local sectors functioning at the village level having statutory powers to look after the village administration to undertake developmental works in the village. Similarly Co-operative societies are functioning at the micro level to meet the agricultural finance for the needy farmers. These organizations have to meet the statutory objectives might have organized various activities involving all

the villagers. These findings are in more or less agreement with the findings of Anonymous (2010c) and Holmes *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.1.13. Extension contact**

Table 1.3 revealed that about 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries contacted Grama Panchayat Members regularly whereas, 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries contacted oftenly to Grama Panchayat Secretary, Grama Panchayat Chairman (42.50 %) and Panchayat Development Officer (34.17 %). This may be due to fact that the Grama Panchayat offices are located at village level. Hence, elected and officials of GP were easily available for contact and discussions. While, 47.50 per cent of the beneficiaries contacted Assistant Agriculture Officer (AAO) occasionally, 43.33 per cent of the beneficiaries contacted Agriculture Officer (AO) occasionally. Main reason is to get agriculture related information whenever required the beneficiaries might have met the AAO and AO. Whereas, 75.83 per cent of the beneficiaries never contacted Executive Officer (EO) and 63.33 per cent and 89.19 per cent of the beneficiaries never contacted Assistant Horticulture Officer (AHOs) and Krushi Vignana Kendra (KVK) respectively. This may be due to fact that the beneficiaries not aware of AHO and Krushi Vignana Kendra (KVK) and also due to the fact that the KVK are located far away from their respective village.

#### **5.1.14. Mass media participation**

The data in the Table 1.4 depicts the detailed analysis of mass media participation of the beneficiaries. Radio was possessed by 39.17 percent of the beneficiaries and among them 44.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasional listeners and 30.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular listeners. This might be due to fact that beneficiaries might not had interest to listen to radio programmes and

also due to time factors now a day's radio has lost its popularity in villages. Television was possessed by 65.00 per cent of the beneficiaries and among them 44.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular viewers and 35.83 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasional viewers. This may be due to fact that Television is the most popular and powerful media as appeals both the viewing and listening senses of the people and it helps to overcome the barrier of illiteracy.

Newspaper were subscribed by 14.17 per cent of the beneficiaries and among them 12.50 per cent of beneficiaries were regular readers of newspaper and majority (68.33%) had no subscription to newspaper. With respect to magazines, subscribed by only 2.50 per cent of the beneficiaries among them 1.67 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular readers of magazines and majority (84.17%) had no subscription of magazines. The reason may be that though majority of the beneficiaries were literate but they might not have realized the importance of reading the news paper and magazines.

About 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries occasionally get the information from wall writing and 32.50 per cent of the beneficiaries regularly get the information. This may be due to the fact that GP creates awareness about MGNREGA through wall writing. Majority (66.67 %) of the beneficiaries never have reading habit of hand bills. This may be due to fact that majority of beneficiaries in the village were illiterate and also the beneficiaries may not know the importance of hand bills. Majority (79.17 %) of the beneficiaries never acquire the information from PAS. It may be due the fact that the implementing agency may not create awareness through PAS about MGNREGA. Majority of the beneficiaries not participated in public meeting. It may be due to fact that lack of sufficient time and implementing agency might not have conducted any public meeting in the villages.

These results are more or less in accordance with the findings of Joshi *et al.* (2008), Anonymous (2010a) and Anonymous (2010b).

## **5.2. Knowledge of beneficiaries about MGNREGA**

The results in Table 2 indicated that cent per cent of the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'objective of MGNREGA providing 100 days of wage employment' 'adult members of rural household are eligible beneficiaries of MGNREGA' and 'equal wages for men and women'. Equal percentage (99.16 %) of beneficiaries had knowledge about 'job card application must be submitted to Grama Panchyat' 'wages are paid even if they work on their own farm lands' and 'wages are paid through post office/ bank'. Majority of beneficiaries had knowledge about 'Grama Panchyat identifies the beneficiaries of MGNREGA' (98.33 %), 'person below 18 year are not permitted to work under MGNREGA' (97.50 %), 'bank account will be opened free of cost for the beneficiaries' (96.66 %) and 'job cards are issued free of cost by the Grama Panchyat' (93.33 %). The beneficiaries had high knowledge about these aspects of MGNREGA was mainly due to their active participation in MGNREGA works. Further, the mass media participation and extension contact such as taking part in group meetings, viewing TV programmes, hearing the radio programmes, reading news paper and wall writing as well as extension contact with Grama Panchyat (GP) members, presidents, secretaries and Panchyat Development Officers (PDOs) might have enhanced the knowledge of beneficiaries about the concept, contents and guidelines of MGNREGA.

About 88 per cent of the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'machineries are not allowed to work under MGNREGA' followed by '33.33 per cent should be women beneficiaries' (85.00 %) and equal percentage (81.67 %) of the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'workers will get wages of Rs.125 /day under MGNREGA' and 'Grama Sabha will

identify projects for the village'. Nearly 80.83 per cent of the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'contractors are not allowed to work under MGNREGA' followed by 'works should be within 5 Km radius of the village' (77.50 %), 'job card should be issued within 15 days of submitting application' (76.66 %), 'the MGNREGA Grama Sabha meeting should be held at-least every six months to review all aspects of social audit' (74.16 %), 'social audit has to be done by Gram Sabha' (73.33 %) and 'employment has to be given within 15 days of submitting application for work' (72.50 %). This may be due to the fact that the beneficiaries had work experience under MGNREGA and also they acquire partial information regarding these components from friend, relatives, Grama Panchyat members, chairman, PDO and as well as from mass media sources.

Around 67 per cent the beneficiaries had knowledge about 'payment of wages has to be done within 15 days of work and it should be provided on weekly basis' followed by 'medical assistance must be available at the worksite for injury if, any' (55.83 %), 'beneficiaries are entitled to get unemployment allowance, incase Gram Panchayat fail to provide employment within 15 days of application for work' (54.16 %), 'if more than five children under the age of six years are present, child care facilities should also be provided at work site' (52.50 %), 'in social audit forum verify the financial expenditure, examine the provision of entitlement, critically evaluate the quality of work as well as services of programme staff' (40.83 %), 'at Gram Panchayat level a Local Vigilance and Monitoring Committee(LVMC) has been constituted to look after MGNREGA works' (35.83 %), 'under Right to Information Act public can get information related to MGNREGA' (34.16 %), 'beneficiaries will get unemployment allowance 25 per cent of the wage rate up to 30 days and 50 per cent for remaining period of financial year' (25.00%), 'the Gram Sabha will elect the members of LVMC and priority should be given to

SC/ ST and women' (15.00 %) and 'there should be 50.00 per cent of the members from among MGNREGA workers in LVMC' (10.00 %).

The probable reason for low level of knowledge may be due to fact that beneficiaries were unable to get the information in depth as there is no efforts to educate people on rural development programmes. Besides it may also due to low literacy rate and lack of interest to know the details of this Act. The other reason might be that proper and detailed information was not given to the beneficiaries by Grama Panchyat and other related institutions. The above findings are in line with the findings of Joshi *et al.* (2008), Kamath *et al.* (2008), Anonymous (2010) (b), Garg and Yadav (2010) and Shobha and Vinitha (2011).

### **5.3. Employment generation under MGNREGA**

An examination of Table 4 revealed that about 23.33 per cent of the beneficiaries got employment of 71-80 man days in a year followed by 91-100 man days (19.17 %), 61-70 man days (16.17 %), 51-60 man days (13.33 %), 81-90 man days (11.76 %), 41-50 man days (8.33 %), 31-40 man days (5.00 %) and least number (2.50 %) of the beneficiaries got employment of 21-30 man days in a year.

The MGNREGA has failed to provide hundred days of employment per household might be because of lack of proper planning and implementation by the Grama Panchayats. It might be also due to the fact that the beneficiaries might not have shown keen interest in taking part in MGNREGA works. Similar observation was made by Mathur (2007), Joshi *et al.* (2008), Mahapatra (2008), Raghuraman (2009) and Anonymous (2010) (d). And also this findings are contradicting the findings of Arulprakash (2004)

### **5.3.1. Employment generated under Different MGNREGA works**

#### **5.3.1.1. Community land**

It is evident from the Table 5 that construction of building and compound works generated 738 man days. The probable reason might be that the GP might have preferred these works such as school compound and building construction, temple premises cleaning, hospital compound construction and construction of Rajeev Gandhi Seva Kendra.

The other community works viz; desiltation of tanks and community pond cleaning (679 man days), road works (587 man days), drainage and cleaning works (521 man days), irrigation channel and cleaning (368 man days), afforestation and tree plantation (243 man days) and check dam construction and renovation works (196 man days).

The Grama sabha preferred these works was might be due the fact that no proper road connectivity across neighbouring villages and tanks were silted up and they were not being used to their full potential and ground water tables were depleting which obviously supported the construction of water harvesting structures. Further, hard works which requires digging was not preferred due to shortage of male labour and machines were not allowed to take up such works. The findings are in agreement with the findings of Harish (2010).

#### **5.3.1.2. Farm land**

It could be seen from the Table 5 that more employment generated under horticulture planting works (1698 man days) followed by bunding and land leveling works (1137 man days), tree plantation (979 man days), small irrigation channel construction (864 man days), farm pond construction and renovation (872 man days) and least man days of

employment generated towards fodder crops growing works (85 man days).

The possible reasons for above results might be that creating more employment under horticulture component might be due to the fact that area of the study comes under dry zone and cultivation of cultivation dry land horticulture crops such as mango and cashew, semi irrigate crops like sapota and pomegranate requires either digging of pits or opening of trenches and other soil works which naturally demands more labour. Hence this horticulture component might have generated more employment than creating other assets on the farm. The findings are in agreement with the findings of Harish (2010).

#### **5.4. Assets created on the farms of beneficiaries under MGNREGA**

From the Table 6 and Fig. 3 it can be observed that a total of 207 farm works were under taken by the beneficiaries on their farm lands during the previous year of the study by utilizing the funds of MGNREGA out of which 33.33 per cent of the works were related to horticultural planting followed by bunding and land leveling works (25.60 %), small irrigation channel construction (15.46 %), tree plantation (14.49 %), farm pond construction and renovation (7.73 %) and fodder crops (3.38 %). A total 885 units of assets created by the beneficiaries on their farm land during the year 2008-09 out of which the beneficiaries created 604 units of horticultural planting in their farms land followed by bunding and land leveling works (76.50 units), small irrigation channel construction (13.00 units), tree plantation (97.00 units), farm pond construction and renovation (13.00 units) and fodder crops (12.00 units). The beneficiaries preferred to take up the horticulture in their respective lands because majority of the beneficiaries had dry land. And cultivation of dry land horticulture crops such as mango, sapota, cashew etc, were found more remunerative and less risky than cultivation of field crops. Hence,

horticulture planting is better suited to this area and also it helps to increase the economic conditions of the farmers.

The Grama Panchayat has given importance to bunding and land leveling works. This may be due to fact that majority of the farmers had uneven lands, which require leveling and bunding. Further, undertaking land leveling and bunding works would enable the farmers to increase the cultivable area, which would also facilitates conservation of water.

Grama Panchayat given importance for construction of irrigation channel as some of the respondents possessed lands which were recently brought under benefited by Hemavathi River water irrigation project. Hence, Grama Panchayat might have constructed small irrigation canal to connect water from main channel to their respective farm lands under MGNREGA.

Farm pond construction and renovation water storage works helps to increase the water availability to crop cultivation in turn leads to improve the productivity of the farm. Negligible number of works taken up related to fodder crops cultivation because beneficiaries and Grama Panchayat might not have given importance to these activities. With respect to quality of assets created most of all farm assets created by the beneficiaries under MGNREGA were in good quality because individual beneficiaries given more importance to their own work and proper care might have taken while creating the farm assets. The above findings are in agreement with the findings of Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007) and Anonymous (2010b).

### **5.5. Community assets created in the village under MGNREGA**

Table 7 and Fig. 4 reveals that a total 4222.50 units of assets created in the village out which 2695.68 units of assets created in

desiltation of tanks and cleaning of community pond followed by irrigation channel and cleaning (505.00 units) road works (288.91 units), construction of building and compound works (248.00 units), drainage and cleaning works (148.66 units) check dam construction and renovation (128.25 units) and afforestation and tree plantation created 44.00 units of assets.

About 21.35 per cent of the beneficiaries were participated in desiltation of tanks and cleaning of community pond followed by construction of building and compound (20.83 %), road works (17.18 %), drainage and cleaning works (15.63 %), irrigation channel and cleaning (12.50 %), afforestation and tree plantation (6.77 %) and check dam construction and renovation (5.73 %). It could be due to fact that tanks are major water source for the villages and helps to increase the water availability for crops and other purpose. Majority of the beneficiaries might have preferred to work in construction of building and compound works, road works, drainage and cleaning works because these assets are basic necessities to the villages. Road works helps to increase the connectivity to neighboring villages, farms lands etc. Grama Panchayat has given importance to drainage and cleaning works and check dam construction and renovation which helps to increase ground water table of the particular farm.

With respect to quality of community assets created majority of the beneficiaries perceived that average quality of community assets created in the village. This might be due to the fact that the GP might have given less importance while creating the community assets. Similar findings reported by Hazra (1997), Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007), Pandey *et al.* (2005), Joshi *et al.* (2008), Mahapatra (2008) and Anonymous (2008b).

## **5.6. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA**

### **5.6.1. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and knowledge level about MGNREGA**

It is evident from the Table 8 that variables such as education, mass media participation, caste, urban contact, social participation and extension contact had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the beneficiaries. As an individual gets formal education, he/she bounds to show some interest in acquiring new knowledge. Further, due to mass media exposure definitely the beneficiaries acquire new knowledge. General category people acquire more knowledge because of their high exposure to mass media and urban contacts. Social participation had helps them to bring the farmers into an atmosphere of broader perspective where there was a better scope for them to exchange ideas, facts, feelings etc. Also extension contact helps to increase the knowledge level of the farmers. The findings are in agreement with the findings of Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007), Joshi *et al.* (2008), Gaiha *et al.* (2010), Anonymous (2010a) and Anonymous (2010b).

### **5.6.2. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and employment generation under MGNREGA**

The data presented in Table 9 indicated that variables such as caste, land holding and annual income had negative and significant relationship with employment generation at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, occupation and urban contact had negative and significant relationship with employment generation at five per cent level

of significance. It is quite natural that the beneficiaries of upper caste were less involved in MGNREGA works as a manual labourers. Similarly the beneficiaries who possessed more lands might not have participated in MGNREGA to maintain their status on the society. As the annual income increases the beneficiaries will generate less employment under MGNREGA due to fact that beneficiaries have generated sufficient income from own farm land and also they are well settled in the society. The beneficiaries who have engaged in diversified occupations were less involved in employment generation activities. This may be due to the fact that beneficiaries might not have surplus time to work under MGNREGA and also they might have got sufficient income from other occupations to take care of their household needs. The beneficiaries who had less urban contact were employed more number of days under MGNREGA, since they did not moved out of their locality more frequently and as they might not have got employment in towns and cities the respondents might have engaged in MGNREGA works. The findings are in agreement with findings of Mathur (2007), Kamath *et al.* (2008), Anonymous (2010a), Anonymous (2010b) and Gaiha *et al.* (2010).

### **5.6.3. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and farm assets created under MGNREGA**

It is evident from the Table 10 that variables such as caste and education had positive and significant relationship with farm assets created by the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, land holding, urban contact and social participation had positive and significant relationship with farm assets created by the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance. Upper caste beneficiaries have created more assets on their farm land compare to SC/ST beneficiaries because generally in any villages upper caste and educated people own more

agriculture land than the other castes and uneducated people. Due to their political influence and political contacts might have made them to create more assets on their farms. Further, these farmers might have preferred to work on their own farms and created assets for themselves and they might not have taken part as daily wage labourers in creating community assets. The beneficiaries who had more urban contact and high social participation have created more assets on their farm land than other respondents. It is quite natural that people who have more urban contact and social participation will generally come to the benefits of any developmental programmes that one implemented in the village, accordingly they might have realized the benefits of creating the assets like planting horticulture crops, land leveling, drainage and soil and water conservation works etc, under MGNREGA. The findings are similar with the findings of Kamath *et al.* (2008) and Gaiha *et al.* (2010)

#### **5.6.4. Relationship between socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and community assets created under MGNREGA**

The results depicted in Table 11 explain that variables such as land holding, annual income, urban contact, extension contact and mass media participation had negative and significant relationship with community assets created by the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Caste, education and social participation were found to be negative and significant relationship with community assets created by the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance.

The beneficiaries who possess more land and high annual income will have better socio-economic status in the village. To maintain this status respondents with large farm and better annual income might not have taken part in creating community assets in the village as labourers. Further, due to their richness they might not have felt the needs of daily

wage employment offered under MGNREGA in creating community assets. Mass media participation provides necessary information to the beneficiaries about enormous opportunities that are available elsewhere for their better living, hence they might not have taken part in community assets building works of MGNREGA. The beneficiaries of upper caste might not have worked as labourers under community assets creation it was tradition in most of the villagers where upper caste people generally will not seek employment as daily wage labourers. The beneficiaries who have better urban contact might have been engaged in different small business and jobs in the nearby cities and towns to generate assured additional income beside their main occupation of agriculture instead of working under MGNREGA in creating community assets. Similarly beneficiaries with more extension contact might have taken up agriculture as subsidiary occupation more seriously by adopting scientific technologies advocated by extension agency and they might have preferred to work on their field instead of daily wage employment in creating community assets under MGNREGA.

The educated beneficiaries might have sought employment opportunities elsewhere hence the education has a negative correlation with creation of community assets, even to take part in social activities and becomes members for various organization at village, taluk and district level are must possess high socio economic status, hence they might have kept away from daily wages earning works of MGNREGA. The above results get more or less support by the studies conducted by Joshi *et al.* (2008), Chabra and Sharma (2010), Gaiha *et al.* (2010) and Jeysree *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.7. Contribution of socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries with on knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA**

### **5.7.1. Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on knowledge of MGNREGA beneficiaries**

The results in the Table 12 indicated that 62.70 per cent variation in knowledge level of beneficiaries was explained by all fourteen variables included in the study as evidenced by  $R^2$  value. The findings reveals that mass media participation had significantly and positively contributed at one per cent level of probability. Whereas, education, caste, urban contact, social participation and extension contact had a positive influence on the knowledge level which was found to be significant at five per cent level of probability.

The mass media exposure helps to acquire new knowledge to the beneficiaries. Further, as an individual gets formal education, he/she bounds to show some interest in acquiring new knowledge. Upper caste people acquire more knowledge because of their high exposure to mass media and urban contacts. Social participation helps to bring the farmers into an atmosphere of broader perspective where there is a better scope for them to exchange ideas, facts, feelings etc. Also extension contact helps to increase the knowledge level of the farmers. The findings are in agreement with the findings of Chathukulam and Gireesan (2007), Joshi *et al.* (2008), Gaiha *et al.* (2010), Anonymous (2010a) and Anonymous (2010b).

### **5.7.2. Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on employment generated by the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

It can be observed from the Table 13 that independent variables such as caste, land holding, annual income, occupation and urban contact had shown significant contribution at five per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of employment generation by the beneficiaries. A further examination of the results reveals that all the

variables under consideration explained to the extent of 72.00 per cent of variation in employment generation by the beneficiaries.

It is quite natural that the beneficiaries of upper caste were less involved in MGNREGA works as a manual labourers. Similarly the beneficiaries who possessed more lands might not have participated in MGNREGA to maintain their status on the society. As the annual income increases the beneficiaries will generate less employment under MGNREGA due to fact that beneficiaries have generated sufficient income from own farm land and also they are well settled in the society. The beneficiaries who have engaged in diversified occupations were less involved in employment generation activities. This may be due to the fact that beneficiaries might not have surplus time leftover to work under MGNREGA and also they might have got sufficient income from other occupations to take care of their household needs. The beneficiaries who had less urban contact were employed more number of days under MGNREGA, since they did not moved out of their locality more frequently and as they did not have employment in towns and cities the respondents might have engaged in MGNREGA works. The findings are in agreement with findings of Mathur (2007), Kamath *et al.* (2008), Anonymous (2010a), Anonymous (2010b) and Gaiha *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.7.3. Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on farm assets created by the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

The results in Table 14 indicated that independent variables such as caste, education land holding, annual income, urban contact social participation and mass media participation were significant at five per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of farm assets created by the beneficiaries. However, all the variables put together explained the variation to the extent of 74.40 per cent among the beneficiaries with

regard to farm assets creation. High caste, education, Land holding, annual income, urban contact, social participation and mass media participation beneficiaries created more assets on their farm. Upper caste beneficiaries have created more assets on their farm land compare to SC/ST because generally in any villages upper caste and educated people own more agriculture land than the other castes and uneducated people. Due to their political influence and political contacts might have made them to create more assets on their farms. Further, these farmers might have preferred to work on their own farms and created assets for themselves and they might not have taken part as daily wage labourers in creating community assets. The beneficiaries who had more urban contact and high social participation have created more assets on their farm land than other respondents. It is quite natural that people who have more urban contact and social participation will generally come to the benefits of any developmental programmes that one implemented in the village, accordingly they might have realized the benefits of creating the assets like planting horticulture crops, land leveling, drainage and soil and water conservation works etc, under MGNREGA. The findings are similar with the findings of Kamath *et al.* (2008) and Gaiha *et al.* (2010).

#### **5.7.4. Contribution of socio-economic and psychological characteristics on community assets created by the MGNREGA beneficiaries**

The results in Table 15 showed that mass media participation were significant at one per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of beneficiaries with regard community assets created. Further, independent variables viz., land holding, annual income, urban contact, extension contact caste, education and social participation were significant at five per cent level of probability. It could be concluded that 66.30 per cent of the variation among the beneficiaries with regard to

community assets created. High Mass media participation, land holding, annual income, urban contact, extension contact Caste, education and social participation beneficiaries participated less in community assets creation.

The beneficiaries who possess more land and high annual income will have better socio-economic status in the village. To maintain this status respondents with large farm and better annual income might not have taken part in creating community assets in the village as labourers. Further, due to their richness they might not have felt the needs of daily wage employment offered under MGNREGA in creating community assets. Beneficiaries go for some works in urban area and they were not interested to do community works under MGNREGA. Mass media participation provides necessary information to the beneficiaries about enormous opportunities that are available elsewhere for their better living, hence they might not have taken part in community assets building works of MGNREGA. The beneficiaries of upper caste might not have worked as labourers under community assets creation it was tradition in most of the villagers where upper caste people generally will not seek employment as daily wage labourers. The beneficiaries who have better urban contact might have been engaged in different small business and jobs in the nearby cities and towns to generate assured additional income beside their main occupation of agriculture instead of working under MGNREGA in creating community assets. Similarly beneficiaries with more extension contact might have taken up agriculture as subsidiary occupation more seriously by adopting scientific technologies advocated by extension agency and they might have preferred to work on their field instead of daily wage employment in creating community assets under MGNREGA.

The educated beneficiaries might have sought employment opportunities elsewhere hence the education has a negative correlation

with creation of community assets, even to take part in social activities and becomes members for various organization at village, taluk and district level are must possess high socio economic status, hence they might have kept away from daily wages earning works of MGNREGA. The above results get more or less support by the studies conducted by Joshi *et al.* (2008), Chabra and Sharma (2010), Gaiha *et al.* (2010) and Jeyshree *et al.* (2010).

### **5.8. Constraints experienced by the beneficiaries of MGNREGA**

The results in Table 16 reveals the constraints experienced by the beneficiaries in taking part MGNREGA works. Delay in payment of wages was ranked first followed by insufficient wage rate (Rank II), poor quality of assets created (Rank III) and no proper publicity for Grama Sabha (Rank IV). It is true that most of the GP are not paying wages in time for the beneficiaries of MGNREGA may be due to non availability of funds for disbursement of wages at the village level on time as stipulated in the MGNREGA guidelines and also wage rate is not sufficient to the beneficiaries it may be due to other than MGNREGA works farmers may get higher wages and other probable reason may be that rise in the prizes of all the products i.e. both agricultural and agricultural products from this wage rate farmers may be finding difficult to maintain their livelihood. The quality of assets creation was not good it may be due the fact that lack of skilled labourers, no proper planning and supervision and lack of sufficient and timely fund and also it may be due to GP not fully utilize the funds what was allotted, in some areas the contractors were used in MGNREGA works and intermediaries making profit due to this it creates poor quality of assets in villages. Fifteen days before the Grama Panchyat should give announcement about place and time of Grama Sabha but this was not followed by Grama Panchyat, it may be due to lack of planning and co-ordination among different activities by

the GP, hence GP may not give much importance in conducting MGNREGA Grama Sabha.

The other constraints expressed by MGNREGA beneficiaries were poor work site facilities (Rank V), Grama Panchayat members and political people getting more benefits (Rank VI), favoritism attributes of supervisors and GP members (Rank VII), lack of efficient management at Gram Panchayat level (Rank VIII), existence of intermediaries (Rank IX), poor transportation facilities (Rank X) and no proper prioritization of works (Rank XI). This may be due to the fact that under MGNREGA there is a provision of pure drinking water facilities for MGNREGA workers at worksite, child care facilities if more than five children under age of six years are present, medical assistance facilities, these facilities might have not followed by Grama Panchayat in study area under MGNREGA, this may be due to the GP may not give much importance about these facilities. The Grama Panchayat members, president and other politician of particular village taking more benefits under MGNREGA compare to other people in the village and supervisor had favor to relatives, friend in allotting works under MGNREGA. This is due to the fact that generally members, president and other politician of particular village may have high social status, more participation in GP and might have authority to take more works in their farm and supervisor might have allot more their relatives and friends due to their favoritism. The management in Grama Panchayat may not good, it may be due to PDO, secretary and other staff in the GP might have more work load due to lack of human resources.

The GP may not give any extra wages to meet the transportation cost, it may be due to lack of fund in the GP. The GP may distribute more works to recognized persons in the villages and they might have created more quality assets on their farm due to political pressure and influence. The constraints faced by the beneficiaries in this study are in line with

the earlier findings of Jain (1989), Jaffer (2007), Ambasta *et al.* (2008), Mehrotra (2008), Kohli (2009), Maulick (2009), Anonymous (2010b) and Anonymous (2010d).

### **5.9. Suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA**

The suggestions offered by beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA were presented in the Table 17 and reveals that majority of the beneficiaries suggested there is need to increase the wage rate (Rank I), transparency in evaluating the works undertaken (Rank II), wages should be paid in time (Rank III) and proper publicity for Grama Sabha (Rank IV). This may be due to fact that workers/farmers are getting more wages in other than MGNREGA works in the village and also may be rise in prices of all daily needs farmers may find difficult to maintain their livelihood and in general the wages should paid on weekly basis but the GP delayed to pay the wages more than months. The beneficiaries were not aware about place and date of Grama Sabha. It may be due to lack of human resources and also GP may need separate working staff to look after MGNREGA works.

The other suggestions offered by the beneficiaries were strict adherence to rules and regulations of GP (Rank V), works should be suspend during peak agriculture season (Rank VI), works should be prioritized properly (Rank VII), provide works per family member instead of per household (Rank VIII). This may be due to fact that in some areas the beneficiaries were created assets in their farm lands and paid the wages to the workers and claimed from the GP but this is not the procedure or rules of MGNREGA. The MGNREGA works should be suspended during peak agricultural season because beneficiaries were busy in their agricultural works like land preparation, sowing, leveling, weeding, harvesting and other works, due to this the farmers may not

find time to work under MGNRGA. The GP allots more works to its members, presidents and their relatives, it may be due to political pressure and influence which leads to non availability of benefits to the rural poor. In villages the beneficiaries migrated to cities for searching works due to unemployment. Under MGNREGA, the employment generation restricted to only 100 days per year, which is not sufficient to meet the demand of employment in rural areas.

The other least important suggestions offered by the beneficiaries were proper management is required at Grama Panchyat (Rank X), Need to minimize the procedure to take up projects by individual beneficiaries (Rank XI). The GP should allots the individual farm works to the needy people and supervise and monitor works properly. GP should minimize the procedures to take up the projects by individual beneficiaries, there is a need to give proper publicity regarding conducting of Grama Sabha and allots the farm works to the poor farmers in the Grama Sabha only. The suggestions offered by the beneficiaries in this study are in line with the earlier suggestions of Joshi *et al.* (2008), Anonymous (2010a), and Anonymous (2010d).



## **VI. SUMMARY**

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) was notified on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2005. To start with, this Act covered 200 districts in the country during its first phase of implementation in 2006-07 and extended to additional 130 districts in financial year 2007-2008. The remaining districts were notified under NREGA with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2008. The Government of India (GOI) on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009 has renamed the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The basic objective of the Act is to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. This scheme has also served other auxiliary objectives like generating productive assets, protecting the environment, empowering rural women and reducing rural-urban migration. The current study was undertaken with the following objectives.

### **The specific objectives of the study are**

1. To measure the knowledge of beneficiaries about MGNREGA.
2. To assess the employment generation under MGNREGA.
3. To document the assets created on the farms of beneficiaries under MGNREGA.
4. To enlist the community assets created in the village under MGNREGA.
5. To analyze the socio-economic and psychological profile of beneficiaries and to determine their relationship with knowledge, employment generation and asset creation under MGNREGA.
6. To record the constraints experienced and suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA.

### **Sampling frame work**

The study was conducted in Tumkur District of Karnataka State. Tumkur District consists of ten taluks, out of which four taluks selected based on the highest budget allocation under MGNREGA. From each of these selected taluks two Gram Panchyats were selected based on the same criteria. Further, from each of these Grama Panchyats, 15 beneficiaries selected randomly. Thus, making a total sample of 120 respondents. Data were collected through structured interview schedule and analyzed the data by using simple mean, percentages standard deviation, correlation and regression.

### **Salient findings of the study**

1. Half (50.00 %) of the beneficiaries were middle aged followed by old (35.83%) and young (14.17%) aged categories.
2. Majority (68.33%) of the beneficiaries were male and 31.67 per cent of the beneficiaries were female.
3. A great majority (97.50 %) of the beneficiaries were married and remaining 2.50 percent were unmarried.
4. About 53.33 per cent of the respondents belonged to Other Backward Castes (OBCs) and 36.67 per cent respondents belonged to Scheduled Castes (SCs)/ Scheduled Tribes (STs) followed by General castes (10.00%).
5. About 33.33 per cent of the beneficiaries were completed primary school, 27.50 per cent of the respondents had middle school education, 14.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were illiterate, 13.33 per cent of the beneficiaries completed high school education, 6.67 per cent of the

respondents had PU education and only 5.00 per cent of the beneficiaries were completed graduation.

6. Majority (61.67%) of beneficiaries were small farmers followed semi-medium farmers (28.33 %) and 12.00 per cent were marginal farmers.
7. Cent per cent of the beneficiaries main occupation was agriculture whereas, dairy was the major subsidiary occupation (47.19 %).
8. Majority (75.83 %) of the beneficiaries belonged to nuclear family whereas 24.17 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to joint family.
9. Majority (68.33 %) of the beneficiaries belonged to small family followed by big family (31.67%).
10. Majority of the beneficiaries belonged to the APL family which was creamy layer (65.83 %) and remaining 34.17 per cent of the beneficiaries belonged to the BPL family.
11. Cent per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns. With regard to period of visits 30.00 per cent of the beneficiaries visited nearest towns once in month followed by fortnightly (25.83 %), weekly (22.50 %), thrice a week (15.83 %) and daily (3.33 %).
12. Around 14.17 per cent beneficiaries were member to self help group, Gram Panchayat (4.17 %), co-operative society (7.50 %), farmers association (2.50 %) and Taluk Panchayat (1.67 %). With respect to extent of participation, 24.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were oftenly participated in Garm Panchayat followed by self help group (19.17 %) and equal per cent (15.00 %) in Taluk Panchayat and co-operative society whereas, least in Zilla Panchayat (1.67 %) and farmers association (2.50 %).

13. More than one third (39.17 %) of the beneficiaries contacted Gram Panchayat members regularly whereas, 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries oftenly contacted to Gram Panchayat Secretary followed by Gram Panchayat Chairman (42.50 %) and Panchayat Development Officer (34.17 %).
14. Radio was possessed by 39.17 per cent of the beneficiaries and among them 44.17 per cent of the beneficiaries were occasional listeners. Television was possessed by 65.00 per cent of the beneficiaries and from among them 52.50 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular viewers. Newspaper was subscribed by 14.17 per cent of the beneficiaries and among them 12.50 per cent of beneficiaries were regular readers of newspaper.
15. Cent per cent of the beneficiaries had knowledge about the components like objective of MGNREGA providing 100 days of wage employment, adult members of rural household are eligible beneficiaries under MGNREGA and equal wages for men & women.
16. About 23.33 per cent of the respondents got employment of 71-80 man days in a year followed by 91-100 man days (19.17 %), 61-70 man days (16.17 %), 31-40 man days (5.00 %) and least (2.50 %) of the beneficiaries got employment of 21-30 man days.
17. Total individual farm works under MGNREGA was 207, out of which the major works were horticultural planting (33.33 %) followed by bunding and land leveling works (25.60 %), small irrigation channel construction (15.46 %), tree plantation (14.49 %), farm pond construction and renovation (7.73 %) and fodder crops (3.38 %).
18. In community assets creation 21.35 per cent of the MGNREGA beneficiaries were participated desiltation of tanks and cleaning of

community ponds followed by community building and compound construction works (20.83 %), road works (17.18 %), drainage and cleaning works (15.63 %), irrigation channel and cleaning (12.50 %), afforestation and tree plantation (6.77 %) and check dam construction and renovation (5.73 %).

19. The variables such as education and mass media participation had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, caste, urban contact, social participation and extension contact had positive and significant relationship with knowledge level of the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance.
20. The variables such as caste, land holding and annual income had negative and significant relationship with employment generation at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, occupation and urban contact had negative and significant relationship with employment generation at five per cent level of significance.
21. The variables such as caste and education had positive and significant relationship with farm assets created by the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Whereas, land holding, urban contact and social participation had positive and significant relationship with farm assets created by the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance.
22. The variables such as land holding, annual income, urban contact, extension contact and mass media participation had negative and significant relationship with community assets created by the beneficiaries at one per cent level of significance. Caste, education and social participation were found to be negative and significant relationship with community assets created by the beneficiaries at five per cent level of significance.

23. There was 62.70 per cent variation in knowledge level of beneficiaries was explained by all fourteen variables included in the study as evidenced by  $R^2$  value. Mass media participation had significantly contributed at one per cent level of probability. Whereas, caste, education, urban contact, social participation and extension contact had a positive influence on the knowledge level which was found to be significant at five per cent level of probability.
24. The independent variables such as caste, land holding, annual income, occupation and urban contact had significant contribution at five per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of employment generation by the beneficiaries.
25. The independent variables such as caste, education land holding, annual income, urban contact social participation and mass media participation were significant at five per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of farm assets created by the beneficiaries. However, all the variables put together explained the variation to the extent of 74.40 per cent among the beneficiaries with regard to farm assets creation.
26. Mass media participation was significant at one per cent level of probability in explaining the variation of beneficiaries with regard community assets created. The other independent variables such as land holding, annual income, urban contact, extension contact, caste, education and social participation were significant at five per cent level of probability. Further, it was found that, 66.30 per cent of the variation among the beneficiaries with regard to community assets created.
27. Delay in payment of wages, insufficient wage rate, creation of poor quality assets and no proper publicity for Grama Sabha were the major constraints faced by MGNREGA beneficiaries.

28. There is need to enhance the wage rate, transparency in evaluating the works undertaken, wages should be paid in time and proper publicity for Grama Sabha were the major suggestions given by beneficiaries for successful implementation of MGNREGA.

### **Implications and recommendations**

1. The beneficiaries had less knowledge about existence and functioning of Local Vigilance and Monitoring Committee (LVMC) at Grama Panchayat level to monitor MGNREGA works, getting information related to MGNREGA under Right to Information Act to the public and beneficiaries are entitled to get unemployment allowance, incase Gram Panchayat fail to provide employment within 15 days of application for work. Hence, there is need to create awareness among MGNREGA beneficiaries regarding these components by the MGNREGA implementing agency.
2. It is observed that the construction of buildings roads and desiltation works of MGNREGA have generated more employment than other works under community assets. Similarly horticulture planting, bunding and leveling and forest tree plants have created high man days of employment in individual farms. The implementing agency of MGNREGA shall note of this and make necessary arrangement to strengthen these works.
3. It is found that variables such as education, social participation, extension contact and mass media participation have significant relationship with the knowledge level of the beneficiaries. To enhance the knowledge level of the beneficiaries it is necessary to motivate the beneficiaries to take part more in social organization activities, better contact with extension agency and greater participation in mass media as well as awareness programmes needs to be organized at village level to make people to know about different aspects of MGNREGA.

4. Monitoring and social auditing of MGNREGA works must be made still more effective by the implementing agency so as to ensure payment of wages in time, issuing of job cards to all the registered households under MGNREGA without any delay and hassles and Grama Sabha should be made more participatory through wide publicity.



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*APPENDICES*

## **INTERVIEW SCHEDULE**

### **Impact of MGNREGA on Employment Generation and Assets Creation in Tumkur District of Karnataka State.**

#### **PART I**

Respondent No.:

#### **General Information:**

- a) Name of the Respondent :
- b) Village :
- c) Gram Panchayath :
- d) Taluk :
- e) Contact Phone No :

#### **PART II**

**1. Age of the Respondent** (in completed years):\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Sex :** Male/ Female

**3. Marital Status :** Married/ Unmarried

**4. Caste :**

- a) SC/ST
- b) OBC
- c) General

**5. Education:**

- a) Illiterate
- b) Primary school
- c) Middle school
- d) High school
- e) PUC
- f) Graduation

**6. Landholding:**

Dry: ----- Ac

Wet: ----- Ac

Garden: ----- Ac

---

Total Ac

---

**7. Occupation:**

a) Main occupation:

- a) Agriculture
- b) Agricultural labourer
- c) Caste based occupation
- d) Sericulture
- e) Any other (specify)

b) Subsidiary occupation:

- a) Dairy
- b) Poultry
- c) Sheep and goat rearing
- d) Business
- e) Sericulture
- f) Any other (specify)

**8. Family size:**

a) Small family (up to 5):

b) Big family (above 5):

**9. Family type:** Nuclear / Joint family**10. Annual income:** (Net income obtained during the previous year)

| Sl. No. | Source                 | Income (in Rs. Per annum) |
|---------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.      | Farming                |                           |
| 2.      | Labour wages           |                           |
| 3.      | Other (Please specify) |                           |
|         | a)                     |                           |
|         | b)                     |                           |
|         | c)                     |                           |
|         | d)                     |                           |
|         | Total                  |                           |

**11. Urban contact:**

a) Have you ever visited the nearby towns/ cities ?

Yes/ No

b) If yes how often you visit towns/ cities?

Daily/ thrice a week/ weekly/ fortnightly/ monthly/ quarterly/

half yearly/ yearly/ never

c) Purpose of visit :

Agricultural/ Non agricultural

**12. Social participation:**

Indicate whether you are a member or office bearer of any social organization? If any, how often you attend the activities?

| Sl. No. | Name of the organization | Membership |               | Extent of participation |       |            |       |
|---------|--------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------|------------|-------|
|         |                          | Member     | Office bearer | Regular                 | Often | Occasional | Never |
| 1.      | Grama Panchayat          |            |               |                         |       |            |       |
| 2       | Taluk Panchayat          |            |               |                         |       |            |       |
| 3.      | Zilla Panchayat          |            |               |                         |       |            |       |
| 4.      | Co-operative Society     |            |               |                         |       |            |       |
| 5       | SHG                      |            |               |                         |       |            |       |
| 6       | Youth club               |            |               |                         |       |            |       |
| 7       | Farmers Association      |            |               |                         |       |            |       |
| 5.      | Any other(specify)       |            |               |                         |       |            |       |

**13. Extension contact:**

Please indicate the frequency of contact with Extension Agency.

| Sl. No. | Source                              | Frequency of contact |       |            |       |
|---------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|------------|-------|
|         |                                     | Regular              | Often | Occasional | Never |
| 1       | Gram Panchayath Members             |                      |       |            |       |
| 2       | Gram Panchayath Secretary           |                      |       |            |       |
| 3       | Gram Panchayath Chairman            |                      |       |            |       |
| 4       | Panchayath Development Officer      |                      |       |            |       |
| 5.      | Assistant Agriculture Officer (AAO) |                      |       |            |       |
| 6.      | Executive Officer (EO)              |                      |       |            |       |
| 7.      | Agriculture Officer (AO)            |                      |       |            |       |
| 8.      | Assistant Horticulture Officer      |                      |       |            |       |
| 9.      | Assistant Director of Agriculture   |                      |       |            |       |
| 10.     | Range Forest Officer                |                      |       |            |       |
| 11.     | Krushi Vignana Kendra (KVK)         |                      |       |            |       |
| 12.     | Any other (specify)                 |                      |       |            |       |

#### 14. Mass media participation:

| SL NO | Medium                      | Subscriber/ owner |    | Listening/ viewing/ reading habit |            |       |
|-------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----|-----------------------------------|------------|-------|
|       |                             | Yes               | No | Regular                           | Occasional | Never |
| 1     | Radio                       |                   |    |                                   |            |       |
| 2     | Television                  |                   |    |                                   |            |       |
| 3     | Newspaper                   |                   |    |                                   |            |       |
| 4     | Magazines/ journals         |                   |    |                                   |            |       |
| 5     | Wall writing                |                   |    |                                   |            |       |
| 6     | Hand bills                  |                   |    |                                   |            |       |
| 7     | Public Address System (PAS) |                   |    |                                   |            |       |
| 8     | Public meeting              |                   |    |                                   |            |       |

### Part III

#### 1. Knowledge level of beneficiaries about MGNREGA

| SL No | Components                                                                                                       | Knowledge |            |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
|       |                                                                                                                  | Know      | Don't know |
| 1     | Main objective of MGNREGA is to provide a minimum 100 days' of wage employment to rural house hold               |           |            |
| 2     | Adult members of rural household who are willing to do unskilled manual work are eligible beneficiary of MGNREGA |           |            |
| 3     | Application for getting job card need to be submitted to Gram Panchayath                                         |           |            |
| 4     | Gram Panchayath identifies the beneficiaries of MGNREGA                                                          |           |            |
| 5     | Job cards are issued free of cost by the gram Panchayath                                                         |           |            |
| 6     | Job card should be issued within 15 days of                                                                      |           |            |

|    |                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
|    | submitting application                                                                                                                                                        |  |  |
| 7  | Employment has to be given within 15 days of submitting application for work                                                                                                  |  |  |
| 8  | Workers will get wages of Rs.125 /day under MGNREGA                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| 9  | Beneficiaries are entitled to get unemployment allowance, incase Gram Panchayath fail to give employment within 15 days of application for work                               |  |  |
| 10 | Beneficiaries will get unemployment allowance 25% of the wage rate up to 30 days and for remaining period of financial year is 50% of the wage rate                           |  |  |
| 11 | Works have to be provided with in 5 Km radius of the village                                                                                                                  |  |  |
| 12 | Payment of wages has to be done within 15 days of work and it should be provided on weekly basis                                                                              |  |  |
| 13 | Wages are paid through post office/ bank                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
| 14 | Bank account will be opened free of cost for the beneficiaries                                                                                                                |  |  |
| 15 | Projects for the village are identified by the Grama Sabha and recommended to Zilla Panchayath for approval                                                                   |  |  |
| 16 | Person below 18 year are not permitted to work under MGNREGA                                                                                                                  |  |  |
| 17 | 33.3% of the beneficiaries should be women                                                                                                                                    |  |  |
| 18 | Equal wages for men and women                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
| 10 | Contractors are not allowed to carry out work                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
| 20 | Machineries are not allowed to execute the MGNREGA works                                                                                                                      |  |  |
| 21 | If more than five children under the age of six years are present, child care facilities should also be provided at work site                                                 |  |  |
| 22 | Medical assistance must be available at the worksite for injury if, any.                                                                                                      |  |  |
| 23 | Under Right to Information Act public can get information related to MGNREGA                                                                                                  |  |  |
| 24 | Social audit has to be done by Gram Sabha                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| 25 | The MGNREGA Grama Sabha meeting should be held at-least every six months to review all aspects of social audit                                                                |  |  |
| 26 | In social audit forum verify the financial expenditure, examine the provision of entitlement , critically evaluate the quality of work as well as services of programme staff |  |  |
| 27 | At gram panchyath level a Local Vigilance and Monitoring Committee(LVMC) has been constituted to look after MGNREGA works                                                     |  |  |

|    |                                                                                                                |  |  |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 28 | The Gram Sabha will elect the members of LVMC and priority should be given to SC/ ST and women                 |  |  |
| 29 | There should be 50% of the members from among MGNREGA workers in LVMC                                          |  |  |
| 30 | Wages are paid for the job card holders even if they work on their own farm lands and create individual assets |  |  |

31. Name the community assets created under MGNREGA

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
- f)

32. Name the individual/ farm assets created under MGNREGA

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)

## 2. Employment generation under MGNREGA

| SL No          | Name of the family member | Age | Number of days employed on your farm during previous year (man days) under MGNREGA | Number of days employed outside your farm during previous year (man days) under MGNREGA | Total man days |
|----------------|---------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                |                           |     |                                                                                    |                                                                                         |                |
|                |                           |     |                                                                                    |                                                                                         |                |
|                |                           |     |                                                                                    |                                                                                         |                |
|                |                           |     |                                                                                    |                                                                                         |                |
|                |                           |     |                                                                                    |                                                                                         |                |
| Total man days |                           |     |                                                                                    |                                                                                         |                |

**3. Assets created under MGNREGA during previous year**  
**a). Individual Assets**

| SL NO | Assets created | Number of assets created/ Qty | Number of days employed during previous year | Quality of assets created |         |      |
|-------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|------|
|       |                |                               |                                              | Good                      | Average | Poor |
|       |                |                               |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                               |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                               |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                               |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                               |                                              |                           |         |      |

**b). Community Assets**

| SL NO | Assets created | Number of assets created / Qty | Number of days employed during previous year | Quality of assets created |         |      |
|-------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|------|
|       |                |                                |                                              | Good                      | Average | Poor |
|       |                |                                |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                                |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                                |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                                |                                              |                           |         |      |
|       |                |                                |                                              |                           |         |      |

**4. Problems faced by the beneficiaries in getting the benefits of MGNREGA**

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

**5. Suggestions offered by the beneficiaries for better implementing MGNREGA**

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)