



## **A STUDY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ACHIEVEMENT OF MGNREGA IN PACHIM MANGALDAI BLOCK OF DARRANG DISTRICT OF ASSAM WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO RANGAMATIGAON PANCHAYAT**

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**ABSTRACT :** *In our country poverty and unemployment are the main issues to be dealt with which are hindering our social and economic upliftment.*

*According to 2011 census India's rural population is 68.8% of the total population and Assam's rural population is 85.9% of the total population. Rural Indian economy is characterized by poverty, low level of income, agricultural backwardness, population explosion unemployment problem, lack of infrastructural facilities, etc. The Government of India introduced various programs for rural development. The 'Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act' (MGNREGA) which was formerly known as 'National Rural Employment Guarantee Act' (NREGA, 2005) is one of the policy initiated by the Government of India under Ministry of Rural Development to eradicate poverty and unemployment. The basic objective of this study is to examine the achievement and impact of MGNREGA on the rural people of PachimMangaldai Block and specially Rangamati Gaon Panchayat which is taken as study area. A total of 200 samples were taken from different villages of the Rangamati Gaon Panchayat of PachimMangaldai Block of Darrang District. The results have revealed that the program was successful empowering the rural people of the study area.*

**Keywords:** *MGNREGA, PachimMangaldai Block, Rangamati Gaon Panchayat, Workers.*

### **I. Introduction:**

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme was introduced during the 11<sup>th</sup> five-year plan for giving wage employment opportunities to the rural poor during their lean agricultural season when they require

wage employment for enhancing purchasing power. Under this programme, willing unskilled labourers of rural area are given job cards with guarantee to provide 100 days employment in a financial year. In Assam the Act was first introduced in the



year 2005 covering 7 districts viz. Goalpara, Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur and North Kachar Hill districts. The Govt. of India bears 100% burden of wage expenditure for the job card holders. For the expenditure of material part, Govt. of India pays 75% and the rest 25% is borne by the State Govt. MGNREGA is to be implemented mainly by Gram Panchayat (GPs).

Apart from providing economic security and creating rural assets, MGNREGA can help in protecting the environment, empowering rural women, reducing rural-urban migration and fostering social equity among others.

## **II. Significance of the Study:**

MGNREGA, 2005 is an innovative step that government of India has taken which aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every house hold whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Need of the hour is to make the rural people particularly women should be acquainted thoroughly with every aspect of the scheme. Keeping in mind the importance of this programme this research

work focuses to study the implementation and achievement of MGNREGA in the Pachim-Mangaldai block of Darrang district and especially in Rangamati Gaon Panchayat.

Various social scientists have made attempt to study the impact of MGNREGA and implementation procedures of it.

A study by Saikia A and Borah A.J. (2017) has discussed the impact of MGNREGA on rural livelihood in Kamrup district of Assam. Their study reveals that MGNREGA will be successful in Assam if the government will take steps for providing adequate information of the Act through panchayats and the development blocks among the rural people in time to time through Gram Sabha or other such meeting so that rural job seekers get easily involved in the work.

Borah Kabita and Bordoloi Rimjhim (2014) have discussed the impact and obstacles in implementing MGNREGA scheme on daily waged women workers of Sonitpur district of Assam. The study reveals that the performance of MGNREGA is not full satisfactory. The scheme could not ensure the 100 days job guarantee to the majority of the job card holders.



Agarwala Amal Kr. and Das Bibhuti Bhusan (2012) have studied the employment generation scheme of MGNREGA in Pub – Nalbari Development Block. Their study reveals that MGNREGA had shown a positive tendency as regards to the income level of the workers. But the level of income of the workers had not increased up to expectation. They have found that there is no difference between male literacy and female literacy as regards to engagement under the scheme. Their study showed that MGNREGA had been taking significant role in providing employment in the study area.

### **III.Objectives of the study:**

- a) To examine the degree of achievement of the scheme in the Pachim Mangaldai Development Block.
- b) To study the socio-economic background of the beneficiaries of the act under the study area.
- c) To suggest appropriate suggestion for its effective implementation.

### **IV.Methodology:**

The present study is a descriptive research work based on both primary and secondary data. Required primary data has been collected through a well structured questionnaire and personal interview from

the rural people under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) with special reference to Rangamati Gaon Panchayat under Pachim-Mangaldai block of Darrang District. Dariapara, Bhalukkhowa para, Saruthekerabari, Niz-Rangamati A and Niz-RangamatiB are the Panchayat villages selected for the purpose of the study. We have selected 200 respondents for the purpose of the study adopting survey method. Required secondary data has been collected from the sources like website of MGNREGA, block office, Statistical Handbook, Assam, Economic Survey, Assam, various publications and report etc.

### **Data from state and district:**

Total number of Employment Generated (Man days) [in Nos.] in Assam were 91312514. Out of which 4031836 were SCs, 13240665 were STs, 74040013 were others and 40254497 were women during 2020 – 2021. In Darrang district total nos. were 3332628. Out of which 90299 were SCs, 10346 were STs, 3231983 were others and 1519486 were Women under MGNREGA during 2020 - 2021.

In Assam 3603949 Job cards were issued, 2718113 Households demanded employment, 2512406 Households provided



employment and 71701 Households provided 100 days employment during 2020 - 2021. In Darrang district 101456 Job cards were issued, 86293 Households demanded employment, 77737 Households provided employment and 4196 Households provided 100 days employment under MGNREGA during 2020 – 2021.(Source: Statistical Handbook, Assam, 2021) (Source: Statistical Handbook, Assam, 2021)

### V. Analysis and interpretation (Secondary Data):

#### Number of households and workers registered under MGNREGA:

Number of households registered in the Pachim-Mangaldai block was 22378 and no. of workers registered in this block was 43500 in the financial year, 2020-21. Especially in the Rangamati Gaon Panchayat, the no. of households registered was 2439 and no. of total workers registered was 4800 in the 2020-21 year.

Sl. No	Name of Gaon panchayat	No. of registered	
		Household	Person
1	Aulachowka	2068	3481
2	Chamuapara	2039	4005
3	Chapai	2192	3756
4	Dahi	1858	3464
5	Jaljali	1766	4143
6	Janaramchowka	2140	4011
7	Nagarbahi	2063	4329
8	Ramhari	1974	4153
9	Rangamati	2439	4800
10	Raumari	2100	4525
11	Upahupara	1745	2833
Total		22378	43500

Source: Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of Assam

#### Demand for employment:

The programme it self is a demand driven programme under which a person can demand for 100 days work in a year. In the entire block total 11715 households demanded employment under the act during the year 2020-21. In Rangamati GP, out of the total households 1649 households (14.08%) demanded employment under MGNREGA during the year 2020-21. In the entire block 22617 persons demanded employment. In Rangamati Gaon Panchayat, 3395(15.01%) persons demanded employment.

**TABLE2:** Cumulative no. of household and persons demanding employments in Pachim-Mangaldai Block under MGNREGA in 2020-21.

SL N O.	Name of Gaon Panchayat	Cumulative no. of household and person	
		Household	person
1	Aulachowka	1102	1917
2	Chamuapara	1026	1998
3	Chapai	816	1418
4	Dahi	919	1725
5	Jaljali	857	1810
6	Janaramchowka	1147	2099
7	Nagarbahi	1172	2208
8	Ramhari	983	1916
9	Rangamati	1649	3395
10	Raumari	1232	2797
11	Upahupara	812	1334
Total		11715	22617

Source: Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of Assam



**Generation of employment:**

22079 numbers of employments were generated under MGNREGA in Pachim-Mangaldai Block of which 634(2.87%) numbers belonged to SC, 51(0.23%) belonged to ST and remaining 21394 numbers belonged to other classes. In Rangamati Gaon Panchayat, total nos. of employment generation were 2439 of which 9 (0.37%) belonged to SC, and 2430 nos.(99.63%) belonged to other classes in the financial year 2020-21 .

**TABLE3:** Cumulative no. of employment generation in Pachim-Mangaldai Block under MGNREGA 2020-21

SL No.	Name of Gaon Panchayat	Cumulative no. of Employment Generation		
		SC	ST	Others
1	Aulachowka	4	13	1952
2	Chamuapara	11	2	2023
3	Chapai	23	13	2154
4	Dahi	130	0	1845
5	Jaljali	52	0	1666
6	Janaramchowka	1	0	2137
7	Nagarbahi	68	0	1990
8	Ramhari	10	0	1962
9	Rangamati	9	0	2430
10	Raumari	98	0	1950
11	Upahupara	395	23	1285
Total		634	51	21394

Source: Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of Assam

**Registration of workers under the Act:**

In Pachim-Mangaldai Block of Darrang district, total no. of registered workers were 46137, where 1176 were SC, 88 were ST and 44867 were belonged to other classes . Specially in Rangamati Gaon panchayat, 21 were SC, 9 were ST and 5060 were belonged to other classes in the financial year 2020-21 .

**TABLE4:** No. of workers registered in Pachim-Mangaldai block in 2020-21

SL NO	Name of Gaon Panchayat	S C	ST	Other	Total
1	Aulachowka	5	23	3611	3639
2	Chamuapara	2	5	4360	4387
3	Chapai	4	21	3900	3964
4	Dahi	2	0	3741	3767
5	Jaljali	119	0	4079	4198
6	Janaramcho	1	0	4554	4555
7	Nagarbahi	132	0	4444	4576
8	Ramhari	4	2	4629	4674
9	Rangamati	2	9	5060	5090
10	Raumari	9	0	4116	4209
11	Upahupara	671	28	2373	3072
TOTAL		1176	88	44867	46131

Source: Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of Assam

**Active workers:**

In Pachim-Mangaldai Block, total 28557 were active workers in 2020-21 financial year. Category wise 604(2.11 %) were SC, 88 were ST and 44867 were belonged to other classes .



people were from SC category,30(0.11%) were from ST category, 27923 (97.78%) people were from other category.In Rangamati Gaon Panchayat, 14 people (0.41%) were SC category, none (0%) were ST category,3418(99.59%) were from other category in 2020-21year.

SL No	Name of G.P.	SC	ST	Other	Total
1	Aulachowka	0	7	2220	2227
2	Chamuapara	6	1	2584	2591
3	Chapai	25	9	2140	2174
4	Da	13	0	2631	2644
5	Jalj	61	0	2648	2709
6	Janaramchowk	0	0	2877	2877
7	Nagarbahi	77	0	2683	2760
8	Ramhari	17	0	2906	2923
9	Rangamati	14	0	3418	3432
10	Raumari	59	0	2547	2606
11	Upahupara	332	13	1269	1614
Total		604	30	27923	28557

Source: Ministry of Rural Development, Govt.of Assam

### Average Wage Paid:

The rate of wages paid to the Job cards holders was 212.97 per worker. The total amount of wages paid to the workers in the Pachim Mangaldai block was found to be Rs.6081784.29 during the financial year 2020-21. In Rangamati GP, total amount of wages paid to the workers was found to be Rs.730913.04

### Table no.6:

Average wage paid in Pachim Mangaldai Block in 2020-21

Sl. No	Name of GP	Wage rate in Rs.	Total amount paid in wag	No. of person days
1	Aulachowka	212.97	474284.1	28757
2	Chamuapara	212.97	551805.2	24649
3	Chapai	212.97	462996.7	21130
4	Dahi	212.97	563092.7	25084
5	Jaljalai	212.97	576935.7	30501
6	Janaramchow	212.97	612714.6	35143
7	Nagarbahi	212.97	587797.2	56881
8	Ramhari	212.97	622511.3	27480
9	Raumari	212.97	554999.8	63012
10	Rangamati	212.97	730913.0	67278
11	Upahupara	212.97	343733.5	24314
To			6081784.	40422

Source: Ministry of Rural Development, Govt.of Assam

### Employment Generated and Person days created:

Total 404229 person days were created in the block during the 2020-21 period. The SCs covered in the scheme were 8896 (2.2%). The STs covered in the scheme were 270 (0.07%). In Rangamati GP, total 63012 person days were created. The SCs covered in the scheme in this GP were 306. There was no nebel onging to ST people having employed under the scheme and the other category covered 62706 during 2020 – 2021.



SL.NO	Name ofGP	SC	ST	Others	Total	SC%	ST%
1	Aulachowca	0	0	28757	28757	0	0
2	Chamuapara	0	0	24649	24649	0	0
3	Chapai	114	60	20956	21130	1.28	22.22
4	Dahi	126	0	24958	25084	1.42	0
5	Janjali	643	0	24858	30501	7.23	0
6	Janaramchowk	0	0	35143	35143	0	0
7	Nagarbahi	1380	0	55501	56881	15.51	0
8	Ramhari	254	0	27246	27480	2.63	0
9	Rangamati	306	0	62706	63012	3.43	0
10	Raumari	1799	0	65984	67278	20.28	0
11	Upahupara	4299	210	19805	24314	48.33	77.77
	Total:-	8896	270	395063	404229		

Population in Rangamati GPare about 13000 .The study was conducted on 5 villages viz. Bhalukhowapara, Dariapara, Saruthekerabari, Niz- Rangamati- A and Niz-Rangamati- B of the Rangamati Gaon Panchayat of the Pachim –Mangaldai Block. For surveya sample of 200 respondents were randomly selected and were taken into consideration.Among the 200 sample workers, 148 workers had job card and 52 had no job card in the 2020-21 financial year.

**Following information were observed from the samples:**

In Bhalukhowapara village 19%people have Job card and 20% have BPL card.In Dariaparavillage 19% people have Job card and 19% have BPL card. InSaruthekerabarivillage 23% people have Job card and 23% have BPL card. In Niz-Rangamati –A village 19% people have Job card and 17% have BPL card. In Niz-Rangamati – B village 20% people have Job card and 21% have BPL card. In the study



area, 35% Job card holder people were under Metric, 25% were Metric pass, 21% were HS pass and 19% people were Graduate. 72% Job card holder people were in the age of 30-60. 22% people were of age above 60 and 6% were age of below 30. In the study area 50% Job card holders were from general cast, 46% and 4% Job card holders were from OBC and ST category respectively. There were no SC people in the study area.

**Following hypotheses were developed on the basis of the data collection from the sample respondents:**

**Hypothesis 1:** There is no significant difference between the level of average income before and after administration of MGNREGA workers.

**Hypothesis 2:** Income of the MGNREGA workers depend on the age group of the workers.

**Hypothesis 3:** Income of the MGNREGA workers depend on the qualifications of the workers

For testing the hypotheses t-test and chi-square test have been used.

**Paired t-test for difference of means:**

Null hypothesis,  $H_0$ : There is no significant difference between the level of average income before and after job card of the workers under the MGNREGA scheme .

$$\text{Test statistic: } t = \bar{d} / \sqrt{(S^2/n)}$$

Where,  $\bar{d} = \frac{1}{n} \sum d$  [where d is difference of income]

$$S^2 = \frac{1}{(n-1)} [\sum d^2 - (\sum d)^2/n]$$

n = no. of observations = 5

Now we make the following table for the calculation of t:

Sl. No.	Village Name	Average Income of workers		$d_i$	$d_i^2$
		After Job card	Before Job card		
1	Dariapara	6392	4571	1821	3316041
2	Bhalukhowapara	10500	8375	2125	4515625
3	Sarutheke rabari	9588	6882	2706	7322436
4	Niz Rangamati - A	9000	7000	2000	4000000
5	Niz Rangamati - B	9571	7000	2571	6610041
	Total			11223	25764143



Now,  $\bar{d} = 1/5 (\Sigma d) = 1/5 (11223) = 2244.6$  And

$$S^2 = 1/4 [\Sigma d^2 - (\Sigma d)^2/n]$$

$$= 1/4 \{25764143 - (125955729/5)\}$$

$$= 1/4 (25764143 - 25191145.8) = 1/4 (572997.2)$$

$$= 143249.3$$

Putting these values we get

$$: t = \bar{d} / \sqrt{(S^2/n)}$$

$$= 2244.6 / \sqrt{(143249.3/5)}$$

$$= 13.26$$

**Conclusion:** Table value of t at 5% level of significance with 4 degree of freedom is 2.78. Since calculated 't' is much greater than tabulated t, it is highly significant and  $H_0$  is rejected. . Hence we conclude that there is difference between the level of average income before and after job card of the MGNREGA workers.

**Confidence interval:**

95% confidence limit for d is:  $\bar{d} \pm t_{0.05} \times (S/\sqrt{n}) = 2244.6 \pm 2.776 \times (378.48 / 2.23)$

$$= 2244.6 \pm 2.776 \times 169.72 = 2244.6 + 471.14, 2244.6 - 471.14$$

$$= 2715.74, 1773.46$$

**Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ) test:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Table:**

Null hypothesis: Here we set up the null hypothesis that income of the workers depend on the age group of the workers. Following information were observed from the sample:

Age group	No. of workers		Total
	Income below Rs. 8000	Income above Rs. 8000	
Below 60	38	72	110
Above 60	18	10	28
Total	56	82	138

Chi-square can be calculated by adopting the following formula:

$$\chi^2 = \Sigma (f_i - e_i)^2 / e_i$$

Where,  $f_i$  = Observed frequencies,  $e_i$  = Expected frequencies

The expected frequencies are shown in the following table:

Age group (years)	No. of workers		Total
	Income below Rs. 8000	Income above Rs. 8000	
Below 60	$(110 \times 56) / 138 = 44.64$	$(110 \times 82) / 138 = 65.36$	110
Above 60	$(28 \times 56) / 138 = 11.36$	$(28 \times 82) / 138 = 16.64$	28
Total	56	82	138

Now we make the following table for the calculation of  $\chi^2$ :



Class	Frequency		$(f_i - e_i)$	$(f_i - e_i)^2 / e_i$
	Observed ( $f_i$ )	Expected ( $e_i$ )		
Age having below 60 years and income below Rs.8000	38	44.64	-6.64	0.99
Age having below 60 years and income above Rs.8000	72	65.36	6.64	0.67
Age having above 60 years and income below Rs.8000	18	11.36	6.64	3.88
Age having above 60 years and income above Rs.8000	10	16.64	-6.64	2.65
Total				8.19

Now,  $\chi^2 = \sum (f_i - e_i)^2 / e_i = 8.19$

Degrees of freedom =  $(2-1)(2-1) = 1$

Tabulated  $\chi^2$  at 5% level of significance for 1 d.f. is 3.841

**Conclusion:** Since the calculated value of  $\chi^2(8.19)$  is greater than tabulated  $\chi^2(3.841)$ , it is significant and null hypothesis is rejected. Hence we conclude that the income of the workers does not depend on the age group of the workers.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Table:**

Null hypothesis: Here we set up the null hypothesis that the income of the workers depend on the qualifications of the workers.

Following information were observed from the sample:

Qualification	Number of		Total
	Income below	Income above	
Below Metric	44	32	76
Above Metric	12	60	72
Total	56	92	148

Source: Field Study

Expected frequencies are shown in the following table:

Qualification	Number of workers		Total
	Income below Rs. 8000	Income above Rs. 8000	
Below Metric	$(76 \times 56) / 148 = 28.76$	$(76 \times 92) / 148 = 47.24$	76
Above Metric	$(72 \times 56) / 148 = 27.24$	$(72 \times 92) / 148 = 44.76$	72
Total	56	92	148

Now we make the following table for calculation of  $\chi^2$



Class	Frequency		$(f_i - e_i)$	$(f_i - e_i)^2/e_i$
	Observed ( $f_i$ )	Expected ( $e_i$ )		
Qualification below Metric and income below Rs. 8000	44	28.76	15.24	8.08
Qualification below Metric and income above Rs. 8000	32	47.24	-15.24	4.92
Qualification above Metric and income below Rs. 8000	12	27.24	-15.24	8.53
Qualification above Metric and income above Rs. 8000	60	44.76	15.24	5.19
Total				26.72

Now,  $\chi^2 = \sum (f_i - e_i)^2/e_i = 26.72$

Tabulated  $\chi^2$  at 5% level of significance for 1 d.f. is 3.841.

**Conclusion:** Since the calculated value of,  $\chi^2(26.72)$  is much greater than tabulated  $\chi^2(3.841)$ , it is highly significant and null hypothesis is rejected. Hence we conclude that the income of the workers do not depend on the qualification of the workers.

### V. Findings:

1. MGNREGA has played pivotal role in rural employment generation and developed standard of living of people in the villages of Rangamati Gaon Panchayat under PachimMangaldai Block.
2. There is significant difference of the average income of the workers before

and after administration of the MGNREGA.

3. Income of the workers does not depend on the age of the workers.
4. Income of the workers does not depend on their qualification.
5. There were no women workers in the study area under the MGNREGA scheme.

### VI. Conclusion and Suggestion:

From the findings, it can be concluded that the scheme was not only successful in employment generation and eradication of poverty of the rural poor people but also it provided a big support in building a healthy mindset of the rural people. The rural people saw a ray of hope and began to become encouraged for being



a part of nation building. So my suggestion is – Govt. should introduce and carry on such type of schemes which can support the rural poor people and can definitely engage them in the various works of nation building.

Since no women workers were found in the study area, so they should be encouraged and given support by launching special schemes for their benefit

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