

Analytical study of the impact of Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme on the socio-economic conditions of tribals in Mahasamund district.

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Abstract: In the presented research study, the impact of MNREGA program on the socio-economic development of tribal's in Mahasamund district of Chhattisgarh state has been studied. Tribal people are a group of people who live in a certain area, who consider an ancient ancestor as their 'origin', who have their own culture and who are still unaware of the effects of modern civilization. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is an important step towards providing the 'Right to Employment' in the rural areas of the country. Through this program, the livelihood of the families living in rural areas of the country who are ready to voluntarily do unskilled labor employment is to be ensured by providing employment for 100 days (150 days in the state of Chhattisgarh) in a financial year. The socio-economic condition of the people should improve and the goal of economic equality and social security in the country can be achieved. How is the implementation and expansion of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Program in the state of Chhattisgarh, especially in Mahasamund district and what impact has it had on the socio-economic development of the tribals of the district. To find this out, a major topic has been selected. Mahasamund district is an important district of Chhattisgarh state and this district of the state has high plain terrain. Tribal population constitutes 27.1 percent of the total population of the district, out of which 96.50 percent population lives in the rural areas of the district. Mahasamund district is the 17th largest district in terms of total tribal population of the state. All these facts inspire us to study the tribals living in rural areas of Mahasamund district. No study has been done yet on the impact of MNREGA program on the tribals of Mahasamund district. For this reason Mahasamund district has been selected for the study.

Key words: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Program, Tribal Population, Socio-Economic, Development, Financial year, Civilization, Right to Employment.

1. Introduction:

The dream of all-round development of rural India was that of India's great political saint, Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi had said, "Delhi is not India, India lives in villages." Therefore, if we want to progress India then the condition of villages will have to be improved. From Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi to India's first Nobel Prize-winning economist, Prof. Till Amartya Sen and all the thoughtful and sensitive people towards the national interest

have been of the same opinion that without bringing positive changes in the lives of rural people, the dream of development of India cannot be realized. Without rural development, Abdul Kalam will develop India by 2020. The dream of building a country can remain only a dream. Since independence, continuous efforts have been made through various five-year plans for the socio-economic development of the people living in rural areas of the country. Almost all the five-year plans of the country focus on the factors determining socio-economic development like poverty alleviation, unemployment prevention, availability of education and health facilities, indebtedness, agricultural development, fulfillment of basic needs, population control, development with stability, attainment of self-reliance, etc. It has been especially said that policy makers should pay attention to this. But when we take a bird's eye view of the last two-three decades in the context of the country's socio-economic development, we see many inequalities in the country. During this period, India has made unprecedented progress in the industrial and agricultural sectors. In view of economic progress and high growth rate, India has been placed in the category of developing economy. The basic occupation of the tribal's, who have been living in forest areas, mountains and inaccessible areas since the beginning, is agriculture or forest related work. At present, in the race of rapid economic development, the forest areas of the country are depleting, which has created a serious problem of employment and income for the tribal's living in these areas. Tribal families living in rural areas of India have very little agricultural land or are landless and since the employment received from agriculture is seasonal, people engaged in agricultural work become unemployed in other seasons. In such circumstances, it becomes necessary to know what impact the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Program (MNREGA) is having in reducing poverty and unemployment of the tribal's in the rural areas of the country and in improving the level of their socio-economic development.

2. Tribal population in Mahasamund district:

Mahasamund district is an important district of Chhattisgarh state whose total geographical area is 3902.39 square kilometers. This district of the state has high plain terrain. Gond tribal is the largest among the total population in Mahasamunda district. Tribal communities like Binjhar, Kamar, Kanwar, Saura, Bhunjia, Khairawar etc. live in the district.

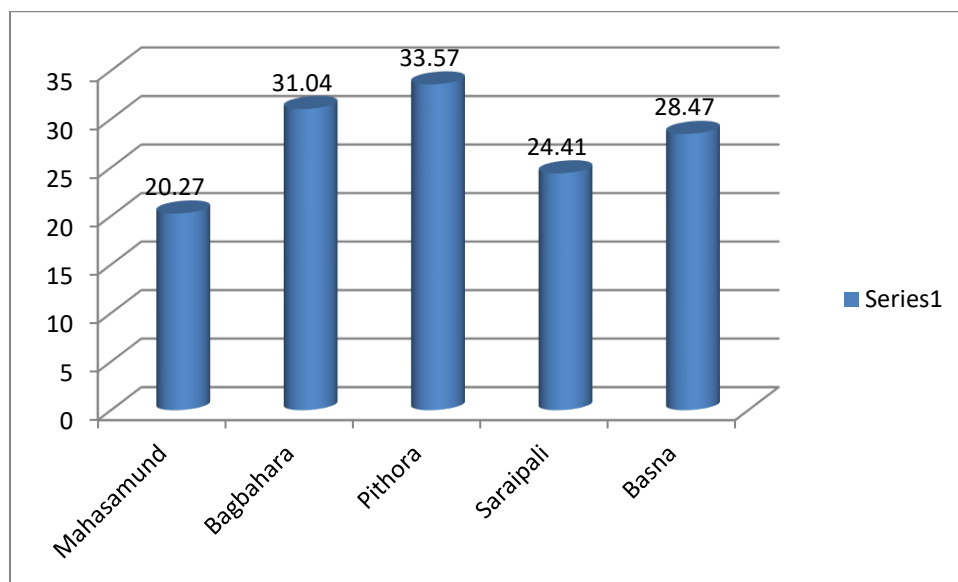
Under Table Number 1.6, the status of development block wise tribal population in Mahasamund district as per 2011 census has been presented.

Tribal population in Mahasamund district 2011

No.	District /Block	Total Population	Tribal's Population			Percent
			Female	Male	Total	
	Mahasamund	1032754	142557	13739	279896	27.1
1	Mahasamunda	264115	27193	26355	53548	20.27
2	Bagbahara	193359	30798	29228	60026	31.04
3	Pithora	204666	35211	33504	68715	33.57
4	Saraipali	194997	24018	23584	47602	24.41
5	Basna	175617	25337	25668	50005	28.47

Source: census of Chhattisgarh, mahasamund, 2011.

Tribal population percent in Mahasamund district 2011



According to the 2011 census, the total population of tribals in Mahasamund district is 279896, which is 27.1 percent of the total population of the district. The percentage of women and men in the total tribal population of the district is 50.93 percent and 49.07 percent respectively. Thus, Mahasamund district is the 17th largest district in terms of total tribal population of Chhattisgarh

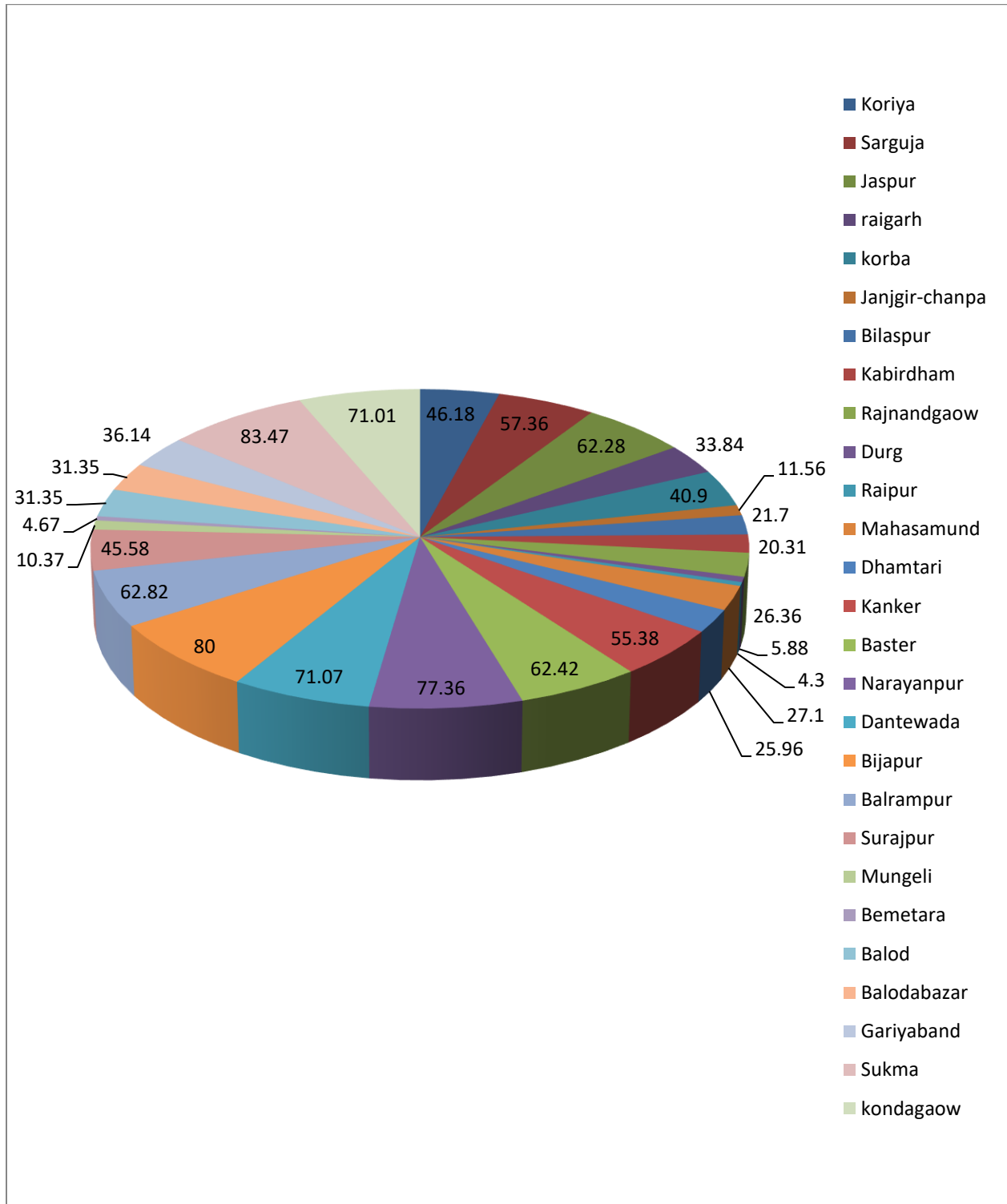
state. Development block wise study reveals that the highest population of total tribals of Mahasamund district is in Pithora development block which is 24.55 percent and the least is in Saraipali development block (17.01 percent). The percentage of tribal population in the total population of the development block is highest in Pithora development block (33.57 percent) and lowest in Mahasamund development block (20.27 percent). In the total tribal population of the five development blocks of Mahasamund district, the percentage of women is higher than that of men.

District wise tribal population in Chhattisgarh state (Census 2011)

No.	State/District	Total population	Tribal population	Percent
	Chhattisgarh	25545198	7822902	30.62
1	Koriya	658917	304280	46.18
2	Sarguja	840352	482007	57.36
3	Jaspur	851669	530378	62.28
4	raigarh	1493984	505609	33.84
5	korba	1206640	493559	40.90
6	Janjgir-chanpa	1619707	187196	11.56
7	Bilaspur	1961922	425688	21.70
8	Kabirdham	822526	167043	20.31
9	Rajnandgaow	1537133	405194	26.36
10	Durg	1721948	101188	5.88
11	Raipur	2160876	93010	4.30
12	Mahasamund	1032754	279896	27.1
13	Dhamtari	799781	207633	25.96
14	Kanker	748941	414770	55.38
15	Baster	834375	520779	62.42
16	Narayanpur	139820	108161	77.36
17	Dantewada	283479	201458	71.07
18	Bijapur	255230	204189	80.00
19	Balrampur	730491	458949	62.82
20	Surajpur	789043	359672	45.58
21	Mungeli	701707	72781	10.37
22	Bemetara	795759	37185	4.67
23	Balod	826165	259043	31.35
24	Balodabazar	1305343	167450	31.35
25	Gariyaband	597653	215986	36.14
26	Sukma	250159	208797	83.47
27	kondagaow	578824	411001	71.01

Source: Directorate Economic and Statistical Chhattisgarh 2011.

District wise tribal population percent in Chhattisgarh state (Census 2011)



It is clear from the observation of the table number that according to the census of 2011, the total number of tribals in the state of Chhattisgarh is 7822902, which is 30.62 percent of the total population of the state. Analyzing the district wise tribal population, it is known that the highest percentage of tribal population in the state of Chhattisgarh is in Sukma district (83.47 percent). After this, the highest percentage is in the districts of Bijapur (80 percent), Narayanpur (77.36 percent), Dantewada (71.07 percent), Kondagaon (71.01 percent) and Balrampur (62.83 percent). In Bastar, Jashpur, Surguja and Kanker districts of the state, more than 50 percent of the total population is tribals. The percentage of tribal population in Korea, Korba, Gariaband and Balod districts is more than 30. In Mahasamund, Rajnandgaon, Dhamtari and Bilaspur districts of the state, the percentage of tribal population in the total population is between 20 to 30 percent. In the remaining districts of the state, less than 20 percent of the total population is tribal and the lowest percentage of tribal population is in Raipur district (4.3 percent).

3. Limitations of the Study:

The presented research study is based on primary and secondary data. An attempt has been made to compile the data related to the research study within the limits of personal access. At the time of data collection, special attention has been paid to ensure that the related data and information are accurate. For the theoretical aspects of the research, the help of libraries, previous research literature, texts and letters, magazines was taken. In any research work, it is very important to demarcate the topic and area for complete scientific, credibility and in-depth study. Otherwise the possibilities of various types of errors cannot be ruled out.

1. The presented research study is of Mahasamund district of Chhattisgarh state, where the impact of MNREGA program on the socio-economic development of tribals has been studied and the impact of the program on other communities of the district has not been studied.

2. In the presented research study, three development blocks (Bagbahra, Pithora and Mahasamund) out of five development blocks of Mahasamund district and five gram panchayats from each development block have been studied so that the research work can be completed within the time limit.

4. Methodology:

The presented research study is based on primary and secondary data. An attempt has been made to compile the data related to the research study within the limits of personal access. At the time of data collection, special attention has been paid to ensure that the related data and information are accurate. For the theoretical aspects of the research, the help of libraries, previous research literature, texts and letters, magazines was taken.

5. Objectives of the Study:

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is an important step towards providing the 'Right to Employment' in the rural areas of the country. Through this program, the livelihood of the families living in rural areas of the country who are ready to voluntarily do unskilled labor employment is to be ensured by providing employment for 100 days (150 days in the state of Chhattisgarh) in a financial year. The socio-economic condition of the people should improve and the goal of economic equality and social security in the country can be achieved. Therefore, the objectives for which the presented research thesis has been selected are as follows -

1. To study the socio-economic characteristics of the tribal families of the district.
2. To study the impact of MNREGA program on employment and income of tribal families.
3. To study the functioning of MNREGA program in the district.

7. Advantages of MNREGA program in Chhattisgarh:

The MGNREGA scheme actively aids the less fortunate people in society. It aims to provide at least one hundred days of unskilled manual labour as guaranteed employment in a fiscal year to each rural household based on demand. It also ensures increasing the poor's livelihood resource base. It aims to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to at least one member of every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Women are guaranteed one third of the jobs made available under the MGNREGA. It provides social protection for the most vulnerable people living in rural India by guaranteeing wage employment opportunities. Enhances livelihood security of the rural poor through the generation of wage employment opportunities in works leading to the creation of durable

assets. Over the years, development practitioners and policymakers have found that MGNREGA works as a safety net for the rural poor and unemployed. In fact, the impact of the programme extends beyond employment generation. The minister claimed in Parliament that the demand for MGNREGA works was decreasing.

8. Conclusion:

MGNREGA is one of the rural development programs implemented in India that gained wide acceptance. The important objective of all development plans in India has been to increase the labor force along with providing employment to the unemployed. The future challenge is not only to generate more employment but also to increase the average productivity in all jobs. It was assumed that growth would automatically solve the problem of unemployment. However, past experience indicates that a high rate of growth is a necessary, but not a satisfactory condition to solve the problem of unemployment. One of the biggest challenges that India is facing in the post-reform era is of generating enough employment to keep pace with the increases in labor forces. Since independence MGNREGA is the major rural employment generation scheme in India. This scheme not only secures 100 days job but also provides minimum earnings for every adult of every household at a similar time. It satisfies some other aspects of environmental protection, social protection, and rural infrastructure development, promotes women empowerment gender equality, asset creation, and improvement of the migration problem. Accordingly, MANREGA is acting as an important tool not only for employment creation. Apart from it providing equal participation opportunities to rural poor females promotes gender equality in the workplace. MGNREGA not only decreased unemployment but also develops rural development. Unemployment is a major problem in rural areas of India. The main source of employment here is Kripi which is based on monsoon. Rural people engaged in agricultural work become unemployed in other seasons. Therefore, with the aim of generating employment in rural areas as well as preventing the concentration and expansion of poverty, the Central Government introduced the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Program (MNREGA), which was passed on 23 August 2005 and implemented on 7 September 2005. Its notification was issued. It is a rights based program of employment in rural areas of the country. It was started on 2 February 2006 from village Badlapalli in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh. Under this program,

every rural family residing in the rural areas of the country, whose members willingly do unskilled manual labour, will be provided livelihood by providing guaranteed wage employment for at least 100 days (150 days in the state of Chhattisgarh) in a financial year. Security has to be increased.

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