

Financial Performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Scheme in Tamilnadu

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Abstract

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is one of the national scheme implemented for the people who lives under poverty line. Through this plan many people are benefited especially women benefited lot. The present study shows the performance level in Tamilnadu on fund allotment, actual expenditure, job card issue, physical progress regarding financial and physical progress has been analyzed. The study also suggest by increasing the fund the number of working days for the workers can be increased and participation of the workers will also be increased through this many people under the poverty line will be benefited. We initiate that the experiences of participating in MGNREGA varied depending on how MGNREGA wages compared to market wages in the region, as well as local performance of the program. Although MGNREGA offered some basic employment for marginalized groups, it did not provide extensive help to the most susceptible. However, there was some data of small but important shifts in labour relations. Higher wages, more opportunities for work, improved performance and a greater recognition of the care giving responsibilities of women will be required for this policy to fully meet its goals.

Keywords: MGNREGS, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, DRDA, NGO

Introduction

One of the successful schemes implemented by the central government for the purpose of poor people is MGNREGS, which was implemented in the year 2005 for the benefit of the people living under poverty line. This programme guarantees 100 days of unskilled work per rural household. This act ensures the legal right of poor people, whoever is willing to work at the stipulated minimum wage rate in the rural areas, to work for 100 days. The act addresses mainly the rural poor and their fundamental right to work with dignity. This programme has therefore succeeded in providing the much-needed wage employment. In state there were strong demands from the workers for increasing the work days to 200 days per household.¹

In Tamil Nadu this scheme is implemented in 36 districts, 388 blocks and 12,524 gram Panchayat. During the year 2020-21, 66.49 lakhs household are benefited still now. In this study the researcher analyzed the performance of MGNREGS has been analyzed in terms of fund allocation, Actual expenditure, job card issued, employment provided, work completed and overall performance under the scheme. Rural development is a theme that is entirely straightforward so far difficult to execute. It centres upon the improvement and advancement of the segments of nation economies that practice grave destitution issues and successfully targets building up their profitability. It likewise accentuates the need to address different problems that are begging to be addressed of town economies that prevent development and improve these territories (Prabakar, et al (2020).

Review of Literature

Das (2013) evaluates the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) according to criteria viz. average number of days of employment per household; percentage of households completing 100 days of employment under NREGS; percentage of expenditure against total available funds etc. Performance across the first two criteria has been disappointing and has deteriorated over time. Percentage of expenditure against total available funds has raised sharply.²

Rhonda Breikreuz et al (2017), suggested that is supported by this study is the benefit of continued use of technology to provide payment directly into bank accounts in the form of direct cash transfers. This approach also contributes to the transformative potential of MGNREGA through concentrated corruption and guaranteed payment for programmes such as MGNREGA by cutting out middlemen or unauthorized administrative fees.

Mathur (2007) thinks that a system of regular and continuous flow of authoritative information is essential. The author felt that there is room for government to take up concurrent evaluations, more effective monitoring, time-series studies, and focused reports on critical aspects like minimum wages, muster rolls. To improve implementation the author says that the government needs to solve problems, adapt policy directives, and concern operational guidelines for the borough, block and village levels. The government must take the lead, be proactive, mobilize institutions and groups, and use the media effectively. The execution of NREGS involves several government officials, Panchayat

functionaries, elected representatives, NGOs and community based organizations. They play a critical role but had little preparation for the challenge.³

Kumar Vijay S. (2011) in his article on “Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act: A Review” opines that despite decades of planned development and poverty eradication programs at the national and state levels, poverty continues to persist in India. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage-employment in a financial year to a rural household who volunteer to do unskilled manual work.⁴

Objective

- To study the financial performance of MGNREGS workers in Tamil Nadu.
- To give suitable findings and suggestions based on the study.

Data

The secondary data has been analyzed for the study. The data has been collected from the District Rural Development Office (DRDA), Collectorate Office, Dindigul and websites.

Performance of MGNREGS Workers in Tamil Nadu

Fund Allotment

The fund will be allotted every year in the budget by central government. The above table shows the allotment of funds and expenditure in the scheme for Tamil Nadu for last 5 years.

Year Wise Block Wise Fund Allotment During 2016-17 to 2020-21 (Tamilnadu)

Table 1 (Lakhs)

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Total	AGR
Cuddalore	27543.55	27348.68	23772.83	17497.11	23600.01	119762.18 (3.88)	-0.03
Dindigul	19074.42	22401.3	25110.8	30231.87	32006.7	128825.09 (4.18)	0.11
Nagapattinam	16997.32	19114.03	20018.52	18314.16	25020.33	99464.36 (3.23)	0.08
Sivagangai	14412.83	16164.81	22617.17	16575.32	23332.07	93102.2 (3.02)	0.10
Tiruvannamalai	39026.85	30074.8	42879.03	33665.63	43483.9	189130.21 (6.13)	0.02

Villupuram	45050.96	41434.08	31089.6	21902.74	27171.22	166648.6 (5.40)	-0.10
Karur	7956.03	14800.42	17693.99	18730.53	24603.31	83784.28 (2.72)	0.25
Thanjavur	22128.9	23991.35	18565.15	23273.12	23837.38	111795.9 (3.63)	0.01
Tirunelveli	21950.34	26885.01	22607.03	22219.31	14322.71	107984.4 (3.50)	-0.08
Tiruvarur	9792.92	13952.95	11497.35	13080.25	20537.53	68861 (2.23)	0.16
Ariyalur	9115.53	10505.06	7810.59	6274.45	9397.59	43103.22 (1.40)	0.01
Chengalpattu	0	0	0	0	28034.94	28034.94 (0.91)	0.00
Coimbatore	8863.96	10020.17	8759.06	10046.56	19836.89	57526.64 (1.87)	0.17
Dharmapuri	12623.83	12991.51	13073.83	9152.51	12887.11	60728.79 (1.97)	0.00
Erode	12248.54	13502.02	10451.29	13308.11	19533.43	69043.39 (2.24)	0.10
Kallakurichi	0	0	0	0	16306.17	16306.17 (0.53)	0.00
Kanchipuram	29023.85	40444.12	38950.92	52177.99	24641.29	185238.17 (6.01)	-0.03
Kanniyakumari	4658.04	5931.61	4865.72	6341.83	5970.05	27767.25 (0.90)	0.05
Krishnagiri	17030.57	25525.93	19173.75	17452.96	20446.4	99629.61 (3.23)	0.04
Madurai	24956.19	25165.41	16298.11	16687.73	22069.06	105176.5 (3.41)	-0.02
Namakkal	17317.8	15268.01	13460.4	15243.79	22623.66	83913.66 (2.72)	0.05
Perambalur	6179.76	7124.6	6347.51	5085.82	7558.23	32295.92 (1.05)	0.04
Pudukkottai	29980.65	35118.74	29659.73	24549.27	30419.57	149727.96 (4.86)	0.00
Ramanathapuram	20282.66	18119.33	16195.46	17397.28	26154.44	98149.17 (3.18)	0.05
Ranipet	0	0	0	0	8694.94	8694.94 (0.28)	0.00
Salem	24524.51	28348.05	23980.67	19449.7	30685.56	126988.49 (4.12)	0.05
Tenkasi	0	0	0	0	14814.66	14814.66 (0.48)	0.00

The Nilgiris	2810.47	2589.84	3526.04	3651.77	5081.04	17659.16 (0.57)	0.13
Theni	6388.21	6154.9	6035.38	5407.61	6753.87	30739.97 (1.00)	0.01
Thoothukkudi	20583.47	23410.26	15582.1	15605.24	19149.05	94330.12 (3.06)	-0.01
Tiruchirappalli	24383.82	34462.01	26868.24	25315.37	30372.07	141401.51 (4.59)	0.04
Tirupathur	0	0	0	0	8599.58	8599.58 (0.28)	0.00
Tiruppur	14616.34	17480.56	17838.01	16858.25	24368.23	91161.39 (2.96)	0.11
Tiruvallur	21690.87	32238.5	24600.42	24762.15	22609.29	125901.23 (4.08)	0.01
Vellore	32658.34	27109.86	26254.91	26878.22	10967.95	123869.28 (4.02)	-0.20
Virudhunagar	11496.03	14364.69	13597.58	14326.92	19802.49	73587.71 (2.39)	0.11
Total	575367.56	642042.61	579181.19	561463.57	725692.72	3083747.65 (100)	

Source: District Rural Development Office (DRDA), Collectorate Office, Dindigul.

Note: Figures within parentheses denotes percentages

Table 1 gives above provided detailed information of fund allotment from 2016-17 to 2020-21. During the year 2016-17 the fund allotted was Rs.575367.56 and it reaches Rs. 725692.72 in 2020-21. It shows a gradual increase in 5 years. It also

shows that the participation of the workers will also be high. It is also clear that Tiruvannamalai district has received highest fund of Rs.189130.21, followed by Kanchipuram district fund of Rs.185238.17 and Villupuram district of Rs. 166648.6 respectively.

Actual Expenditure Under Mgnrega During 2016-17 To 2020-21(In Tamilnadu)

Table 2 (Lakhs)

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Total	AGR
Cuddalore	25988.1	25741.55	22468.04	16616.34	22163.14	112977.17 (3.91)	-0.03
Dindigul	17878.01	21477.08	24352.33	29706.12	31411.64	124825.18 (4.32)	0.12
Nagapattinam	16255.92	18427.32	19176.94	17641.74	24651.65	96153.57 (3.33)	0.09
Sivagangai	13367.88	15397.95	21790.09	15924.56	22811.62	89292.1 (3.09)	0.11
Tiruvannamalai	37801.48	28836.83	41527.21	32628.33	42587.83	183381.68 (6.35)	0.02
Villupuram	42256.98	38952.89	28828.34	20139.54	25778.67	155956.42 (5.40)	-0.09
Karur	7601.94	14438.62	17222.05	18467.78	24556.95	82287.34 (2.85)	0.26

Thanjavur	21674.11	23178.83	17675.34	22395.39	23297.44	108221.11 (3.75)	0.01
Tirunelveli	21046.65	26009.38	21727.03	21485.44	14551.67	104820.17 (3.63)	-0.07
Tiruvarur	9581.03	13174.75	10682.87	12407.45	19957.87	65803.97 (2.28)	0.16
Ariyalur	8558.55	10085.8	7452.29	5988.83	9174.3	41259.77 (1.43)	0.01
Coimbatore	8075.52	9202.38	8278.16	9658.47	18915.11	54129.64 (1.88)	0.19
Dharmapuri	11222.33	11764.91	11835.58	8607.95	11895.05	55325.82 (1.92)	0.01
Erode	11633.76	13077.36	9863.41	12873.88	18186.47	65634.88 (2.27)	0.09
Kanchipuram	27632.5	39174.69	37664.87	51089.51	23902.09	179463.66 (6.22)	-0.03
Kanniyakumari	4270.86	5616.44	4512.89	6075	5777.85	26253.04 (0.91)	0.06
Krishnagiri	16587.45	24799.09	18269.4	16792.54	19938.14	96386.62 (3.34)	0.04
Madurai	24060.97	23930.66	15076.4	16030.18	21162.49	100260.7 (3.47)	-0.03
Namakkal	16681.16	14639.3	12703.77	14665.38	21865.38	80554.99 (2.79)	0.06
Perambalur	5728.89	6930.29	6163.71	4912.11	7458.76	31193.76 (1.08)	0.05
Pudukkottai	29584.18	34302.97	28734.51	23705.84	29761.68	146089.18 (5.06)	0.00
Ramanathapuram	19279.05	17424.65	15430.56	16771.03	25780.02	94685.31 (3.28)	0.06
Salem	23164.54	26740.71	23118.5	18851.25	29424.99	121299.99 (4.20)	0.05
the nilgiris	2546.92	2364.49	3258.47	3423.77	4870.55	16464.2 (0.57)	0.14
Theni	5848.42	5655.71	5538.43	5166.14	6562.77	28771.47 (1.00)	0.02
Thoothukkudi	19669.48	22669.17	14832.13	14996.4	18650.17	90817.35 (3.15)	-0.01
Tiruchirappalli	23443.73	33475.98	26003.69	24671.09	29674.63	137269.12 (4.76)	0.05
Tiruppur	12288.19	16825.68	17087.56	16441.97	23925.67	86569.07 (3.00)	0.14
Tiruvallur	20633.51	31341.46	23564.23	23987.78	21877.62	121404.6 (4.21)	0.01

Vellore	31209.63	25885.21	24949.5	25881.13	10836.04	118761.51 (4.11)	-0.19
Virudhunagar	10839.56	13509.7	12939.16	13760.12	19184.54	70233.08 (2.43)	0.12
Total	546411.3	615051.85	552727.46	541763.06	630592.8	2886546.47 (100)	

Source: District Rural Development Office (DRDA), Collectorate Office, Dindigul.

Note: Figures within parentheses denotes percentages

Table 2 shows the fund expenditure from 2016-17 to 2020-21. It shows that total expenditure spent in the scheme was Rs. 2,88,6546.47 of which Tiruvannamalai district has spent highest of Rs.1,83,381.68, followed by Kanchipuram district with Rs.1,79,463.66 and Villupuram district with Rs.1,55,956.42 respectively.

Conclusion

The success of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme depends upon its proper implementation. From the study it concluded that the financial performance and fund expenditure should be maintained in the same level. If the expenditure is more than the fund allotted then it is very difficult to pay to the workers. The funds have a gradual increase in the year 2020-21 when compared to previous years. So, the household participation will increase and many people under the poverty line are benefited through this scheme.

Findings and Suggestion

During the financial year from 2016-17 to 2020-21, total fund allocation was Rs.3083747.65 lakhs. It shows the increasing level of the fund allotment for last 5 years. It shows the employment in the scheme will also show increase in the household participation.

During the financial year from 2016 – 17 to 2020 – 21, total fund expenditure was Rs.2886546.47lakhs in the case of high level fund utilization in MGNREGS. Year by year slowly increased on expenditure by central government.

The government should take steps to reduce the expenditure that has been done in the scheme. Which this helps to increase the working days of the household and through this the workers will be benefited lot.

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