



Community Governance in India: Case Studies in MGNREGA , 1/e

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2016 432 pp Hardback ISBN: 9789385909016 Price: 1,295.00

About the Book

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing 100 days of wage payment in a financial year to those rural households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. A vast majority of these individuals are marginal farmers and landless labourers whose incomes are insufficient to support their family. For long, they have been dependent on casual wage works involving migration -- seasonal or on a long-term basis. Keeping such section of the population in mind, the MGNREGA was launched in 2006. The Act seeks to create durable assets and strengthen the livelihood resource base of the rural poor. The single major difference between the previous welfare schemes and MGNREGA is that all the previous schemes and programmes were allocation based while MGNREGA is a demand-based programme. The choice of works suggested in the Act addresses causes of chronic poverty, like drought, deforestation, soil erosion, and so on, so that the process of employment generation is carried out on a sustainable basis. There are numerous examples of such exemplary works being undertaken as a part of this scheme. This volume of case studies is the culmination of an intensive documentation exercise done by a very talented pool of researchers. These case studies have been picked up from various states including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and serve as representative specimens of how the benefits of the scheme have been leveraged to improvise upon the natural resources and public goods.

Salient Features

- ▶ These case studies highlight the importance and significance of good governance in rural perspective.
- ▶ The in-depth studies cover a wide range of activities from identification and capturing of onsite work snapshots for creation of durable and productive assets to preparation of labour budget in Gram Sabha with the help of Information and Communication Technology.
- ▶ It has brought out some best practices adopted for perfect planning and implementation.
- ▶ Different studies have elaborated on the effectiveness of MGNREGA and Rashtriya Swastha Bima Yojana (RSBY) and sanitation schemes.

Table of Contents

1. MIS for Tracking of Workers, Works and Funds in Sikkim
2. Role of MGNREGA in Disaster Mitigation in Uttarakhand
3. Convergence of MGNREGA with Rural Sanitation in Rajasthan
4. Impact of MGNREGA on the Migration of Workforce: East Singhbhum, Jharkhand
5. Labour Budget – Preparation of Plan: Andhra Pradesh
6. Public – Private – PRI – Community Partnership for Sustainable Development – Gulbarga, Karnataka
7. NREGS V/S MGNREGA: Maharashtra
8. Social Audit and Community Empowerment in West Bengal
9. Social Security Schemes: Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana [RSBY] & MGNREGA, Madhya Pradesh
10. Electronic Fund Management System (e-FMS), Chhattisgarh
11. MGNREGA Wage Rate V/S Market Rate in Haryana
12. Shortage of Agriculture Labour: Hoshiarpur, Punjab
13. Non Availability of Unskilled Labour in Industry: Gujarat
14. Ombudsman: An Effective Tool in MGNREGA: Himachal Pradesh
15. Outsourcing in Administration in MGNREGA Gujarat
16. gnrega in Tamil Nadu Quality Management: Cost
17. Sustainable Livelihood Support – Skill Development To Maintain Assets Created Under MGNREGA

18. Vulnerable Groups MGNREGA, Odisha

19. Wage Payment Through Bank & Post Office-Financial Inclusion in Gulbarga, Karnataka

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