**“ASSESSING THE ROLE OF MGNREGA IN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT”**

**ABSTRACT**

**Background:**The MGNREGA act, which came into effect in September 2005, is a socially mediated program designed to improve livelihood security in rural areas by giving every household with adult members who volunteer to perform unskilled manual labor at least 100 days of legal guaranteed wage employment throughout a fiscal year. **Objectives:** 1: Tostudy the socio-economic profile of selected respondents. 2. To study the association between role of MGNREGA and women empowerment. **Material and Methods:** The 100 respondents were personally interviewed for this study, which was carried out in the Behta and Hargaon blocks of the Sitapur district. Scheduled Caste, Other Backward Caste, General Caste, and Scheduled Tribes were the criteria used to choose the respondents.An ex post fact research design was also used for the study. From each village, 4 were chosen. There are 25 responses from each of the chosen villages, for a total of 100 responses about the MNREGA programe. With the aid of a prearranged timetable, in-person interviews were used to gather the data. The variables were chosen in accordance with the study's goals and classified as independent and dependent variables.The data was analyzed to determine the rank order , percentage., standard deviation also frequency.

**Results and Discussion:** The vast majority of respondents (54.00%) belonged into the medium (25–30) group for MNREGA adoption. The limitations mentioned by the participants:According to respondents, "60:40 wage and material ratio was not maintained" , "Job cards were issued less in comparison to registration" , "Job cards were not issued within 15 days of application consequently wastage of time" , "The 100 days wage employment was not given in a financial year" , "lack of facilities such as water shade" to "medicine at worksite, monitoring by NGOs and civil societies was not done" , "withdrawal of money from bank was time taking" , to resulting "60:40 wage and material ratio was not maintained" , "Job cards were issued less in comparison to registration" , "Job cards were not issued within 15 days of application consequently wastage of time" , "The 100 days wage employment was not given in a financial year" , The majority of respondents cited "non-cooperation from family members," "lack of facilities such as water shade," "medicine at worksite, monitoring by NGOs and civil societies was not done," and "withdrawal of money from bank was time taking" as significant issues.**Summary & Conclusion:**Respondents' suggestions included "worksite facilities such as childcare, drinking water, medication, and shade should be provided" and "the job card should be issued within 15 days of application," both of which were deemed crucial for additional consideration.

**KEYWORDS**: NGO, MNREGA , Women, Empowerment, Empowerment of Women, GramPradhan, Wage, Money

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The MGNREGA act, which came into effect in September 2005, is a socially mediated program designed to improve livelihood security in rural areas by giving every household with adult members who volunteer to perform unskilled manual labor at least 100 days of legal guaranteed wage employment throughout a fiscal year. A job within 15 days and guaranteed employment for up to 100 days—but in certain circumstances, such as excessive unemployment, flooding, drought, and public demand—are among the measures aimed at giving the rural population, particularly unskilled labor, a guarantee of employment. It also promotes the idea of inclusive growth. In ninth five year plan the conceptual strategy was made to empowerment of women in all aspects like service, infrastructure, resources and man-power**. (**[**https://rural.gov.in/en**](https://rural.gov.in/en)**).**

Some of the most ambitious programs was introduced by India on February 2, 2006, in 200 of the nation's poorest districts. It requires that every rural household with an adult volunteer performing unskilled manual labor receive at least 100 days of guaranteed paid employment throughout a fiscal year. In financial year 2007-08, it was extended to an additional 130 districts. The remaining districts were notified under MGNREGA 1stApril 2008.

As of 20 November 2023, MGNREGA is currently operating in the entire rural areas of the two countries, which include 28 states, 8 union territories, 806 districts, 609600 villages, and 2.65 lakh gram Panchayats. According to the data, MGNREGA has been dispersed throughout the nation and is producing positive results; in fact, it has grown to become the largest employment generation program in the world.

According to MajdoorKissan Shakti Sangathan's Saumya Kidambi, women of the Villupuram district came at the workplaces after learning about the plan. They purchase a handy basket as soon as they receive their pay. The locals dubbed the baskets that the shopkeeper began selling "100 dinon ki tokri" (The basket for 100 days). This is an indication of women's empowerment and rising economic standing in this area. There were also some discrepancy but it was negligible. **(egyankosh.ac.in)**

Decreased participation in political and leadership roles has also been seen. Most social and economic activities are denied to them. Economic progress in society is significantly influenced by gender equality. Economic growth is hampered by decreased female participation, therefore empowering women not only advances gender equality but also has major economic benefits. **(World Bank 2012).**Previous study of **Santosh kumari, N. and Jatappa, J. (2024)** found thatthere is inequality and vulnerability of women in all sphere of life. They need to be empowered in all walks of life. Without the active participation of women, establishment of a new social order may not be a successful one, because women constitute half of the population. Empowerment of women is a long and difficult process which is to be promoted with full public support and this could be successful only when those women living at the lower strata who have been suppressed by the male dominated society their lack of education and poverty can rise up to claim their rightful place in their own society.

There are so many researchable questions are What is quantitative role of MGNREGA wages on women’s household income and their ability to save and invest? To what extent does MGNREGA lead to a reduction in women’s economic dependency on male family members?How does participation in MGNREGA influencewomen’s decision making power within their households(e.g. regarding household finances, children’s education, health)? What are the primary barriers preventing women from fully participating in MGNREGA, such as lack of child care facilities, distant worksite and social taboos?*etc*. The present study is an attempt to measure the role of MGNREGA on women empowerment and gender equality. The study reveals that MGNREGA can enhance the women empowerment even though the objective of MGNREGA is either women empowerment or gender equality. To know these given researchable questionsthe present study was undertaken in *Sitapur* district of Uttar Pradesh state with following objectives:

* To study the socio economic characteristics of selected respondents.
* To study the association between role of MGNREGA and women empowerment.

1. **MATERIALS AND METHOD**

In 2024, the study was carried out in Uttar Pradesh's Sitpur district. There are 19 blocks in the Sitapur district. Purposively, two block—Hargaon and Behta—was chosen for the study, and an ex post fact design was also used for the study. From each village, 4 were chosen. There are 25 responses from each of the chosen villages, for a total of 100 responses about the MNREGA programe. The study's sample size is 100. With the aid of a prearranged timetable, in-person interviews were used to gather the data. The variables were chosen in accordance with the study's goals and classified as independent and dependent variables.An ex-post-facto research approach was used for the investigation. According to **Kerlinger (1973),** an ex-post-facto analysis is a methodical empirical study in which the researcher does not directly manipulate independent variables since their manifestations have already occurred or are not naturally manipulable. Data were gathered using a semi-structured interview schedule, expert opinion, and the literature research. The data was analyzed to determine the rank order, percentage.Standard deviation also frequency.

1. **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter presents the conclusions and inferences made regarding the particular goals of the study based on analysis using pertinent statistical techniques.Age, gender, education, caste categories, family type, family size, size of land holding, house pattern, Annual income, house old material, communication media, land holdings, mass media exposure, and other socioeconomic and communication characteristics of the respondents were examined. The results as obtained are detailed under each of the subheadings and are displayed below in both frequency and percentage also standard deviation.

**Table-1:Distributionofthe respondentsaccordingtoage**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Agecategories(years)** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **1.** | Youngage(below27) | 16 | 16.00 |
| **2.** | Middleage(28-42) | 66 | 66.00 |
| **3.** | OldAge(43andAbove) | 18 | 18.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

## (n=100)

Mean=34.9,S.D.=7.7,Range-Minimum=20,Max=55

It is obvious from the Table – 1 that majority of the respondents(66%) were observed in the category of 28-42 years of age followed by 18percentand16percentintheagecategoryofoldageandyoungage respectively.Soitfocusesthatthewomenunderthe28to42yearofagecategorywereobservedtobemorethanothercategory.

**Fig-1:Distributionofthe respondentsaccordingtoage**

**Table2:Distributionoftherespondentsaccordingtoeducation**

**(n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **1** | Illiterate | 4 | 4.00 |
| **2** | Literate | 48 | 48.00 |
| **(a)** | Can read and write | 14 | 14.00 |
| **(b)** | Primary | 18 | 18.00 |
| **(c)** | Middle | 11 | 11.00 |
| **(d)** | Highschool | 5 | 5.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100** |

ThedatapresentedinTable-2showsthatmajority(48%)ofrespondents followed by the educational standard ofrespondents were asinwas found as 18%, 14%, 11%, and 5 percent under the category ofPrimary,canreadandwrite,Middle,andHighSchool, respectively.

**Fig 2:Distributionoftherespondentsaccordingtoeducation**

## Table3:Distributionof therespondentsaccording tocaste

**(n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **1** | Generalcaste | 12 | 12.00 |
| **2** | Otherbackwardcaste | 23 | 23.00 |
| **3** | SC | 62 | 62.00 |
| **4** | ST | 3 | 03.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

The Table- 3 indicates that maximum number of the respondentsbelongedtoscheduledcaste(62.0%),followedbyotherbackwardcaste(23%), general caste (12%) and scheduled tribes (3%) respectively. Thus, it isconcludedthatmajorityof therespondents(62%)belong toScheduledcaste.

## Fig 3:Distributionof therespondentsaccording tocaste

## Table 4:Distributionoftherespondentsaccordingtofamilytype

**(n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| 1 | Singlefamily | 45 | 45.00 |
| 2 | Jointfamily | 55 | 55.00 |
|  | **total** | **100** | **100.00** |

The Table-.4 showsthat 55 percent respondents belonged to jointfamily system followed by 45% single family system. It revealed the fact thatthe majorityofrespondents(55%)belongedtojointfamilysystem.

## Fig 4:Distributionoftherespondentsaccordingtofamilytype

## Table5:Distributionoftherespondentsaccordingto sizeoffamily

(**n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
|
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| 1 | Small(upto5members) | 34 | 34.00 |
| 2 | Marginal(6-10) | 50 | 50.00 |
| 3 | Large(11andabove) | 16 | 16.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

Mean=74,SD-22,Range-Min.-4,Max-13

It is evident from table-5 that 50 per cent respondents families wereundermarginalcategories(6-10)followedby 34percentfamiliesunderSmall category (up to 5 number), and the 16 per cent respondents were underLarge category (11 and above) respectively. The range between minimum andmaximum number of family members were recorded from 4 to 13. Thus, it isconcluded that the majority of the respondents were found in marginal familysize category.

## Fig 5:Distributionoftherespondentsaccordingtofamilysize

## Table.6:Distributionoftherespondentsaccording tosizelandholding

(**n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **1** | Landless | 5 | 05.00 |
| **2** | Marginal(below1hectare) | 91 | 91.00 |
| **3** | Small(1-2hectare) | 4 | 04.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

## Range=Min.00,Max=2.9

The Table:6 indicated that the maximum respondents (91%) werefound in the marginal land holding category followed by landless (05%) andSmall(4%)landholdingcategory,respectively.

## Fig 6:Distributionoftherespondentsaccording tosizelandholding

## Table7:Distributionoftherespondentsaccording tohousingpattern

## (n=100)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **1** | Hut | 4 | 04.00 |
| **2** | Kuchha | 26 | 26.00 |
| **3** | Mixed | 64 | 64.00 |
| **4** | Pucca | 6 | 06.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

The data given in table-.7 shows that maximum of the respondents(64%) were having their houses of mixed type followed by Kuchha (26%),Pucca(6%)andHut(4%)housingpattern,respectively.

## Fig 7:Distributionoftherespondentsaccording tohousingpattern

## Table-.8: Distribution of the respondents according to annual income(Rs.)

**(n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **IncomeCategories(Rs.)** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **1** | Below40000 | 04 | 04.00 |
| **2** | 40001-50000 | 25 | 25.00 |
| **3** | 50001-60000 | 28 | 28.00 |
| **4** | 60001-70000 | 34 | 34.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

Mean=58786.0,SD=10563.7,Range-Min= 30000, Max.=745000

Itisobviousfromtable-8thatmaximum(34.00%)oftherespondentswerefoundintheincomecategoryofRs.60001-70000followedbyothercategories*viz*.28.00percent(Rs.50001-60000),25.00percent(40001-50000), 4 per cent Below 40000 income category was observed asminimum40000andmaximumRs.70000perannum.

## Table 9: Distribution of the respondents according to communicationmediapossession

**(n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| 1 | T.V. | 38 | 38.00 |
| 2 | Radio | 85 | 85.00 |
| 3 | DVD player | 4 | 04.00 |
| 4 | Mobilephone | 96 | 96.00 |
| 5 | D.T.H | 3 | 03.00 |
| 6 | Newspaper | 6 | 06.00 |
| 7 | GeneralMagazine | 3 | 03.00 |

**Note-** Morethanone item havebeen shown by therespondents.Hence thetotalpercentageofalltheitemswouldmorethan100. The table 9 obvious that the majority of respondents (96%) werepossessing Mobile phone (cell phone) with them. The respondents who hadother communication media were in descending order as Radio (85%), T.V.(38%), Newspaper (6), DVD player, VCD player (4%) D.T.H, and GeneralMagazine(3%),respectively. Thus,itcanbeinferredthatmobilephone,radio,T.V.weremainsourcesforgettinginformation'sandrecreationpurposes.

**Table 10:Distributionof therespondentsaccordingtosocial participation**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** | |
| **Number** | **Percentage** |
| **1** | **Nocategorises** | **13** | **13.00** |
| **2** | **Participationinoneorganization** | **30** | **30.00** |
| **3** | **Participationintwoorganization** | **57** | **57.00** |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

**(n=100)**

A cursory glance over the data depicted in the table 10 that out of 100respondents, 57 percent respondents participated in two organization followedby participation in one organizations (30%) and (13%) respondents having noparticipationinorganizationrespectively.

## Tale11:Distributionoftherespondentsaccordingtoeconomicmotivation

**(n=100)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.No.** | **Categories** | **Respondents** |  |
|  |  | **Number** | **Percentage** |
| 1 | Lowup to20score | 19 | 19.00 |
| 2 | Medium (21-23) | 63 | 63.00 |
| 3 | High(24andabove) | 18 | 18.00 |
|  | **Total** | **100** | **100.00** |

Mean=21.14,S.D.=1.5,Range-Min.=19,Max=25Allpossiblescores=30

ItisapparentfromtheTable-11thatthemaximumnumberofrespondents (63%) were having medium level of economic motivation, lovedby 19% and 18% respondents were such who had low level and high level ofeconomic motivation respectively. The average mean of scores for economicmotivationwasobservedtobe21.14witharangeofminimum19andmaximum 25. Hence, it can be concluded that most of the respondents werefoundhavingmediumlevel ofeconomic motivation.

## Table12:distributionofrespondentsaccordinglytoeconomicmotivationwithrank order

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S.**  **No.** | **Statements** | **Respondents** | **Rankorder** |
| **Meanscore**  **value** |
| **1** | A woman should works towards leger yield ofeconomic profits A most successful woman isone whomakesthemostprofit, | 4.27 | I |
| **2** | Awomanshouldtryanynewfarmingideawhichmayearnhermoremoney. | 4.04 | II |
| **3** | Awomanshouldtryanynewfarmingideawhichmayearnhermoremoney. | 3.86 | III |
| **4** | Awomanshouldgrowcashcropsincreasemonitory profits in comparison to growing offoodcrapsforhome consumption | 3.64 | IV |
| **5** | It is difficult for the women to make good startwith the children unless she provides them witheconomic assistance | 3.01 | V |
| **6** | Awomanmust earnher livinghatthemostimportantthingislifecan'tbedefinedin  economicterms | 2.32 | VI |
|  | **Totalmeanscore** | **21.14** |  |

Asforaeconomicmotivationwasconcerned,statement"Awomanshould works towards larger yield of economic profit", was ranked 1 followedby “Amost successfulwoman isone who makes the most profits was rankedII, “A woman should try any new farming idea which may earn her moremoney”,wasranked(III),"Awomanshouldgrowcashcropstoincreasemonitoryprofitsincomparisontogrowingoffoodcropsforhomeconsumption", was ranked (IV), "It is difficult for the women to make goodstartwith thechildrenunlesssheprovides them witheconomic assistance"was ranked (V), and "A woman must earn her wing but the most importantthingislifecan'tbedefinedineconomiesterms",wasranked(VI),respectively. The mean of scores for economic motivation was found as 21.14.

## Table13:Distribution of the respondents according scientificorientationwithrankorder

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Statement** | **Respondents** | |
| **Meanscorevalue** | **Rank order** |
| New methodsof MNREGAforwomen empowerment of betterresults than those traditionalmethods. | 4.21 | I |
| The wage an castors exercised toempowerwomenare stilltodaythebest wayoftheirempowerment. | 3.96 | II |
| Evenwithalotofmodernexperimentwomenshouldexercisemore and more for betterempowerment. | 3.66 | III |
| Traditionalempowermentstructuresand practices need have beenchanged in order to enhance andprotectthestatusofwomen. | 3.31 | IV |
| Though it takes time for women tolearn new normative structures andpractices of empowerment fit it isworthwhiletoexperteffortforbetterend. | 3.18 | V |
| Agoodwomanshouldadoptnewsocial rights and roles for betterempowerment | 3 | VI |

As for as scientific orientation was concerned, statement "New methodsMNREGAforwomenempowermentofbetterresultsthanthosefictionalmethods", was ranked (1), followed by "The wage an castors exercised toempower women are still today the best way of their empowerment", wasranked(II),"Evenwithalots ofmodernexperimentsawomenshouldexercisemoreandmoreforbetterempowerment",wasranked(III),"Traditional empowerment structures and practices need have been changed inorder to enhance and protect the snus of women", was ranked (IV), "Though ittakestimeforwomentolumnewnormativestructuresandpracticesofempowermentfititisworthwhiletoexperteffortforbetterend",wasranked(V) and "A good woman should adopt new social rights and roles for betterempowerment",wasranked(VI)respectively.Themeanofscoresforeconomicmotivationwasfoundas21.3.

## Table 14:LevelofTechnologicalknowledgeinrespondentsonpreandpostjoiningofMNREGA (n=100)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(A)AgricultureEngineering(Watershed)relatedworks** | | | | | |
| **1** | ContourTrench | 35 | 1 | 20 | XV |
| **2** | ContourBend | 35 | 1 | 71 | V |
| **3** | Farmbounding | 00 | 00 | 71 | V |
| **4** | GabionStructures | 35 | I | 90 | II |
| **5** | EarthenDam | 00 | 00 | 31 | XIII |
| **6** | DugoutFarmponds | 20 | II | 44 | X |
| **(B)AgricultureRelatedWorks** | | | | | |
| **1** | NADEPcompositing | 5 | VII | 90 | II |
| **2** | Vermicomposting | 00 | 00 | 81 | III |
| **3** | LiquidBioManures:SanjeevakORAmritPaani | 5 | VII | 30 | XIV |
| **(C)LivestockRelatedWorks** | | | | | |
| **1** | PoultryShelter | 00 | 00 | 40 | XII |
| **2** | GoatShelter | 10 | VI | 50 | IX |
| **3** | ConstructionofPuccaFloor,UrineTankandFodderTroughforcattle | 5 | VII | 30 | XIV |
| **4** | AzollaasCattle–feedSupplement | 00 | 00 | 10 | XVII |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | RechargePits(ForPointRecharge) | 5 | | VII | 10 | XVII | | **(F)RuralSanitation RelatedWorks** | | | | | | | | **1** | individualHouseHoldLatrines(IHHL) | 00 | | 00 | 90 | II | | **2** | SchoolToiletUnits | 00 | | 00 | 90 | II | | **3** | AnganwadiToilets | 00 | | 00 | 80 | IV | | **4** | Solid and Liquid WasteManagement(SLWM) | 00 | | 00 | 9 | XVIII | | **(G)IrrigationCommandRelatedWorks** | | | | | | | | **1** | RehabilitationofMinors,Sub-MinorsandFieldChannels | | 27 | II | 92 | I | | 2 | Landdevelopment | | 11 | V | 70 | VI | | **3** | Flood Control and Protection worksIncluding Drainage in waterIoggedareas | | 1 | VIII | 60 | VIII | | **4** | RenovationoftraditionalwaterIncludingDe-SiltingofTanks. | | 00 | 00 | 20 | XV | | **5** | RuralConnectivitytoProvideallweatherAccess | | 00 | 00 | 41 | XI | | **6** | DroughtProofing(IncludingAfforestingandTreePlantation) | | 00 | 00 | 20 | XV | | **7** | Provision of Irrigation Facility, Plantation,Horticulture,LandDevelopmenttoLandownedHouseholdBelongingtoSC/ST. | | 00 | 00 | 19 | XVI | | **8** | ConstructionofBharatNirmanRajivGandhi Sewa Kendra and Gram PanchayatBhawan | | 00 | 00 | 69 | VII |   **(D)FisheriesRelatedWorks** | | | | | |
| **1** | FisheriesinSeasonal,WaterBodiesonPublicLand | 25 | III | 40 | XII |
| **(E)RuralDrinkingWaterRelatedWorks** | | | | | |
| **1** | SoakPits | 25 | III | 40 | XII |

The Knowledge perceived by respondent on Pre Joining of MNREGAwasstudiedonvariousStatementaspects*viz.*"MNREGAprovideslegalguarantee ofemployment ofrural poor**100%** was ranked (I) , “it provides100 days of employment” **99%** was ranked (II) “All those whoregisteredhave tobe givenwork”**70%** was ranked (III),“You can demand for the typeof work in MNREGA**65%**ranked (**IV**), “Crèche facility is provided to women**60%**was ranked (V) and so no six respectively. and **the under MGNREGAworks mast always belong to the list of ‘Permissible Works’** WatershedRelated works “Contour Trench", "Contour Bund" and "Gabion Structures”**35%**wasranked(I),“RehabilitationofMinors,Sub-MinorsandFieldChannels"27%wasranked(II),"FisheriesinSeasonal,WaterBodiesonPublicLand"and"SoakPits"25%wasranked(III),"DugoutFarmPonds"**20%**wasranked(**IV**),"LandDevelopment"11%wasranked(**V**),and"RehabilitationofMinors,Sub-MinorsandFieldChannels" **100%** was ranked (I), "Gabion Structure", "NADEP Composting","Individual Household Latrines " and "School Toilet Units”**90%** was ranked(**II**),"VermiComposting**81%**wasranked(**III**),"AnganwadiToilets**80%**wasranked(**IV**),"ContourBund","FarmBonding"and"ConstructionOfPucca Floor, Urine Tank and Fodder Trough for Cattle" **71%** was ranked (**V**),and so no so six respectively. The result often from the collected data showsthat the knowledge level of respondents about the programme a significantlyincreaseafterjoiningMNREGA.

In case of "pre joining of MNREGA" the programme the maximumrespondents (59%) were observed in the medium category (7-13), followed by(21%) in high category (14 and above) and (20%) in low category (up to 6)respectively.So,thatthemajorityoftherespondentswerefoundhavingmediumcategoryofthe knowledgeaboutMNREGA.

In case of "post joining of MNREGA" the programme the maximumsrespondents(71%)wereobservedinthemediumcategory(28to35),followedby (19%)inlowcategory(upto27score)and(10%)inhighcategory (36 andabove) respectively.So,themajority oftherespondents,thoughfallinginlowcategorybutMNRECIAtheprogrammethemorerespondent upgraded them in medium category of knowledge of MNREGAwhile beforethe programme nominalwasobservehighcategory.

1. **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

While MGNREGA has demonstrated considerable success in empowering women. It is crucial to address implementation issues and ensure that women have access to the benefits of the scheme, particularly in areas where gender specific barriers exist. By strengthening implementation and addressing various challenges, MGNREGA can further enhance women’s empowerment and contribute to overall socio-economic development.

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