A STUDY ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH MGNREGA:
A MICRO LEVEL ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT
MNREGS is being projected as the largest social security scheme in the world. The scheme is poised to make a great impact on the households to bring them out of the poverty trap. Empowerment is commonly described as a process whereby women become able to organise themselves to increase their own self-reliance, to make choices and to control resources. While providing employment, priority will be given to woman in such a way that at least one third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work under the scheme. With this back ground a study on the “a study on empowerment of women through MGNREGA: a micro level analysis” is undertaken. Panampalli is one of the active work site in Coimbatore, and all the women who were involved in the MGNREGP are taken into considerations. Primary data formed the major source of data for the current study. This is a small hamlet and all the women who were involved in this employment programme were randomly selected for the study. The total sample size was 124. The study found that even the women in the elderly age group were also employed in this programme due to poverty that was prevailing in these families which forced them to work. Women workers felt highly satisfied with the MGNREGA employment. The study found that, age, education and household size were found to have significant association with the willingness to work. MGNREGA has contributed to increase in the consumption expenditure reducing the debt burden and income of the women workers has increased with the implementation of the Program.

KEYWORDS: MGNREGA, Women, Employment, Poverty, Beneficiaries.

REFERENCES