

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ  
RAJENDRANAGAR, HYDERABAD - 500030**

**Report on creation awareness on the MGNREGA programme amongst students**

A awareness programme for the students about the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNARAGA) was conducted from 07.05.2020 - 09.05.2020 through online. 18 students participated in the programme.

It is one such Act that is helping to foster a truly democratic society by strengthening the democratic institutions at the grassroots level (PRIs) with the usage of Gram Panchayat Development Plan and Labour Budget planning. The schemes launched under this Act have provided socio-economic security to the millions of wage labourers in rural India. The Act and the guidelines related to the Act are dynamic, in the sense that have actively incorporated the changes made possible by technological advancement, leading to more transparent and decentralised democratic governance of rural India. MGNREGA has not only addressed the core problem of rural unemployment but also had omnifarious impact on the regeneration of local ecosystems, revival of natural habitats, rejuvenation of rivers, empowerment of women, improvement of school education, adaptation to climate change, achievement of SDGs, among others. Beginning in the year 2006, MGNREGA will complete 14 years of its implementation in February 2020. This programme is designed to provide wage employment to the rural poor, create different types of assets for the individuals as well as the community, promote decentralised governance and foster inclusive development. The most important contribution of MGNREGA and GPDP has been the democratisation of the rural governance processes and rejuvenation of the local institutions of Panchayati Raj. It was realised that not only the outcome of a scheme but the process of governance of the village developmental projects was equally important. The benefits of development were to be provided to the rural citizens in a democratic manner, where each citizen who would be affected by the decision of the local Panchayat, has a right to participate and register his/her opinion on the proposed decision. This has a long-term positive effect in reviving the institutions of local governance and the culture of democratic debate in rural areas.

It is important to identify the main reasons that were leading to low employment opportunities in the lean period. The other guidelines issued to each group included identification of the peak season in which demand and supply for work was maximum, ways to anticipate the demand for labour in peak season, months of higher migration, etc.