

**RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND
EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME
IN MAHARASHTRA
FINDINGS**

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PREFACE

For more than a decade Development Group has consistently followed up the theme of Employment Guarantee Scheme and related issues of rural employment and development. In the main we undertook the training of EGS labourers year after year and it served as a listening post for the changes in the rural scenario. This study is a net result of this understanding.

It is true that the entire study took about four years to complete. The reasons were largely circumstantial. All the previous studies have looked at EGS as an end result in itself whereas we have taken into consideration the larger rural / urban employment canvass and the place of a public employment programmes like EGS within it. We found that these variables were mutually influenced and now over the years a need for public employment itself is on decline as a result of the expanding rural/urban open labour markets during last ten years.

During the period of study of last four years there were other significant happenings which also had to be taken into account to protect relevance and realism of the study. These included a doubling of EGS wage rate, introduction of new version of EGS "village development on a watershed basis through mobilisation of rural labour" and the possibility of scaling up EGS at the national level. All these partly contributed to the delay in completion of the study.

Finally a word of gratitude. Father H. Bacher as a representative of 'MISEREROR' West Germany, provided a continuing moral support in the various activities of Development Group including the present study of EGS. It is difficult to imagine whether in his absence a study of this order could have been sustained. Also I want to put on record the hardwork and diligent efforts of my colleague Shri. Yashwant Thakar whose assistance in all the stages of the report was of critical value.

We have presented this report in English in various forms. "Rural Employment and Employment Guarantee Scheme in Maharashtra" as a full and detailed report is presented with all the processed data. Then there is second version "Rural Employment and Employment Guarantee Scheme in Maharashtra A summary" which presents a detail summary of results at the aggregate level without the inclusion of processed computer tables. The third version is presented as "Rural Employment and Employment Guarantee Scheme in Maharashtra : Findings" which lists the empirical findings of the study without the processed data. Similarly a detailed and a summary report is presented in Marathi. This has been done to cater to various segments of public opinion.

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A BACKGROUND

In this publication we have focussed the attention on the salient observations and findings of the empirical evidence of our study. As a ready reference we have reproduced them from the Chapters VI, VII, VIII and IX.

The objectives of the study in the main are as follows :

1. Reasons for a steady decline in labour attendance on EGS works.
2. Productive assets created out of plan investment in EGS and their place in the process of rural development and direction of this change.
3. Those who worked in EGS before (ref. year 1980-81) and have now (1987-88) moved away in preference to have more remunerative open market employment options.
4. The alternative forms of employment apart from a public employment under EGS to meet the need of survival.
5. The reasons for seasonal migration of labour even when EGS works are available in the vicinity of one's own village settlement.
6. Which was the class of rural society that did not require any assistance of public employment even during the vigorous implementation of EGS.
7. Who amongst the rural labour that need the support of public employment under EGS.
8. The circumstances and the choices of employment for male and female labour in rural areas in the changing background of EGS.
9. The place of EGS in the rural development process as reflected in the perception of labourers participating in EGS.

The basic information on sample frame is as follows :

1. Reference year : First survey 1987-88
Second survey 1988-89
2. Choice of districts / blocks : Ahmednagar-Parner,
Nasik-Sinnar,
Aurangabad-Vaijapur,
Solapur-Sangola, Satara-Man,
Beed-Ashti, Pune-Shirur
3. Village level survey on a census basis : 62 Villages / 14345 households
52675 adults
4. Family level survey on a random sample basis : 62 villages 1715 labour
households
5. Survey of selected individual labourers from the sample families : 2415 Number of labourers
6. Details of second survey : 553 Number of sample
households
7. Analytical categories : " A " category (ex-EGS
labourers)
: " B " category (consistent
EGS labourers)
: " C " category) those who
never worked on EGS)
: " D " category (recent
EGS entrants)

CHAPTER VI

Findings on household survey

In the Chapter VI the following salient observations have been made. These are in the nature of general comments on the overall sample of 1715 households in respects of their socio-economic behavioural characteristics.

1. A half of EGS reference group of labourers belong to backward class communities and weaker section of the society which included SCs, STs, OBCs and VJNTs.
2. There were 79 percent of sample families made up of landless (31 percent) and marginal and small farmers - (58 percent) which constitutes a proper reference group of EGS labourers.
3. Out of the land holding sample families (79 percent) there were 53 percent with an average of one ha. of land under irrigation which was seasonal. These proportions are rather significant in view of the fact that all the seven blocks from seven districts included in the sample situated in the chronic drought prone region in the entire State.
4. There were 15 percent of sample families from which one or more members had permanently migrated. Out of these sample families reporting migration, there were as many as 74 percent from which the individual labourers had migrated in the recent past after 1980.
5. For the entire sample the estimated annual family income was Rs. 11,438 for the reference year April 1987 to March 1988.
6. The income from agriculture was the mainstay of sample families of the EGS reference group under study. For about three-fourth of sample families, the contribution of agriculture in the total family income was as much as 34 percent.
7. A proportion of farm wage income in the total family income of the entire sample was estimated at 12 percent whereas if only the farm labour families were considered, it was 18 percent of their annual income.

8. However the contribution of EGS wage income was only seven percent in the total annual income of the entire family. It may be noted here that the seven selected districts in the sample are those in which expenditure on EGS was consistently and cumulatively of the higher order and there was a relative saturation of EGS works.
 9. The contribution of other wage income was 19 percent in the entire sample during 1987-88.
 10. Income from self-employment was one of the prominent sources in the family income for atleast one-fifth of sample households and its contribution was as much as 35 percent in their family income.
 11. There were 17 percent of sample families who reported 19 percent of income from dairy activity. This is interesting since the entire sample was situated in the chronic drought prone region.
 12. There were 36 percent male labourers and 53 percent female labourers who had worked as farm labourers during 1987-88. The male labourers secured farm wage employment for an average of 108 days and the female labourers have 89 days during 1987-88.
 13. There were 27 percent of male labourers and 17 percent of female labourers who reported an income from the other wage employment. The male labourers secured an average of 146 days and female labourers over a longer period of 154 days in the other wage employment during 1987-88. In this the male labourers earned an average daily wage of Rs. 18.33 and female labourers Rs. 13.44.
 14. The analysis of entire employment scenario suggest's that 40 percent of labourers in the survey had managed to secure 61 percent of employment and they were employed for more than six months during the reference year 1987-88. This proportion was 44 percent for male and 36 percent for female labourers. About 23 percent of the labourers had secured employment for less than three months.
- a) *Farm labourers and their supplementary employment*
1. There were 38 percent of farm labourers who had exclusively worked in farm wage employment. It was evident that this

option of farm wage was relatively more important for female labourers (40 percent) as compared to the male labourers (36 percent)

2. The proportion of combining EGS and farm work together was more important (34 percent) than any other combination. In this the female labourers were prominent at 40 percent whereas the male labourers were only 26 percent.

b) Other wage labourers and their supplementary employment

1. There were 32 percent of labourers who were exclusively engaged in the other wage employment category.
2. There were in all 36 percent of labourers who had worked in the other wage employment during 1987-88. However this proportion was 48 percent for male labourers and 25 percent for female labourers.
3. In the category of other wage employment except sugarcane harvesting and transport the other employment choices were such in which the female labourers were far less prominent in number. It may be that the seasonal migration over an extended period did not suit the female labourers.

c) EGS labourers and their supplementary employment

1. There were 27 percent of labourers who had worked exclusively in EGS. Actually the male labourers were in the greater proportion (31 percent).
2. There were 51 percent of labourers who had worked in EGS.
3. More important the female labourers were as much as 56 percent in the combination of EGS plus farm work. It is obvious that this choice of employment opportunities enabled the female labourers to avoid seasonal migration.

CHAPTER VII

Labour participation in EGS

In the Chapter VII following salient observations have been made. The discussion centres around two broad themes :

- a) performance of individual labourers and
- b) performance of selected labour families with reference to EGS.

1. Those 52,675 adult members in the total of 14,345 households who had been enumerated on a census basis from 62 selected villages spread over seven lead districts have been classified into A, B, C and D categories with reference to their participation or otherwise in EGS. There were 46 percent of the adults who had never worked in EGS at any time (C category). However, this proportion was less at 42 percent among the female labourers while it exceeded 50 percent for male labourers.
2. On exclusion of this C category of labourers amongst the EGS reference group there were 52 percent of labourers who consistently worked in EGS (B category). Here relatively the proportion of female labourers was more (53 percent) over that of male labourers 50 percent).
3. There were 42 percent of adults who had previously worked in EGS (1980-81) and had now discontinued during 1987-88) (A category). Amongst the male labourers this proportion was more (44 percent) compared to that of female labourers (40 percent).
4. Amongst A type of labourers (ex-EGS) the proportion was relatively higher in those villages which had a less pressing demand over the two other types of villages. Then followed those villages in which the EGS works were saturated in the past. In all these three types of villages the proportion of male labourers was somewhat higher over that of female labourers.
5. In the sample of 1715 households there were 3322 male adults and 3282 female adults making up the total of 6604 adult labour units. There were 36 percent of adult labourers who had at any time never worked in EGS (C category). Amongst the male members it was 42 percent and for female members 30 percent.
6. After excluding C category there were 49 percent of ex-EGS labourers (A category) who had worked in the past (1980-81) and since then moved away from EGS (1987-88). In this category male labourers were 53 percent and female labourers 45 percent.
7. Those who have consistently worked in EGS both during 1980-81 and 1987-88 (B category) were as much as 43 percent

The female labourers who consistently needed EGS were as much as 46 percent in comparison to male labourers with 39 percent.

8. Amongst the past participants of EGS who have now moved away (A category) the proportions of both male and female labourers were significant amongst the OBCs with 66 percent and 56 percent respectively followed by those in SC group with 60 percent and 55 percent respectively.
9. It is evident that both male and female members in greater number from the landless and the bigger land holding groups (above six ha.) had never participated in EGS at any time (Category). In other words it seems that in both the categories of landless and bigger land holders the male and female labourer participated in EGS in a lesser proportion in comparison to their respective corresponding proportions in the remaining land holding groups.
10. As we group the individual labourers from 720 irrigating and 642 dry land farm families according to their EGS participation we found that there were 45 percent of male and 35 percent of female members amongst the irrigating families who had never joined EGS. The corresponding proportions were 58 percent and 23 percent respectively for the dry land cultivators. It is interesting to note that the proportion of non-participating male members was more whereas it was less amongst the female members in the dry land cultivators.
11. Excluding the C category amongst the remaining labourers the proportions of both male and female labourers in A category (ex-EGS) labourers were relatively higher amongst the irrigating families in comparison to their counterparts in the dry land category. It appears that an access to even a modest irrigation is accompanied by relatively less dependence on EGS.
12. There were 45 percent of sample households in which none of the family members had worked in EGS during 1987-88. Amongst these groups of non-participants there were as many as 27 percent in which none of the members had previously also never worked in EGS. It was evident that over a period the category of non-participating labour families was being enlarged.

13. Whereas the balance of 73 percent sample households from which one member or the other had a need for EGS work and now during 1987-88 had moved away from EGS. This seems to be significant.
14. When we consider the EGS participants as a group the proportion of EGS participants during 1987-88 amongst the dry land farmers was relatively more.
15. The proportion of EGS participants who had consistently worked in EGS amongst the dry land farmers was also relatively more (B category).
16. The proportion of non-participating families amongst the irrigating farmers was relatively more (C category)
 - The proportion of those who previously worked in EGS and now no longer do so (1987-88) was relatively more amongst the dry land farmers (A category).
 - Relatively a greater proportion of labourers from Backward Caste and OBC families has moved away from EGS in preference to open market employment opportunities. On the other hand labour from advance caste and VJ&NTs still tended to depend on a public employment of EGS.

CHAPTER VIII

Observations on individual labourers

In the Chapter VIII certain observations based on the responses of individual labourers from the original sample families have been discussed in brief. They are as follows.

1. On perusal of the details regarding employment it appears that for C (those who never joined EGS) and A (ex-EGS labourers) categories the major choice of occupation was farming and farm labour.

Next to farming there was a choice of the other wage employment such as sugarcane harvesting, and collection, painting, well digging and Bidi rolling etc However, there were less female labourers as compared to the males in the other wage employment.

3. For both the labourers under A and C categories the employment opportunities in farming and allied activities were relatively substantial which was consequentially reflected in the less dependance on a public employment under EGS.

4. About 70 percent of male labourers from both categories had found employment within the village itself.
5. About half of male and female labourers from both the categories had secured non-EGS employment (the other wage) over more than seven years in the recent period.
6. As for the C category of labourers who had never joined EGS at any time there were 68 percent of male labourers who had secured the other wage employment for more than six months during the year. Amongst the female from this category the proportion was equally high at 56 percent.
7. Similar proportions for the category (ex-EGS) for male and female were 51 percent and 32 percent respectively.
8. Amongst male labourers from C category there were 19 percent engaged in farming.
9. From the multiple response the A category (ex-EGS) labourers have mentioned the reasons such as lack of continuity of work, lower wage rate and also a shorter duration of days of employment for moving away from EGS in recent years. Both the male and female labourers have responded in the same way. They thought that EGS is not a dependable source of employment.
10. The category of ex-EGS participants have also mentioned some of the following reasons :
 - With an access to water there is need to attend to the domestic farming.
 - EGS work not available in the close vicinity of the village settlement.
 - The payment of wages under EGS not regular and time bound.
 - For the female labourers there is a certain convenience in farm wage employment such as collection of fuel, vegetables and green grass for cattle.
11. It is evident that for C category of labourers who never needed EGS as their access to farming and farm wage employment together provided them sufficient employment and income. This was particularly valid for those with an access to water for the domestic farming which ensured a better availability of foodgrains during the year.

12. The other members working in EGS from A and C categories mentioned the following reasons :
 - Farm wage employment is not available for all.
 - Foodgrains besides the cash wages are available on EGS which is beneficial to the entire family.
 - EGS is a standby alternative when there is no other work.
 - EGS works are located in the close vicinity of a village settlement and hence it can be conveniently combined with domestic farm work.
13. Reasons for choosing alternative wage employment for labourers from A category were as follows :
 - The possibility of employment year after year, more members in a family being able to secure employment and that too over an extended period during the year the main reasons for which ex-EGS participants opted for the other wage employment. The availability of cash advance at the time of domestic need is a facility available in the other wage employment which is not possible under EGS. Moreover they can take their cattle with them. At times availability of foodgrains and other items of daily necessity at a place of work also tempts these labourers.
14. Continuity or otherwise of EGS : perception of ex-EGS labourers (A category) was as follows :
 - Some labourers thought that the economic activities in the village economy would be slowed down and various self-employment professions, services would be adversely affected.
 - A modest assurance of protective irrigation has become extensively available atleast for some groups which has been accomplished due to the consistent implementation of EGS. Hence some labourers expressed an anxiety about discontinuance of EGS which was an opportunity of supplementary wage income.
 - On the other hand some labourers thought that EGS is already in a bad shape and its absence would not produce any major consequences in the rural economy in future.
 - There are a number of benefits with continuance of EGS. The farm wages tend to be on the higher side in the background of strong presence of EGS. Many labourers expressed that the water impounding works under EGS have positively helped in securing an access to atleast a prote-

ctive irrigation which in turn can reduce not only the seasonal migration but also the need of EGS itself over a period.

15. Most of the respondents (about 91 percent) from C category (ex-EGS) expressed an opinion that EGS has a definite place in the rural economy and also helps as an additional employment and income.

The substantial benefits have been derived from percolation tanks, nalla bunding works which have provided a protective irrigation to the otherwise dry lands. Another allied benefit mentioned by these labourers (C category) was in respect of improvement in farm wages.

Out of 656 labourers (under C category) only 13 percent opined that the nonavailability of farm labour had an adverse impact on farming. This is an important feedback on EGS since even those labourers who have not worked in EGS any time have a positive view on the intrinsic merit of a public employment programme like EGS.

16. Response of consistent EGS labourers (B category) was as follows :

About 40 percent of the labourers opined that the work under the other wage employment was more strenuous and rigorous in comparison to EGS.

They preferred EGS work since they could easily adjust domestic as well as farm work while working under EGS. EGS works are in the close vicinity of the village and hence the question of migration does not arise.

About 48 percent of B category of labourers - (consistent participants) mentioned that there was a definite decline in male labour attendance on EGS for the following reasons- (multiple responses) :

Alternative availability of employment	..	79 percent
Inadequate EGS wage income	..	81 percent
Lack of consistency and continuity of EGS works	..	31 percent
EGS work of lower status	..	14 percent

17. Labourers from B category reflected on various changes in EGS in the following manner :

It is evident from their replies that in respect of all major aspects of EGS both male and female labourers have expressed a negative opinion in a large measure. It is interesting to note that more than two-thirds of labourers have confirmed the instance of corruption in the changes that have taken place.

Despite a marked deterioration in EGS 98 percent of the B category labourers argued in favour of the scheme. Even two-thirds were prepared to travel a long distance in the event of a need for public employment.

About 53 percent of the labourers expressed an optimism about the possibility of continuation of EGS. The rest of labourers appeared sceptical particularly in reference to Government decision to complete the incomplete productive works and a widespread public discussion on corruption in EGS.

According to the two-thirds of labourers (B category) EGS was not a dependable and a secured source. EGS works are not operational throughout the year.

Delayed payment of EGS works whereas better payments and various facilities are available in respect of the other wage employment which are lacking under EGS works.

Due to widespread corruption in EGS, the labourers are apprehensive about the eventual phasing away of EGS as a result of this unfortunate public perception.

18. Labourers from B category offered suggestions regarding implementation of EGS as follows :

Payment of food coupons as a part of wages.

The labourers are expecting comparable income and facilities from EGS works to which they are entitled in the other wage employment. Equally important was the expressed preference of labourers for a timely payment of wages under EGS.

19. During the initial years farm wage employment was the only alternative next to EGS but now in the rural areas there is a wide choice of wage employment opportunities. A variety of

labour markets has come up in recent years because of which the need of public employment is much less and so also the dependence of rural poor on it. Hence there is a need to take into account changing rural and urban employment scenario in order to reorient the EGS to find a place of its own. Even now a majority of labour force still needs a public employment as before though for some male labourers more remunerative wage opportunities have opened up recently. All conveyed a more or less unanimous opinion that EGS played an important role in rural development and more specifically agricultural development. It is true that they have frankly mentioned various limitations and deficiencies in the working of EGS. They still seem to believe that it should be continued in rural areas to accelerate the pace of development.

20. Over a period of more than a decade EGS has particularly contributed to effect the changes in the larger rural economic environment and now in turn it is influencing the content of EGS itself. It is this two way process that is significant.

CHAPTER IX

Observations on supplementary survey

In the chapter IX we have presented the observations on the supplementary second survey covering a period of 1988-89. This was found to be necessary in view of the fact that Government had revised the schedule of rates of EGS wages and it was exactly doubled. Hence it was necessary to find out whether this doubling of wage income had resulted in a substantial addition in labour attendance on EGS.

1. In the supplementary survey there was a relative increase in the proportion of labour attendance and also EGS wage income and average daily wage during the reference year 1988-89. Consequently the contribution of EGS wage income was relatively more in the average family income of 568 sample labour families. This proportion was as much as 21 percent which was more than three times to that of the proportion in the original survey of 1715 sample families.
2. It is interesting to note that despite an increase in EGS wages the other three sources of wages income did not undergo any upward revision. It is equally important to note that the average family income of the sample families during the supple-

- mentary survey was estimated at Rs. 8283 for the reference year 1988-89 whereas it was estimated at Rs. 11,438 in the original survey for the reference year 1987-88. This decline in average annual family income was about 28 percent during 1988-89 over the preceding year. It appears that during this phase of decline the modest contribution of EGS wage income was better since it served as a buffer during the difficult times.
5. Even with a cent-percent rise in the schedule of rates of wages under EGS there was not any substantial increase in labour attendance on EGS works.
 6. It is true that due to a rise in EGS wages some more labourers were attracted towards EGS and to that extent there was some rise in the contribution of EGS wage income in the average total family income of labour families.
 7. The relative proportions of those who never worked in EGS (C category) and those who previously worked in EGS and had now moved away (A category) have more or less remained the same in the second survey.
 8. A rise in EGS wages positively influenced a rise in farm wages which was reflected in the second survey.
 9. There was a small diversion of labour from farm wage employment to EGS noted during the second survey. However this was a marginal phenomenon.

CHAPTER X

CONCLUSION

We have noted the specific policy context in which the present study on EGS was undertaken. In a certain sense a consistent implementation of EGS over last 17 years has been reflected in a saturated level of investment of the order of Rs. 2500 crores through which rural labour on a vast scale has been capitalised. So on one hand a right to employment has been legitimised and through the same measure capital assets on a substantial scale have been created in the rural economy. Naturally the parameters of rural economy have undergone a certain change which is reflected in the entire scenario of rural employment. Correspondingly the need for public employment under EGS has undergone a downward change.

‘डेव्हलपमेंट ग्रुप’

‘डेव्हलपमेंट ग्रुप’ ही सार्वजनिक न्यास म्हणून नोंदण्यात आलेली समाज-सेवी संस्था आहे. विविध सामाजिक व नैसर्गिक विज्ञानांमध्ये विशेष तज्ज्ञता व दीर्घ अनुभव असणारे जाणकार, ग्रामीण / नागरी गरिबांसाठी काम करणाऱ्या स्वयंसेवी संस्थांना विविध स्वरूपाचे सहकार्य देऊन त्यांचे कार्य अधिक प्रभावी करण्यासाठी, या संस्थेच्या समाजोपयोगी कार्यात सहभागी झाले आहेत. गरिबांसाठी पोहोचू शकणाऱ्या विकासप्रक्रियेमध्ये या तज्ज्ञांना रस असून, विविध विकासकार्यक्रमांच्या प्रत्यक्ष अंमलबजावणीची संभाव्यता व विकासप्रक्रिया यावर त्यांनी आपले लक्ष केंद्रित केले आहे.

प्रमुख उद्दिष्टे

* विकासकार्यक्रमाचे फायदे व विकासप्रक्रियेमध्ये सक्रिय सहभाग मिळविण्याच्या दृष्टीने संस्थात्मक व संघटनात्मक पाठबळ उभे करून ग्रामीण / नागरी गरिबांच्या कल्याणकार्यास उत्तेजन देणे.

* या उद्दिष्टांच्या पूर्तीसाठी कार्यरत असणाऱ्या संस्था व संघटना यांच्या कार्यकर्त्यांच्या प्रशिक्षणासाठी आवश्यक सुविधा उपलब्ध करून देणे.

* अशा संस्था व संघटना यांचे सक्रिय सभासद होण्यासाठी तसेच आपले हक्क व जबाबदाऱ्या यासंबंधी गरिबांचे शिक्षण करण्याच्या दृष्टीने प्रयत्न करणे.

प्रमुख कार्यक्षेत्रे

संशोधन/मूल्यमापन : स्थानिक लोक/संस्था, संघटना यांचा सक्रिय सहभाग अंतर्भूत असणाऱ्या लहान प्रमाणावरील क्षेत्रविकासयोजना तयार करण्याची पद्धती विकसित करण्याचे प्रयत्न करण्यात येत आहेत. उदा., दुष्काळी भागासाठी समान पाणीवाटप-नायगाव-प्रयोग. याच प्रयोगाचे विस्तारित स्वरूप म्हणजे पुरंदर तालुक्यासारख्या अत्यंत दुष्काळी भागासाठी करण्यात आलेले गटघातळीवरील नियोजन.

नियोजनासाठी साहाय्याची गरज असलेल्या लहान लहान गटांपर्यंत पोहोचण्याचा संस्थेचा प्रयत्न आहे. विशेषतः शहरांपासून दूर, दुर्गम भागात असे गट/संस्था स्थापन करण्यास अधिकाधिक प्रोत्साहन दिले जाते.

सरपण / इंधन व चारा या ग्रामीण जनतेच्या गरजा भागू शकतील असा समूहपातळीवरील सामाजिक वनीकरण कार्यक्रम विकसित करण्यात आला असून ‘सामाजिक वनीकरण-झाडोऱ्याच्या कुरणाचा सामूहिक कार्यक्रम’ ही पुस्तिका संस्थेने तयार केली आहे.

भूमिहीन व लहान शेतकरी यांना उपजीविकेसाठी शहरांकडे धाव घेणे भाग पडते. ही वस्तुस्थिती लक्षात घेऊन गरीब, विशेषतः भूमिहीन व लहान शेतकरी यांच्या कल्याणासाठी परिणामकारक कार्य करावयाचे असेल तर रोजगार हमी योजनेचे सतत मूल्यमापन होण्याची आवश्यकता असल्याचे संस्थेचे मत आहे.

नियोजन / विकास

लहान प्रमाणावरील विकासकार्यक्रम तयार करण्याबरोबरच या अंमलबजावणीपर्यंतच्या विविध टप्प्यांमध्ये हा कार्यक्रम अमलात आणणाऱ्यांच्या संपर्कात राहण्यात संस्थेच्या कार्यकर्त्यांना रस आहे.

संस्थेच्या कार्यकर्त्यांनी छोट्या क्षेत्रावर केलेल्या अभ्यासातून गरिबांशी संबंधित अशा नियोजनप्रक्रियेतील व घोरणात्मक प्रश्नांशी असलेले संबंध स्पष्ट करण्यात आलेले आहेत. उदा.; मोठ्या प्रमाणावरील धरणप्रकल्पांमुळे जमीन व माती यांचे होणारे नुकसान यावरील अभ्यास मोठमोठ्या धरणप्रकल्पांमुळे निर्वासित झालेल्यांच्या पुनर्वसनसमस्यांच्या संदर्भात संस्थेचे कार्यकर्ते करीत आहेत.

प्रशिक्षण

पुढील ५ वर्षांमध्ये रोजगार हमी कार्यक्रमामावर काम करणाऱ्या कार्यकर्त्यांचे तसेच काही निवडक आदिवासी, डोंगराळ व दुष्काळी भागात रोजगार हमी योजनेतील कामावर काम करणाऱ्या मजुरांचे प्रशिक्षणावर भर देण्याचे संस्थेने ठरविले आहे.

याबरोबरच सामाजिक वनीकरण, तसेच पाणीवाटपव्यवस्था व भूविकास, दुग्धव्यवसायव्यवस्था यासंबंधी प्रशिक्षण कार्यकर्त्यांना देण्याचा विचार आहे. ग्रामीण भागातील स्त्रिया व शाळा सोडून दिलेली मुले यांच्यापर्यंत पोहोचण्याच्या दृष्टीने हा प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम अनौपचारिक शिक्षण कार्यक्रमाबरोबर जोडण्यात येईल. आदिवासी उपयोजनांतर्गत विकासकार्यक्रमांसंबंधी कार्यकर्त्यांना प्रशिक्षण देण्यात येईल.

टिपणे / अनुभव यांची देवाणघेवाण

स्थानिक स्वयंसेवी संस्थांचा परिचय आर्थिक मदत देणाऱ्या संस्थांशी करून देण्यात येतो. विकासकार्यक्रमाच्या अंमलबजावणीच्या दृष्टीने विविध सरकारी खात्यांची मदत मिळविणे हेही महत्वाचे आहे. ग्रामीण विकासासाठी कार्यरत असणाऱ्या स्वयंसेवी संस्थांना औद्योगिक संस्थांनी देण्यास सरकार त्यांना प्रोत्साहन देत आहे.

शेती, फलोद्यान, पाणीवाटप, दुग्धव्यवसाय, वनीकरण, मासेमारी इत्यादी-संबंधीच्या विविध विकासकार्यक्रमांमधून सुयोग्य तंत्रज्ञानाचा उपयोग करण्यावर भर देण्यात येत असून निसर्गसंपत्तीचा विकास व संरक्षण ही दूरदरची उद्दिष्टे या विकासकार्यक्रमांसमोर ठेवण्यात आली आहेत. या सर्व विकासप्रयत्नांमध्ये स्थानिक नेतृत्व, स्थानिक संस्था यांचा अधिकाधिक सहभाग आवश्यक आहे, तसेच समूहाच्या हितसंबंधांचे रक्षण त्यातून होणे हेही महत्वाचे आहे.

संपर्कासाठी पत्ता .

मधुसूदन दत्तात्रय साठे, डेव्हलपमेंट ग्रुप, 'यशोधन' २०७१, विजयानगर कॉलनी, पुणे ४११ ०३०, फोन : ४४७१५४.