

SWOT

Nomination for Awards

Rural Development Department
Government of Bihar

Strength

Program Strength

- **Rights Based program**
- **Bottom Up planning**
- **Inclusive**
- **Equity**
- **Plethora of Permissible Works**
- **SQM**
- **Ombudsman**
- **Labour working under MGNREGA**
- **Process based program**
- **Transparency**
- **Social Audit:**

- **State Initiatives as its strength**
- **Mahadalit Campaign**
- **MGNREGA Diwas**
- **Statement of Job**
- **Celebrating women's day**
- **Panchayat Executive Committee Meeting**
- **Lok Adalats**
- **RTPS**
- **CPSMS**
- **Human Resources**
- **Policy Planning for Social Inclusion**
- **State Corpus for compensating delay in fund releases**
- **Structured Capacity building initiatives**

Weakness

- **Documentation of good practices**
- **Lack of personnel in MGNREGA implementation**
- **Non-incentivized PRI**
- **Exposure to PRI**
- **Budgetary constraint**
- **Infrastructural constraints**

Opportunity

- **Huge Rural Population**
- **Bihar is predominantly is an agrarian economy. Therefore, scope of asset creation supportive to agriculture is huge**
- **Huge tracts of fallow land can be brought under Agriculture**
- **Rural infrastructure**
- **Support to livelihood basket**
- **Natural Resource Management for sustainable livelihoods**

Threats

- **Delay in and inappropriate Fund release by centre. Subjective criteria of fund release.**
- **Ceiling of 6% contingency (Inappropriate for states that are caught into the vicious cycle of lower program expenditure for various activities under the program viz. personnel, social audit, Ombudsman, SQM, capacity building, IEC, administrative cost etc)**
- **Fixation of Minimum wages of MGNREGA**
- **Gap between State notified minimum wages and MGNREGA minimum wages (162 for State against 138 under MGNREGA)**
- **No designated district level structure for MGNREGA program implementation**
- **Fast updation of operational guidelines without allowing the existing guidelines to get operational**

Executive Summary

MGNREGA is the biggest “Poverty Alleviation Program” in the world as is known the world over. Unlike “Schemes”, the nature of being a “Law” brings binding for the Government and right of the people to ask the state to provide them employment.

The act in its basic framework is evolving as a program from being “an employment generating” program to a sustainable livelihood support program. It becomes evident under the latest operational guidelines of MoRD. The fundamentals of the program is changing with change in approach from “top-down” to “bottom-Up” planning for works. 30 New works have been added that, with the support of other Government Developmental Programs under convergence, can change the face of rural life and inhabitants.

Bihar is also leveraging the benefits under MGNREGA for its rural population by converging various State and Centre sponsored development programs being executed by line departments of the state administration.

Points of References

- Rural Development Department is anchoring this convergence by supplying labour support to works of other departments.
- The main sectors of “Convergence” presently stands delivered in ‘Social Forestry and MGNREGA’, ‘MGNREGA, IAY and NBA’ and ‘Khet Pokhar-Irrigation and Fisheries’
- It starts right from planning of works to execution. As a total of 270427 units of plantations have been taken up under Social forestry comprising of 53993725 number of plants till date right since inception. 10 unit of Plantations per year is the target set by State for itself.
- 18070 units of individual HH toilets have been taken under convergence with MGNREGA, IAY and NBA already while it has only been some time with “Resolution of Convergence”. 10 Lakhs of “Toilets” are expected to be completed by the end of this financial year under convergence subject to the non-hindered fund flow.
- 63815 works of water conservation and harvesting are under process of execution. Out of this 22298 works are on the Private land of SC/ST/IAYB/LRB. Sharp rise in works on lands of SC/ST has been observed that culminates into the conclusion of social inclusion and equity in MGNREGA implementation in the State of Bihar.
- Innovation of “Vriksh Sanrakshan Yojna” features under Livelihood support to marginal communities. In addition to it, it is also a step ahead in maintenance of works under MGNREGA making it sustainable assets for poor.

Transparency and Accountability

- The “Act” brings accountability mandate with it therefore transparency measures become as important as anything. The adherence to transparency and accountability measures automatically takes the State on the path of adherence to processes in MGNREGA considering that the Program is highly process centric.
- State has taken many efforts. It includes mandatory transparency mechanisms along with internal innovations. Social Audit, NREGAsoft MIS, e-Muster, e-FMS etc are the mandatory measures under the operational guidelines that State is adhering to. Statement of Job distribution, Mandatory Panchayat Executive Committee meeting, Wall paintings, Observance of MGNREGA Diwas are the extraordinary steps taken by the State.
- A large number of administrative officials of the rank of SDC (Senior Deputy Collectors) are inspecting MGNREGA implementation in one Panchayat of each block in the district every week on Wednesday. Actions viz. Show Causes to personnel, dismissals, recovery and FIR have been lodged in big numbers for detected irregularities.
- Distribution of Statement of Job, Social Audits, MGNREGA Diwas have played crucial role in bringing awareness of the program. Grievances are being redressed at various levels. Social Audit at the Panchayat level, PO at the Block Level, DM office and Ombudsman are addressing the grievances at the district level while SQM and Departmental officers are responding to grievances at the State level.