

In the preceding chapter an attempt has been made to discuss the general profile of the study area and progress of MGNREGS in the study area. In this chapter, an attempt is made to present the profile of selected respondents for the study with reference to their social and economic characteristics. Besides, the chapter also examines the knowledge, awareness and participation levels of women in MGNREGS. There are 240 sample respondents spread over five revenue division. Analysis has been carried-out to the total sample of 240 women.

The social characteristics of the respondents have been analysed with reference to age, caste, marital status, education status, number of family members, number of dependents, number of workers type of family status of the house electrification of house, source of drinking water, toilet facility etc.,

Social Category

As per MGNREGA the men and women who have need and intension to work can be registered as beneficiaries under the programme. There are no caste norms for providing employment under MGNREGS. Table 5.1 gives the particulars of social category of sample women respondents in the study area.

Table 5.1
Caste Wise Distribution of Respondents

S. No.	Social Category	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	Scheduled Tribe	26	10.83
2	Scheduled Caste	54	22.50
3	Backward Class	138	57.50
4	Others	22	9.17
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is evident from table 5.1 that the major caste group that has taken part in MGNREGS in the study area is Backward Class. Around 57.50 per cent of sample women belong to the Backward Class community. The next important caste group that took part in MGNREGS in the study area is Scheduled Caste (22.50 per cent). Among the sample women beneficiaries 10.83 per cent were Scheduled Tribe women. The share non-reserved category women among total sample stood at 9.17 per cent. The caste composition of workers in the study area reflecting the national level average figures of 2014.

Religion

The religious details of sample women respondents were presented in the table 5.2.

Table – 5.2
Religion Wise Distribution of Sample Women

S. No.	Religion	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1.	Hindu	230	95.83
2.	Christians	10	4.17
Total		240	100

Source: Field Data

Table 5.2 indicates that only 5 members out of 120 sample respondents were Christians. The remaining sample women belong to Hindu religion. It is pertinent to note that none of the sample women respondents belong to any other religion except Hindu and Christian religions.

Education Level

The educational level of the sample women who were benefited by MGNREGS in the district is given in the table 5.3.

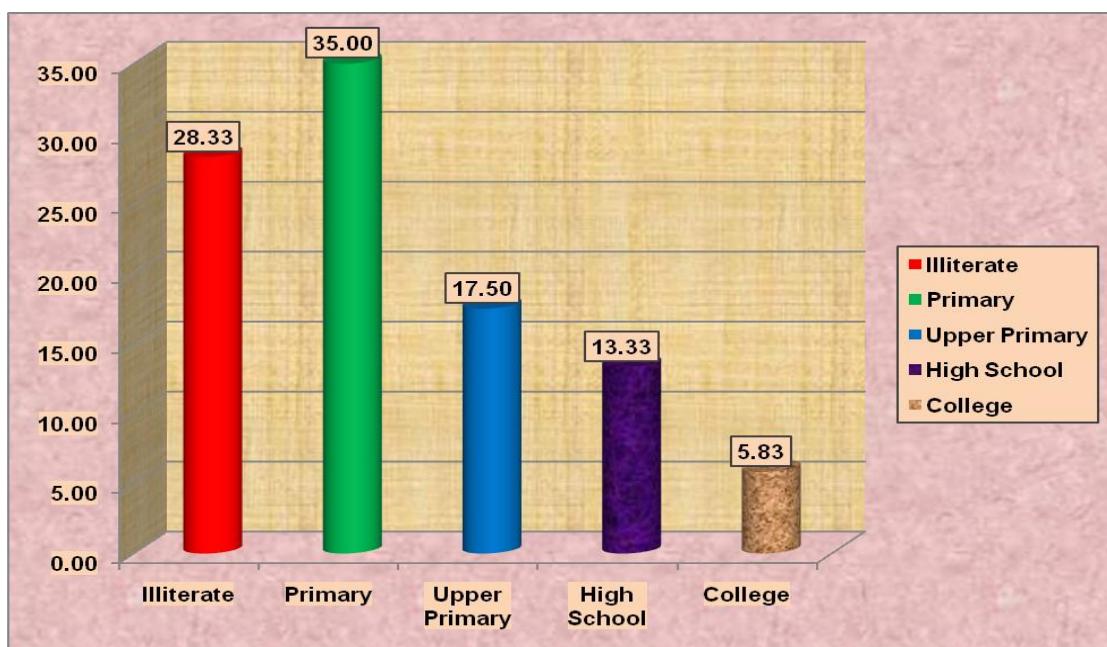
Table – 5.3
Education Level of Sample Women Respondents

S. No.	Education Level	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	Illiterate	68	28.33
2	Primary	84	35.00
3	Upper Primary	42	17.50
4	High School	32	13.33
5	College	14	5.83
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is clear from the Table 5.3 that nearly 28.33 per cent of the sample women were illiterate. Among the literates 35 per cent of women have completed primary education. About 17.50 per cent of sample women have access to upper primary education. It reduced to 13.33 per cent in case of high school education. It further reduced as only 5.83 per cent of women have access to college education. It can be observed that with an increase in the level education the percentage of women's access to education is declining.

Chart–5.1
Distribution of Respondents by Education Level



Economic background of Sample Women Households

In order to ascertain the economic background of sample women households, their landholdings and occupation were looked at.

Landholdings of Sample Households

A large number of sample MGNREGS beneficiaries came from economically poor families owning no land or very little land. The land holding details of the sample women households is presented in the Table 5.4.

Table – 5.4
Landholdings of Sample Households

S. No.	Land Holdings	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1.	Landless	108	45.00
2.	Marginal farmers (< 2.5 Acres)	84	35.00
3.	Small farmers (2.5 To 5 Acres)	24	10.00
4.	Medium farmers (5.1 To 10.00 Acres)	14	5.83
5.	Large farmers (10.1 To 25 Acres)	10	4.17
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field data

The Table 5.4 shows that 54 households, who constitute 45 per cent of the total sample, are left without any piece of land. The marginal and small holdings together constitute nearly 45 per cent of the total sample households. Out of the total households the medium and large holding beneficiaries constitute 5.83 per cent and 4.17 per cent respectively. It is important to note that none of the respondents are possessing more than 25 acres of land.

Primary Occupation of Sample Households

The occupation of a family also decides the economic status of the family members in the society. Occupation particulars of the MGNREGS beneficiary households in the district have categorized in seven like agriculture labour, agriculture, industrial labour, sericulture workers and others. This is presented in Table 5.5.

Table – 5.5
Primary Occupation of Sample Women Households

S. No.	Primary occupation	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage of Total
1.	Agricultural labour	78	32.50
2.	Agriculture	62	25.83
3.	Industrial Labour	34	14.17
4.	Construction works	44	18.33
5.	Dairying	12	5.00
6.	Sericulture	6	2.50
7.	Others	4	1.67
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is evident from the Table 5.5 that 60.83 per cent (Col.1,2&6) of the sample women households are depending on agriculture and allied activities. Construction workers constitute 18.33 per cent of the total beneficiary households. Industrial labour constitutes only 14.17 per cent of total sample households. Other occupational categories constitute only 1.67 per cent, who are engaged in different types of avocations like, petty business, vegetable and flower vending. It is conspicuous that no rural artisans find place in the list.

Housing of SHG Members

Housing, is an indicator of the economic status of a household, was looked at during the study. The respondents are possessing four categories of houses such as hut, thatched house, tiled house and RCC /Pucca houses which are shown in table 5.6.

Table 5.6
Type of House of Sample Women

S. No.	Housing Pattern	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1.	Hut	12	5.00
2.	Thatched House	30	12.50
3.	Tiled House	34	14.17
4.	RCC/Pucca	164	68.33
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

As per the table 5.6 that around 31.67 per cent of sample women are living in temporary dwellings even today. Various housing schemes introduced by Central and State Governments are not reached to these families even today. The remaining 80.83 per cent of sample women are living in permanent/ pucca buildings. To be more precise nearly 68.33 per cent of sample women family members are living in RCC/pucca houses and the remaining are not having proper housing facility.

Status of House

Table 5.7 furnishes the details of status of houses of sample households in the study area.

Table 5.7
Status of House of Sample Households

S. No.	Status of House	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	Own	184	76.67
2	Rent	30	12.50
3	Others	26	10.83
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is clear from table 5.7 that more than three fourth of the sample women were living in their own houses. Around 12.50 per cent of sample families were living in rented houses. Around 10.83 families were living in the houses of friends, relatives, neighbours. Most of these families divided from joint families and are constructing new houses which are under process.

Ration Cards of SHG Member

Ration card possessed by a family also indicates the economic status of that particular family. As such the ration card possessed by sample women households was ascertained during the study period and the same is presented in table 5.8.

Table 5.8
Ration Card Owned by Sample Women Respondents

S. No.	Type of Ration Card	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1.	White Card	214	89.17
2.	Pink Card	10	04.17
3.	No Card	16	06.67
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is crystal clear from the table 5.8 that majority of the sample women households are possessing white ration cards, which are issued to the families living below poverty line. Ten out of 240 sample women households posses pink ration card, which the government issues to the families who are living above poverty line. Nearly 6.67 per cent of the sample women households possess neither white nor pink ration cards. It is learnt during the study period that when the joint family divided and set up their own household, they find it difficult to get ration card separately for the new households.

Demographic particulars of Sample Women

As part of the study an attempt is also made to ascertain the demographic factors, which indirectly decides the socio--economic position of man/woman. The age particulars of sample women are presented in the table 5.9.

Table 5.9
Age Wise Distribution of Sample Women

S. No.	Age Groups	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	Below 30 Years	114	47.50
2	31 to 40 Years	78	32.50
3	41 to 50 Years	38	15.83
4	51 and above	10	4.17
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

As per the table 5.9, large number of sample women hail from the age groups of below 30 years and 31-40 years. It is considered as the important productive age group. Nearly 47.50 per cent of women have less than 30 years. Around 32.50 per cent of women are in the age group of 31 to 40years. The age of 15.83 per cent of women is in the age group of 41 to 50 years. About 4.17 per cent of sample women have 51 years and above age.

Marital status of SHG Members

The marital status of an individual decides their social position in the society as well as family. Keeping in view of this the marital status of sample women was recorded during the study and presented in the table 5.10.

Table 5.10
Marital Status of Sample Women

S. No.	Marital Status	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1.	Married	218	90.83
2.	Widowed	12	05.00
3.	Divorced	10	04.17
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

The table 5.10 indicates that most (71.67 %) of the sample women were married and living with their better halves. Nearly 9.17 per cent are living as single because of widowhood or divorced.

Monthly Income

Table 5.11 provides the particulars of monthly income levels of sample women households.

Table 5.11
Monthly Income of Sample Households

S. No.	Monthly Income	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	Below Rs.2000	48	20.00
2	Rs. 2001-3000	148	61.67
3	Rs. 3001-4000	30	12.50
4	Rs. 4001-5000	10	4.17
5	Rs. 5001 and above	4	1.67
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is evident from table 5.11 that the income of preponderant majority i.e. 61.67 per cent of sample households varies between Rs. 2001 to Rs.3000. The monthly income of 20 per cent of sample households is less than Rs.2000. About 12.50 per cent of sample households were earning Rs.3001 to 4000 per month. Nearly 4.17 per cent of sample women reported

that the total monthly income of their household ranges between Rs. 4001 to Rs.5000. Only 2 out of 120 households monthly income is Rs.5001 and above.

Family Size of Sample Households

The size of a family also indicates that whether a family is able to support all the needs of family members. Table 5.12 gives the particulars of family size of sample households.

Table 5.12
Size of the family of Sample Households

S. No.	Family size	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	3	8	3.33
2	4	88	36.67
3	5	108	45.00
4	6	24	10.00
5	7 and above	12	5.00
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It can be found from table 5.12 that 45 per cent of sample household's family size is 5. The family size of 36.67 per cent of sample households is 4. Around 10 per cent of sample household's family size stood at 6 members. In 5 per cent of sample households the family size stood at 7 and above persons. The remaining 3.33 per cent of sample households' family size is confined to 3.

Type of Family

The particulars with regard to type of family in which sample women were living is presented in table 5.13.

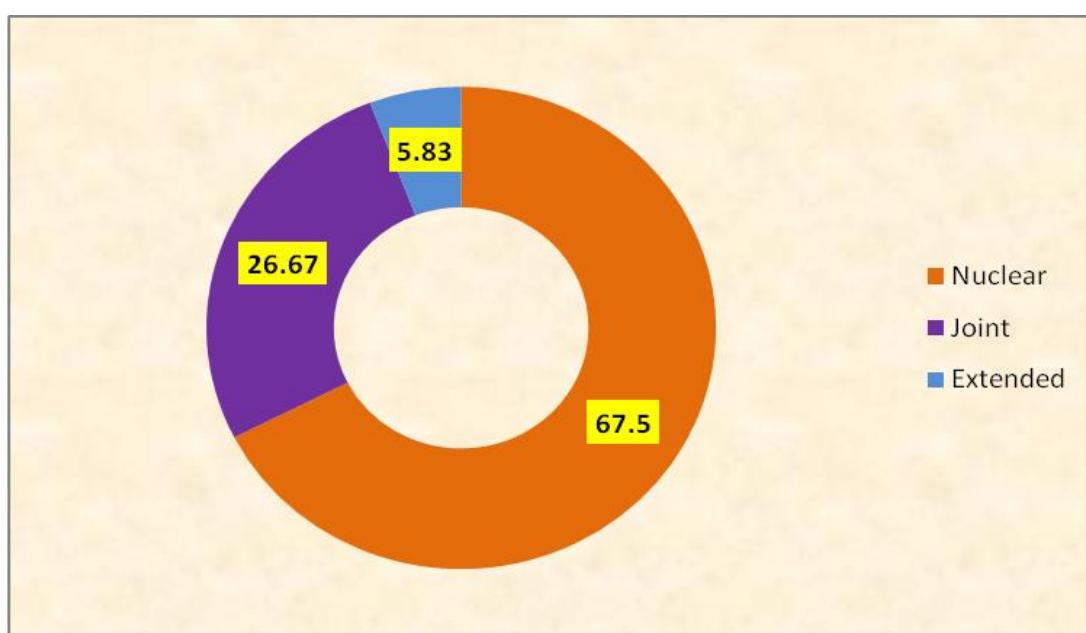
Table 5.13
Type of Family of Sample Households

S. No.	Type of Family	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	Nuclear	162	67.50
2	Joint	64	26.67
3	Extended	14	5.83
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is clear from table 5.13 that large number of sample women was living in nuclear families. To be precise around 67.50 per cent of sample respondents family is nuclear family. Around 26.67 per cent of sample women were living in joint families. The families living in extended type stood at 5.83 per cent.

Chart-5.2
Type of Family of Sample Households



Number of working Members

The economic well-being of a family largely depends on the number of working members in a particular family. Table 5.14 gives the details of number of working members in sample households.

Table 5.14
Number of Working Members in Sample Households

S. No.	No. of Working Members	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	1	38	15.83
2	2	138	57.50
3	3	46	19.17
4	4	14	5.83
5	5 and above	4	1.67
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

Table 5.14 reveals that a single member of a family leading the 15.83 households by his labour. In 57.50 per cent of families the number of working members stood at 2. During field survey it is observed that most of these 2 working member families the main workers are wife and husband. The working members in 19.17 per cent of sample households are 3. By the labour of 4 members in a family the household members earning their livelihoods in 5.83 per cent of the households. The working members in 2 households is 5 and above.

Number of Dependents

The number of dependents in a particular family decides not only the economic status of family but also the socio-economic position of women in that particular family. Table 5.15 gives the details of number of dependents in sample households.

Table 5.15
Number of Dependents in Sample Households

S. No.	No. of dependents	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
1	1	146	60.83
2	2	58	24.17
3	3	26	10.83
4	4	8	3.33
5	5	2	0.83
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

Table 5.15 indicates that in preponderant majority i.e. 60.83 per cent of sample households the number of dependents is 1. It can be noted from the above table that the number of households is declining with an increase in the number of dependents. In 24.17 per cent of sample households there are 2 dependents. The dependents in 10.83 per cent of sample households stood at 3. In 3.33 per cent of sample households there are 4 dependents which include children, senior citizens and physically challenged persons. In 2 out of 240 families the number of dependents is 5.

Basic Facilities

The availability of basic facilities such as electricity, drinking water, toilet facility in sample households is registered during field survey and the same is presented in table 5.16.

Table – 5.16
Basic Facilities in Sample Households

S. No.	Responses	No. of Beneficiaries	Percentage
Electricity			
1	Yes	230	95.83
2	No	10	4.17
	Total	240	100.00
Main Source of Drinking Water			
1	Public bore wells	190	79.17
2	Open Wells	8	3.33
3	Hand Pumps	14	5.83
4	Tap Connection	28	11.67
	Total	240	100.00
Toilet Facility			
1	Yes	24	10.00
2	No	216	90.00
	Total	240	100.00

Source: Field Data

Electricity Connection

It can be noted from table 5.16 that 95.83 per cent of sample households have electricity connection with meter. The remaining 4.17 per cent of households have no electricity connection.

Sources of Drinking Water

The major source of drinking water for sample households in the study area is public bore wells (79.17 per cent). The next important source of drinking water is tap connection (11.67 per cent). Around 5.83 per cent of sample households fetching drinking water from hand pumps and the remaining 3.33 per cent of households fetching drinking water from open wells.

Toilet Facility

It is pertinent to note that a preponderant majority i.e. 90 per cent of sample households have no toilet facility in their households. It means open defecation is common for these households. The remaining 10 per cent of households have individual toilet facility in their households.

Source of Information

The MGNREGS came into force in 2006. It provides 100 days of employment to rural households to undertake unskilled works. Table 5.17 gives the details of source of information about MGNREGS to sample women.

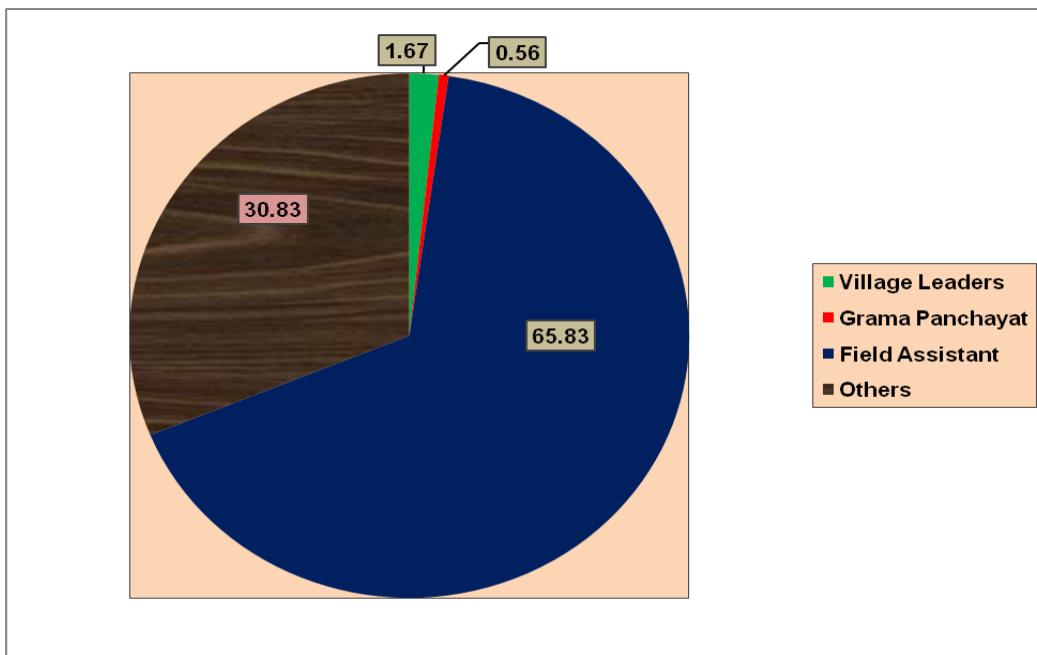
Table – 5.17
Source for participation about MGNREGS

S. No.	Source	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Village Leaders	6	01.67
2	Grama Panchayat President	2	00.56
3	Field Assistant	158	65.83
4	Others	74	30.83
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

Table 5.17 reveals that the major source of information for participation of sample respondents in MGNREGS works is the Field Assistant of concerned village. As per the responses of 65.83 per cent of sample Field Assistant is the source of information for participation in MGNREGS. Others like fellow workers, village secretary, mandal Parishad Officials, Gram Panchayat ward members etc were the source of information in case of 30.83 per cent sample women. village leaders is the source of information in case of 1.67 per cent of sample respondent women. 2 out of 240 reported that Gram Panchayat president is the source information for participation.

Chart – 5.3
Source for participation about MGNREGS



Number of Family Members Listed in Job Card

As per the provision of MGNREGA, the eligible members in a particular family will be listed in a single job card of the households. The number of members listed in job card will be different for different families.

Table – 5.18
Number of Members Listed in Job Card of Sample Households

S.No.	No. of Family Members	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	1	40	16.67
2	2	138	57.50
3	3	32	13.33
4	4	20	8.33
5	5	8	3.33
6	6	2	0.83
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It can be found from table 5.18 that in more than half i.e. 57.50 per cent of sample households the number of family members listed is two. In case of 16.67 per cent of sample households only one member is listed in the job card. There are 3 members in the job cards of 13.33 per cent of sample households. The members listed in MGNREGS job card of 8.33 per cent of sample households is 4. In 3.33 per cent of sample households job cards there are 5 members. 6 members of the family are listed in the job cards of 2 out of 240 sample households.

Submission of form-4

The MGNREGA envisages that the rural households, which have interest to undertake unskilled work has to submit form-4 to the concerned. Table 5.19 gives the details of the number of households submitted Form-4 to do works under MGNREGS.

Table – 5.19
Number of Respondents Applied for Works through
Grama Panchayat by Submitting Form-4

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	5	4.17
2	No	115	95.83
Total		240	100.00

It is evident from table 5.19 that preponderant majority i.e. 95.83 per cent of sample women reported that they submitted form-4 to undertake works under MGNREGS. The remaining 4.17 per cent of sample women reported that they did not submit Form-4 to undertake works under MGNREGS. When enquired about non-submission of Form-4 by some households, the concerned officials stated that they themselves filled Form-4 on behalf of such families, as they are illiterate to fill the form.

Time Lag between Date of Application and Date of Employment

The MGNREGA stipulates that the concerned authorities at local level have to provide employment for those rural households within 15 days from the date of their application for works. Table 5.20 gives the details of time lag between date of application and date of employment as stated by sample women respondents.

Table – 5.20
Time lag for the date of application and date of employment

S.No.	Time	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Less than 15 days	152	63.33
2	15 days and above	88	36.67
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is evident from table 5.20 that preponderant majority i.e. 63.33 per cent of sample women reported that they got employment within 15 days of their application. It means that MGNREGA guidelines were followed by the officials in case of good number of households in the study area. More than three-fourth of sample women reported that they got employment after 15 days from the date of their application.

Location of Works

As per the provisions of MGNREGA the workers have to be provided to the workers within the radius of 5 kilometers of particular villages. Sometimes the work may be undertaken in neighborhood villages. Table 5.21 gives the details of work location, participated by sample women.

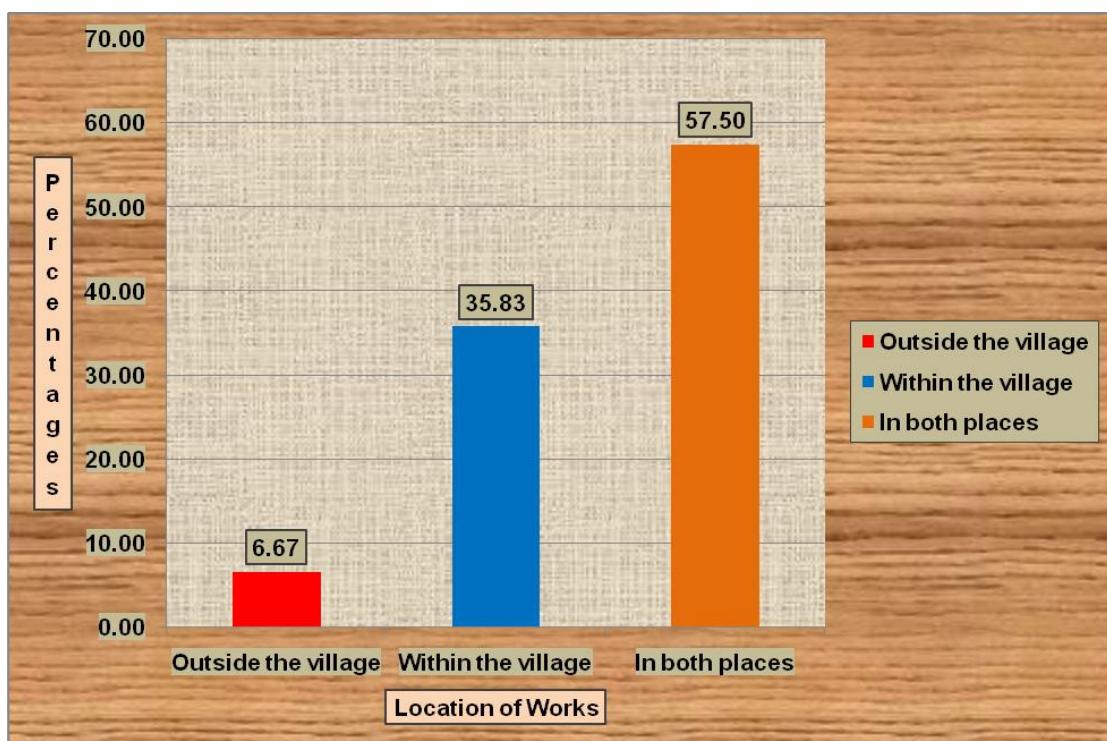
Table – 5.21
Location of works as Participated by Sample Respondents

S.No.	Location	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Outside the village	16	6.67
2	Within the village	86	35.83
3	In both places	138	57.50
	Total	240	100.00

Source: Field Data

As per table 5.21 nearly 57.50 per cent of sample women worked under MGNREGS both within village as well as outside the village. Around 35.83 per cent of women worked in MGNREGS works located within the village. They told that due to prevailing family conditions and health conditions, they are not undertaking works at distance places. Nearly 6.67 per cent sample women reported that they participated in MGNREGS works outside the village only.

Chart – 5.4
Location of works as Participated by Sample Respondents



Distance of work place

Table 5.22 gives the details of distance of work site as reported by distance of work site as reported by sample women in the study area.

Table – 5.22

Report of Sample Respondents on the Distance of Work Site

S.No.	Distance	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Below 5 Kms	161	67.08
2	Above 5 Kms	79	32.92
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is clear from table 5.22 that preponderant majority i.e. 67.08 per cent of sample respondent women reported that they have undertaken works within the distance of 10 kilometers. Around 32.92 per cent of sample women respondents reported that the work site they have participated is above 10 kms distance.

Extra Wages

The MGNREGA envisages that in case of location of work site above 10 kms, then the authorities have to pay 10 per cent extra wages to the workers. Table 5.23 gives the details of extra wages received by women who participated in MGNREGS works beyond 5 kms distance.

Table – 5.23

No of Respondents Received 10 percent Extra Wages in case of Work Site above 5 KMs

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	20	25.32
2	No	59	74.68
Total		79	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is important to note that only 25.32 per cent sample women workers received 10 per cent of extra wages, as they worked at long distance places. about 74.68 per cent of sample respondents reported that they did not received 10 per cent extra wages. It is noted during field survey that large number of women are not aware of extra wages, as such they did not claim extra wages.

Work Site Facilities

The MGNREGA stipulates that the local authorities have to provide certain basic facilities at work site. These include drinking water, medical kit, shade, helper of Aya etc. Table 5.24 gives the details of respondent women reports on the availability of work site facilities.

Table – 5.24

Responses of Respondents on the Availability of Work Site Facilities

(Multiple Responses)

S. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Nil	86	35.83
2	Water	110	45.83
3	Shade	59	24.58
4	Medical kits	27	11.25
5	Helper or Aya	71	29.58

Source: Field Data

The data in table 5.24 shows that the work site facilities are poor in the study area as per the reports of sample women. Even the provision of water is also not available at work site as per the responses of 54.17 per cent of sample women. the other facilities were very poor. About 29.58 per cent of sample women reported that helper or Aya is there to look after small children. The availability of shade is reported by 24.58 per cent of sample

women respondents. Only 11.25 per cent of sample women reported that the medical kits were available at worksite. No work site facilities is reported by 35.83 per cent of sample women.

Marking of Attendance

As per the rules of Rural Development Department, the Field Assistant has to mark the names of workers in the attendance register at work site. Table 5.25 gives the details of responses of sample women on marking of attendance by Field Assistant in Muster Roll.

Table – 5.25
Respondents Responses on Marking of Attendance by
Field Assistant in Muster Roll or Note Book

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	193	80.42
2	No	47	19.58
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is evident from table 5.25 that the Field Assistant is marking the attendance of workers, who attending MGNREGS works at work site itself. On the other hand 19.58 per cent of women reported that the Field Assistant is not marking attendance in the muster roll.

Frequency of Taking Attendance

The respondent women who reported that the Field Assistant taking attendance were further asked to give the details of frequency of taking attendance and the same is presented in table 5.26.

Table – 5.26
Frequency of Taking Attendance

S.No.	Frequency	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Once in a day	129	66.84
2	Every Alternative Day	47	24.35
3	Weekly	13	6.74
4	Never	4	2.07
	Total	193	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is clear from table 5.26 that the Field Assistant taking attendance daily as per the reports of 66.84 per cent of sample women respondents. As per the reports of 24.35 per cent of sample women the Field Assistant takes attendance every alternative day. Around 6.74 per cent of sample respondent women stated that the Field Assistant takes attendance only once in a week. Nearly 2.07 per cent of respondents women reported that the Field Assistant never takes attendance at work site.

Appending Signature

The Field Assistant is further assigned the responsibility of taking signature or thumb impression of the workers. Table 5.27 gives the details of signature or thumb impression appended by sample women workers at work site.

Table – 5.27
Number of Respondents Appending Signature or
Thumb Impression at Work Site

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	140	58.33
2	No	100	41.67
	Total	240	100.00

Source: Field Data

There are mixed responses with regard to appending signature or thumb impression. It is evident from table 5.27 that more than half i.e. 58.33 per cent of sample women appending signature or thumb impression, whenever they will participate in MGNREGS works. About 41.67 per cent of women reported that they are not appending signature or thumb impression whenever they participate in MGNREGS works.

Reasons for not Signing

The women respondents who reported that they ar not appending signature or thumb impression were further asked to give reasons for not appending signature or thumb impression and the same is presented in table 5.28.

Table – 5.28
Reasons Cited by Respondents for not Signing at Work Site

S.No.	Reasons	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	No muster roll in work site	56	56.00
2	Mate/FA not available	29	29.00
3	Don't Know	15	15.00
	Total	100	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is evident from table 5.28 that the major reason for not appending signature or thumb impression is due to non-availability of muster roll at work site. The absence of Field Assistant or Mate at work site is the second reason for not appending signature or thumb impression as reported by 29 per cent of sample women. the remaining 15 per cent of sample women not given any reason for not appending the signature or thumb impression.

Frequency of Payment of Wages

As per the provisions of MGNREGA, the wages to the workers have to be paid once in a week. As such during field survey the details of frequency of wage payment is enquired and the same is presented in table 5.29.

Table – 5.29

Frequency of Payment of Wages to Sample Beneficiaries

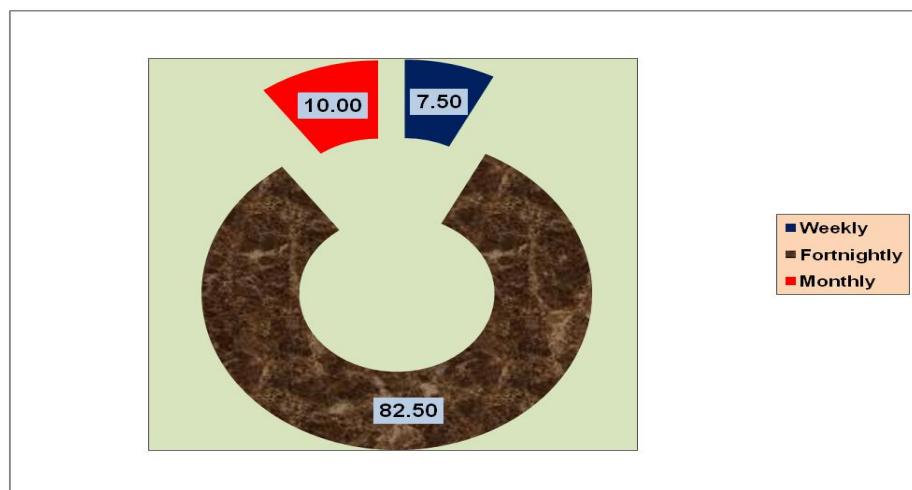
S.No.	Frequency	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Weekly	18	07.50
2	Fortnightly	198	82.50
3	Monthly	24	10.00
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

Table 5.29 reveals that a preponderant majority i.e. 82.50 per cent of sample respondent women declared that they receive wages once in a fortnight. Moreover about 10 per cent women reported that the concerned authorities taking one month time for payment wages due to one reason or other. It means that in the study area there is the problem of delay in payment of wages to the MGNREGS works. Only 7.50 per cent women reported that the wage to the MGNREGS were paid weekly once as stipulated by MGNREGA.

Chart – 5.5

Frequency of Payment of Wages to Sample Beneficiaries



Equality in Wages

As per the provisions of MGNREGA, there should not be any discrimination with regard to payment of wages between males and females. As such during field survey the sample women were requested to give their responses with regard to equity in wages and the same is presented in table 5.30.

Table – 5.30
Observation of Wage Difference between
Men and Women by Sample Beneficiaries

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	No	210	87.50
2	Yes	13	5.42
3	Don't Know	17	7.08
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

There is no discrimination in wage receiving by men and women for participating in MGNREGS as per the response of 87.50 per cent sample respondent women. Interestingly, 5.42 per cent of sample women observed some discrimination in the wages paid to men and women under MGNREGS. The remaining 7.08 per cent of women not responded.

Awareness on Ex-gratia amount

The MGNREGA envisages payment of ex-gratia to workers in case of injury or life risk during MGNREGS works. Table 5.31 gives the particulars of awareness of sample women on the amount of ex-gratia in case of injury or life risk.

Table – 5.31
Awareness of Respondents on the Amount of Ex-gratia in Case of Life Risk and Injuries to Workers at Work Site

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	14	05.83
2	No	226	94.17
	Total	240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is clear from table 5.31 that the awareness levels of sample women on the amount of ex-gratia that the workers are entitled are very poor. About 94.17 per cent of sample women declared that they are not aware of ex-gratia amount. Only 5.83 per cent of sample women declared that they are aware of ex-gratia amount in case of injury or life risk.

Awareness of Social Audit

To promote transparency in the implementation of MGNREG Scheme, the MGNREGA has special provision for social audit of funds spent under the scheme in a particular period. The awareness of sample women about social audit is presented in table 5.32.

Table – 5.32
Awareness of Respondents on Social Audit

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	210	87.50
2	No	30	12.50
	Total	240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is clear from table 5.32 that a preponderant majority i.e. 87.50 per cent of sample respondent women were aware of social audit. Around 12.50 per cent of sample women declared that they are not aware of social audit.

Awareness on Important Items crosschecking during Social Audit

The women who declared that they are aware of social audit is first has asked to give the items that are cross checked by social audit team. The responses of the sample women are presented in table 5.33.

Table – 5.33
Knowledge of Respondents on the Items of
Checking in Social Audit

S.No.	Checking Items	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Quality of work	67	31.90
2	Muster & pass book verification	109	51.90
3	All the above	34	16.20
Total		240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It is evident from table 5.33 that nearly 51.90 per cent of sample respondent women were aware of muster and pass book verification by social audit team during social audit of MGNREGS. The social audit team will check the quality of works as per the responses of 31.90 per cent of sample respondents. The social audit will check both the quality of work and muster and pass books as per 16.20 per cent sample respondents.

Attending Gram Sabha Meetings

The MGNREGA has assigned several responsibilities in the implementation of MGNREGS. As such the attendance of sample women to Gram Sabha meetings is quite essential for the active participation of women in MGNREGS works. Table 5.34 presents the details of number of women attending Gram Sabha meetings in the study area.

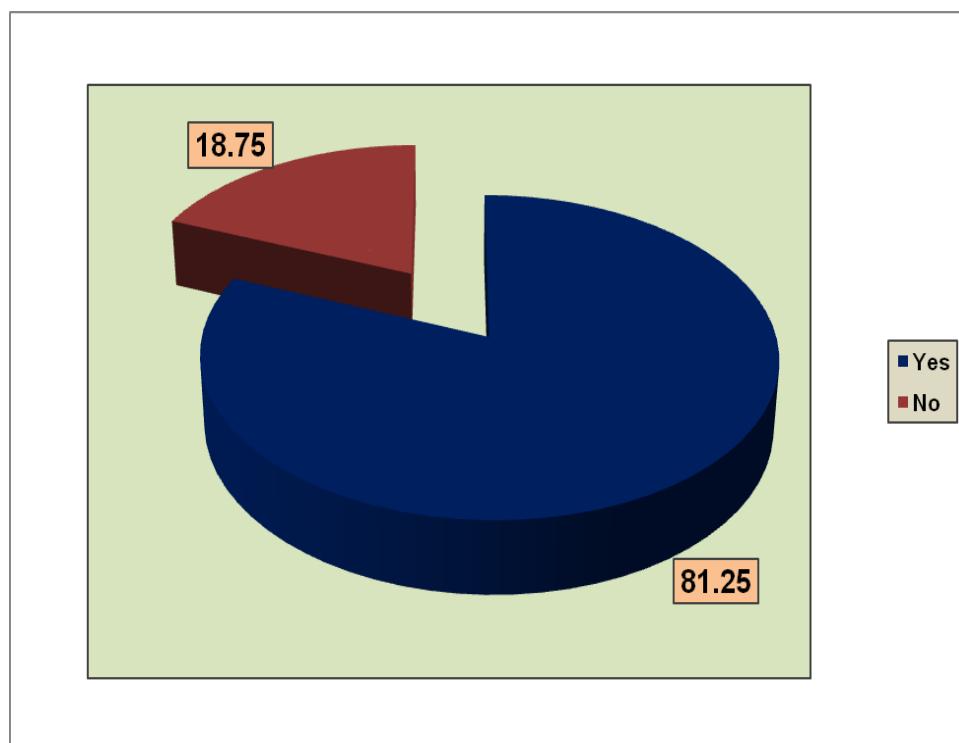
Table – 5.34
Attendance to Gram Sabha Meetings by
Sample Respondents

S.No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	195	81.25
2	No	45	18.75
	Total	240	100.00

Source: Field Data

It can be found from table 5.34 that the attendance of sample women to Gram Sabha meetings is satisfactory. Around 81.25 per cent of women stated that they are participating in Gram Sabha meetings. Nearly 18.75 per cent of women sample women reported that they never attend the Gram Sabha meetings.

Chart – 5.6
Attendance to Gram Sabha Meetings by Sample Respondents



Issues discussed at Gram Sabha Meetings

The women who reported that they are attending the Gram Sabha meetings were further enquired about the MGNREGS issues that come up for discussion in Gram Sabha meetings. The responses of the women are furnished in table 5.35.

Table – 5.35
MGNREGS Related Issues Discussed at Gram Sabha
Meetings by Sample Respondents

S. No.	Issues	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Work demand	15	7.69
2	About misuse	37	18.97
3	Facilities	22	11.28
4	About measurements	121	62.06
Total		195	100.00

Source: Field Data

It can be inferred from table 5.35 that the major issue that is discussed in Gram Sabha meetings is the measurement of MGNREGS works in a stipulated time. The misuse of the MGNREGS funds come up for discussions as per the responses of 18.97 per cent of sample women respondents. The work site facilities were also discussed at Gram Sabha meetings as reported by 11.28 per cent of sample women. as per the reports of 7.69 per cent of sample women in the Gram Sabha meeting several people made a demand for works under MGNREGS.