



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN COMPUTER APPLICATION AND MANAGEMENT

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EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL ODISHA THROUGH CONNECTIVITY (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KHURDA DISTRICT OF ODISHA)

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ABSTRACT

The present paper makes an attempt to study the implementation of Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in rural area and its impact on the life line of the people. For this direction various hypothesis have been identified and questionnaire distributed. In our study we found that the PMGSY have made significant contribution in the life of the rural people. It changed the life style of the people and a rural people able to find new markets for their products. At the same time the basic medical and education facilities now with in the reach of the rural mass. Our experience concluded that it has significant contribution in the study area.

KEYWORDS

PMGSY, Total Score, Ideal Score and Least score

INTRODUCTION

Rural connectivity is a key component of Rural Development in India. Rural connectivity incised the agricultural income and productivity, employment opportunity, along side promotional services. However, eventoday only 60% of the villages/ Habitations in the country are connected. In recognition of the cardinal linkage between development and poverty alleviation in rural areas with the availability of a well laid infrastructure a 100% Centrally sponsored scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched in December 2000 with the objective of providing connectivity by all weather roads to about 1.60 lakh unconnected habitations with population of 500 persons and above (250 persons and above in respect of hill states, the tribal and desert areas) through good all-weather roads in the rural areas by the end of the Tenth Plan Period at an estimated cost of about Rs 60,000 crore. 1,66,938 habitations were eligible for coverage under the programme, out of which 31,502 habitations have been reported either connected under other schemes or not feasible. Therefore, 1,35,436 habitations were targeted for providing road connectivity under PMGSY. The programme also has an upgradation component with a target to upgrade 3.68 lakh k.m of existing rural roads (including 40% renewal of rural roads to be funded by the states) in order to ensure full farm-to- market connectivity. After launching the programme and experience of the first 3 years with the average cost of construction of PMGSY roads, the cost of the programme was revised in 2003-04 to Rs 1,32,000 crore (as against Rs60,000 crore projected initially.)

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To know the impact of PMGSY in rural area
- To know the ground reality of the implemetation of the programme
- To know the perception level of the participants under the study area

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- The sample size is limited, it may not represent the view of all the people of rural area
- The period of study is for 3 months i.e February 2011 to April 2011.
- The study is restricted to Khurda District of Odisha

SAMPLING PLAN

In support of the objective of the research there is a primary research questionnaire administration method in the field through stratified random sampling method covering the Khurda district through regional, geographical, economic, cultural, lingual and settlement wise. Total 400 questionnaires served and 228 response received.

Particulars	Questionnaire served	Response received	%
Rural Male below 40 years	100	62	27.19
Rural Female below 40 years	100	46	20.18
Rural Male above 40 years	100	59	25.88
Rural Female above 40 years	100	61	26.75
Total	400	228	100

RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION WITH REGARD TO PRIME MINISTER'S GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)

To measure the perception level of the participants with regard to PMGSY the various variables identified as knowledge of PMGSY, development work carried out, project completed as per schedule, connectivity of rural area with the urban area, life line for the rural population, change in the standard of living, employment opportunity, access to the urban culture, reduction of illiteracy, creation of opportunity for the new market, better medical facilities, reduction of gap between urban and rural area, opportunity to sell the product in short span of time and overall improvement of rural area. In this regard we have been assigned as +3, +2, +1, 0 and -1 for the response of the respondents "Completely agree", "Agree", "Neutral", "Disagree" and "Completely Disagree" respectively. Final score for each feature are calculated by multiplying the number of response by the weights of the corresponding response.

CALCULATION OF RESPONDENTS' PERCEPTION: IDEAL AND LEAST SCORES

Ideal scores are calculated by multiplying the number of respondents in each category with +3 and product with total number of attributes. Least scores calculated by multiplying the number of respondents in each category with (-1) and the product with number of attributes in the questionnaires.

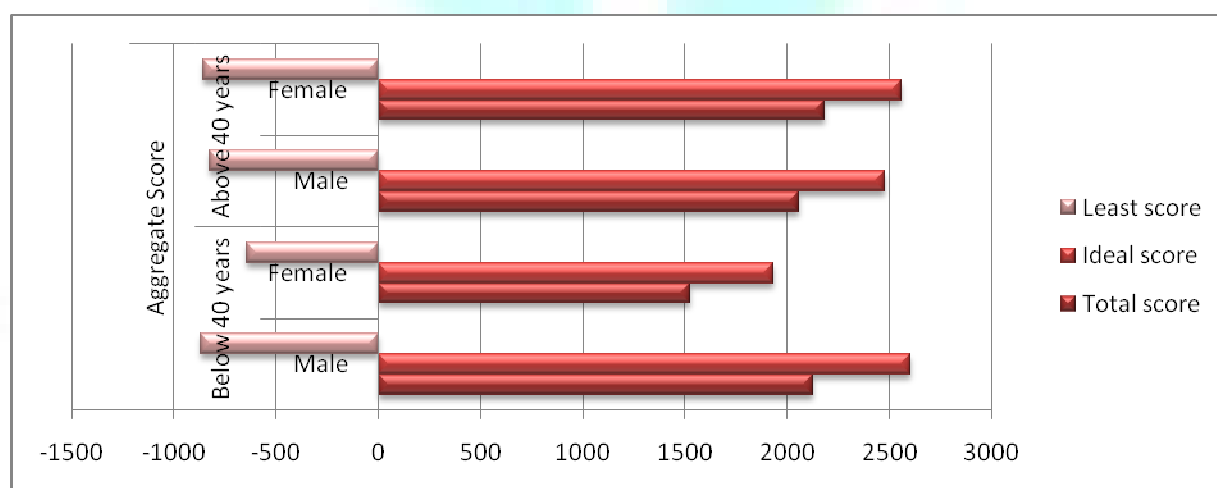
Category	Equation	Ideal score	Equation	Least score
Rural Male below 40 years	$14 \times 62 \times 3$	2604	$14 \times 62 \times -1$	-868
Rural Female below 40 years	$14 \times 46 \times 3$	1932	$14 \times 46 \times -1$	-644
Rural Male above 40 years	$14 \times 59 \times 3$	2478	$14 \times 59 \times -1$	-826
Rural Female above 40 years	$14 \times 61 \times 3$	2562	$14 \times 61 \times -1$	-854

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Findings of the study are as under

Attributes	Aggregate Score			
	Below 40 years		Above 40 years	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Knowledge of PMGSY	145	105	142	166
The project completed as per schedule	144	102	149	160
The development work carried out in the rural area under PMGSY	135	107	159	174
PMGSY connected the rural area to the urban area	132	107	134	143
PMGSY plays life line for the rural population	162	100	140	147
Change in the standard of living in rural area with the project	168	108	167	145
Project helped to generate employment opportunity	161	108	133	138
The project helped in accessing the urban culture by the rural population	152	102	148	138
The project helped in reducing the illiteracy in the rural area because of better connectivity to education institutes	156	100	154	166
It created opportunity for new market for different products	139	106	150	168
It helped in providing better medical facilities to the rural mass	135	116	138	175
It helped in reducing the gap between urban and rural area	162	121	135	155
It created opportunity to the farmers to sell their products in the market in short span of time	169	121	146	159
It helped in improving the overall development of rural area	169	123	161	152
Total score	2129	1526	2056	2186
Ideal score	2604	1932	2478	2562
Least score	-868	-644	-826	-854
No of respondents	62	46	59	61

Source: Annexure A, B, C & D



INTREPRETATION

The total scores are 2129, 1526, 2056 and 2186 for the rural male and female below 40 years and above 40 years respectively. The ideal scores for the same are 2604, 1932, 2478 and 2562. The percentages of total score to ideal score are 81.76, 79, 82.97 and 85.32 and the average for all the participants taken together it is 82.26. This reflects that the all the hypothesis considered for the research survey considered to be holds good. In no case the total score touches or near by the least score.

CONCLUDING NOTE

The Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana initiated with an objective to connect the rural India with the urban India. In our paper we tried to understand the ground reality and life style of the rural people after the completion of PMGSY in our study area. Especially in the Khurda district the area which we covered

found to be lot of transformation in the life of the people. However it is not necessarily the entire Khurda district got the benefit out of this programme. In certain areas till today the basic human needs are not available. During our study we had also experienced that most of the people benefited by the PMGSY at the same time some people need to change the mind set to derive the benefits out of this programme. The PMGSY is only a stage, setup specially for rural Odisha, now it is upto the inhabitants to shape their life style and derive the benefits out of it. There is lot of research scope for the KBK (Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi) area also in this context. May be as the Khurda district is in the capital region of Odisha the implementation of programme is successful and rest of Odisha need for further research before conclusion of successful of PMGSY in entire state of Odisha.

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ANNEXURES

ANNEXURE –A (62)

Attributes	Opinion of rural male below 40 years					
	Completely agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Completely disagree	Score
	+3	+2	+1	0	-1	
Knowledge of PMGSY	43	8	4	3	4	145
The project completed as per schedule	41	9	6	3	3	144
The development work carried out in the rural area under PMGSY	38	10	5	5	4	135
PMGSY connected the rural area to the urban area	37	9	8	3	5	132
PMGSY plays life line for the rural population	50	6	2	2	2	162
Change in the standard of living in rural area with the project	52	5	3	1	1	168
Project helped to generate employment opportunity	51	4	2	3	2	161
The project helped in accessing the urban culture by the rural population	46	7	3	3	3	152
The project helped in reducing the illiteracy in the rural area because of better connectivity to education institutes	47	5	5	5	0	156
It created opportunity for new market for different products	42	6	6	3	5	139
It helped in providing better medical facilities to the rural mass	40	4	10	5	3	135
It helped in reducing the gap between urban and rural area	53	2	2	2	3	162
It created opportunity to the farmers to sell their products in the market in short span of time	54	3	2	2	1	169
It helped in improving the overall development of rural area	55	2	1	3	1	169

Source: Compiled from field survey

ANNEXURE –B (46)

Attributes	Opinion of rural female below 40 years					
	Completely agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Completely disagree	Score
	+3	+2	+1	0	-1	
Knowledge of PMGSY	30	8	2	3	3	105
The project completed as per schedule	29	8	3	2	4	102
The development work carried out in the rural area under PMGSY	33	5	2	2	4	107
PMGSY connected the rural area to the urban area	31	6	4	3	2	107
PMGSY plays life line for the rural population	28	7	5	3	3	100
Change in the standard of living in rural area with the project	32	4	6	2	2	108
Project helped to generate employment opportunity	34	3	3	3	3	108
The project helped in accessing the urban culture by the rural population	27	8	7	2	2	102
The project helped in reducing the illiteracy in the rural area because of better connectivity to education institutes	26	9	6	3	2	100
It created opportunity for new market for different products	29	10	2	2	3	106
It helped in providing better medical facilities to the rural mass	33	9	1	1	2	116
It helped in reducing the gap between urban and rural area	35	8	1	1	1	121
It created opportunity to the farmers to sell their products in the market in short span of time	36	7	1	2	0	121
It helped in improving the overall development of rural area	38	5	1	0	2	123

Source: Compiled from field survey

ANNEXURE –C (59)

Attributes	Opinion of rural male above 40 years					
	Completely agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Completely disagree	Score
	+3	+2	+1	0	-1	
Knowledge of PMGSY	42	8	3	3	3	142
The project completed as per schedule	46	6	2	2	3	149
The development work carried out in the rural area under PMGSY	48	7	2	1	1	159
PMGSY connected the rural area to the urban area	41	5	5	4	4	134
PMGSY plays life line for the rural population	40	9	4	4	2	140
Change in the standard of living in rural area with the project	50	8	1	0	0	167
Project helped to generate employment opportunity	41	7	2	3	6	133
The project helped in accessing the urban culture by the rural population	45	6	3	3	2	148
The project helped in reducing the illiteracy in the rural area because of better connectivity to education institutes	48	5	2	2	2	154
It created opportunity for new market for different products	47	4	3	3	2	150
It helped in providing better medical facilities to the rural mass	39	9	5	4	2	138
It helped in reducing the gap between urban and rural area	42	6	2	4	5	135
It created opportunity to the farmers to sell their products in the market in short span of time	46	4	3	3	3	146
It helped in improving the overall development of rural area	52	3	1	1	2	161

Source: Compiled from field survey

ANNEXURE –D (61)

Attributes	Opinion of rural female above 40 years					
	Completely agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Completely disagree	Score
	+3	+2	+1	0	-1	
Knowledge of PMGSY	51	6	2	1	1	166
The project completed as per schedule	48	7	3	2	1	160
The development work carried out in the rural area under PMGSY	54	5	2	0	0	174
PMGSY connected the rural area to the urban area	46	4	3	2	6	143
PMGSY plays life line for the rural population	43	8	5	2	3	147
Change in the standard of living in rural area with the project	42	7	7	3	2	145
Project helped to generate employment opportunity	40	6	9	3	3	138
The project helped in accessing the urban culture by the rural population	38	10	8	1	4	138
The project helped in reducing the illiteracy in the rural area because of better connectivity to education institutes	51	5	4	0	1	166
It created opportunity for new market for different products	54	3	2	0	2	168
It helped in providing better medical facilities to the rural mass	53	8	0	0	0	175
It helped in reducing the gap between urban and rural area	47	6	4	2	2	155
It created opportunity to the farmers to sell their products in the market in short span of time	49	5	4	1	2	159
It helped in improving the overall development of rural area	48	2	6	3	2	152

Source: Compiled from field survey

REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK

Dear Readers

At the very outset, International Journal of Research in Computer Application and Management (IJRCM) acknowledges & appreciates your efforts in showing interest in our present issue under your kind perusal.

I would like to request you to supply your critical comments and suggestions about the material published in this issue as well as on the journal as a whole, on our E-mails i.e. **infoijrcm@gmail.com** or **info@ijrcm.org.in** for further improvements in the interest of research.

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I am sure that your feedback and deliberations would make future issues better – a result of our joint effort.

Looking forward an appropriate consideration.

With sincere regards

Thanking you profoundly

Academically yours

Sd/-

Co-ordinator