

MGNREGS Played Vital Role for Development of Khomarpada Village

Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, various types of public and individual beneficiary works are carried out at the Gram Panchayat level in the state. Through this, the people of the rural areas get employment in their own village and also create permanent assets for sustainable development. Similarly, under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, the village of Khomarpada in Dolhari (Budruk) grampanchayat of Vikramgad block in Palghar district is moving towards prosperity and has become one of the ideal villages in the state.

There are 266 permissible works under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, by proper planning of these works any Gram Panchayat can develop its village. As MGNREGS main objective is to provide assured 100 days of employment to the needy household in the rural areas and to create permanent assets. This is the only scheme which can generate all the resources needed to make every village prosperous. The Khomarpada village in Dolhari (Budruk) grampanchayat of Vikramgad block is the tribal prone area. The people of this village are fully depended on labours works and used to travel to the district place or Mumbai for search of works. Mahatma Gandhi NREGA plays a vital role in the life of these people. With the help of proper guidance by government functionaries and detail planning of annual work to be taken in the village, made a path to the development.

As Mahatma Gandhi NREGA focuses to improve livelihood of poor families by providing individual beneficiaries works. In the Khomarpada village of around 120 to 150 families almost each of these households took benefit of individual works under MGNREGS which helps to boost their income. Apart from individual works various type of community development works were undertaken for holistic development of Schedule Tribe population.

A few social organizations also shown their interest of rebuilding lives of the most marginalised people of this village and began working with the same objective of farmers upliftment. Individual works like cattle shed, goat shed, poultry shed, farm pond, sericulture, horticulture etc. were taken up by the villagers. The Khomarpada village is a good example of how a family and a village can be developed by joining MGNREGA and with the help of charitable organizations.



Shri. Babu More a primary teacher working at Khomarpada ZP School also played a very important role for the development of the village. As a teacher his main objective is to give education to children but as the families used to migrate to other places for work no children available in the village. Hence, the issue is how to stop children migrating from school first need to stop the parents in the same village. Most of the efforts of both Shri. More Guruji and MGNREGS were converged in Khomarpada village as their objectives were similar. Hence, a good team of Shri. More Guruji and MGNREGS functionaries was formed and work gained momentum. MGNREGA and the people of Khomarpada working together helped every family in this village to get employment in the village only. Therefore, people's migration was stopped completely.



Financial Year	Mandays	Expenditure (Rs. In Lakhs)
2020-21	44824	102.21
2021-22	83222	250.36
2022-23	55250	321.37
2023-24	60483	222.48

At the same time, the farmers of the village started growing other crops besides regular rice farming and started their own business too. Those youths used to migrate for work after rainy season now doing pond fishing, dairy business, multilayer farming, growing and selling fruits and flowers that increased their income. Hence, the Khomarpada stands as an ideal example of knowledge exchange. By inspiring from Khomarpada village progress and development other villages of Vikarmgad block also started working accordingly. Resulting Vikramgad block now having 125 poultry sheds, 18 goat sheds and 461 cattle sheds. Apart from that 19 mulberry plantation works and 2051 horticulture plantation works, 114 flower cultivation works, 116 farm ponds and 790 irrigation well works have been completed under MGNREGS.

Now the people of this village are happy and thankful to Mahatma Gandhi NREGA scheme for providing employment in the village and creating assets for them which improve their lifestyle by adding additional income from agriculture allied business. Government of Maharashtra noticed the drastic development of villagers in Khomarpada village and Hon. Governor of Maharashtra Shri Ramesh Bais visited the village for interacting with MGNREGS beneficiaries and appreciated them.

