



MGNREGS gave both employment and land development support to poor families of Pipalajahi village

Proper planning, management and implementation of schemes can change the life and livelihood of the villages and it needs appropriate guidance and people's participation to execute it. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme which has been implementing in the rural areas to provide employment and income to poor villagers also can be use to improve the agricultural infrastructure and livelihoods of the villagers. The villagers of Pipalajahi village of Paburia panchayat have got both employment and land development support from MGNREGS for their proper planning and coordination.

Pipalajahi is a small village of Paburia panchayat under Tikabali block situated 2 kilometers distance from Paburia having 26 tribal and dalit households. All the villagers are very poor and come under BPL category. Due to lack of knowledge and awareness on government schemes they can't raise their voice or place their demands on Panchayat and Pallisabha to access government supports properly. Though all the families are poor but could not get employment through MGNREGS. They had not proper knowledge about job demand and the rule regulation and criteria of MGNREGS.



SWATI organized the villagers and oriented them on MGNREGS thoroughly. They know in which works the MGNREGS funds can be utilized and how to apply and how to get jobs etc. They discussed that they are facing crop loss because of their undeveloped land and water management. There are provisions for land development and natural resource management activities in MGNREGS. Then they decided to do land development activities, so that it will help to increase the soil fertility and soil moisture and will increase their agricultural production. The villagers prepared the village level plan including their job card, job demand, description of work etc and applied to the Panchayat and Block authorities to allocate MGNREGS work. The Block authority passed the job demand of the villagers and allocated land development works for each job card holder



households. After receiving the work order the job card holder families started land development works like field bounding, land leveling and gully plugging works on their own field.

A job card holder Jamini Digal says that, they have developed their one acre land by doing field bounding and land leveling work through MGNREGS. The couple has dig 36 pits and got 7 thousand rupees. They are very happy that they got both employment and land development support from this. This year they have produced 4 bags more paddy from that land because of land development. Similarly Giridhar Digal has earned 5000 rupees through MGNREGS by doing land bounding work in his own field. Krushna Chandra Pradhan has earned 4.400 rupees by doing land leveling and gully plugging work in his field. All the 26 families have done work on their field and earned above 1.20 lakh rupees through MGNREGS.

After the land development work the villagers have produced 20% extra crop in their field and above 10 acres waste land have converted to productive.

