

Brief Note on CUTS study on NREGS in Rajasthan using Community Score Card (CSC) tool

Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) has done a two year long intervention in the state of Rajasthan from April 2010 to March 2012 in partnership with Affiliated Network on Social Accountability - South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR). The intervention focused on imparting the skill to utilize Community Score Card (A social Accountability tool) among a cadre of people and using the tool in MGNREGS. The findings emerged out of this intervention were disseminated on March 14, 2012 among various stakeholders in a meeting held in Jaipur. On March 16, 2012, CUTS Secretary General submitted a Memo, consisting of key findings of the study and urging for urgent action, to the Chief Minister of Rajasthan on the occasion of Pre-Budget Consultation with NGOs.

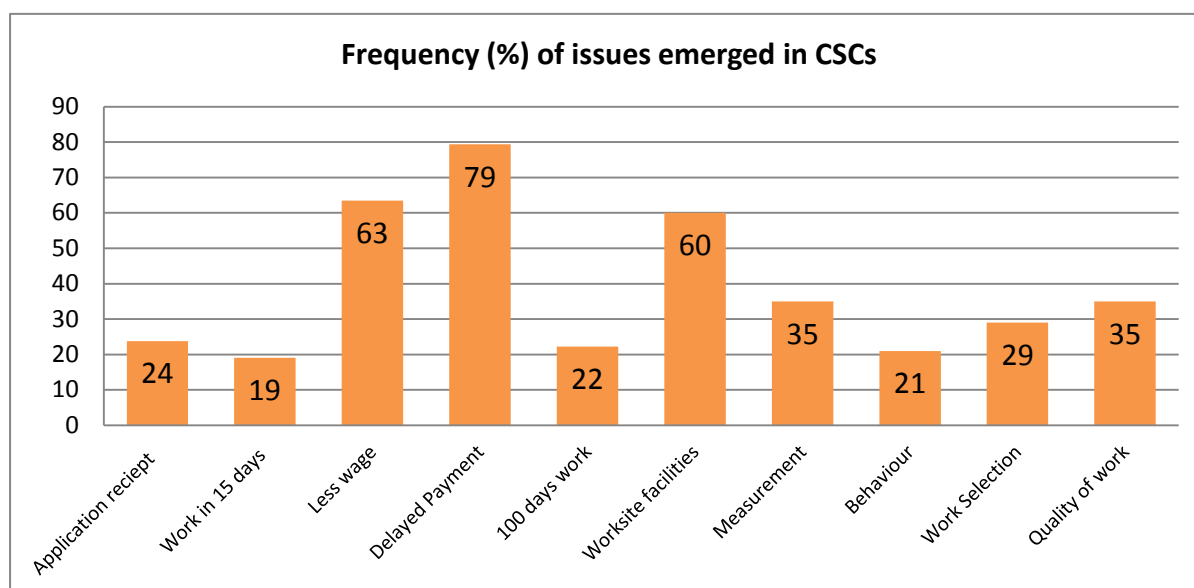
The brief of the intervention and key findings are mentioned below

Under this intervention 66 representatives of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) from all 33 districts were trained in Community Score Card (CSC). CSC is a tool, which generates qualitative data regarding implementation of any service delivery. The trained people applied this tool in two *gram panchayats* of every district of Rajasthan. The CSC was applied in MNREGS with multi-pronged agenda of improving the service delivery, enhancing the voice of wage seekers, awareness on entitlements, holding the public service accountable, improving the relationship between community and service providers and many more.

The major issues emerged out of the exercises were consolidated and some of the key findings are:

- Issues related to demanding job (Application forms (form 6) not available in office of GP, No dated receipt for submitted application, sale of form 6 in the market on a charge, verbal application not accepted etc.)
- No work within 15 days of demand (Long wait to get work after applying for jobs)
- Wage less than the minimum official wage (System of group application is not working, no separate groups for age-old, disables, No consideration for issues such as hard/rocky soil etc.)
- Delay in payment (measurement not on time, delay by banks etc.)
- No work for complete 100 days (Negligence on the part of service providers, lack of doable works at *gram panchayat* , lack of streamlined process, delay in approval of submitted proposals at Panchayat Samiti level)
- Measurement (not on time, not correct, endorsed by technical persons without visiting worksite)
- Behavioural problems (*Mate*, *Gram panchayat* officials, staff of Bank & Post Office etc. do not support and behave well)
- Availability of facilities (tent, crèche, drinking water are generally absent or not adequate)

The frequencies of the issues emerged found in CSCs were



Status of Implementation

Data could also be gathered from secondary sources (Source: <http://nrega.raj.nic.in/>), analysis of which presents a clear picture about quantitative aspect of MNREGS implementation in Rajasthan.

S. No.	Items	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	Family with job cards (<i>in lacs</i>)	84.68	89.28	92.74	95.64
2	No. of families given work (<i>in lacs</i>)	63.69	65.22	58.24	47.84
3	Total person days created (<i>in lacs</i>)	4829.38	4498.08	3026.65	1867.72
4	No. of families completing 100 days (<i>in lacs</i>)	25.94	17.63	5	1.37
5	Average employment days (<i>Per family</i>)	76	69	52	38
6	Total expenditure (<i>In crores</i>)	6175.55	5669.05	3300.33	2757.64
7	Average wage rate per person days	89	87	75	94
8	Average expenditure per person days	128	126	108	148

The steep decline is noticed in the implementation of NREGS in Rajasthan. The state could provide only 38 person days of employment per family in FY 2011-12 in comparison to 76 person days FY 2008-09. The number of families given job under the scheme has gone down

from 63.69 lacs. in 2008-09 to 47.84 lacs. in 2010-11. The total expenditure in NREGS has also drastically gone down from 6175.55 crores in 2008-09 to 3300.33 crores in 2010-11.

However, the average wage rate has increased from Rs. 89.00 in 2008 to Rs. 94.00 in 2012 and average expenditure per person day is has also increased from Rs. 128.00 to Rs. 148.00 in 2011-2012. This has mainly increased due to increase in minimum wage from Rs. 100 to Rs. 119.00.

Forward Position of Rajasthan

When compared to the status of implementation in MNREGS with other states, it still maintains a forward position.

Rajasthan provided 52 person days of employment per rural household employed in FY 2010-11 though it was 69 days in 2009-10. However Rajasthan comes second among the big states in India, whereas Punjab came at last by providing 27 person days.

Rajasthan came on third position after Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in 2010-11 in providing maximum number of household provided employment.

Hence, there is a need of taking sincere measures to improve the scenario with optimum effort.
