

Role of the Block Officials in the Implementation of PPDANA Programme

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Abstract - The present study was conducted on “Role of the Block Officials in the implementation of PPDANA Programme” in district Sirsa. They were interviewed by a well structured Questionnaire with objective in mind to acquaint with role performance of Block officials engaged in implementation of PPDANA. The data concluded reveals that most of them said that they were involved in Training, Planning, and Management and were involved in making perspective plan. All of them agreed that complaint register was being maintained at the Panchayat level and facilities at worksites were available according to the PPDANA norms and mode of payment is through bank account. Most of them agreed that preparation of work estimates were very effective and the plans were scrutinized at Gram Sabha, Panchayat and Block level effectively and the employment generation based on demand was effective. Most of them agreed that supervision by the implementing agencies were working satisfactorily and workers rights and entitlements were properly safeguarded. All of the respondents agreed that the minimum wages were very effectively implemented and the payment of wages was quite effective as per the schedule of rates. Half of them stated that the village monitoring committee was functioning effectively and half of them felt that it was not functioning effectively. Most of them stated that they were not experiencing any problem in the implementation of PPDANA and PPDANA was meeting the employment demand and also problems were faced from elected representatives. PPDANA staff should be under central government to decrease the interference from local PRI representatives. Maximum agreed that social audit was conducted for PPDANA programme. Only one third stated that RTI was applied for PPDANA. Almost all of the officials stated that PPDANA is implemented satisfactorily, the awareness of PPDANA programme was effective and the involvement of the PRI representatives is very significant but the participation level in the PPDANA programme by PRI's was less significant.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Government of India has passed the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (PPDANA) (now PPDANA from 2nd October 2010), 2005 w.e.f. 2nd February, 2006 in 200 districts through notification in first phase, 130 more districts in second phase from 1st April, 2007 and the remaining districts of India from 1st April 2008. This scheme is demand based in spite of supply based. Corollary to it, the Right to Information, Public Accountability and Transparency are, overtly embodied in the Act. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has many concrete provisions by which we can say that in real sense it is the “Law of the Masses”. Because, firstly there was a wide discussion held with different organizations while drafting this Act. Secondly, this Act is according to the basic necessities of the village community. Thirdly, people participation in planning, role of Gram Sabha and social audit are many aspects which give an opportunity for active participation to all the rural community. So, this Act is really an act of the people, for the people and by the people.

Therefore the objective of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (PPDANA) under PPDANA are: enhance the livelihood security of people in rural areas by generating wage employment through works that develop the infrastructure base of that area, protection of environment, empowerment of village women, social equality and stop the migration from village to cities. Thus it would be useful to study the “Role of Implementing Agency (IA) at various levels in the implementation of PPDANA, A comparative study of district Sirsa.”

The objective of the study was “To acquaint with role performance of Block officials engaged in implementation of PPDANA”.

II. RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

The districts of Sirsa was the sample of the study. The present study uses conclusive research methodology. For the present study primary as well as secondary data was collected. Primary data was collected directly from respondent through Questionnaires. Secondary data from internet, journals, magazines and books. In the present study the ratio method, percentage method and tables were used as tools of analysis of data.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Officials included in the Sample

The sample size of the officials from the four blocks was 20. From each block one ABPO, one Accountant, one Operator, one BDPO, one JE, one SDO (PR). There were no operator and accountant appointed for PPDANA staff due to which problems occur in implementing PPDANA.

Table-1-Sample of Block Officials and District Officials from Sirsa District

District	ABPO	Accountant	Operator	BDPO	JE	SDO PRI	Total
Sirsa	2	2	2	2	2	2	12

Table-2-Training, Planning and Management

- 66.67% said that they were involved in Training, Planning and Management.

Districts	Block	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Sirsa	Rania	5	83.33	1	16.67	6
	Dabwali	5	83.33	1	16.67	6

Table-3-Involved in Perspective Plan

- 77.08 % said that they were involved in making perspective plan.

Block	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	5	83.33	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	6	100.00	0	0.00	6

- All of them agreed that complaint register was being maintained at the Panchayat level.

Table-4-Complaint Register

Districts		Yes	%	Total
Sirsa	Rania	6	100.00	6
	Dabwali	6	100.00	6

- 79.17% of the total respondents stated that facilities at worksites were available according to the PPDANA norms and mode of payment is through bank account.

Table-5-Are Facilities and Mode of Payment given according to PPDANA norms

Districts	Blocks	Facilities				Total	Mode of payment				Total
		Yes	%	No	%		Cash	%	Account	%	
Sirsa	Rania	5	83.33	1	16.67	6	0	0	6	100	6
	Dabwali	5	83.33	1	16.67	6	0	0	6	100	6

- Most of them agreed that preparation of work estimates were very effective.

Table-6-Preparation of Work estimates

Blocks	Very effective	%	Effective	%	Total
Rania	4	66.67	2	33.33	6
Dabwali	5	83.33	1	16.67	6

- They responding overwhelmingly (79.17%) that the plans were scrutinized at Gram Sabha, Panchayat and Block level effectively.

Table-7-Scrutiny of Plans

Blocks	Very effective	%	Effective	%	Not Applicable	%	Total
Rania	0	0	5	83.33	1	16.17	6
Dabwali	1	16.67	4	66.67	1	16.67	6

- They also stated with equal confidence that the employment generation based on demand was effective.

Table-8-Matching Employment with Demand

Blocks	Very effective	%	Effective	%	Not applicable	%	Total
Rania	0	0	5	83.33	1	16.17	6
Dabwali	1	16.67	4	66.67	1	16.67	6

- 58% agreed that supervision by the implementing agencies were working satisfactorily.

Table-9-Supervision by Implementing Agencies

Blocks	Very effective	%	Effective	%	Not Effective	%	Not Applicable	%	Total
Rania	1	16.67	3	50.00	1	16.67	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	2	33.33	2	33.33	1	16.67	1	16.67	6

- 71% stated that workers rights and entitlements were properly safeguarded.

Table-10-Safeguarding workers rights and entitlements

Blocks	Very Effective	%	Effective	%	Not Effective	%	Not Applicable	%	Total
Rania	1	16.67	5	83.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	6
Dabwali	0	0.00	5	83.33	1	16.67	0	0.00	6

- 100% stated that the minimum wages were very effectively implemented.

Table-11-Publicity of Minimum Wages

Blocks	Very effective	%	Effective	%	Total
Rania	6	100	0	0.00	6
Dabwali	6	100	0	0.00	6

- 93% said that the payment of wages was quite effective as per the schedule of rates.

Table-12-Payment of Wages

Blocks	Very Effective	%	Effective	%	Not Effective	%	Not Applicable	%	Total
Rania	3	50.00	3	50.00	0	0	0	0	6
Dabwali	2	33.33	4	66.67	0	0	0	0	6

- 45.84% stated that the village monitoring committee was functioning effectively and 54.16% felt that it was not functioning effectively. However there is great need in Sirsa district to constitute and trained them so that they can function effectively.

Table-13-Functioning of VMC

Blocks	Effective	%	Not Effective	%	Not Applicable	%	Total
Rania	4	66.67	1	16.67	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	4	66.67	1	16.67	1	16.67	6

- The deposit into post office and banks were considered effective.

Table-14-Deposit into POST offices and Bank

Blocks	Very effective	%	Effective	%	Not Effective	%	Total
Rania	3	50.00	2	33.33	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	3	50.00	2	33.33	1	16.67	6

- 79% stated that beneficiary committees were effective.

Table-15-Beneficiary Committees

Blocks	Very Effective	%	Effective	%	Not applicable	%	Total
Rania	3	50.00	2	33.33	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	3	50.00	2	33.33	1	16.67	6

- 66.67% stated that social audit was effective.

Table-16-Social Audit

Blocks	Very Effective	%	Effective	%	Not Applicable	%	Total
Rania	1	16.67	4	66.66	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	1	16.67	4	66.33	1	16.67	6

- 66.67% stated that the complaints of the laborers were effectively redressed.

Table-17-Responding to Complaints

Blocks	Very Effective	%	Effective	%	Not Effective	%	Not Applicable	%	Total
Rania	2	33.33	3	50.00	1	16.67	0	0.00	6
Dabwali	1	16.67	4	66.67	1	16.67	0	0.00	6

- 66.66% stated that time taken for payment of wages ranges from a week to a fortnight.

Table-18-Time taken for payment of wages

Blocks	Weekly	%	Fortnightly	%	Once in three weeks	%	Total
Rania	2	33.33	3	50.00	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	2	33.33	3	50.00	1	16.67	6

- 58.33% stated that muster roll was kept for public scrutiny and 41.66% stated that it was not kept for public scrutiny.

Table-19-Muster role kept at GP for Public Scrutiny

Blocks	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	4	66.66	2	33.33	6
Dabwali	4	66.66	2	33.33	6

- 33% stated that discrepancies were found in the muster roll and 33.33 stated that no discrepancy was found.

Table-20-Discrepancies found between Muster Role Information

Blocks	Yes	No	NA	total
Rania	2	2	2	6
Dabwali	1	3	2	6

- 33.33% stated that there was delay in the release of funds and the rest 66.67% stated that there was no delay in the release of funds.

Table-21-Delay in release of Funds

Blocks	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	1	16.67	5	83.33	6
Dabwali	1	16.67	5	83.33	6

- 58.34% stated that they were not experiencing any problem in the implementation of PPDANA but 41.66% stated that there were problems in the implementation of PPDANA

Table-22-Experience any Problem

Blocks	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	2	33.33	4	66.66	6
Dabwali	2	33.33	4	66.66	6

- 62.5% stated that PPDANA was meeting the employment demand.

Table-23-Meet the Employment Demand

Blocks	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	4	66.66	2	33.33	6
Dabwali	5	83.33	1	16.67	6

- 58.33% stated that problems were faced from elected representatives.
- PPDANA staff should be under central government to decrease the interference from local PRI representatives.

Table-24-Problem Faced from ER

Blocks	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	4	66.66	2	33.33	6
Dabwali	4	66.66	2	33.33	6

- 87.50% stated that social audit was conducted for PPDANA programme.

Table-25-Social Audit Done

Blocks	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	6	100.00	0	0.00	6
Dabwali	6	100.00	0	0.00	6

- Only 29% stated that RTI was applied for PPDANA.

Table-26-Application in RTI

Blockes	Yes	%	No	%	Total
Rania	2	33.33	4	66.66	6
Dabwali	2	33.33	4	66.66	6

- Nineteen (87.33%) out of 20 stated that PPDANA is implemented satisfactorily.

Table-27-Implementation

Blocks	large extent	%	Some extent	%	Can't say	%	No	%	Total
Rania	5	83.33	1	16.67	0	0.00	0	0.00	6
Dabwali	5	83.33	1	16.67	0	0.00	0	0.00	6

- 70.83% stated that the involvement of the PRI representatives was very significant.

Table-28-Involvement

Blocks	Very Significant	%	Significant	%	Less Significant	%	Total
Rania	4	66.66	1	16.67	1	16.67	6
Dabwali	4	66.66	1	16.67	1	16.67	6

- Most of them considered that the participation level in the PPDANA programme was not significant

Table-29-Participation

Blocks	Significant	Less Significant	Not Significant	Can't say	Not Applicable	Total
Rania	2	1	1	1	1	6
Dabwali	2	1	1	1	1	6

- 55% said that the awareness of PPDANA programme was effective

Table-30-Awareness

Blocks	Significant	Less Significant	Not Significant	Can't say	Significant
Rania	4	1	1	0	6
Dabwali	5	1	0	0	6

IV. CONCLUSION

Most of them said that they were involved in Training, Planning, and Management and were involved in making perspective plan. All of them agreed that complaint register was being maintained at the Panchayat level and facilities at worksites were available according to the PPDANA norms and mode of payment is through bank account. Most of them agreed that preparation of work estimates were very effective and the plans were scrutinized at Gram Sabha, Panchayat and Block level effectively and the employment generation based on demand was effective. Most of them agreed that supervision by the implementing agencies were working satisfactorily and workers rights and entitlements were properly safeguarded. All of the respondents agreed that the minimum wages were very effectively implemented and the payment of wages was quite effective as per the schedule of rates. The deposit into post office and banks were considered effective. Maximum stated that beneficiary committees and the social audit were effective. The complaints of the laborers were effectively redressed and stated that time taken for payment of wages ranges from a week to a fortnight. Maximum stated muster roll was kept for public scrutiny.

Only one third of them said that discrepancies were found in the muster roll and there was delay in the release of funds. Most of them stated that they were not experiencing any problem in the implementation of PPDANA and PPDANA was meeting the employment demand and also problems were faced from elected representatives. PPDANA staff should be under central government to decrease the interference from local PRI representatives. Maximum agreed that social audit was conducted for PPDANA programme. Only one third stated that RTI was applied for PPDANA. Almost all of the officials stated that PPDANA is implemented satisfactorily, the awareness of PPDANA programme was effective and the involvement of the PRI representatives is very significant but the participation level in the PPDANA programme by PRI's was less significant.

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