Preface

The problem of unemployment in India as in other developing countries of the world has assumed serious dimensions. Many persons waste their working age without work. A substantial part of the population finds work only for a particular period of the year. It has grave and harmful consequences for both the individual and society. Poverty is the direct result of the lack of opportunities for employment. A significant number among the employed are educated, causing additional wastage of the investment that has been made in their skill and training which are not put to proper use. The unemployed remain idle and due to this fact they indulge in such evils as theft murders and other anti-social activities. It is therefore, of utmost urgency that ways be found to eliminate the serious evils of unemployment.

Thus, many programmes are run by the Central and State Government to generate employment opportunities in the rural areas among poor people, with the aim, to generate self-employment/employment opportunities among rural area, Government launched two major schemes that is Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in year 1999 and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) in year 2006. These two schemes plays vital role in generating employment opportunities in the rural areas, and directly or indirectly help in rural development. By keeping these facts in mind for study I have selected both these schemes as my research subject.

This work is the outcome of three years of research and extension activities in the field of rural development. This work is based on primary data and most of the materials presented in this thesis is based on my own observation and research. The focus of the present study is on two schemes that is Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, for generating employment opportunities in the rural areas.

The present study systematically examines the problems of these schemes, which implemented in Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh. The content of the present work has been divided into five chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which are implemented by the Government for generating self-employment/employment opportunities in the rural areas. The second chapter is
devoted to Research Methodology. This chapter deals with various research methods and sample design which have been used to study these schemes and also explained the main objectives for selecting these schemes as my subject. The third chapter deals with the historical, geographical, natural vegetation, educational and economical condition of the Sagar district and also explained the various schemes which have been launched by Madhya Pradesh Government for rural development. The fourth chapter deals with the progress and functions of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, in Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh. This chapter is based on both secondary and primary data. These data which have been collected through various sources which are analysed through simple statistical tool. The fifth chapter deals with problems and suggestions of both the schemes. Finally conclusion of the present study have been presented in this chapter.

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