### Perception of Tribal Development

Volume - II

Edited by Ashis

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## 3. MGNREGA and Sustainable Tribal Livelihood: A Study in Keonjhar District of Odisha

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#### Abastract

 $m{I}$ t is quite widely known that even after 66 years of independence, the living condition of tribes in Odisha has hardly improved and the state continues to occupy the top position in the poverty map of the country. Besides implementation of several policies on development and various schemes for better tribal development in tribal areas by the National and State governments their conditions are still pathetic in several areas across the state. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) considered as a "Silver Bullet" for eradicating rural poverty and unemployment by way of generating demand for productive labour force in villages. It provides an alternative source of livelihood which will have an impact on reducing migration, restricting child labour, alleviating poverty and making village self-sustaining through assets creation such as road construction, cleaning up of water