



A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PRIME MINISTER'S EMPLOYMENT GENERATION PROGRAMME (PMEGP) IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: This study reviews research on Entrepreneurship Development through the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) in India.

Design/Methodology/Approach: A systematic literature review based on the PRISMA framework was conducted using 50 peer-reviewed studies published between 2015 and 2026. The studies were collected from Google Scholar, Scopus, and Web of Science and analysed using descriptive and thematic methods.

Findings/Result: PMEGP has significantly contributed to self-employment, enterprise creation, and employment generation, particularly in rural areas. The review highlights the positive role of entrepreneurship training, financial assistance, and institutional support in promoting entrepreneurial success. However, challenges such as procedural delays, limited credit access, inadequate monitoring, and weak post-establishment support continue to affect programme effectiveness.

Originality/Value: The study synthesizes existing evidence on PMEGP and identifies important research gaps, particularly in district-level studies and enterprise sustainability, providing directions for future research and policy improvement.

KEYWORDS: PMEGP, Entrepreneurship Development, Rural Entrepreneurship, Grassroots Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurial Training, Karnataka, Uttara Kannada, Systematic Review.

1. INTRODUCTION

Entrepreneurship plays a vital role in economic growth, employment generation, innovation, and poverty reduction. In India, the Government has introduced several programmes to promote self-employment and enterprise development. Among them, the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), launched in 2008, is a major credit-linked subsidy scheme that supports the establishment of micro-enterprises in rural and urban areas through financial assistance, training, and institutional support.

PMEGP has contributed significantly to self-employment, enterprise creation, rural industrialization, and socio-economic empowerment. Numerous studies have examined its impact on employment generation, entrepreneurial development, training effectiveness, and enterprise performance. However, the existing literature remains fragmented, and limited attention has been given to district-level studies and long-term enterprise sustainability. Therefore, this study systematically reviews 50 research papers published between 2015 and 2026 to identify key findings, research trends, and gaps in PMEGP-related research.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE REVIEW PAPER

Following are the objectives of this paper

1. To review the existing literature on entrepreneurship development through PMEGP in India.
2. To analyse the role of PMEGP in promoting self-employment and enterprise creation.
3. To examine the contribution of entrepreneurial training and support mechanisms under PMEGP.
4. To identify thematic and geographical trends in PMEGP-related research.
5. To identify research gaps and suggest directions for future studies.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study adopts a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach to examine entrepreneurship development through PMEGP in India. Secondary data were collected from Google Scholar, Scopus, and Web of Science. The review covers 50 peer-reviewed studies published between 2015 and 2026.



Studies focusing on PMEGP, entrepreneurship development, self-employment, employment generation, and entrepreneurial training were included, while duplicate, non-English, and non-relevant publications were excluded.

The selected studies were analysed using descriptive, thematic, and gap analysis techniques. Major themes included PMEGP implementation, entrepreneurship development, grassroots entrepreneurship, training and support systems, and enterprise sustainability. Among the reviewed studies, 16 focused directly on PMEGP, 10 on entrepreneurial training and support, and 3 on grassroots entrepreneurship. Karnataka accounted for 21 studies, including 3 specifically related to Uttara Kannada District.

4. SCHOLARLY REVIEW OF RESEARCH LITERATURE

Table 1: The list of research publications pertaining to Entrepreneurship Development in Uttara Kannada district and Karnataka

Sl No.	Field of Research	Focus	Outcomes	Reference
1	Women Entrepreneurship	Challenges faced by women entrepreneurs in Uttara Kannada.	Finance, skills, and awareness are major challenges; SHGs and government support promote empowerment.	Pushpalatha, M. S., & Kalluraya, S. (2023). [1]
2	Entrepreneurship Development	Impact of RUDSETI EDPs on trainees.	EDPs improved income, self-employment, and entrepreneurial skills.	Shetty, S.G., Baliga, V., Gil, M.T., Dias, R.T., & Shenoy, S.S. (2021). [2]
3	Rural Women Entrepreneurship	Profile and challenges of rural women entrepreneurs.	Economic necessity drives entrepreneurship; finance and skills remain constraints.	Shetty, U., & Bhat, G. S. (2024). [3]
4	Women Empowerment & SHGs	Impact of SHGs on women empowerment.	SHGs enhanced credit access, self-employment, and economic independence.	Muthukattu, V.M., Pais, S., & Sheela, A.M. (2026). [4]
5	Rural Women Entrepreneurship	Role of NGOs and programmes in women empowerment.	Entrepreneurship improved income, decision-making, and awareness.	Dr. Shripathi K. P. (2020). [5]
6	Women Entrepreneurship	Factors influencing success of women entrepreneurs.	Success depends on skills, finance, self-efficacy, and family support.	Tiwari, B. B., Reddy, E. E., & Gupta, D. (2023). [6]
7	Women Entrepreneurship	Status and challenges of women entrepreneurs.	Women contribute to development but face financial and social barriers.	Radhika, M. K. [7]
8	Women Entrepreneurship	Trends in rural women entrepreneurship.	Entrepreneurship enhances empowerment despite financial constraints.	Rajput, K. G., & Jhansi Rani, M. R. (2022).[8]
9	Women Entrepreneurship	Challenges of women micro-entrepreneurs.	Family-business balance and financial barriers are key issues.	Sastry, N. S. (2025). [9]
10	Entrepreneurship Training	Effectiveness of CEDOK EDPs.	Training programmes significantly promoted entrepreneurship.	Venkatesha B.M. & Navi, B.S. (2024). [10]
11	Dalit Entrepreneurship	Factors affecting Dalit entrepreneurship.	Government support and self-reliance improve sustainability.	Gonchkar, K.P. & Gowda, R. (2018). [11]
12	Rural Entrepreneurship	Organic farming as entrepreneurship.	Organic farming generates employment and entrepreneurial opportunities.	Chandrashekar, H.M. & Manu V.K. (2021). [12]
13	Entrepreneurship Development	Karnataka Start-up Mission incentives.	Funding and incubation strongly support entrepreneurial growth.	Vinay S & Mahesh V.R. (2025) [13]
14	Entrepreneurship Development	Impact of MUDRA Yojana.	Easy credit promotes entrepreneurship and MSME growth.	Salasty, J.J. & Kanagavalli, G. (2023). [14]
15	Women Entrepreneurship	Impact of EDPs on SHG women.	Training improved income, confidence, and self-employment.	Toli, L. (2018). [15]
16	Entrepreneurship Development	Karnataka Start-up Mission.	Mentoring, funding, and networking support start-ups.	Vinay S & Mahesh V.R. (2025) [16]



17	Entrepreneurship Development	Millet processing and entrepreneurship.	Value addition increased income and self-employment.	Kammar, M.R. & Vanishree, S. (2017) [17]
18	Entrepreneurship Development	Role of ADC in SC entrepreneurship.	ADC schemes effectively promoted entrepreneurship.	Naik, D.B. (2017) [18]
19	PMEGP & Rural Entrepreneurship	KVIB's role through PMEGP.	PMEGP generated employment and promoted entrepreneurship.	Gasti, A. (2018).[19]
20	Entrepreneurship Development	Value addition of agricultural products.	Branding and processing increased profits and income.	Mouneshwari R. Kammar, Arjun R. Sulagitti & Angadi S.C. (2020). [20]
21	Entrepreneurship Development	Awareness of entrepreneurship schemes.	Awareness was moderate, but utilization remained low.	Dhanapal, C., Chandrakhanthan, J., Karthika, R. & Thannippara, A.L. (2024). [21]

Table 2: The list of research publications pertaining to Entrepreneurship Development at Grassroots level.

Sl No.	Field of Research	Focus	Outcomes	Reference
1	Grassroots Innovation	Determinants of grassroots innovation in India	Grassroots learning, local solutions, and networking capabilities drive innovation.	Singh, S.H., Bhowmick, B., Sindhav, B. & Eesley, D. (2019)[22]
2	Entrepreneurship Development	Entrepreneurship's role in India's economic development	Entrepreneurship promotes employment, poverty reduction, industrialization, and rural development.	Jindal, M.K. & Bhardwaj, A. (2016) [23]
3	Entrepreneurship Development	Skill development for rural entrepreneurship through SIRD	Training enhances entrepreneurial skills, self-employment, and socio-economic development.	Hazarika, S. (2016). [24]

Table 3: The list of research publications pertaining to Entrepreneurship Training and Skill Development

Sl. No.	Field of Research	Focus	Outcomes	Reference
1	Women Entrepreneurship Development	Government support for women entrepreneurship	Government schemes promoted self-employment and economic participation, though social and financial challenges remain.	P. Nivetha & Dr. S. Sudhamathi (2018) [25]
2	Entrepreneurship Development	Training methods for micro-entrepreneurs	Training improved entrepreneurial skills, enterprise sustainability, and employment generation.	Nag, D. & Das, N. (2015) [26]
3	Entrepreneurship Education & Agritourism	Entrepreneurship education for women-led agritourism	EET enhanced innovation, income, farm management, and women's empowerment.	Sandhu, N., Hussain, J., & Matlay, H. (2026) [27]
4	Entrepreneurship Development and Skill Development	Role of Skill India in rural entrepreneurship	Skill India improved self-employment and business creation but faced awareness and infrastructure challenges.	Dr. Peer Amir Ahmad1 , Dr. Ajaz Ahmad Dar(2025) [28]
5	Entrepreneurship Training and Development	Effectiveness of entrepreneurship training programmes	Training enhanced management, marketing, and enterprise growth; effectiveness varied by demographics.	Shekhar, D.U. & Hora, E.A. (2020) [29]
6	Digital Entrepreneurship Education & Training	Impact of digital entrepreneurship training	DET improved entrepreneurial competence and entrepreneurial intention.	Singh, R., Kumar, V., Singh, S., Dwivedi, A., & Kumar, S. (2024) [30]



7	Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Policy	Evaluation of NPSDE policy	Policy progress was limited due to infrastructure, training, and industry linkage gaps.	Shaikh, S. & Ganesh, M.P. (2024). [31]
8	Entrepreneurship Development & Training Evaluation	Effectiveness of RUDSETI EDPs	RUDSETI programmes improved knowledge and entrepreneurial skills, though practical constraints remained.	Kobba, F., Nain, M.S., Singh, R., Mishra, J.R. & Shitu, G.A. (2020) [32]
9	Women Entrepreneurship and Skill Development	Skill training for rural women entrepreneurs	Training improved skills and encouraged micro-enterprise creation.	Babel, S. & Sharma, S. (2016) [33]
10	Entrepreneurship Training & Evaluation	Evaluation of Entrepreneurship Training Institutes	Training improved awareness and skills; stronger market and post-training support were needed.	Bhat, V. & Sarala, K.S. (2021) [34]

Table 4: The list of research publications pertaining to financial assistance or support under PMEGP.

Sl. No.	Field of Research	Focus	Outcomes	Reference
1	Entrepreneurship Development & PMEGP	Impact of PMEGP on tribal entrepreneurs in Arunachal Pradesh	PMEGP improved income, employment, skills, savings, and socio-economic status.	Jena, S.K. & Mihi, R. (2018). [35]
2	PMEGP Awareness and Rural Entrepreneurship	PMEGP awareness among rural youth	PMEGP promotes self-employment through subsidies and training, though awareness needs improvement.	Patel, D. & Pandey, A. (2023). [36]
3	Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation through PMEGP	PMEGP performance in North East India	PMEGP supported enterprises, generated employment, and promoted women entrepreneurship.	J. Suresh Kumar & D. Shobana (2023). [37]
4	PMEGP and Entrepreneurial Development	Impact of PMEGP on tribal beneficiaries in Nagaland	PMEGP enhanced self-employment, enterprise creation, and income generation.	J. Suresh Kumar & Imnaonen Ozukum (2022). [38]
5	Entrepreneurship Development & PMEGP	PMEGP impact in Nagpur District	PMEGP promoted entrepreneurship and employment, though awareness and banking issues persisted.	Wadichar, R.K., Wadate, J.D., & Manusmare, P. (2022). [39]
6	Women Entrepreneurship under PMEGP and MSMEs	Women entrepreneurship under PMEGP	PMEGP increased women's participation in MSMEs, though ownership remained lower than men.	K. Anithaselvi & Dr. S. Nehru (2022). [40]
7	Women Entrepreneurship and PMEGP	PMEGP credit support for women entrepreneurs	PMEGP increased financial assistance and loan access for women entrepreneurs.	Upadhyay, S. & Sharma, N. (2025). [41]
8	Entrepreneurship Development & Government Schemes	PMEGP awareness and impact in Belagavi	Beneficiaries improved income and employment, but awareness remained low.	Hanumant Bhajantri (2025). [42]
9	Entrepreneurship Development / PMEGP	Awareness and challenges of PMEGP	Awareness was moderate; documentation and bank support were key challenges.	Archana M.V. & Raghunandan G.H. (2025). [43]
10	Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation	PMEGP performance across India	PMEGP effectively promoted entrepreneurship and employment generation.	Bansal, S., Yadav, A., & Garg, I. (2019). [44]
11	Entrepreneurship Development & PMEGP	PMEGP beneficiary trends in Goa	PMEGP promoted self-employment and women empowerment despite awareness challenges.	Borkar, K.D.M., Rodrigues, A., & Mascarenhas, A.A.S. (2022). [45]



12	Entrepreneurship Development / Micro Enterprise Performance	Psychological factors and PMEGP enterprise performance	Self-efficacy and hope improved business performance among entrepreneurs.	Lalramengmawia, B. & Lalromawia, K. (2019). [46]
13	Entrepreneurship Development & Skill Training	Role of RSETIs in PMEGP training	Training improved entrepreneurial, managerial, and financial skills.	Cirappa I.B. & Punith Kumar D.G. (2021). [47]
14	Entrepreneurship Development & PMEGP	KVIB achievements under PMEGP in J&K	PMEGP achieved targets and increased women's participation and employment.	Khan, W.H., Jamal, A., & Shah, A.H. (2016). [48]
15	Entrepreneurship Development & PMEGP	PMEGP beneficiary trends in Goa	PMEGP encouraged self-employment and women entrepreneurship.	Borkar, K.D.M., Rodrigues, A., & Mascarenhas, A.A.S. (2022). [49]
16	Entrepreneurship Development / PMEGP	PMEGP performance and subsidy utilization in India	PMEGP increased employment and self-employment; subsidy utilization strongly influenced outcomes.	Dr. Pradeesh N.M & Dr. Navya A.H (2026). [50]

5. RESEARCH GAP AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The review of 50 studies (2015–2026) shows that PMEGP has significantly promoted entrepreneurship, self-employment, and employment generation in India. Most studies focused on enterprise creation, subsidy utilization, beneficiary outcomes, and training. While findings are generally positive, research gaps remain in district-level studies, particularly in Uttara Kannada, as well as enterprise sustainability, grassroots entrepreneurship, mentoring, digitalization, innovation, and market linkages. Future research should focus on sustainability, training effectiveness, women entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, digital entrepreneurship, and regional evaluations to strengthen PMEGP's contribution to inclusive economic development.

6. FINDINGS

The systematic review of 50 studies indicates that PMEGP has significantly contributed to entrepreneurship development and employment generation in India. The major findings are:

1. PMEGP is one of India's most effective self-employment promotion schemes.
2. Financial assistance and subsidies encourage enterprise creation and business expansion.
3. Entrepreneurship training improves managerial capability, confidence, and business performance.
4. Women, rural youth, and marginalized groups benefit significantly from PMEGP-supported initiatives.
5. Karnataka accounts for a substantial share of PMEGP-related research, while district-level evidence remains limited.
6. Enterprise sustainability, innovation, digitalization, and market access remain weakly explored areas.
7. Delayed credit sanction, inadequate monitoring, and limited post-establishment support continue to affect programme outcomes.

7. SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

To effectively implement the proposed study, data should be collected from PMEGP beneficiaries across Uttara Kannada District using structured questionnaires, interviews, and secondary sources from KVIC, DIC, and banks. Both successful and unsuccessful enterprises should be included to ensure balanced analysis, and the data should be analysed using appropriate statistical tools. Collaboration with government agencies and entrepreneurship support institutions can improve data quality and research outcomes. The review confirms that PMEGP has significantly promoted entrepreneurship and employment generation in India; however, limited research exists on grassroots entrepreneurship and district-level performance, particularly in Uttara Kannada. The proposed study aims to address this gap by providing empirical evidence on PMEGP's effectiveness at the grassroots level and contributing to policy improvement, entrepreneurship promotion, and sustainable economic development.

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