

RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA : AN OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Rural development has become a buzz word in the era of liberalization, privatization and globalization; it can be only when we take care of rural people and their needs i.e. rural economy must be consolidated with global economy. In the country where 80 percent citizen lives in the village, rural development is obvious as India lives in villages: unless rural India changes India cannot progress. In the context of developing countries like India, it is an attempt to improving the life style of rural people. As a strategy, rural development is aimed to improve the social and economic wellbeing of a specific group of people—the rural who are poor. Rural development is not as simple as it looks on paper. It needs capabilities to be built up with suitable structure and changes in administrative, technical and political area. This paper discusses the objective, scope, importance, rural development programme, challenges and opportunity for rural development.

KEYWORDS: Rural Development Programme, Liberalization, Privatization, Globalization, Employment.

Introduction

The term rural development means overall development of rural areas to improve the quality of life of rural people. In this sense, it is a multidimensional and broad concept, and cause the development of farming and associated activities like animal husbandry, poultry, fishery, forestry, mining etc. cottage industries and crafts socio economic infrastructure, community service & facilities & above all human resources in rural areas. As a sequence, rural development is the result of collaboration between various factors like physical, techno commercial, social, cultural and institutional factors.

Rural is an area, where the people are engaged in primary occupation which means occupation base on natural resources. Rural areas are sparsely settled place from the influence of suburbs and cities. They are far away from urban and suburban areas. The population there lives in small village and in isolation. Rural areas have agriculture as major occupation they are also characterized by economy base on logging, mining, oil and gas exploration or tourism, Living condition in rural areas are different from cities & towns since the services are limited. Many government services such as law enforcement, school, fire departments and libraries are rare or not available, many utility management system like water distribution, sewage management, street lights & garbage collection might be absent. Public transport is mostly unavailable or is absent. The criteria for community to be classified as rural based is low population density less social differentiation slow rate of social change.

Development is gradual and sequential process. It refers to growth, evolution, stage of inducement or progress.

Rural Development (RD) is a process, which aims at improving the being and realization of population living in the rural area through group process. It is strategy designed to improve the socio economic life of population.

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Objectives of Rural Development

- The most important objective is to increase the socio economic level of people
- To develop agriculture, house, public service and village community.
- To bring enhancement in production of agroyield and animals, living condition.
- To better the health and education condition etc. of the rural people
- To improve conditions of the villagers with their own efforts.
- To improve village communication.

Scope and Importance of Rural Development

Rural development is a modern process, which is mainly related with the rural areas. These include growth in agricultural, set up of economic and social infrastructure, good wages as also house hold and house for the homeless, village planning, public health, functional literacy and education, communication etc. Rural development is complex to define but is a simple concept. Rural development is a multi-aspect concept, which involves all types of development in rural areas through governmental and CSR efforts in our country, where the majority of the population resides in villages; national development becomes almost synonymous with rural development. Our country cannot grow without the growth of rural India. Government has initiated, sustained many rural development programmes under different five year plans. The alleviation of poverty has remained a distant dream even through the whopping fund are expended. In India Rural Development is a National Necessity Because of Following Reasons:

- Rural development is a national requirement in India because nearly 75% of population of India live in these area thus to develop the nation rural development is necessary. Fifty percent the national income is obtain from agricultural in rural India.
- About three out of four Indian people gets employment via agriculture. Agriculture and rural sector provide raw material in bulk for industries.
- Industrial population can be increase only if rural population motivates the increased purchasing power to buy industrial goods. The growing disparity between the rural poor & urban rich cause political instability.

Rural area can have an agricultural character. An economy base on tourism, oil, gas exploration, mining, logging are characterizes by rural areas. Living condition are mainly different because a limited services are available. Many government services are limited in scope or unavailable .In rural areas people use their own vehicles walk or ride an animal as public transport is absent or limited. A community can be classified a rural community based on the low population, less social differentiation, less social, spatial mobility, slow rate of social change.

Rural Development Programmes after Independence

Year & Name of the Programme after independence:

1. 1948- GMFC- Grow More Food Campaign
2. 1950- JMPC- Japanese Method of Paddy Cultivation
3. 1952 CDP- Community Development Programme
4. 1953 NES –National Extension Service
5. 1961 IADP –Intensive Agriculture District Programme
6. 1963 ANP- Applied Nutrition Programme
7. 1964-65 –IAAP Integrated Agricultural Area Programme
8. 1964 ICDP- Integrated Cattle Development Programme
9. 1965 NDP –National Demonstration Project
10. 1966 ODP –Oilseed Development Programme
11. 1966-67 HYVP –High Yielding Varieties Programme
12. 1966 FTEP –Farmers Training and Education Programme
13. 1966 FTC –Farmers Training Centre 7
14. 1966 MCP- Multiple Crop Programme
15. 1970 DPAP- Draught Prone Area Programme
16. 1970 DFAP –Dry Farming Area Programme
17. 1971 ICDP –Integrated Cotton Development Programme
18. 1971 WVDP- Whole Village Development Programme
19. 1971 SFDA –Small Farmers Development Agency

20. 1971 MFAL –Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labour Agency
21. 1971-72 TADP- Tribal Area Development Programme
22. 1973 HADP –Hill Area Development Programme
23. 1974 T&V –Training and Visit System
24. 1974 KVK –Krushhi Vigyan Kendra
25. 1974 TDB- Tribal Development Block
26. 1975 CADP- Command Area Development Programme
27. 1976 IRDP –Intergraded Rural Development Programme
28. 1976 ORP –Operational Research Project
29. 1976 SF –Social Forestry
30. 1977 DDP- Desert Development Programme
31. 1978 LLP –Lab-to-Land Programme
32. 1978 NARP- National Agricultural Research Project
33. 1979 TRYSEM –Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment
34. 1980 NREP –National Rural Employment Programme
35. 1980 DRDA –District Rural Development Agency
36. 1980-81 TUP- Tribal Upliftment Project
37. 1981 RLEGP –Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme
38. 1982 DWCRA- Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas
39. 1984-85 NAEP- National Agricultural Extension Project
40. 1986-87 NWDP- National Watershed Development Project
41. 1989 JRY- Jawahar Rojgar Yojana
42. 1990-91 NWDPPRA- National Water Development Project for Rain fed Areas
43. 1998 NATP- National Agricultural Technology Project
44. 1998 ATMA- Agricultural Technology Management Agency
45. 2005 NAIP –National Agricultural Innovation Project
46. National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 (or, NREGA No42) was later renamed as the “Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act” (or, MGNREGA), is an Indian labour law and Social security measure that aims to guarantee the right to work. It aims to ensure livelihood security in rural areas by giving at least 100 days of wage employment in a year to every house whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

Starting from 200 districts on 2 February 2006, the NREGA covered all the districts of India from 1 April 2008. The statute is hailed by the government as “the most ambitious and largest social security and public works programme in the world”. The world bank termed NREGA a “stellar example of rural development” in its world development report 2014.

The MGNREGA was started with the objective of “improving livelihood security in rural areas to provide at least 100 days of confirmed wage employment in a year, to every house whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work”. Another aim of MGNREGA is to create durable assets (such as roads, canals, ponds, wells). Employment has to be provided within 5 km radius of an applicant’s home, and minimum wages are to be paid. Applicants are eligible to an unemployment allowance if work is not provided within fifteen days. Thus, MGNREGA is a legal entitlement employment. MGNREGA is to be implemented by gram panchayats. Labour severe tasks like built infrastructure for water harvesting, flood control, drought relief are preferred.

Living aside the provision of economic security and creating rural assets, NREGA help protect environment, empowerment of rural women, reducing rural urban migration and fostering among others. Many safeguards to promote its effective management and implementation are provided by law. The act maintains the principles and agencies for implementation, financing pattern, allowed work list, monitoring and evaluation and measures to ensure transparency.

New Challenge and Opportunity for Rural Development

Globalization is a major source of change. It is a complex process, consisting of global penetration of finance and market, information and media, technology and culture, transport and tourism, and even crime. Globalization in all of its aspects may not be new. Liberalized trade regimes as well as more consumer driven agricultural, integrated and food markets are rapidly globalizing and driving innovations,

forcing farmers to loose out or adapt. We are in the midst of a transformation to a network economy with a shift from markets to networks, from quantities to qualities, from commodities to niches, and from supply-driven to demand-driven large chains. Opportunities for small farmers have also being provided by the new development. Some of them are linked to supermarkets (in certain products at least).

Conclusion

The current strategy of rural development mainly focuses on poverty mitigation, good lifestyle opportunities, providing basic necessity and infrastructure through innovative programmes of earning and self-employment .The most challenging task is to create a network involving farmers, extension workers, government, private sector, researchers and policymakers to increase our understanding and be informed of new challenges and opportunities as well as enriching each other, spawning innovation on all sides & also to see whether the funds have been properly utilized. The implementation is to be properly checked to bring the required result. The Population of rural areas should have quality of life which is at par to the population in cities & towns. To do all this, we also need to consider our approaches i.e. how to have a positive approach, that starts from.

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