

# Rural Development Schemes and its Contribution Towards Employment Generation

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## **Abstract**

Since the country gained independence, Government has been developing policies, programs, projects and programs and investing in the Five Year Plan to accelerate rural development. All of these programs and programs implemented by the ministers and relevant departments of the union and provincial governments in the fields of education, health, drinking water, sanitation, transport and telecommunications and support infrastructure, among others, have shown a different level of response and performance. at the grassroots level, and yet, it is much lower than expected in terms of measurable indicators of human development. In a context where India is developing as a strong economy and committed to bringing about rapid and sustainable economic growth through various reforms, rural development programs must focus on the participation of individuals and rural organizations as key elements of their equality. features, among others, the concept of integrated development, planning process, Growth Center approach, management ideas, communication system and support Management Information System to improve system efficiency and achieve desired program objectives.

**Key Words:** formulating policies, programs, projects and schemes and investing significant financial resources through every Five Year Plan to accelerate the rural development.

## **Introduction:**

Economic planners argue that the problem of rural development is not merely of development of rural areas but the development of rural communities to dispel ignorance and poverty and assist the process of creating a self-reliant and self-sustaining healthy modern communities. Rural development can no longer be identified with mere increase in Gross Domestic Product GDP or even per capita national income. Whereas the concept of inclusive growth has been largely welcomed, there has been criticism by some analysts who argue that putting emphasis only on inclusive growth could make the country an under performer in the region.

The scores of development schemes, largely being implemented through the Ministry of Rural Development aim at alleviating rural poverty, generating employment and removing hunger and malnourishment accompanied by the enrichment of the quality of human life. While the government has been giving top priority to rural development and is spending thousands of crores through various schemes, the concern is that not all the money allocated in the rural development schemes reaches the beneficiary.

As a result, the pace of progress has remained stunted and the poor continue to suffer. The government has now decided to evolve processes so that direct payment is made to the beneficiary, bypassing several agencies. The Aadhaar card is an historic initiative towards this end which can transform the face of rural India. The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has now identified 252 districts for switchover to Aadhaarenabled payment system (AEPS) to pay wages to the beneficiaries of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

The MoRD chose only the districts which already achieved more than 50 percent Aadhaar enrolment and has significant population of MGNREGS beneficiaries. The government has since long been trying to shift to electronic mode for distribution of wages to MGNREGS beneficiaries, primarily to avoid delays, to ensure transparency and to eliminate the role of the middlemen.

Focused on formation of Qualitative SHGs rather than Quantitative SHGs Various studies conducted on the formation of SHGs conclude that while forming Self Help Group (SHG), emphasis is given on quantitative rather than qualitative formation of SHGs, which is cause of concern. As a result, no proper social mobilisation is conducted at the grassroots level to convince poor to join SHG. They are rather forced to join SHGs by giving lure of getting subsidy and loan from the bank. This is the biggest mistake which is done at the outset of the formation of SHG under SGSY.

Sarvodaya Plan (1952); The sarvodaya workers also drew up a plan which was Gandhian in c development of agriculture.□principle and also highlighted scienti cials in the states of□This scheme was worked out by non-of Maharashtra and Gujarat. It received guidance from Vinobaji and Sri Jayaprakash Narayan and later on embodied within it the Bhoodan and the Gramdan movements.

### **Community Development Programmes (1952):**

The programme was launched in the year 1952 by Government of India with 55 projects with the basic functions such as, a. To educate the villagers regarding the technological and social changes taking place in the country and the rural scenario. b. To mobilize local support for the various projects. c. To provide extension services at grass root level and d. To develop local leadership and self-governing agencies. Community development programme is a blending of all the features ects a synthesis of divergent□of various attempts made in the past. It re approaches which represents the culture of people of India. Further, it 3 represents the aspirations of a young democracy.

### **Planning Commission**

The Government of India appointed the planning commission in March 1950 under the chairmanship of Late. Sri Jawaharlal Nehru. The Planning Commission makes an assessment of the material, capital and human resources of

the country and formulates plans for the stages in which the utilization of the country's resources and development should be carried out and proposes the allocation of resources for five year plans laid great emphasis on the due completion of each stage. All the emphasis is upon rural development along with large scale industries.

### **Rural Development Programme in Post-Independent India:**

After the Community Development Programmes, the Indian Government formulated and implemented rural development programmes covering various sectors of rural society. From time to time, several rural development programmes were introduced from 1952 onwards. Such rural development programmes are National Agricultural Extension Service (1953), Applied Nutrition Programme (1958), Panchayati Raj (1959), Intensive Agricultural District Programme (1960), Hill Area Development Programme (1962), Tribal Area Development Programme (1963), Intensive Agricultural Programme (1964), High yielding Variety Programme (1965), Drought Prone Area Programme (1970), Rural works Programme (1971), Employment Guarantee Scheme (1972), Minimum Needs Programme (1974), National Rural Employment Programme (1980), Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (1983), Indira Awas Yojana (1986), MP's Local Area Development Scheme (1993), etc. All those programmes are meant for creating self-employment and wage employment thereby alleviating poverty in rural areas.

### **Panchayatiraj:**

Panchayati Raj is a system of rural local self-government and its contribution could be visualised in short term, middle term and long term perspectives. It encourages micro level planning and contributes to the implementation of rural development programmes by mobilizing and utilising the locally available resources and this set up gives ample opportunities to the people to take part in the process of planning and implementation of the development programmes taking into account the felt needs of the people. Among the rural development programmes implemented during the last decade, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Vaidya Yojana (JVVT) or (JRY) continue to be major poverty alleviation programmes in India.

### **Swarnjayanti Grameeen Swarozgar Yojana**

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is the single self-employment programme for the rural poor. Launched on 1 April 1999, the programme replaces the earlier self-employment and allied programmes-Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Supply of Improved Tool-Kits to Rural Artisans (SITRA), Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) and Million Wells Scheme (MWS), which are no longer in operation. The Yojana takes into account all the strengths and weaknesses of the earlier self-employment programmes.

### **Employment Assurance Scheme**

Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) was launched on 2 October 1993 for implementation in 1,778 identified blocks in the drought-prone areas, desert areas, tribal and hilly areas of different States. Later, the scheme was extended to the remaining blocks of the country in a phased manner. The scheme being implemented in all the rural blocks of the country has been restructured from 1 April 1999. EAS is now the single wage employment programme being implemented the objective of the EAS is to provide gainful employment in manual work to all needy able-bodied adults in rural areas during the lean agricultural season and the creation of community, social and economic assets for sustained employment and development. The EAS would be open to all adult rural poor. A maximum of two adults per family would be provided wage employment, subject to availability of fund.

### **Rural Housing (Indira Awaas Yojana)**

To meet the housing needs of the rural poor, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) was started in May 1985 as a sub-scheme of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. From 1 January 1996 it is being implemented as an independent scheme. The Indira Awaas Yojana aims at helping rural people below poverty-line belonging to SCs/STs, freed bonded labourers and non-SC/ST categories in construction of dwelling units and up gradation of existing unserviceable kutcha houses by providing grant-in aid. From 1995-96, the IAY benefits have also been extended to widows or next-of kin of defense personnel killed in action. Benefits have also been extended to ex-servicemen and retired members of the paramilitary forces as well as the normal eligibility conditions of Indira Awaas Yojana. Three percent of funds are reserved for the disabled persons living below the poverty-line in rural areas.

Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development locally tested and proven indigenous and modern designs and materials, a scheme called Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development has been launched with effect from 1 April 1999. The objective of the scheme is to promote/propagate innovative and proven housing technologies, designs and materials in the rural areas.

### **Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY):**

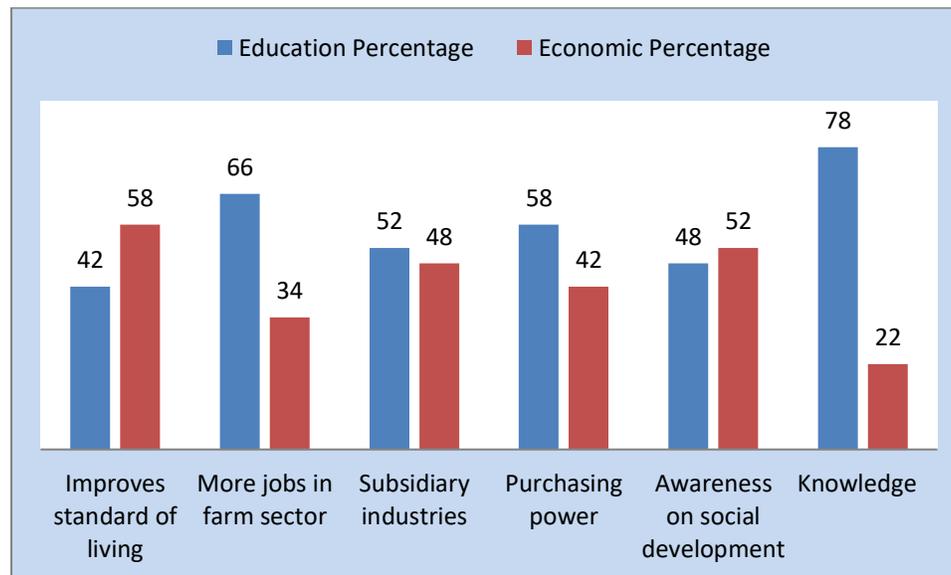
The SGRY was launched in September 2001, by merging the ongoing Schemes of Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). The objective of the programme is to provide additional wage employment in the rural areas as also food security, along with the creation of durable community, social and economic infrastructure in rural areas. The SGRY is open to all rural poor who are in need of wage employment and desire to do manual and unskilled work in and around the village/habitat. The Scheme is implemented through Panchayati Raj Institutions. The scheme envisages generation of 100 crore man-days of employment in a year. The cost of each component of the programme is shared by the Centre 75:25 and States in the ratio of .

**Table 1 Impact of education and social development**

Factor	Education Percentage	Economic Percentage
Improves standard of living	42	58
More jobs in farm sector	66	34
Subsidiary industries	52	48
Purchasing power	58	42
Awareness on social development	48	52
Knowledge	78	22

*Source; Compiled from the field study*

Table 1 Impact of education and social development in Telangana that the respondents accepted towards education and social development has a great contribution on economy development.

**Figure-1 Impact of education and social development**

## Conclusion

Rural development has been accorded the highest priority in the country's planning process. A beginning was made in this direction by launching the Community Development Program in the early 1950s which proved to be instrumental in the establishment of a network of basic national extension services for development at the grassroots level in the villages so crucial for creating awareness among rural communities of the potential as well as means of development. In fact, this basic institutional infrastructure at the village level assisted the farmers to adopt major technological advances later in the mid 1960s in the sphere of agriculture and reinforced the process of abolition of intermediary landlords and reform of the land tenure system. Investments in the successive Five Year

Plans have led to the creation of essential physical and institutional infrastructure to bring about socio-economic change in remote rural areas. Later on realizing that the benefits of various. Enhancing financial and economic inclusion and capitalization of poor through collaborative frame works with a variety of private civil society and social enterprise partner organization. Strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system to capture changes in social and economic empowerment in house hold economy and behavior.

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