



RURAL DEVELOPMENT APPROACHES IN INDIA


*Compiled by
Dr.P.Ilango
Professor
Department of Social Work
Bharathidasan University
Tiruchirappalli*

Rural Development in India

- **Stage 1- Pre Independence era (1866- 1947)**
- **Stage 2- Post Independence era (1947-1953)**
- **Stage 3- Community Development and Extension Service era (1953 - 1960)**
- **Stage 4- Intensive Agricultural Development era (1960 – till date)**



Gandhian Era: Constructive Work


- Village self-government, self-reliance & self-help
 - Reinforced the strength of voluntarism
 - Cooperation & mutual aid
 - Decentralization, non-violence, and moral action.
 - Development of village crafts and village industries
- 

EARLY EXPERIMENTS IN INDIA


- Scheme for Rural Reconstruction
- Economic conference of Mysore
- Gurgaon Experiment
- Sriniketan
- Sevagram
- Marthandam Project


Cont.

- **Government of India Act of 1935**
- **Indian Village Service**
- **Firka Development Scheme**
- **Etawah pilot project**
- **Nilokheri Experiment**
- **Grow More Food Campaign (GMFC)**



The Weakness of the above rural Experiments

- The attempts were mostly based on individual initiative inspired by humanitarian considerations.
 - Government backing and financial support was not forth, coming in sufficient measures.
 - The attempts were mostly isolated, uneven and discontinuous.
 - The staff employed was inadequate, inexperienced untrained and hurriedly selected, ignorant of local conditions who could hardly command any respect or influence in the village.
- 

- 
- The objectives were ill-defined or lopsided in the development. Little attempt was made to study the peculiar conditions of the villages and to adapt the programme to its need.
 - Plans, programmes and organisations were lacking, weak or unbalanced.
 - Parallel programmes of supplies, services, guidance and supervision were not developed.
 - The need for proper methods and skills of approach to the task was not fully realised.
 - Research and evaluation was lacking.
 - Association and co-ordination with other development departments was very limited.
 - The involvement of village people in thinking, planning and executing village development was not properly achieved.
 - From the results of the past efforts we can learn that public participation is an integral part of any programme for its success. This can very well be brought out by extension education only.



Post Independence

development

- economic betterment of people
- greater social transformation
- increased participation of people in the rural development programmes
- decentralization of planning
- better enforcement of land reforms
- greater access to credit



**From capital centered approach to
people centered approach**

Community Development Programme

Launched on 2nd October in 1952 .

Its basic elements were:

- Focus on individual cultivators
- Restructuring and re-organizing district administration
- Provision of facilities for agricultural production through cooperatives and block agencies
- Provision of welfare facilities by block



Community Projects

- Projects covered an area of about 150-500 sq.miles
- About 300 villages and a population of about 2 lakhs
- Divided into three development blocks
- Village Level Worker (Gram sevaks)-basic level extension functionary in the Community Development Programme.

Drawbacks of the CDP

- Uneven distribution of the benefits of the programme.
- Absence of clearly defined priority in the programmes.
- The inability of the CDP to recognise and solve the inherent conflicts in the inter and intra target groups.
- Lack of mass participation
- More bureaucratic. Central planning Response of the government of create local institutions did not succeed. Without dismantling the power structure in the village, the devolution of a authority under democratic decentralisation, super imposed in a social system, resulted in the complete drying up of all efforts in majority of rural masses.

National Extension Service

- Formulated in April 1953
- Inaugurated one year after the 55 community Projects, that is, on October 2, 1953.
- Major development in the sphere of rural reconstruction in India


The idea behind the National Extension Service Programme was to cover the entire country within a period of about 10 years, that is to say, by 1960-61.

DEMOCRATIC DECENTRALISATION – PANCHAYAT RAJ


Team headed by **Balwant Rai Mehta**, Chief Minister of Gujarat

Recommendations:

- Effective administrative decentralisation for the implementation of the programme like CDP
- Elected and integrated local self-government system ordinarily of 3 tiered bodies from village level to block level and then to district level
- Remarkable awakening among the rural people, as a result of which the villager became conscious of his own rights and developed the urge to improve his living standards.




Shift in the rural development strategy

- Food situation became alarming
 - Strategy in favour of increasing agricultural production
 - Institutional credit flew more towards large and resourceful farmers
 - Neglect of small farmers, land less labourers, tenants and artisans
 - Led to the accentuation of regional disparities
 - Economic inequalities among different sections of the population
- 



IADP

Its main objectives were:

- To achieve rapid increase in the level of agriculture production through a concentration of financial, technical, extension and administrative resources.
 - To achieve a self-generating breakthrough in productivity and to raise the production potential by stimulating the human and physical process of changes
 - To demonstrate the most effective ways of increasing production and thus, to provide lessons for extending such intensified agricultural production programmes to other areas.
- 

Shortcomings of the IADP

- Educational approach to reach the cultivators was lacking Emphasis was anyhow to make the cultivators join the programme.
- Training programme of staff was not clear. In many cases, the VLWs were found below standard and were not able to impress the farmers.
- Staff were not clear about the methods to reach the cultivators. The staff were target minded even in filling up agricultural production plans.
- Posting of staff was not adequate and timely
- Workshop, seed testing and soil testing laboratories were not functioning to the required level.
- Transport and land development programmes were not progressing satisfactorily.
- Cultivators were not using insecticides, fungicides and seed treatment of their own.
- There was problem of communication.
- Cooperative were not functioning well.
- lack of action research.
- Very little progress in animal husbandry, fisheries etc.
- Stereotyped farm production plans.
- Little participation by women in the programme.

Another shift in the strategy

Deliberate efforts to flow development benefits to the poorer sections and the backward areas

Schemes launched:

- Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA)
- Marginal Farmer & Agricultural Labourers Agency (MFALA)
- Minimum Needs Programme (MNP)
- Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
- Desert Development Programme (DDP)
- Hill Area Development Programme (HADP)

Area Development Programme

- Backward Area Development
- Command Area development Programme
- Drought Prone Area Programme
- Hill Area Development Agency
- Tribal Area Development Programme

Green Revolution

- Implementation of land reform
- Active participation of peasants
- Record grain output of 131 million tonnes in 1978/79
- By 1980 India attained self sufficiency in food with a surplus of about 30 million
- Created plenty of jobs

This established India as one of the world's biggest agricultural producers




Co-operative Movement

- Helped the poor peasants to get high quality seeds, modern agricultural machines and low cost fertilizers.
- Helped the peasants to sell their products.
- Played a key role in making the Green Revolution a success
- Operation Flood
- Anand Model



Integrated Rural Development Programme

- The apparent failure of the CDP was the main reason for the evolution of the IRDP.
- Introduced during 1976-77 with the selection of 20 districts
- IRDP envisages the integration of methodology and approach of both beneficiary oriented programmes as well as area development programmes.



It intensified development efforts for the purpose of poverty alleviation as well as increasing productivity.

TRAINING OF RURAL YOUTH FOR SELF-EMPLOYMENT (TRYSEM)

- Launched in August, 1979
- Provide technical skills to rural youth
- Self-employment in the fields of agriculture and allied activities, industries, services and trade

Inadequate employment opportunities for the TRSYEM trainees have been attributed to three main factors:


- Adequate and timely assistance under IRDP not given at several times to them to start their own productive activities.
- Systematic surveys for identifying the potential for new productive ventures are not being carried out by most of the DRDAs.
- The rapport between the DRDAs and BDOs on one side and employers on the other side has not been strong and fruitful to provide placement of increased number of the trained youth.



Ministry of Rural Development

In 1999 Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment was renamed as
Ministry of Rural Development

Acting as a catalyst effecting the change in rural areas through the
implementation of wide spectrum of programmes:

- Rural Connectivity Programme
 - Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana
 - Employment Assurance Scheme
 - Indira Awas Yojna
 - National Social Assistance Programme
 - Swarna Jayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojna
- 

Modern Era of Development

- **NGO movement**
- **Microfinance Movement (MFI)**
- **Self-help Groups (SHG)**
- **Rural Banking**
- **Rural Insurance**
- **Foreign Donors**
- **Rural Common Minimum Program**

India- The Road Ahead

- Reducing poverty remains India's greatest challenge
- Rural development is essential to raise the incomes of the poor
- Dramatic improvements in infrastructure and the investment climate are required
- Basic services, such as improved health and education, need to reach all India's citizens
- HIV/AIDS has the potential to upset much of the India's recent progress
- Environmental sustainability needs to be ensured

Thank

TYOANK

YOHANKYOU

THANKYOU