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## PERFORMANCE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN TELANGANA

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### Abstract

India is a land of villages. The country cannot think of any development unless the development of 5,64,000 villages takes place. India lives in villages where 74 percent of her population lives. Thus, the development of villages is a pre-condition for balanced economic development. In spite of several efforts made for promoting the development of rural poor through a number of programmes, the conditions of the people have remained by and large static and the number of rural poor is alarmingly large. Nearly forty percent of our population live in absolute poverty. The number is estimated to be over 31 crores. The main causes for this are unemployment and under employment. Therefore, the need of the hour is sound organisation and efficient management of rural development programmes. This research paper to be discussed “Performance of Rural Development Programmes in Telangana”

**Keywords:** Rural Development, Transformation, Decentralization, Enforcement, Communication Development, Demographic features.

### Introduction

#### Statement of the Problem

“Sustainable Development requires human, ingenuity people are the most importance resources.”

**Prof. Dan Shekhtman**

Noble Laureate

The rural development programmes occupy a significant position in our economic planning as without uplifting the rural masses we cannot accelerate the overall economic development. Therefore, rural development should find its rightful place not only in economic planning but also in the deliberations and studies. It should receive the attention of intellectuals and social scientists to sharpen focus or to evaluate performance with regard to a programme. However, the success of the programme depends ultimately on the desire for the development, the direction in which the process takes, and the momentum it gathers. This intern will depend upon the will of the people, and harassing the energies of the people, especially the rural people. Various institutions working for rural development can help in harnessing the energies of the rural people.

In this connection rural development, the strategies are important to bring changes in rural life and which lead to raise capacity of villages by creating additional employment opportunity and thus, increasing their income. Thus, rural development strategies are designed to bring about change and development in the lives of the rural people. In early years rural the development was considered only as the growth of agriculture and its allied sectors. Over the years the rural development has emerged as a strategy designed to improve economic and social life of rural people in general and specific group of rural people in particular. Thus, rural development today is holistic in approach.

#### Various Social Developmental Activities

The independent India had formulated several schemes and implemented under five-year plans for developing rural areas. The rural development policy which was reflected in various developmental programmes formulated since the beginning of the planning has undergone change from time to time. The approaches adopted for rural development were classified as community development approach, people’s participation approach, area approach, target group approach, employment approach, minimum needs approach, Integrated rural development approach. In spite of five decades of planning for the all-round development, the influence of rural poverty continues unabated. Most of these schemes have been of little success as they were conceived in isolation and implemented haphazardly. Perhaps the only exception was the community development programme which was very comprehensive in nature and attempted to bring about a complete socio-economic transformation in rural life. However, it was not an integrated developmental plan.



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### Community Development Programmes

The initial expectation when the Community Development Programme was introduced was that the community development programme would bring about rural development of the area covered by each block. But this did not happen. The Community Development Programme was supplemented by National Employment Scheme. The Community Development Programme is the method and National Employment Scheme is the agency. The consensus among main evaluation studies was that the Community Development Programme failed mainly because, no attempt was made to integrate the development process within rural area. The other major problems were

- (1) the activities to be covered by the programme were too many and the finances were limited
- (2) no coordination between development agencies
- (3) no people's participation in the decision making.

Thus, the failure of the Community Development Programme led to the introduction of Panchayati Raj System in which the responsibility for the implementation of rural development programmes was handed over to the Panchayat Raj bodies. As both the political and administrative agencies involved in the programme did not want to share the power, this was relegated to back ground as a result which they have become dependent on government more and more.

### Achievements for Community Rural Development

The Area development was the approach adopted initially for the rural development. The Area Development Programme created the scope to engage several Voluntary agencies in the country in the development of backward areas with special emphasis on weaker sections. Thus, the emphasis was shifted to area development with the formulation of Intensive Agricultural Area Programme, Drought Prone Area Programme, Command Area Development Programme.

The impact of the Intensive Agricultural Area Programme on district was quite satisfactory as there was a significant increase in the yield from the agriculture. But as regards the supply of inputs there were several objections from the side of the administration.

The Intensive Agricultural Area Programme made a significant contribution to increase the production. However, there is a criticism that the programme helped mostly the rich farmers.

The Drought Prone Area Programme was a major programme started in drought prone area for the benefit for the all-around development of areas which are prone to drought. The Drought Prone Area Programme was intended to increase the opportunities in dry farming and cropping. However, there is also a criticism that it could not achieve much progress.

The Command Area Development Programme is another programme which was intended to make use of irrigation potential in a scientific way. But there is a criticism that the programmed resulted in converting the rich farmers richer and it has neglected the poor completely.

### Implementation of Programmes in Telangana

Rural Development programme aimed at the development of a particular target groups. The programmes were designed in such a way that they cover the programmes concerning a particular group However, there was a criticism against the programmes that they covered only some sections of the people. The other criticisms were (1) lack of co-ordination among different departments of the government (2) inadequacy of credit (3) lack of staff of its own at the field level.

As the programmes could not achieve much, the focus was shifted to the problem of employment. The programmes like crash scheme for Rural Employment and Food for work programme in Fifth Plan and National Rural Employment Programme. Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment in the Sixth Plan periods were started. The programmes had to face the criticism from both clientele and also the people who had evaluated the programmes on two points.

- (1) There was no coordination between the programmes implemented.
- (2) The trainers were not available insufficient numbers. Even among the trainers who were available they were not trained to the extent required to hold the job.

The minimum needs programme in another programme which emphasised the need for providing minimum social services rural areas like health, education, water supply, road, rural electrification etc.



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### Important of Welfare Measures

Though the rural development was considered synonymous with the growth of agriculture and allied sectors in the beginning it has emerged over the years, as a strategy designed to improve economic and social life of a specific group of the people of rural areas. Thus, the rural development strategies include set of goods, operational processes, terminal objectives and structural arrangements designed to bring about development in the lives of rural people. The rural development is a continuous process.

Thus, different rural development programmes which were formulated to attack the rural poverty could not benefit the economically weaker sections of the society to any appreciable extent as they were inadequately financed and in efficiently coordinated. The integrated approach which was lacking in other rural development programmes could be provided in the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Such was the need for interrogated approach which could be seen in integrated Rural Development Programme.

### Summing Up

Some programmes are of general nature concerning all rural development programmes are specifically meant for rural people. The family welfare and rural sanitation which are the programmes concerned with all the communities come under the programmes of general nature. There are some women welfare production, marketing and management. They also felt that there is a need to be organised for collective actions.

Thus, the seriousness about integration of poor in the developmental programmes started in 1980, with the Sixth Five Year Plan, after the report on the status of women was published and information was made available about the inadequate focus on women by the earlier plans. The major thought of the Sixth Five Year Plan was economic upliftment of downtrodden through greater opportunities for employment, imparting new skills and upgrading existing skills, which was absent in earlier schemes.

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