A STUDY ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN TAMILNADU

1D. Vanitha
1 Saveetha School of Law, Saveetha Institute of Medical And Technical Sciences, Saveetha University, Chennai-77, Tamil Nadu, India.

2Dr. D. Vezhaventhan
2 Assistant Professor, Saveetha School of Law, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Saveetha University, Chennai-77, Tamil Nadu, India.
1dvanithadushyandan@gmail.com, 2vezhaventhand.ssl@saveetha.com

Abstract:

The rural development generally refers to the process of improving the quality of living of the rural people. The development of rural areas is increasing in the recent times. Poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and problems related to agriculture are some of the problems faced by the people in the rural areas. The main aim of the study is to analyse the development of rural areas and implementation of policies in rural areas. The government and the voluntary efforts are taken to improve the rural communities in Tamilnadu. Nearly 70 percent of the total population lives in the rural areas. Poor nutrition and health status are the characteristic feature of the rural area. To improve the rural areas in Tamilnadu the government has introduced various schemes. The research is done in the doctrinal method through various data that are collected are discussed. The Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee act, integrate tribal development project and development of women and children in rural areas are the schemes introduced to develop and improve the welfare of the people living in the rural areas. Most of the people migrate from the rural areas to urban due to the inadequate employment. Therefore sufficient employment opportunities to be created in the rural areas. The main goal of rural development to improve the quality of life of the rural people by alleviating poverty through self employment and various community development programmes. Thus the rural areas is well developed through the schemes that
are implemented. Therefore there is a significant change in the rural development. Therefore alternative hypothesis is proved.

Keywords: Rural development, problems, schemes, implementation, strategies and agriculture.

Introduction:

Tamil Nadu is a country basically with the agricultural economy. The large proportion of population depends on the agriculture for their livelihood and they contribute to the state’s economy. To increase productivity and employment generation in the sector, there is a need to bring about structural changes, primarily based on the land reforms, as support prices and provision of cheap credit do not help beyond a point. Experience has shown that providing the poor with access to land is not anti-growth. (Somers 1999) In the rural growth strategy, the dynamism of small family farms plays an important role. (Somnath Chatterjee 2016).

Tamil Nadu is an agricultural economy. Agriculture is the backbone of the development of the Tamil Nadu economy. The role of agriculture in shaping the economy could be reflected from the large proportion of population that depends on agriculture for their livelihood and the significant contribution of agriculture to the state income. (Dhas, Albert Christopher 2012).

Rural areas play traditionally important role for the Indian economy and maintaining social stability. (Meenakshi et al. 2014) The development of most of them is entirely dependent on natural resources in the area, so that the economy of the rural areas is specialized in a limited number of industries - agriculture, livestock, forestry, fisheries, mining, rural tourism. The rural society of India is very much backward. It’s backwardness is very much due to the several problems that haunt the society. This paper aims at finding out the problems in rural society, need for the rural development and solutions to solve the rural problems. In Tamilnadu the cities has grown immensely in the last 20 years whereas the rural areas have not seen that kind of development. (Chakraborty and Seth 2015) This study discusses about the rural development, need for the development of rural areas, scope of development, problems in rural areas, solution to solve those problems, central schemes implemented in Tamilnadu, state schemes introduced are discussed.
The study deals with development of the rural areas also deals with rural development schemes implementation is to improve the standard of living of people living rural areas.

Hypothesis:

Null hypothesis: There is no significant change in the rural development

Alternate hypothesis: There is a significant change in the rural development

Materials and Methods:

The study is made in the doctrinal method. The data is collected from people of different age groups and development of rural areas is discussed and analysed. The need for rural development, scope and schemes introduced for rural development is analysed and discussed.

Rural Development in India:

India is emerging as a major power with the economy registering high growth rates and our cities and urban centres beginning to display marks of affluence. Yet there is no uniform development, the rural are not being able to march with urban areas. More than 70 percent live in villages 80 percent of the poor live in rural areas. The benefits of economic growth are not percolating to more than two thirds of the people. The visible symbols of development should not make us forget the problems of rural areas. The Indian economy is the fourth largest in the world. But the growth pattern is not uniform. (Alsos et al.) While the rate of growth for manufacturing, services, and communications sectors has substantially improved, in vital sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure development, and community and social services, and in rural development as a whole, our performance is not appreciable. Without the development of rural people, the country can never claim to be developed. In recent years, agricultural growth has fallen and so have investment and profitability of agriculture, net sown area under crops, and the area under irrigation. According to the Economic Survey 2006-2007, low yield per unit area across almost all crops has become a regular feature. (Agriculture, Rural and Community Dev...).
Rural Development:

The focus of Rural development in Tamil Nadu is Economic Growth with Social Justice and improvement in the living standards of the rural population, by providing adequate and quality services efficiently. Basically there are three dimensions with which rural development programmes are designed to address various issues faced in the rural areas. The first dimension of rural development includes provision of employment opportunities for increasing the household income. Self employment and wage employment programmes are two strategies which focus on this dimension. Self-employment programmes which emanated from IRDP and its other components has now grown into a movement as Self-Help Groups. The wage employment component has transitioned from the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme by which wage employment has been guaranteed under a Legislative Act.

The second dimension targets the problems of areas suffering from backwardness due to harsh climatic conditions such as drought-prone areas, hills, drought-prone areas, ghats, coastal areas and waste lands. Schemes such as Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWD), Western Ghat Development Programme (WGDP), Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) etc. address this.

The third dimension aims at the provision of social amenities and services at subsidized costs or free to target groups. These include Housing, Roads, Water Supply, Primary Education, Health, Sanitation, Family Welfare, the National Social Assistance Programme, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Rural Infrastructure. These are provided through schemes such as Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Bharat Nirman, Member of Parliament Local Area Development Programme (MPLADP), Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme (MLACDS), Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT), Rural Infrastructure Scheme (RIS), Panchayat Union School Renovation Programme (PUSRP), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) and funds devolved to local bodies such as State Finance Commission (SFC), Central Finance Commission (CFC), Pooled Assigned Revenue (PAR) etc. (Dr. S. Rajamohan et al. 2011). By solving these problems in rural areas, it can be develop. There is a separate rural development department for developing the rural areas.
Implementation of schemes:

The mandate of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department in the State over the plan periods are:

• Elimination of poverty and delivery of high quality services for Economic Growth, Social Justice and Improvement in the living standards of the rural population.

• Implementation of various rural development schemes and promotion of Panchayat Raj Institutions to discharge duties as effective local self government entities.

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is responsible for the implementation of various Centrally sponsored, State-funded, and Externally-aided schemes in rural areas for poverty alleviation, employment generation and area development.³ (Chakraborty and Seth 2015)

The Department is also entrusted with the responsibility of enabling the various Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) to function as effective units of Local Self Government. There are 12,524 Village Panchayats, 385 Panchayat Unions (coterminus with Blocks) and 31 District Panchayats under the purview of the Department.

Scope of rural development:

Rural development is the method designed to improve the social and economic condition of the people living in rural areas. It is the process, which improves the well being and self realisation of the people living beyond the urban areas. Rural development is a strategy by which change is brought among the rural people and the traditional way of living is changed into progressive way of living. (Vermaak 2001)

It is movement which lead to the progress of rural areas. Development in rural areas can bring economy, infrastructure, technology, education and health. The main objectives of the rural development is,

To develop the farm, public service and village community.

To improve the condition of producing crops and animals living condition.

To develop the health and education condition of rural people.

To improve the villagers with their own effort.

To improve the communication facilities in the rural areas.

The main objectives or rural development is to build the infrastructure, public service and communication in rural areas. (Meenakshi et al. 2014)

³ E.Karuppaian,(2002), Rural development programmes and Externalities.
and living condition of rural poor. It generates the employment opportunities, farm and storage and economical activities.\(^4\)

**Problems in rural communities:**

The problems related to the rural communities are the people related problems, agricultural related problems, infrastructure related problems, economic problems, social and cultural related problems, leadership related problems and administrative problems.

Agriculture related problems: the agriculture related problems are lack of expected awareness, knowledge, skill and attitude. The unavailability of the inputs, poor marketing facility in rural areas, the insufficient extension of staff and services, the small size of landholding by the rural people and unwillingness to stay and work in the rural areas are some of the people related problems in the rural areas.\(^5\)

Infrastructure related problems: lack of water supply, poor electricity facilities, transportation, less educational institutions, lack of proper communication facilities, rural health and employment opportunities, storage facilities are some of the infrastructure related problems in the rural.

Economic problems: the unfavourable economic condition to adopt to high cost of technology, high cost of inputs and underprivileged rural institutions are some of the economic problems. (Gopi et al. 2008)

Leadership related problems: the leadership among the hands of the incompetent and inactive people, self interest of people and biased political will are the leadership related problems.

Administrative problems: the more interference of political parties, lack of motivation and interest to participate in the administration of rural areas, the unwillingness to work in the villages, improper utilisation of budgets and lack of implementation of government policies and schemes in the rural areas are the major administrative problems.

---

\(^4\) Narendra Singh B.Chauhan, Department of Extension Education, (2012).

\(^5\) Government of Tamil Nadu (various years): Agricultural Census, Department of Economics and Statistics, Chennai
Need for Rural Development:

➢ To develop the rural area in all aspects of the culture, society, economy, technology and health.
➢ To develop the living standard of the rural mass.
➢ To develop the youth, children and women in the rural areas.
➢ To develop and improve human resource in terms of their psychology, skill, knowledge, attitude and other abilities.
➢ To solve the problems faced by them by themselves.
➢ To develop the infrastructure facility in the rural area.
➢ To provide the minimum facilities in the rural areas like the drinking water facility, education, transport, electricity and communication.
➢ To develop the rural welfare institutions like the village panchayats, cooperatives, post, banking and credit.
➢ To develop the rural industries through the development of handicrafts, small scaled industries, small scale village industries and other economic operations in the rural sector.
➢ To develop the agriculture, animal husbandry and other agriculture related cases.
➢ To empower the rural people and eliminate the rural poverty.
➢ To improve the rural peoples participation in the development of state and nation.
➢ To develop the leadership quality in the people living in the rural area and to minimise the gap between the urban and rural in terms of facilities.

Need for development of industrial facilities:

Many engineering industries are getting low productivity because of very few ancillary units in rural areas and it is to be developed and there is no opportunity for them to subcontract part of the work. The testing and inspection are in adequate and the decision makers are not fully qualified. (Cirollo) So the first step is to strengthen the grass root level organization to respond suitably to the emerging needs of rural entrepreneur by providing

---

better social economic inputs, training and motivational campaigns. Market information and latest development in technology should also be disseminated to rural entrepreneur.  

**Rural Entrepreneurs:**

The rural entrepreneurs want to earn more income, but most of them are not aware of innovative ways of selling their ideas and services to customers in a productive way. Most of them are lethargic and their beliefs are to earn minimum return or want to minimize losses. Their attitude towards innovation is negligible. (Alsos et al.) Telephonic interview was conducted with 10 entrepreneurs and they were of the view that if they are motivated to start new production methods and if they are financially supported with suitable training they would be able to increase the production methods and achieve large scale economy in production. Many in rural areas are having depleted hopes of surviving and much less thinking towards innovative strategies for bringing hope and sustainability. The rural entrepreneurs are isolated and they are not aware of the latest happenings around the world and a network of entrepreneurs needs to be improved. Hence rural entrepreneurship awareness camp becomes more essential. (Somers 1999)

**Promotion of Rural Entrepreneurship:**

The promotion of rural entrepreneurship is vital in the context of generating gainful employment and minimizing the widening of disparities between rural and urban population. For reducing poverty and to overcome low productivity in the farm sector rural entrepreneurship is necessary. The local politicians, the village administrators and the senior persons in rural villages who want things to improve only can implement the innovative rural development programs on target groups. Voluntary efforts are getting due recognitions and new thrust has been given in policy support of government. Government also introduced many programmes like IRDP, TRYSEM, JAWAHAR and YOJANA and PMRY etc., which are recommended by the senior people in rural villages in order to improve the welfare of the people in the rural areas.

---


**Indicators of Rural Development:**

Rural areas can be classified according to different criteria. Indicators of demographic, administrative, infrastructural and social development of the region can be divided into two groups: general and criteria reflecting the problems in rural areas. (Gopi et al. 2008) The general criteria include geographical location, size, number of inhabitants, population density, remoteness from urban centers and indicators characterizing the natural conditions of the area. The second group of criteria includes indicators which report socio-economic problems of the region: unemployment, employment, age structure, migration, types of migration, depopulation, level of infrastructure development, development of agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, gross added value per capita, average wage, environmental protection. The most common indicators in this group can be summarized as economic, social and socio-economic. Economic indicators reflect the level and dynamics of production and marketing to the number of inhabitants. Social indicators show the level of living standard, poverty and access to social services.

**State Schemes for Rural Development**

Chief Minister solar powered green house scheme:

In the legislative assembly on 03.06.2004 governor announced that the government will launch the solar powered greenhouse scheme for the poor in rural areas and construct houses for the cost of 1.80 lakh funded by the state government. All the people living below the poverty line in rural areas are eligible for this solar powered green houses. (Gopi et al. 2008; Meenakshi et al. 2014) Only people with patta for their sites are eligible under this scheme. These houses are built in 300 square feet with powerful lightening. The changes to be made in the house are permitted without altering the total square feet of 300. The project will be sanctioned by the state empowered committee consisted by the government under the chief secretary. In each state, the commissioner of rural development and panchayat raj will decide the number

---

Tamilnadu rural roads improvement scheme (TNRRIS):

During the year 2015 – 2016, the government introduced an omnibus scheme called the Tamil Nadu Rural Roads improvement Scheme for the improvement of rural roads with an over allocation of 800 crore. Roads connecting the unconnected villages, irrespective of their population are given the first priority. Next priority is given for the bus and minibus. Important market price, education, health service roads are then selected. In 2015 – 16 50% of the funds are allocated for non-built roads and other 50% of the fund shall be allocated for the maintenance of damaged roads and not less than 25% allocated for the period renewal of roads. (Valdivia 2011) In 2016 -17 25% of fund is allocated for non-built roads and 25% for damaged roads and 25% for bus – plying roads and roads which require renewal. From this scheme 2,561 road works for length of 4,659 has been built up with cost of 800 crore.

Rural infrastructure schemes:

The main objective of this scheme is to provide the basic infrastructural facilities to all the unconnected villages. During the year 2011-13 an amount of 250 crore has been spent for this scheme as granted by the state finance commission. This scheme consists of the upgradation of the earthen roads, gravel roads, WBM roads into BT roads. This scheme also includes the construction of culverts and walls in the newly built roads. This scheme was implemented under two streams. As through this scheme many unconnected villages were provided with the road facility and it let to the development of rural areas. (Dr. S. Rajamohan et al. 2011) This scheme paved a way for improving the unconnected villages.

11 Rural development and panchayat Raj department.
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (CSIDS):

The government of Tamil Nadu has launched the comprehensive school infrastructure development scheme in the year 2011-12. The main objective of this scheme is to provide basic infrastructure facilities to the schools like new buildings, kitchen sheds, water supply, toilets etc., in rural areas. It also repairs and renovates the existing building. For the year 2011-12 and 2012-13 an average of up to 100 crores per year has been allocated for this scheme. In order to provide clean environment to students and keep them safe, the compound walls are also allowed to be constructed. Thus schools are ensured with adequate toilet facilities for boys and girls in panchayat unions. This scheme was implemented in the panchayat union school, town panchayat and municipalities. By this scheme additional rooms are also constructed for the storage of commodities. Thus schools are improved in infrastructure facility through the rural development programme. (Chakraborty and Seth 2015)

SELF SUFFICIENCY SCHEME:

The government of Tamil Nadu introduced the self sufficiency scheme in order to improve the welfare of the rural people by enabling them in decision – making mediation, community building etc., it is an open process by which the individuals and groups can exchange view. This scheme is executed by the local bodies or the department concerned through the tender as per the Tamil Nadu transparency in tender act 1998. An amount 100 crore is allocated for both 2011-12 AND 2012-13 respectively. Other than this an additional amount of 2 crore is sanctioned for rural
development and panchayat raj for district and for sanctioning special scheme. 75 crores were given to the districts and Chennai corporation on the basis of Chennai population.\(^\text{12}\)

Tamilnadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme:

The government has introduced the Tamil Nadu village Habitation Improvement Scheme from 2011–2012. This scheme provides basic infrastructure facilities to all the rural habitations. This is the innovative scheme introduced by the government of Tamilnadu because concentration for habitation is given only in Tamilnadu. The village panchayat was classified based on the population and the fund was allocated in this scheme. There are nearly about 6 habitations for each village panchayat in Tamilnadu with 79,394 habitations in more than 12,524 village panchayats.\(^\text{13}\)

Therefore, the number of habitations vary from one district to another district. For example, the panchayat in Nilgiris district is 37 whereas in Villupuram district is only 3. The population of village panchayats in Tamil adult varies, as one district consists of less than 500 population, the other district has population exceeding more than 10,000. Therefore the funds for this schemes are also allocated only based on the number of village panchayats in a district. Thus the state scheme (THAI) concentrates on the village habitations.

Rural education: Operation black board scheme; The scheme aims at construction of school buildings in schools which do not have even single building. Further during the year march 2001, the GOI released a sum of 500 Lakh additionally for the construction of school building for the primary schools. With the total amount of 666.67lakh, 192 primary school buildings will be taken up during 2001 – 2003. This black board scheme was initiated to improve the school education. The primary education is the main concept taken in account in this scheme. This scheme was executed first by the Tamilnadu government to improve the quality of education of students in the rural area.

Results:
1. The rural areas are developed through the rural development department.
2. The rural areas are developed through the implementation of various schemes.
3. The government of Tamil Nadu through the Rural development department has introduced various welfare measures for the improvement of the people in rural areas.
4. When compared to before now the rural areas are well developed.
5. The implementation of schemes in rural areas is mostly effective in the recent years.
6. The rural roads schemes are more effective in the way that it connects the rural habitations to the urban areas.

Discussion:
Welfare of a considerable part of the State depends on development of rural areas. The country has fertile soils and favourable climatic conditions for growing different crops which on suitable farming practices can produce higher yields. Much of the Tamilnadu’s nature is preserved and allows the development of alternative and rural tourism. These natural resources are found as option for appropriate measures by the state and initiative by the people living in rural areas to achieve the desired social and economic development. The modernisation of agriculture will be the best suggestion to improve the rural areas in Tamilnadu. (Meenakshi et al. 2014). By improving the agriculture the farmers will develop intern will lead to the development of rural economy.

Conclusion:
The rural economy is an example of an agrarian economy. Although farming and agriculture are one of the most important primary activities, the problem lies in the fact that the share in GDP of agriculture sector is on a constant decline. At the same time, about two-thirds of India’s population depends on agriculture. As a result, the productivity is not up to the mark, with conditions only getting worse. So in order to develop the rural areas the agriculture sector must be improved. Rural development is the process of qualitative and quantitative changes to improve the conditions in rural regions. To develop a stronger economy the rural areas must grow. Rural areas are still bound by many problems such as the nourishment, illiteracy, unemployment and lack of basic infrastructure like schools, colleges, hospitals, sanitation and etc. This has led to youth moving out of villages to work in cities. Our villages need to grow equally as cities and standard of life has to improve for inclusive growth to happen. If rural areas are poor, India will be poor. So to bring out the rural areas and develop them, the rural development is the need.
**Recommendations:**

Awareness should be created about the schemes introduced in the rural areas for their welfare and development. Government should take steps to improve the internet facilities in rural areas. The basic amenities like food, shelter, and clothing can be fulfilled to the rural tribes. Proper implementation of the schemes through the involvement of rural people can be done. The panchayat raj system can be improved by removing the caste system prevailing in the contemporary India.

**Reference:**


