

A Study on Rural Development Programme in India

Sindhiya .M

MBA, Department of Management Studies,
Bharath Institute of Science and Technology,
Selaiyur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 073
Bharath Institute of Higher Education and Research

ABSTRACT

The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is a rural development program of the Government of India launched in financial year 1978 and extended throughout India by 1980. It is a self-employment program intended to raise the income-generation capacity of target groups among the poor. The target group consists largely of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans living below the poverty line. The objective of IRDP is to enable identified rural poor families to cross the poverty line by providing productive assets and inputs to the target groups. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) aims at providing assets and self-employment opportunities for the rural poor. Assistance under IRDP is given to a target group of rural poor belonging to families below poverty line in the form of subsidy by the Government and term credit by financial institutions for the purpose of rural development. However, in the Ninth Plan, the focus would be on pursuing an integrated approach under IRDP by subsuming the existing sub-schemes of Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) and Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITRA), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) and Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) into the main programme. The Government's policy and programmes have laid emphasis on poverty alleviation, generation of employment and income opportunities and provision of infrastructure and basic facilities to meet the needs of rural poor. Thus this study focus on Role of IRDP in rural development

1. INTRODUCTION

The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is a rural development program of the Government of India launched in financial year 1978 and extended throughout India by 1980. It is a self-employment program intended to raise the income-generation capacity of target groups among the poor. The target group consists largely of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans living below the poverty line. The pattern of subsidy is 25 per cent for small farmers, 33-1/3 per cent for marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans and 50 per cent for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes families and physically handicapped persons. The ceiling for subsidy is Rs.6000/- for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes families and the physically handicapped; for others, it is Rs.4000/-in non-DPAP/non-DDP areas and Rs.5000/- in DPAP and DDP areas. Within the target group, there is an assured coverage of 50 per cent for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, 40 per cent for women and 3 per cent for the physically handicapped. Priority in assistance is also given to the families belonging to the assignees of ceiling surplus land, Green Card holders covered under the Family Welfare Programme and freed bonded labourers.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. To know about the role of Integrated Rural Development programme
2. To understand the various schemes under Integrated Rural Development programme

ROLE OF INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) aims at providing assets and self-employment opportunities for the rural poor. Assistance under IRDP is given to a target group of rural poor belonging to families below poverty line in the form of subsidy by the Government and term credit by financial institutions. The target group under IRDP consists of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and socially and economically backward classes having annual income below Rs. 11, 000 defined as poverty-line for the Eighth Plan.

THE SCHEMES UNDERTAKEN UNDER THE IRDP**TRAINING OF RURAL YOUTH FOR SELF-EMPLOYMENT (TRYSEM)**

It was launched as a centrally sponsored scheme on 15 August 1979. It aims at providing basic technical and managerial skills to rural youth in the age- group of 18-35 years from families below the poverty-line to enable them to acquire skills and technology to take up vocations of self-employment in agriculture and allied activities, industry, services and business.

Liberalization of norms for expenditure under recurring assistance, greater emphasis on systematic marketing and exploring possibility of setting up groups for manufacture/ assembly of non- traditional items for which there is good demand in the market, are some of the steps taken to improve the implementation of the scheme.

SCHEME FOR RURAL ARTISANS

Supply of improved tool-kits to rural artisans is also a supporting component of IRDP. The objective is to enable the rural artisans to enhance the quality of the product, increase the production and their income with use of improved tools. Between 1992-93 and 1997-98 7.46 lakh tool kits have been provided under the scheme incurring an expenditure of Rs. 147.95 lakh.

DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN RURAL AREAS (DWCRA)

This programme aims at raising the income level of women of poor households so as to enable their organized participation in social development towards economic self- reliance.

It envisages formation of groups of 5-10 rural women each for carrying on income generating activities. Nacho group is sanctioned a 'revolving fund' of Rs. 15,000 which is shared equally by Centre, State government and UNICEF.

The aim is to improve women's access to basic services of health, education, child care, nutrition, water and sanitation through the strategy of group formation

COUNCIL FOR ADVANCEMENT OF PEOPLE'S ACTION AND RURAL TECHNOLOGY

The Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) was registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 on September 1, 1986, with headquarters in New Delhi.

It aims at encouraging, promoting and assisting voluntary action for enhancement of rural prosperity. It makes available financial assistance to voluntary organizations (VOs) under the following schemes: (i) promotion of voluntary action in rural development, (ii) development of women and children in rural areas (DWCRA), (iii) accelerated rural water supply programme (ARWSP), (iv) central rural sanitation programme (CRSP), (v) organization of beneficiaries of anti-poverty programme, (vi) integrated rural development programme (IRDP), (vii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) consisting of watershed conservation and development programme, village link road, rural housing and social forestry, (viii) advancement of rural technology scheme (ARTS), (ix) Panchayati Raj (PR), (x) Indira Awaas Yojna, (xi) Million wells scheme, (xii) support to NGOs / VAs, and (xiii) watershed development. It can obtain funds from various Central and State government departments and also accept donations and contributions from other sources.

It has set up 9 regional committees at Jaipur, Ahmadabad, Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, Patna, Chandigarh, Dharwad, Guwahati and Lucknow which are empowered to sanction projects up to an outlay of Rs. 10 lakhs.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJNA

Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) is one of the major wage employment programmes of the Ministry taken up in April 1989 after merging the earlier wage employment programmes, namely, National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP).

The main objective of the programme is to generate additional gainful employment for the unemployed and under-employed men and women in the rural areas as well as creation of community assets.

INDIRA AWAAS YOJNA

This Yojna aims at providing dwelling units free of cost to the members of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and freed bonded labourers living below the poverty line in rural areas. After 1993-94 non-SC/ST people and the families of the servicemen of the armed and paramilitary forces killed in action have also been brought under the Yojana. Funds of the IAY are allocated to the districts in proportion to the SC/ST population in the district. IAY funds are operated by the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zila Parishads (ZPs) at the district level.

The allotment of the house is done in the name of the female member of the beneficiary household. As far as possible houses are built in clusters so as to facilitate provision of common facilities. The permissible construction assistance per house is Rs. 25,000 in plain areas and

Rs.27,500 in hilly or difficult areas. A total of about 129 lakh houses have been constructed since its inception with an estimated cost of Rs.23, 149 crore.

GANGA KALYAN YOJANA

This is a centrally- sponsored scheme which has been launched with effect from 1 February 1980. The objective of the scheme is to provide irrigation through exploitation of ground-water (bore-wells and tub-wells) to individuals and groups of small and marginal farmers living below poverty-line, assistance

is provided through a mix of subsidy Government and term credit by financial institutions. Special safeguards by way of earmarking 50 per cent of total funds as well as higher percentage of subsidies have been provided for the SCs/S the funding pattern is 80:20 between the Centre and the state government.

NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

The National Social Assistance Program (NSAP) came into force on 15 August 1995 provide social assistance to poor households, includes three benefits through (i) National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS)-Central assistance available at the rate of Rs.75 per month to person who are aged 65 years or more and are destitute; (ii) National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)-Central assistance is available as a lump sum family benefit for households below the poverty-line on the death of the primary bread winner in the bereaved family.

The amount of benefit is up to Rs. 5,000 in the case of death due to natural causes and up to Rs. 10,000 in the case of death due to accidental causes; and (iii) National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS)-Central assistance is available to pregnant women belonging to households below poverty-line up to the first two live births, provided they are 19 years of age and above. The amount of benefit is up to Rs.300 to be disbursed in one installment 12-8 weeks prior to delivery.

RURAL SANITATION PROGRAMME

This is a centrally- sponsored programme whose main objective is to improve rural sanitation through the construction of sanitation toilets. It includes subsidy for the construction of sanitary latrines and for the conversion of dry latrines into sanitary latrines. The amount of subsidy is increased to 80 per cent for persons below the poverty- line and is shared equally by the Central Government and the State Government.

THE FUNCTIONS OF IRDP AS STIPULATED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT ACT NO 8 OF 1980 ARE

- To promote social and economic development by providing opportunities for the study of and training in the principles, techniques and their practical applications in all aspects of rural development planning.

- To provide facilities places and centres of learning, education, training and research in rural development planning and such other related subjects and disciplines as the council may from time to time decide.
- To conduct training programmes in all disciplines related to rural development planning including the preparation, application and evaluation of development programmes.
- To undertake, either alone or in association with any other person or body of persons within or outside the United Republic of Tanzania, research in methodology and techniques of improving regional and rural development planning.
- To monitor and co-ordinate research and training programmes related to rural development.
- To collect, publish or otherwise disseminate data and other information related to rural development including the publication of results of any research carried out by the Institute.
- To sponsor, arrange or provide facilities for conferences, seminars or symposia on subjects related to rural development planning.
- To provide advisory, consultancy and other services to the government, organizations, villages and individuals in matters related to rural development planning.
- To prepare students for examinations as may be conducted by the Institute and to grant such awards as may be prescribed under or in accordance with the Act.
- To establish and maintain a system of consultation and co- operation with any person or body of persons within or outside the United Republic of Tanzania engaged in activities related to the functions of the Institute.
- To perform any other function conferred upon the Institute by or under the Act.

3. CONCLUSION

The integrated approach to rural planning and development is the answer to effective rural planning and sustainable development because it involves all the development agents in rural development. This means that there will be no duplication of duties and wastage of resources which are very scarce especially in developing countries. The integrated approach is participatory as it involves the community that is supposed to benefit from the development initiative. However, the integrated approach also falls short as it may result in conflicts between the development stakeholders and the implementation of the rural development programmes may take long. The IRDP was proposed to provide self-employment opportunities to the rural poor through provision of capital subsidy and bank credit so as to help rural poor acquire productive income-generating assets and training to upgrade their skills. While it still has a way to go in achieving self sufficiency and in expanding its outreach and impact, it has made a difference in the lives of many individuals.

4. REFERENCES

- [1] Ministry of rural development, Govt. of India, Chapter VII- Rural Development, pp. 88-99.
- [2] Planning Commission, Govt. of India, Eleventh five year plan (2007-2012) Vol. I, Inclusive growth.

- [3] Overview of the National Conference of Ministers of State Governments of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Rural Roads, 27-28 January, 2003, New Delhi.
- [4] www.google.co.in
- [5] www.Wikipedia.com