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Impact on Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India

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ABSTRACT

Poverty is a situation that people are unable to fulfill their basic needs of life like food, clothing, employment, housing, education and other basic human needs. Poverty alleviation programmes in India are for development of people in both Urban and Rural areas. Since percentage of poverty is high in rural areas, many programmes were launched by Government for betterment of rural people. Poverty alleviation programmes are grouped under different heads like self-employment, food security, social security and wage employment. Planning commission also concentrated on poverty alleviation and given importance to development of agriculture in first five year plan, second and third five year plans focused on development of industries for economic development.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

SAMPOORNA GRAMEEN ROZGAR YOJANA (SGRY): To make a dent on the prevailing poverty, unemployment and slow growth in the rural economy and to provide food security, it is necessary to provide a demand driven infrastructure at the village level to facilitate faster growth in the rural areas and to increase opportunities of employment through access to the market oriented economy. To provide a greater thrust to additional wage employment, infrastructural development and food security in the rural areas, the Prime Minister of India announced on 15th August 2001, launching of an ambitious New Scheme named 'Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)' with an annual outlay of Rs.10,000 crore. The Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana was launched on 25 September, 2001 by merging the on-going schemes of Employment Assurance Scheme and the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana with the objective of providing additional wage employment and food security, alongside creation of durable community assets in rural areas. The programme is self-targeting in nature with provisions for special emphasis on women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and parents of children withdrawn from hazardous occupations. While preference is given to BPL families for providing wage employment under SGRY, poor families above the poverty line can also be offered employment whenever NREGA has been launched.(Reference 1)

SAMPOORNA GRAMEEN ROZGAR YOJANA GUIDELINES (2004) - To provide a greater thrust to additional wage employment, infrastructural development and food security in the rural areas, an ambitious New Scheme with an annual outlay of Rs.10,000 crores (in terms of cash and food grains) was launched. The Ministry of Rural Development reviewed the hitherto on-going Schemes of the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), (the only additional wage employment Scheme for rural areas), the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana 78 (JGSY) (a rural infrastructure development Scheme) and by merging them into one Scheme, launched the New Scheme of the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) w.e.f 25th September, 2001 (Reference

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TRIPATHI K.K. (2013)- MGNREGA assures generation of employment opportunity in the rural areas by absorbing casual labourers in the rural labour market. Resolution of important programmatic and institutional issues viz. quality of assets created under MGNREGA, social audit, planning and staffing are the need of the hour. Further, proactive disclosure of programme information and dissemination of core provisions of the act through print, electronic media and innovative street plays would help not only in ensuring transparency in implementation but also in generating awareness and building capabilities among the rural employable poor households. (Reference 3)

As per article 41 of constitution,Government provides public assistance to its citizens in case of 'unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement. National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is launched in the year 1995, with the aim of providing social assistance to people who do not have any source of income for their subsistence. The NSAP includes three components: National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS); National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS); and, National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS).

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME (IGNOAPS)

Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme is a social assistance scheme for old people above 60 years of age, living below poverty line. Pension amount is contributed by both central and state governments. Beneficiaries receive pension every month to their Bank accounts and receive cash at their door steps with the help of Business Correspondents of Banks. This scheme is a part of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP).

NATIONAL FAMILY BENEFIT SCHEME (NFBS)

If sole earner (bread winner) aged between 18 to 60 years of a family dies, the family will get lump sum amount fixed by Government. This scheme is a part of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP).

NATIONAL MATERNITY BENEFIT SCHEME (NMBS)

National Maternity Benefit Scheme is launched in the year 1995, for below poverty line pregnant women. It provides financial assistance, pre delivery and post delivery support to the beneficiaries and ensures that women deliver baby and go home safely. This scheme is a part of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and implemented by Department of family welfare.

ANNAPURNA YOJANA

Annapurna Yojana provides food security (10 kg of rice per month) to senior citizens who are eligible but uncovered under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme.

PRADHAN MANTRI AWAAS YOJANA

Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana is a scheme launched for both urban and rural people (Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awaas Yojana), whose name is present in 2011 census. Preference is given to people who do not have own houses. Even people who have their own houses, due to poverty their houses are not in good condition, so, financial assistance is provided by Government for the eligible beneficiaries to purchase pucca houses.

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MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT (MGNREGA)

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), also known as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) is enacted on August 25, 2005, through legislation. This scheme provides employment guarantee for one hundred days in every financial year to adults willing to do unskilled manual work at the statutory minimum wage. The Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), Govt of India is monitoring the entire implementation of this scheme in association with state governments.

RURAL LANDLESS EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE PROGRAMME

Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) was launched during the Sixth Five-Year Plan, was financed by Central Government. This scheme is almost similar to National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), but only landless people are eligible under this scheme and they can get guaranteed employment of 100 days. 25 per cent of funds earmarked for social forestry, 10 per cent for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes beneficiaries and 20 per cent for housing under Indira Awaas Yojana. In the year 1989, this Programme was merged with Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJNA

National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme were merged in the year 1989 and named the new scheme as Jawahar Rozgar Yojna. In urban areas, this scheme is called as Nehru Rozgar Yojana. Jawahar Rozgar Yojna was largest National Employment Program of India at that time, aim of this scheme is to provide employment of 90-100 days to below poverty line people in backward districts covered by Panchayati Raj Institutions. District Rural Development Authority is the authority for this scheme and expenditures were shared by central and state governments in the ratio 80:20.

DEENDAYAL ANTAYODAYA YOJANA (DAY-NRLM)

Integrated Rural Development Programme(IRDP) was restructured in the tear 1999 by Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and launched Swarnajayanti Grameen Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) for promoting self-employment among rural poor. Later this scheme is restructured after removing shortfalls of SGSY and named as Aajevika - National Rural Livelohood Mission (NRLM) in the year 2011, supported by World Bank. Aim of this scheme is to create a platform for poor people in rural areas through self-managed Self Help Groups (SHGs) to increase their income, sustained livelihood and access to financial services. This program was renamed as Deendayal Antayodaya Yojana (DAY-NRLM) in the year 2015, with the aim of empowering rural people and provide them increased rights and access to public services and give them information, knowledge, skills and finance for their development and development of country.

CONCLUSION

Poverty alleviation programme plays a vital role in our country. Government may launch more such schemes for eradication of poverty in our country. Many Government schemes are still not reaching end users, even many people are unaware of Government schemes. Government may take initiatives to make all people aware of all schemes. True spirit of all the schemes are in eradication of poverty and development of our country.

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