



FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES & ALLIED INDUSTRIES

Fundamentals of Agriculture Extension Education (AEX-121)

Lecture 11

Rural Development

Integrated Rural Development Programme is a very major programme of poverty alleviation and rural development. The meaning of the term integrated, basically implies the provision of a package of interlinked programmes mutually supporting and reinforcing so that a one-dimensional approach to development is avoided so, the integration is horizontal, vertical, spatial and temporal.

Integration covers four principal dimensions:

- i. Integration of sectoral programmes.
- ii. Spatial integration.
- iii. Integration of social and economic processes.
- iv. The policies with a view to achieving a better fit between growth, removal of poverty and employment generation.

Specifically, it involves a sharp focus on target groups, comprising small and marginal farmers, agricultural laborers and rural artisans, and an extremely location specific planning in rural areas.

- IRDP was envisaged to help small and marginal farmers, agricultural laborers and rural artisans.
- The approaches followed for SFDA, MFAL, DPAP and CAD programmes were proposed to be utilized according to their relevance's in particular areas to generate employment opportunities and increase production.

Objectives

The main objectives are creating assets, employment, increased income removal of poverty and minimizing in equality.

IRD Programmes were

- Programmes of Agriculture Development including efficient utilization of land and water resources with scientific technology.
- Programmes of animal husbandry as a subsidiary occupation directed mainly to small farmers and Agricultural Labour households.
- Programmes of marine fishery including harvesting of natural resources through trawlers, mechanized country boats.
- Programmes of social forestry and farm forestry.
- Programmes of village and cottage industries including handlooms, sericulture and

beekeeping as important occupations for the artisan classes of the rural population.

- Programme of service sector of the rural economy as self-employment for poorer families.
- Programmes for skill formation and mobility of labour to meet the needs of organized labour for development works.

The IRDP concept was launched in 1978-79 in 2300 blocks in the country and it was extended to all blocks in the country with effect from 2 to Oct. 1980. Simultaneously SFDA's were merged with IRDP.

Target Beneficiaries of IRDP

- IRDP focuses mainly on providing assistance (subsidiary and institutional credit) to selected families for income generating assets in order to raise their incomes through self employment so that they can move above the poverty line.
- IRDP follows the principle of the "poorer of the poor first". Hence, although the poverty line (PL) has been defined as Rs 6,400 as an annual family income, only those families with an annual income of less than Rs 4,800 is eligible for assistance under this programme.

The target group includes:

- Small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural laborers rural artisans and other families which are below the poverty line.
- At least 30 per cent of the families are to be drawn from SC's/STS.
- At least 30 per cent of the beneficiaries are to be women.

Implementation and funding of IRDP

- The district rural development agency (DRDA) was created to function at the district level as a single agency for the implementation of IRDP, DPAP, DPP etc., to implement integrated rural development.
- Funds for the programme are released to DRDA's on the stipulation that expenditure should be equally shared by the centre and the state.

Short Comings/Drawbacks and Limitations of IRDP

- The resources provided were inadequate.
- There was large number of overdues.
- Poor quality of assets provided to the beneficiaries.
- The follow up of the beneficiaries was inadequate.
- Lack of training facilities to small and marginal farmers.

Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM)

TRYSEM was launched in 1979 as a separate national scheme for training rural youth for self employment. The compelling reasons for launching the programme being the huge backlog

of unemployment and under employment among the rural youth. Forty youth, both men and women were to be selected in each block and trained in both skill development and entrepreneurship to enable them to become self-employed. It was generating activities in the rural areas; the influx of rural youth to urban areas could curb. Moreover, local needs could also meet with local resources, thereby giving a fillip to rural development.

Objectives of TRYSEM

- To provide rural youth (18-35 years) from families below the poverty line with training and technical skills to enable them to take up self-employment in agriculture, industry, services and business activities.
- Training is perceived not only in terms of provision of physical skills. But also change in attitude, enhancement of motivation and skills in human relations etc., are also ought to be imparted.
- Self-employment is defined as gainful employment on a full time basis which results in income which is sufficient for the family of the youth cross the poverty line. Situation of employment in which the means of production are owned, hired or taken on lease are taken to be self-employment situations.

Features of TRYSEM

- TRYSEM became the “self employment for youth” component of IRDP and was introduced in all the 5000 blocks in the country.
- An identified youth will be put through a period of training either in a training institution or under a master craftsmen.
- Duration of training is flexible depending upon types of courses.
- Trainers are given stipend and a toolkit.
- Successful trainee is eligible to receive a subsidiary/credit/income generating asset under IRDP.
- At least 50 percent of the youth to be trained for self-employment either for secondary or tertiary sector activity.
- Wage employment training was to be in the secondary and tertiary sectors.
- BDO selects the eligible youth belonging to the target group with the help of VLW's.
- The identification of locations is done by the DRDA in consultation with district level officers of different departments.
- DRDA prepares a resource inventory for training facilities like ITI's polytechniques, KVI's, KVK's, NYK's etc.,
- DRDA is responsible for the implementation of TRYSEM.

Beneficiaries of TRYSEM

- Members of the poorest family first
- Priority should be given to members of SC's and ST's.
- At least 1/3 of candidates should be women.
- Preference should be given to persons who have completed the 12 month course under the national Adult Education programme.

Short coming of TRYSEM

- Implementation is generally uneven.
- Training lacked appropriate technology in the package provided.
- In the selection of trade, self-employment opportunities and financial viability were not adequately assessed.
- Assistance in the provision of raw materials and marketing has been lacking.
- Every district did not have training centers of TRYSEM.
- In a large number of cases, the assistance provided to TRYSEM trainees from IRDP projects had no link to the training they had received

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) 1979

The finance minister announced a new scheme which aimed at providing employment in backward districts with chronic poverty and unemployment. This new scheme was named as Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojana. It was also stated in 1979 and the NREP and RLEGP would be merged into one programme and implemented as a centrally sponsored scheme with a 80:20 sharing funds between the centre and the states. Later it was called as JRY.

Objectives

- To generate additional gainful employment for the unemployed rural youth.
- To create productive community assets which would benefit the poor sections thus, strengthening the rural infrastructure.
- To improve the overall quality of life in areas.

Main features of JRY

- The target group comprises persons living below poverty line.
- Preference is given to SC's and ST's among the poor.
- At least 30 per cent of the beneficiaries are women.
- All works which lead to creation of durable community assets can be taken up.
- Higher priority is to be given to works which are required as infrastructure under poverty alleviation programmes.

- For social forestry works the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOS) is ought.
- DRDA's/ Zilla Parishads are responsible for implementation of JRY at district level and village panchayats at the Gram Panchayats Level.

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY)

This Scheme was launched after a review and restructuring of the previous Integrated Rural Development Program (IRDP) and allied schemes like Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITRA) & Ganga Kalyan Yojna. SGSY was launched on April 1, 1999 and is the only self employment Programme currently being implemented.

The objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted Swarozgaris above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through bank credit and Government subsidy. The Scheme is being implemented on a 75:25 cost sharing of between the Centre and the States.

In the Union Budget 2009-10, Allocations of Rs. 2350 Crore was made for establishing micro-enterprises in rural areas through activity clusters and group approach under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana. At least 50% of the Swarozgaris will be SCs/STs, 40% women and 3% disabled.

Objectives:

- Focused Approach to poverty Alleviation by setting up a large number of Micro enterprises in rural areas of our country. Capitalising group lending.
- Overcoming the problem of running multiple programmes overlapping each other. A holistic programme of micro enterprises covering all aspects of self employment which includes organising rural poor into Self help groups. Integration of various agencies like District Rural Development Agencies, Bank, Line Departments, Panchayati Raj Institutions, NGOs etc. Bring the assisted poor family above BPL by providing them a mix of income generating assets like bank credit + Government subsidy.
- National Livelihood Mission: India's Ministry of Rural Development is proposing to re-design the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) into National Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

(MGNREGA)

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was launched in February 2006. Undoubtedly, it is one of the largest, most ambitious and wide ranging social security programmes in the world.

The preamble to the act reads as under –

An act to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security for the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work and for matters connected there with or incidental thereto.’

The Act was notified in 200 rural districts in its first phase of implementation (with effect from Feb 2, 2006). In financial year 2007-08, it was extended to additional 130 districts. The remaining districts were notified under MGNREGA with effect from April 1, 2008.²

Since 2008, MGNREGA has covered the whole of India barring the districts that have hundred percent urban populations.

Mandate and Objectives

The mandate of the act is to provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year (FY) to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. In this Act "Adult" means a person who has completed his eighteenth year of age and a "household" is defined as members of a family related to each other by blood, marriage or adoption and normally residing together and sharing meals.

The Objectives of The Programme Includes-

- Ensuring social protection for the most vulnerable sections of people residing in rural India through wage employment opportunities. Chapter III of the Act calls upon every State Government to make a Scheme (National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, NREGS) to give effect to this objective.

- Ensuring livelihood security to the poor through creation of durable assets which would lead to sustainable development and in due course diminish the dependence of rural folk on schemes such as NREGS.

MGNREGA- Guidelines 2013 provide for a number of labour intensive works which can be undertaken in the NREGS so as to create valuable assets leading to improved water security, soil conservation, higher land productivity, strengthening drought proofing and flood control.

- Ensuring empowerment of the marginalized communities in rural India, especially women Schedule Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) and the aged through the rights based programme. MGNREGA envisions 100 days of guaranteed employment as a matter of right to every rural household.

- Strengthening decentralized, participatory planning and execution through convergence of various anti-poverty and livelihood initiatives.

- The Scheme to begin with aimed to merge ‘Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana’ (SGRY) and National Food for Work program (NFWP) and bring the provisions of these two programmes within the ambit of NREGS.

- Deepening democracy at the grassroots by strengthening the Panchayati Raj Institutions by ensuring planning, implementation and supervision of the programme at the lowest levels. Panchayati Raj

Institutions (PRI) are systems of Local Government in rural India at three levels of administration; village, block and district. Gram Panchayat (GP) is a primary unit of the three-tier structure of local self-governance in rural India. At the intermediate level of PRIs lies the 'Block'. A Block means the community development area within a district comprising a group of Panchayats. 'Block Samiti' is the executive body at the intermediate level, while 'Zila Parishad' is the executive body at the district level and lies at the top of PRIs in India. The MGNREGA envisages Gram Panchayat, Block Samiti and Zila Parishadas

important hierarchical levels for the purpose of implementation of the scheme, enjoining certain duties upon the State and Central Governments at the same time.

- Stemming the tide of migration of rural population to urban areas through the availability of work in or near the village. Provision of decent work at reasonably good wages is one of the prime objectives of the Act.

Salient Features of The Act

- **Registration:** Adult members of Rural Household willing to do unskilled manual work may apply for registration either orally or in writing to the concerned Gram Panchayat. It is noteworthy that the unit of registration is house hold (HH). The act aims to provide 100 days of employment to a rural household.

- **Job Card:** It is the duty of the Gram Panchayat headed by the 'Pradhan' or 'Sarpanch' to verify the place of residence, age of the members of a house hold etc. and to issue the job card (JC) to the household after due registration.

Job card is a very important document and forms the basis for identification, demanding employment and updating the number of days for which employment was provided and wages paid. A Job Card is to have a unique identification number and the Act provides that it should be issued within 15 days of application for registration.

- **Demand for Work:** A written application is to be made by any of the registered members of the household to the GP or Block Office stating the time period for which the work is sought. It is incumbent on the part of the GP to acknowledge the receipt of written application against which the guarantee to provide employment within 15 days operates. The application can be filed individually or in groups and must be for at least fourteen days of continuous work. Multiple applications can be made in advance provided the periods for which employment is sought don't overlap. Applicants provided with work are to be notified in writing or by public notice at the office of Gram Panchayat.

- **Unemployment Allowance:** The Gram Panchayat and the Programme Officers shall ensure that every applicant shall be provided unskilled labour work as per provisions within 15 days of application for work or from the date from which work was sought whichever is later. Priority shall be given to women in such a way that one third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work. In case employment is not provided within 15 days, the State (as per the Act)

will pay an unemployment allowance to the beneficiary. The rate of unemployment allowance shall not be less than one fourth of the wage rate for the first thirty days during the financial year and not less than one half of the wage rate for the remaining period of the financial year till the applicant or any other member of his household is called to report for work or the allowance in lump sum becomes equal to the amount in terms of wages for 100 days of work for the financial year.

- **Wages:** Wages are to be paid as per the state wise Government of India (GOI) notified MGNREGA wages. Wages are to be paid according to piece rate as per the Schedule of Rates (SORs) without any gender bias.

- *Planning, Implementing and Monitoring:*

The Panchayats at district, intermediate and village levels are the principal authorities for planning and implementation of the scheme made under this Act.

A) The functions of the Panchayats at the district level are :-

i) To finalize and approve block wise shelf of projects to be taken up under the scheme.

ii) To supervise and monitor the projects taken up at the block and district level.

- **Central and State Employment Guarantee Councils :** In order to monitor the implementation of the scheme at the State and Central Government levels, separate Central and State employment Guarantee Councils have been set up. Additionally these councils perform advisory functions on all matters concerning the scheme to the respective Governments and prepare annual reports pertaining to the scheme to be submitted before the State legislative.