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Indian Agriculture And Rural Development Under Five Year Plans

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ABSTRACT

Indian first Prime Minister Shri J. L. Nehru visited Soviet Russia in 1927. He was impressed by the Five Year Plans of Russia. In 1938, he proposed to adopt the Five Year Plans in India. On the recommendations of the Advisory Planning Board constituted in 1946, under the Chairmanship of K. C. Neogi, the Planning Commission was established in March 1950 by an executive resolution of the Government of India for implementation of the five year plans. The Deputy Chairman of the Commission is responsible for the formulation and submission of the draft Five-Year Plan to the Central Cabinet. Present time twelfth five year plan is continuing prier this 11 five year plans, three annual plans (1966-69) and one rolling plan (1978-80) already implemented in our country. In all plans, there are many programmes and schemes were existed for agricultural and rural development. Those have not reached to the target groups up to a satisfactory level. Therefore, by using proper methods attempts should be made to motivate them through an emphasis on the deprived need areas. We know that Indian economy is based on agriculture with a vast segment of its population engaged in agriculture and allied pursuits; growth of the Indian agricultural determines the overall growth rate of the national economy. Development of agricultural (rural) economy and the improvement of the village life are the core concern of economists and also of the agriculturists. This is the biggest challenge before the nation as majority of rural population is still living below the poverty line. The rural folks are mainly engaged in agriculture and allied sector which is still in a backward stage. The constraints in the agricultural and rural development in rural areas need to be removed out and country should be made self-sufficient by concentrating on the achievement of the goals of the five year plans those are prepared for development of rural India.

Keywords: , Rural development, GOI, schemes, programmes, Agriculture ,Five year plans.

In a scenario of shrinking land and depleting water resources, the challenge of the new millennium is to increase biological yields to feed the ever-growing population without destroying the ecological foundation. It is thus important not to package this challenge as a Demand of society on farmers, for which farmers would bear the cost, but as a necessity and methodology to also sustain their welfare and incomes. India has the potential to meet these challenges. This potential can be realized through policy and infrastructure support from the government and by strengthening proactive synergies among the various Sectors that play influential roles in the field of agricultural and rural development. The National Policy on Agriculture seeks to actualize the vast untapped growth potential of Indian agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure to support faster Agricultural development, promote value addition, accelerate the growth of agro-business, create employment in rural areas, secure a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families, discourage migration to urban areas and face the challenges arising out of economic liberalization and globalization.

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According to 2011 census, the country's rural population is almost 83.25 crore (68.8% of total population). There has been wide consensus that the rural development should be inclusive and sustainable in order to alleviate the poverty. The tentative Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for the Ministry of Rural Development for the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) is Rs. 44,3261 crore (against the Rs. 29,1682 crores of Eleventh Plan period) which includes the major programs. Although agriculture now accounts for only 14% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), it is still the main source of livelihood for the majority of the rural population. As such rapid growth of agriculture is critical for inclusiveness. Important structural changes are taking place within the sector and there are definite signs of improved performance.

According to MoA GOI (2014) as per the land use statistics 2011-12, the total geographical area of the country is 328.7 mha, of which 140.8 mha is reported as net sown area and 195.2 million hectares is the gross cropped area with a cropping intensity of 138.7%. The net irrigated area is 65.3 million hectares. Agriculture and Allied Sector contributed approximately 13.9% of India's GDP (at constant 2004-05 prices) during 2013-14. (CSO,MoSPI, 2014). There has been a continuous decline in the share of agriculture and allied sector in the GDP from 14.6% in 2010-11 to 13.9 % in 2012-13 (IDFCRDN, 2014).Falling share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in GDP is an expected outcome in a fast growing and structurally changing economy.

Five-Year Plans for Agricultural and Rural Development

First Five-Year Plan (1951-56)

Agriculture was given the topmost priority in this plan. It was mainly directed towards increasing agricultural production and strengthening economic infrastructures like irrigation, power and transport after independence. There was an acute food shortage in the country and to solve the food problem priority was given to increase production of food grains. The abolition of zamindari system, launching of the community development programme, growing more food campaign along with improvement in other related spheres like marketing, fisheries, animal husbandry, soil conservation and forestry were the notable features.

The production of food grains increased from 54 million tones in 1950-51 to 65.8 million tones and production of all agricultural commodities increased by 22.2% to 32% at the end of the Plan. The total outlay during this plan was to be spent on agriculture and irrigation. The targets set for the plan were almost achieved and even in some cases, exceeded. The 'Community Development Programme' (CDP) was launched on 2 October 1952, through which emphasis was given to the development of agriculture, irrigation, energy and power, industry and minerals, village small scale industry, transport, employment etc.

The National Extension Service Programme, Mettur Dam, Hirakud Dam, and Bhakra Nangal Dam were established as irrigation programme during the plan (GOI, 1952) The Government had taken steps providing fund for agriculture workers especially to rehabilitate the landless workers. These workers were granted economic fund, training in agriculture, soil conservation and other related agricultural issues were also given consideration. Importance also was given in improving the transport and communication, social services, railway services, telegraphs etc. During this plan, five Indian Institute of Technology were setup in five locations in India. To improve the higher education i.e. college and university education the University Grants Commission was set up in India. The target growth of national income of the first five year plan was 2.1% and achieved 3.6 %.

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Second Five-Year Plan (1956-61)

In this plan, emphasis was shifted from agriculture to industry and only about 21% of the actual plan expenditure was spent for agricultural development. The food production rose from 65.8 million tonnes to 79.7 million tonnes as against the fixed target of 80.5 million tonnes. There was a shortfall in the production of all crops except sugarcane. The second plan was based on the Mahalanobis model, which is an economic development model developed by the Indian statistician P. C. Mahalanobis in 1953. The Khadi and Village Industries Programme, Intensive Agricultural District Programme, Tribal Area Development Programme, Village Housing Projects Scheme were the major programmes of rural reconstruction. The Intensive Agricultural District Program (IADP) was introduced in 1962 for increasing of production with the help of essential elements such as supply of fertilizers, pesticides, improve of seeds etc.

The objectives of the plan were increase of national income, reduction of poverty, rapid industrialization, reduction of inequality in wealth, large expansion of employment opportunities etc. (GOI, 1956). Heavy industries were established like Hydro-electric power projects and five steel plants at Bhilai, Dugapur and Rourkela were established in India. In 1958, the Atomic Energy Commission was formed under Homi J. Bhabha as the first Chairman. The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research was established as a research institute. The target growth of national income in this plan was 4.5% and achieved 3.6%.

Third Five-Year Plan (1961-66)

The objective of this plan was to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains and to increase the agricultural production to meet the needs of industry and export. The plan accorded higher priority (20.5%) to Agriways 3(1) agriculture and irrigation than to industrial development (20.1%). The plan targeted to increase overall agricultural production by 30%, but the achievements were disappointing. The actual output of food grains was 88.4 million tonnes in 1964-65 and 72.3 million tons in 1965-66, caused due to the drought condition of 1965-66. Food production was increased by 10% only as against the target of 30%. Consequently, the country has to import Rs. 1,100 cores worth of food grains to meet the domestic demand. Many cement and fertilizer plants were built. At the grass root level many schools have been started to improve primary education. During this period the State Electricity Boards and State Secondary Education Boards were formed. States were made responsible for secondary and higher education. State road transportation corporations were formed and local road building became a state responsibility. The target growth of national income was 5.6% and achieved 3.9%. Applied Nutrition Program, Tribal Development Block Programme, Rural Works Programme, Intensive Agricultural Area Programme, The Rural Industries Projects, High Yielding Variety Programme etc were started.

The Applied Nutrition Programme was introduced in the rural areas in 1962 in collaboration with UNICEF . The objectives of the programme were production and distribution of nutritious food for pre-school children, pregnant and nursing mothers. In 1957, Balwant Rai Mahta Committee recommended to form the three tiers Panchayatiraj i.e. Gram Panchayatiraj at village level, Panchayats Samiti at Block level and Zila parishad at District level.

The three tier system of Panchayatiraj Raj was first adopted by Rajasthan on 2 October, 1959. Three Annual Plans (1966-69) from 1966-1969 the three interim annual plans were made for development. During this period, a high priority was given to minor irrigation and this was followed by adoption of a high yielding variety programme to increase agricultural production and productivity. Thus, this period is considered crucial for Indian agriculture as the green revolution took place during this period and the Government set up

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Agricultural Prices Commission to assure minimum support prices to farmers and the Food Corporation of India for maintaining buffer-stock to overcome fluctuation in the supplies of food grains and their prices. Due to implementation of HYV programme, there was a recorded food grain production of 95.6 million tonnes in 1968-69.

Fourth Five-Year Plan (1969-74)

The Fourth Plan had two objectives for the agricultural sector; (i) to provide the conditions necessary for a sustained increase of food production by about 5% per annum over the decade 1969-78 and (ii) to enable a large section of the rural population including small farmers, farmers in the dry areas and agricultural labourers to participate in the process of agricultural development and share its benefit. The Green Revolution introduced during the annual plans had a good result and the farmers particularly in the wheat-producing belt were here interested to adopt HYV cultivation. The actual production of food grain was 104.7 million tones in 1973-74 as against the targeted increase of 129 million tones.

The plan highlighted on the 'social justice' and 'Garibi hatao'. It emphasized on the improvement of poor and down-trodden classes. The Government emphasized on nationalization of banks and 14 major Indian banks recognized as national bank. Target growth of the national income was 5.7% and achieved 3.3%. The Crash Scheme for Rural Employment, Drought Prone Area Programme, Small Farmers Development Agency, Tribal Area Development Agency, and Pilot Intensive Rural Employment Programme were the major rural development programmes during this period. The restoration of ecological balance, soil and moisture conservation, development of small and marginal farmers and agricultural, management of irrigation resources etc. were the objectives of this plan (GOI, 1969).

The Pilot Intensive Rural Employment Programme (PIREP), it was started and implemented in areas having different socio-economic conditions on a pilot basis. The Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA) and the Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Development Agency (MFALDA) were launched to improve the socio-economic conditions of the small and marginal farmers by providing dug wells, pump sets, tube wells and proving loans for animal husbandry, diary, sheep and goat rearing, poultry etc.

In 1970-1971 the Tribal Area Development programme (TADP) was started in tribal areas in four states Andra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. The objectives of the programme was bringing the tribal areas in the mainstream of economic development of the Country in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation development, construction road, land etc. In 1974, the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) introduced during the tenure of four plans to raise the standard of living below the poverty line. The objectives of the programme were the providing minimum elementary education for the children, public health facilities, family planning, preventive medicine, nutrition, improvement of urban slums areas, reconstruction of village roads etc.

Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-1979)

During the Fifth Plan, Rs. 8080 crores (nearly 21% of the plan outlay) was made for agricultural development and irrigation. The plan accorded priority for the spread of HYV cultivation, greater use of fertilizer, pesticides and insecticides to increase agricultural production. The plan also provided special emphasis on; (i) small and marginal farmers, (ii) dry farming technique, (iii) evolving HYV seeds for other crops like paddy, (iv) social conservation measures on saline and alkaline soils and for desert land reclamation. During this plan, the production of food grains increased substantially (232.5 million tonnes). But the

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output of pulses and oil-seeds, paddy remained stagnant and caused considerable hardship for the common man. The plan was terminated in 1978 instead of 1979.

The Hill Area Development Programme, Special Livestock Production Programme, Food for Work Programme, Desert Development Programme, Training of Youth for Self-employment were started. In 1975-1976 the GOI initiated a Special Livestock Production Programme (SLPP) on the basis of the recommendations of the National Commission on Agriculture for providing greater employment opportunities to the weaker sections of the rural mob. The Desert Development Programme (DDP) was started in 1977-1978 for raising the level of production, income, employment of people of the desert areas. The program started in 131 Blocks in 21 Districts in five states (Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir).

On 15 August, 1979 the Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) is launched by the Government. The programme is designed as an instrument for transforming the rural youth into a productive force. From 18-35 age groups of the rural youth belonging below the poverty line are eligible for training. Both male and female belonging to SCs/STs were eligible with general categories. The training are imparted through formal training institutions such as Industrial Training Institutes, Polytechnics, Krishi Vighan Kendras, Nehru Yuva Kendras, Khadi and Village Industries Centres, Voluntary Organisations and also through reputed master craftsmen (GOI, 1974).

The target growth of national income was 4.4% and actual growth was 4.9%. Rolling Plan (1978 - 80) There were two Sixth Plans. Government put forward a plan for 1978-1983. However, the government lasted for only 2 years. Congress Government returned to power in 1980 and launched a different plan.

Sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85)

The Sixth Five-Year Plan recognized that the growth of the Indian economy depends significantly on a rapid growth in agriculture and rural development. The main objective of the plan was to increase agricultural production, generate employment and income opportunities in rural areas and strengthen the forces of modernization for achieving self-reliance. Further, the plan aimed at accelerating the pace of the implementation of the land reforms and institution building for beneficiaries. The plan aimed at 3.8% annual growth in agricultural production. But, the actual growth-rate was 4.3%. This plan was officially held as a great success particularly due to its success on the agricultural fund. One-child policy adapted to birth control. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP).

In 1980, replaced the erstwhile Food for Work and launched NREP. Creation of employment, creation of rural economy, livelihood improvement of rural poor etc. are the objectives of the NREP. The major rural development programmes such as SFDA, MFALDA, NREP, IRDP, DPAP and the MNP have become too well known. They are part of the 20-point programme of 1982. In 1982, the Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) is formulated for the development of women and children especially belonging to the SCs and STs. The target group of the DWCRA is as IRDP.

The Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) was introduced in 1983 with the objectives of providing employment opportunities for at least one member of every landless household. The wages for workers paid under this programme partly in food and partly in cash. RLEGP merged with JRY programme. The target growth of the national income was 5.2% and actual growth was 5.3%.

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Seventh Five-Year Plan (1985-90)

The Seventh Plan aimed at an annual average increase of 4% in agricultural production. The plan allocated Rs. 39,770 crores for agricultural sector (22% of the total plan outlay). The major programmes adopted during the plan were, a special rice production programme in the eastern region, national water-shed programme for rain-fed agriculture, national oil-seed development project and social forestry. Unfortunately enough, the first three years of this plan were poor monsoon years. As a result, agricultural production received a set-back during these years. However, it increased sufficiently during the last two years for which the agricultural production recorded a commendable growth of 4.1%. This plan was constituted with several anti-poverty programmes.

On 1stApril, 1989, Jawahar Rozgar Yogana was launched with merged the earlier two employment schemes namely, RLEGP and NREP. Employment for the unemployed in rural areas, strengthening the rural economic infrastructure and improvement in the overall quality of life in rural areas were the objectives of the JRY. It was a centrally sponsored scheme and expenditure was shared by central government and state government in the ratio of 80:20. The Million Wells Scheme (MSW) programme launched in 1988-1999 providing open imitation wells free of cost to rural poor, small and marginal farmers belonging to SCs/STs and free bonded labourers including scheme of Bhoodhan and land ceiling. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) is an integrated part of RLEGP.

The aim of the Yojana is providing dwelling house to the poorest of the poor of the rural masses belonging to SCs/STs and bonded labourers. The houses should have a smokeless kitchen and sanitary latrine. The target of national growth income was 5.05% and its actual growth was 5.8%.

Eighth Five-Year Plan (1992-97)

The basic objectives of this plan were to consolidate the gains already achieved in agricultural productivity and production during the last 40 years; to sustain agricultural productivity and production in order to meet the increased demands of the growing Population; to enlarge the income of the farmers; to create more-employment opportunities in the agricultural sector; and to step up agricultural exports. 22% of the total plan outlay amounting to Rs. 93,680 cores was allotted for agriculture and irrigation. The Plan targets a growth rate of 4.1% per annum for the agricultural sector. Thus, during different plan periods, the Government has accorded vital importance to the agricultural sector and has tried to increase the different policy measures. In 1989-1991 period was an economic Instability in India and hence no five year plan was implemented. Between 1990 and 1992, there were only Annual Plans.

The privatization and liberalization were started from this period of five year plan. Modernization of industries was target goal of the eighth Plan. During this plan India became as a member of the WTO on 1 January, 1995. The major objectives of the eight plans were - control rapid population growth, poverty eradication, increase employment, strengthening the infrastructure, develop tourism management, human resource development, Involvement of Panchayatiraj in rural development, Nagar Palikas Law, NGO's and Decentralizations of power and people's participation in governmental policies. In this plan, target national growth income was 5.6% and achieved 6.78%. During this plan period the major programmes were IRDP, JRY, IAY and MWS.

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Ninth Five-Year Plan (1997-2002)

Ninth Five Year Plan was developed in the context of four important dimensions: (i) Quality of life, (ii) generation of productive employment, (iii) regional balance and (iv) self-reliance.Target growth was 6.5% but 5.35% actual growth achieved. It was formulated from 1997-2002 with the prime objectives like drastic industrialization human development, poverty eradication, self-reliance in economy, increase employment, to provide basic infrastructure of life like education for all, safe drinking water, provide primary health care, food security, women empowerment etc.

During 1999-2000 the IRDP, TRYSEM, DWCRA, SITRA, MWS were merged to form a new self-employment program called rename as Swarna Jayantri Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SJGSY) with effect from 1stApril, 1999. The eradication of poverty, security of nutritional food, water supply, empowerment of women and socially disadvantages groups, provide universal primary education, health, shelter etc. (GOI, 1997).

Tenth Five-Year Plan (2002-2007)

During the tenth five year plan under Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SJGSY) emphasized to form 1.25 lakhs SHG benefiting 25 lakhs women, establishment of micro enterprises, training for improvement of skill and capacity building, credit linkages vocational training for about 5 lakhs rural women, etc. The erstwhile wage employment Programmes. JGSY and EAs were merged and a new scheme namely Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) was launched from 15thAugust, 2001.

The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) introduced in the year 2000-2001 for road connectivity in the rural areas. During this plan a new scheme viz, Rastriya Sam Vikas Yojana was introduced to investigate the real problems of high poverty, unemployment etc. which would remove barriers to growth and accelerate the development process. The scheme is founded by Central and State Government in the ratio of 75:25. The target growth was 8.1% of national income and achieved 7.7%.

Eleventh Five-Year Plan (2007-2012)

The eleventh five year plan was constituted with two rural development program i.e. Bharat Nirman Programme and flagship program to provide opportunities to improve living conditions as well as livelihoods. The objective of the Bharat Nirman Programme is to impart a sense of urgency to create rural infrastructure by setting time-bound goals under various schemes, creation of average rate of irrigation, rural roads connectivity for rural development, poverty alleviation in India, rural electrification, pure drinking water etc. which form a part of the Bharat Nirman Program. In order to roads connectivity for rural habitations Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched as a hundred CSS in December, 2000.

The flagship programs were included National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme(NREGP), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day-Meal (MDM), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC),Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF). The BRGF has replaced the Rastriya Sam VikasYojana

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(RSVY) in order to provide a more participative approach through the involvement of Panchayatiraj institutions (GOI, 2007).

Twelfth Five-Year Plan (2012-2017):

Twelfth Five Year plan is devoted to agricultural and rural development and committed to all-round development of the country. The following seven major flagship programmes are operating in rural areas. MGNREGA, NFRLM, IAY, NRDWP, TSP, IWDP, PMGSY, RGGVY (GOI, 2012). Besides these, the Government of India launched the other programmes for uplift of the poor classes like village self-sufficiency scheme, Member of Legislative Assembly Constituency Development Scheme, Integrated Sanitary Complex for Women, Clean Village Campaign and Rural Sanitation, Capital programme of Infrastructure Development by rural local Bodies, Construction of village Administrative Officers Office Buildings, Rejuvenation of water Bodies and Rain Water Harvesting in Rural Areas etc.

13th Five Year Plan

13th Five Year Plan also aims to modernize commercial **agriculture** production to reduce overcapacity, while aiming to turn 1 million hectares of marginal cropland into forest or grassland. In an effort to reduce air pollution, the **Plan** also aims to increase forest coverage to 23.04% over the next **five years**.There is no 13th Five Year plan for India. Five Year Plan implemented by Nehru Govt for bringing a social and economic development in country put to end by Modi Led Govt with the introduction of Niti Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) which replaced Planning Commission.

Last Five Year plan ended on 31 March 2017 which was extended six months for enabling ministries to complete their appraisals.The new plan which is a vision document is accompanied by shorter sub-plans – a seven-year strategy for 2017-24, and a three-year 'Action Agenda' from 2017-18 to 2019-20. No less than 300 specific action points covering a wide range of sectors have been drawn up as part of the 15-year vision.

The three-year agenda is further divided into seven parts, with a number of specific action points for each part to boost economic growth. The key points from this document are as follows: *Reducing fiscal deficit to 3% by 2018-19 and revenue deficit to 0.9% of the GDP by 2019-20.* To double farmers' income by several means including reform in APMCs; raising productivity through enhanced irrigation; faster seed replacement rates; recession agriculture; and a shift to high value commodities, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries etc. To moot the idea of ***Coastal Employment Zones*** to boost exports and generate high-productivity. To enhance the labour market flexibility through reforming the key laws.

To addressee the NPAs of banks and supports auction of larger assets to private Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs). It also makes pitch to strengthen the SBI led ARC. It has outlines certain action points on specific sectors also

To include bringing down the land prices to make housing affordable through increased supply of urban land; flexible conversion of land use; release of land held by sick units; generous *Floor Space Index*; reform of rent control act on the lines of Model Tenancy Act; promotion of dormitory housing; City transport and waste management.

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To have targeted development of North East; Coastal Areas & Islands; North Himalayan states; Desert and Drought prone states; Transport and Digital Connectivity. It also emphasizes on Railway Infrastructure and security; inland waterways; civil aviation etc. Other points included here are ensuring last mile connectivity; E-governance, financial inclusion; simplifying payment structure and improving literacy.

To Facilitate Public-Private Partnership by reorienting the role of the India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd. (IIFCL); introducing low cost debt instruments and putting National Investment Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) to work.

To emphasizes to adopt consumer friendly measures such as provision of electricity to all households by 2022; LPG connection to all households and elimination of black carbon by 2022; extension of city gas distribution programme to 100 smart cities; reducing cross subsidy in the power sector; reforming the coal sector etc.

CONCLUSION

Agriculture is an integral part of the rural life and agricultural and rural development programmes should be devised in order to meet the needs of the rural community. Efforts should be made during next planning five year plan to bring science and technology closer to the farmers in order to utilize the limited available resources efficiently to increase the productivity of the land. The other important aspects like supply of agricultural inputs, farm machinery, irrigation facilities, cropping pattern, agricultural processing and general aspects like health, housing facilities, sanitation, welfare programmes for people should be given due importance. Agricultural and rural development is a continuous process for which Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development both are primarily responsible for planning, implementation and monitoring of various centrally sponsored programmes and schemes designed by the planning commission of India for rural poverty alleviation. The creation of self-employment opportunities for the people of below poverty line with improving the overall quality of life in the rural areas and empowerment of women in socio-economic and politics are important issues of the five year plans in India. To improve the rural areas it is necessary popular participation in policy making. The rural development would be "time-bound oriented, participatory orientated, decentralized oriented, collective oriented, improvement oriented, equity oriented, institutional oriented.

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