



Rural Development Schemes and their Contribution Towards the Human Resource Development

KEYWORDS

Rural Development Schemes, Development of the Human Resource, Ministry of Rural Development

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ABSTRACT

The overriding objective of a country's policy and planning is to raise the standard of living and enhance the productive capabilities of its people. With over a billion people, this challenge is particularly daunting for a developing country like India. Because, a nation's development depends on its Human Resources. If a country's population is healthy in all aspects definitely that country would become a developed country that is why all the countries giving prime importance for their human resources development. In the world arena, India is the second biggest country in population size and at the same time it has more young population than the other countries. It means that availability of younger workforce is more than (52 percent) than the other countries. It is being as a positive signal to the nation's development. India is also facing the problems of poverty, illiteracy, sanitation, unemployment and the like. Hence, the development of human resource is prime duty of any country. For the development of Human Resource Government of India has been implemented many rural development programmes accompanied with Ministry of Rural Development. Such programmes are Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guaranteed Programme, Indira Awas Yozana, Swarna Jaynathi Swarozhar Yozana, Rural Education, Sanitation and the like. After the implementation of these programmes there are positive outcomes in the nation's human resource as well as economic development.

With this backdrop the present paper has been made an attempt to explain the contribution made by the rural development schemes towards the human resource development.

INTRODUCTION

The overriding objective of a country's policy and planning is to raise the standard of living and enhance the productive capabilities of its people. With over a billion people, this challenge is particularly daunting for a developing country like India. Because, a nation's development depends on its Human Resources. If a country's population is healthy in all aspects definitely that country would become a developed country that is why all the countries giving prime importance for their human resources development. In the world arena, India is the second biggest country in population size and at the same time it has more young population than the other countries. It means that availability of younger workforce is more than (52 percent) than the other countries. It is being as a positive signal to the nation's development. India is also facing the problems of poverty, illiteracy, sanitation, unemployment and the like. Hence, the development of human resource is prime duty of any country. For the development of Human Resource Government of India has been implemented many rural development programmes accompanied with Ministry of Rural Development. Such programmes are Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guaranteed Programme, Indira Awas Yozana, Swarna Jaynathi Swarozhar Yozana, Rural Education, Sanitation and the like. After the implementation of these programmes there are positive outcomes in the nation's human resource as well as economic development.

IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Human Resource is the most important and vital factor for the Economic Development or it can be said that humans are the agents of development. The following are the some of the importance of Human Resource or Human Capital.

Country develops if the Human Resource is developed

To enhance economic development, the state constructs roads, buildings bridges, dams, power houses, hospitals, etc. and to run these units doctors, engineers, scientist, teachers, are required. So if the state invests in a human resource it pays dividend in response.

Increase in Productivity

The better education, improved skills, and provision of

healthy atmosphere will result in proper and most efficient use of resources (non-natural & natural) which will result in increase in economic production.

Eradication of Social and Economic Backwardness

Human Resource development has an ample effect on the backwardness of the economy and society. The provision of education will increase literacy which will produce skilled Human Resource. Similarly provision of health facilities will result in healthy Human Resource which will contribute to the national economic development.

Entrepreneurship Increase

Education, clean environment, good health, investment on the human resource, will all have its positive effects. Job opportunities would be created in the country. And even business environment will flourish in the state which creates many job opportunities.

Social Revolution

Because of Human Resource development, the socio economic life of the people, their thinking phenomena and progressive thoughts are endorsed into the minds of the people.

Due to the development of population there are positive outcomes in a country, there are problems in the developing countries. The Problems like unemployment, Illiteracy, poverty disturbs the growth of the country. Wherein the case of India to avoid such kind of problems, Indian government has been implementing various schemes accompanied with ministry of rural development. Among which there are schemes contribute more to the human capital empowerment. Such schemes as follows:

AN OVER VIEW OF VARIOUS RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

The Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) is the major on-going programme for self-employment of the rural poor. The basic objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the Poverty Line by providing them income-generating assets through a mix of Bank Credit and Governmental Subsidy. The programme aims at estab-

lishing a large number of micro enterprises in rural areas based on the ability of the poor and potential of each area.

The SGSY also seeks to promote multiple credits rather than a one-time credit „injection. The credit requirements of the Swarozgaris need to be carefully assessed and the Swarozgaris are allowed, in fact encouraged, to increase credit intake, over the years. Subsidy under the SGSY to individuals is uniform at 30% of the Project Cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 7500/-. In respect of SCs/STs, the subsidy is 50% of the Project Cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/-. For groups of Swarozgaris, the subsidy is 50% of the cost of the scheme, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1.25 lakh. Since inception, 36.78 lakh SHGs have been formed out of which 24.09 lakh SHGs have passed Grade I and 11.24 lakhs have passed Grade II, while 8.36 lakh have taken up economic activities. During 2009-10, till December 2009, 11.65 lakh swarozgaris have been assisted out of which 7.85 lakhs are women (67.36%).

MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT (MGNREGA)

The MNREGA Launched on 2nd February, 2006 as a momentous initiative towards pro-poor growth. For the first time, rural communities have been given not just a development programme but also a regime of rights. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) guarantees 100 days of employment in a financial year to any rural household whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work. This work guarantee also serve other objectives: generating productive assets and skills thereby boosting the rural economy, protecting the environment, empowering rural women, reducing rural urban migration and fostering social equity, among others. The Act offers an opportunity to strengthen our democratic processes by entrusting principle role to Panchayats at all levels in its implementation and promises transparency through involvement of community at planning and monitoring stages.

The Act is also a significant vehicle for strengthening decentralization and deepening processes of democracy by giving a pivotal role to local governance bodies, that is, the Panchayati Raj Institutions.

In 2009-2010, upto December 2009, an amount of Rs. 18950 crore has been utilized out of Rs. 39,100 crore, during the same period 160 crore persondays employment has been generated across the country. At the national level, average wage paid under MGNREGA has increased from Rs.65 (FY 2006-07) to Rs. 88.48 in FY 2009-10. In FY 2009-10, 36.51 lakhs works were undertaken, of which 51 percent constituted water conservation, 16 percent rural connectivity, 14 percent land development and provision of irrigation facility to individual beneficiaries constituted around 17 percent.

INDIRA AWAAS YOJANA (IAY)

Shelter is one of the basic human requirements for survival and dignity. One of the pressing tasks facing the government is to find out ways and means to cope up with the problems of housing shortage in the country. To meet the shortage of housing in rural areas, the Government of India had launched a comprehensive scheme Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), the flagship programme for Rural Housing since 1985-86 to help build or upgrade homes of households below the poverty line.

During 2009-10, against the physical target of 40.52 lakh houses 21.18 lakh houses have been constructed till January 2010, and 27.53 lakh houses are under construction.

RURAL SANITATION PROGRAMME (RSP)

In realization of the importance of sanitation for improving the quality of life and its impact on productivity Ministry of Rural Development has been making concerted efforts to ensure total sanitation coverage. The ministry has also set for itself the target of 2012 for achieving total sanitation coverage which is more ambitious than that of the UN sponsored date which is 2015. In 1999, 'Total Sanitation Campaign' (TSC) under restructured CRSP was launched to promote sanitation in rural areas.

Due to the success of the Total Sanitation campaign, the percentage has gone up to 62.94% of the number of households in 2001 and 56.57% of the projected population in 2008 as per the latest available figures.

CONTRIBUTION OF SCHEMES TOWARDS HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Employment Opportunities

The MNREGA has provided employment opportunities to the rural mass in a considerable manner. It leads to the promotion of standard of living, increase the purchasing power, generating productive assets and skills thereby boosting the rural economy, protecting the environment, empowering rural women, reducing rural urban migration and fostering social equity, among others.

Self –Employment

The SGSY Scheme covers all aspect of self- employment like capacity building, subsidy, and infrastructure facility, and credit, skill upgradation, insurance and marketing. It also leads to the emerging entrepreneurial activities by way of doing small businesses in accordance with the availability local resources. Such self employment programmes leads to the eradication of poverty and enrichment of the economic status of the public.

Housing Facilities to the Rural Mass

Indira Awaas Yojana is primarily to help construction of dwelling units by members of Scheduled Castes/ Schedule Tribes, freed bonded labours. Through which the people can have healthy residential environment and thereby gain social status.

Sanitation Facilities

Sanitation is an important one for the human development and this is also a necessary one for the healthy environment. When the environment is clean the people who are all living there will be health and safety. If the people are healthy they will contribute more to their surroundings by their efforts.

Conclusion

Efforts from different parts of society are needed to understand the changes that take place in human resource development. In accordance with these efforts can influence the successful implementation of more sustainable development schemes. Though, there are developments and improvements in the society even now there is no development at all in the public welfare. Therefore, the Government, by adopting good governance at every level of the schemes implementation, should be a key player in building of effective strategies to develop a nation by developing human. Because, Human are the core of a nation's development, but their lives and the environment needs more improvement than the existing level.

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