



Role of Agricultural Transformation in Rural Development

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KEYWORDS

Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy. Agriculture of rural area plays an important part in the overall growth rate of Indian economy. Despite industrialization and occupying an important place among the industrialized country in the world. India is by and large an agricultural country with a vast segment of her population engaged in agriculture and allied pursuits. Though in the first three five year plans, it was industrialization that had been accorded priority higher than agriculture rural development, in the fourth fifth and sixth five year plans agriculture and rural development began to receive especial care and high priority. In the seventh plan great importance has been given to the all-round development for the rural economy.

Even after more than sixty years of independence poverty and unemployment continue to be the major problems plaguing the country demanding complete attention of planners and policy makers. Different approaches were spelt out in different plans, but basic objectives remained to be ensuring growth with equality and social justice, self reliance improved efficiency and productivity. The focus has always been on the problems of poverty alleviation and expanding employment opportunities in rural areas.

More than seventy percent population depends on agriculture and allied activities rural industries in the rural sector which could hardly generate any surplus income to raise their standard of living among the factors responsible lack of credit is the most important one. With the advent of green revolution breakthrough in agricultural technology. The credit needs rural areas have increased. Nearly seventy percent of the rural population belongs to weaker sections and live in backward regions depend completely on agriculture and rural industries in spite of unfavorable natural conditions like scanty and erratic rainfall, infertile and fragmented land etc.

According to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru "everything else can wait, but not agricultural.

Who decides the future of India? It is not you and I, but the peasant of India on what he does and what he produces. Industrial growth in the final analysis depends on the success of agriculture production."

All research in agriculture should be directed towards improving food crops as well as raw materials for rural industries rather than encourage the growth of money crops, like tobacco, and raw materials for factories, like thick rind sugarcane and long staple cotton.

Absolute Poor in India

India's poverty statistics:-

India is estimated to have one third world's poor and an un-

employment rate that has been increasing since 2011 from its then percentage of 3.5%.

- A third of the world's malnourished children live in India
- Niti Aayog estimates that 37% of India's 1.21 billion people, fell below the international poverty line, in 2012
- Rural India has an unemployment rate of 4.4% whereas urban India has 5.75
- Lack of skill based employment opportunities in India is rendering its youth unemployed

A complex process which envisages the development of rural areas.

Aims at all round development of people living in Rural areas.

Aims at improving Rural peoples' livelihood in an equitable and sustainable manner.

Objectives of RD Programmes alleviation of poverty and un-employment through creation of basic, social and economic infrastructure thereby bringing a quality rural life.

Policy Recommendations: For reducing rural poverty and unemployment through agricultural transformation

- Improve and modernize agricultural methods and crop-sowing efficiencies
- Deploy modern methods of irrigation since a major cause of agricultural unemployment in rural India is the dependence on rains for irrigation of crops
- Increase the cultivable land in the rural area as at present the cultivable land is not sufficient to provide food as well as employment facilities to all the people
- Improve access to sustainable livelihood, entrepreneurial opportunities and productive resources
- Provide universal access to basic social services
- Empower people living in poverty and their organizations as better social protection can help the poor better manage risks, improve their livelihood, and enhance the health and education of their children
- Work with interested donors and recipients to allocate increased share of ODA directly to poverty eradication and employment generation activities
- Improve farm productivity through better access to resources, technologies, markets and organizations
- Improve connectivity to markets, strengthen rural-urban linkages, and increase agricultural and non-agricultural productivity

15% of World's Population live on less than \$1/day

40% of World's Population live on less than \$2/day

More than 850 million suffer from hunger

One in 7 people go to bed hungry

17000 children die every day from hunger

25% of the world's poor live in India

73% of India's poor live in rural areas

47% of Orissa" population-poor

Objectives:-

1. Radical change in the productivity pattern of agriculture.
2. Full utilization of available resources.
3. Reduction of in-equalities in income and wealth.
4. Access to public goods and services.
5. Alleviation of poverty & creation of employment opportunities in rural areas.

Hypothesis :-

Government play an important role in the Rural & Agriculture development programs.

Agricultural development resulted in the Fundamental changes in the Cropping pattern of Rural Area.

Agricultural developmet improve standard of living and change in the nature of society.

The Urban poor more benefite A from Rural development programmes that the rural poor.

Conclusion:-

From the above discussion we come to the conclusion that Indian agriculture has a great role to play in our economy. Infrastructure needs to be improved.

Opportunities should be created within rural areas to prevent migration to cities

In the words of G. Myrdal, "it is in the agricultural sector that the battle for long term economic development would be won or lost."

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