CHAPTER - I

THE PROBLEM

1.10 Agriculture Development:

About 2000 years ago, Seneca (1976) said that "hungry people listen not to reason, nor their demand turn aside by prayers". While people can make their own food, animals cannot, and it is the fundamental right of human beings to have enough food of the right quality. Social security and economic facility, rather, provide feeling of being the human beings in the world.

"It is almost the year 2000 "wrote Robert Frost (1976)" that 2,000 million people, half the world's population, are still in want science, with its spectacular achievement in increasing production and multiplying a thousand-fold the speed of man's movement and the range of his sight and sound, has aroused limitless expectation, and what is more, it has a capacity to fulfill them". The challenge before leaders of science and the moulders of national and international policies is to direct the knowledge, and proven capacity of science towards the removal of hunger, want and the diseases and their prevention (Prime Minister of India, 1976). And the relationship that exists between population and agricultural production needs close analysis in view of the various developmental plans and programmes undertaken by government.
agencies and others.

Agricultural production and rural economy play vital roles in transforming the social and cultural life of the people. A large population can be employed enhancing considerably the national income and earning foreign capital.

One of the distinctive features of India is that it is an agricultural country where more than 75% people live on agricultural base food production and occupation. S.M. Sircar (1978) remarks that India should develop export trade on cereals and other farm products that may enable her to raise her national income. She was importing more than Rs. 163/- million worth of food grains alone prior to independence. After independence, it was expected that the country would be self-sufficient in food; unfortunately she continued to be dependent on supplies of essential food grains from abroad. Immediately after independence, it was realized that as much as Rs. 600/- million worth of wheat alone was imported under U.S. PL 480 loan.

The aim of agricultural development in the country was to ensure self-reliance and self-sufficiency in agriculture production, and to reverse the then existing trend of high importation of various kinds of food grains. As such, the single objective of Five Years Plans in India was to raise per capita income of individuals and to make them feel self-sufficient and
self-reliant in matters of food production and economic welfare.

I.C.A.R. (1978) estimated on the strength of the then engaged fields in agricultural production, that "Taking the base production of 90 million tonnes of total food grains at the beginning of the forth plan the production with intensive cultivation and use of traditional varieties would be additional 19 million tonnes making a total of 109 million tonnes by the end of the forth plan period. As against this the estimated demand by the end of the fourth plan according to planning commission would be 120 million tonnes. This would mean that with the existing technology such an increase was not possible. The average yield of rice by 20 percent and wheat 13 per cent from the first plan to be end of the third plan, while population rose by 37 per cent during the period. "(I.C.A.R. Agricultural year books, 1978). However, the self sufficiency aim of production of food grains of the country has not yet matched the population growth and the agricultural development plans still holds its relevance and meaningfulness in comming years. Swaminathan (1976) has predicted that or 80% of our population live in rural areas and the percentage will be 71 in 2,000 A.D. Even if the percentage goes down, the rural population is expected to grow in number from 441 million in 1971 to 662 million by 2000 A.D. Of the existing rural population, nearly 50 percent is believed to suffer from poverty. Rapid rural
development based on the scientific utilization of all our sources, both natural and human, is therefore a must."

"And the food requirements for the estimated population by 2000 A.D. according to the national commission on agriculture for our population by 1981 being 668 million, the total food needs for the present population and estimated population of 945 million by 2000 A.D. are about 122 and 220 million tonnes respectively. The major nutrition problem of our country is inadequance of calories in the diet of the economically handicaped-under-nutrition, in turn, has been attributed in any instance not so much to lack of food in the market as to lack of purchasing power in the hands of the urban and rural poor. Therefore, the food problem in many areas needs to be stated not just in terms of a certain quantity of food grains alone but also in terms of certain person-years of jobs which would provide the wherewithal to by food" (Swaminathan, 1976).

The imbalance that exists between population growth and food grain production and the requirements of food grain consumption draw our attention to re-examine our agricultural policies and plans and to review our rural assets and liabilities which form the inputs in our agricultural system. Harnessing scientific methods and technological advancement in agricultural processing, the agricultural productivity
can be gradually raised. However, our liabilities which obstruct the higher productivity need to be identified. M.S. Swaminathan
(1976) has studied the agroclimatic conditions prevalent in our
country which offer scope for a wide range of plant species to
trive. He mentioned that "our plant resources are vast and we
have nearly 2000 plant species, a greater number than in
countries with much larger geographical areas. If we draw an
agricultural balance sheet, purely in quantitative term, then it
is evident that our assets are greater and outputs are poorer.
Our farmers have, thus, shown their readiness to adopt new
technology provided it is economically viable and low risk in
character and if appropriate package of survivals and public
policies help to ensure a reasonable return for their labour and
investment." (M.S. Swaminathan, 1976). It is, further, observed
that India is having the second largest human population in the
world to feed most of who are young and non-productive. The
adult population though illiterate have shown a greater
capacity to observe, adopt and benefit from modern
technology. The figures exhibited before support the degree of
adoption of the new agriculture technology (F.A.O. Production
Estimated yield potential and per cent achieved in four rice growing countries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Approximate duration of effective grain filling period (days)</th>
<th>Average sunlight (Cal-C^2 day)</th>
<th>Estimated field potential, t/ha</th>
<th>Average yield t/ha</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>6.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>6.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>6.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India (Kharif)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>1.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Andhra Pradesh) (Rabi)</td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Despite the inadequate production and productivity of agricultural system, there are indications which reveal that, "striking changes are visible in several parts of our country in place of their well practiced traditional technology and change of their strong belief system without much resistance that agricultural production and the yields thereby are nearly the gifts of god have all gradually change, yielding place to new technology and new belief system with striving attitude to intensive labour and technology oriented agricultural processing". Swaminathan (1976) has further appraised the enormous potentiality inherent in Indian farmers and remarked that, "The doubling of wheat production within a span of five years, the progresses made in improving rice and wheat
production in areas where they were important before, the spread of maize, formerly regarded as kharif crop, in the rabi season along the Indo-Gangetic plains, the spurt in long staple cotton production, the availability of apples everywhere in the country, the progress in the production of potato, tobacco and other tubers, the development of low cost ground water exploitation technology like bamboo tubewell, the spread of Gobar gas plants and the growing diversification of export products from the rural sector are all indices of rural capability."

Planning has its own significant in agricultural development. Target set for agriculture products provides direction for level of production according to which efforts are made to attain the goals so set. The target sets and the target attainments in various five year plans for various food grains are given as under as indicators of capacity for agricultural production.
Production Targets and Achievements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Food grains (Million tons)</th>
<th>Cotton (Lakh bales)</th>
<th>Jute (Lakh bales)</th>
<th>Sugar cane (Million tons)</th>
<th>Oil seed (Million tons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First plan 1955 - 56</td>
<td>T 62.6</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1951 -56)</td>
<td>A 66.9</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second plan 1960 - 61</td>
<td>T 81.8</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1956 - 61)</td>
<td>A 82.0</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third plan 1965 - 66</td>
<td>T100.0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1961 - 66)</td>
<td>A 72.0</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth plan 1973 - 74</td>
<td>T120.6</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1969 - 74)</td>
<td>A104.6</td>
<td>6.31</td>
<td>6.21</td>
<td>14.41</td>
<td>8.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth plan 1978 - 79</td>
<td>T140.0</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1974 - 79)</td>
<td>A120.0</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth plan 1980 - 85</td>
<td>T153.6</td>
<td>8.25</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>17.40</td>
<td>13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1980 - 85)</td>
<td>A152.4</td>
<td>7.29</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>17.17</td>
<td>11.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh plan 1985 - 90</td>
<td>T175.0</td>
<td>8.50</td>
<td>8.50</td>
<td>20.50</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1985 - 90)</td>
<td>A173.0</td>
<td>7.30</td>
<td>8.30</td>
<td>20.46</td>
<td>17.88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: India 1986 and 1990.

An analysis of the data presented in the above table reveals that except for sugarcane the target has never been achieved, in other food grains. Some of the reasons which have been analysed and reported by Swaminathan (1976) are as under:

a. Inability of farmers to raise nurseries and transplant at an optimum time.
b. Lack of availability or application of improved technologies for direct seeded and upland rice.

c. Difficulties in efficient water management, resulting either in too much or too little water.

d. Inability to control pests effectively and in time.

e. Poor fertilizer use efficiency.

f. Poor post harvest technology.

The N.I.S.T.A.D.S. (National Institute of Science Technology programme in Govt. agencies of rural development, 1988) reported that, "For all, its potential technology had not played a significant role in India in alleviation of poverty. Indeed, the bulk of our S and T expenditure had not been relevant to rural poverty. There was a need to build up a consensus on the nature of technology directly relevant for the eradication of mass poverty. Priority should be given to the developing technologies for backward regions and the poor socio-economic groups. The highest priority should be assigned to technologies associated with generation of income, both in agriculture and other fields. Any new technology should be evaluated carefully before it is recommended for adoption. If the state of rural technology remains primitive, it is largely because suitable
alternatives, backed by extension on an adequate scale of other support and resources, had not been provided.

However, despite all limitations and handicaps, deficiencies and drawbacks, inefficiency and inadequacies inherent in the Indian farmers and cultivators, the application of modern agricultural technology and adoption of growth oriented agricultural system by agricultural scientists, India is marching relatively towards self-sufficiency and self-reliance in the production of food grains. This success story accounts for capabilities of Indian farmers in meeting the problems of social security and economic independence. The concentrated approach in rural development accompanied with agriculture product enrichment production increasement and productivity enhancement of the Govt. Through participation and involvement of farmers and cultivators would certainly help the country to establish equilibrium between population estimates and food grain production particularly in 2000 A.D. which stands as the single major challenge for the country towards realization of social welfare and economic prosperity of the Indian people. Perhaps, transformation and dilution of belief system to a certain extent in the adoption of modern technology and growth oriented agricultural system of the farmers have contributed significantly to this new trend of agricultural achievement.
1.20 Agricultural Extension:

Agricultural extension aims at extending and enriching the agricultural services for the enhancement and enrichment of agricultural processes and rural development intervention programmes organized and regulated by agricultural change agents like agriculture university, Govt. Departments of agriculture and such other private or public organizations. While agricultural development delineates objectives, direction and dimension for the developmental programmes for the rural developmental programmes aiming at alleviating rural poverty, the extension education makes provision for accelerating and energizing the developmental processes by providing additional information and skill to the beneficiaries. As such extension education aims at disseminating knowledge and skill and other infrastructure inputs through individual to individual encounterance.

"The extension education aims at the bringing about a desirable change in the client through change agents by providing systematic and effective learning experiences and course contents. Change in social perception and social attitudes of the clients are essential aspects of imparting extension education, some of the definition of extension with special reference to agricultural extension and their specific objectives are given as under" (O.P. Dhama and O.P. Bhatnagar, 1980).
Dougles Ensminges (1962) explained that 'extension education aims at changing attitude of the people with whom the work is done', whereas V.T. Krishnamachari (1956) defines extension education as a continuous process designed to make the rural people aware of their problems and of indication to them the ways and means by which they can solve them. What is more important for him is to observe attitudenal change through the inspiring guidance for positive action.

According to O.P. Dhama (1962) extension education aims at assisting rural people to bring about continuous improvement in their physical economic and social well being through individual and cooperative efforts. O.P. Bhatnagar (1980) defined it as an educational process to provide knowledge to client system about the improved practices in a convincing manner or/and to help them to take decisions in the special local condition. On the basis of these definitions, agricultural extension can be defined as a bipolar educational process, where the problem of the client system (farmers, home makers etc) are brought by the change agents (Extension worker, subject matter specialists of the Agricultural Universities etc.) for finding solution in Agricultural Universities/Research Stations/Home Science College/Veterinary College/Medical College etc., and the results are taken in the acceptable form through the change agents to be client system.
These definitions of extension education in general and agricultural extension in particular enable us to think about the functionality of agricultural extension in agricultural development programmes. Some of the specific objectives of Agricultural extension as outlined by O.P. Bhatnagar (1980) are given as under:

1. To change the outlook of villagers. This is because unless the people develop rising expectations for a higher level of living, there can be no motivation for the people to provide the required leadership to assure that village development will become a continuous people's programme.

2. To promote awareness for participation in rural development and responsive village leadership and of village organizations and institutions.

3. To motivate village people to become self-reliant, responsible citizens, capable and willing to participate effectively and with knowledge and understanding in the building of the nation.

4. To help the village people to improve and modernize agriculture practices and methods essential for increased agricultural production.
5. To improve their agro-industrial units and organize the new cottage industries and other small scale industries for increasing the village employment potentiality and income resources.

6. To raise the level of their basic needs; like need for food, clothing, shelter, recreation, health, etc. which are crystallised within the family and to generate the motivation for their achievement that should come from within the family.

7. To upgrade the social status of the village teacher and to enable him to participate in the rural development programme.

8. To cut down the high toll caused by illness, etc.

The effectiveness of Agricultural Extension depends not only on the efficiency and expertization of the change agents but also upon the socio-emotional status of the rural society, general awareness and literacy of the client as well as on the quest and curiosity of the clients in the process of maturing themselves by promoting their understanding and enhancing their capability to improve their quality of life. As such, the agricultural extension through agricultural development programmes function for the total integrated rural development. Through extension services for
the well being of the rural people living in the rural areas. V.P. Singh (1970) explains that "knowledge of new agricultural technology originating at research centres flows to various channels; such as, mass media (radio, news papers, magazines, bulletins etc.), institutionalized sources (the extension agency personnel and commercial agencies) and non-institutionalised sources (rural leaders, web of familyties, word mouth etc.)."

V.R. Gaikwade, B.L. Tripathi and G.S. Bhatnagar (1982) conducted a study on "Opinion leaders and communication in Indian villages", and recorded that "In rural India, information pertaining to agriculture generally flows not through mass media, but mainly from institutionalised sources; such as government extension agencies to village influentials and from them through web-of-word of mouth to other section of the farming population. Thus, for the farming population, information pertaining to agriculture flows through three closely connected circuits: one, the external agencies to the village social system, another which joins the points of the village social system; and the third which is internal to village social system involving intricate operations of key power wielders and opinion leaders, as well as other sub-group or faction leaders. As such, the extension education personnel need to coordinate and integrate the rural service personnel involved in various rural development programmes; and
mobilize them for the enhancement of the total village. Effective mobilization of human resources available in the villages for the betterment of the target villages through change agents with a view to make the village attain self-sufficiency and self-reliant in various aspects of developmental dynamics and quality of life through change in their attitudes and perception. Learning experiences provided to the rural folk through various sources and agencies enable them to bring about desirable changes in their motivation and perception.

1.30 Opinion Leaders:
1.31 Role of Opinion Leaders in Developmental Change:

The concept of opinion leadership was first developed by Lazarsfeld and others (1944) in a study of political behaviour in the 1940 presidential election in U.S.A. Various researchers have used different terms for a more or less similar concept, viz. fashion leaders, Gatekeepers, Influencers, Information leaders, Key communicators, sparkplugs, stylesetter, taskmakers etc. These terms, all refer to the same basic dimension: Opinion leadership. As such, opinion leaders functions as a change agents in the process of transformation and change of attitude and perception, motivation and values of the target population or clients. In the rural setting, farmers are the clients. They discuss their farm experiences with one-another i.e. with their friends and neighbours. There
are few progressive farmers in every village who get good yields and they share their experiences with other farmers. In this way, they become opinion leaders in the village because they help other farmers solve problems they consider to be important. The opinions of such advanced farmers are honoured in rural development. The opinions so delivered to other farmers make them elevated in their social setting and such leaders whose opinions are welcomed and are functionally accepted for solving various problems of other farmers are said to be the opinion leaders. Opinion leaders thus, have considerable influence on various matters of agricultural practices and rural development.

1.32 Opinion Leadership

"Opinion leadership is the ability to influence informally other individuals' attitude or overt behaviour in a desired way and with relatively high frequency".

Opinion leaders, thus, are the awakened and influential person of a society who have the capacity to change the attitude and perception of other persons, such as farmers or other clients, who can initiate and who has the ability to exercise his power, pressure and personal potentiality over others in group situations, at the material time when the group is in search of its leader.
Rural folk lack generally in their general awareness and general mental ability. Poverty of culture indicating illiteracy, ignorance and close circuit communicative system may block their knowledge and understanding. Consequently they need knowledgable persons who have acquired potentiality of initiation, and convincing ability through experiences; and whose opinions in various matters of personal and professional development they consider valuable. Such leaders whose opinions are sought by the farming folk in their own welfare activities, are known as opinion leaders.

Leela Dubey (1965) says that, those who come from the higher castes or upper classes have greater opportunity to get into positions of leadership, sanction and tradition. Congruity between economic position and socioritual status, opportunities for higher education and outside contacts, as interrelated factors combine to work towards this effect. Those who were the traditional wielders of power tend to retain it through both traditional and non-traditional means. "Sen L.K. (1969) observes that "In socio-demographic characteristics, leaders have higher status than their followers. This high status is both ascribed (due to high caste position) and achieved (number of formal positions held)"

Gajikwar and others (1972) have analysed the leadership functions in rural areas and recorded the three
distinct of roles; viz, the arbitrator-mediator role, patron role and broken role and have remarked that "in the traditional community, the leaders need not necessarily play the role of communicator of new idea but are expected to play the role of interpreters of new ideas and if the new idea is acceptable, the role of the rationalizer of the change is established. It is, thus, possible in that rural community that there is an interlinking of channels of communication and channels of influence.

A deeper analysis of leadership dimensions in rural areas reveals that besides a conservative traditional elite becomes a rural leader, there can be a modernizing elite also who can function as opinion leaders. In between the two, an intermediate a rural elite can also function as a leader between the two external leadership groups, S.C. Dubey (1967) pinpointedly explains the bottlenecks that exist in the rural leadership. He says that, "The hard core of this group consists of what may be called the traditional role elite cautions and conservative. This element has a vested interest in the continuance of several aspects of tradition. An emerging member of new recruits to the rank of the rural elite consists of marginal and change-prone elements, who, because of their exposure to modern education, urbanization and industrialization can make rational calculations and choices, but who are still considerably inhabited by custom and taboo".
However, the traditional system of leadership as prevalent in the rural work is now being challenged because of the socio-political change in rural areas. The traditional recognition of the influential person of the village being considered as opinion leader is shifted to the elected one regardless of his caste or social status; and such a change in rural leadership has been formed quite evident in the study conducted by Gaikwar and others (1972). They observed that "Advantage of the institutionalized source is taken by proportionately less number of respondents coming from lower strata of village community; namely, those who are illiterate, are specially less achiever and have small landholdings and small agricultural income. This class of people generally depends upon its social circle, village level political leader and such other non-institutionalized source for information."

The existing pattern of village leadership, thus, depends upon the interest upon the village opinion leaders. In the process of influencing his followers and except his leadership, "The direction of influence from leadership to followers is then vertical, form high low strata of the village society. Opinion leaders in Indian villages are not the "moticulated leaders of Largarsfild, Berelson and Gaudet, but the power-holders of the community" (Sen L.K. 1969)."
Such a finding leads us to conclude at least four main characteristics of the opinion leaders. They are:

1. The opinion leaders must be sources of dependable information.

2. The opinion leader must possess an influential personality and know strategies for effective persuasion and social change.

3. The opinion leaders must be accepted by his followers.

4. The opinion leaders must possess the quality of initiation and inherit the attributes of social welfare and well-being of his followers, displaying thereby a perential attitude towards his clients. A bipolar bond of trust, loyalty, confidence and interpersonal attraction may help in promoting cohesive and harmonious relationships between them.

Opinion leaders can be identified through sociometric methods. Opinion Leadership is earned and maintained by individual's technical competence, social accessibility, and conformity to the system's norms. In general, when opinion leaders are compared with their followers, we find that they (1) are more exposed to all forms of external communication, (2) are more cosmopolitan, (3) have higher social status, and (4) are more innovative.
Opinion leaders are usually members of the social system in which they exert their influence. It has been observed that the success or failure of programmes of directed social change rests in part upon the ability of opinion leaders and their cooperation with change-agents.

An opinion leader generally performs the following functions.

1. Transmits information to clients and groups.

2. Interprets outside information on the basis of his own opinions and experiences.

3. Sets an example for others to follow.

4. "Legitimizes" or rejects changes that others want to carry out. That is to say, he gives his approval or disapproval for these changes, and

5. is influential in changing group norms.

Not all opinion leaders carry out all these functions. There may be some opinion leaders who provide information early in the adoption process, and others who legitimize the decision to adopt or reject an innovation.
1.40 The Panchayati Raj: The Village Autonomy in Administration

The dream of Gram Swaraj of Maharashi Vinoba Bhawe was realised in Madhya Pradesh by the constitution and formation of Panchayati Raj on 20th August 1994 in accordance with the act passed by the state assembly on 30th Dec. 1993. As such, M.P. was the first state in the Union of India which has introduced the Panchayati Raj as a part of administrative system thereby handing over the administration of the rural settlement in the hands of the people themselves. Thus, self Govt. in the form of panchayati raj has been established in M.P., with the hope that there would be "a Govt. of the people, by the people and for the people". This Panchayati Raj would enhance decentralization in rural administration, check external interference in policy making, planning and programming of extension education, agricultural financing, rural development and community advancement.

The Panchayati Raj has introduced its own "Rural Leaders" in the form of 'Sarpanch and Panch', and such other elected/nominated members on their executive. As such, O.Ls. have now been replaced by these elected village leaders. The statistical figures given below speak of the size of people's representatives, so elected and the number of Janpat Panchayat and District Panchayat constituted in the state of M.P.
With the formation of Panchayati Raj, it is hoped that the democratic process of administration and welfare schemes for the total rural development and for community well being would take place more rapidly than what is used to happen with the efforts of O.Ls.

Govt. of India has made continuous conscious development of villages and for the upliftment of the rural people. The following programmes were organized since independence for the rural development. A brief resume of developmental work indicating years of inception, name of work, place of work, and major activities of each of the work done in India is presented below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name of programme</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Main activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd Oct.</td>
<td>Community Project (C.P.)</td>
<td>All India</td>
<td>All round development of village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Oct.</td>
<td>National Extension Service</td>
<td>All India</td>
<td>Overall development of village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Oct.</td>
<td>Panchayati Raj (Democratic Decentralization)</td>
<td>All India</td>
<td>Decentralization of power for all round development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Intensive Extension District Programme (I.A.D.P.)</td>
<td>7 District</td>
<td>Concentration of resources for maximising production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Intensive Agriculture Area Development Programme</td>
<td>All India</td>
<td>Harnessing resources for maximum production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>High Yielding Variety Programme (H.Y.V.P.)</td>
<td>All India</td>
<td>Popularising H.Y.V. for maximising production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Farmers Training for Education Center (F.T.E.C.)</td>
<td>100 District</td>
<td>Training of farmers, Farm Women and youth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Small Farmers Development Agency (S.F.D.A.)</td>
<td>46 Projects</td>
<td>Identification and development of small farmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Marginal Farmers and Agriculture Labour Project (M.F.A.L.)</td>
<td>41 Projects</td>
<td>Economic Development of weaker sections in rural areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Drought Prone Areas Programme (D.P.A.P.)</td>
<td>91 District in 13 states</td>
<td>Integrated area development on watershed basis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>National Rural Employment Programme (N.R.E.P.)</td>
<td>All India</td>
<td>Employment opportunities to poor people.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Democracy in India created and promoted socio-political climate for the autonomy of the rural people. As such, the real Indian lives in rural India. The concept of Panchayati Raj emerged out of such thinking for rural India. Subsequently, Panchayati Raj in India Bill was passed by the Indian Parliament on 24th April, 1993 and it was the state of Madhya Pradesh which introduced Panchayati Raj in India first on 28th August 1994. The Seventy third constitution amendment Bill passed on 24th April 1993 on Panchayati Raj in India has been appended herein in the Appendix - I.

1.4 Panchayati Raj in Madhya Pradesh:

Madhya Pradesh is the first state to have started the Panchayati Raj. The vast state has started on 29th December 1993, the amendment in the constitution in the 73 amendment according to which Panchayati Raj act was started in 1993 and the other day it was passed. In May - June 1994 in M.P., Village Panchyat,
Janpad Panchayat and District Panchayat elections were held. In M.P. through Panchayati Raj village autonomy and thereby complete autonomy of villages by transferring the powers and decentralising them on 20th August 1994 a wide range of powers were given to them.

In M.P. 1991 according to the census 76.79% people lives in villages. Thus if real progress is needed then panchayat must be handedover full power, alongwith complete responsibilities so, that, the real dream of swaraj comes true.

Responsibilities of Gram Panchayat

Gram Panchayat shall be responsible for the harmonious development of their territory. At gram panchayat level a co-ordinated all round development will be taken in to account. All the possible avenues of planning employment will be the sole responsibility of the village panchayat. About agriculture and horticulture they have been given to the village panchayat, so that more production and more production in cereals and others is the responsibility of the panchayats. Help of the Orphans, Anganbadi and running the schools have been entrusted to the panchayats; besides this the drinking water facility, water in taps, light and energy all these are to be seen and responsibility conducted by the village panchayat. For drinking water hand pumps have to be seen by the village panchayat. They
have also been allotted Rs. 3 Lacks for water works. Collection of Tendu leaves their supervision and collection is the sole responsibility of gram panchayats. Gram panchayats have been empowered to build and construct roads, pipe line, small culverts, drainage, buildings and water works will be done by them.

Family planning, innoculation, stopping of the epidemics and their treatment, the examination of children, child education, safe maternity and lastly female and child development and progress is the responsibility of the panchayats. The administration of village tanks, loan record books, dispute about the division of the land and their nomenclature is the responsibility of the panchayats. Gram panchayats will from time to time will deepen the wells, the water taps to be made available. Under the public distribution system ration cards will be made under the direction of the village panchayats. They can also send proposals for new post offices to be opened in their region. If there are illegal constructions they can demolish them, they can also keep an eye on constructions of buildings. They are given the powers to name the roads and streets and set the place, for fairs etc. Besides this, the following blue print for the rural development is given under the following heads.
Rural Development Programme

1. Coordinated village development and its implementation.

2. Jawahar Rojgar Yojana intensive employment and confirmed employment scheme and village housing scheme to be implemented.

3. Migration of village labour and persons and families living under the poverty line and educated unemployed persons and collect the data thereof.

4. Implementation of landless agriculture labour and their collective insurance scheme.

Livestock, enhancement of milk production and progress of poultry production

1. A programme concerning the development and betterment of the breed of livestock and the poultry birds.

2. An improvement of milk production betterment of poultry and piggery.

3. Development of pastures and its upkeep and learning away the illegal holdings and their misuse.

4. A programme to check the epidemic and contagious disease and their prevention.
Fisheries

1. A programme for the progress of fisheries and its implementation.

2. Under the panchayat a tank under the size of 25 acres a programme for the development and licensing of the fishery.

Horticulture

Development of horticulture its progress and its implementation.

Department of Agriculture

1. Progress and impetus to agriculture.

2. Developing the barren and fallow land in the panchayat.

3. Under the jurisdiction of panchayat, the sale of chemical fertilizer, insecticides and pesticides, poultry feed, and keep an eye on better quality of seeds, and its supervision.

Education Department

1. Schools under the panchayats and their complete supervision.

2. A programme for literacy drive.

3. Looking after the primary schools, their extension and supervision.
4. Distribution of school uniform to the girl students.


6. Supervision of non-school going students.

7. Complete and full literacy drive.

Besides this the following other programmes have been taken into consideration, such as:

1. Rural electrification and other energy sources.
2. Planning and statistics.
4. Women and child development.
5. Khadi and cottage industries.
7. Public works department.
8. Miscellaneous.
10. Land development and land conservation.
11. Food and civil supplies and
12. Finance.

The functions that have been delegated to Panchayati Raj Administration in Madhya Pradesh ensuring vide village autonomy would bring about significant improvement and advancement in agricultural technology adaptation, rural development and
community advancement through elected members like Janpad members, Panch, Sarpanch, members of Zilla Parishad, Chairman Janpad and Chairman, Zilla Parishad etc. However, the emergence of village leaders through Panchayati Raj in M.P. would hardly replace the functions and roles of Opinion Leaders. Rather, a competitive code of role effectiveness among various categories of village leaders would accelerate the progress of rural development.

The next Chapter deals with "Review of Relevant Literature".