Chapter II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE
Review of literature has not only widened the horizon of the themes related to the study, but also has sharpened the method of the components in the framework of the study. The study consists of two principal insights i.e., Non Government Organisations (NGOs) or Voluntary Agencies and Rural Development, the two issues which were widely studied in their own entity. In other words, many a research study was focused on voluntary agencies and the types of works they deal with etc. Similarly, rural development, through its wide gamut of issues, too studied extensively in India. However, studies exclusively on Voluntary Agencies and Rural Development issues were quite limited. This in context, especially keeping in view the two principal issues addressed by the present research investigation i.e. rural development and voluntary agencies, a conscious effort was made to understand the issues through wider perspective of reviewing the literature on these aspects as a separate entity. Further, wherever possible, effort was made to review the existing literature which focuses both on rural development and voluntary agencies. Consequently, the present chapter is presented in two sections. Section A is focused on the outcome of existing literature on Voluntary Agencies which are popularly known as Non Government Organisations and Section B with focus on role of Voluntary Agencies in Rural Development and other related issues pertaining to rural development.

Section A: Voluntary Agencies

In this section an attempt was made to understand the very concept of voluntary agencies in terms of definition, role and responsibilities and so on. In view of the various issues associated with the voluntary agencies, this section is further divided into sub-sections to explain the various issues associated.

In his preliminary work, Lord Beveridge (1949), presents a conceptual presentation on the very definition of voluntary agencies. He emphasizes that “A Voluntary Organization, properly speaking, is an organization which, whether its
workers are paid or unpaid, is initiated and governed by its own members without external control.” Thus, Lord Beveridge underlined the principles of freedom of governance in works undertaken by the voluntary agencies.

Given the Indian conditions, Kulkarni (1949) defines voluntary organization as a forum of organizing activities supporting, strengthening and helping to develop work, meet all types of needs of individuals and groups in a society. Thus, Kulkarni pointed out the very strength of voluntary agency as an institution playing additive and supportive role along with welfare orientation. He further, emphasizes the issues concerned while defining the voluntary agencies in the following manner: “The simplest most common meaning given to civil society is all public activity, by any individual organizations or movements, other than government employees acting in a governmental capacity. In the broadest sense, it encompasses all social, economic, cultural and political relation, but the emphasis is usually on the political aspects of these relations. Thus it can be used in reference to any level from the local to the country as a whole, or even global interactions. It also clearly goes beyond traditional NGOs to all forms of networks, caucuses and movements. As a result, it serves as a political tool for all those who want to promote innovative, wider, and deeper levels of political participation.”

Mary Morris (1955) through her study felt that “to lead a full life, most people need more than they can find in their work place or home. They need to live as members of groups doing things for themselves and for their fellow members or for the benefit of others outside the group. The urge to act in groups is fundamental to man.” Thus, Mary Morris’s work point out the need for voluntary agencies in the arena of development processes.

In his pioneering work with emphasis on studying the pattern of approach adopted by voluntary agencies, Paul Choudhary (1970) has classified the motives
of voluntary organizations into 3 categories namely, 1. Religious: a) To attain salivation b) To discharge some duties, and c) religion compels to give away a fixed percentage of income like 2.5% among Muslims, 10% of income among Sikhs or regular donations among Protestants. 2. Social: a. Out of commitment for a cause in a democratic set up, b. To save wealth from relatives, and c) To Act as responsible citizens; 3. Personal - For recognition and high position in the society (role of elites); For the name of family (family reputation); Out of repentance of some misdeed; For a political career, and To save income tax. Thus, Paul Choudhary’s work captures the wide gamut of works addressed by voluntary agencies in the Indian context and also reflects their omni presence in the development scenario.

P.V. Paranjape and others (1984)\(^5\) conducted a study on Shramik Sanghatana (Toilers’ Association) in the Shahade region of the Dhule district with the objective of investigating the historical background and activities of Sanghatana with special reference to the problems of grassroots self-reliance. A vast majority of the population in the region were the landless and illiterate ‘adivasis’ (Tribals). The method employed in this study was participatory research. Nine villages -three each from three types of areas -were selected: four workshops were organized for investigating perspectives of self-reliance. The study revealed the fact that the tribals themselves had taken initiatives to strengthen the Sanghatana in the locality. Direct democracy and human approach were observed to be quite strong not only in the administration of Sanghatana but also in their social relationships. Tensions between the urban external activists and the local activists were fluctuating and it was accepted as a part of the process. The study brought to light the fact that the tribal young women were so shy to come out of themselves that eliciting participation from them was a major obstacle in achieving self-reliance.
In a study more akin to the present study, Chaturvedi (1987)\(^6\) examines the role of voluntary organizations in rural development with a historical perspective from Gandhian era and concludes that a long tradition of community based voluntary work which had been built in the past two centuries got lost in the period following independence. Thus, the study elucidates more information on continuity of voluntary agencies in the Indian context and also its importance. Muttalib (1987)\(^7\), focused his study more on typical voluntary behaviour and associated factors. The study discusses various concepts with their behavior functions involved in voluntarism, including their typology and traded the realization of the need in Indian rural developmental effort.

Simon Combe (1989)\(^8\) also undertook his study on Indian NGOs, especially indigenous in nature. The study provides a definition of indigenous voluntary agencies sector as it exists in rural India. He explains in detail each defining characteristics with a view of differentiating indigenous voluntary agencies from other formations working for bringing about change in rural India. In other words, the study is a pioneering work in establishing a relationship between voluntary agencies and development change in the country.

Charyulu U.V.N. (1989)\(^9\), through one of his case study on voluntary agencies and their role in rural development, examines the nature of the voluntary organization in the field of rural development, the motivations, methods they adopted and relations with other agencies. The study focuses on issues pertaining to various strategies adopted by voluntary agencies keeping in view the local conditions concerned. This also explains the flexible approach adopted by the voluntary agencies and this also explains the successful inroads made by the voluntary agencies in the development sector. \(\)
David Korten (1990)\(^{10}\), while studying the nature and domain of voluntary agencies in his study, had proposed fifth generation of NGOs. Nowadays, NGOs working for peace or conflict resolution or as track-II negotiators between states/nations, international NGOs acting on behalf of the global civil society and conducting research on voluntary sector contributions may be regarded as belonging to the category of Fifth Generation.

DL Sheth and Harsh Sethi (1991)\(^{11}\) in their two decade old study also concentrated on historical issues pertaining to NGOs. The last two decades have witnessed a veritable mushrooming of NGOs in India. What, however, is inadequately appreciated is that the conversion of voluntarism into primarily a favoured instrumentality for developmental intervention has changed what was once an organic part of civil society into merely a sector-an appendage of the developmental apparatus of the state. Further, this process of instrumental appropriation has resulted in these agencies of self-activity losing both their autonomy and political-transformative edge. What is required, therefore, is to reorient voluntarism from a framework of subserving the needs of delivery to one promoting self-governance in the widest sense.

R. G. Alsop, R. Khandelwal, E. H. Gilbert and J. Farrington (1996)\(^{12}\) is a unique work in the sense that it deals with collaborations among NGOs working for certain purpose. Stronger collaboration between government organizations (GOs), NGOs, and rural people has long been advocated as a means of enhancing the responsiveness, efficiency, and accountability of GOs and NGOs. Taking recent examples from Udaipur District in India, he reviews the experiences and potential of collaboration, arguing that, while informal interaction increases and enriches the fabric of pluralist development, certain strategic decisions often require a degree of formality. These include decisions on the development of human resources- here both the users and providers of services. Moreover, human resource development (HRD) must be viewed in the context of the mandates,
aspirations, and systems of accountability and rewards of the institutions concerned. These determine whether institutions develop and expand their own human resources or draw upon those of others by collaborating with them. Individuals engaged in these organizations can be more effectively induced to collaborate with others by combinations of flexibility and appropriate reward systems than they can be forced to do so by instructions or commands. Several conclusions follow: decisions to act together are unlikely to progress unless translated into concrete actions; authority to take local-level decisions in GOs needs strengthening if they are to provide the necessary flexibility; and, although collaboration should in principle be built on the comparative advantage of different types of organization, in practice, each will have to incorporate the skills of the other, at least to some level, if they are to communicate effectively. NGOs and GOs must also enhance their understanding of farmers' ability to make demands on external organizations. Edging towards collaboration is a delicate and painstaking process. Only if many of the above conditions are given due priority will early examples have something to offer to the numerous NGOs, GOs and international agencies wishing to learn from them.

NGOs have, of late, found some of their traditional domains, such as provision of micro-credit and participatory development, coinciding with or being taken away by the state. How do they position themselves and retain relevance vis-a-vis the state in the changed scenario? Tracing the trajectory of interventions of a local NGO in Kerala, India, this article shows that NGOs exhibit ‘multiple identities’—selective collaboration, gap-filling and posing alternatives—in the process of engagement with the state. The ‘strategizing’ of such identities may hold the key to their relevance vis-a-vis the state.

While studying the Non Government Organisations in Vietnam, Mark Sidel (1996) made his contribution based on his experiences on NGOs and their works in that country. A significant number and wide range of Vietnamese non-
profit and voluntary organisations have developed since Vietnam embarked on a programme of economic reform in late 1986. Philanthropy has begun to grow as well, but more slowly. The non-profit and voluntary sector and the state, each face important challenges as development of the sector accelerates. The state has sought both to encourage growth of non-profit, voluntary and philanthropic institutions, and to control the pace and direction of that growth. Those dual aims are reflected in the state's regulation of the sector since the mid-1980s. This article provides detailed information on the development of the non-profit sector in Vietnam. It examines some common problems many of the new non-profit and voluntary organisations face and discusses the rapidly changing environment for philanthropy in Vietnam. The article also reviews the developing legal environment for non-profit and philanthropy, compares the situation in Vietnam to other countries in transition, and studies the functions of the non-profit sector in Vietnam in the context of the emerging scholarly literature on functions and models of the non-profit sector and government/non-profit relations.

Sidhartha Sen (1999)\(^{14}\), focused his study on research work undertaken on NGOs in the context of globalisation process. An overview of recent trends in research on the Indian nonprofit sector is presented. The material is not exhaustive of all research that has been conducted, but instead discusses effects of globalization on the literature. As used here, globalization implies the worldwide rise of economic liberalism, universal trust in political democracy, the advent of cultural universalism, relative erosion of the power of nation-states, and global embracing of capitalism and commodity culture. The following distinct effects of globalization are discussed: diverse policy debates on nongovernmental organization (NGO) roles in development, challenges to the credibility of India's most popular and debated theory of nonprofits, the emergence of a large volume of literature on environmental and women's movements and organizations, and the shifting of attention to the study of NGOs. A deliberate effort is made to identify the backgrounds of some of the authors discussed in the article to direct
attention to differences in content of the writings of NGO officials, activists, scholars, policy analysts, development consultants, Westerners, and Indians.

R. Sooryamurthy and KD Gangrade (2001)\textsuperscript{15}, through their study NGOs in India: A Cross Sectional Study, produced another important work which provides a comprehensive overview of NGOs in India in which he critically examines their contributions to development. Focusing on NGOs that work in the areas of rural development, women, and children, the authors' goal is to shed light on the contributions of the sector in the spheres of social welfare, empowerment, service, and rural development. In addition, the problems and difficulties experienced by NGOs are analyzed and explained. This important new book traces the rise of NGOs in India and their transformation over the years, revealing the importance of NGOs in India's development after Independence.

Beginning with a detailed history of voluntarism in India and examination of NGOs around the world, the authors provide the framework for examining NGOs in India as a force contributing to development. They then focus on partnerships and cooperation between NGOs and the government, advocacy and policy implications of NGO activity, accountability within organizations, approaches to problems and delivery of services, NGO life cycles, and the need for a code of ethics within NGOs. Case studies on NGOs designed to assist women, children, and rural development are presented and discussed in the context of development in general and improving the quality of life for all Indian citizens. This careful and comprehensive examination is a unique addition to a growing field of literature in India.

Another important publication by Sangeeta Kamat (2002)\textsuperscript{16} titled “Development Hegemony: NGOs and the state in India” deals with the current debates in South Asia on the role of the state and the non-government organizations in the development process and in fostering democratic principles.
It is a critique of the grassroots development in India over the past few decades. In recent years there has been a marked growth in the number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in India working at the grassroots. The withdrawal of the state from some crucial sectors of the economy since 1991 has provided the NGOs with greater scope for work with the funds that they receive mainly from foreign agencies. As a result of the growth of the NGOs and the increasing development functions that they perform at the grassroots, the NGOs have come under heavy scrutiny from academia.

Paul Nelson (2002)\textsuperscript{17} focused on international advocacy of NGOs in the development sector. International advocacy strategies devised for the political environment in which World Bank policy is decided are often not suitable for advocacy on broader financial policy and trade issues. Advocacy in these “new” agendas challenges prevailing models, which depict NGOs as mobilizing powerful governments and international organizations to influence a government's behavior. The patterns of international NGO political activity are diverse, sometimes restraining the power of international rules and authorities over individual governments, and require a new or broader model.

Batliwala, Srilatha (2002)\textsuperscript{18} with her focus on very nature of NGOs and other associated factors studied various issues in this regard. The past two decades witnessed the emergence of a new range of transnational social movements, networks, and organizations seeking to promote a more just and equitable global order. With this broadening and deepening of cross-border citizen action, however, troubling questions have arisen about their rights of representation and accountability—the internal hierarchies of voice and access within transnational civil society are being highlighted. The rise of transnational grassroots movements, with strong constituency base and sophisticated advocacy capability at both local and global levels, is an important phenomenon in this context. These movements are formed and led by poor and marginalized groups, and defy the
stereotype of grassroots movements being narrowly focused on local issues. They embody both a challenge and an opportunity for democratizing and strengthening the role of transnational civil society globally.

Alnoor Ebrahim (2003) focused his study on institutional issues pertaining to NGOs operating in Western part of India. This paper examines the effects of shifts in “development discourse” on the behavior of Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). Drawing upon detailed case histories of two well-established NGOs in western India, it is demonstrated that (1) the case NGOs have been profoundly influenced by discourses prevailing during their initial, formative stages; (2) NGO behavior is subject to changes in global development discourses that are transmitted to them via a range of mechanisms including consultants, conditions of funding, and reporting requirements; and (3) these NGOs have been able to challenge and adapt certain discourses to suit their own needs and circumstances, sometimes even sparking wider structural change.

Snehalatha Chandra (2003) brought an interesting publication which deals with issues associated with management of Indian NGOs. For all kinds of Non-Profit Organizations, this book serves as a working and referral guideline, whether they are involved in charity and welfare work or in the development of communities and in the work related to social transformation. The book provides an interesting feature as well as source of knowledge in managing the NGOs in Indian circumstances.

Another important study that was devoted to NGOs was the work of Vikram Patel and R Thara (2003) which deals with NGO innovations while dealing with mental health needs of affected persons. This important volume describes the work of voluntary agencies in the field of mental health with the explicit objectives of documenting innovative achievements, examining the issue involved, and determining their success and viability in Indian setting.
Jennifer M. Brinkerhoff (2003) made a relationship between NGOs and the Donor agencies in India and Pakistan. The paper explores donors' efforts to promote government—NGO partnership for the purpose of improving public services. Following a brief discussion of partnership, two illustrations support a relative definition of partnership and its added value. The examples represent alternative approaches to improving public services through partnership work, the choice of which may depend on (1) the will of the partners to change—particularly government, (2) the pre-existence of effective public services, and (3) depth of mobilization and social capital sought. The examples similarly reveal alternative approaches to addressing partnership challenges either bureaucratically or through behavioral norms and organization culture. Implications of donors' participation in such partnerships are highlighted.

Femida Handy (2006) in her study on grass-root NGOs focused her study on NGOs which were exclusively promoted by women. Based on empirical evidence from first-hand interactions with 20 Indian women founders of NGOs, this book presents a theoretical understanding of the role and impact of NGOs in women's development. It looks at what motivates and facilitates female entrepreneurship in NGOs, the structures that evolve based on their feminist ideologies, the services they provide and the social impact of these NGOs in promoting the empowerment of women.

Margaret Sherrard Sherraden and others (2006) focused in their work on international voluntarism which cuts across the countries. International voluntary service (IVS) has a significant and growing presence worldwide. IVS is a policy and program tool used for international development aid, humanitarian relief, and promotion of international understanding. In the last century, forms of IVS have proliferated, while research on scope, effectiveness, and impacts has lagged behind. We propose a typology that addresses duration, nature of service, and degree of “internationality.” Further, we identify IVS networks and support
organizations that bolster the capacity of IVS sending and hosting organizations, and in this process create large and little recognized international institutions of cooperation. Building on the typology, we suggest program, policy, and research implications to advance knowledge of the role of IVS, its role in global civil society, and the impact it may have on human conditions and cross-cultural understanding.

GB Kashyap and JP Garg (2008)25 through their publication titled “Role of NGOs” discuss the issues pertaining to role of NGOs in different development scenario existing in the country. This volume considers the roots and expansion of NGOs in rural India, taking care to highlight the endeavours of these agencies in such issues of rural concern as education, employment, health, social welfare, family planning etc.

Yashavantha Dongre and Shanthi Gopalan (2008)26, focused their study on administrative issues pertaining to NGOs in India. The third sector in India is unique because it represents a public space where social aspirations converge in a vast, complicated and heterogeneous terrain through the work of incorporated bodies, unregistered organisations, informal groups and nonformal community initiatives. The best organized and most familiar forms of voluntary initiatives include the cooperatives and non-government organisations (NGOs), whereas self help groups, community organisations and associations of indigenous people are less formal, unregistered but have a wide geographic and functional coverage. The third sector in India has a long history, varied sizes and diverse structure and functions-complementing the vastness and cultural intricacies of the country.

Nabhi’s Board of Editors (2009)27 also brought a publication titled “Handbook for NGOs” an encyclopedia for Non-Governmental Organizations and Voluntary Agencies. It tells you how to form an NGO, how to manage an NGO, how to maintain accounts/minutes/meetings, and how to go with daily
administration. It also incorporates Government Aid Schemes for NGOs, Schemes of all Ministries, NABARD, NHRC for NGOs, Facilities to NGOs, Project Proposal & Implementation, Funding, Taxation (Income Tax, Sales Tax, Service Tax) PIL, Legal Aid, and information on other day-to-day working. List of important funding agencies in India as well as abroad are also provided. Illustrated Project Reports for starting NGOs is also given. In nutshell, this is a complete manual for NGOs in India.

Another study focusing on NGOs in Bangladesh by Rie Makita (2009) explores what role an NGO can play as an intermediary in business development for the poor with focus on the relations between the NGO and local elites. In theory, as market demand for a product or service increases, the business attracts more interest from local elites, to whom all the benefits tend to go in the end. However, the two cases suggest feasible ways for the poor with intermediary to open up a business opportunity in the elite-controlled rural economy; market differentiation and the use of a stagnant industry. As a result, new NGO–elite relations emerge. Considering the limited life of such relations, efforts should be concentrated on enabling the poor to make the most of the business opportunity in the short term under the new NGO–elite relations.

Patrick Kilby (2010) produced an outstanding work on the very nature of NGOs. By examining how NGOs operated in Southern India in the early 2000, this book discusses the challenges faced by small, local NGOs in the uncertain times of changing aid dynamics. The key findings focus on what empowerment means for Indian women, and how NGO accountability to these groups is an important part of the empowerment being realised.

A study of similar nature was conducted by Bejoy K. Thomas, Roldan Muradian and others (2010) also focussed on collaborations among NGOs. In their study across Kerala state, their study titled “Confronting or Complementing?
A Case Study on NGO-State Relations from Kerala, India” shows that NGOs exhibit multiple identities, selective collaborations, gap-filling and posing ownership among certain issues.

Taedong Lee (2010)\(^{31}\) conducted research study on the rise of international NGOs. This study examines the conditions that facilitate the growth of International Non-Government Organizations (INGOs) in 126 countries, from 1982 to 2000. To explain the uneven growth of INGOs around the world, in two competing theoretical approaches. The “top-down” perspective of growth focuses on the degree of a country’s integration into the world polity and international economy. The “bottom-up” perspective emphasizes the development of democracy and the prosperity of the domestic economy as significant factors in facilitating INGO growth within a given country. An econometric analysis of panel data with Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) suggests that both economic and political factors at the global and national level explain the rise of INGOs, rather than viewing either in an isolated fashion.

Masako Thanaka (2010)\(^{32}\) focused his study on changing role of NGOs in Nepal. This article examines the unique role of NGOs with special attention to the changing socio-political contexts of NGOs in terms of their partnerships with Rights-Holder Organizations (RHOs), which claim the rights of particular groups of excluded population. It reviews an example of the NGO working with RHOs in Nepal. NGO relationships with RHOs are delicate and not always equitable due to their different backgrounds and expertise. NGOs, comprising mostly people who are not members of the rights-holding groups, use their expertise to work for others over fixed periods, while RHOs work for their own constituencies through movements. Until the 1990s, NGOs supported so-called ‘beneficiaries’ who were members of excluded groups whose rights were being denied. Today, RHOs are formed directly by excluded groups. Some NGOs are trying to change their role to become promoters for RHOs, while others remain as their proxies, which merely
create an extra layer between RHOs and donors. The article attempts to prove that building equitable relationships between NGOs and RHOs is possible if NGOs have professionalism, expertise in capacity development and a readiness to become more inclusive. Though there are still several challenges ahead, such efforts by NGOs make it possible to change funding flows for RHOs and contribute to inclusive aid.

Tanya Jakimow (2010)\textsuperscript{33} focused on the boundaries that an NGO generally deals with while working for the people and their development. Values are essential part of the identity of non-government organizations (NGOs), distinguishing them from other sectors and contributing to their legitimacy. Values are neither uncontested nor wholly self-determined, but rather are products of the broader social and political environment. The meaning of values must be negotiated with multiple actors, such as funding agencies, the state, and the general public including their “clients.” This paper looks at the ways that the meaning of a particular NGO value voluntarism is negotiated and contested in India. It is argued that conceptualizations of voluntarism are neither singular, nor static, and that NGOs draw on these to claim legitimacy, or contest them through counter-narratives. These struggles over the meaning of voluntarism are in themselves productive, shaping organizational identity, and functioning. Values can thereby be useful analytical tools to understand NGOs.

Focusing on the institutional and international issues pertaining to NGOs, Rebecca Szper and Aseem Prakash (2011)\textsuperscript{34}, focused their study on transparency and other issues pertaining to NGO sector at international level. Transparency concerns and the concomitant accountability challenges have motivated policy and legal scholars to explore information-based regulatory approaches. We examine their usefulness in the context of the nonprofit sector which tends to show signs of governance failure. Although nonprofits are required by law to disclose information on fund use, nonprofit donors face difficulties in accessing
and interpreting information about how nonprofits are deploying resources. Charity watchdogs make this information available to donors in a convenient format. In theory, this should allow donors to reward nonprofits that devote resources to service delivery and to punish those that are less careful about controlling overheads. To test the relationship between charity ratings and donations, 90 nonprofits were examined in the state of Washington for the period 2004–2007. Drawing on ratings data provided by Charity Navigator, we find that changes in charity ratings tend not to affect donor support to these nonprofits. We explore this statistical finding via interviews with 10 charities located in Washington State. Supporting the statistical results, we find that charities believe that donors tend not to systematically embed ratings in their donation decisions. Instead, they believe that donors assess nonprofits’ effectiveness and trustworthiness via other means such as familiarity, word-of-mouth, or the visibility of the nonprofit in their community. In sum, the policy challenge is to provide information which users desire such as organizational effectiveness as opposed to basic fund allocation in the case of non-profits. What matters for policy efficacy is not how much information is provided but of what type.

The review of literature on the role of voluntary agencies or non government agencies reveal that they were playing quite a vital role in the society in ensuring development. These institutions were quite close to the public and were in a better position to facilitate the requisite. Across the world as well the non government agencies or voluntary agencies excelled themselves in facilitating development process in their respective geographical area.

Given the Indian context, non government agencies were playing substantial role in supporting the rural development process in the country. In this regard, the non government agencies were playing not only additive role but also evolved out their own strategy to reach the unreached.
The review of literature also revealed that though studies were conducted on non government agencies and their impact on rural development yet most of them were confined to specific issue of development, process involved, strategies adopted etc. Most of the studies were not pertaining to specific insight on an institution. Hence, the present study on Social Service Centre, Eluru was justifiable.

Section B: NGOs and Rural Development

Verghese’s (1979) study “Voluntary Agencies how Useful” on voluntary organizations, has taken contrary view. He says, planning and development are state responsibilities, but implementation is effective only through voluntary organizations, because they are more attached to local areas. The author considers it to be pity that many voluntary organizations are funded by foreign agencies, they are confused sometimes and cannot achieve critical analysis of programme because they are manned by foreign groups. Moreover administrative obstacles, political hostility and vested interests play greater hindrance.

Pande (1982) in his article, “reinvigorating retroflexed Voluntary organization”, opines that the voluntary agencies had provided jobs for the rural artisans and workers through Khadi and Village industries. He says that these voluntary organizations must be inspired to go into new areas and involve people in the programs. The KVIC ( Khadi and Village Industries Council ) had initiated IDP ( Intensive Development Program ) and started some voluntary organizations they gave support to the rural artisans and workers. Motivations of local leadership and proper training for them is necessary to encourage more and more grassroots activities. He points out that some reflects the necessity of voluntary organizations as the main agencies to keep the flag of KVIC flying.
Kothari (1983)\textsuperscript{37}, in another paper “party state in our times: the Rise of Non–party political formations” traces the prevailing scene of drift and uncertainty surrounding the conduct of public affairs and various modes of thinking about them. He points out the glaring dissonance between high expectations based on ideologies / theories and the reality of life as faced by majority people. He underlines the need for political role to be taken up by voluntary organizations.

According to Sheth (1984)\textsuperscript{38}, in his article “grass–root initiatives in India”, he opines that the initiative for development must come from gross roots, taking place outside the governmental and bureaucratic structures and away from the normal political processes of parties and elections. However weak their programming is or internally inconsistent, they share a common perception about the model of development. He points out that, “the scene of grass- roots movements and organizations today, despite the promise it holds, appears full of problems, organizationally they are highly fragmented”, they succumb to manipulative polities and more importantly they must have to work for alternative financial support for themselves as the government may fail to provide support. It is in the above context that the author seeks new macro–initiatives at grass root level that would link up these movements with organizations and would service them in response to felt needs.

In his article “Groups in a New Politics of Transformation” Sethi Harsh (1984)\textsuperscript{39} while reacting to the debate on voluntary organizations feels that, development is more rhetoric than reality and, with concentration of economic power and in the face of adversities, there seems little chance of matters improving. He attempts to intervene in the debate about the role, responsibility, functions, and limitations and activities of voluntary agencies, non-government organizations and non-party political formations. He feels, while the failures of the larger organizations are recognized they are rarely discussed. One of the
major reasons of this failure seems to lie in the very structure of these organizations, the relationship between the leaders and the cadres within the organization and the cadres and the working masses they purport to represent as well as in the methodology of change followed. At the developmental level, we have a clear admission by the state that the official agencies are by themselves unable to plan and implement though they have officially stated objectives.

In his article “Local Politics” Global Implications” Eldridge (1984) advocates for greater role of voluntary organizations in political processes. He discussed at length in his comparative study of India and Indonesia and various issues for the active role of voluntary organizations in political activities, so as to bring in radical changes. He considers that alternative approaches to officials growth oriented planning has become increasingly relevant, more so for greater peoples participation. However he considers that such increasing importance of voluntary organization reflects a far wider malaise concerning the relevance of modern state structures to the needs of third world countries.

Y.V.Rao (1984) conducted a case study of Voluntary organizations namely, “Voluntary actions in Rural Development”, in order to find out the role of Voluntary actions in rural development. He finds out that rural development is gigantic task for the government to deal with alone. A number of Voluntary Agencies have done pioneering work in this filed. CROSS (Comprehensive Rural Operations Service Society) is one such organization. Its study shows that, better co–ordination of the Government with rural development will lead to success.

In his paper “Voluntary Actions in Rural Development” Heggade (1984) expresses his views that the role of Voluntary Social organizations is essential in tribal development. Voluntary Social organizations strengthen and quicken the process of socio – economic transition. His study shows that the, work of
Voluntary Social organizations depend on government aid. He suggests that Voluntary Social organizations are catalysts in tribal development. Appropriate incentive schemes must be implemented to increase the number of committed voluntary social workers as well as Voluntary organizations. Thus, it could not be ignored that a revitalized network of Voluntary Social organizations could be an undeniable asset for implementing a host of development schemes under the present sub-plan approach for tribal development and welfare.

According to Krishna Murthy (1985), in his paper “Voluntary Actions in Rural Developments: A survey”, voluntary action in rural development in the country must be seen in historical background. Rural development often is understood as mere removal of poverty but it must be seen along with other aspects such as education, health etc. Efficient running of co-operatives form part of any developmental effort. Rural development programs have to be implemented totally by voluntary and independent bodies and the pattern of funding must not be such that, they lose their Voluntary Character as well as independence. To be true to their calling as agencies for rural development, they remain neutral when working people organize themselves and fight against the exploiters for their demands and rights. There are indeed some soft options or paths to development when we talk about role of Voluntary Agencies.

Shah (1985), in his article “Ensuring Greater Participation of Voluntary organizations” intends to give greater importance to participation and involvement of Voluntary organizations in the field of rural development to make a critical defiance. He points out that, often this was manifested in the wake of political announcements. He adds, “of course, all Voluntary organizations at same level in terms of their commitment, competence and credibility. The government there fore, should spell out the considerations that will determine the recognition of a Voluntary organization which may be willing to take such responsibility”. Government may make such policy declarations and many
schemes which may be better implemented through Voluntary organizations. It may also lay down the procedure for giving organizations working in our country, training in new ideas and approach in rural development. However, to operationalise such an approach needs many steps that government should take.

Ramachandran’s (1985)\(^45\) paper “Implementation of Projects for Enhancement of Rural Prosperity”, makes an analysis of PADI (People Action for Development India) as a case study to see implementation of projects for enhancement of rural prosperity. He says PADI has strengthened voluntary efforts and has built up local institutions, which can stand on their own feet. The author says, work of voluntary agencies in generating rural employment through project implementation is commendable.

According to Raja Sekharan (1985)\(^46\) in his article “Voluntary Organizations and Rural Development” voluntary organizations play a vital role in building awareness. They can also organize the rural poor at the grassroots level so as to enable them to avail the benefits collectively for community welfare. In the author’s opinion, the kind of voluntary organizations most suited would be those which are dedicated to development and consist of persons committed to the emancipation of the rural poor.

According to Jain (1985)\(^47\) in his article “Voluntary Agencies for Atmospherics : Not Implantation” IRDP implementation is on the verge of debacle and the future looks dim unless radical corrective measures are taken up immediately. The programme of mobilizing voluntary agencies is one such healthy step. He says, a voluntary organization manifests the wish of a socially motivated group to express itself through service to its fellow-beings, though distortions are numerous, a voluntary agency’s true role is that of an extension agency or watchman agency rather than an implementing agency, sound safeguard against the lure of tasting the forbidden fruit. There are several fields in
which voluntary agencies can lend its shoulders. It may assist in building up of a science culture in the rural areas as a prerequisite to their entry into the much heralded 21st century.

Patel (1985)\textsuperscript{48} opined in his paper “Rural Development : A Challenging Task for Voluntary Agencies” that in rural development, a challenging task for voluntary agencies is that to overcome the feeling amongst the downtrodden that, everybody who approaches them is selfish and exploitative. In such an atmosphere, an indiscriminate introduction of voluntary agencies in the rural areas will be self-defeating. The agencies have to be carefully selected. In the view of the author, “they should have a right kind of motivation, tact and talent. The agencies should enter the field with the adequate preparation and understanding of social and economic structures of the community which it wishes to serve”. They should have blend of “professionalism with a human touch”. According to him, the agency should be in a position to create (1) awareness among the rural poor about the assistance being provided by the government and banks through various development programmes and (ii) climate conducive for growth, upliftment, production distributive justice and recycling of funds in close collaboration with the banks and government officials.

According to Ramamurthy (1985)\textsuperscript{49} in his paper “Government Functionaries must whole Heartedly Accept Voluntary Agencies” for over several decades, voluntary organizations have been engaged in the development endeavors. They claim to have special qualities in their styles of functioning such as innovativeness, flexibility in operation, sensitivity to changing needs and high level of motivation of functionaries, which are stated to be less pronounced in state sponsored organization. Their role in rural development, particularly in the programmes of poverty eradication has been a subject of debate and controversy. In accordance with the governmental policies, the expected ways of involving voluntary agencies have been indicated in the programme content of poverty
eradication programmes such as IRDP. The full and sustained participation of voluntary organizations is an imperative condition precedent for the success of our anti-poverty measures.

Jain (1985)\textsuperscript{50}, in his book “Rural Development instructions and Strategies” argues that the voluntary agencies have an important role in informing and motivating people and carrying out supplemental action for improving income of the poor through raising self-employment activity. They also help in the identification of eligible household, organizing the poor for group action, informing them about various Government schemes and official procedures, preparing applications for loans, follow – up and liaison service etc. in fact it paves the way for the poor to raise self – employment.

In his paper “The National NGO Convention; Voluntarism, The State and the Struggle for Change” Fernandes Walter (1986)\textsuperscript{51} discusses the changes in the voluntary sector. He estimates that till the 1936s over 80 percent of the voluntary organizations were either Gandhian or Church related. Most of them were either in relief or in institutionalized programmes such as schools hospitals, etc. He points out that the recent change with regard to voluntarism in India, viz. the involvement of the voluntary agencies becoming part of many contracts signed by international aid-giving agencies with the central and state governments under lying the assumption that the voluntary sector can implement the projects without questioning the thinking behind them.

In his book “Voluntary Agency and Rural Development” Satya Sundaram (1986)\textsuperscript{52} has emphasized the need and relevance of voluntary organizations in the implementation of rural development programs at the grass root level. According to him, the present style of anti – programs leads to wastage, which calls for the immediate attention and minimizations of the expenditure. His deep study obviously drags us to the conclusion that in some spheres, the voluntary
agencies are far better and superior when compared to the government programs. He emphasizes on the ongoing and established rapport between the voluntary and government organizations; consequently they become a handmaid to the government in the eradication of poverty and unemployment. His analytical study makes us to understand the inability of the government in getting a view of the problems at the grass root level even through it is embedded with sufficient funds. On the contrary the voluntary agencies suffer from lack of funds in spite of the possession of the infinite knowledge regarding the local area. Hence, it has to be understood and noted that the co-operation between these two will result in the rapid development.

Kothari (1986)\textsuperscript{53}, in his article “the NGOs, the state and World Development” analyses the relations between state capitalism and world capitalism and the role of NGOs in promoting rural development for bringing social and economic enlistment of the oppressed classes. He finds that the outstanding feature of the capitalist regime is that of control, repression and exploitation by sophisticated means. He considers that Voluntary agencies promote egalitarian development. It conclusion, Kothari says that Voluntary agencies must resist the new ways of repression by MNCs, state and other capitalist organizations because they are voice of the voiceless. The voice which we reflect and articulate, according to kothari, cannot any longer be suppressed. Social movements and grass roots actions are the source of accountability of the state, to the civil society. To further this goal NGOs must discard conditionality attached with the grants from MNCs. It is necessary, not because of domination by bureaucrats but because of our original conceptions of genuine Voluntarism.

Venkata Rao (1987)\textsuperscript{54}, in his paper “Role of IRDP” feels that the programs of Voluntary Agency are primarily meant for self – reliability of local areas (Sanghams). He says the strength of Voluntary Agency lies in its method of creative evolution of their programs. Venkata Rao concludes that for the success
of Voluntary Agency, IRDP must be involved in its implementations. His study also shows that there are many benefits of Voluntary Agency if IRDP is involved in the implementation.

Upendra Baxi (1987)\textsuperscript{55} in his paper “the NGOs, the state and world development,” concludes that voluntarism to some, is un-acknowledged class collaborations that lacks ideology, simply because it serves victims of exploitation but does not question why the victim groups become and remain so. Thus, according to Baxi, social activism must shun “Brahminical” paradox. So that it will emanate knowledge with which activists can educate masses about deformities of power. In this profound sense of the word dedication, activist must have to learn from the selflessness of voluntarism at its authentic best. Hence, Baxi concludes that voluntarism should adopt ideology so that it avoids exploitation.

Padmanabham’s (1987)\textsuperscript{56} “study of Developing Voluntary initiatives” tries to analyze the significance and difference of voluntary groups. He distinguishes NGOs (corporations elected bodies, co–operatives, Panchayats etc.) from that of voluntary organizations, which are selfless initiative driven. Voluntary organizations, according to him, are established because of a few service oriented people. It caters to the needs of the local area. As such it gets involved in complex problems of society. He suggests that, it is difficult to categorise the KVIC institutions as being charity organizations, or cultural organizations. To Padmanabham, the entire existing voluntary groups whatever be their ideology, can only supplement the masses in dealing with the complex problems of society.

In his paper “NGOs in South Asia: People’s Participation and Partnership” Fernandez (1987)\textsuperscript{57} traces the development of non-governmental organisations or voluntary organisations or voluntary agencies (volags) in South Asia, specifically India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In India, efforts to obtain
greater “people’s participation” were made through the establishment of cooperatives by government, the movement of Mahamta Gnadhi and the Christian churches. Differences in the nature of collaboration between government and voluntary organisations in the five countries are discussed. Finally, the various types of donor organisations are enumerated and specific examples of each are given.

In his article “Development alternatives: The challenge for NGOs. And overview of the Issues”. Anna Gordond Drabek (1987) firmly questions, Governments have not been able to provide the answers, perhaps we should be looking to the non-governmental organisations, which are playing increasingly active role in development. He said that NGOs cannot and should not compete with the multilateral and bilateral donors in implementing large-scale projects or funding policy reform programmes. He supports the opinion of Robert Chambers- that the NGOs should not forget their grassroots origins and links, the basis of their greater strength. And the writer suggests that, in order to be effective in their various spheres of activity, NGOs must take a hard look at the challenges.

Gupta (1988), in his work “voluntary Agencies and Rural Development” suggests that the role of voluntary organizations should be of a scientist and not of nation wide practitioner. The voluntary organizations should never try to compete with the government or for that matter, supplement its efforts. Their fields should be distinctly different. But the above arguments stands contrary to the views of Harshad Trivedi who firmly argues that the NGOs should work with the Government Organizations so that they go hand in hand in rendering their service to the poor as well as to rural areas.

Sachidananda (1988), in his book “social change in village India” argues that voluntary agencies can make an effective dent in the society created depression and exploitation. They hold the promise of raising the consciousness
of the masses and bringing hope for a better quality among the people. It is only through voluntary agencies that we can conceive participatory democracy. Even if the voluntary agencies do not bring revolutions on the national scale, they mitigate the distress of the people and show them the away to make their life happy. In every society, there are men and women inspired by the idea of social progress and social change through voluntary agencies.

Suressh (1990) in his article “Participation of Beneficiaries in the Development Programmes of Non-Governmental Organisations in Kerala” while analyzing the participation of beneficiaries in the development programs of non-governmental organizations in Kerala finds out interesting trends. This study reveals that, NGOs are not working as participatory organization to the extent desired. A detailed study of people’s participation in NGOs has practical utility for government and NGOs. Only 38 percent beneficiaries have satisfactory level of participation. Only 62 percent of beneficiaries have attained desirable degree of participation in the developmental programmes initiated and implemented for their upliftment. He concluded in his study, that the beneficiaries are found, to be not keen in getting represented in decision making bodies and planning process. However, the institutional arrangement for participation and the participation score are found to be directly correlated. Hence, more vigorous attempts are needed to incorporate such arrangement in all the development organizations and their programmes.

In his edited book entitled “Role of Voluntary Organization in Social Development” Chandramouli (1990) believes that Voluntary Action is the most powerful instrument of transformation of any society for achieving better socio-economic goals. It is suggested that a more effective role is necessary for promoting voluntary action, in order to minimize the need for bureaucratic intervention. Voluntary organization must be made to serve as nodal centers of providing information. Here the author observes that the Voluntary action is
necessary to setup schemes like non-formal education to create new awareness and a new cadre of ‘Rural Women Folk’ to set up consumer protection forum, to draw special attention to the problems and status of women, to initiate a multi pronged approach and an all round development covering the various aspects of rural life, to achieve the social goals and create ideal conditions for good life etc.

Voluntary organizations are believed to be the dependable source of motivation, mobilization and activation of the process of development. To perform the expected work Voluntary organizations should properly imbibe a financial discipline and an organizational structure is necessary.

According to Chandramouli the role of voluntary Organisations in the international field has been greatly enlarged during this century. We encountered a variety of voluntary organisations with totally different (but generally not mutually conflicting) objectives and purpose. Apart from the international Red Cross in the field of relief of peace keeping and development, we have been witnessing a tremendous spurt of international voluntary bodies like the Rotary, the Lions, the Jaycees and Free Mason’s Lodge. In the field of religion and philosophy, education and philanthropy, trade and commerce, professionalism and Journalism, sport and games, there have been unanimous universal responses to voluntary effort and, voluntary participation. The Olympics and the Asiad are examples of this exemplary progress towards voluntary unification of nations and towards a world brotherhood. India has a very long, ancient and traditional background of voluntary organisations and voluntary leaderships at times even based on elected leadership that sounds very ultra modern. The author further discussed our own past and the institutions inherited by us, almost from times immemorial, which have been either adopted or adapted to suit the needs and requirements of our modern democratic framework and contemporary international scene and the current national situation of voluntary organisations.
Bina Agarwal (1991)\textsuperscript{63} analysed the interrelationships between gender, poverty and the environment in rural India, focusing especially on regional variations and temporal shifts over 1971-91. Briefly identifying the major factors underlying environmental degradation, the study traces why and how this degradation and the appropriation of natural resources by the state (statization) and by some individuals (privatization), tend to have particularly adverse implications for the female members of poor rural households. She further examined Governmental and community initiated attempts at environmental protection and regeneration and computed an aggregate index GEP (V) to address those issues.

Mohinder Singh (1992)\textsuperscript{64}, in his article “NGOs – Best catalytic Agents for rural development” consider that non-government organizations (NGOs) are best stimulants for rural development. He says that the many a government programmes like TRYSEM, IRDP, JRY, etc., have failed for want of rapport with beneficiaries. On the contrary the NGOs ensure not only successful implementation of schemes but also timely recovery. He points out that, being manned by devoted workers, they encourage proper utilization of funds and bring about awareness among the rural poor about welfare schemes. Services of the NGOs can be of great use for mobilizing local financial resources from within the community to make them self–reliant, they play vital role in monitoring and data about the implementation of these programs and help in the process of providing needful feedback on the part of government, their flexible innovativeness can also provide new directions to rural development. Singh concludes that NGOs play vital role in socio–economic transformation of rural areas.

Muniandi (1992)\textsuperscript{65}, in his paper, “Role of Voluntary Agencies in Rural Development”, says that bringing development in Rural India is not an impossible task, provided voluntary agencies put intense efforts on the task. He finds out that these voluntary agencies bring in sustained rural growth. He says
that the main objects of the voluntary agencies must be to make villages self – sufficient.

In another study “Role of KVIC in the Biogas Scheme and Participation of voluntary Agencies in implementation of the Programs,” Padmanabham (1992) 66, analyses the role of voluntary organizations in the implementation of KVIC’s biogas scheme and feels that Energy is one of the essential indicators of the property of the society. With the known source depleting quickly, man became anxious about his future. Several ideas had been put up in the early part of this century about of the value of sun, wind, waves and other sources in addition to biogas. But it was biogas that stole a march over other forms of renewable energies. He suggests that voluntary agencies are the bridge between the governmental organizations and on the basis of his study, he contends that biogas scheme taken up by KVIC is an appropriate technology measure in bringing rural development.

Khanna’s, (1992) 67 “Rural Industrialization and Poverty Alleviation,” finds that there is high degree of correlation between the incidence of poverty and incidence of unemployment. His study suggests that, employment in villages can be created through small scale industries with the help of voluntary organizations and this will help alleviate poverty in rural India. Thus NGOs must encourage small scale industries in the villages.

In his paper “Non-Governmental Organizations and Anti Leprosy Work” Vajpeyi (1992) 68 says that voluntary organizations deal with cases of social stigma and help rehabilitate them through education. He makes an analysis of the role of Non-governmental Organizations working in the area of leprosy eradication. He suggests that socio-economic rehabilitation of leprosy-purified persons should be done by community as a whole. Voluntary agencies and government must co-ordinate and co-operate to achieve this up hill task.
Samiul Hasan (1993)\(^6\) in his article studied the impact and extent of voluntarism in rural development in Bangladesh. His study found that the development efforts undertaken and the services provided through voluntarism satisfy some of the demands of the people and curtail pressure on the constrained budgets of the local government bodies. However, there are some available resources which are yet to be mobilized for developmental purposes. Furthermore, the rural development programmes undertaken by different voluntary organizations are scattered and uncoordinated. He suggested that if the Voluntary organizations are arranged methodically, voluntarism can make significant differences to the lives of the rural poor in a country like Bangladesh, where governmental resources are scarce but where the people are basically altruistic.

In his field study “The social and political relation of development : NGOs and Adivasi Bhils in Rural Rajasthan”. The researcher Mixine K. Weisgrace (1993)\(^7\) said that local non-governmental organisations are attempting to elevate the standard of living of Adivasi Bhils by encouraging literacy training, political organisation and activism, social and ritual reform and protection of natural resources. These organisations are encouraging creation of awareness of social and environmental issues as well as participation in the local political process. The author wishes to identify social and political dimension of a particular aspect of development in a rural community. The dedication and personal sacrifice that NGO workers display every day, in these communities, is profound. In many cases individuals have sacrificed financially and socially rewarding careers in other fields, occasionally putting themselves in physical danger, to commit themselves to an arduous profession with little recognition or opportunity for personal advancement.

Dhillon and Hansra (1995)\(^8\) discussed the role of NGOs in their study and indicated that the NGOs in general have firsthand experience and knowledge of local needs, problems and research at local level, they are closer to the minds and hearts of the people and they are with commitment and zeal of voluntary action.
From his book “Rural Development through NGOs”, it is understood that A.K. Kapoor (1997)\textsuperscript{72} has a special approach towards rural development. He gives an account that voluntary bodies have a role in creating the welfare state, provided states participate along with peoples’ participation. According to the author the main aim of voluntary organization is to promote human welfare and well being. Even their programmes should completely cover the functions that embrace human welfare.

Kumar Lalit (1998)\textsuperscript{73} in his study stated that the voluntary sector deserves encouragement to ameliorate at least some of the problems, because of its comparative advantages. Voluntary Organizations (VOs)/ NGOs are much closer to the poor & disadvantaged sections of the society; staff of VOs is normally highly motivated and altruistic in their behaviour; VOs can easily stimulate and mobilise community resources and have access to volunteers; they are more effective in bringing people’s participation; VOs are less rule-bound and are non-bureaucratic, non-formal and flexible in their structure and operations; Voluntary sector has greater potential for innovations; VOs prefer to work in a multi-sectoral framework; VOs are catalysts for creating social cohesion.

In his book “Voluntary Action and Development towards a Practice for Non-Government Agencies” the author Rudolf Heradia (1998)\textsuperscript{74} says that voluntary action is non-institutionalized response to massive bureaucratization and centralization. Rather, it reverses the conventional trickle-down strategy for a radical bottom-up approach and recommends involving both researcher and people in a collaborative search for understanding and action. He says that there is strong affinity between voluntary agencies, developmental alternatives and participatory research which in turn, reverse the conventional strategies in their respective spheres for a basically bottom-up approach.
Ajay Tankha (1999)\textsuperscript{75} in his article “Some NGO Dilemmas in Reaching the poorest with microfinances” Opines that “microfinance models and prescriptions are aimed at the present breed of NGOs engaged in development work with the poor. Many of these NGOs are involved in implementing savings and credit schemes as well. These schemes may have had their ground in group organization and activity or in response to a strong need within the community. In any event the hybrid NGO undertaking microfinance as well as other development activity is a fact of life. He further says that the NGOs that scale up their microfinance activities will inevitably leave themselves less space for social development and institution building in which they have the competitive advantage. The effects of structural adjustment have reinforced the need to create safely nets for those who lose out on market opportunities. NGOs are best placed to contribute in this area but are being forced to re examine their role at a critical stage.

Linking, inextricably, development with poverty alleviation and welfare the author Barkat Alam (1999)\textsuperscript{76} in his seminar paper “poverty Alleviation, Welfare, Economic Development and NGOs – Some Observations,” discussed the role of NGOs in the development process of less developed countries. He said that NGOs are playing increasingly important role in the development process in less developed countries. They are supposed to perform a very distinct function of filling the gaps in development.

The book “Voluntary Organization and Social Welfare” edited by Abha , Vijayi and Prakash(2000)\textsuperscript{77}, covers various aspects of voluntary organizations broadly covering the activities, mechanism, health and family welfare, man power, organisation and management, infrastructural resources, financing of activities, cooperation and collaboration between government organisations and NGOs and Central Government Schemes. Thus it encompasses a broad spectrum in the field of social welfare. The authors opine that, the Government on its own,
can not deliver all the services, pertaining to health and family welfare at all the
times, to all in every work and concern of the vast country. Moreover, seventy
percent of people still reside in rural areas and twenty percent in city. These
people cannot afford to pay for the costly health and family welfare cares. So the
voluntary organisation with their commitment, source of devotion to serve the
society with missionary approach can ameliorate the suffering of the majority of
Indians teeming millions of rural villages and urban slums.

Sunil Misra (2000)\textsuperscript{78} in his book “Voluntary Action in Health and
Population the Dynamics of Social Transition”, was trying to say the need for the
convergence of the programmes between the people and their health behavior,
thereby promoting the acceptance of modern healthcare. NGOs have succeeded
in breaking the resistances and brought about social legitimization of their
interventions. Overall this book analyses the dynamics of social change, the
factors that lead to success, and the problems. The case studies contain a wealth
of material which will help in the formalization of methodologies and long term
strategies to transform positive change into enduring social behavior. At the core
of the book lie a concern for community participation and the need for mass
education as being crucial to bringing about an attitudinal change in health
behaviour.

In his paper Rajasekhar (2000)\textsuperscript{79}, based on the review of existing studies
and, research experience with a large number of NGOs in India, aims at
discussion on definition, types, recurring changes, advantages and weaknesses of
NGOs. The discussion on the evolution of NGOs shows that the perspectives of
NGOs widened from charity and welfare to development, and to sustainable
development and empowerment. This has been influenced by the policies of
donor agencies and Indian Government. He argues that the NGOs need to play a
dynamic role in the context of liberalization policies, improved credibility and
legitimacy for NGOs etc., and discussed the viable strategy for NGOs and
provides a list of features that make an NGO responsive to people’s needs. According to the author a good NGO is one which has capable, balanced (especially in terms of gender) and matured board of directors / members. The NGO aims at good governance in the sense that the programmes need to be developed by involving the people, staff and board. This ensures that everyone in the organization would know about the activities to be implemented; the funds availed for each of the activity, how (and when) the activities are to be implemented, and monitoring of the activities. The NGOs need to begin their work after analyzing the situation and needs of the community. This enables them to have clarity with regard to the actual needs of the community, and how the activities address the needs of the community. The NGOs should seek to enable participation of members not as recipients of benefits but at those who control and monitor the programme. NGOs need to comply with all statutory requirements, and follow good systems and procedures regarding activities, accounts, progress etc. A good NGO should be accountable to all the parties concerned. It needs to be committed to the objectives that it has set. Hence, there is need to report the progress made with reference to objective fulfillment to the board, people, government, donors and the media. NGOs need to adopt less bureaucratic, participatory and cost-effective approach to development.

Gopal Krishna Sahu (2000) in his article “Voluntary Organization for Rural Development” published in book “Rural Development Reforms”, concludes that Voluntary organizations have a great role to play in socio-economic transformation of the rural people. They could give a helping hand to government and other development agencies concerned with rural development. The success of these originations depend on the financial assistance provided by the government and other funding agencies”. 
Shenggen Fan and Peter Hazell (2000) have made an empirical analysis of Rural India with particular reference to less favoured areas. They concluded that the poverty, food security and environmental problems of many low potential areas are likely to remain serious in the decades ahead as population continues to grow.

In Trivadi’s (2000) article “New NGO: An Omnibus Myth”, we find the author observing the rapid increase in the nature, range and diversity of welfare activities which are going beyond public and private, sectors. Therefore he suggests a positive conceptual correction that is to change the name as associate government organizations (AGO) in the place of NGOs. He also suggests that the AGOs should associate with government in their work rather than opposing the services of it. He also shows the nature of welfare work and shows difference between pre-independence work and the work post-independence. The writer puts forward a few problems of NGOs in India. Management of welfare service with financial aid from public administrations required that the new NGOs to keep their feet on the ground. The work method of casework, group participations and community mobilizations had to be imaginative to provide benefits to the poor and to the needy. Beside these new NGOs had to control anti-social activities in the society and provided advice and guidance to rehabilitations of the sufferers. Crime against woman and children now have specialized service rendered by NGOs. NGOs working in welfare sector lacked continuous organic solidary because they could not cope with the variety of the load of their development efforts. The author also gives a few reasons for NGOs helplessness. Some of these are the NGOs finding it difficult to control their funding sources. Their dependence on external source creates problems of stability and continuity of work. Thus the author stresses that it is essential that the new NGO should associate with government in doing their work rather than the services of the government.
Indu Bhaskar and Geethakutty (2001)\textsuperscript{83} in their study found that Voluntary Organizations have special qualities in their style of functioning such as flexibility in operation, sensitivity to changing needs, high level of motivation of the functionaries and innovations.

Rajesh Tandon (2001)\textsuperscript{84} in his study provided the diversity of voluntary sector in India, as (i) Traditional Associations, which associations exist around a social unit either defined by a tribe, ethnicity or caste; (ii) Religious Associations; (iii) Social Movements - In the contemporary Indian context, a number of social movements, spearheaded by social movement organisations (SMOs) have emerged as major manifestations of civil society; (iv) Membership Associations - set up to represent the opinions and interest of a particular category of citizens e.g. unions of rural labour, farm workers, women workers, consumer associations etc.; (v) Intermediary Associations - function between individual citizens and macro state institutions like the bureaucracy, judiciary and police etc.

Sandeep Joshi (2001)\textsuperscript{85} in his article “Role of Voluntary Organisations in Tribal Development : A case study of Abujhmarh Rural Development Project in Madhya Pradesh”, felt that bureaucratic system has its own limitations. It cannot be as flexible as the simple tribal situation would ideally require it to be. In such situations voluntary organisations can play a vital role in overall development of tribals. In fact, the strength of a voluntary organization lies in its sensitivity to the needs and aspiration of the target groups where voice tends to get lost in the din and turmoil of the new age. He highlights the splendid work being done by the Ramakrishma Mission under its Abujhmarh Rural Development Project in Bastar District in Madyapradesh.

Wadhwa (2002)\textsuperscript{86} in his article stated that SHGs are formed by NGO and linked to bank. In this model, NGO would organize the poor into SHGs, undertake training for awareness building, entrepreneurship and skill training,
help in arranging inputs, extension and marketing inputs, introduce saving and internal lending, help in maintenance of accounts and link them with the banks for credit requirements.

Laxmi R. Kulshrestha and Archana Gupta (2002)\textsuperscript{87} in their article “NGOs in micro Financing : Partners in Rural Development” Conclude that NGOs have now attained legitimacy and credibility largely due to liberalization policies. But the cooperation with the government has to take place in the very same environment which has some of the policies that go against the poor. Hence, there is need for NGOs to play a dual role. Collaborate with the Government critically and oppose policies of the government which are anti–poor. NGOs and their people’s organizations can play this dual role only when they succeed in self-help promotion. This includes the formation of target–group organization building capacity of the poor and leadership among them.

Proceedings of the All India Conference on the Role of the Voluntary Sector in National Development (2002)\textsuperscript{88} states that growth of the voluntary sector has been uneven in the country and consequently the flow of funds, both domestic & foreign, is somewhat skewed in favour of some States and some activities. All major religions of the world were born and nurtured on our soil, and they all have implored their believers to contribute to the well-being of other human beings by forming as Non-governmental Organizations. The conference suggested that Government should take a lead to set up representative forums and mechanisms at the State, District and Block levels for Government and voluntary organizations to meet and to have dialogue for collaborating in planning programs so that there is more synergy rather than competition.

Gurulingalah (2002)\textsuperscript{89} opines that NGOs are the part of civil society. He says that NGOs are considered as mirror of rural social life and rural development. They uphold the motto of sustainable social development including
health environment and transformation towards a better society. In his article “Role of NGO in empowerment of Tribal women in Karnataka”, he has made an attempt to study the efforts made by an NGO to empower the tribal women in Tumkur District of Karnataka. He has further felt that for almost a decade the NGO has been organizing the women to form SHGs to meet their felt needs and enable them to participate in planning and implementation of their own developmental programmes; besides, it has been conducting social and health awareness campaigns to eliminate superstitious customs, attitude and thinking related to poverty and child birth which are blocking the progress of tribal women.

Bandhyopadhyay, (2002)\(^9\) in his study stated that since the space for development administration and political processes at the sub-district levels is currently limited, PRIs are competing with the SHGs for such space. In Andhra Pradesh, it has been recommended that a symbiotic relationship be worked out between the SHGs and the PRIs by statutorily making the members of the SHGs as members of the standing committees of the PRIs at all the tiers.

Rama Lakshmi (2003)\(^9\) in her study revealed that Andhra Pradesh alone has about half of SHGs organized in the country. The SHGs are also popularly called DWACRA groups and this name became popular after the DWACRA programmes through which women’s groups were assisted initially.

In his article “Interaction between Field Workers and their Clients and Superiors in Non-Governmental Organisations,” Mokbul Morshed Ahmad (2003)\(^9\) deals with the interaction between field workers and their immediate superiors. According to him this discussion was important for three main reasons. Firstly, it is important to know how field workers interact with their immediate superiors. Secondly, from a development point of view it is important to see how policies and discussions are filtered down from the top to the filed workers and
how field workers pass them on to their clients. Thirdly, it is very important for
the NGO management to know how or whether the problems or opinions of the
clients are taken into consideration in the short or long-term planning of NGOs. In
his opinion, field workers know their limitations very well and have good
suggestions for future planning of their NGOs. This knowledge could be a major
asset for the NGOs. During the course of his discussion with the field workers, he
was informed that it was the first time that they were asked about their
relationship with their clients or superior and their failures and successes. This,
once again underlines the necessity of discussion with field workers in any
decision making process of the NGOs.

In their work “Role of Grassroots NGOs : A Social Activist’s
Perspective”, Panda and Pattanik (2003)93 opined that in recent times, many
grassroots micro movements known as new social movements (NSMs) have been
taking place centering on contemporary issues of importance such as ecology /
environment women empowerment, human rights, sharing of natural resources
and the like. The NGOs in India have contributed handsomely towards social
activism through their intense campaigns, peoples’ mobilization programmes and
effective networks. In the light of these, this article “Role of Grassroots NGOs : A Social Activist’s Perspective” points at NGOs as a social force that facilitates
collective action and people’s mobilization. It discusses how by deploying various
people-oriented as well as people-centered strategies, these organisations build
rapport with the people and mobilizes them. This has been discussed from the
vantage point of an activist’s perspective. The article portrays empirically the
roles that NGOs play in making the people environmentally aware and sensitive
to take part in the social activism. This article aims at examining NGOs as
facilitators of new social movements. In this process, the article also discusses
how NGOs play a significant role in mobilizing people and by creating awareness
among them to stage protests against the systemic fallout, hegemonic power
play of the state and discriminatory policies of the decision making state / corporate bodies.

The book “Rural Prosperity Oriented Programmes, NGOs and people’s Participation” by SB Verma (2003) gives a lucid picture of all the possible aspects of rural development which uplifts the rural society and the effectiveness of several programmes launched by the governments, cooperatives and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from time to time to eradicate poverty, which is the most strikingly common factor in almost all the villages of India. It also projects useful information about rural development at present, in India. The author also presented a bunch of articles with regard to conceptual as well as practical aspects of rural development. We also learn that the NGOs became predominantly prominent after independence, especially after 1970s. It says that it is because of the limited success of the past development policies pursued by the government. It also instructs the need for micro level institutions to involve the people in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the programmes. The book also aims at the recognition of the strengths of the NGOs in organizing the community and the capacity and the potential in savings and credit programmes. It also highlights that rural employment is a weapon to fight against poverty. It is only possible when it is clubbed with people’s participation.

“Role of NGOs in Disaster Management with reference to the post super cyclone period in Orissa” is a case study by Nilkantha Panigrahi (2004) in Orissa after the cyclone in 1999. This paper described brief historical account of NGOs in Orissa and the responses of NGOs to the post – super cyclone requirements of Orissa. In the post super cyclone period NGOs have carried out a visible role in undertaking relief and rehabilitation programmes. It is observed that the programmes have become more intensive and appropriate during the relief phase of disaster management where these have been under taken by the local NGO. Finally he argues that the local NGOs should operate in close
coordination with the state and with International Organisations at higher level, with Panchayat Raj institutions and people’s organisations at ground level through a partnership network approach.

In his article “Voluntary Organizations and Development: The Indian experience” the author Bidyuth Chakrabarty (2004) makes an attempt to understand the phenomenon of voluntarism and underlines concretization suggesting a different, if not an alternative, path of development. An attempt has also been made to identify the distinctive features and role of voluntarism in development in contrast with state-led development in India. The role of voluntary agencies in development was recognized by the planning commission since its inception. This article discusses how this role was further strengthened and highlighted in various Five Year Plans.

Binay Kumar Pattnaik and Biswambhar Panda (2005) say that the voluntary organizations seek to play the role of development catalysts and pressure groups to subject the power apparatus of the state to close scrutiny. They mobilize people, encourage them to raise their voices against the establishment and, in the process build up a cohesive and unified force in the form of people’s protest / movements. Hence, NGOs can be seen as agents of social movement that promulgate collective acting for mobilization, leading to institutionalization.

Gopal Krishna Sahu (2005) in his article “Voluntary Organization for Rural Development” concluded that voluntary organizations have a great role to play in the socio–economic transformation of rural people. They could give a helping hand to the government and other developmental agencies concerned with rural development. The success of these organizations depends on the financial assistance provided by the Govrment and other funding agencies.
Ahmad Shamshad (2005)\textsuperscript{99} in his article “NGOs and the Development of Rural Entrepreneurship” has concluded that the role of NGOs has assumed critical significance primarily at the grassroots level. They have contacts with people and respond to their needs effectively. A few NGOs in India have succeeded largely in imparting skills of income generation and micro entrepreneurship development among the weaker sections of the society, women, tribal and others.

Pradeep Kumar (2005)\textsuperscript{100}, in his article “Rural Development: A collaboration of GOs and NGOS” has opined that volunteerism was conventional in form and characterized by charity, relief, welfare, philanthropy and social reform. He further has felt that volunteerism was an expression of human impulses towards fellow men and society at large. He therefore says “it was an idealism which inspired conventional volunteerism rather the ideology. It incorporates some of the elements of conventional volunteerism and is based on ideology rather than idealism. It aims at achieving development and social justice rather than only relief and welfare. Modern volunteerism strives to change the social, economic and political position of the poor.

Sahu and Tripathy (2005)\textsuperscript{101} in their study stated that 70 per cent of world’s poor are women. Access to poor to banking services is important not only for poverty alleviation but also for optimising their contribution to the growth of regional as well as the national economy. Self Help Groups (SHGs) have emerged as the most vital instrument in the process of participatory development and women empowerment. The rural women are the marginalized groups in the society because of socio-economic constraints. They remain backward and on lower position of the social hierarchical ladder. They can lift themselves from the morass of poverty and stagnation through micro finance and formation of Self-Help Groups.
In her article “NGOs as catalysts of women’s empowerment” Ajailu Niumai (2005) discussed the role of NGOs in empowerment of women. Women’s empowerment refers to a range of activities from self assertion to group mobilization, protest and the emerging challenge to the basic power relations against the system of patriarchy which marginalizes women. The most salient feature in the concept of empowerment is defined as the capacity of individuals to control people around them even against their will. Power is exercised in terms of controls or decisions which others have to obey. In the authors’ opinion, the NGOs as citizen forums at the grass root level have the liberty to criticize the State Government’s policy, suggest valuable substitutes and work with the State Government as partners in wholistic development as well as in women’s empowerment. Today, NGOs are increasingly preferred to governmental agencies so much that even major new projects promoted by Governments in dairy farming, wasteland development, afforestation etc., Emergence of rural technologies and new energy sources are being set up on the model of NGOs with their own autonomous boards and with limited accountability to Governments. If NGOs are suitably empowered with legal authority, they can perform a significant role towards the betterment of the conditions of women and accomplish socio-economic justice for them. She suggests the State Government should try to appreciate and acknowledge the NGOs as legitimate and powerful institutions of the civil society on which it relies for implementing and evaluating various programmes including women’s issues with efficiency. On the other hand, NGOs should be free from corruption and work towards the planned socio economic development of the people especially women.

EDA and APMAS, (2006) made a study on the functioning of SHG-Bank Linkage Programme in four states. Their study found that 51 per cent of the members were poor, 55 per cent belonged to the SC/ST category, and 66 per cent of SHGs were single-caste SHGs. However, one-third had mixed-caste membership. 72 per cent of the membership had had no schooling at all. In only
51 per cent of the groups more than half the members had primary school education. This acted as an impediment to book-keeping and maintenance of record. Average monthly savings was Rs 45, and cumulative member savings Rs 2400. The modal interest rate charged on loans to members was 2 per cent per month. 77 percent of the groups had borrowed from banks or federations at least once, for an average of 2.5 times. For a subset of the sample (with balance sheets) the ratio of external borrowings outstanding to internal capital was 1.43. Loans were relatively well distributed among members, with low variance around the mean. The proportion of non-borrowers was 7 per cent. The proportion of defunct groups was 7 per cent, which is low considering that the average age of a group was 6 years.

Asitha Ahuja (2006)\textsuperscript{104} studied the relationship between rural development and agriculture. Asitha points out that "Although agriculture is still the backbone of the Indian economy, at least in terms of employment, the impulses of reforms have been relatively less in scope and depth in this sector. This book explains the key reform measures undertaken for the development of agriculture and rural areas since 1991. To provide the necessary backdrop to the new order, the work traces the developments in Indian agriculture during the post-Independence period and examines current issues pertaining to this vital sector of the Indian economy."

Raghav Gaiha and Mani Arul Nandhi (2007)\textsuperscript{105} assesses the benefits of microfinance through self-help groups, based on a specially designed survey in selected villages. Their study found that while the targeting of microfinance through SHGs was unsatisfactory in terms of an income criterion, it was better in terms of other indicators of deprivation such as low caste, landlessness and illiteracy. What is, however, noteworthy is that the loans were used largely for health and education of children and for production-related expenses-especially by the disadvantaged. Not only do SHGs benefit from the presence of networks, the former also contribute to trust, reciprocity and associational capital (e.g. through strengthening of local institutions). Domestic violence was reduced. However, greater responsibilities for women also involved longer hours of work.
Madan Mohan (2007) brought out an edited book titled “Rural Development in India: Problems and Prospects.” He points out, “Of late, 'Rural development' has assumed global attention especially among the developing nations. A country like India where nearly 70 per cent of the people live in rural areas rural development has great significance.” This book analyses problems and prospects of rural development in coherent way. Major themes, discussed herein are-Introduction to Rural Development; Rural Society in India; Impact of economic Reforms on Rural Poor; Rural development Programmes; Poverty, Environment and development; Rural development and Agro-Industries; Food Security and Rural Women; Literacy and Rural Women; Rural Women and Local Self Government; Gram sabha and Village Level Governance; Indian Rural Settlement System & Caste and Clan; Rural Development and Voluntarism; Poverty Alleviation in Rural India: Programmes and Strategies; Rural Development: A Case of Tamil Nadu; Future Strategies; Women Entrepreneurs and Credit Facilities etc.

Mukundan, N. (2011) studied elaborately the issues pertaining to rural development through his latest publication. Mukundan argues that the development of rural India is imperative for inclusive and equitable growth and to unlock huge potential of the population that is presently trapped in poverty. The root cause of social insecurity in India is poverty and that is largely due to lack of adequate or productive employment opportunities. Agricultural growth is crucial for alleviating rural poverty. Similarly, development of rural industries is the key to rural development. These industries are generally artisan-based, located mostly in rural and semi-urban areas. Rural credit is another significant component of rural development strategy. Access to institutional credit to more farmers and appropriate quantity and quality of agricultural credit are crucial for realising the full potential of agriculture as a profitable activity. This book deals with various aspects of rural development in India with focus on rural poverty.
Summing Up

After analyzing various studies on the role of voluntary organizations in rural development, we get a varied picture of how voluntary organizations work towards development in a developing society and how co-operation and participation of various agencies is required. However we may note that most of the studies discuss voluntarism in general. It is here that this study becomes more important.

Thus in this context, role of voluntary organizations in rural development is immense. In order to promote development any voluntary action must involve development of rural society. Hitherto, no study focuses on the same. The different analytical aspects also give a vivid picture of an overview of the question why in spite of many benefits, the development policies remain as poor as ever. The answer for this question lies with the official donors. We also learn that the NGOs should associate with government in their work rather than opposing services of it. The helplessness of NGOs is seen especially when NGOs find it difficult to mobilize their funding source. Their dependence on external sources creates problems of stability and continuity of work. In such context, our study on the performance of Social Service Center, (SSC) in achieving the above mentioned objectives in rural development is timely and relevant. Social Service Centre is one such organization which envisages rural development.

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