Chapter I

INTRODUCTION AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1.01 General
1.02 The Concept of Development
1.03 The Concept of Rural Development
1.04 Definition of Rural Development
1.05 Rural Development Policies
1.06 Objectives of the Study
1.07 Scope of Study
1.08 Methodology
1.09 Sample Selection
1.10 Reference Period
1.11 Hypothesis
1.12 Utility of This Study
1.13 Limitation of This Study
1.14 Outline of This Work
1.01 GENERAL:

India has been, and continuously, a predominantly rural country. According to the 2001 census, 73.87 percent of India’s populations of 846 million live in villages. There are over 5,75,000 villages while there are not more than 4700 cities and towns. Besides, the incidence of poverty in India is much more sever in the villages than in the towns. Nearly 30 percent of the rural population is estimated to live below the poverty line as against a much lower percentage in urban areas. In any national programme designed to raise the economic level of the people, the welfare of the rural sector thus necessarily has very high priority, more so in a democracy whose very survival depends upon the consensus of these people. Even an authoritarian regime cannot afford to ignore the aspirations of such vast number and thus lose their goodwill.

One may conceivably argue in favour of the ‘percolation’ theory and say that the benefits of even programmes of industrial development would eventually percolate to the large masses, thereby carrying prosperity to the villages. In Europe, wealth first accumulated in urban
centers as a result of industrial progress and, later, led to a rise in the living standard in the case of developing countries like India. Industrial development occurred in western countries gradually and slowly and, what is more, these countries were able to carry out extensive reforms in their agriculture. At any rate, the growth of population was slow and the death rate was not very low. Both these factors kept the Europeans safe from the problem of numbers. The growth in population, and the reduction in the death rate, occurred only after the Industrial Revolution. India, on the other hand, is a country in which the population has been far in excess of what may be supported by available resources. What is more, though the country has not succeeded in arresting the growth of population it has considerably lowered the rate of mortality. Between 1951 and 1991, the country’s population has more than doubled. The death rate has been lowered as a result of the increasing availability of medical facilities in the country. Thus, the country has devised technologies to save life but not to maintain it. This is because production technology is necessarily much costlier than disease control.
Rural India and agriculture are nearly synonymous, for most people in villages are agriculturists or depends on agriculture for their livelihood. Through 75 percent of India’s population lives on agriculture, the latter contributes but 40.9 percent of the country’s GNP, which calls for efforts to improve it. An average agriculturist in India is a marginal farmer tilling a plot of land of the size between 0.5 and 1 hectare; about 50 percent of the landholdings are classified as marginal farms whereas only 4 percent are large, that is, over 10 hectares. The smallness of the farm is itself a constraint on rural growth.

Nearly 43 percent of India’s total land area has been brought under the plough, which is much excess of what is appropriate for an ecological balance. The expert view is that about one-third of the area of a country should be under cultivation, another one third under forests and the remaining third for human habitation. India has already brought more than the optimum land under cultivation, which is not good for the ecological balance. This, again, points to the need for utmost attention to rural development.
1.02 THE CONCEPT OF DEVELOPMENT:

Development implies an overall positive change in the physical quality of life. This positive change for the better encompasses economic as well as social aspects. Therefore, development not only calls for economic growth but also the equitable distribution of the gains made from economic growth. In other words, development implies growth with justice. It means an improvement in the quality of life through better health, education, housing and welfare.

For a long time, it was assumed that the development depends primarily on economic growth and would automatically occur if economic growth took place. This view of development has however been criticized on the ground that it ignores the distribution of the gains from growth also, how the growth has been achieved and it what costs. An increase in production in a country does not automatically means that there has been better distribution of the gains from growth also, how the growth has been achieved and in what costs. An increase in production in a country does not automatically means that there has been better distribution of what has been produced.
1.03 THE CONCEPT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

The subject of rural development has gained widespread appeal in recent years. This is largely a result of the way issues regarding development themselves began to be perceived. Development theorist since 1970’s became increasingly dissatisfied with the way traditional concepts of development emphasized growth and neglected important issues relating to distributive justice. It also becomes clear that agricultural growth by itself will not be able to result in sustained development in the developing countries.

Rural development became a planning concern as it became clear that technocratic approaches to problems in developing countries remained ineffective in alleviating poverty and inequalities in rural areas. It also became clear that the multidisciplinary approach to the problem of development was necessary. Consequently, it became clear that apart from an effort to increase agriculture and industrial production, it was also necessary to provide education, health and services and employment and to attack the problem of poverty in rural areas. The increasing interest in rural development is result of the realization that
a systematic effort is necessary to create better living conditions in the rural areas where the vast majority of populations of developing countries reside.

During the 1950’s and 1960’s development policy makers sough to increase productivity and per capita incomes through advances in the manufacturing sector. In the realm of agricultural production, productivity increases were emphasized. However, it was soon realized that the gains from these methods reached only a small minority – mainly those who were already better off and privileged. In fact, the gains made as a result of these efforts are believed to have further accentuated inequality in incomes in rural areas. This failure of the ‘trickle down’ approach of achieving growth increased inequalities. The strategy of industrialization also led to a flow of investments to urban areas at the cost of rural development. By the 1970’s it became clear that there was problems in the way the issue and problems of the development were being tackled. Disillusionment with traditional growth models and their emphasis on productivity and the neglect of inequalities
that they generated, led to the growth of interest in the subject of rural development.

In order to understand the concepts of rural development it is first necessary to know what the objectives of rural development are. The primary objectives of rural development are the following.

1. To improve the living standards by providing food, shelter, clothing, employment and education.

2. The increase productivity in rural areas and reduce poverty.

3. To involve people in planning and development through participation in decision making and through decentralization of administration.

4. To ensure distributive justice and equalization of opportunities in society.

The concept of rural development encompasses a wide spectrum. Diversity of views exists regarding the term rural development. Rural development is one of the most vital issues of the day. Various schemes to promote rural development have been launched but the concept of rural development is still vague.
What does the term ‘Rural Development’ means? The term has to words rural and development. The term is used in different ways and in vastly different contexts.

As a Concept – Rural development means all round development of rural areas with view to betterment of the lifestyles of rural people. In the sense, rural development like development in general is multi-dimensional. In the purely economic sense it covers development of the agricultural and allied activities and social facilities, besides development of human resources in the rural areas.\textsuperscript{03}

As a Phenomenon – It is the result of interaction between various physical, environmental, technological, economic, socio-cultural and institutional factors in the rural areas of a nation.

As a Strategy – The rural development is the approach or operational design to bring about the desired positive changes in the socio-economic and cultural life of the rural people.

A rural development strategy is primarily an outline of the processes that lead to a rise in the capacity of the rural people to improve their lives and environment,
accomplished by wider distribution of benefits resulting from such improvement. Thus rural development considers both agricultural and non-agricultural aspects of rural life.

The expression ‘rural development’ may be used to processes of change in rural societies, not all of which involves action by government. However as pointed out by John Harris the term ‘rural development’ has another meaning used more often in development literature. Rural development refers to a distinct approach to intervention by the state in the economies of underdeveloped countries and one, which is at once broader and more specific than agriculture development. Rural development, as per the World Bank perspective, focuses on poverty and inequality and thus involves “a strategy designed to improve the economic and social life of specific group of people, the rural poor”.

Rural development is a multi-dimensional view connotes overall development of rural areas with a view to improving the quality of life of rural poor. In this sense, it is comprehensive and multi-dimensional concept and encompasses the development of agriculture and allied
activities, village and cottage industries and crafts, socioeconomic infrastructure, community services and facilities and above all the human resources in the rural areas.

The main theme of rural development may be summarized as follows:

1. To achieve enhanced production and productivity in rural areas.
2. To bring about a greater socio-economic equity.
3. To bring about a special balance in social and economic development.
4. To bring about improvement in the ecological environment so that it may be conductive to growth and happiness, and
5. To develop broad based community participation in the process of development.

The concept of rural development has attracted the attention of international agencies and Asian countries in the last few years. Because of local variations and administrative or financial limitations no omnibus
proposition can be advanced through some exercise in outlining the broad objectives have been undertaken. For example the ESCAP, in consultation with member countries and partnership with international organization and specialized agencies and the United Nations has indicated that the objectives of rural development are:

a) To draw the entire rural labour force into mainstream of economic activity.
b) To realize the creative energies of the rural people.
c) To bring down into the countryside and check the drift of the rural population to process.
d) To enhance the participation of towns, men and youths in the development process.
e) To improve the living conditions of the rural majority and the quality of their life, particularly through the integration of development with environment.
f) To ensure the all-round development of the population, its economic and social productivity and work satisfaction.
1.04 DEFINITION OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT:

Rural development is a complex phenomenon covering a wide spectrum of activities meant to ameliorate the condition of people, living in rural areas. Different authorities have defined rural development in different ways. Some of these definitions are given above:

The World Bank defines rural development as, “Rural development is a strategy to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people, the rural poor, including small and marginal farmers, tenants and the landless.”

According to Rebert Chambers, “Rural Development is a strategy to enable a specific group of people, poor rural women and man, to gain for themselves and their children more of what they want and need. It involves helping the poorest among those who seek a livelihood in the rural areas to demand and control more of the defines of rural development.”

According to Ensminger, “Rural development seeks to involve a process of transformation from traditionally
oriented rural cultural towards an acceptance and reliance on science and technology.”

Lele defines “Rural development as an improvement in the living standard of the masses of low income population residing in rural areas and making the process of self-sustaining”

Rural development may also be defined as a systematically organized process, which results into sustained higher levels of income, of people living in rural areas, over a pretty long period of time. The process includes all the conscious human efforts, which are mainly directed towards:

1. Taking stock of the present activities,
2. Finding out the causes of backwardness,
3. Searching for the potentials of development,
4. Chalking out programmes, strategies and actions and
5. Facilitating the implementation of the action programmes by way of building up the needed infrastructural facilities.
In the Indian Context, “Rural Development” can be defined as “integrated development of area and the people through optimum development and utilization (and conservation where necessary) of local resources – physical, biological and human and by bringing about necessary institutional, structural, and attitudinal changes by delivery of a package of services to encompass not only the economic field, i.e. agricultural, allied activities, rural industries, but also establishment of required social infrastructure and services in the area of health and nutrition, sanitation, housing, drinking water and literacy, with ultimate objective of improving quality of life of “rural poor” and the “rural weak”.  

The planners first used the concept of rural development in India. It is the process of the planning to implement rural development programmes through an appropriate strategy to realize the desired results. It connotes a strategy for bringing about improvements in the economic and social life of the rural poor who seek a livelihood in rural areas. Not only, it is important to raise agricultural productivity and the rate of overall economic
growth in rural areas; equally important is to ensure that the poor and weaker sections share in the benefits of development.

Thus rural development means to the process of improving living conditions, providing minimum needs, increasing potential of rural resources through integration of spatial, functional and temporal aspects. In the process of rural development rural society as a whole moves from one step of the economic ladder to the next step ahead, thereby enhancing its social and economic status. A target group – the rural poor–has been identified for programmes of rural development.

The essence of all the definitions of rural development mentioned above is, therefore, redresses of rural poverty as the immediate objective. These people are often malnourished, least in contact with modern world, least influential politically, least likely to possess adequate land and capital for a decent life, least able to help themselves, and hardest for governments to help. The process of rural development filter down to primary goal of providing an opportunity for decent living to the masses of the low –
income population residing in rural areas on a self-sustaining basis.

1.05 RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES:

Each rural development strategy also has its own ideological roots upon which the elements of strategy have been based. A strategy consists of an ordering of various policy parameters to attain the desired goals. However, there are certain important policies, which are common in most rural development strategies. These policies are related to land, technology, agricultural, employment and education, research and extension, rural institutions and agricultural pricing.

In a vast country like ours where the diversity in socio-economic features are very great, one of the major problems facing rural development planning process of the economy. The needs and problems of various regions have to be taken into account when planning for rural development. Since the area that is to be covered is very great, there are difficulties in planning and monitoring rural development...
from the top. Consequently, the need for evolving a system of multi-level planning has come into being.

Planning has come to acquire added significance with the realization that direct measures to eradicate poverty cannot result in durable gain. Subsidies, assistance and special efforts for the upliftment of the poor and underprivileged can only be undertaken as a special measure for sometime and not on a full time basis. This is simply because of the fact that in poor developing countries, spending endlessly on such programmes, which do not generate tangible material gains for the nation, can lead to severe economic problems. If poverty alleviation were only a matter of delivering resources to the poor there would be no major problem in eradicating poverty. In order to add to the productive base of the economy over a long period, planning is absolutely essential.

Local area planning through panchayats can be a powerful means of bringing about rural development. In a monolithic planning structure those at the top often fail to understand the specific requirements the local level. Local planning also makes accountability more immediate and
identifiable. This can act as means of preventing leakages from system. As of now in our country, most of the funds for rural development are decided at the central level. This reduces the flexibility with which local bodies can operate to further rural development.

1.06 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The objective of the present study is to evaluate the Government schemes for the rural development with special reference to Marathwada region. Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana is selected as representative scheme. A problem in the implementation of programme and the reactions of the people towards its working of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana is discussed. The present study has been undertaken with the following specific objectives:

1. To study the socio-economic status of the Swarozagaries.

2. To study the socio-economic characteristics of selected Taluka’s & Village.

3. To study the perception of rural persons regarding usefulness of the scheme.
4. To study of the life style of selected Swarozgaries.

5. To study the problems in implementation of Rural Development Programme Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana

6. To examine whether the procedure laid down by the Government is followed in the selection of beneficiaries or not.

7. To suggest suitable measures for effective implementation of Rural Development program in ‘Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana’.

1.07 SCOPE OF STUDY:

The area of study is restricted to Marathawada region. Sample survey of five respondents was interviewed in each village of in selected talukas in every district of Marathawada Region. The data received from the primary sources, tables are prepared accordingly. Special data & information are collected from the concern department of Zillah Parishid, Panchaytat Samati, D.R.D.A, and Commissioner Office & Statistical dept. to have interaction. Assessment of the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozagar Yojana.
On the basis of analysis of data and assessment of scheme conclusion are drawn.

1.08 METHODOLOGY:

No evaluatory study has been undertaken on Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana so far and therefore, literature survey is not possible for the present study. The study delves both on the primary data and secondary data. Convincing a questionnaire to the Swarozgaries of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana collect the primary data. The study was conducted in Marathawada region. Apart from primary data secondary data is also collected from the following sources:

Research Methodology:

The following primary and secondary data collection techniques are used in research study.

Primary Methods:

1) Interviews of beneficiaries and officials.
2) Field Survey.
3) Questionnaire from beneficiaries.
Secondary Methods:

The secondary data which is useful for the study are collected from various sources:

2. Reference and Research books from University and College Library.
4. Various Reports from Districts Statistical Office.
5. Related Data collected from DRDA offices from Marathwada Region.
6. Commissioner Office Aurangabad.

1.09 SAMPLES SELECTION:

There are eight districts in Marathwada region viz. Aurangabad, Jalna, Parbhani, Nanded, Beed, Latur, Osmanabad, and Hingoli. For the purpose of study all the districts were selected. From each district three talukas are select and criteria for selection is - one taluka as developed another developing stage and third is under under-developed. The same type sample of villages is from each
taluka are selected for field survey and interview of beneficiaries. From each village five respondents were interviewed on the basis of random sampling. Total No of respondents is 400 No’s.

Table 1.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Name of the Districts</th>
<th>No of Taluka</th>
<th>No of Villages</th>
<th>No of Respondent</th>
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<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jalna</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Parbhani</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Nanded</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Beed</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>03</td>
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<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Osmanabad</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Hingoli</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.10 REFERENCE PERIOD:

In the present study data is collected form the ‘Swarozagaries’ who have been provided with the assistance during 1999–2000 to 2007–08. The fieldwork for the present study had been undertaken during the year 2007–08.
1.11 HYPOTHESIS:

There is significant difference in the living standard of socio-economic condition of the rural masses as result of participating in the ‘Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozagar Yojana’

‘Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozagar Yojana’ has proved effective in providing sound ground to the beneficiaries that will help them to better their economic condition.

‘Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozagar Yojana’ The economical structure of needs be revised with view to bring uniformity.

‘Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozagar Yojana’ has a direct bearing upon rural development.

1.12 UTILITY OF THIS STUDY:

Through this study perhaps we are able to contemplate and light our some of the unknown aspects of the development of the rural sector and its relation to economics setup. Thus, we look forward for it practical utility in further design of policy matter especially for rural
development in changing scenario of new Information technology.

The study will be useful to:

- Society and Government agencies.
- Non-Government organizations.
- Farmer using various schemes.
- For various statistical information centers.
- For the implementation of the schemes.
- To draw more appropriate suggestion.

In order to resolve certain methodological difficulties connected with the present study, a sample survey was conducted. The respondents had been selected for personal interview through the simple random sampling techniques.

1.13 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY:

The scope of the study was limited to the rural development programme with special reference to SGSY in Marathawada region. As the data of present study has been collected through personal interview method since in the beneficiaries’ household does not mention proper accounts and most of them are illiterates. There are possibilities of
statistical bias and hence the data collected would only be an approximate of actual facts; however efforts were made to collect reasonable satisfactory information from the sample respondents by repeated appeals and persuasion. Since this study is a micro-level study, however the findings and suggestions may throw some light on certain broad features of the country and as such the study may be of practical use in formulation of better plans.

Collection of primary data will be made with the help of questionnaires and personal interviews there for it is restricted to a specific area. Quires will remain about the reliability of secondary data collected because they are based on interaction with human factors. The study does not include the schemes regarding tribal development though the tribal area is one of the parts of village / rural section. The study is limited to in Marathawada region.

1.14 OUTLINE OF THE WORK:

This work is presented in eight chapters. Chapter one is introduction and covers statement of the problem, objectives, research design and methodology of the study.
Finally outline of the research work is explained. An attempt is made in chapter two to review rural development programme in India, SGSY and the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana have also been discussed in this chapter. In the Chapter three need & Importance of Government programs for rural development. In chapter four all about SGSY is discussed. In the fifth chapter socio – economic profile of Marathawada region is discussed in the light of implementation of rural development programme in Marathawada region. In chapter Six, performance evaluation of SGSY is discussed at State level as well as at district level.

In chapter seventh an analysis of SGSY in Marathawada region is discussed. Finally in chapter eight conclusions are drawn and suggestions are given.

It is hoped that this study will provide a sound basis for further research in the field of rural development. The study would be useful to policy markers, government officers of District Rural Development Agency, (DRDA) social workers, and public in general.
REFERENCE:


03. Paul Johnson has, for instance, observed: ‘for every pound invested in saving a human life (insecticides, medicines, hygiene, and maternity care), an investment of 100 pounds is needed (in tractors, fertilizers, technical advice, and cooperation) to produce the extra food to feed it.’ The New Statesman, 12 December 1963


07. Robert Chambers, Rural Development-Putting the last First (London : 1983)


13. www.rural.nic.in