CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE
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REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In the preceding chapter, we have analysed the significance of Integrated Rural Development Programme as an anti-poverty programme, statement of the problem, scope of the study, objectives, hypotheses, methodology, tools and techniques of the study and the limitations of the study. It has been formed as a rural programme and aimed at increasing the income level of the rural landless labourer. Due to scanty rainfall and sub-divisions and fragmented characteristics of land holdings, large proportion of small/marginal farmers and landless labourers in agriculture are facing several economic crisis in terms of low income, poverty, starvation, unemployment and debt trap. To relieve the large peasant masses of these economic evils, the Integrated Rural Development Programme's role has been increasing and significant.

At the early stage of the present exercise, a review of relevant literatures was undertaken to understand what has already been done by expert committees and researches in the sphere of rural development programmes. The review was also made of various theses, project, reports, books and articles in the disciplines of rural economics and various rural development programmes. The review enabled the researcher to identify certain lacuna in the previous studies and to select the appropriate tools of analysis for the present study.
Theoretically, it is being proved that this programme has much telling effect on the rural economy. It is with this background, we attempt to review various studies on Integrated Rural Development Programme and rural development. In this context, we also bring out the importance of the present study on Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in the Union Territory Pondicherry. This we study in five sections.

In section I, we analyse the studies based on rural development. In section II, we critically analyse the studies on Integrated Rural Development Programme and its impact on the eradication of poverty, unemployment and indebtedness. In section III, we attempt to review the Integrated Rural Development Programme studies in terms of income, employment generation, savings and asset creation. In section IV, a special attention is given to assess the impact of Integrated Rural Development Programme on milk animal scheme and in section V, we analyse the problems of Integrated Rural Development Programme and its execution and further we attempt to highlight the relevance of the present study and its main deviation from other studies.

2.1. RURAL DEVELOPMENT

A more comprehensive method of rural development has been suggested by the World Bank (1975). Rural development has been defined as a strategy to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people, marginal farmers, tenants.
and the landless. Central leadership and co-ordination for planning, decentralization and participation at the local level for implementation, research on farm systems and appropriate techniques suitable for small farmers and the dynamics of traditional rural societies for the 'take off' stage, training or developing skills of man power resources to meet the needs of these institutions in the local level, establishing effective group organization, such as farmer's associations and co-operatives, are some of the desirable factors suggested for a frame work within which to design and implement rural development programmes.

Nanjappa (1973) in his research article explains the rationale of promoting opportunities in the rural areas and the improvement of the standard of living of rural communities, curbing the exodus of rural labour to urban centres and reduction in regional economic imbalances Uma Leele (1975) has expressed the process of integrated development as scientific management of resources and providing adequate work to the increase the internal potential rate of growth. She also highlights the retaining of growth impulses in the region through providing backward and forward linkages in the non-agricultural sector and in the region. According to Rao (1977), some specific characteristic of rural society, which give rise to the problem of rural development as distinguished from other kinds of development. They are the dominance of land with uneven distribution, the dominance of agricultural work, the dominance of self-employment and family labour among the land owning working force, the dominance of under-employment and casual labour among working force,
the dependence of rural income on seasonal factors with consequent uncertainty and wider fluctuations in income and lower levels of development factors in rural areas compared to urban areas.

Mishras (1977) has highlighted that for improving the levels of living of the rural poor on a permanent basis, we may try to achieve some redistribution of income through fiscal and pricing policies and by modifying the rural development strategy and increase work opportunities for the landless in rural areas. Raj Krishna (1978) concludes in his study that it is only unions of the poor that can carry out all the tasks assigned, get their due share and representation in Panchayats and Co-operatives and exert pressures on the administration to administer rural schemes without laxity and corruption. He believes that India still has an opportunity for rural development within a democratic framework.

Prasad (1980) in his article shows that future capital investment in rural industries must be for the improvement of equipment. Any development programme must train the rural labourers to adopt modern equipment. According to a study of the World Bank (1982), the total number of people below the poverty line in the rural areas of Third World come to a staggering figure of 780 million in 1981. Further it has been proved that the developed countries comprise a larger urban sector than the rural, whereas the proportionate magnitude of these two sectors is just opposite in a third world country like India.
National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD, 1982) has investigated the process of Plan formulation and implementation at block level and district level during 1982. The case study was conducted in Kolhapur District and Karur block in Maharashtra State. The study revealed that no systematic approach was adopted while formulating the IRDP. The study suggested better planning at block level and district level for the successful implementation of IRDP. According to Batra (1984), "Rural Development is a strategy designed to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people - the rural poor. It involves extending the benefits of development to the poorest among those who seek a livelihood in rural areas. This group includes small farmers, tenants and the landless".

According to Malay Gupta (1984), "IRDP may be viewed from three perspectives viz.

a. Concept of overall development with a focus on target groups

b. Integration of credit with supportive services, and

c. Integration of economic activities inherent in rural development to ensure the balanced growth

Thakur (1991) examines the impact of poverty alleviation programmes on the economic status of the beneficiaries in the eighties taking into account their socio-economic factors. The cast-wise analysis of the value of household assets of the
beneficiaries reveals that the value of household assets inherited and the assets received under the Government scheme is higher among the non-scheduled caste households as compared to the scheduled caste households. The beneficiaries especially those belonging to SC are further disadvantaged on account of socio-economic factors like high dependency ratio, low level of literacy, low income and high incidence of indebtedness. The author concludes that their debt burden is continuously increasing inspite of participation in the Poverty Alleviation Programmes.

Michael and Aziz (1993) have come out with a similar review of poverty alleviation programme in South Asia and the African countries in the post second world war era. The authors observe that while these programmes have a significant impact on the welfare of large sections of low income population, they fail to reach the poorest groups. Arora (1995) detects the absence of holistic approach in Social Welfare Policy of the developing countries during the post-second world war era. More specifically in the Indian context, it is observed that the needs of the poor remain largely evaded and most of the benefits of welfare policies are disproportionately captured by the powerful sections in the society.

In the words of Jeff Madrick (2001), there has been little headway made in the fight against world’s poverty in the last decade. The World Bank calculates that a third to a fourth of the world’s people still live in severe poverty and this based on
minimal rates of $1 to $ a day. The overall proportion has fallen only slightly in the last ten years and poverty levels have risen in many countries. Moreover, in poor regions, except Asia, income inequality has widened.

In the words of Bedabati Mohanty (2001), the first and foremost thing that is to be kept in mind is increasing the employment rate or reducing unemployment rate to bring a change in poverty scenario. In the long run, the most effective anti-poverty programme may be high economic growth but in a highly populated country like India where everyday people are added to the labour force, short term intervention programmes of government are essential to promote employment.

2.2. IMPACT OF IRDP ON POVERTY

Gunnar Myrdal’s (1970), “The challenge of world Poverty” is one the most important contemporary readings in the world poverty. Apart from interpreting rural poverty as an outcome of social and economic inequality, it brings out the policy prescriptions which did not find in his earlier work “Asian Drama” Ojhaas (1970) has estimated that 51 82 per cent of the rural population and 7 64 per cent of the urban population were absolutely poor during 1960-61 and the rural poor increased to 70 per cent in the year 1967-68.
Dandekar and Rath (1971) found that 40 per cent of rural people in 1960-61 lived below the poverty line on the assumption that only a per capita annual income of Rs. 170.80 at 1960-61 prices was adequate to obtain a daily intake of 2,250 calories. According to Rao (1979), the poverty rate of Tamil Nadu has increased from 39.59 per cent in 1960-61 to 46.10 per cent in 1973-74 and for the nation as a whole from 34.72 per cent in 1960-61 to 40.56 per cent in 1973-74.

Elango (1982) has estimated in his study that 45.7 per cent of people below poverty line in the year 1979 at Thanjavur District in the group of agricultural workers and rural artisans together. Balihtter and Roshan Singh (1984) estimate the impact of SBI finance on IRDP in Bichpuri Block of Agra district of Uttar Pradesh in 1981 revealed that out of 44 beneficiary families, 33 families crossed the poverty line. The extent of families crossing the poverty line was more in case of scheduled caste being about 84 per cent, compared to non-scheduled caste being about 63 per cent.

Dhamasekara (1985) concluded in his study that in the rural artisans, the percentage of people living below the poverty line has decreased by 7.85 per cent, for agricultural labourers the percentage has fallen by 4.06, 12.87 per cent for marginal farmers and by 8.4 per cent for small farmers in Gobichettipalayam block of Penuyur district of Tamil Nadu in the year 1982. Thus, the impact of IRDP on rural poverty is positive but it has only marginal effect upon the weaker sections of the society.
Minhas (1985) has forecast the incidence of poverty in India during the Fourth and Fifth Five Year Plan periods. The proportion of People below the poverty line fell to 37 per cent in 1983-84, a clear 10 per cent fall from the corresponding proportion of 47 per cent in 1970-71, which was the lowest level of poverty ever reached prior to 1983-84. Srivastava (1986) has revealed that in India, a population in the range of 72 to 77 per cent approximately continues to depend upon primary and agricultural sectors for its bread earning activities.

Jayant Patil (1993) has discussed the growing population and employment implications in rural areas. He focussed on the anti-poverty schemes such as IRDP, TRYSEM, DWCRA, JRY and DPAP. He concluded that reducing the growth of population is the main remedy to remove poverty and unemployment problems. Lakshmi Devi (1994) attempts to evaluate the potentialities of IRDP in terms of generating employment and income for rural women in the rural areas of Trichur district in Kerala. She concluded that the full-fledged implication of IRDP is to help the rural women to become more effective and productive in terms of income and employment generation.

Jagannath Mishra (1995) has analysed the poverty alleviation programmes for providing employment and income generation in the rural areas and also focussed the problems of unemployment and migration in the rural and urban areas.
Shajahan (2001) realised that poverty alleviation programmes can be implemented successfully with good governance and people participation. Since independence, India has secured many notable social and economic achievements including eradication of famine, a reduction in population growth and significant levels of poverty. But, India still remains one of the most protected economies in the world. Satendra (2001) concluded that Government of India has been trying its best to alleviate poverty from the country through its various programmes and schemes, but the results of all these efforts are not as expected and even after fifty years of independence, the country is struggling against the curse of poverty.

2.3. IMPACT OF IRDP ON INCOME, EMPLOYMENT AND ASSET CREATION

Khusro (1962) says that employment in non-farm and village industries will help liquidate rural unemployment and poverty. He also finds that demand for labour in the non-agricultural sector of the rural areas in India is not sufficient to absorb the supply of it. Arputharaj and Rajayan (1979) revealed that the credit facilities provided for purchasing milk animals has generated on an average a net income of Rs 501 per household during 1977-78.

An Evaluation Study (1982) carried out by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics of the state of Maharashtra found out the performance of IRDP in Dhula

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district found that 87 per cent of the beneficiaries had registered a rise up to 50 per cent in their income while about 10 per cent received an additional income of 50 per cent to 80 per cent. Naidu (1982) in his study in Kalyanadurg block of Ananthapur district in Andhra Pradesh indicated that the beneficiaries were asked to express their opinion regarding the change in their effective family income of the 238 beneficiaries. 27 reported substantial increase, 112 reported moderate increase, 61 reported negligible increase and 38 did not express any opinion.

Adhibari (1983) has highlighted that the number of families which received assistance under the programme during 1981 enabled them to expand their network and finally helped them in enhancing their income. Gujarat State Rural Development Corporation (1985) evaluated a study that the income of 98.5 per cent families increased, whereas the income of more than 1 per cent families decreased and 52.3 per cent of the sample IRDP beneficiaries crossed the poverty line during 1980-81 and 1981-82. This study examined that about 44 per cent of the Scheduled Caste families and about 49 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes families crossed the Poverty line (Government of India, 1985).

George (1985) revealed that a significant increase in income and employment of the beneficiaries under IRDP. The contribution of dairy to total family income increased from 5 per cent in pre-implementaton to 37.6 per cent in post-implementation stage. He examined that IRDP generated a fairly good impact on the income and self-employment generation and total assets position of the beneficiaries.
Saxena (1986) concluded that the IRDP loans have benefited the small farmers and marginal farmers by enhancing their income and employment in East Uttar Pradesh during 1986. B. Battacharjee and Monda (1986) in their study identified that the unsound credit system and administration failure are the major lacunae of IRDP in Darjeeling and Sikkim areas during 1986. Dhanasekaran (1986) et al. examined in Periyar district of Tamil Nadu that there was diversification of sources of income from crop and agricultural wages to dairying, poultry, secondary and tertiary sectors and the percentage of non-agricultural employment increased. The study also found a positive relationship between the percentage of people lifted above poverty line and diversification of sources of income and employment.

Naidu and Rao (1988) discovered the generation of additional employment and income by different schemes under IRDP were not identical in Guntur district and concluded that revitalization of the entire implementation process towards identifying and assisting these schemes which can shift the population from traditional sectors to employment oriented sectors and preparation of plans on need-based criterion would result in better implementation of IRDP.

A study was conducted by Satapathy (1991) to assess the impact on income generation from IRDP in Orissa. The analysis was based on sample data of the Government of India and the Panchayat Raj Department of the Orissa Government. The success of programmes was adjudged on the basis of percentage of beneficiaries...
crossing the poverty line. From the analysis, it was found that 71 per cent of the beneficiaries retained the scheme assets. Of them, 41 per cent crossed the poverty line of Rs. 3,500 and another 5 per cent crossed the revised poverty line of Rs. 6,400. He observed that there was a big gap between beneficiaries retaining the assets and crossing the poverty line. This revealed that assets were not maintained properly. The possible reasons identified were (1) inadequate supervision (2) inadequate infrastructural facilities (3) Working Capital needs not being met and (4) tight repayment schedule. He put forward the suggestions: an efficient monitoring system at grass-root level, identifications of problems through regular contact with the beneficiaries, timely solution to problems, proper advice about maintenance of assets and arrangement for forward and backward linkages.

Giri (2000) has analysed the operation of self-employment programme in the rural areas and thereby the role of non-Government organisations to implement this programme. He concluded that it is a must to enable people to enhance their self-employment activities. The aim of the Gramin Bank (2000) is to foster social and economic development of the rural people by extending banking services in remote rural areas. The bank is playing an active role in the upliftment of target group by providing various credit facilities for the purpose of agriculture and allied activities, trade, commerce, etc., to small and marginal farmers, agricultural and landless labourers, village artisans, etc.
2.4. MILCH ANIMAL SCHEME UNDER IRDP

According to Patel and Pandey (1976), “Rural Dairying assumes a special significance as an effective instrument for economic and social uplift of the weapon section”. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD, 1984) has evaluated that the dairy scheme under IRDP is the most popular activity and many evaluation studies have concluded that dairy scheme does not possess the potential to lift the people above the poverty line.

Ramachandran (1986) has estimated in an evaluation study on “Dairy Financing and Rural Development” sponsored by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) that average total income of a respondent has increased from Rs.5,577 per annum to Rs.6,881 per annum as a result of the dairy loan given to the beneficiaries in the southern districts of Tamil Nadu. The findings of the Concurrent Evaluation Report, Government of India (1987) revealed that at national level, about 35 per cent of beneficiaries were covered under animal husbandry sector.

Kulandaiswamy and Ubendhiran (1987) revealed that majority of the IRDP beneficiaries got benefited either under animal husbandry scheme or other milch cattle scheme. They concluded that the incremental income generated was greatest among the beneficiaries of ISB sector schemes while the animal husbandry scheme created
the largest additional employment. Rao and Naidu (1988) examined insignificant impact of IRDP in terms of employment generation and income of the beneficiaries. They reported untimely credit, poor marketing facilities, creation of inappropriate assets, low employment potential of the unit increasing cost of the inputs as the major difficulties expressed by majority of the beneficiaries.

A comparative study of the cost effectiveness of the selected schemes under IRDP by Dahiya (1990) in Haryana indicated that four schemes, namely, milch animals, Petty shops, animal driven carts and cottage crafts had the returns per unit of investment of 0.49, 0.36, 0.34 and 0.09 respectively. It meant that each additional rupee invested in milch animal scheme yields an additional income of 49 paisa where as it yields only an increase of 9 paisa in the case of cottage crafts scheme. Thus, the milch animal scheme in comparison to other schemes of IRDP was found to be most cost-effective and productive.

A study conducted by Hebbar (1991) during 1985-86 in Dakshina Kannada district covering 550 beneficiaries found that 65.6 per cent of the beneficiaries were assisted with dairy animals. As many as 400 of them were assisted with a pair of bullocks, dairy animals, sheep and goats. This highlights the importance of livestock management in IRDP. The reasons for high stock of livestock in IRDP, as revealed in the study are as follows.
a. Borrowers who are illiterates, feel that maintaining a livestock is easy.

b. The contribution of livestock towards farming through manure.

c. In the initial period of implementation of the programme, even the village level workers were under the impression that assistance under IRDP was mainly for livestock.

Ray (1992) revealed that 37.0 per cent of the loans received under IRDP in West Bengal were found to be for livestock sector while they were 31.0 per cent for Industries Service Business (ISB) sector and 25.0 per cent for agricultural activity. A study by Pandey and Pandey (1994) revealed that the crossbred cow is a valuable treasure and a source of poverty alleviation, employment generation and an instrument of social change.

Velmurugan (2002) reveals that dairy development is a mechanism for improving the lot of poor. An important role for dairy development is suggested by the relatively high income elasticity of demands commonly observed for the dairy products. Thus, dairying is and will continued to be an active and ideal activity, in which farmers have a comparative advantage, profits from dairying and may lead to increased demand for food grains.
2.5. PROBLEMS FACED BY IRDP BENEFICIARIES

Swamiappan (1979) revealed that the importance of animal husbandry including dairy has been clearly explained by the United Nations World Survey as follows. "The improvement of animal husbandry is important both on the production side through the rising of the productivity and closer integration of arable and livestock farming and on the consumption side for which its role requires the most careful consideration in planning to meet the food needs of an expanding population and raise the quality of diets."

Mathur (1982) evaluated in his study that more positive economic benefits for beneficiaries than non-beneficiaries under IRDP in Hissar district of Haryana. Mathayya et al. (1983) reported that delay in getting and providing surety were the problems faced by a few of the beneficiaries in getting the loan.

Syngal Sundarshan (1983) observed in his study that banks were unwilling to finance poor people and suggested the need for infrastructural development for better results. George (1984) reported in his study that a significant increase in income and employment of the beneficiaries under the IRDP and also only 41 per cent of the beneficiaries were regular in repayment of loans.
Balishter and Roshan Singh (1984), in their study concluded that the coverage of families under the IRDP was very inadequate in Agra district. Kutty Krishnan (1984) observed that 80 per cent wrong identification and diversion of assistance for unintended purposes are the major bottlenecks in the IRDP implementation on Cannanore district of Kerala and only 18.75 per cent of the beneficiaries to cross the poverty line. Tripathy et. al (1984) revealed that there were several operational and procedural defects that prevented the smooth and adequate flow of credit to IRDP beneficiaries.

Mary (1984) concluded that there was no planned procedure in IRDP to inform the beneficiaries planned sanction of loan. Besides, quite a long time was taken by the bankers to sanction the loan and beneficiaries had to waste their time, money and energy in getting the necessary certificates. The Programme Evaluation Organization of the Planning Commission (1984) conducted a nation-wise evaluation study in 1983-84 and found that about 26 per cent of the beneficiaries were not correctly identified as they belonged to the annual income group of above Rs 3,500 per annum and that out of the eligible beneficiaries only 49.42 per cent had crossed the poverty line.

NIRD (1984) conducted a major study covering five states of Bihar, U P of North India, M P in the Central India, Orissa in the East and Karnataka in the South. The aim of this study was to find the organizational arrangements for credit flow and
co-ordination between Banks, DRDA and block officials and the mechanism of subsidy adjustments. This study concluded that Banking facilities were found inadequate, delay in implementation of schemes; outside the blocks are ignored and identification of beneficiaries were not properly organized.

Bhandari (1984) revealed the credit support for IRDP by Commercial and co-operative Banks and suggested simplification of credit procedures to attract more beneficiaries. In the words of Bujorbarua (1985), "Dairying can be developed into a major weapon for attack on rural poverty, unemployment and under employment. The planning and implementation process of IRDP with special reference to the milk cattle component of the programme in Sabarkantha district of Gujarat during 1983 was analysed by Kartar Singh (1985). He found that the IRDP in the district was well planned and properly implemented.

Lakshmi Devi (1985) suggested that the IRDP had a positive income benefit only for a small percentage of women and could not improve the status of the rural women substantially in Trichur district of Kerala during 1985 Raghavan and Varadarajan (1985) revealed in their study to examine whether the strategies adopted for IRDP have really benefited households headed by women and whether the assistance has generated sufficient income to raise such households above the poverty line.
Amrik, Saini, Jagirsing and Puran Chand (1986) stressed that dairy being a capital-intensive venture, requires short term and medium-term capital. The farmers and the landless with low resource base, low productivity and income levels need exogenous financial support, which may be given by the appropriate financial agencies quite well in time and low interest rate, keeping in view the objective of growth with social justice. Sastry et. al (1987) reported that inadequate number of milk collection centres made the milk scheme beneficiaries in Gujarat to Pedal 8 km twice a day to market the milk.

The Government of India (1987), Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, conducted concurrent evaluation of IRDP covering 16,101 beneficiaries and revealed that working capital was required in 60 per cent cases but was not provided in 32 per cent cases. Thippaiah and Babu (1987) concluded that large number of beneficiaries mentioned lack of infrastructural facilities and forward and backward linkages, inadequate fodder supply and veterinary services as the main drawbacks in the programme.

Mohanasundaram (1988) revealed certain operational problems hindering the programme implementation. These included formulation of purchase committee to purchase the Milch animals, delaying in depositing the subsidy amounts in the respective banks by the DRDA and taking steps to settle the insurance claims when the milch animal dies.
Rao and Naidu (1988), reported untimely credit, poor marketing facilities, creation of inappropriate assets, low employment potential of the unit, increasing cost of the inputs as the major difficulties expressed by majority of the beneficiaries Rao and Natarajan (1988) reported that majority of the beneficiaries have not imparted any sort of guidance or training support for the activities under IRDP.

Paul (1989) reported that during 1985 in Tamil Nadu, the benefits to households of investing in livestock through the IRDP have been significantly below than to those livestock purchased outside the scheme i.e. price discrimination. The finding of the Concurrent Evaluation, Government of India (1990) revealed that marketing facility was available only in 44 per cent cases of dairy units and adequate infrastructure facility was not available to the beneficiaries in most of the cases.

Chaudhary (1990) made a survey of developmental programmes (IRDP) undertaken during various five year plans which aimed at securing social justice for the deprived and the disadvantaged population. In his assessment, it was found that the programmes had benefited only the richer and the stronger sections who continued their exploitation and oppression of the poor. Supporting the idea of self-government, he felt that there was a need to redesign the development policy so that tribals could keep themselves together by forming their own associations to replace the bureaucratic supporting system. He brought our four-fold bureaucratic behaviour non
co-operation and rigid attitude of officials, malpractice in sanctioning loans and subsidy, the under-hand dealing of middlemen and the benami transactions from the poor to the richer sections.

Ghosh (1993) observed that lack of proper infrastructure made the schemes uneconomic and burdensome to poor families. In Birbhum district of West Bengal, since inception of the programme till the end of Seventh Plan period, 33,062 animal husbandry schemes were sanctioned to poor families without any support services from the veterinary and Animal Resources Department and DRDA. Rath and Routray (1994) concluded that the programme details and specific terms and conditions of the individual programmes were little known to the beneficiaries. As a result they were subjected to cheating with wrong advice. 20 per cent beneficiaries did not even know the name of the IRDP.

Gupta and Sadhu (1995) revealed that though cattle insurance was vital for the beneficiaries, the IRDP officials did not brief them about its significance and provision. Sen and Venkatadri (1995) in an automatic research study, conducted in Ranga Reddy district on milk production through adoption of technologies found that the small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers could improve their productivity and income provided adequate remedial measures were taken to remove infrastructural obstacles like availability of inputs, access to information, exposure to
new technology, access facilities and services in terms of timeliness and quantity of inputs etc. for facilitating adoption of milk production technologies.

Bala Ramulu (2000) examined in his study the role of local technology in rural development during pre and post-independence period and to analyse the correlation between the level of technology and the mode of production. He revealed that the realization of goals of rural development depends on the effective use of both traditional and modern technology and also depends on the evolving suitable administrative structures for effective implementation of the developmental programme.

Thus, the study reveals that the availability of adequate land resources, capital and modern inputs, upgradation of skills, control of market imperfections, creation of infrastructure, adequate supply of electricity, development of human resources, formulation of economically viable schemes, simplification of administrative procedures, effective co-ordination among various departments, responsive administration, transfer of resources to the poor, unity among the poor, imposition of prohibition, control of socio-cultural problems, etc. are the critical variables for proper utilization of the modern technology and elimination of poverty in the rural areas.

Bhagyalakshmi (2001) examined that the vastness of the country and other complexities like growing population, inadequate infrastructure, growing need for
employment and shelter, old schemes are reviewed and new strategies are being evolved to accelerate growth and reduce poverty. Biradar and Bagalkoti (2001) observed that in the rural areas unemployment is relatively less as rural people are found to have involved in any one or the other activities, which yield less income to them. Hence, poverty is invariably high as compared to the urban areas where people are engaged in multiple activities yielding more remunerative to them.

Uma Shankar Patnaik (2001) identified that habit formation is stronger in non-scheduled castes over scheduled caste beneficiaries. The calorie intake in both the groups is low due to high alcohol consumption levels. Thus, despite of income augmentation due to welfare schemes, the rural poor could not be uplifted above the expected poverty levels. Hence, habit formation dimension should not be ignored while implementing the welfare schemes.

Singh (2002) revealed that there is a need to encourage member based organizations of social security for agricultural labour. In this regard, the role of voluntary organizations operating in rural areas may be vital in organizing agricultural labourers in self-help groups. Agricultural labourers who constitute nearly 70 per cent of the total rural labour households, suffer from seasonal unemployment, job insecurity, poverty, indebtedness, bondage, migration, inability to get statutory minimum wages, illiteracy, malnourishment, lack of access to assets like cultivated land, discrimination, and incapability to form or join any organization. Inspite of
having relatively low economic growth, Kerala has the highest human development level. People's participation and involvement in various rural development programmes through Panchayat Raj Institutions in the state have enhanced the efficiency of delivery of various rural development programmes.

This review could be brought to a close after announcing its implication from the angle of the survey design of the study to be drawn up. The above studies on the rural development show varied technique for developing the rural areas, the reason being the varied economic conditions in which studies are made. Nevertheless, the results are capable of generating useful discussion on them. In the study of poverty, the very norms of measurement are responsible for the discrepancies noticed in the poverty assessments.

The impact of the Integrated Rural Development Programme on income, employment and assets building give wide variations, which may be due to the primary data collected. It emanates from the above observations that the limited resource farmers are a critical factor in the success of milk animal scheme under Integrated Rural Development Programme. It is clear from the preceding review that Integrated Rural Development Programme has encountered serious problems in actual planning and implementation, resulting in enormous leakages. All these make it relevant to draw up a micro level study, for seeking evidences for the magnitudes of the issues in question. The researcher therefore, has undertaken this study to fill the gap in the previous studies.