CHAPTER I
CHAPTER - 1

INTRODUCTION

To meliorate the condition of Indian underprivileged people, various schemes, Small Farmer Development Agency (SFDA), Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labour (MFAL), Drought Prone Area Development Programmes (DPAP) were introduced by the Government of India. Even though, it was released that despite all these programmes, most of the rural people continued to remain in the grasp of grinding poverty. With a view to improving the economic and social life of the "poorest of the poor" living in the rural areas, a new development programme was started, which is known as Integrated Rural Development Programme or IRDP, launch in 1978-79. This programme targets at lessening of unemployment in the rural areas and supply of assets and inputs to the rural poor for enabling them to rise above the poverty line on a lasting basis.

It (IRDP) was established to the whole parts of the India from 2nd October 1980. The focus of the programme is on the target groups consisting of small marginal farmers, landless labours, rural artisans etc. who are presenting below the poverty line.
The poverty line has been fixed in terms of annual income of a family. A family having an annual income of Rs.6400/- or less is taken to be a family below poverty line.

Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) and Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) are two main parts of IRDP. TRYSEM was launched by the Central Government on 15th August, 1979. The aim of this scheme is to equip the rural youth with required skills and technical knowledge with a view to enabling them to seek self-employment. Under this scheme, only those persons in the age group of 18 to 35 years, who belong to the target poverty groups of small and agricultural labour, rural artisans and others below the poverty line, are eligible for training.

DWCRA seeks to provide income generating activities to women which will have a positive impact on the economic and nutritional status of the family, on the other side, it also attempts to provide an organisational support in terms of a delivery system for the adjusted women, so that they can become effective recipients of goods and services available in that area. It was established as a pilot project in 50 selected districts in all states in 1982-83*.

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The target of the programme includes of small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans and those whose annual family income is Rs.4800/-. 30% of the target group should be drawn from S.C./S.T. families and at least 30% of the total beneficiaries should be women.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

The development of rural areas with special target on lessening of rural poverty has been of the major aim of our successive five year plans since attainment of political independence. In the early 1950, the objectives was sought to be achieved through community development which was visualised as a multipronged effort to encompass the totality of rural file.

The programme provided for the first time a nation-wide development administration from the Centre down to the village and succeeded in generating enthusiasm among the rural people to come together for bringing about social and economic change. The major emphasis under this programme was on creation of social infrastructure and in the absence of any concerted efforts towards dissemination of improved agricultural technology, it did not make much headway in developing the agricultural productivity and production. Hence, in mid 1960, the transfer of agricultural technology and introduction of high yielding varieties of seed, popularising the application of chemical fertilizers etc. became the major parts of this programme.
The strategy of Integrated Rural Development emphasizes distributed justice rather than more maximisation of gross national product has been evolved in the sixth five year plan. Any development strategy which aims at improving the lot of rural poor must aim at making new productive assets for them, developing of economically viable schemes to launch the perspective beneficiaries of the target group in economically viable activities is the linch-pin of this programme.

Naturally, Integrated Rural Development envisages local level planning with emphasis on optimum utilisation of local resources, skills and potentials. It emphasises the need for special, functional and sequential integration of economic as well as other activities. The earlier integrated rural development programme which was launched in 1976-77 under which 20 districts were selected for comprehensive development based on detailed resource inventories carried this approach a step further.
However, it was soon realised that this conventional approach to integrated rural development did not take into account the need for removal of economic disparities and redistribution of incomes. The approach to economic advancement based on the emphasis on increase in gross national product had not taken into account the need for increasing the quality of life specially for the rural poor.

Hence the distinctive feature of integrated rural development as has been evolved in India is the emphasis on amelioration of rural poverty. Since other approaches so far adopted had not made any impact on the incidence of poverty in the rural areas, an attempt is how being made to launch a direct attack on poverty by identifying the rural poor families from amongst the poorest of the poor and making and attempt to devise economic programmes for the family based on their own preferences skill and local potential.
The IRDP, was launched in 1978-79 in 2300 blocks all over the country. This programme is a synthesis of the strategies tested and found fruitfull from the experience of implementing special programmes like the Small Farmer's and Marginal Farmer's, Command Area Development Agencies etc. This programme aim at to raise families in the identified target groups above the "poverty line" and to make substantial additional opportunities of employment in the rural areas. The target group includes the poorest among the poor in our rural areas, viz, small and marginal farmers, agricultural and nonagricultural labourers, rural artisans and craftmen, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

It has great potential for bringing about an improvement in the standard of living of the most needy sections of India's rural population. The state Government formulated sufficient administrative machinery for implementing these programmes effectively and competently.
It is a programme for the poor. It may not be practicable for the poor people to draw up schemes for own advancement. But the beneficeries are to be fully involved in the selection of the schemes for them. The beneficiary himself should be convinced of the usefulness of the scheme for himself and his family. His motivation and morale are to be always kept in view so that he takes care of the investment with unflagging interest.

Under this programme the family will be assisted to reach an annual income level of Rs.6400. The target group of the programme consists of small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans and those annual family income Rs.4800. 30% of the target group should be drawn from S.C./S.T. families and at least 30% of the total beneficeries should be women*.

Under TRYSEM scheme, the selected beneficaries are to be in a specified trade with the aim that after the training, he or she will be able to establish his or her own business unit. The basis target of imparting training is to provide all technical know how and articulat work efficiency. Efforts have been made for creation of skill in certain trade and also formation of assets for rural households.

DWCRA seeks to provide income generating activities to women and also provides an organisational support in terms of a receiving system for the assisted women so that they can become effective recipients of goods and services available in that area*.

While an improvement in the general rate of the economy which our national plans strive for can also contribute to some extent to ameliorating the living standards of the poor, yet past experience disclosed the limited effectiveness of the "trickle down" effect. For example, the National Commission on Agriculture has pointed out that even with a 4 to 4.5 percent growth in the comprehensive agriculture sector by 2000 AD, there will be more than 50 million persons seeking employment opportunities**. Further the organised unit in not able to generate more one million jobs in one year. Accordingly, it was felt that there was a need for specific action programmes like IRDP and other anti-poverty schemes to benefit choice target groups.

* - Integrated Rural Development Programme and Allied Programmes, Deptt. of Rural Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi, Nov. 1988, P. 24.

Sixty-one percent of households in rural India are below the poverty line against the national average of a little over 50 percent.

If the inflation of the last three years since the revision in the "official cut off level" of poverty is taken into account, half of the households in the country fall in the below-poverty category, according to the latest study of the Operation Research Group, Delhi.

The cut-off point of Rs.6500 annual household income fixed in 1986-87 amounts to Rs.9000 now and this is less than the monthly family income of Rs.750. Even if inflation is not taken into account, about 40 per cent of households are below the poverty level, the study says.

The demographic survey by the Operation Research Group (ORG), an independent research group, says that two-thirds of households in villages with population below 1,000 have a monthly income less than Rs.750 as against 16.1 percent in the case of cities with population over 10 lakhs.
In fact, 27.5 percent of households in rural India in 1990 continue to be the poorest of the poor with a monthly income of less than Rs.350. While only 3.4 percent of households in rural India have a monthly income exceeding Rs.2500, the corresponding figure in the case of urban areas is 17.1 percent. Only six percent of households in urban India have a monthly income of over Rs.4000, the study says.

Consistent with the objective of successive plans in the realm of poverty alleviation, a number of general as well as specific programmes were implemented for improving the living conditions of the poor. However, inspite of these efforts, the problem of poverty continued to elude any solution. The sixth plan, therefore, apart from relying on the overall higher rate of growth of the economy, sought to alleviate poverty through some specific measures. A new scheme, the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was incorporated in the Sixth Five-Year plan for alleviating poverty and deprivation among the rural masses. The programme now covers all the 5,011 blocks in the country.
With a view to providing technical skill to rural youths to enable them to take up self-employment in agriculture, rural industries, services and business activities in the rural areas, the scheme of Training Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) was also started in August 1979.

It is obvious that some dent has been made on the problem of poverty. But with the number of the poor at present at over 21 Crore, constituting over-fourth of the population, the problem of poverty-reduction, it is, therefore, necessary that the pace of growth is raised, the growth pattern is based in favour of the poor and the special anti-poverty programmes implemented more effectively*.

CHOICE OF THE TOPIC

Manipur has a population of 18.27 lakhs in 1991 and has trebled since 1951. It has a density of 82 (3351 urban, 59 rural) persons per square Km. The valley area constituting 10% area is inhabited by 2/3rd population and has a density of 522 persons as against 32 in Hills.

During the seventh plan, there is marked improvement due to better facilities, co-operation and adequate infrastructure. Even though, there are some difficulties for adopting such scheme in Manipur. Such as, the bank credit available for IRDP beneficiaries in five hill Districts of the state is almost negligible. The infrastructure in the North Eastern State has not developed to the extent as it is in other states of the country.

This programme needs a comprehensive supervision by technical personnel so that the schemes prepared are viable and suitable, income generating and implemented properly. There is lack of people's participation in the implementation of IRDP.

Besides, there is no detailed study has been made during the 7th plan period i.e. 1985-90 in this field. Most of the rural people of Manipur does not aware about the advantages of such programme. These are the main cause why the researcher has choice this particular topic.
IMPARTIAL OF THE STUDY

The main task of the IRDP is identification of the families below the poverty line and providing assistance to increase the income level of the selected beneficiaries. The current topic has been taken up on the basis of the following impartial.

(i) To study the basic fundamental of IRDP and its Allied Programmes.

(ii) To ponder about about the Profile of Manipur.

(iii) To consider about the Administrative set up of the scheme.

(iv) To evaluate the physical and financial targets and Achievement of the scheme particularly in Manipur and its various districts in brief.

(v) Finding out the Problems and Suggest Remedial actions of such problems.
PERIOD OF STUDY

There is no published books or magazines relating to Integrated Rural Development Programme in Manipur, which inclose various informations for seventh five year plan, ended recently. The present study covers the Seventh Five Year Plan at more weight i.e. from 1985-90.

FASHION OF DATA ACCUMULATION

The data are evaluated in the form of tables. The statistical tools used in such evaluation of data are percentages, graphs and diagrams etc. It helps to the better conclusion and remember.

LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

Time factor is the most important limitation of the study because it had to be finished in one year. If the data could be collected from the primary sources by visiting each and every districts of the Manipur, then the present study had been in better design. The limitations of better transportation and communication, affect to the problems in the collection of primary data. There is problem of unavailability of proper and up to date data in the concern offices. Unavailability of datas and and materials as well as other facilities retard the researcher to give better design to the dissertation.

Despite of all these difficulties, all the possible efforts have been made to make this study a genuine, reliable and a useful one.
STUDY PLAN

The present analytical study is divided into six chapters. The first chapter Introduction, Rural Development in India, Impartial of the schemes, Design of the study, choice of the topic, Impartial of the study, period of study, Fashion of Data Accumulation. Data Evaluation, Study pain, Limitation of the study and Contribution to knowledge.

The Second Chapter - profile of Manipur, Introduction, General Scheme of Manipur, population, Agriculture, Industries, Trade and Commerce, Transport and Communication etc.

The third Chapter: - IRDP - Background: - Implication, Peculiarity, constituent and Fundamental Ideas etc. of IRDP.

TRYSEM Background, Constituents, Training, Stipend and Honorarium etc. of TRYSEM.

DWCRA: Background, Impartial, Attribute and Training etc. of DWCRA.

The fourth Chapter - ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP: Introduction, Central level, State level, District level and Block level.
The fifth Chapter - Evaluation of Schemes: 
Introduction, Sanction of Schemes and Accumulation of Assets, Institutional Finance for, Main Schemes under IRDP and Allied, Performances of IRDP, TRYSEM and DWCRA.

In the last Chapter - Conclusions and Suggestion - a summary of finding and conclusions at different stages of the study is given and some suggestions are proposed.

Beside the above, I added Bibliography and some Appendix, also.
Contribution to Knowledge.

The present study on the "Evaluation of IRDP and Allied Programmes in Manipur" will help to spread the ideas of IRDP to all the people who wants to know about this scheme. It also help to the Government Machineries who performed such programmes about the various problems face by the Government as well as by beneficiaries. It can come to the development of such programme in future. It imparted knowledge both to the beneficiaries and to the Government.