Review of literature is the most important aspect in any research work. It is a measure stating the recent output on a particular area of research and organized in a helpful sequence to strengthen the present research techniques. The main objective of the review of literature is to understand the research activities that have taken place in a particular discipline in general and in the area of research in particular. Here under an attempt is made to review the literature on Panchayati Raj system and reviews on PRIs and rural development with special reference to MGNREGA.

Reviews on Panchayat raj Institutions

Hoshiar Singh (1993) in his article entitled, “Decentralization through Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act” focuses on the conceptual aspects of the Panchayati Raj, working of Panchayati Raj and its short comings and preconditions for its success. Besides the author also discussed the features of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act its strength and weaknesses, and its scope to strengthen Panchayat Raj in the country.

G.Dhawan (1995) in his article entitled, “Panchayati Raj Institutions:73rd Amendment-apprehensions and comprehension” says that there is a need to transfer much of the allocation decisions to the local authorities as financial arrangement is the life breath of all self-governments. He observes that, the reservation of seats for women, SCs and STs need to be addressed more seriously by the States. He recommends that, for strengthening of the Panchayati Raj Institutions, it is necessary to involve the NGOs in the
planning, training, implementation and evaluation of the rural development programmes, on a priority basis.

Dr. Amita Singh (1995) in his article entitled, “Panchayatis – the New Regime” made some comments on the reluctance of the State Governments in initiating the spirit of the 73\textsuperscript{rd} Amendment Act. He lamented that the constitutional backing has become a hollow device of democratic decentralization. He pointed out that the increased influence of MPs and MLAs over Panchayati Raj Institutions would adversely affect their autonomy, making them vulnerable to the influence of urban cites. Calling for greater people’s participation, he observes that what is needed is the strengthening of participative democracy rather than representative democracy.

Baidyanath Misra (1996) in his article entitled, “Powers, Function and Finances of Panchayatis” discussed the recommendations made by the National Seminar organized by the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, ‘on financing of Panchayatis and involvement of Panchayatis in anti-poverty programmes’ which was held on November 18, 1993 in New Delhi. He concludes that the problem of rural construction depends both on availability of adequate amount of funds and efficient system of management of funds.

A.C.Jena (1997) in his article entitled, “Finances of Rural Local Self-Government Institutions: A study made a comparative analysis of Panchayati Raj finances in the selected States-Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharastra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Madhya- Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, Haryana, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh. He concludes that the efforts to raise local resource are luke warm. He observes that, a great responsibility
rests with the State Finance Commission (SFCs) to evolve principles of
devolution in sharing to assignments and distribution of Grants-in-aid based
on criteria of backwardness and steps to improve the resource efforts.

K. Mohan Rao and D.R. Raju (1998) in their scholarly article entitled,
“Provisions of the Panchayatis Act in Andhra Pradesh : Strategy for
opertionalisation” made an attempt to discuss the “Provisions of Panchayatis
(Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996” with special reference to
Scheduled Tribes of three different regions of the State. They suggested that
the provisions of 1996 Act and other laws related to tribal welfare and
development have to be translated into Telugu language/tribal dialects and
made available to Panchayatis/Gram Sabhas for effective implementation.
They further suggested that regular Orientation Training Camps have to be
organized by Tribal Research Institutes for all the concerned officials’.

C.V.Raghavulu and E.A.Narayana (1999) in their scholarly article
entitled “Reforms in Panchayati Raj: A Comparative Analysis of Andhra
Pradesh, Karnataka and West Bengal” made an attempt to discuss the
working of Panchayati Raj bodies in the selected states. They pointed out that
the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and West Bengal were in the fore
front in enacting legislation for a greater devolution of powers, functions and
resources to rural local institutions. They identified some striking difference
among the Panchayati Raj models of selected states. These differences
relatively to the extent of power devolved to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIS)
and financial administrative autonomy.
Katar Singh (1999) in his article entitled, “The Role of Gram Sabha in village Development” considers that the Gram Sabha despite being envisaged as the foundation of the Panchayati Raj system and an effective role player in village development is handicapped due to the lack of closely of its role in village development vis-a-vis the Gram Panchayati. He points out that none of the State Panchayati Raj Acts empowers the Gram Sabha to have a control over the Gram Panchayati and to take any final decision in matters of village development its role is only advisory.

R. Venkata Ravi and M. Venkata Ramana (2001) in their micro-level study in Nellore District of A.P. entitled, “Training for Elected Leaders in Panchayati Raj: A Study in Andhra Pradesh” focused on the Participation of elected SC leaders of PRIs in the training programme. The study has shown the pattern in which illiterates and less educated, politically more experienced have participated in the training programme. The study has underlined the significance of capacity building among the elected SC leaders, particularly SC women leaders to enhance their participation in democratic decentralization.

M Sarumathy (2002) in her essay entitled “Rural local Government in Andhra Pradesh” elaborately discussed the pattern and structure of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIS). She expressed that PRIS in Andhra Pradesh are not autonomous neither functionally nor financially. She also pointed out that out of three tier Panchayatis only the Panchayatis at the district level is stronger and other two levels of Panchayatis i.e. the Mandals Parished and the Gram Panchayats are treated as the subordinates of Zilla
Parishad. It is also pointed out that the autonomy of the PRIS is limited through the mechanism of collector and DRDA in the State.

Ranjit Singh (2002) in his essay on “Panchayti Raj Gross – roots of Democracy” Novelty criticized that Panchayati Raj Institutions, are “grass” without roots. He pointed out that to provide roots to the Panchayati Raj Institutions, what is needed is to deactivate the institution of Gram Sabha or village Assembly. He concludes that the acid test of the Panchayati System is in providing economic as well as social democracy and develops a sense of self reliance.

E.A. Narayana (2003) in his essay entitled “Implementation of 73rd constitution Amendment Act in Andhra Pradesh: An overview” made an attempt to examine the working of the Panchayati Raj system in Andhra Pradesh since the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution. He expressed that the new central and state legislations failed to alter the functional domain of Panchayati at various levels. He concluded that the Panchayati Raj system in the State can not function effectively unless the issue of devolution of powers functions and funds are resolved speedily.

KanaKanti Bagchi and Tapan Kumar Ghosh (2004) in their article of “Finances of Panchayats in West Bengal New Areas of Resource Mobilisation” made an attempt to review the in the existing system of collection of revenues by Panchayati Raj Institutions in West Bengal and suggests resources to rectify the loopholes. Further they also focused on some newer sources of revenue, which could possibly be utilized by the PRIs with political will.
K. Ramanuja Rao and Manduva Narasimha Rao (2005) in their case study on Gangadevipally Village in Geesukonda Mandal, Warangal district of Andhra Pradesh depicted and appreciated 100% participation of women in village administration. They pointed out that the unique feature of this village is that all women leaders have formed a group of committees as parallel watch bodies to the mandatory Gram Panchayati system. They further observes that the political power gave the women leaders of this village a sense of importance and of courses, a lot of responsibility fell on their inexperienced yet accepting shoulders.

Dr. Sumit Mukherji (2007) in his Scholarly article entitled, “Local Government and Civil Society, the Indian Experience” Contents that any research for role models should be undertaken in relative rather than absolute terms, as the states differ in respect of their socio-economic conditions as well as geographical and political configuration and thus indiscriminate borrowing of the features of different system, is sure to exacerbate internal contradictions. For the purpose of ascertaining the viability and utility of the Mutual Enrichment Paradigm (MEP) he envisages a Triple Index Parameter (TIP) based on three main signifiers, a) Adaptability, b) Selectivity, c) Operationality. On the basis of Mutual Enrichment Paradigm he discussed the performance of Panchayati Raj bodies in India.

K. Jayalakshmi (2008) in her scholarly article entitled “Decentralized Governance in Uttar Pradesh: Operational Issues and Suggestive Frame Work” examines the existing position of Panchayats in Uttarakhand, in terms of their structure, devolution of function, functionaries and funds with the
proposed activity and schematic and mapping at all levels and resource sharing management of key resources like water and forest. She tried to evaluate the role of Gram Sabha, kage and space sharing with Nyaya Panchayatis and Van Panchayats.

Ch. Balaramulu and D. Ravinder (2008) in their scholarly article entitled, “Governance of Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh: the need for Revitalization” expressed that the enactment of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act and the subsequent state wise Panchayati Raj legislations in India have brought to the fore the significance of grassroots democratic processes. He specifically examined the functioning of Gram Sabha and Village secretariat in Andhra Pradesh and highlights the instances where lack of coordination and proper perspective have rendered the whole decentralization exercise ineffective.

Rashid Md. and Anjan Sen (2010) paper examines the level of people’s participation in panchayat activities and level of people’s awareness about rural development programs. The study is done against the background of the Constitution (Seventy-Third Amendment) Act, 1992, and Bihar Panchayati Raj Act, 1993 and 2006, both of which aim to empower the rural people by strengthening the Gram Sabha. Gram Sabha happens to be the heart or the core of the panchayati raj system of local self-governance. The study is entirely based on a primary survey conducted in four villages of Atri Block in Gaya District of Bihar, which is among the least developed and most backward districts of India.
Atulan Guha (2014) argues that the panchayati raj institutions in Gujarat are being undermined by the state government. The failure to evolve financial devolution to fund the PRIs is making them financially dependent on the state government. Further, the Samras Gram Yojana, which encourages consensus candidates without elections plays into the hands of traditional dominant castes’ power.

Gandhi Siga (2015) considers that Panchayat Raj Institution has brought about many socio-political changes in the rural Arunachal Pradesh. Therefore, importance and effectiveness of working of Panchayat Raj in Arunachal Pradesh is an interesting subject of study to whether these institutions are an effective mechanism for the modern grassroots democratic political participation. With this objective, the present study is intending to shed light on the democratic decentralization political institutions and empowerment of people in Arunachal Pradesh. The findings of the study reveal that the PRIs in Arunachal Pradesh have been exercising very few powers and perform very few functions. The majority of respondents observed that the intended functions were not transferred to PRIs. It is observed that the Government of Arunachal Pradesh is not willing to devolve power and transfer functions to PRIs. As Pratap Chandra Swain has rightly states that in Arunachal Pradesh, the State Government obviously preferred the “Bureaucratic Raj to Panchayati Raj”.

Reviews on PRIS and Rural Development with Special Reference to MGNREGA
Sammiuddin (1978) examined the genesis and growth of Community Development Programmes in their broader perspective and has highlighted thus relevance to rural economy, and democratic institutions of Panchayat Raj. Bhargava (1979)8 examined the achievements and role of political parties in Rajasthan. He maintained that there is too much politics and benefits of these institutions are only enjoyed by leaders and their associates.

Katar Singh (1999) in his article entitled, “The Role of Gram Sabha in village Development” considers that the Gram Sabha despite being envisaged as the foundation of the Panchayati Raj system and an effective role player in village development is handicapped due to the lack of closely of its role in village development vis-a-vis the Gram Panchayati. He points out that none of the State Panchayati Raj Acts empowers the Gram Sabha to have a control over the Gram Panchayati and to take any final decision in matters of village development its role is only advisory.

K.S. Narayana (2003) in his essay entitled, “unending of debate on Rural Development Issues: A Relook at diagnostics-part II", analyzed the social components of rural development viz., health, education, sanitation, etc., in a long term perspective. He stated that all our efforts to enlarge the health facility must rank highest priority with an allocation of 6 percent GNP. According to him continued lukewarm policy efforts would be a big liability to health of the nation, as a majority of rural people are confronted with health hazards, there by curtailing people’s contribution to the economy much less than potential lives. Health insurance must be propagated, expanded and policy procedures simplified.
M.R.Biju (2008) in his essay entitled, “Sustainable Rural Development and Panchayat Raj in the Era of Globalisation” discussed the various aspects of rural development in the context of globalisation. He reviewed and evaluated the functional competence of Panchayat Raj institutions in different parts of the country in Gandhian terms. Through his reviews he found that except in a few states like West Bengal, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, the Panchayat Raj institutions have been rarely given a change to perform their functions on sizable scale.
N.S. Gehlot (2008) in his essay entitled, “Rural Development Through Panchayati Raj Institutions: Strengthening a Participatory Democracy in India” discussed the issues like reviving rural India, Bharat Nirman Programme, single land acquisition, accountability of NGOs and civic bodies, etc. He clearly stated that grassroots empowerment is more important than grassroots development. He concludes that democracy in India has to move from elections to development and the same has to be extended to all organizations and institutions.

C. Siva Murugan and Dr. V. Anbumani (2008) in his essay entitled, “Community Participation in Rural Development”, expressed hopes that India might have lost a few battles against poverty but now with people’s participation, it will win war. They made a bird’s-eye-view of community development programmes and the success and failures of these programmes. The study mainly concentrated on Bharat Nirman Programme. They consider that people’s participation is a pre-condition of any development programme and now a condition of survival for the civil society.

Narayana K.S. (2010) considers that the present system of PRIs draws heavily from the ancient system, its canvass of responsibility has enlarged since the 90s. An attempt is made here to reflect on the features of the Ancient Panchayat System and contrast it with the present system. The tasks of these Panchayats covered wide canvass and the ward and committee systems were in place. Tasks of Tank Committee, Garden Committee, Pancavara Committee, Gold Committee and Annual Committee were overseeing higher learning, village tank maintenance, village development,
law and order maintenance and various other aspects. From among those with impeccable honesty and acumen was appointed as Accountant. Villagers were having final say in all these matters. Members of Committee if found guilty of any offence or found to have indulged in unfair practices and adultery or any other misconduct were removed and made ineligible for reelection in their life time including their close relatives from contesting elections.

K. Srinivasa Rao and Pandey R.S., (2010) considers that poverty alleviation is a key component of rural development. The present paper examines the status of rural poverty alleviation and the role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in providing the services to accomplish inclusive growth as per the eleventh plan agenda. The basic foundation of the village poverty reduction program is a proper identification of the poor on a Panchayat wise basis. The identification of the poor has to be treated as a continuing process that periodically tracks the situation of the poor, without the overriding concern of dividing people into clear poor and non-poor categories.

Md. Rashid and Dr. Anjan Sen (2010) paper examines the level of people’s participation in panchayat activities and level of people’s awareness about rural development programs. The study is done against the background of the Constitution (Seventy-Third Amendment) Act, 1992, and Bihar Panchayati Raj Act, 1993 and 2006, both of which aim to empower the rural people by strengthening the Gram Sabha. Gram Sabha happens to be the heart or the core of the panchayati raj system of local self-governance. The study is entirely based on a primary survey conducted in four villages of Atri Block in Gaya District of Bihar, which is among the least developed and most backward districts of India.
Mishra A.K. et.al. (2011) considers that the overall development of country is the main objective of Indian government since its independence. Earlier the main thrust for development was laid on Agriculture, Industry, Communication, Education, Health and Allied sectors but soon it was realized that the all round development of the country is possible only through the development of rural India. Keeping this in view Panchayati Raj Institutions have been introduced under the 73rd Amendment Act of the Constitution of India. Rural Development includes measures to strengthen the democratic structure of society through the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). It also includes measures to improve the rural infrastructure, improve income of rural households and delivery systems pertaining to education, health & safety mechanisms. Government of India has taken many steps to develop rural India and for this Department of Rural Development has been setup under the control of Ministry of Rural Development. The department through PRIs has launched various development schemes such as Sampoorna Swachchta Abhiyan, Gram Vikas Yojna, Farmer Market & Livestock Market, Underground Drainage System Construction Scheme and so on. Through these schemes Government of India seems to accomplish its dream of rural India.s development. Although some loopholes may also be seen. Without overcoming these drawbacks Government of India won’t be able to foster the growth of rural India.

Dhavaleshwar C. U. and Shaik Ali (2012) in their article seek to present the findings of an empirical study of people participation in gramsabha of Harugeri village a biggest panchayat of Karnataka state, for exploring the
extent of peoples participation in gramsabha as a result of an implementation of section of 2 Karnataka state ZP, TP, GP and NP Act – 1993. This made provision for the people’s participation at grass root level for village development it also aims at making some suggestions for making participation of people affective in this institution of decentralize of rural governance. The present study is an attempt to understand people participation in gramsabha for rural development and empowerment in all the villages of Gram Panchayat, Harugeri.

Bishnu Prasad Mohapatra (2012) in his paper analyzed the issues and challenges linked with fiscal devolution to the local self governing institutions in India. Local self Governing Institutions in India have been playing a prominent role in implementing development programs. The 73rd amendment act and provisions of Panchayat Act (PESA) have explicitly codified the role of such institutions with regard to implementation of development programs. It is argued that local self-governing institutions on the basis of their time and place knowledge develops plans and programs based on local needs and resources and implements such plans and programs keeping the magnitude of social and political marginalization in mind. Devolution of powers to PRIs in India in last two decades receives widespread importance because of increasing role played by such Institutions in promoting development programs. It is argued that the Local Self-Governing Institutions can become instrumental by promoting development in India, if require inter and intra institutional issues will be taken into consideration. These institutions can perform effectively if needful fiscal, political and administrative powers will be
provided within an appropriate institutional framework. However, the issues related to fiscal devolution to local self governing institutions assume significant considering the current development role of PRIs in India.

The present paper critically examines the importance of Fiscal Decentralisation for local self-governing institutions in Indian federation and how the Fiscal Decentralisation agenda for local level governing institutions disturbed because of prevailing institutional and political compulsion. The analysis of this paper is based on secondary source of information. The paper covered three broad aspects i.e. Decentralisation and fiscal decentralisation, fiscal decentralisation to Local Self-Governing Institutions in India and issues as well as challenges for fiscal decentralisation. The paper argues that factors like weak institutional design, absence of appropriate mechanism, problem in federal structure and above all, prevailing political compulsion have disturbed the fiscal devolution agenda of local levels government in India. Seen from the State specific experiences with regard to status of fiscal devolution and recommendation of the State Finance commissions, it is suggested that policies related to the States and local governments’ financial relationship need a fresh review. The paper concludes with a broad assumption that local governments should have upper hand in designing development programs and raising revenue in keeping the available local resources in mind.

Raunak Ahmad (2013) in his paper argues that if the delivery of programmes are channelize through PRIs in at least 29 sets of public goods and services that comes under the jurisdiction of PRIs, would lead to more accountable system. It would check the growing income and wealth inequality
resulting out of democratically insulated development. Only then we would be able to reverse that India is growing but Indians are not.

Nupur Tiwari (2013) opines that with the GDP growth rate rising to 7-8 per cent in the last four years, rural-urban divide, regional divide and rich-poor divide became glaring, which brought ‘inclusive growth’ high on the policy agenda. Such unequal opportunity structure weakens the positive role of growth in reducing poverty and making growth inclusive. Large amounts of public funds are spent to address these issues but their implementation and the quality of services delivered leave much to be desired. The existing mechanism for the delivery of services is not effective, efficient or economical.

The decentralized local government institutions are eminently suited for service delivery as they can ensure equity and/or equitability in the provision of services (in view of their nearness to the people), inclusiveness (in view of the assured representation available to all sections of the society in the Panchayati Raj Institutions), accessibility, transparency, local participation, accountability and sustainability of services. What is therefore required is that Panchayati Raj be brought centre-stage as the principal governance reform to reinforce economic reform and for delivery of essential social services at grassroots level. Improvement of service delivery by local self governments would vitally depend upon the quality of planning undertaken by these bodies. A key instrument available to Government of India is thus to provide fiscal incentives to state governments that can encourage them to strengthen local governance, in pursuance of the national strategy. Moving from a model of central provision to that of decentralization to local governments introduces a
new relationship between national and local policy makers, while altering several existing relationships such as that between the citizens, elected politicians and the local bureaucracy. However, the problem of implementing decentralization is as important as the design of the system in influencing service delivery outcomes. When grass-roots planning processes strikes deep roots, economic empowerment is both strong and sustainable.

Nagaraja S. et.al. (2014) in their paper examines the role of tribal women in rural development process through Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs), a case study in Karnataka. This paper concludes that active participation of Tribal women changed scenario of the rural area and solved the rural problems. The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Acts provide for an opportunity for women’s entry into political spheres especially Tribal Women. These Amendment Acts provide for a 33 percent reservation of seats for Tribal women in the governance of local bodies both rural and urban with target of good governance and fair representation in the development process at grassroots level. If women actively participated in Local Governance they will defiantly develop the society.

Thanikasalam S. and S. Saraswathy (2014) in their paper discusses need and importance of the study, methodology, objectives of the study, hypothesis, general observations, evolutions of panchayat raj, development programmes in Vagurani gram panchayat, etc. An attempt is made to study the role of gram panchayats in rural development in general and Vagurani village of Usilampatti Block of Madurai district (Tamil Nadu) in particular. The author concludes that the implementation of rural development programs
through the Panchayat Raj institutions has a drastic change in the socio
economic conditions of the rural people in the selected areas. The
implementation of rural development programs has affected even the social
and political affairs of the people of the selected area. In the economic front of
the rural development programs have created an improvement in economic
position of the selected area, as a result of implementation of rural
development programs most of the people gain additional income. From the
created assets which has resulted into deprivation in selected areas. After the
implementation of rural developments programs, efforts have been made to
strengthen village and cottage industries, as a result most of the people have
become employed in various agriculture and allied activities like animal
husbandry, sheep/goat rearing, handicrafts, small business and other
activities.

Tame Ramya (2014) made an in his paper studied the role of
Panchayat Raj Institutions in rural development in general and a tribal village
of a backward district in Arunachal Pradesh in particular. Overall development
of country is the main objective of Indian government since its independence.
In the earlier Plans the main thrust for development was laid on Agriculture,
Industry, Communication, Education, Health and Allied sectors but soon it
was realized that the all-round development of the country is possible only
through the development of rural India. Keeping this in view, Panchayat Raj
Institutions have been introduced under the 73rd Amendment Act of the
Constitution of India in 1992. Rural Development includes measures to
strengthen the democratic structure of society through the Panchayat Raj
Institutions (PRIs). It also includes measures to improve the rural
infrastructure, improve income of rural households and delivery systems pertaining to education, health & safety mechanisms. Government of India has taken many steps to develop rural India and for this, Department of Rural Development has been setup under the control of Ministry of Rural Development. The Panchayats are expected to play an important role in rural development in India, particularly after independence. Plan documents of both the central and state governments and various committees have emphasized the importance of these bodies in the polity. Five-year plans, specially the second five-year plan, laid special emphasis on the role of Panchayats in rural developments.

Rituraj Neog (2014) considered that the Gram Panchayat is to be an effective mechanism for the development of rural areas as well as for the upgradation of rural population. Under the study area, the Bhuyanhat Gram Panchayat of Amguri Development block provides various schemes for rural upliftment, such as Pradahan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) etc. but these schemes are still unable to uplift the village with present rate of growing population. Again at the same time, various schemes for the upliftment of rural population, such as National Rural Employment Guarantee act (NREGA), National Old Age Pension Scheme, National Family Beneficiaries scheme and Annapurna Scheme are able to cover only a small mass of population. Apart from these the study area has lack of all other supporting schemes for rural development, such as Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana, Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment and Total sanitation scheme.
Kausik K. Bhadra (2014) in his study is based on two pronged approach – one examines financial and physical issues in MGNREGA across Gram Panchayats in Jhargram block during the period 2012-14 and the other is based on interviews with people knowledgeable about this programme based on their association with it. Since it is demand driven programme and demand is projected through approved labour budget, it has become an important policy concern for the government how the fund is not being optimally utilised as this programme has continuously been experiencing underutilization of the funds since its inception in all the states. However, some explanations, based on the GPs in Jhargram, are presented on 1) incompatibility between unspent balance of 2012-13 and opening balance of 2013-14 across GPs, 2) during 2012-13, fund surplus in seven GPs was higher than unpaid labour payments, which raises a concern that why their wages was not met by such greater fund balance 3) declining employment provided to demanded ratio and 4) significant decline in per household availability of funds.

Firdoos Ahmad Sheikh (2014) in his paper analyzed the implementation of NREGA in the Amritsar and Gurdaspur districts might not only raise the livelihood of the people in the two districts but also the employment opportunity created through NREGA would gradually overcome the problem of drug abuse and check the migration of rural youth to towns. Sarpanches of the two studied blocks remarked that we give more preference to poor women who can earn their livelihood near their villages otherwise they have to move to far away areas. The NREGA is not implemented by the
bureaucratic apparatus of the state Govt. or through the contractors but
directly by the Gram Panchayats, thus fulfilling the mandate of the 73rd
constitutional amendment. The NREGA as noted has transformed the
Panchayats into implementing agencies, not the consulting agency. The
findings of the study underline the importance of strengthening the local
Panchayat Raj institutions (PRIs) which can act as an effective delivery
mechanism because it will ensure people's participation in the scheme.
Panchayat Raj institutions that respond to the needs of the beneficiaries
encourage mobilization of the rural poor. They are open to social audit at any
time and can provide better delivery mechanism. Achievement of physical
targets, improved women participation, payment of wages through Bank/Post
office, Grievance redressal, machinery better financial management etc show
that the NREGA governance in the two studied villages has gained
considerably with the entrusting of implementation to panchayati Raj
institutions.

Pushpa Suryavanshi and H.S.G.V.V.Sagar (2014) says that in the rural
context where the economy is largely dependent on agriculture, a large
proportion of the rural proportion of the rural population is dependent on the
wages which they earn through unskilled manual labour in agriculture and
otherwise. The workers in MGNREGS are largely casual workers who are
vulnerable and suffer from chronic poverty when there is inadequate labour
demand or when there are some calamities like natural disasters or personal
crisis like ill-health etc. In this context programme like MGNREGA are
extremely important as they provide the community with income during critical
times especially during lean agricultural seasons. Huge sums of money are being spent at the village level to ensure that the poorest and the needy households get a guaranteed employment for at least 100 days in the village. MGNREGA has been successful in bringing changes at village level in the agriculture sector.

Keshlata, and Syed Nadeem Fatmi (2015) highlight the role of MGNREGA in alleviating the poverty of India. As per the study majority of the Scheduled Tribes is in Madhya Pradesh 14, 7 crore. Through this research paper we will try to focus the impact of MGNREGA on poverty alleviation and rural development in Madhya Pradesh Sheopur district. The authors try to focus the impact of MGNREGA on poverty alleviation and rural development in Madhya Pradesh’ Sheopur district. The paper concludes that as India is a rural based country, so many rural development public policies were implemented through Government to alleviate the poverty from India as SGSY, PMGSY and MGNREGA etc. There is hope to have loopholes to leakage of government money. In MGNREGA the participatory planning and decentralized implementation are its basic specialties and here 50 per cent of the works are implemented through the Gram Panchayat. MGNREGA is a demand based programme where the limit of funds is not fixed for the implementation of work. On the other hand there are certain safeguards under the MGNREGA implementation as opening of bank accounts of labourers, labour intensive projects through permissible works such as water conservation, land development, flood control, drought proofing etc. are
preferred, 60 per cent of the funds must be paid to the labourers and the non-presence of contractors to maintain legality in the system and so on.

**Research Gaps**

Some studies made a retrospective study of role of Panchayat Raj Institutions in the development rural areas.

It is evident from the above review of literature that most of the studies concentrated on the structure of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in India as well as Andhra Pradesh. Some of the studies made focus on the importance and implication of 73rd Constitutional Amendment. Only a few of the studies made an attempt on financial aspects of the decentralized institutions. None of the studies discussed on the pattern and functioning of decentralized institutions in Ananthapuramu district.

It is evident from the above review of literature that some of the studies concentrated on financial aspects of the Panchayat Raj Institutions. These writers considered the finance as life and breath of Panchayat Raj Institutions. Some of the studies are centred to explain the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act and its implications on various facets of rural local self government. Whereas some studies are confined to a particular state and particular aspect of the Panchayat Raj Institutions. The studies on the role of Panchayat Raj Institutions on rural development is very limited or almost nil. Moreover, there are no studies on the role of rural local self government in the implementation of rural development programmes in drought prone district of Ananthapuramu.
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