CHAPTER VIII
SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

Overview

Inferences drawn in the body of the thesis are provided in the form of summary, findings and conclusion in this chapter.

Theoretical Background of the Study

The present research study consists of eight chapters. In the first chapter an attempt has been made to explain the theoretical background of Rural Development, Community Development Programme and Panchayati Raj System.

Although there is no universally valid theory of rural development available so far, the various paradigms and hypotheses of development reviewed in the first chapter furnish many valuable insights into the processes and determinants of rural development. Using an eclectic approach, we could extract relevant elements from those paradigms, and synthesize them into an operational framework of rural development suited to our time and circumstances. There is a set of elements/factors that is common to most of the paradigms of development. The common set comprises natural resources, new technology, capital accumulation and investment, educated, technically training, enterprising and motivated human resources with values and ethos congenial to rural development, and an appropriate institutional and organization framework. In our opinion, a people-centered strategy, akin to the Gandhian model, would be the most appropriate paradigm of sustainable rural development for India.

In the theoretical background of the Community Development Programme an attempt has been made to explain the various facets of Community Development Programme such as origin of Community Development Programme, meaning and objectives, coverage, activities and organization.
In order to implement the Community Development Programme and its related Poverty Alleviation Programmes more efficiently, the Panchayati Raj Institutions were established. But these Panchayati Raj Institutions could not function efficiently and as a result the Community Development Programme and its related Poverty Alleviation Programmes could not be implemented properly. Attempts were made by the Government to revitalize the Panchayati Raj Institutions and ultimately the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act was enacted.

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act is a significant landmark in the evolution of grassroot democratic institutions in the country. It transfers the representative democracy into participatory democracy. The Act has provided a Gram Sabha for each Village, a Panchayat for each Village or a group of Villages, Panchayats at Intermediary and District levels, Members of Panchayats elected by people through voting, a President elected directly by the people or by Panchayat Members from among themselves, one third reservation for women to all the posts, reservation for socially backward sections in proportion to the population, five year-term for Panchayat, reelection to vacant posts within six months, power in 29 sectors, power to prepare annual and long term plans and Constitutional Provision for District Planning Committee. On the basis of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act was enacted during 1994. Almost all the States and Union Territories have passed Panchayati Raj Acts on the basis of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. Thus, New Panchayati Raj system is a social reality all over India today. There are Gram Panchayats everywhere. The public are fairly aware of the Block and District Panchayats. The three-tier Panchayats are active to some extent. Members elected to the Panchayats are accepted well by the society. As a level of administration, its status has gone up. The Finance Commission has been created for proper sharing of income of the State Government between the State Government and the Local Governments. The Election Commission has been created in every State to conduct periodic
elections to the local bodies. Thirty Three percent reservation for women and reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to proportion to their population have been ensured through the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. Eleventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution has earmarked 29 functions to the Panchayati Raj Bodies.

In Tamil Nadu on the basis of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act was enacted during 1994. This Act has given effect to the various recommendations made in the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. It is believed that with the introduction of the New Panchayati Raj system on the basis of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act and Tamil Nadu Panchayat Act enacted during 1994, Community Development Programme and its related Poverty Alleviation Programmes could be properly implemented. So far no attempt has been made how far the New Panchayati Raj System has given effect to the various Poverty Alleviation Programmes. Therefore, the Scholar thought it appropriate to take up the research study on the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana, a Community Development related Programme, on Rural Development.

**Review of Literature**

The main purpose of this review is to give a proper orientation and perspective to the present work. The literatures reviewed in the second chapter and the literatures referred and appended in bibliography on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Institutions have not examined the impact of Poverty Alleviation Programmes on Rural Development under the State Planning Commission of Tamil Nadu with special reference to Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana. Therefore, the scholar thought it proper to take up the present research study.
Design of the Study

In the third chapter an attempt has been made to examine the statement of the problem, objectives of the study and methodology of the study.

Statement of the Problem

With the introduction of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, it is believed that the Community Development Programmes and its related Poverty Alleviation Programmes could be properly implemented in rural areas and real rural development could be realized. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act has provided for the setting up of District Planning Committee to prepare bottom up planning. But so far this Committee has not been provided with sufficient powers for the formulation and implementation of Planning at the District level. Therefore, the real responsibility relating to the formulation and implementation of planning in Tamil Nadu is entrusted to the State Planning Commission. Therefore, the State Planning Commission is responsible to prepare and implement the Poverty Alleviation Programmes at the District level through the District Rural Development Agency. So far, no attempt has been made to analyze the Community Development Programme and its related Poverty Alleviation Programmes in rural areas after the implementation of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. A study on the Poverty Alleviation Programmes on Rural Development with special reference to Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana in Tamil Nadu could bring to light the impact of the Programme on Rural Development. Therefore, the Researcher thought it appropriate to take up a research study on the Poverty Alleviation Programmes on Rural Development under the State Planning Commission of Tamil Nadu with special reference to Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana.

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to analyze the theoretical background of the study; the area profile of Theni District, Tamil Nadu; the personal particulars of the respondents; the awareness of the respondents
about the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana for its effective implementation; and the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on rural development on the basis of the responses of the respondents about their awareness and participation.

Scope of the Study

As it has been already mentioned the main focus of the study is on the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu. Therefore, the major thrust is on the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu.

Period of Study

Since the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana was implemented from 1999-2000, the study period has to be restricted from the year 2001-2002 to 2007-2008. Therefore, the scholar has collected necessary data through interview schedule from the respondents who represented the Panchayati Raj Institutions from 2001-2002 to 2007-2008.

Limitations of Research

The topic of research is on the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu. Therefore, the present study confine to the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu.

Method of Research

Since the study is based on the data collected from the responses of the respondents of Theni District, social survey method has been made use of in this study.

Sources of Data

The data for this study have been collected both from primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of data were collected from the schedules furnished to the respondents of the Panchayati Raj Institutions of
Theni District, Tamil Nadu. The secondary sources of data have been collected from the Books, Articles, Reports, Acts and Monographs.

**Study Design**

The primary purpose of the study is not the testing of any hypothesis. Being an exploratory-cum-descriptive study, its basic thrust is to gain familiarity and insight into the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu.

**Sampling Design**

Representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in Theni District form the Universe of the study. The Panchayat Raj System is organized in three tiers at the District level. They are the District Panchayat at the top level, Panchayat Union Councils at the intermediary level and Village Panchayats at the bottom level. The scholar has selected 11 out of 21 Chairman and Councilors from Theni District Panchayat and 88 Panchayat Union Chairmen and Councilors from 11 Panchayat Unions and selected a sample of 264 Presidents and Members from 22 Village Panchayats at the rate of two Village Panchayats located in 11 Blocks of Theni District. The questions in the schedule have been framed in such a way that impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu could be elicited.

**Selection of the Respondents**

Since the present research work is impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu, the respondents have been selected from the different levels of the Panchayati Raj Institutions namely District Panchayat, Panchayat Union Councils and Village Panchayats of Theni District.

**Interview Schedule**

The Interview schedule was designed to collect the information from the respondents of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The interview
Data Collection

Collection of data was an important and rich experience in the whole of this research process. It took part-time fieldwork for almost six months. Since the Panchayati Raj Institutions were scattered in Theni District, traveling took quite a lot of time and effort. Once all the respondents had been selected the researcher had sought prior permission from the respondents through letters and telephones. This approach was found to be very useful and practical, as the respondents were well informed of the purpose of the study and well assured of its confidential nature.

It took almost about three hours to interview each respondent of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. They took more time because very often during the interview they were deviating from the topic while freely sharing their experience of their participation in the Panchayati Raj Institutions. Despite various difficulties, this experience was very enriching and rewarding in terms of understanding the various aspects of impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu.

Method of Data Collection

Personal interview with the help of the structured interview schedule was the main method used for the collection of primary data from the respondents. This approach in data collection helped the researcher in many ways. Initially, most of the respondents of the Panchayati Raj Institutions were skeptic about this study. But person-to-person approach
provided sufficient room for clarifying their doubts and explaining the purpose of the study.

The researcher got an opportunity to stay with the respondents during data collection. It was a very helpful exposure where he got an ample chance to observe and discuss the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu.

**Pretest**

Having prepared the interview schedule, pre testing was done in order to ensure against difficulties of comprehension and ambiguities of questions. Responses had been coded and a preliminary analysis had been done to see whether the interview schedule would yield required data. The necessary changes were done in the interview schedule accordingly.

**Data Processing**

The data were processed manually and were reported mostly in the form of percentage.

**Data Analysis**

Descriptive, analytical and empirical methods have been made use of to analyze the data. The researcher also has made use of simple statistical tools in the analysis of the data.

**Presentation of the Report**

After processing and analyzing the raw data the report writing work was undertaken. Sufficient care was taken to present the report as per the requirement of the study designed earlier.

**Setting of the Study**

The present study is about the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu. For proper understanding and analysis of the study, an understanding of the area in which it is set is quite necessary. Therefore, an attempt has been made to explain the area profile of Theni District in the
fourth Chapter. The details relating to Tamil Nadu, Districts in Tamil Nadu, history of Theni Municipal Town, traditional importance of Theni Town, history of Theni District, population, households, child population (0 to 6 years), scheduled caste population, scheduled tribe population, literates, illiterates, workers, main workers, main cultivators, main agricultural labourers, main household workers, main other workers, marginal workers, marginal cultivators, marginal agricultural labourers, marginal household workers, other marginal workers, non workers, details showing revenue divisions in Theni District with Taluks Panchayat Unions, Revenue Firkas and Revenue Villages, total number of Local Bodies & Habitations in Theni District and block wise vital statistics of Theni are explained. The details relating to the profile of Theni District explained in the fourth chapter further reveal that majority of the workers are agricultural labourers, there are more dry lands and poramboke lands in Theni District, more than 50% of the total area consists of uncultivable lands and there are considerable numbers of SC/ST BPL families though Theni District is graded as a normal District. In order to provide facilities to the people belonging to agricultural labourers the Government of Tamil Nadu is also spending huge sums of money in this district to implement various programmes for the benefit of the people. Unfortunately, there is no expected development in the district. It is believed that the New Panchayati Raj System could help to mitigate the sufferings of the people in the rural areas. The Constitution now has strict stipulations to put the vision into practice. A research study on the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarojgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu could help to highlight how far the Panchayats at the District Level have been in a position to put the vision into practice. In the forthcoming chapters detailed analyses of the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarojgar Yojana on Rural Development with reference to Theni District, Tamil Nadu.
**Personal Particulars of the Respondents**

In the fifth chapter an attempt has been made to explain the personal particulars of the respondents. Under the personal particulars of the respondents of District Panchayat, respondents of Panchayat Union Council and respondents of Village Panchayat are provided. The details relating to the personal particulars of the respondents of District Panchayat, Panchayat Union Council and Village Panchayat reveal that majority of the respondents (about 75%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 72%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 72%) of Village Panchayat belong to the age group of below 40 years; majority of the respondents (about 64%) of District Panchayat, of the respondents (about 75%) of Panchayat Union Council and of the respondents (about 70%) of Village Panchayat are Males; Majority of the respondents (about 81%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 76%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 81%) of Village Panchayat are Hindus; majority of the respondents (about 81%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 42%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 48%) of Village Panchayat belong to Backward Community; majority of the respondents (about 82%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 91%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 93%) of Village Panchayat are married; majority of the respondents (about 73%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 85%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 80%) of Village Panchayat belong to rural areas; majority of the respondents (about 55%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 64%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 70%) of Village Panchayat have Middle School Education; majority of the respondents (about 36%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 45%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 70%) of Village Panchayat are Agriculturists; majority of the
respondents (about 63%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 54%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 54%) of Village Panchayat have income below Rs.60,000/-; cent percent of the respondents of District Panchayat, Panchayat Union Council and Village Panchayat are membership in political party; and majority of the respondents (about 67%) of District Panchayat, majority of the respondents (about 81%) of Panchayat Union Council and majority of the respondents (about 72%) of Village Panchayat are membership in Self-Help Groups.

**Awareness of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana**

Success of the Community Development Programme and the related Poverty Alleviation Programmes such as Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana depends upon the awareness of the Programme implemented for the benefit of the people. In the sixth chapter an attempt has been made to analyze the awareness of the respondents about the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana for its effective implementation. In this chapter an attempt has been made to the objective of the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), selection of key activities, preparation of Project Reports, programme infrastructure, Swarozgaris, role of Self Help Groups, role of Non Governmental Organizations, linkage with the banks, identification and selection of individual Swarozgaris, safeguards for the weaker section, financing the investments – bank credit and subsidy, norms of lending, sanction of loans by the banks, asset creation by swarozgaris, principles and procedure for disbursement of assistance, repayment of loan, measures for affecting recovery, incentives and disincentives for recovery performance, refinance for Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana loans, insurance cover for various assets, skill upgradation, basic orientation programme, skill development training, Block Level Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Committee, District Level Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Committee, State Level Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Committee, Central Level Coordination Committee, Setting up of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Cells in Banks, criteria for allocation
of funds to the States, eligible items of expenditure and release of funds are analyzed.

The responses of the respondents about their awareness of the various facets of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana reveal that the majority of the respondents are not aware of the various facets of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana. About 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 72% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 79% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the objective of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 82% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 73% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the selection of key activities; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 74% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 74% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the preparation of Project Reports; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 69% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 78% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Programme Infrastructure; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 67% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 80% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Swarozgaris; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 66% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 83% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the role of Self Help Groups; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 69% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 84% of the Village Panchayat President
and Member respondents are not aware of the role of Non Government Organizations; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 75% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 80% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Linkage with the Banks; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 81% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 75% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the identification and selection of individual Swarozgaris; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 76% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 77% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Safeguards for the Weaker Section; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 81% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 78% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Financing the Investments – Bank Credit and Subsidy; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 76% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 71% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the norms of lending; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 72% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 83% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the sanction of loans by the Banks; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 81% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 79% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the asset creation by Swarozgaris; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 69% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 80% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not
aware of the Principles and Procedure for Disbursement of Assistance; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 66% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 71% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the repayment of loan; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 76% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 74% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the measures for affecting recovery; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 69% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 78% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the incentives and disincentives for recovery performance; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 82% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 78% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the refinance for Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana loans; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 67% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 80% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the insurance cover for various assets; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 72% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 80% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the skill upgradation; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 81% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 73% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Basic Orientation Programme; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 75% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 73% of the Village Panchayat President and Member
respondents are not aware of the Skill Development Training; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 74% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 77% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Block Level Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Committee; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 76% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 84% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the District Level Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Committee; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 72% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 75% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the State Level Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Committee; about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 76% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 74% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the Central Level Coordination Committee; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 67% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 79% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the setting up of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana Cells in Banks; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 81% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 78% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the criteria for allocation of funds to the States; about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 69% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 77% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the eligible items of expenditure; and about 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 67% of the Block Panchayat Chairman
and Councilor respondents and about 78% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the release of funds.

**Impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development**

The impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on Rural Development depends upon the awareness and participation of the respondents about the works carried out and the funds allocated to the Programme in the areas selected for the analysis of the study. In the seventh chapter an attempt has been made to analyze the impact of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on rural development on the basis of the responses of the respondents about their awareness and participation. In this chapter an attempt has been made to the works carried out and amount spent in Panchayat Union Councils of Theni District and works carried out and amount spent in Village Panchayats of Theni District are analyzed.

The responses of the respondents about the works carried out and funds allocated to the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on the basis of their awareness indicate that majority of the respondents are not aware of the works carried out and funds allocated to the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana. About 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 74% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 71% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the works carried out in Panchayat Union Councils of Theni District; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 81% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 75% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the amount spent in Panchayat Union Councils of Theni District; about 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 69% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 80% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the works carried out in Village Panchayats of Theni District; and about
64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 81% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 78% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents are not aware of the amount spent in Village Panchayats of Theni District.

The responses of the respondents about the works carried out and funds allocated to the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana on the basis of their participation indicate that majority of the respondents have not participated in the discussion relating to the works carried out and funds allocated to the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana. About 55% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 82% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 83% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents have not participated in the discussions relating to the works carried out in Panchayat Union Councils of Theni District; About 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 76% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 77% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents have not participated in the discussions relating to the amount spent in Panchayat Union Councils of Theni District; About 64% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 82% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 73% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents have not participated in the discussions relating to the works carried out in Village Panchayats of Theni District; and about 73% of the District Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents, about 72% of the Block Panchayat Chairman and Councilor respondents and about 83% of the Village Panchayat President and Member respondents have not participated in the discussions relating to the amount spent in Village Panchayats of Theni District.

**Conclusion**

The present research study is about the Poverty Alleviation Programmes on Rural Development with reference to Swarnajayanthi Gram
Swarozgar Yojana. With the introduction of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, it is believed that the Poverty Alleviation Programmes such as Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana could be properly implemented in rural areas with the effective participation of the representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The present research study shows that majority of the respondents are not aware of the various facets of Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana, the works carried out and funds allocated to the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana and majority of the respondents have not effectively participated in the discussion relating to the works carried out and funds allocated to the Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana. The Government should take steps to train the representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions to have sufficient knowledge about the various Poverty Alleviation Programmes such as Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana and to effectively participate in the discussions relating to the works carried out and funds allocated to the different Programmes so that Poverty Alleviation Programmes could be properly implemented and real Rural Development could be realized.