CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

Poverty alleviation through self-employment and wage-employment programme is the theme of rural development. It is District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) at the district level which oversees the implementation of different anti-poverty programme. District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) are district level development execution and monitoring agencies created under the Indian Societies Registration Act. Substantial sums of rural development funds of Government of India were transferred and routed through them under various Centrally sponsored schemes. The DRDAs which are financial resource from rural development point of view and are extremely important institutions at the district level.

With the adoption of the Constitutional mandate for decentralization of powers that privileged those self-government institutions in planning for economic development and social justice, the proposal to re-construct the status of DRDAs and also to merge them with the panchayats had emerged. Under the section on ‘devolution of functionaries’ the 1st Round Table had adopted a resolution, number IV (i), for reconceiving the role of District Rural Development
Agencies (DRDAs). DRDAs were to be progressively merged with the District Panchayats and their technical expertise made available to all tiers of Panchayats.

At an all India level, the progress reported in this regard is far from satisfactory. There are some vexed issues, one among which is the ‘reported’ reluctance on the part of some of the institutions of Union Government for the proposal of merger of DRDAs with the district Panchayats. The States the DRDAs function as if they were the cells for poverty alleviation / rural development schemes within the Zilla Panchayats. Hence, the present study is an attempt to evaluate the select schemes namely Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) and (iii) Sampoorna Grammen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) under the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA).

The objectives of the study are

1. To trace the evolution of DRDA in India with reference to Tamil Nadu.

2. To examine the origin, growth and development of District Rural Development Agency in Madurai district.

3. To identify the organizational structure of District Rural Development Agency in Madurai district.

4. To evaluate the role and functions of DRDA in Madurai district.
5. To analyse the policies, programmes and implementation of DRDA in Madurai district.

6. To make suggestions for strengthening District Rural Development Agency.

For the purpose of analysis, secondary data for the period of 5 year from 2005-06 to 2009-10 were obtained from the records and documentary sources published and through unpublished sources.

In the foregoing chapters, organisational structure of DRDA functions of select DRDA schemes, block-wise performance of select DRDA schemes and evaluation of funds allocated to select schemes block-wise were discussed. In this chapter, the major findings along with conclusion and suggestions are presented.

7.2 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Regarding the organisational structure ‘The District Rural Development Agency (DRDA)”, Director is the head of the schemes and technical and administrative wings are functioning under his control.

Each DRDA should be headed by Project Director who is appointed on bar with rank of Additional District Magistrate.
Each DRDA has seven wings which are as follows:

(i) Self-Employment Wing

(ii) Women’s Wing

(iii) Wage Employment Wing

(iv) Engineering Wing

(v) Accounts Wing

(vi) Monitoring and Evaluation Wing and

(vii) General Administration Wing

It is observed that there is no uniform policy regarding the recruiting of staff. It is also understood that the governing body of the DRDA comprises of

(i) Chairman of Zilla Parishad

(ii) All MPs and MLAs and MLCs

(iii) 1/3rd of Panchayat Samiti Chairpersons to be nominated by rotation in alphabetical order for a tenure of one year, one of whom must belong to SC/ST and another a woman;

(iv) CEO of Zilla Parishad / District Collector – Chief Executive Officer / Executive Director;

(v) Head of the Central Cooperative Bank of the District;

(vi) Chairman Regional Rural Bank;

(vii) District Lead Bank Officer;

(viii) Representative of the Reserve Bank of India at district level.

(ix) NABARD representative at district level.

(x) General Manager, DIC;
(xi) Representative of KVIB;
(xii) District Officer, in charge of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe Welfare;
(xiii) District Women & Child Welfare Officer;
(xiv) District Officer dealing with welfare of the disabled;
(xv) One representative from technical institutions;
(xvi) Two representatives of NGOs;
(xvii) Two representatives of the weaker sections, one of whom may be drawn from SCs and STs;
(xviii) One representative of Rural Women;
(xix) Project Director, DRDA Member Secretary.

It is observed that the planning process involves motivations, prioritizing the community needs, preparation of the list of activities, estimates, action plan and the like.

It is inferred from the study that the schemes under DRDA were evaluating and monitoring by district level empowered committee.

The present study is confined only to three schemes under DRDA in Madurai district.

Regarding Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), it is a scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development to provide houses to the poor in rural areas. It is a cost sharing scheme funded by both Central and State Government in the ratio of 75:25 per cent.
The target group is the households living in the rural area below poverty line. It is also observed that the available resources are earmarked for various categories namely SC/ST, BPL households, BPL minorities and 3% are for physically and mentally challenged persons.

It is inferred that District Panchayat /Zilla Panchayat / DRDA shall decide about the distribution of funds.

Regarding the performance of select schemes under DRDA, worker under Indira Awaas Yojana was found high in Tirumangalam over a period under study. It is followed by T. Kallupatti and Madurai East. A high fluctuation in number was found in Madurai East block followed by Sedapatti as per the value of coefficient of variation.

The highest trend value (0.4111) was found in Madurai East with positive growth rate (50.858 per cent). It is followed by Tirumangalam with 46.194 per cent growth. Chellampatti was found to be low in growth in number under IAY scheme in the district.

Regarding the amount allotted under Indira Awaas Yojana scheme, the total amount allotted in 13 blocks was in steady growth during the period under study. The highest amount allotted was found in Tirumangalam block followed by Madurai East.
The high fluctuation in allotment of amount was found in Sedapatti block followed by Madurai East. The positive trend value (Table 5.6) was found in almost all 13 blocks of Madurai district. But it was found high in trend value and growth rate in Madurai East block. It is followed by Tirumangalam block.

Regarding the amount utilised under Indira Awaas Yojana, the average amount during the period under study was found high in Tirumangalam block followed by Madurai East block.

The trend value and growth rate were found high in Madurai East followed by Tirumangalam block.

In the case of Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT), the number of works allotted was found high in Alanganallur block followed by Tirupparangundram block.

The negative trend in number of works was observed in almost all the blocks during the period under study.

Regarding the amount allotted, T. Kallupatti block stood first for amount allocation under Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT). It is followed by Tirupparangundram.
A high fluctuation was found in Melur for the amount allotted under this scheme. A low amount has been allotted to Usilampatti block under AGAMT scheme during the period under study. There is no significant trend growth found in amount allotted for different blocks in Madurai district.

In the case of utilisation of amount under this scheme, T Kallupatti block stood first for utilising the fund allotted under AGAMT scheme. It is followed by the Tirupparangundram block.

A high fluctuation was found in amount utilisation in the block Melur followed by Madurai East block. It is inferred from the analysis that there is no significant trend and growth in almost all blocks regarding the fund utilisation.

In the case of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) scheme, the number of works was found high in Tirupparangundram block followed by Madurai East block. T. Kallupatti block was found low in number of works under SGRY scheme.

According to the coefficient of variation, a high fluctuation was observed in number of works during the period under study in Madurai East block.
The trend value was significant in almost all the block but they were negative. The declining rate of growth was observed in all the blocks in Madurai district regarding the number of works.

Regarding the amount allotted, it was found high in T. Kallupatti block followed by Usilampatti block.

As per the value of coefficient of variation, a high fluctuation was found in T. Kallupatti block. A low fluctuation was found in Sedapatti block. A high and significant trend value and growth rate were found in Chellampatti block regarding the amount allotted followed by T. Kallupatti.

In the case of amount utilisation T. Kallupatti block has utilised a highest amount during the period under study. According to coefficient of variation, a high fluctuation was observed in Kallupatti block followed by Tirumangalam.

A highest trend value and growth rate were observed in T. Kallupatti block regarding the amount utilised. It is followed by Tirumangalam block.

In the Evaluation of select DRDA scheme, block-wise performance of growth analysis, classification analysis and equity analysis were discussed.

The growth analysis revealed that out of 13 blocks, six blocks namely Chellampatti, Kallikudi, Madurai West, Madurai East, Melur and T. Kallupatti
has above the district average growth (7.72 per cent) in allocation of funds under IAY scheme.

In case of AGAMT scheme, out of 13 blocks, seven blocks has reached above the district average growth (10.48 per cent) in fund allocation. Among the blocks, Chellampatti has a highest rate of growth of allocation of funds.

In SGRY scheme, Kallikudi, Madurai East, Madurai West, Melur, T. Kallupatti and Vadipatti has above the district average rate of growth (8.84 per cent).

The classification analysis showed that Tirumangalam under IAY, Tirupparangundram under AGAMT and T.Kallupatti under SGRY schemes have a top rank in average amount allocated for 5 years.

The analysis of pattern and measure indicated that out of 13 blocks in all the three schemes under DRDA programme, T. Kallupatti stood first position followed by Tirumangalam and Madurai East.

The equity analysis inferred the fact that T. Kallupatti has been chosen as the model block under IAY.

The blocks namely Alanganallur and Tirumangalam have the actual more than the potentials under IAY.
Further, the analysis revealed that the block namely T.Kallupatti has shown equity in allocation.

T. Kallupatti block was found model district and has shown equity in achievement under AGAMT scheme. In Alanganallur block, the actual value is greater than the potential target.

In the case of SGRY, T. Kallupatti has shown the model as well as equity in allocation of amount.

Thus, it may be concluded that there is inequity in the allotment in all the three schemes except T. Kallupatti block.

7.3 CONCLUSION

India is an under developed though a developing economy. It is characterized by lack of employment opportunities especially in the rural areas. Rural population is preponderant and rural development must occupy the eminent stage in the overall development programme. In India, most of the population lead a life of poverty. Poverty is not only acute but also chronic. A major development issue in India is the elimination of unemployment and poverty and providing of gainful employment to millions of people without work.
Mahatma Gandhi gave top priority to the elimination of hunger and poverty of every section of the society.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was also keen in the upliftment of the depressed classes and always advocated for the needful acts towards the minorities.

District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) came into existence from 1.4.1980 and studied many rural developmental programmes to create employment and to tackle special regional or individual problems for the economic prosperity of the rural people.

7.4 SUGGESTIONS

For improving the content of the scheme and for better implementation, the following suggestions are offered:

- Political interference is often reported to be prevalent both at the time of beginning and implementation of scheme. It is strongly suggested that such a kind of political interference should be avoided by the politicians.

- It is suggested that Government should constitute committees for monitoring the service delivery and public grievance resolution. These committees are important instruments of effective monitoring of implementation of schemes by DRDA.
Further, it is suggested that these committees are conducted once in three months to review the performance under various schemes.

It is suggested that an adequate number of work force should be deployed at the DRDA to supervise the proper implementation of DRDA schemes.

Since IAY, AGAMT and SGRY schemes have been sponsored by the Central Government, the State Government does not show a keen interest in successfully implementing them. The District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) is manned by State Government employees. Hence, they are not motivated enough to work hard for the success of this scheme. They tend to concentrate more on State sponsored scheme financed by State level financial institutions.

The youth with technical education should be taken away from the purview of this scheme and a separate scheme should be introduced to them. The District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) can thus be spared the task of handling technical details and devote its attention to the categories of youth.
It is my fervent hope that I have successfully endeavoured to do adequate justice to this special study of the implementation of Government sponsored schemes in Madurai district with special reference to select DRDA schemes.