INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Statement of the problem

This study attempts to assess the result outflow of the micro level planning evolved voluntarily by the villagers of the selected villages under the direction of the Gandhigram Rural Institute for the socio-economic development of the village community. The micro level planning gained momentum in the development activities of the government institutions and voluntary organisations for the last few years. It is a basic question whether the planning by the villagers for themselves yielded any expected result for the socio-economic upliftment of the village community. This study attempts to answer the above stance.

Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed University) is located in the Anna District of Tamil Nadu State in India. It is providing higher education in Rural Development. The curriculum of the Institute is linked with the Extension activities carried out by the students in the surrounding villages for an all round development. The Institute, founded in 1956, attained the Deemed University status in 1976.
Historical survey

Ever since human beings began to lead a collective living, the concept of planning began to act in the process of social evolution. People as collectivities planned and constructed houses with proper drainage, tanks and canals for irrigation and other facilities for the well-being of the members. They engaged in trade and commerce to improve the economy of the individuals and groups. The social and political life of the ancient society were regulated by some planned programmes. Irrespective of the form of Government from village republic to very big empire, planning was considered sinquonon for development. While looking at the functioning of the ancient villages historically, it seemed that every village was a little republic. In the social evolution of development, each village was planned and developed independently without relying on others in terms of its facilities in every aspect.


Village Republic through the ages

The recorded history of Tamil country began in the Sangam era. From Sangam age to Pallava period much had been described about the cultural heritage of the Tamil people in literature and inscriptions. There were a few references only about the village planning in literature. The early Chola period also witnessed some steps in the planning process of building large irrigation works to bring development in agriculture. Beyond that, adequate references were not available to highlight any aspect of scientific planning following the period of early Cholas.

The history of the Pallavas and Cholas of Tamilnadu speaks of the village communities which were functioning like little republics. Details are available about the constitution and working of 'sabha' (village assembly) at Utteramerur, which was considered as the basis for the development of local self governments in the later phases of the history of South India. During the 8th and 9th century A.D., Pandiyas and Cholas conducted surveys for planning and implementing developmental activities in Tamil country. It

is said that the village assemblies had exercised the constitutional freedom in the fullest measure. The classic example of a village assembly is that of Utharamerur in the Chengalput District. The Utharamerur inscription has been considered as a basic historical document of great importance to all researchers and workers in village autonomy and Rural (Panchayat) Development. It is inferred from the Utharamerur temple edict that the various welfare schemes were implemented and taken care of by various committees. The members of the committees were selected by lot. There were prescribed qualifications to become a member of the above mentioned committees. From later Cholas to the colonial administration, the indigenous system of planning for development had been maintained with changes. During the British period the famous resolution of May, 1882 and the Madras Local Boards Act of 1884 paved the way for introducing local self government in Tamil Nadu. By this act, developmental activities were carried out by the then administration. Simultaneously, efforts were made to train people


in scientific planning during the British Raj. Some of the voluntary organisations and a few individuals involved themselves in evolving developmental programmes to usher the socio-economic development in the villages. Some of them tried to involve people in implementing the programmes and create good leadership in the villages. But they could not succeed fully in involving people in planning and implementing the development programmes. However, they created an awareness among the people.

Sriniketan Institute of Rural Reconstruction was established in 1921 by Rbindranath Tagore in West Bengal. The need to cultivate the total personality of man was taken into consideration by the Institute. In the same year, under the leadership of Spencer Hatch in the Marthandam area near Trivandrum through the missionary work, an attempt was made for the spiritual, mental, physical, social and economic development of the rural people. Brayne, the British Deputy Commissioner of the Gurgaon district of Punjab introduced programmes for improving the health,


sanitation and economic conditions of the village. In 1941, Mahatma Gandhi introduced the constructive programmes for the all-round development of the village communities.\(^9\)

Firka Development Scheme was launched in 1945 in the then Madras State with the aim of organising the villagers for a happier, more prosperous and fuller life in which the individual villagers would have the opportunity to develop both as an individual and as a unit of well-integrated society. Later, in 1953 this scheme was merged with the community development programme.

**Gandhi and Village Planning.**

Gandhi stressed the need for reviving the old local self-government to make the villages a real republic achieving self-reliance. His ideal village would be free from external domination both in terms of economy and power having all kinds of resources for a reasonable and comfortable life of the village families. There may be mutual

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inter-dependence under unavoidable circumstances. In his ideal village, panchayat institution would act as an instrument to bring progress, peace and tranquility.\textsuperscript{11}

According to Pyarelal, Gandhiji's philosophy of planning envisaged planning from below by the people for their own lives in the way they thought best not the execution of blueprints of what others thought to be best for them. According to this philosophy not the cities but the villages held the key position in planning for development.\textsuperscript{12}

In 1948, Gandhi wrote in his journal, 'Harijan' that true democracy could not be worked by a handful of persons sitting at the centre and it had to be worked from below by the people of every village. After the death of Gandhi, his close associate, Acharya Vinoba Bhave felt that decentralisation of political, economic and social power was a necessity and started working for it.\textsuperscript{14} But, the economic


\textsuperscript{14} Suresh Ram, Vinoba and His Mission, Rajghat: Akhil Bharat Serva Sava Sangh, 1954, p.61.
and industrial policies of the congress governments in the State and Centre were not very much in line with Gandhi's ideas. In 1963, Jawaharlal Nehru admitted, when he spoke in the parliament, that the results of planning had not reached a good number of people in India. He also indicated that he had started thinking more and more of Gandhi's approach to solve the problems of the country.  

Kumarappa, the Gandhian economist said that the scheme for rural development would not be patch works made by government officials according to the whims of the various departments, but be based on self help and local contribution and initiative. This can be possible only through village level or local level planning.

Modern Planning

The modern planning process started after the industrial revolution in the West. Industrial revolution paved the way for mass production. Mass production led to


colonialism. Because of the free trade and liberal attitude of the governments, people in western countries made use of the benefits of the Industrial Revolution for their welfare. The governments started providing amenities and comforts to the public through well thought-out plans.

Although the first five year Plan was officially presented to the Parliament on December 8th, 1952, yet attempts at Planning in India go back as far as the year 1933, when Visvesarayya first published his book "Planned Economy for India". For Visvesarayya the essence of Planning was industrialisation.

India's Five Year Plans in the early phases

The Government of India had set up its planning commission in its scientific sense in 1950. The first five year plan was started in the year 1951. In 1954, the Indian Planning Commission requested the state Governments to arrange for the preparation of the district and village level plans especially in relation to agricultural production, rural industries and cooperation. In some states each

family was asked to prepare its plan.

The Second Five Year Plan document published in 1956 viewed that development should touch all aspects of community life and has to be viewed comprehensively. Educational, social and cultural development were also part of the five year plan. In spite of the efforts through the plans, India could not eradicate poverty and unemployment.

Community Development and Panchayat Raj in their Early days

Though many voluntary agencies and State Governments involved in the village development work in the pre and early post-independent India, their attempts were piecemeal and not for the 'total development'. Dey attempted to create an atmosphere for the good beginning of the community development movement in India. Nilokheri was a new township designed to rehabilitate 7000 displaced persons in 1948. Though the colony developed its own hierarchical structure, later it became a symbol of progress through self help and mutual aid. It was a novel experiment in the practice o


secular socialistic living. Working for the many sided social development of the community by taking initiative, instilling self confidence and the spirit of cooperation was the main objective of the Etawa Pilot Project.20

In 1951, through community development projects an attempt was made for the all round development of the villages by involving the villagers themselves in implementing the development programmes, the Panchayati Raj was introduced in 1959. The introduction of the Panchayat Raj and Community development projects created an awareness among people. The district was divided into several development blocks. Each block consisted of a number of village panchayats. The panchayats consisted of a number of hamlets (small villages). The community development programmes strengthened the functioning of the Panchayati Raj System.

The underlying philosophy of the community development movement was to guide and help the people to solve their problems by themselves with the minimum help of the outside agencies. People's contribution by way of money and labour to the extent possible were considered very important in

carrying out the community development programmes. People's felt needs and suggestions to implement programmes were taken into account while planning and implementing the programmes.

People's participation in planning

The study team on community development project and National Extension service after visiting the community development project in different states of India in 1957 observed that the real people's participation in planning and implementing programmes was the gradual development of the faith of the people in the efficiency of their own cooperative action in solving their local problems.21 While discussing people's participation in planning and implementation of the schemes, Owens and Shaw observed that much of the responsibility for planning and implementation would be delegated to regional or local institutions.


It was realised by the government that unless people in the villages take the responsibility and involve themselves in implementing the developmental programmes, the state and central governments could not succeed in their attempt to develop the rural areas. In the conference of ministers of community development in 1963, Nehru stressed the need for giving power to the people at the grass root level. He said "we must give power to the people, even though it leads us to hell. We will certainly come out of the hell, if we get there."

After some years, the momentum of the community development slowly started dwindling. Most of the development officials had started behaving like the officials of the revenue department created by the British rulers of the country. Programmes were thrust without understanding the felt needs of the people.

Efforts of Khadi and Village Industries Commission

The All India Khadi and Village Industries Commission prepared village plans involving the villagers under its

The plans have been implemented in the concerned villages. According to Vimal Shah\(^{24}\) the village annual plans of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission besides promoting planned development, initiated the people of those villages into the mechanics of planning and cultivated plan mindedness in them. On the basis of the findings of the detailed village surveys, plans were prepared and implemented. Assessment of the annual village plans were also made. The villagers were convinced of the usefulness of the planning approach.

**Efforts of a few Voluntary Organisations**

Gandhi Ashram which was started by Rajagopalachari, the first Governor General of Independent India, in the village Pudupalayam in Salem district to develop self reliance in the individual and initiative in the community to enable the people to manage all their affairs themselves for the realisation of Grama Swaraj. Gandhi Niketan Ashram of


\(^{25}\) *Aravamudham. S., "Gandhi Ashram in 60 Years", Diamond Jubilee Souvenir, Thiruchengodu, 1986, p. 29.*
T. Kallupatti in Madurai District has been organising Gram Sabha in the surrounding villages and guiding them for planning and implementing development programmes.

Gandhigram Trust in Anna District near Dindigul has been organising Village Welfare associations and conducting discussions with the village people and helping them in Planning and implementing development Programmes. There are number of other voluntary organisations all-over India working for the development of the villages.27

In the Kundrakudi panchayat of Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar Thirumaganar District, the Kundrakudi village planning forum under the guidance and leadership of Kundrakudi Adigalar (The Head of the Kundrakudi Religious Institution) is organising industrial cooperatives and other industrial units and generating employment opportunities to landless agricultural labourers and the marginal farmers. The uniqueness of the Kundrakudi Model lies in the process of planning carried out at the village level by the village planning forum with the help of the Government officials and the


scientists and technologists.

Need for Decentralisation in Planning

In practice in a democratic set up like India the modern macro planning gives room to inequality (concentration of wealth in the hands of a few) and unhealthy living conditions to a large majority. To avoid it, planning has to begin at the bottom and people should be involved in it. If people's representatives from all the strata of the village community of an area are directly involved in planning, there will not be any grievance from any quarter. Planning at the grass root level helps to avoid uneven growth of the areas or regions and thereby the conflicts between rich and the poor and unhealthy competition between one region and the other will be avoided. Subramaniam had rightly observed that 'today planners, researchers, administrators and social scientist have started to look around for suitable model for village development in the broader context of national planning. Further, he described that Rural Development is

inconceivable and impossible without decentralisation in planning.

While dealing with the rationale of decentralisation in planning, Dantwala is of the view that understanding the social, economic and cultural disabilities of the poor and above all understanding the local setting and its institutions under which poverty is generated and sustained are quite essential before solutions could be conceived, concretised and set into action. He therefore desires that employment generation and antipoverty programmes are to be area and community specific taking into account the differing development potentials as well as the constraints of each area and each community and prescribed local level planning as the only solution.  

The report of the working group on 'Block level Planning' under the Chairmanship of Dantwala also emphasised the necessity and importance of public participation at all levels of planning.  


experts in the field of rural development think that village cannot be a viable unit for planning. Some experts and field workers suggested cluster approach for village development. While planning for the industrial development a group of villages could be considered as a unit for the sake of convenience. But generally for all other purposes a small village may be a unit.

Planning for development, is not restricted to economic planning alone. It should be for the all round development of the village community. Development must cover all the aspects - economic, social, political, cultural and spiritual life of the individual, family and community. If this being the ease, planning must begin from the village level and extend to the area, block and district levels. Broad based people's committees at the village, area and block levels may help to avoid exploitation of the well to do and the rich.

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Morris Williams expressed the view that development for the third world countries shall be seen more as an indigenous process rather as heavily based on models drawn

from western experiences and prescribed by western dominated development finance institution. He also noted that in the past, development agencies tended to neglect socio-political and cultural considerations and the aspirations of the people in the third world.

The annual report (1989) of UNICEF highlighted the role of development delivery mechanics and pointed out that sustained development ultimately depends upon enhancing people's capacities to improve their own lives and to make more control on their own destinies.

The need for a rethinking on development and a search for fresh alternatives rather than borrowed models have been emphasised in the seminar organised by UNICEF at Bangkok in 1987. The seminar identified population increase, large scale rural urban migration, development of 'Mega' cities leading to a rise in urban problems and growing industrialisation leading to a negative impact on environment were the challenging problems.\(^{33}\) The above given trends of current thinking clearly indicates the need for a micro model for developmental planning and implementation.

Ibid.,
Here, it is quite appropriate to make a mention about the innovative approach for village development called 'participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)' recently experimented in the Kenyan villages. Participatory Rural Approach is a simple methodology that brings a village focus to rural developments and enables rural communities participate in preparing an implementing village resource management plans.

The present district Rural Development agencies, Block development office and panchayat have neither succeeded in eliciting people's active involvement in planning and implementing programmes nor succeeded in creating a good leadership in the villages. Their target oriented approach could not serve the purpose of creating a model for the all round development of the villages for harmonious community life.

From the above stated approach one would observe that the rural problems have not been solved and it needs a new approach. The micro level planning with the greater involvement and participation of the people of the locality could be developed. Radical social, political and economic changes

in a democratic set up of a huge country is possible only through proper decentralisation of political power to the village level institutions.

Postponement of conducting Panhayat Elections

The panchayats and the panchayat unions were functioning to some extent well and elections were conducted regularly to elect members and presidents of the panchayats and chairman of the panchayat union councils till 1974 in Tamil Nadu. But later, panchayats were dissolved and from 1974 to 1986 the panchayat elections were not held. There were no elected panchayats and panchayat union councils to govern the villages and blocks. The government officials were implementing the developmental programmes without popular representatives. The members of the legislative assembly and the parliament also could not play effectively the role of the panchayat presidents and the Panchayat Chairman to implement the village development programmes.

The postponement of elections to the panchayats for a long period in different states was the most disconcerting
aspect of the whole situation. Panchayat Raj Institutions made many contribution to development. The non-governmental organisations, political parties and the Government officials did not properly encourage the people and educate them for the meaningful planning of the village development programmes. During the long period of absence of the elected panchayats in different states people started realising the exploitation by the bureaucracy.

Constituting Village Planning Committees

During the long absence of elected village panchayats, it was felt that a new institution could be created to fill the gap. Thus, in 1981, the first village planning committee was constituted in Chettiapatti, one of the service villages of Gandhrigram Rural Institute. All the members of the planning committee were selected by consensus. The Village Planning committees at Chettiapatti along with formulating the annual plans for the development of the village with the guidance of the Gandhigram Rural Institute,


36.Ibid., p.175.
started implementing development programmes with the help of
the development officials of the block. The officials were
also involved in formulating the plans. Later, such village
planning committees were constituted in 30 service villages
on request from the villagers. After the panchayat elec­
tions in 1986 it was felt that the village planning commit­
tee's might strengthen the function of the panchayat and the
panchayat unions, and they continued on non-statutory basis.

The present thinking about planning all over the world
especially in the Asian countries is very much towards
evolving a model, different from the present macro planning
model for planning and implementing development programmes.
Though the planners are talking about micro level planning
they have not yet succeeded in introducing an acceptable or
replicable model. It is also obvious that an effective
experiment has not been conducted to test a micro model for
the all round development of a village.

Macro planning in India, even after more than four
decades after independence and seven five-year plans, has
not completely solved the problems of unemployment and rural
poverty. Though considerable progress has been made in the
industrial field, the country has been witnessing poverty on
the one hand and the affluence on the other. Further, the beneficiaries of the plans were only a few and the benefits had not reached all sections of the society. 37

Thus the new thrust of planning, planning from below acquires special important in the context of involving the people themselves’ in the planning process. This study makes an attempt to evaluate the impact of the new planning method (which was evolved in the Rural Institute) - micro level planning in the socio economic development of the villages.

METHODOLOGY

A) Objectives

The present study attempts:

i) To assess the result outflow of the micro model (Gandhigram model) in the experimental group of villages of the study area and

II) To evolve a revised micro model for developmental planning and implementation of the prorammes.

B) Hypothesis

From the above mentioned objectives, the hypothesis is deduced. It is hypothesised that the planned micro models for development yielded higher rate of results in bringing changes in socio-economic sphere of villages in the Experimental Group Villages when it is compared with Controlled Group Villages. To test this hypothesis, Experimental design has been chosen. Since the study needs a Experimental Group and Control group, the study villages have been divided into two groups, namely Experimental group and Controlled Group.

C) Conceptualization

Developmental Planning: Here developmental planning refers to preparing schemes and plans to execute for the fuller growth or for the all round development of villages. Generally the concept of development is linked with economic development. Spellmen says that "Development is the state of unfold or fuller growth". According to him development
means removing the hurdles for growth. Development is not only connected with improving the economic conditions of the people but it also means the all round or total development of the community or society.

**Micro Model:** The term Micro model in this study refers to an organisational set up consisting of Gram Sabha and people's committees to plan and implement development programmes at the village level. In other words it is a kind of mechanism to make the people plan and implement programmes with the guidance of the experts for the all-round development of their village.

**D) Selection of the Study Area**

Micro model planning has been introduced in the service villages of Gandhigram Rural Institute. Of the thirty villages scattered in the three blocks namely Reddiarchatram, Dindigul, Athoor, three villages from the Reddiarchatram block have been selected for experimental group. Eventhough the micro model planning was vogue in three

blocks, attention and care were given by the Institute only to Reddiarchatram block. Hence it was decided to select villages from the Reddiarchatram block. Moreover, of the villages in Reddiarchatram, the following seven villages, Anumantharayankottai, Puliarajakkapatti, Kondamanaickenpat- ti, Vellaiampatti, Kannimanuthu, Silvarpatti and K.Pudur have all components of the micro-model planning. The above said seven villages belong to three panchayats namely Anumantharayankottai, Kuttathupatti and Silvarpatti. It has been decided to take one village to the experimental group from each of the above said three panchayats.

Among the villages of Anumantharayankottai panchayat only one village, Anumantharayankottai has all components of the micro-model. Among the villages of the Kuttathupatti panchayat also only one village namely Puliarajakkapatti has all components of the micro-model. So the above said two villages have been selected as experimental group villages. The third experimental group village has been selected from among the villages of the Silvarapati panchayat. In Silvar- patti panchayat five villages have all components of the micro-model. Among the five villages Kondamanaickenpatti has been selected by lot as the third experimental group village. Thus the three villages Anumantharayankottai,
Kondamaikenpatti and Puliarajakkapatti were brought under the experimental group.

From the same block, it has been decided to take an equal number of villages as controlled group of villages for this study. By considering the criteria that the villages should not have not even a single component of micro model (the village planning committee or Youth club or Women's club) three villages, Palaniyur, Palakanuthu and Remagoundanpatti have been selected as controlled group of villages. These three villages have not been assisted by the Gandhi-gram Rural Institute. But in all other aspects namely having a primary or middle school, easy accessibility to the nearest town, cultivation pattern, more number of agricultural labourers and seasonal employment, chances to utilise the government schemes for economic and social development, having more than one caste group and a traditional or political leadership the three controlled group of villages are similar to the experimental group of villages. Both the sets of villages belong to the same block. Government development programmes are being implemented in those villages also. The following method was adopted to select the above said three controlled group villages.
Among the twenty panchayats of the Reddiarchatram union excluding the panchayats where three experimental group village are located and one town panchayat Kannivadi, three panchayats were selected by lot. Then from each of the three panchayats one village having all the above said aspects of the experimental group villages except having the Village Planning Committee, Youth Club, and Women Club, was selected on the basis of the purposive sampling technique. Thus the three villages Palakanuthu of Palakanathu panchayat, Ramagoundanpatti of Gurunathannaikanur panchayat and Palaniyur of Dharmathupatti panchayat were brought under controlled group.

The following table gives an idea about the similarities and dissimilarities of the two sets of villages namely the experimental group and the controlled group.
### TABLE 1.1

**Types of Study Villagers - Similarities and Dissimilarities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Components</th>
<th>Experimental Group of Villages</th>
<th>Controlled group of villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Schools</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility to the nearest town</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same type of cultivation pattern</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasonal Employment</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chances to utilise Government Schemes for economic and Social upliftment</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than one caste group</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional or Political leadership</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro-model consists of Village Planning Committee</td>
<td>**</td>
<td>++</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Club and Women's Club</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Present**

++ Not Present
E) Selection of Respondents

Village Planning Committee members with different political affiliations, Office bearers of various village organisations, school teachers and the general public were the respondents from the experimental group. Likewise, the leaders of political parties, office bearers of institutions and defunct organisations, school teachers and general public were the respondents of the controlled group. Where there was no respondent in the category of office bearers of organisations in the controlled group of villages, the traditional or political leaders of those villages were requested to suggest the names of well-informed young men and women as respondents. Of the total 1010 households in all the six villages, 20 per cent of the respondents that is 202 households were taken as respondents. Respondents from the general public were selected by adopting simple random sampling technique for this study. Category-wise and village-wise distribution of the sample respondents are given in the following table.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents Category</th>
<th>Experimental Group Villages</th>
<th>Controlled Group Villages</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anumantha-rayan kotti</td>
<td>Kondama-naicken patti</td>
<td>Puliya-rajakka patti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Planning Committee Members/ Leaders</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office bearers of Youth club and Women's club/Co-operatives/Defunct Organisation/ suggested by the leaders</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village school Headmistress/ Headmaster</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other respondents from the general public</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M:64.82%
F) Tools of Investigation

Data were collected through administering the family schedule, the interview schedule for the cross section of villagers and the village schedule. The family survey schedule was used in order to collect the basic data connected with all developmental aspects of the selected villages. The interview schedule was administered to know the respondent's opinion regarding the progress made in different facets of development in their villages. The village schedule was adopted to identify the existing infrastructural facilities and other common problems of the selected villages. Besides, the researcher also followed the observation method.

The data collected were tabulated and those of the experimental group of villages were compared to the data of the controlled group villages. Also the data of one study village were compared to the other villages under study in the same group. While comparing, to identify the significant difference between the two sample groups, the statistical tool (test of significance for difference of proportion) was used. Percentage of variables of the study villages were found out. Since the hypothesis was to find out the significant difference between the controlled and experimen-
tal groups of villages and also between the villages within the group, the researcher had to find out the Z value which is the difference between the proportion of the variables divided by their standard error namely:

\[
Z = \frac{p_1 - p_2}{\sqrt{\frac{p_1 q_1}{n_1} + \frac{p_2 q_2}{n_2}}}
\]

The Z value was compared with the table value at the 5 per cent level of significance.

The data collected through the interview schedule were utilised to improve the model of the experimental group of villages and thereby evolving finally a suggestive micro model for the all round development of a village. The revised model arrived at was based on the analysis and findings of the data collected for this study and this revised model too has to be tested again.

G) Limitations

The study villages may be smaller in number, but in an experimental design it is very difficult to observe and
measure the progress of many villages and compare the experimental group with the controlled one having the initial and terminal data of the study period.

This study covers a period of three years from 1985 to 1988. During this period the Gandhigram Rural Institute continued its sustained support to the working of the micro model planning and implementation of programmes in the villages very effectively. Hence this study has been restricted to this period.

Though a period of three years is a short one to assess the impact of rural development programmes there is a clear difference between the experimental and controlled group villages in some respects. Of course the organisational efforts and the inputs given in the form of education, training, awareness building programme and transport and communication for the human development were mainly responsible for the progress made in the experimental group of villages during the period under study.

H) Data Base

Primary data were collected from the respondents by administering Village,family Schedule and interview sched-
ule. And data were also collected through personal observation. Secondary source comprises books, articles and reports relating to rural development and micro level planning.

**Plan of the study**

The second chapter gives an account of the study villages in the name of "Profile of the study villages." Third chapter deals with a few approaches and theories of Micro Level Planning and the experience of Gandhigram Rural Institute. The impact of the micro model for development planning in the villages has been discussed in the Fourth chapter and a suggestive improved micro model has been given at the end of the chapter. Fifth chapter presents the summary and conclusion.