

## INTRODUCTION

Planning in India till the end of the Fourth Five year plan has been sectoral in nature. The budgetary allocations indicating sectoral priorities at the national and state levels remained the mode of development planning throughout the country during the past year. It well reflected in district's and block's budgets meant for areas. The post-independence development in the country was based on micro-level sectoral planning, which took the nation on the path of overall development, created socio-economic and regional disparities. Resultantly, sizeable area and a significant composition of its people remained out side the mainstream of economic progress. Thus the existing wide regional and local variations in the levels of development call for rather more rational approach in which the plan is based on local resource potential and is sensitive to local needs.

While one cannot deny the necessity for sectoral priorities for resource allocations, the non-uniform treatment of all areas and all groups have accentuated the existing disparities. The prosperous areas with developed infrastructures and ahead start over the backward areas with little or no infrastructure at all. These imbalances can be corrected, through grass root level or micro-level planning based on available local resources and the village community. The answer to the question as to how the disadvantageous groups on the rural area can be brought into the mainstream of national development lies in rural change in an orderly fashion.

The vitality of balanced and multidimensional development planning can hardly be ignored for a country like India with so much socio-economic stresses and strains. In fact, the planned development has become the slogan of our time, the talk of the day and need of the hour. It was since the very beginning of independence that the planning was adopted as a strategy to pull out the country from all sorts of ills and backlogs. But the very approach of our national plans, as it could be realized later on, was loop-sided. It was dominated by purely economic and sectoral considerations both in theory and practice. However, out of most of factors that attributed to poor development, the lack of a coordinated and integrated approach to planning and development merged as the most potent and conspicuous.

Recently, rural development has been recognized as a basic measure for economic development, practically all over the world. No doubt, a single element i.e. the sheer largeness of number of people, living and working in the rural areas in the developing countries like India, is enough to compel our attention to this important and yet neglected sector.

Conceptually, rural development is regarded as the development of the rural areas. So, it often means the extension of irrigation facilities, expansion of electricity, improvement in the techniques of cultivation, construction of school buildings, the provision of educational facilities and health care etc. in such areas.

As a matter of fact, this is a very narrow view as to understanding of rural development.

Rural development may broadly be defined as a process aimed at improving the well being of people living outside the urbanized areas. Therefore, it takes into account the forward and backward linkages between the rural and urban areas. Such efforts in India have so far proceeded on two assumptions, first, that the existing village community are compact enough units to meet concentration of planned development, so as to bring about their socio-economic transformation and, second, that the administrative and other infrastructure for such development has to be provided for larger territorial areas.

Planning in the rural area must be cautiously designed, so as to serve continued agricultural progress, to ensure optimal economic and social returns on the investment within the sector, so generate employment in periods of flood, drought or during agriculturally slack times and, lastly, to sustain and supplement the otherwise weak agrarian economy by developing related secondary and tertiary sector. For this, it is essential to correlate the sectoral and temporal programmes to spatial constraints and physical needs. Such a strategy stressing on combination of a number of measures, e.g. increased provision for service facilities, such as health and education, strengthening of the agricultural infrastructure for distribution of inputs, marketing, storage and processing and the provision of agricultural and non-agricultural employment opportunities in the

rural area ought to be conditioned to the fact of scarcity of resources at the present level of development. To obtain all these, there is required an approach which starts at the village level but remains within the overall framework of national priorities by reflecting the correct state of affairs at the grass root level. The two well known concepts, which are most relevant for such an approach, are Integrated area development and Micro-level planning.

Integrated area development planning, is an exercise in formulating mutually consistent and complementary programme of development for different activity sectors in a defined area'. The concept of integrated area development in its true sense gained currency only during the last few decades. Our thinking about 'integration' had been most disintegrated and the term has remained ambiguous with different meaning and interpretations at different points of time. True, the term integration in its modern technical sense has different meanings and interpretations in different contexts. In terms of any action programme, it is more than bringing together into a 'whole'. Some have used the word to describe a system of interrelationship between activities falling within the different sectors of development, whereas others considered it as a substitute for process by which a group of activities are proposed and decided upon. In opinion of Sharma, integration may be regarded as a manner, in which special programmes or activities are linked to the general framework to obtain optimum results. Whether geographical, economic or social, it can be defined as a process in which the

individual process and different area levels become interrelated. For the present study, the term has been taken as a view applied in the very process of planning and implementation of rural development strategy whereby appropriate priorities are established and a sequential time phasing approach adopted for realizing the broader objective over time. Integrated rural development, thus as a synergetic approach aims to total development of the area and the people by bringing about the necessary institutional and attitudinal changes by delivering a package of services through extension methods to encompass not only the economic field but also the establishment of the required special infrastructure and services in the area of health and nutrition, education and literacy, basic civic amenities family planning, etc. with the ultimate objective of improving the quality of living in the rural area.

Broadly speaking, the area development framework includes consideration of land types, land use, settlement structure (urban & rural), social and economic infrastructures, and their interrelationships both existing and projected. Thus, integrated area development is a planning process and a strategy to improve upon socio-economic life of people in an area. Conceptually, the integrated area development is deemed as referring to three types of integration, i.e. functional, spatial and temporal, which are again interrelated in various complex forms.

Integrated area development is also concerned with the development of backward areas. While formulating a development

plan for a particular region, if only the existing pattern or settlement hierarchy is used, the area away from the important centers of economic activity will be left to remain permanently under-developed. In this way, the backward areas being in a real disadvantageous position may not be geared to the tune of development unless a breakthrough is suggested in the form of extra effort in providing overheads and infrastructure in selective locations. The nature of such investment will depend on the resource potentiality of the backward area and the expected multiplier effects of the investments. This in effect, is the theme of decentralization.

Thus, the concept of integrated area development is based in the idea of selectivity on one hand and decentralization on the other. The former refers to the local level while the latter to the regional level in respect of the level of development in any specific area.

Precisely, integrated rural development is a strategy package seeking to achieve enhanced rural production and productivity, greater socio-economic equity, a spatial balance in social and economic development and a broader based community participation in the process of development. Its concept suggests a framework for decentralizing economic and social activities by locating specific function in appropriate places. The network thus created provides a meaningful infrastructure which can attract and sustain a diversified but a growing economy.

Micro level planning has emerged as a measure to boost up the rate of economic growth of neglected sectors of the districts, states

and nation. It is supposed to counter balance the economic disparities that have been piling up over the last. In due course, several pioneering experiments have been attempted by many eminent workers in the country.

Tagore, Gandhi, V.T. Krisnamachari with their own concepts of rural development has vitiated the integrated development in India long ago. To follow Mahatma Gandhi that after independence the community development programme was officially initiated in the country on October 2, 1952. The programme was sought to be an integrated one, based on the all aspect of village life. Unfortunately, the community development programme failed to provide approach as its inability to do away with dichotomy in rural and urban development, lack of coordination between various development programmes, people's poor participation and, lastly, the little attention paid to spatio-functional coordination.

By the end of the third five year plan in 1969, it was fully published by the planning commission that the ideology of equity of spatial development could not be achieved by separate plan for the rural and urban areas. The fourth five year plan may, propound, be marked as a water-shed in Indian planning in this aspect. It spelt out, for the first time, some distinct regional learning policies and took certain concrete steps towards balanced regional development. As a prelude, the problems of backward area and widening regional disparities were brought into sharp at the very outset of the plan. In the wake of the same objectives, during the fifth five year plan, a

number of comprehensive area development programmes were launched with a view to residing much more employment opportunities whereby equity in living standard and social justice could be brought to the people in order to reduce the gaps among several sections of the society, 'target area' and 'target group' oriented programmes on Small Farmer's Development Agencies (S.F.D.A.), Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labour Programmes (M.F.A.L.) Drought Prone Area Programme (D.P.A.P.) and Command Area development Programme (C.A.D.) were introduced all over the country during 1974-77.

There were prepared a number of sub-plans for the development selected tribal, hilly and drought prone areas. Similarly, a level programme of minimum needs was initiated, during the period, to provide a minimum level of social consumption for different areas and different sections of community. Obviously, the growth centers should be so planning that they transmit information speeding from the higher to lower orders. In the hierarchical order of growth centers, in the space there should not be any missing links, because it is supposed that innovations jump from the higher order settlements to the next level in hierarchy. So, in the absence of complete of settlement the diffusion process will be slowed down.

The present study has been taken up with the objective on preparing an integrated rural area development plan for the Barasathi Block of district Jaunpur. It has two chief dimensions which may be put forth as (i) techno economic evaluation of the existing situation

with emphasis on assessment of potential for development, and (ii) advancement of specific proposals for development of different sectors of activities and different areas within the tahshil in the framework of a perspective plan. These twin objective economic development in the area creating, at the same time, a base for sustained economic growth over time.

The present study is primarily based on official records, partly substantiated by the field observations. General and broad information regarding socio-economic development of the area were collected from district statistical office, block headquarters, district industrial center, Union Bank of India and tahshil headquarters. Some other offices were also tapped for gathering additional information regarding this aspect. Interview with officers in charge of various departments and leaders of different villages were also sought for clarification, explanation and analysis of the information and data provided by them. Data collected from the aforesaid sources were mostly related to agriculture – general landuse, cropping pattern, irrigation, production-, industrial structure, education, health, transportation and communication system of the area etc. The data regarding population and its occupational structure is based on the District Census Hand Book – Part B, 1981 and 1991 Jaunpur district. Besides, three type of questionnaires were used for obtaining primary statistics. In order to fill up the questionnaires, help was taken from village leaders, Village Level Workers (V.L.W.) school teachers and other responsible persons.

The whole study has been divided into six chapters. First chapter deals with the location. Physiography, Geology, Drainage pattern Physiographic divisions, climatic conditions, soils and natural vegetations. Second chapter is an attempt to survey the Human Resources and cultural landscape of the area in which population growth, its distribution and density occupational structure, working population, Literacy and age-sex structure has been discussed. In this connection scheduled caste population has also been taken into account. Chapter 3 has also been devoted to land use and cropping pattern in which different categories of land use like cultivated land, area not available for cultivation, cultivable waste land have been discussed. Land use efficiency, cropping pattern, cropping intensity, water resource, irrigation its intensity has been dealt. Factors affecting agriculture-like cultural and demographic are also discussed. Fourth chapter has been devoted to salient features of economy like agriculture, fisheries, live stock, village and cottage industry. Industrialization and Integrated rural development, industrial infrastructure and economic facilities and different small and cottage industries with transportation are also subject matter of this chapter.

Fifth chapter is concerned with the Hierarchy of the settlements. Here central place theory, identification of central places, centrality and hierarchy of service centers has been discussed at the same time spatial pattern of service centers and its service area has also been taken into account. Impact of service centers on agricultural development has also been elaborated. Planning for Integrated rural

area development is the subject matter of sixth chapter. Here conceptual background of integrated rural development has been discussed in detail. Planning for physical problems, agricultural development, live stock improvement, planning for industrial development and lastly planning for spatio-functional organization system has been discussed and a spatial strategy for integrated rural area development of Barsathi block for 2021 A.D. has been proposed, in which re-organization of service centres transport system and spatial distribution of socio-economic amenities has been suggested. At the end of the present work a brief summary of the whole work has also been presented.