PART ONE

INTRODUCTION
LOCATION OF NAGALAND -

SCALE: 100 200 Km

REFERENCES:
- INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY
- STATE BOUNDARY
- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- STATE CAPITAL
- DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS
- OTHER TOWN

MAP-1
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introducing the Problem

Rural development essentially means desired social and economic change in the rural areas both quantitatively and qualitatively. It is an areal concept inclusive of integration of a variety of elements of human life and activities. It also means development of rural areas within the framework of national goals and objectives and without prejudice to the development of urban areas. "Rural development is generally accepted to be an holistic concept which recognises the complexity and inter-relatedness of the many variables which influence the quality of life in rural areas".\(^1\) Furthermore, rural development means structural change in the socio-economic situation in order that human welfare, which is the prime goal of all development, is secured at the earliest and that the society would

assimilate such changes in the realm of man-environment relationship, population growth, distribution and appropriate self-reliant technology and so on. This interpretation of rural development identifies the following essential elements, it seeks greater reliance and acceptance by the rural people on science and technology in improving their quality of life which will lead to efficiency of production functions and social services. It requires the involvement of people in all the stages of planning and implementation. It seeks to provide equal opportunity for rural people to earn a living. It seeks to correct the rural-urban imbalance by providing in rural areas, socio-economic opportunities and services. Its coverage is multisectoral and multi-dimensional as it includes the economic, social, political, technical, institutional and environmental aspects.

It would be understood from the above that, rural development is the integration of many aspects. The concept of integrated rural development has acquired a distinct connotation in the literature. It has much wider implications than the spatial references suggested in the word 'Rural' as distinguished from the term 'Urban'. Even the term 'Integration' has much broader implications than the spatial and functional linkages referred to in the literature in regional economies. It is certainly
different from the concepts of 'Growth' and economic development. It is used to convey much more than what community development implies.  

The strategies, policies and programmes for the development of the rural areas and the promotion of activities carried out in such areas should be systematic, scientific and integrated using the available natural resources. The process should enable every person who would engage himself or herself in the socially useful occupation and earn an income that would meet at least the basic his or her needs. In this regard, the participation and full cooperation of the people is an essential element.

It would be understood that, rural development process varies from region to region or from one village to another as it depends on factors such as the levels of development attained by the region or the village. Once the levels of development is identified, necessary infra-structural facilities should be given so as to diminish the gap between the backward and developed areas.

Rural development is in fact a change in the socio-economic aspects of life of rural communities. It can be attempted in two different ways: firstly, the technocratic approach in which the responsibility of bringing about the desired change in the rural areas is vested in the technically qualified professionals. In this approach the government try to deliver development to the people. The other one is the participatory approach in which the development is viewed as a process of change to be brought about and sustained by the people themselves. This approach considers peoples' participation in every stage of the planning and implementation of development programmes. "Path to economic development lies entirely through determined hard work of the people." The frame of each programme should be examined in the local context and suitably adapted so that it benefits the people as a whole, especially the poorer and weaker section. As a matter of fact, the planning agencies in India have now recognised the crucial importance of the provision of employment as a major policy in planning for the rural areas.

The term, resource, is a multi-concept. "A resource region is a homogeneous area of physical and human resources

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3 Sharma, B.D., Tribal Development: the Concept and the Frame, Prachi Prakashan, New Delhi, 1978, p. 44.
on which economic activities of men depend. One resource region may be rich in minerals resources, while the other in agricultural resources and a third may lack both the resources. No region on earth possesses all the requirements of human beings.

A region may be deficient in resources, but it cannot be so in the absolute sense. Although a region may be poor in resources, it is just possible that in the future it may become rich in resources as a result of the discovery of resources unknown at present or because new uses may be found for the known resources. The backward regions do possess resources but they remain unutilized, underutilized or misutilized due to various reasons like their inaccessibility, lack of technical knowledge and non-availability of capital.

One of the components of any rural development scheme would naturally include the programmes aiming at increasing agricultural production. The resources for agricultural development are land, water and human factor. Unless all these resources are used properly, there can be no substantial increase in agricultural production.

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Besides agriculture, for a comprehensive rural development programme aiming at the socio-economic upliftment of rural areas, it should embrace a large complex of non-agricultural resources. It may be recognised that, rural or backward regions also possess resources other than agriculture, such as forests, minerals, and so on. Agro-based industries, forest based industries and mining and mineral based industries are some of the sectors that have a high potential for development. Man-power resources are to be mobilised to undertake labour-intensive agricultural investment projects and for introducing new labour-intensive techniques of production. In this way, output could expand simultaneously in both sectors and the resources of the economy could be more fully and efficiently utilised.  

The critical element in rural development of an area is improvement of living standards of the poor creating opportunities for better utilisation of physical and human resources. In the absence of this utilisation of rural resources has no functional significance. Thus integrated approach to rural development requires that all aspects of the social and economic life of the villagers be brought within the purview of the efforts designed

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and fabricated for the purpose by the planners. But proper approach for formulating strategies is possible if only the planners know the socio-economic and physical condition of the rural areas.

It is with this perspective and view in mind that the present work has been undertaken. The best part of the State of Nagaland is characterised by such features as strong community institutions and organisations unlike many other States in India. These institutions can be involved effectively in the task of rural development. The region remained neglected during the British rule as also after the independence. It is during the recent period of planning that rural development has assumed great significance in Nagaland. It is now well recognised that unless the people in the rural areas develop, we cannot achieve modernisation, self-reliance, growth and social justice. Obviously, these objectives can be achieved only through proper work from the grass-root level.

Nagaland has an area of 16,579 km² with a population of 7,74,930 (1981). Out of this 84.49 per cent of the population is rural, living in 1,112 villages. The average density of population is 47 persons per km². The most important activity in the State is agriculture, which occupies 72.36 per cent of the working force. But the agriculture in the hills are still primitive. Shifting
cultivation is still practised widely, while terracing is limited to only small localities where the physical condition permits.

Since Nagaland is a poor State and its economy concentrates on natural resources and primary activities, it requires a special planning for development. An effort shall be made in this work to assess the existing levels of development and to identify the apparent and hidden resources.

Difficult terrain has scattered the already thin population of the State in small settlements. The practice of shifting cultivation on the hill slopes has made agriculture marginal. In such circumstances unless special strategies are worked out, the State will remain backward. Therefore this study aims at identifying the existing resources, physical and human which can be utilized for the overall rural development in the State.

1.2 A Review of Similar Works Done.

Although the concept of rural development is not new, the search for a new strategy of rural development especially in the less developed countries is receiving growing importance. In order to achieve rural development,
regional planning with a scheme of proper land-use planning is imperative. The importance of the regional planning was conceived because of uneven distribution of resource endowments in different regions, wide spatial disparities in economic growth and difference in the levels of living standards in different regions within a country.

It was Vidal de la Blache who first conceived clearly (1911) that regional approach was inherent in geographic study. The regional approach was further enriched by the contributions of such persons as Von Thünen (J.H. Von Thünen's Isolated State, 1926), Weber (Weber's Theory of Location of Industries, Chicago, 1929), Walter Christaller, (The Central Places in Southern Germany, 1933), Isard, (Location and Space Economy, 1956), Myrdal, (Economic Theory and Underdeveloped Regions, 1957). They put forward theories of location and development relating to regional development which obviously included rural development. The idea that economic development must be tackled on a regional basis has developed rapidly in USSR, UK, Poland, France, USA, Malaya, etc.

Harrington brought to national attention the problem of rural poverty in the richest land in the world in his book, The Other America. The book served as a
catalyst for an immense amount of activity on behalf of the poor of the country. Some other important works on rural development are Ingolf Vogeler's (ed.) 'Rural America' 1975, V.P. Miller and Jr's 'Towards a Typology of Urban-Rural Relationship', 1971, J. Dean Jansma's 'Planning for Rural Development: Indicators of Needs and Potentials in Pennsylvania', 1975, See Ronald Briggs and Douglass Mckelvey's 'Rural Public Transportation and the Disadvantages,' 1975. The deliberate promotion of growth centres as an important instrument of rural development and planning has been tried in several countries abroad such as Yugoslavia, West Germany, Israel, Poland, Bulgaria and several East-European countries. Certain newly independent countries of Africa, notably Tanzania, Kenya, Zambia, etc. have also planned their rural development around such growth centres. The twin purpose in this approach is, (a) Increasing the productivity in the rural areas and (b) Holding back rural population on land. So that they do not add to the overcrowding and congestion in the metropolitan cities.

The work done by Brand (1958) suggests how inhabitants of rural areas are struggling for a higher

standard of living and this necessitates early planning of rural development. While Taylor describes the spatial aspects of Kenya's rural development strategy, the physical development plan of Kenya, 1970-74, accepts a policy of creating growth centres to decentralise economic growth and to slow down the movement of people from the countryside to the towns. According to this plan, government services will be concentrated and promoted in the designated growth centres which will act as focal points of trade, social services and communications. All new infrastructure investments would be concentrated in these growth centres and any proposal involving development of service and other facilities within the non-designated centres will be discouraged.

In recent years, the People's Republic of China have shown how small scale light industries with low capital requirements could be established in rural areas to supplement employment opportunities and rejuvenate rural economy. Some of the important works related to the rural development in China are, Sartaj Aziz's The Chinese Approach to Rural Development, S.L. Wong's A

8 Taylor, D.R.F., loc. cit.

In Pakistan works on rural development have been carried out by some geographers. One such work is of Rehman Sobhan, (Basic Democracies Works Programme and Rural Development, Karachi, Oxford University Press, 1968) who stresses on planning of the rural areas on the basis of the regional resource potentialities.

In the late sixties and seventies some Thai geographers and economists have also started giving attention to the general poverty of the rural masses of the country. They have pointed out that, four-fifth of Thailand's population are peasants who only work part of the time. Though these characteristics have long been observed and many government units have been created to eradicate their poverty, the problem remains unresolved. Ironically, the widening gap between the rural poor and the urban rich is more frequently noticed than before. These are some of the important facts revealed by Chakrit
Moranitipadungkarn,\textsuperscript{9} Sait Smaekarn,\textsuperscript{10} Ayuth Kochapin,\textsuperscript{11} Chuapang Haai,\textsuperscript{12} through the research works on rural development.

The Philippine's strategy and experience in the field of rural development have also been revealed by the economists and geographers of the country who feels that meaningful development is achieved only when all levels of society attain economic and social upliftment. Gaudioso, C. Sosmena,\textsuperscript{13} and David, F. Roth,\textsuperscript{14} have clearly shown the necessities of rural development in Philippine in their writings.


The concern of the economists and geographers in the rural development of Malaysia can be seen through their concerted efforts to draw the attention of the government for implementation of integrated rural development programmes. In this regard the works of E. Mokhtar Bin Haji Hashim, and Syed Ahmed Hussein, are worth mentioning.

The contribution of the geographers and economists in the rural development of Israel is exemplary. It is at their behest that Israel followed the hexagonal model of Christaller for rural settlement and development. Similarly, in Yugoslavia, following the advice of the geographers the regional spatial planning was based on functional integration of both rural and urban communities. Madagascar and Senegal employ mobile teams of geographers and economists which operate out of their central planning agencies and co-operate with regional groups in the rural areas for the preparation of rural development programmes.


Studies in India: Rural development in India has a long history in terms of period and variety of efforts under different historical circumstances. However, development activities in this country were not organised on the basis of scientific studies and analysis of the situation till 1950. At no time prior to that was a comprehensive programme drawn up to tackle the rural development problem.

In 1926, a Royal Commission on agriculture was appointed to examine and report on the conditions of rural economy in general and of agriculture in particular and to make recommendations for the promotion of welfare and prosperity of the rural population.

Introduction of government of India Act of 1935 granting provincial autonomy and announcement of special grants by the central government to the extent of rupees two crores for distribution to the Provinces for spending on schemes of economic development and improvement of rural areas, provided fresh stimuli to the rural development programmes.

A reorganised rural development programme with 'Community Development' approach was initiated in the year 1952, taking into consideration the past experiences. With the introduction of Panchayati Raj in India, the ad-hoc bodies have been replaced by statutory organisation
like the Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad at the village, block and district levels respectively. India, thus with a gigantic rural development programme strive to include all the villages in the development programme strive to include all the villages in the development blocks. There were some 5,269 blocks, including 489 tribal development blocks.

With the rural development having been taken over seriously by the Government of India, some India scholars, like Abdul Aziz, B.N. Das, A.K. Sarkar, T.N. Chaturvedi, started discussing about the pros and cons of the techniques and operation of integrated rural Development. P.S. Appu, on the other hand, points out the fragmented nature of the rural socio-economic system.


and asks the planners to endeavour to bring about the development of all the sectors in an integrated manner.\(^{20}\) Lalit Sen,\(^ {21}\) discusses the concept of integrated area development in a much greater detail including both the functional and spatial aspects of it. Integration, according to him, refers to the appropriate location of social and economic activities over a physical space for the balanced development of a region.

V.K.R.V. Rao while discussing the details of the integrated rural development points out that the smaller habitations in rural India are generally debarred from the basic amenities like primary education, medical help, social and economic services, civic administration, trade, transport and so forth.\(^ {22}\) According to him the solution to this problem lies in 'grouping clusters of villages with necessary social, economic and resource links into new viable villages.'\(^ {23}\) It may be noted that the cluster


\(^{23}\) Ibid., p. 5.
approach to rural development was first introduced by late Professor D.R. Gadgil in a note submitted to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, sometime in 1954.24

Studies have also been made in India to evolve correct criteria to measure the levels of development and to identify the backward areas.25 Barry,26 Hemalata Rao,27 especially the latter, have significant contribution in this field.

C.H.H. Rao while discussing the economic basis of the rural India has pointed out that there is a strange coexistence of food surpluses and unemployment in the countryside and this is due to a low level of consumption, faulty marketing system.28 While K. K. Rao.


Panikkar has deliberated on Community Development Administration, M.J. Pandya has emphasized on the role of the rural leadership in development, peoples participation in rural development has also been discussed at length by B.D. Shukla.

Studies Undertaken in Meghalaya: In the North-East of India such studies are rare. K.K. Mathew and P.N. Varughese have a general study of the rural development in the north-eastern region. Other works of minor nature are those of Somayajulu, Halei and Mohapatra.

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29 Panikkar, K.K., *Community Development Administration in Kerala*, New Delhi, S. Chand, 1974.


No systematic and detailed study of rural development has so far been done in Nagaland. Although Planning for economic development in Nagaland has passed through long 13 years, no scientific study of its basis and outcome has so far been done. Neither are the comprehensive rural development data available in the State. The absence of complete and reliable statistics about the different aspects of the rural socio-economic milieu is a major handicap in the process of evaluating the rural development and its resource potentials. Information gaps still exist, particularly with regard to the crucial issues of agriculture, land use, animal husbandry, forest and financial and technical problems of rural development.

A few synoptic studies so far done are not found to be much useful to assess the difficulties which are faced by the rural people. Of the meagre studies so far done, ones deserving mention are those of Arora,37

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35 Bhaumik, A.K., Development Constraints and Possibilities in North-Eastern India, Shillong, 1983.


Roy Burnam. Besides there are some government publications. The Census Department carried out a detailed survey in a village 'Waromang' and its report was published during the last decade. There are a few other minor publications by different departments like, Forest, Field Publicity, Rural Development, etc.

1.3 Objective of the Study

The main objective of this study is to identify the levels of development achieved in the rural areas as a result of efforts made after the independence and to make suggestions on the basis of the knowledge gained in the work for planning and development.

The process of development involves not only structural changes in the economy but also concurrent changes in the social pattern of the people. Further, the changes involved are not uniform over a wide area. It thus has a spatial dimension. Then again the whole gamut of economic activities can't be viewed in the

context of space in isolation for these are often influenced by social and political processes and patterns. Thus the objective of any rural development could be broadly classified in terms of economic, social and political objective. The three aspects are obviously interrelated.

In more specific terms, an endeavour will be made in this study to investigate the following aspects and to suggest the ways and means for better planning and effective development:

1. A qualitative and quantitative assessment of the present levels of economic development as far as possible.
2. An assessment of the flow of input in the background of the economy of the state as a whole.
3. An assessment of such amenities as education, health and sanitation, housing, water supply, electricity, etc.
   An effort will be made here to determine the levels of development in respect of these taking different parameters to assess whether the development has been uniformly distributed over time and space.
4. An assessment of the role of the social elements such as clan, power structure, demographic composition and the attitude of the people towards development.
5. An evaluation of the attitudinal change of the inhabitants of the State towards socio-economic development and rural change.

In order to complete the study with the above objectives it is proposed to take up the following working hypotheses:

1. The levels of rural development in Nagaland are much lower than those in many other States of India.
2. Physical conditions such as hilly terrain, absence of adequate agricultural land, absence of known large mineral reserves have hindered the development of transport and communication and industry and these, in their turn, have kept the developmental level low.
3. Social development was never seriously attempted until Nagaland became one of a separate States within India.
4. Presence of many tribes and sub-tribes with their social identity within a small State is a hindrance for rapid development.
5. In most areas fertility of the soil has decreased due to repeated clearing of forest mainly for shifting cultivation resulting in diminishing return from the land.
6. The low standard of living, especially in the rural areas, is due to low per capita income.

7. The development so far achieved is not initiated from within the State but formulated from outside.

8. Levels of development has not been uniformly distributed over time and space.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Transformation of the traditional rural socio-economic condition has been considered to be a powerful lever in the process of Indian economic and social development. Such a transformation can be planned if only adequate research is carried out on the socio-economic processes and patterns now existing. It must be admitted that any conceivable means of internalizing the process of planning by the farmers assisted by academic researchers must play upon the acquired level of resource management and the realisable potentials. The selection of right technology involving minimal innovation in a culturally meaningful way can be identified more easily through skill of the academic researchers in the task of inducing rural change.

It is only during the recent years the process of planning in rural development has been started in Nagaland. It is felt that this process now needs to be modified to
suit the local socio-economic condition and deliver the maximum benefit to the rural mass.

Despite the fact that agriculture is the main occupation of Nagaland many parts of the State face food deficit mainly because of low proportion of cultivable area, low productivity and practice of primitive agriculture. On the other hand the region is endowed with a variety of important natural resources. Unfortunately, however, their exploitation for industrial use has been meagre. The industrial structure of the region remains extremely weak.

A backward State like Nagaland, whose economy is based chiefly on natural resources and primary activities, the utility of reliable, comparable, comprehensive and consistent statistics supported by maps, different cartographic and statistical technique will be of immense value for a realistic future planning. It is in this context that the work is deemed significant.

1.5 Scope of the Work

It is found that, no comprehensive rural development was ever undertaken in the State. The figures on trends are required to be collected from a variety of sources all of which are not compatible. It is in this
context that the present work has been taken up to establish a systematic and scientific correlation between the past, present and for the use of future planning. Thus the present study is of immense value in tracing out the past development and its future trend. Only through the study of developmental work undertaken during the past, one can be able to predict its future and evolve a systematic planning of a particular region.

1.6 Methodology

At the outset the researcher acquired a sound theoretical concept by studying relevant books, journals, documents, articles, published and unpublished theses, toposheets, other maps and diagrams relating to the problem under study.

After a through library work, field work was started with the help of interviews and application of questionnaire. The questionnaire was thoroughly pre-tested.

The field study was conducted on a stratified sampling basis of all the 21 blocks selecting one village from each of them (Map-2). Besides the village questionnaire at least four per cent of the households from each village were surveyed. In addition, qualitative information were collected from the village Head Man, Block
Development Officer, staff of the Extension Department, Deputy Commissioner of the district, Rural Development Commissioner and other officers through personal interviews. Further, the data collected in the field were supplemented by personal observation and assessment. Besides these, the data were also collected from various secondary sources such as the offices of the Government, autonomous and other social organisations.

After the field work had been completed the data collected in the field were analysed by applying various statistical methods. The maps and diagrams were drawn on the basis of these data. They were further interpreted in the text of the thesis.

1.7 Format of the Thesis

The thesis has been divided primarily into three sections. The first section includes the preliminaries like content, list of maps and diagrams and tables, etc. The second section includes the text. The third section contains reference materials like bibliography, appendices, etc. The second section i.e., the text is divided three parts; the first part is the introductory one containing Chapter 1 Introduction and Chapter 11 Ecological Setting of the study area. The second part of the text is devoted to analysis.
containig Chapter III Historical and Social Background, Chapter IV Economic Basis and Chapter V Case Study of Seven Representative Villages. The third part i.e., the synthesis part includes Chapter VI Levels of Rural Development and Chapter VII Summary and Conclusion.

### 1.8 Special Terms and Terminology

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>Awatsung</td>
<td>Lake.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chungli</td>
<td>A linguistic sub-group of the Ao-Naga tribe.</td>
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<td>Clan</td>
<td>A collection of families with blood relation.</td>
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<td>Customary law</td>
<td>Traditional unwritten law.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaonburah</td>
<td>Elected headman of a village who is subsequently appointed by the Government to act as a liaison between the villagers and administration. A Gaonburah becomes an Ex-officio member of the Village Council.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head hunting</td>
<td>A practice of killing enemies and retaining their heads to gain the prestige of a warrior by a man.</td>
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<td>Jhum</td>
<td>Practice of temporary cultivation by simple slash and burn method on the hill slopes carried out within a cycle of 7-10 years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mekhala</td>
<td>A single piece of untainted cloth tied round the waist by women folk.</td>
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<td>Place</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moatsu</td>
<td>An Ao-Naga tribal festival observed to invoke the blessings of gods.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tsungrem mong</td>
<td>An Ao-Naga festival observed to propitiate gods.</td>
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<td>Yinchen</td>
<td>Original village from which the residents emigrate to form a new village.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yimsen</td>
<td>A new village settled by a section of the residents of an old village which they abandon because of some social reasons.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yinti</td>
<td>Large village.</td>
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