CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION
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1.0 Background:
The concept of rural development is multi-dimensional and multi-faceted because the problems of socio-economic change of any society, which is growing in a specific environment, are varied and unfulfilled. Scientists conceive development and growth of socio-economic activities in different manner in which they are working. The organization and development of social activities within a specific frame of environmental conditions of an area have been studied in detail by the environmental sociologists such as Lassey (1977) and others. While the economic development for both rural and urban areas was dealt with the economists and regional planners, namely, Goulet (1971), Lewis (1978), Sundaram (1984), Bhat (1968), Grigg (1969) and many others who emphasized on proper economic development planning for the areas where less developed societies have been residing.

For the human welfare, freedom from ignorance, disease, servitude and fear are as important as freedom from want. Freedom from want is not just two square meals per day, fine clothes, protected shelter but also life’s security. In this, one has to be freed from dependence on others. Freedom also includes the basic necessities and the infrastructural facilities such as
education, health care, transport and communication (telecom), power, safe drinking water and sanitation etc. as highlighted by Parik and Krishna (2002) and also by the Planning Commission (2002).

The development of any activity whether it is social or economic in the rural area is closely related to the availability of resources and the extent of their utilization within which a society develops. If such dimensions of development are conceived through the eye of geographers, the development of socio-economic activities follows as,

(a) A continuous chain of socio-economic activities, which have been organized over space according to available resources and infrastructural facilities, is called ‘spatial-functional organization’, which has hierarchy and continuous ordering from rural (lower order) to the biggest functional node of urban centres (higher order).

(b) The coordination of socio-economic activities, which is studied keeping in mind the available natural resources of the area or landscape, which are controlled by the physiographic conditions and available modern technology to mobilize them, and thus, development follows an integrated approach, which may provide a well-balanced and optimal pattern of growth of socio-economic structure of an area (Fig-1.1).
Fig.-1.1: Integrated View of Development.
(c) The changes of such activities over time are conceived as processes, which are accelerated by the manpower available in the area for the welfare of the society living.

These dimensions may provide a sound base for the sustainable growth and optimal pattern of development to understand even problems and prospects of the people living in rural areas and also to provide them the full benefits of the resources available in their surroundings. For example, there is a variety of rural development programmes, which have been implemented by the Central Government to develop infrastructure for agriculture and road connectivity for intensifying interactions among people of the state of Nagaland. These programmes were operated in isolation, which became the main causes of their failure. Since the availability of local resources including manpower of an area is the spine of the body of a programme for rural development, the entire philosophy of development must be based on such aspects, which would provide the basis of resource integration, the kind of activities needed and the optimal pattern ought to be evolved for the development of rural areas. Further, the activity-specific and area-specific development may only be possible when the proper coordination of the activities related to the resources and problems of the people are conceived in planning processes.

1.1 Introduction:
There are many aspects of the development of an area or a state, which are being dealt from various angles. For example, sociologists study the social aspects of developmental
phenomena and are more related to the social activities and relation of the society, while economists emphasize the development of economic activities and conclude that social upliftment is the result of economic development. Likewise, geographers look into the problems of development, whether it is social or economic, within the frame of availability and utilization of resources and, sometimes, geographers consider man as a resource, which accelerates the processes of socio-economic development in its integrated manner.

So far as rural development is concerned, it is a multi-dimensional and a multi-faceted process of development related with the upliftment of a section of society living in rural areas. Their social as well as economic problems are different from urban societies, though both these parts of society are interdependent and mutually interactive over space. The main sectors of rural economy and its social activities are different and, therefore, the problems of rural societies are varied and multi-faceted. They (rural societies) have direct bearings on urban development. If rural economy is streamlined, the problems of urban development and urbanization may also be looked into because of rural-urban continuum. The democratic principles of welfare state may take care of this integrated and intertwined aspect of development.

Man and environment constitute the subject matter of development and it is one of the most debatable concepts during the modern time. Almost all the societies irrespective of the level of perception have given thrust in the social, economic and political
domain of activities for achieving development. Every individual and society in the post World War era have been marked to enhance their position for better living.

The concept of rural development is gaining momentum particularly in the Third World countries, where it has got wide recognition in the socio-economic and political processes for the development of the society. The developmental activities are for the entire society in which government is playing a major role for these activities. However, the organizational framework for these activities varies from nation to nation and even from society to society within a nation. Therefore, there are different perceptions and approaches to the development of an area. Since, India has varieties of socio-economic activities and different socio-economic landscapes, there are, therefore, many approaches have been adopted by the government for the well balanced development and self sustained growth of the nation.

1.2 Statement of the problem:

Rural sector is dominant in Indian economy, because more than two-third work force is engaged in rural areas. In Nagaland, the trend of population is characterized by a fast growth rate and is dominated by rural population (Table-1.1 & 1.2). Some of the features generalized from the demographic and workforce composition of the state, are highlighted here as:
(i) The decadal growth of total population is recorded very high from 14.07% (1951-1961) to 64.41% (1991-2001). The growth of the 1990s is recorded far higher than the national average (i.e., 21.34%). On account of much faster growth of population in the state, population density has increased from 22 persons per sq. km. (1961) to 120 persons per sq. km (2001), which shows fairly increasing burden on land resources (Table-1.1).

(ii) There is a marginal shift of rural population to the urban areas during the last 40 years from 94.81% (1961) to 82.26% (2001), which is much lesser than that of the national average (i.e., 72.22% in 2001). It means that there is insignificant growth of urban towns and, hence, less transformation among economic sectors specially from primary to non-primary.

(iii) Urbanization is in its initial stage in the state. The percentage share of urban population is increased from 5.19 (1961) to 17.74 (2001). However, the decadal growth of urban population diminishes from 168.28% (1961-71) to 69.44% (1991-2001). Thus, the processes of urbanization are weak and diversified in nature.

(iv) There is a fluctuating scene in sex ratio in the state. During 1961, there were 933 female per 1000 male, in the 1970s it decreases to 863, then it pick up again during the 1980s and the 1990s (Table-1.1).
Table-1.1: Population Composition in Nagaland over Time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Decadal Growth (in %)</th>
<th>Density person/sq.km.</th>
<th>Rural population</th>
<th>Urban population</th>
<th>Sex Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>% Share</td>
<td>Decadal Growth %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Decadal Growth %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>5,16,449</td>
<td>39.88</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>4,65,055</td>
<td>90.05</td>
<td>32.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>7,74,930</td>
<td>50.05</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>6,54,696</td>
<td>84.48</td>
<td>40.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>12,09,546</td>
<td>56.08</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>10,01,323</td>
<td>82.78</td>
<td>52.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>19,88,636</td>
<td>64.41</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>16,35,815</td>
<td>82.26</td>
<td>63.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, Nagaland, Kohima.

Table-1.2: Workforce Composition and its Changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Work Force</th>
<th>Rural Work Force</th>
<th>Urban Work Force</th>
<th>Non-worker</th>
<th>Dependancy Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>% Share</td>
<td>Decadal Growth (%)</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>% Share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Decadal Growth (%)</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>% Share</td>
<td>Decadal Growth (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>2,19,310</td>
<td>59.40</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,12,461</td>
<td>96.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>2,62,114</td>
<td>50.75</td>
<td>19.52</td>
<td>2,36,220</td>
<td>90.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>3,73,754</td>
<td>48.23</td>
<td>42.59</td>
<td>3,31,714</td>
<td>88.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>5,21,668</td>
<td>43.13</td>
<td>39.57</td>
<td>4,48,106</td>
<td>85.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>8,49,982</td>
<td>42.74</td>
<td>62.93</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, Nagaland, Kohima. * Data not available.
(v) An overall trend of workers in the state indicates a decreasing percentage share of workforce. There was a 59.40% share of population working actively and considered as workforce (1961), which was gradually decreased to its percentage share of 42.74 (2001). On the other hand, non-workers which constituted 40.60% (1961) are alarmingly raising its percentage share to 57.26 (2001). As a result, the dependency ratio in the state has been rising over time (Table-1.2).

(vi) There is a growth in rural as well as urban workers in the state; rural growth with diminishing workforce share and urban growth with marginal increase in the workforce share. It shows that there is a migration of workers from rural to urban areas, while the share of non-working population is almost constant throughout (Table-1.2).

Keeping these issues in mind, it is obvious that the state is under the pressure of very high increase of population with less number of facilities and services with the limited state resources. Therefore, there is a need of proper planning for the rural areas for development of infrastructural facilities and to establish a proper strategy of land-man relationship for the betterment and for raising the standard of living of the people in the state.
1.3 The Objectives:

Keeping in mind the above discussion regarding the conditions of demographic transition and socio-economic problems of rural areas of the state, the following objectives can be put forward for pursuing the present proposed study as:

1) to assess an overall performance of rural economy,
2) to study regional disparities in the levels of development and prioritization of the rural sectors of the economy,
3) to study the salient features and trends of development in its geographical frame, and
4) to identify the sectors of economy and areas of the state for proper development of rural economy.

1.4 The Research Questions:

The objectives of the present study are closely related to the trends and regional features of various sectors of rural economy (like agriculture, household industries and allied activities), which may provide the basis of transformation and changes in the regional pattern development. Accordingly, three main research questions may be posted here to explain the objectives of the present study.

1. How does the transformation in rural economy taking place and what are the bases of such transformation?
2. How do the existing created infrastructural facilities and physiographic attributes influence the level of development?

3. Where are the most backward rural pockets in the state, and what are their most acute problems?

1.5 Methods and Data Collection:
In order to test the validity of the above cited research questions and objectives, it is obvious that the study of physiographic factors is necessary. For preparation of physiographic frame assessing the resource conditions for the rural development in the state, the attributes related to the topographical conditions, climate, soil, drainage and vegetation cover is considered and shown by maps.

The regional personality of physiographic attributes also is highlighted, for which the information are collected from concerned toposheets (RF1/250,000 scale) published by the Survey of India, Dehradun. The climatic as well as soil data are collected from concerned State Government offices. So far as block wise data of the various attributes of the development as well as demographic attributes are concerned, such data are collected from the secondary sources and various offices of the State Government, namely, the Directorate of Economic and Statistics, the Directorate of Agriculture, Horticulture, Forest, Rural Development Blocks, Department of Planning and Coordination, Census Operations, Nagaland, Kohima and so on (Table-1.3).
Table-1.3: Sources of Data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. no</th>
<th>Name of the Institutions / Organisations</th>
<th>Data Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agricultural Census of Nagaland, Deptt. of Agriculture, Government of Nagaland, Kohima.</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Census of India, District Census Handbooks (all 7 districts of the state), Nagaland.</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data related to the infrastructural variables like transport facility, electricity, infrastructure available for the development of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, health, educational facilities, etc. also are collected from secondary sources.

1.5.1 The Methods:

So far as methods, which are used for the completion of the present research work are concerned, it is specified that the availability of data and the situation in which the work is carried out are limited. However, some methods, which are common in almost all the
disciplines for testing the empirical basis is used here. For example, the aggregations of developmental indicators/attributes, which are generated from the collected data, are used to show the level of development. Village-wise statistics of these indications are collected and aggregated picture of development is prepared by using composite index.

The statistical expression and the index are given as:

\[ CI = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{X_i}{\bar{X}_i} \right), \]

where \( i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, n \) as number of development attributes,

\( CI = \) Composite Index of development,

\( X_i = \) Socio-economic attributes and

\( \bar{X}_i = \) Mean of the \( i^{th} \) attribute.

Since the present study is based on three aspects of rural development such as; (i) general performance of rural sector, (ii) transformation of rural economy and (iii) regional disparities and levels of development. These aspects are methodologically dealt with the following manner,

(a) The general performance of rural economy is based on the geographical personality, and it is elaborated in which economy of the rural areas are emerging and, for the same, relevant cartographic methods are adopted to interpret the regional pattern of geographic phenomena as well as development levels.
(b) The land and labour productivities and production growth are major parameters of rural development. Because of non-availability of agricultural production data at village level for two points of time, the production growth parameters does not include in the present study. However, land and labour productivities have been calculated at village level. Since productivity is a function of total production and total area of the village, the land productivity is thus simply measured by considering average yield/production per areal unit. Paddy is a determinant crop in the state. Yield of paddy crops is considered as true representative of land productivity for which total paddy production and total cultivated area are used village-wise.

(c) Labour productivity is the total production divided by the number of agricultural workers to measure labour productivity for each village. Based on the village-wise statistics collected and compiled from Census Department, Directorate of Economic & Statistics and Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Nagaland, Kohima are used.

Preparation of productivity as well as development level maps and their comparison with the physiographic features to identify the most under-developed areas is the major aspects of the present study. Therefore, mapping tool is used to depict the visual pictures of regional patterns and areal differentiations of development phenomena. In order to show the transformation of rural sectors at village-level, the required data for two points of time are not available. Therefore, the transformations of economic sectors as well as demographic features have been studied at the state level.
1.6 The Chapter Scheme:

The entire research material is organized into eight Chapters; the summaries of each of these chapters are given in the following paragraphs.

First Chapter of the thesis includes the introduction to the problems of rural development regarding the importance of the subject and the topic in particular. The statements of the problem, objectives, methodology and data collection have been included in this chapter.

The second Chapter deals with literature survey, which was done through the consultation of many books, journals, monographs, published and unpublished research articles etc. relating to the problems and prospects of development. Literature review was carefully categorized into five sub-titles. As such it had given a proper insight of identifying a research problem and highlighting the objectives and also elaborating the knowledge of the present work.

The physiographic features of the study area are included in the third Chapter. It includes the geological formation, relief features, drainage systems, climate and temperature, humidity, rainfall, soil types, vegetation. Demographic features, such as population growth and its characteristics, population composition and the occupational structures which are useful in understanding the background of rural development in the state.
The fourth Chapter deals with the available infrastructure facilities for the development of the state. The five infrastructural indicators, such as road, postal service, financial institution, educational institution and medical facility are included in this chapter. With these indicators, accessibility of the villages through road connectivity and its inter-relationship with economic development is incorporated and the areal distributions of infrastructure facilities in the state are interpreted.

Chapter five deals with the historical background of rural development and the various rural development programmes in Five year plan-wise are shown. Democratic Decentralization in Nagaland, the role of local institutions and functions of the Village Development Board in the state are dealt in the chapter.

Chapter six accommodates the characteristics of rural development in Nagaland as the existing agricultural system, land use pattern, livestock's productions etc. The major characteristic features of development were analyzed in this chapter.

The Chapter seventh deals with the levels of development in the study area. The village level aggregated picture of development indicators is shown to understand the regional pattern of development and to identify the areas of under-development.

The last Chapter of the thesis, that is eight in number, discusses the summary and findings with suggestions synthesized out of the research study.
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