Chapter 1

Introduction and Methodology
Youth population in India, in the age group of 15-35 years, is about one-third of the total population. Of this age group nearly 20 per cent are urban youth, while the remaining 80 per cent are rural youth. Rural youth constitute a numerically dominant, potentially resourceful and also adventurous segment of the population. Unlike urban youth who are mostly educated, organised in many forms and have access to facilities and institutions meant for youth services, rural youth are mostly illiterate, are bounded with the needs of their families, lack opportunities to engage themselves in constructive work and also lack guidance for participation in developmental activities.

The breakdown of the traditional social system resulted in exposing the youth to the problems of emotional, physical, social and economic insecurity. The frustrated youth develop anti-social attitudes. As a result, they are exposed to a sense of drift and purposelessness. Taking advantage of the most neglected youth, many political parties are making use of the youth power in villages in their own interest. There is an inescapable need to formulate action plan which may have an enduring effect on the life of youth.

THE PROBLEM OF RURAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Despite various programmes and strategies aimed at improving the living standards and quality of life in the rural areas, the twin problems of poverty and unemployment continue to plague the Indian economy. During the 'planning era', even though the country managed to maintain a fairly steady rate of growth of about one and one and a half per cent in average per capita incomes, this growth has failed to make any impact on the volume of destitution or its intensity. As against a national average of Rs. 736 in 1985-86, the per capita income of rural people is only Rs. 425. As regards the magnitude of unemployment, the Commerce Research Bureau, which has calculated unemployment figures on the basis of NSS 38th round, puts the figure of unemployed (daily status) at 23.7 million of which the rural unemployment (daily status) constitutes 18 million. If we add rural unemployment (long term) of about 5 million as given in the Seventh Plan and another 18 to 20 million which may be severely underemployed, the extent of rural unemployment might be around 30 million.


3. According to Joshi, the rural and semi-rural joblessness, when we take the incidence of seasonal and disguised unemployment, is three times the unemployment recorded at different employment exchanges all over the country taken together. See N.C. Joshi, "Menace of Rural Unemployment". CAPITAL, Vol. 187, July 27, 1981, P.1.
The size of the problem is not diminishing but becoming larger with every plan. The new entrants into the labour market has increased from 9 million in the First Plan to 39 million in the Seventh Plan, indicating a more than four-fold increase during the Plan period. Growing unemployment in the rural areas has been considered as the root cause of youth insurgence all over the country. It may be ascribed to faulty planning as the governmental schemes have largely benefited a small section of the rural rich and the urban elite.

YOUTH AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

The participation of rural youth in developmental programmes was emphasized in the beginning of the Community Development Programme. The community development blocks were called upon to encourage formation of youth clubs in villages. The Working Party on Youth and Population (1974) felt that the youth clubs were not in a position to cater to the needs of rural youth and recommended that adhoc organisations be established to serve them. The observations of the Programme Evaluation Organisation,

way back in 1967, showed that the youth clubs in the rural areas were neither functional nor productive.

The need for the welfare and development of rural youth was stressed for the first time in 1969 in the All India Youth Meet conducted under the chairmanship of Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao. The Youth Meet resolved to promote the following programmes for the benefit of the rural youth.

1. Establishment of youth hostels in villages.
2. Promotion of youth guidance centres for youth migrating from villages to towns.
3. Involvement of rural youth in community building activities.
4. Establishment of non-formal education centres for promoting literacy among rural youth.
5. Promotion of camps for training rural youth in leadership.
6. Introduction of vocational training centres for unemployed rural youth.

Eventhough the Government of India has launched various schemes for generating employment opportunities in rural areas such as the Rural Works Programme, Food for Work Programme, National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, none of these programmes aimed at the promotion of vocational skills of the rural youth.

It is only with the introduction of the Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) on August 15, 1979 that a meaningful attempt has been made to take care of promotion of vocational skills of the rural youth. This scheme was started as a result of the realization of the fact that once the rural youth are properly educated, trained and motivated, their vitality and creativity could be aptly utilized for national development more effectively and productively.

TRYSEM AND ITS ROLE

TRYSEM was launched as a Centrally sponsored scheme on the recommendations of the National Committee on Training for Full Employment. It is primarily intended, as per the guidelines of the Government of India, to provide technical skills to rural youth and enable them to take up self-employment. Rural youth in the age group of 18 to 35 years belonging to the families living below the poverty line are eligible for support under TRYSEM. The programme envisaged that at least 40 youth from each block in the country must be brought under TRYSEM every year.

The youth selected under TRYSEM are given training for a period ranging from three to six months. The training is aimed at the development of the skills of the participants in vocations relevant to the rural economy. Entrepreneurial and managerial skills are also imparted to the trainees. Credit is arranged through appropriate institutions for enabling the
trainees to undertake self-employment ventures. The vocations chosen under TRYSEM broadly pertain to the fields of agriculture and allied activities, small industries, service and business activities, etc. TRYSEM has been made an integral part of the Integrated Rural Development Programme since 1981 and the scheme aims at training two lakh rural youth every year.

The progress of TRYSEM in the country in terms of the number of youth trained and self-employed since the inception of the programme in 1979 upto 1987-88 is shown in Table 1.1.

**TABLE 1.1**

NUMBER OF YOUTH TRAINED AND SELF-EMPLOYED UNDER TRYSEM IN INDIA FROM 1979-80 TO 1987-88

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of youth Trained ('000)</th>
<th>No. of self-employed Self-employed ('000)</th>
<th>No. of self-employed as percentage of total trained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1979-80</td>
<td>40.2</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>34.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1980-81</td>
<td>122.6</td>
<td>45.6</td>
<td>37.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1981-82</td>
<td>206.9</td>
<td>99.6</td>
<td>48.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>1982-83</td>
<td>246.5</td>
<td>131.1</td>
<td>53.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>1983-84</td>
<td>206.1</td>
<td>114.7</td>
<td>55.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>1984-85</td>
<td>143.2</td>
<td>42.4</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>148.6</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>50.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>1986-87</td>
<td>170.8</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>48.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>1987-88</td>
<td>195.1</td>
<td>99.4</td>
<td>50.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1480.0</td>
<td>705.2</td>
<td>47.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source : Annual Reports of Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.
From Table 1.1 it may be seen that as many as 14.80 lakh rural youth have received training under the TRYSEM over nine years. Thus, on an average, about 1.64 lakh rural youth have been trained per year against the stipulated target of training two lakh rural youth every year. The programme may be considered reasonably successful so far as the training aspect is concerned when viewed against the achievement of 82 per cent of the target. It may also be seen from Table 1.1 that out of the total 14.80 lakh rural youth trained, about 7.05 lakh youth have been self-employed. Thus, about 48 per cent of the youth trained under the programme have been able to find self-employment. Though there has been an increase in the percentage of self-employed to the trained from 34.1 per cent in 1979-80 to 50.9 per cent in 1987-88, fluctuations could be noticed in between this period. For instance, the percentage of self-employed to trained candidates has been highest in 1983-84 at 55.6 per cent, but in the following year 1984-85 the figure touched an all-time low of 29.6 per cent. Thus, while the progress of TRYSEM has been satisfactory with respect to the number of the rural youth trained, the programme has been only partially successful in rehabilitating the youth through self-employment.
STUDIES ON TRYSEM: A REVIEW

Studies on TRYSEM generally related to the implementation of the programme, particularly with reference to training and self-employment aspects.

8 Vallabh Reddy (1985), in his study of TRYSEM in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh, reported that in each year two or three trades accounted for a large number of trainees and that the beneficiaries are either self-employed or wage-employed. It was also reported that TRYSEM programme has helped the beneficiaries in raising the income levels.

9 Anuradha and Sinha (1985) observed, on the basis of the findings of their study in two blocks in Delhi territory, that there is absolutely no input provided in the training programme to develop entrepreneurial qualities in the beneficiaries. They also pointed out that no co-ordinating links existed between the TRYSEM implementing agencies and the training institutions.


Sambasiva Rao and Krishna Mohan (1985), in their study in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh, noted many loopholes like procedural delays, laxity in obeying the rules by the beneficiaries, poor linkage of support services etc., in the implementation of the programme.

Sripathi (1989) reported that only 20 per cent of the beneficiaries trained under TRYSEM were able to find self-employment. This failure of the scheme was attributed to unsuitable training schedule and lack of financial assistance for starting self-employment units.

Singh (1989) observed that the trainees failed to initiate self-employment ventures due to lack of confidence and entrepreneurial skills.

In a study conducted in Andhra Pradesh, Sudhakar Rao (1989) has pointed out that TRYSEM programme is affected with constraints such as improper identification of the trades and vocations, lack of coordination among the implementing agencies, and absence of back-up services in finance, production and marketing.

Meera Reddy (1989) concluded that only a few self-employment ventures turned out to be economically viable.

In a review of TRYSEM programme, Purushotham (1988) observed that the successful implementation of the programme is affected by lack of enthusiasm and motivation among rural youth and also on account of constraints in the selection, training and rehabilitation of rural youth under TRYSEM. On the other hand, Bunker Roy (1987) pointed out that training of Hand Pump Mistri under TRYSEM provided a large scope for generating jobs in the self-employment sector for the village youth in Uttar Pradesh.

In another study, Neela Mukherjee (1990) reported that many trainees felt the need for extending the training period under TRYSEM for imparting intensive training and for skill-building at an appropriate level. It was also reported that the trainees expressed the need for including marketing skills and marketing network in the training package. Further, it was pointed out that not all the trainees were tied up with IRDP assistance.

after completion of training although provisions were there for doing so.

Thus, from the above review of studies it follows that there are many organisational inadequacies relating to the selection of the beneficiaries, training package, coordination with other agencies in self-employment etc., adversely affecting the implementation of TRYSEM. Most of the studies, however, have not focussed much on aspects such as occupational diversification and impact on income generation which assume importance in the context of relieving pressure on agriculture and in the alleviation of rural poverty. Further, most of the above studies are related to different parts of the country and more such region-specific studies are needed in order to draw definite conclusions for the purpose of policy formulations. The present study is a modest attempt in this direction.

THE PRESENT STUDY

The present study attempts to study the progress of TRYSEM in the drought-prone District of Anantapur and examines the implementation and impact of TRYSEM with reference to the selected beneficiaries.
OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. to study the progress of TRYSEM in Anantapur District;

2. to analyse the implementation of TRYSEM with respect to the sample beneficiaries;

3. to examine the impact of TRYSEM on income and employment generation; and

4. to suggest suitable measures, in the light of the findings, for the effective implementation of TRYSEM.

METHODOLOGY

SELECTION OF THE AREA AND THE SAMPLE

In view of the financial, time and personal constraints, the present study has been confined to Anantapur District of Rayalaseema Region in Andhra Pradesh. For selecting the sample, it was decided to confine to the beneficiaries who were trained and self-employed under TRYSEM, in five most important trades, viz., tailoring, silk reeling, motor rewinding, radio-repair and shoe-making, during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89. While there were 1996 persons who received training under TRYSEM during 1987-88 and 1988-89, as many as 1039 (52.1%) persons were given training in the five trades mentioned above. Out of these, there were 398 persons who were trained and self-employed in the above five trades. It was decided to select 20 per cent of these TRYSEM beneficiaries, who were both trained and self-employed for the purpose of the present study. These beneficiaries were selected on
the basis of the random sampling method. Thus, 80 TRYSEM beneficiaries were selected for the present study.

TOOLS OF DATA COLLECTION

Both the primary and the secondary data were collected for the study. The primary data were collected by administering a schedule to the sample TRYSEM beneficiaries. The secondary data were obtained by consulting the official records in the offices of the District Rural Development Agency, Anantapur and the District Industries Centre, Anantapur, besides other published material by the Government.

MODE OF ANALYSIS

The secondary data has been used to study the progress of TRYSEM in Anantapur District over the last decade, i.e., from 1980-81 to 1989-90. The primary data collected from the sample beneficiaries has been analysed with reference to the five selected trades. The socio-economic background of the beneficiaries, the mode of their selection under TRYSEM, experiences in training, impact of the programme on income and employment generation, their satisfaction with various aspects of TRYSEM etc., were analysed with reference to the five selected trades in the present study.
SCHEME OF PRESENTATION

The study is presented in five chapters. The first chapter "Introduction and Methodology" provides the theoretical and methodological framework of the study. The second chapter "Implementation of TRYSEM in Anantapur District" gives a brief account on the profile of Anantapur District and discusses the various aspects of the implementation of TRYSEM in Anantapur District. The third chapter "Socio-Economic Profile of the Sample TRYSEM Beneficiaries" gives a detailed account of the socio-economic background of the TRYSEM beneficiaries selected for the study. The fourth chapter "Implementation and Impact of TRYSEM: An Empirical Study" examines the various aspects of the implementation of TRYSEM and the impact of the programme on income and employment generation with reference to the sample beneficiaries. The last chapter "Summary and Conclusions" presents the summary of the findings of the study and attempts to suggest, in the light of these findings, suitable measures for the effective implementation of TRYSEM in Anantapur District.