CHAPTER IX

Summary and Conclusion:

India's work force is engaged in agriculture and a very small portion is engaged in industry and services. While around 66% of India's population is engaged in agriculture sector, in industry and services sectors 11 and 23 percentages respectively. Due to surplus work force engaged in agriculture per capita output from it is very low, which is very prominent reason for India's inherent poverty. It is therefore evident that the lingering poverty of the Indian mass is due to too much dependence on agricultural sector. The static occupational structure dominated by agriculture needs to be changed rapidly by rural industrialization.

Population growth is higher among the poor than among the non-poor. Close relationship between poverty and higher fertility has been established by number of studies. Poor people steeped in illiteracy, ignorance and superstitious beliefs, abhor Birth control and go in for more children. This establishes poverty in them firmly.

Various anti poverty programmes like IRDP, NREP, RLEG, JRY, NRY, NMNP, DPAP and TRYSEM were launched by the state governments with central assistance from time to time with the objective of raising the poor living below the poverty line. During the late 70's and 80's all these programmes were intensive and substantial enough in providing relief to the rural poor. But the benefits did not reach wholly
to the vulnerable sections of the society. Whether it reached people living on the fringe of the poverty line and thus to a larger extent diluted the purpose. Beneficiaries were mostly those favoured by those politicians of the party in power or by the members of the village panchayat. Non-eligible beneficiaries of all these programmes were found between 20 – 40% varying from state to state.

The success of the programmes depends mostly on government officials of the district, Taluk and Block levels. In actual practice, the government have faced certain problem in implementing the programmes. One major problem is urban orientation of the officials mainly at the higher level. Bureaucratic approach when implementing the programmes is the main drawback. This results in lack of understanding of problems on the part of government officials.

Properly trained personnel were not available for undertaking and preparing of house-hold plans, bankable schemes and also for effective follow-up and monitoring.

It is also found in many studies there was no co-ordination between bank official and government officials not only implementing the schemes but also formulation and selection of beneficiaries with the result that each party blames the other for any fault.

Vulnerable sections of the society need helping hand to become partakers of the common decision making. They should participate in the poverty alleviation programmes with skills and knowledge, managerial skills and structural inputs for which they all have to be motivated, trained and capacitated enough to become self-sustaining.
The government agencies should utilize the NGOs in motivation, implementation of the schemes, building proper banking linkages and monitoring the programmes to become very fruitful in eradicating the poverty. The agricultural unit to be concentrated more to become very viable and feasible to the masses who are engaged in it and pumping the programmes to meet the gaps.

The NGOs should demand from the government agencies for proper implementation of the schemes, exploring new avenues, involving more women in the poverty alleviation programmes, organizing many capacitation programmes and promote rural industrializations and micro-entrepreneurships. Poverty should not be spelt out only in terms of economy but to be seen in all spheres, There is need to educate the rural and urban masses who are in the clutches of poverty. Social awareness and motivating the marginalized communities are very much required in the initial phase and plan for the economical sustainability for the whole target communities with planned schemes/programmes.

In brief, there is need for people’s awareness, participation of private agencies both domestic and international hand in hand with the government for the success of poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas.