Rural India – Analysing Contribution of Rural Sector in National Economy and development for maintaining peace and sustainability to provide good healthy Rural Life

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Abstract

Rural India is the foundation on which the development of India depends. India primarily depends on agriculture for their living and income. Rural India constitute 70% of India’s population, where most of the people don’t have access to basic necessities and majority are living below poverty line, the government has taken many initiatives for rural development which includes many schemes like green, blue, white revolution, farmers portal, e-kisan mission, crop insurance programmes, soil health card scheme, construction of schools, PHCs for health services. However things have not reached to its highest level due to a number of factors which can include corruption, caste system, orthodox nature, communalism etc., which calls for new policies and initiatives, we have to introduce farmers banking system, promote public private partnership for sustainable growth and development, Rural pro poor panning and special rural budget, grass root participation for development where the rural people and the state together work for fostering socio-economic sustainability, empower women and youth, rural agro industry to maintain sustainable growth and effective participation of rural people and communities in the management of their own socio-economical and environmental objectives.

Keywords: Rural India, agriculture, corruption, socio-economic development, rural pro poor planning private public partnership, rural agro industry, special rural budget
Introduction

Rural area India also known as countryside or a village in India where 70% of the population is living today. India is known as a rural country with gradual shift towards urbanization. Usually in every part of the world, it is believed that the village life is very attractive people live in the nature surrounded by biodiversity, small huts and no competition, with all food facilities as it is the villages on whom we are depended on food. In rural India the homes are made out of bamboo, mud and clay, with each house either having a cow or a hen to provide them food. The atmosphere is environmental friendly. Some of the houses have electricity and majority don’t have. Rural India has no traffic facilities and people use travel in bicycles, life in a village is peaceful and calm, However the ground reality is different, life isn’t so easy and attractive as one can imagine when we speak in the context of India. India rural life is a harass reality, where people don’t have access to basic requirements like electricity, food, there is lack of infrastructure facilities, the one source of income in villages is agriculture, horticulture and fishery culture. Today many people are migrating to the urban areas for better employment and living standards. They is no school facilities in most of the villages, people have no access to electricity, conventional methods are used in farming where utmost human labour is required and the outcome is limited, illiterate rate is very high, there is minimum urban and rural connectivity, poor road infrastructure, farmers don’t have access to market places, insufficient medical facilities and the facilities which are provided are too expensive, most of the famers are living before poverty line due to poor agriculture logistic facilities with poor seed and soil quality making the land unproductive, for, some of the agriculture land is taken away for big development projects, people defecation in the open, Indian society is backed by orthodox mentality, unethical religion, beliefs and rituals which has limited them from many opportunities, specially young children and women. Even if there are schools existing in many villages the parents don’t send there children to school because of their orthodox nature or some because they can’t afford it. The government of India has taken many steps to improve the quality of living of people, providing them with many facilities in agriculture sector, horticulture, poultry and with blue, white, brown, orange and green revolution with the aim of reducing poverty in the country and promoting opportunities of people in different sectors. The utmost need to is bring together people from different sectors from both urban and rural area and work for the betterment and development of the nation and all its people.

Research Methodology

For the purpose of this exploration, I have used a amalgamation of three of the archetypical social sciences research tools application – as they are authentic and brilliant method to assemble statistics from multiple appellant in an methodical and convenient way. Question were asked to the parents and their children, survey, interviews– consisting of several interrogation which were dispersed among representative of each contender group and Qualitative analysis to congregate extensive perception of the stumbling block.

Objective of the Research

The main area of exploration in this papers are as follows:

1. An in depth study on rural India

2. What initiatives the government of India has taken since the time of Independent for the development of the rural India.

3. What the main challenges faced by country in the development of rural India

4. How can we overcome these problems and make life better for rural India
Literature Review

Each government who so ever has been in power has worked towards the betterment of rural India by providing different schemes and facilities which may incorporate National Food Security Mission 2007-2008 to amplify the productive of rice, wheat, pulses by expansion of area, increase the soil productivity, the use of improved technology and farm management to ensure food security, Mission for integrated development of horticulture which serves as the main source of economy today India is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables, Nagaland has gone great in the horticulture sector and improved its growth area. Horticulture provides humongous opportunities to people. National Mission for Sustainable agriculture, from the year 2014-15 making agriculture productive, sustainable, climate–resilient which is the need of the hour with an increase in global warning and serious issues related climate change. Soil Health Card Scheme strengthening soil testing lands, providing these cards to each and every farmer so that they are able to know the amount of nutrients is required for crop production, thus maintaining soil health and fertility. Funds are provided to the states for analysing soil samples, National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology which aims to work on four missions agriculture extension, bringing in mechanism in the agriculture thus reducing human labour, seed and planting material and plant protection, Farmers’ portal, m-kisan portal, kisan call Centers to provide information about different fertilisers, different agriculture farming, soil erosion, crop productivity etc. National Crop Insurance programme, bringing green revolution to Eastern India, National mission for protein supplement, Blue Revolution in the year 2015-16 to promote fishery culture and provide better infrastructure facilities. National Saffron Scheme for the state of Jammu and Kashmir, National livestock missions, Animal Health scheme and many other for the over all growth of rural India. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 a brilliant initiative taken by the government to provide employment facilities to the people. With 100 days guarantee work for everyone, eradication gender inequality, inclusive growth and incrementing rural economy, safety and security of the vulnerable section of the society, promoting micro and macro irrigation work, water management work such as contours, dams, construction of food grain storage, construction of pucca roads and side drains, construction of toilets, schools for the people, and making livelihood sustainable by making drastic changes in the field of horticulture, forestry, livestock, fishery by building fishing drying yards, along with it providing identity card facilities to all farmers and maintaining a record of their working and income under the gram sabha register The central and the state government have taken many initiatives and are still working for making the lifestyle of rural India better and productivity, but it has failed to some extent in all sectors which has resulted in the decline in the growth of rural India.

Findings

In spite of some many initiatives taken by the government, the rural India has not yet developed and received some of the basic necessities, the foremost being electricity, 23 million household in rural India has no access to electricity, Uttar Pradesh tops the list with 12 million household are living in the dark, followed by Assam which includes 1.9 Million households, Odisha which has 1.8 Million household. Due to poor road connectivity, it is difficult to reach to remote areas, however Renewable source of energy has played an important role in reaching out to these places, in the form solar and wind, solar installation and wind tribune requires a lot of land along with biomass energy which calls for deforestation, using of agricultural land and hampering the biodiversity, followed by hydropower energy, construction of dams resulting in air and noise pollution making environment unhealthy and causing serious health issues and these remote areas people have no access to medical facilities are dependent on medical plants and on ayurvedic medicines which is not sufficient enough to treat them,
The New Education Policy promoted digital education both in the urban and rural sector without taking into consideration the fact that in rural India where there is no access to electricity 24*7 how can we start digital education, in most of the villages there are no schools and provisions for school construction, villagers have to send their children to a near by village where there is school to study and these rural schools have lack of teachers and no infrastructure, though the mobile service facilities started in India in 1995, still 43,000 villages have no access to a mobile phone, where as in Odisha 9,940 have no mobile services, in Maharashtra 6,117 villages have no mobile phone facilities and in Madhya Pradesh 5,558 inhabitants don’t have. It is estimated during this time of COVID-19 pandemic that 56% of the students have no access to smartphones for online classes or e-learning facilities. Internet connection has not yet reached villages which have access to electricity. Moreover, 13,511 villages no schools and the villages which have just have facilities for elementary education which provides poor skill development.

Rural India has lacks proper medical facilities for its people. The Health care system in India provides sub-centers and primary healthcare centres for the villages and tribal population with a confined population. However the services that are provided don’t stand with the public health norms, there are lack of doctors available in the rural India, doctors who are exiting don’t have proper medical qualifications, shortage of nurses and midwives, the cost of medicine is too high for the people to afford, the cost of treatment goes above their budget and those people who want to go and make their treatment done, can’t reach to the respective areas, due to poor road connectivity and by the time it reach, the situation has turned gets worst, Half of the people in rural India die due to poor health care facilities and management, there is lack of awareness about the different diseases, facilities for mother ad child care, in villages most of the deliveries happen in homes as they is no facilities and nurses available at the time of emergency, poor vaccination 42% of the children have no access to immune vaccination and rest of the important health care services. Lack of awareness on family planning, HIV, AIDS programme. Even if programmes are organised on HIV, family planning, child growth and on nutrient, nutrient required for women growth and development, most of the time no one follows due to unethical religious believe and orthodox mentality, which has also contributed to the spread of various diseases.

Rural India has no access to safe drinking water or sanitation facilities, 25% people have no sanitation facilities. The India government has been successful in ending defecation in open and provided basic sanitation facilities in many villages, today only 26% of the rural household are practising defecation which contributes to many diseases and unhealthy practices affecting the population at large, only 12% have access to clean drinking water in rural India, there is groundwater depletion, water scarcity is...
emerging as a serious threat to the lives in rural India, 70% of the groundwater is used for agriculture. India are more inclined to crops which require more water like rice and many pulses, with poor irrigation facilities in India, the shortage of water and also resulted in shortage food thus contributing to poverty.

Agriculture is one of the main occupation in rural area which provides employment to 60% of the population. The government has provided many facilities and introduced many schemes for the betterment of farmers their sustainable growth. However we see a rise in farmers suicide cases with every passing year and the 2020 fames bill has totally changed the scenario and we see protest from all parts of the India, the government has brought in e-NAM, Farmers portal facilities and providing online vocational training and advise over SMS and calls, however the question arises where 23 million household have no access to electricity, how can mobile services and access to online and e-NAM platform services reach to them and provide them knowledge on different fertilizers, soil productivity and nutrients. India has more small and marginal farmers who can’t afford the cost of good quality seeds and many have no access to it which is the more component for the crop production, in these areas the soil quality reduces with time, followed by salinization which makes the land unfit for agriculture, lack of vocational training and use of traditional method of farming further contributed to unproductive work an crop growth, which calls for serious measures. Women role in agriculture has been declining with every passing year which further contributes to economic deprivation.

There is poor urban and rural connectivity in India, the famers are unaware of their rights related to land and banking system which make them a product of their circumstances, the same happens with the tribal population, tribals live in the forest areas surrounded by bio-diversity, today most of the forest land is being taken away for development projects by middlemen, the tribes are not aware of their rights and land rights which make them a victim. Tribal and farmers are highly exploited by the middlemen which calls for more awareness programmes for the rural population.

The Central government makes measure policies and schemes for the development of rural India. Every state has a different problem on the basis of their geographical location, climate and environment atmosphere, one policy or scheme can’t help to resolve the problem of the whole country, there is no decentralisation of power in this sector. Moreover grass root level involvement is not provided in every part of the country, grass root level involvement is basic for the development and growth of the villagers as the famers are villagers are well aware of their problems and have solutions for it also, it just requires cooperation and equipments and technology advancement for their growth which calls for funds from the central government. Grass root democracy, panchayat raj should hold an important position when making decision related to rural development.
Scarcity of resources and food security is emerging as a big problem to the development of rural India, with lack of cold storage facilities, we see a huge amount of food being wasted every year as certain crops are grown at a particular time of the year. The idea of Community supported agriculture and Farmers production organisations is being practised in some states in India which have brought a positively in their income and reduced the wastage of food to some extent. We are facing serious challenges when it come to water and land for growing crops, India has the worst water crisis issue right now, and for agriculture in India huge amount of water is required and India is depended on monsoon season. India being a tropical country has huge amount of resources kept unfastened which can provide great opportunity for renewable energy which can make life in rural area a bit simple and help to overcome hurdles, It's corruption at every level and intermediaries who don’t allow proper allocation of resources and funding for the development of the rural population.

The mentality of rural people accustomed by backwardness, orthodox, mentality, marital rape is not considered as a crime, in fact in many rural villages using condoms and sanitary pads goes against their rituals and ethics, women’s are considered as second citizens and are meant to do household works which prohibit them from going to schools, even though the government has made it mandatory to provide basic education to everyone from the age group of 6-14 years which is free of cost. Caste system one of the most dangerous weapon in India which limits the development and growth of rural India which is also used by politicians during elections to gather sympathy and vote.

**Suggestion**

As we know India is dependent on primary economy but with the passage of time our country loose its economical route due to global illusion. Rural sector is a very integral part to boost up agriculture growth, employment generation to upgrade sustainable, economical value and maintain proper financial balance with other sector. After being sufferer of Colonisation conspiracy rural development of India sub-continent relatively isolated and separated from total economical development. In India rural development has orthodox centric exploitation of land intensive natural resources such as agriculture and forestry. We need to built up strategies to transform our rural development at that level which will help to contribute productivity, socio-economical equality in rural sector.

1. We need to focus on basic necessity in life - food, clothing, housing, primary literacy, proper health care and security of life and property so we need to introduce several legislature related changes to fulfil all vacuum.

2. We need to connect digitally with rural sectors to make them advance, smart and produce efficiencies regarding this concern sector.

3. Rural development sustainability is equal to socio economically viability of our nation, it will led to poverty eradication.

4. Empowering people in rural areas particularly women and youth, including through organisation such as local corporative, rural agro industry to maintain sustainable growth and effective participation of rural people and communities in the management of their own socio-economical and environmental objectives.

5. We need to promote rural pro poor planning and special rural budget at the rural and national level.

6. We need to address basic need and enhancing provisions to improve rural livelihoods and motivate for productive activities.

7. We need to built rural capital support, social resilience through legal framework.
8. We need to promote modern technologies with traditional and indigenous knowledge for sustainable development in rural sector.

9. We need to improve small scale farmers and indigenous people by securing equitable land tenure support through proper legal frameworks.

10. We need to ensure and protect traditional and agricultural based knowledge for maintaining biodiversity, natural resources management to address the challenges of SDGs goals.

11. We need to build natural disaster management unit to promote safety and security in rural sector.

12. We need to encourage vulnerable groups, women’s, youth and other rural communities to their active participations in the elaboration of local and national planning for rural development.

13. We need to provide training and capacity building programme for rural communities to effectively implement “Be local think globe”.

14. We need to create special rural banking loans to provide better financial support in rural sector.

15. We need to introduce prestigious natural farmer award and farming excellent certificate to encourage farmers and their community for continuous engagement and participation in rural economy.

16. We need to provide special rural insurance which will cover land, water security, farming intelligence to fostering social economical growth in rural sector.

17. We need to introduce rural tender to encourage industries, cooperatives, business corporations and individuals for their active participation in rural economic.

18. We need to announce special education plan for rural students, special employment project for rural youth to provide safety and security of their livelihoods.

19. We need to introduce “village model”, “Rural model” and promote all necessary cooperation to encourage rural development.

20. We need to promote our “rural heritage” and transform Indigenous economical growth to make social changes.

21. We need to promote our agricultural sector globally through foreign investments, industrial supports, sector-based economical approach.

22. We need to build a ‘global rural corporation’ to maximize our policy making strategies and promote growth in rural sector.

23. We need to promote jai janwan jai Bharat to maximize manpower engagement, development in rural livelihoods etc.

24. We need to introduce farmers insurance policy to encourage them and restrict them to transform themselves into migrant workers.

25. We need to ensure land insurance policy to provide safety and security, price related insurance to rural communities.

26. We need to promote special training programmes and support management for rural communities who collect special produce from forest.
27. We need to implement developmental infrastructure health facilities related developments, developmental of productivity resources and development resources to provide rural market development, rural community engagement for better national growth.

28. We need to increase public private engagement to promote sustainable natural resources use and management including ecosystem conservation through community based programmes.

29. We need to introduce rural tourism to collect rural revenue by implementing special rural tourism policy to lend helping towards rural community.

30. We need to provide entrepreneurship training and other support system to strengthen the links between agricultural and other sector of rural economy.

31. We need to introduce special rural disaster management unit to provide maximum safety and security from natural calamities.

32. We need to introduce rural policy research centre which will work district-state-region based sector to promote socio-economical growth, infrastructural advancement etc.

33. We need to create special women facility, child plan (Education, food, health) scheme to provide maximum support in this sector.

34. We need to promote use of renewable energy in rural sector to provide maximum support less financial expenditure and growth.

35. We need to promote artificial farming by using geo-textile, smart agriculture by robotics, sustainable rural economy by stock market environment.

36. We need to open mobile rural unit (rural health camp, agricultural education and Entrepreneurship programme) to maximize rural sector growth.

Conclusion

Rural development is very important to bring about socio-economical prosperity for the people, and for the overall development of the Nation. Rural development will help to generate more employment opportunities and income. India being a agricultural country with the largest and second largest producers of many crops and good, and one of the biggest exporter of milk, rice and wheat, the green revolution can be regarded as the first step to eradicate poverty and bring stability in the employment sector which was followed by many initiatives by the government to improve the condition of rural India and making sure that every person has access to basic necessities including food, clothing and shelter. We need to increase public private engagement for growth and development, create special rural banking and special farmer insurance schemes, rural disaster management unity for safety and security of people, promoting mobile health care facilities and rural health camps and special education plan for rural students to achieve Universal education in India and come up with many more initiatives by which we can improve our rural livelihood.
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