

CHAPTER 6

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

INTRODUCTION

Rural Development is conceived as an approach designed to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of poor rural people. The idea of rural development in India dates back right to the pre-Independent days of M.K. Gandhiji. Rural development to Gandhiji was national development and he viewed that each rural community stands on its own feet and contributes to national development. (Mishra, R.P. 1979). Thus, he can be termed as a pioneer and a champion of rural development (Singh, F.B. 1989). In this respect, rural development in free India started with the minimum Agricultural Wages Act 1948 which greatly emancipated the agricultural workers of the country. This was followed by the land reform act in 1950 (Sagar Deep 1990). Therefore, these two acts of the Government did much for the rationalising of the land by giving tenancy right, rents and land ceiling in the country. This was regarded as the first phase of rural development whose main emphasis was on eradicating social evil, from our agricultural sector. This is followed by providing the ownership of land to millions of farmers by the abolition of Zamindari system which was a hang over of feudalism and colonial rule.

The second phase of rural development in Indian

context is to improve the economic and social life of the rural poors started in 1952 with the creation of 5100 Development Blocks in India under the Community Development (CD) Programmes. The programme was extended over the entire country by 1963. The main objective of the CD programmes is to increase production and employment opportunities through integrated rural development and to provoke in the people a desire for better living and willingness to work to achieve this end. (Sudan 1985).

6.1 EARLIER STRATEGIES (A Review)

The Community Development Programme functions as a three tier administrative structure spread over villages in the lowest level, the block as the second tier and district as the highest tier. The functionaries of Community Development Programmes are headed by the Deputy Commissioner at the district level, followed by Block Development Officer at the Block level and Pradhans at the village level. The Block Development Officer is the main implementing authority of the CD Programmes, therefore he is assisted by a group of specialists called the Extension Officers who are deputed from different technical departments of the State Government. These E.Os are assisted by (VLW's village level workers' or 'Gram Sevak's who represents the grass root level (Village level) of the administration. Thus the CD

programme symbolise an approach to rural development in an integrated and coordinated manner, covering all aspects of rural life. This CD Programmes were further strengthened by the 1962 Panchayet Raj Act of Self Government and decentralisation.

Under this Programme taken up in successive Five Year Plans it was expected to provide in villages certain economic and social infrastructure like roads, electricity, drinking water, medical care primary schools, but the **pace** of progress was both inadequate and slow largely because of diverting funds to priority sectors like power, irrigation, agriculture etc. (Shah, 1984). This approach to rural development has been on the whole piecemeal and fragmented rather than integrated and comprehensive, it has been realised that the overall sectoral and regional allocation of resources, developmental programmes and project alone will not be adequate for the attainment of the basic objective of the eradication of unemployment and reduction of poverty and inequality. A deliberate thrust on creating employment opportunity and thereby, enabling the poor to cross the threshold of poverty line has been considered. In order to give effect to this approach, an area by area assessment of the potential and problem of the Manpower resources for development was considered.

During the **sixties**, the country had to face critical economic juncture due to floods, droughts and poor harvest. The

country had to fight two wars in 1962 and 1965. Thus it was a decade of upheavals and trouble (Sagar, D. 1990). There was slow progress in food and agriculture. It was felt that the situation had developed due to diffusion of efforts under the Multipurpose CD Programme, under which Industrial sectors were also strengthened in a fashion that weakened the rural sector. It supplies agricultural inputs at higher prices than the price of the agricultural products. The result was that agriculture failed and the whole country was in the grip of famine. To tackle this problem Agriculture Development Programme was initiated in 1963. This strategy of agriculture development led to the Green Revolution and enabled the country to achieve perceptible increase in food production. As a result we were able to achieve self-sufficiency in food and also built up substantial buffer stock. This strategy however also created other problems in the field of social justice. It led to the concentration of incomes going to relatively bigger farmers leading to income and regional disparities.

Special Programmes : Various special programmes were initiated like :

- (i) Intensive Agriculture Development Programme (IADP)
- (ii) Intensive Agricultural Area Programme (IAAP)
- (iii) Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA)
- (iv) Marginal farmers and Agricultural Labourers Development Agency (MFALDA)
- (v) High Yielding Varieties Programme (HYVP)
- (vi) Command Area Development Programme (CADP)

(vii) Multiple Cropping Programme (MCP)

The intensive Agriculture Development Programme and Intensive Agriculture Area Programme were undertaken during the early part of sixties to induce the cultivators to adopt a package of improved practices such as use of improved seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, improved agricultural implements, proper soil and water management in order to bring about significant increase in yields. Though there was substantial increase in production as the scheme was extended to about two fifth of the districts of the country, the scheme as a whole failed because of the lack of other infrastructure of agricultural development and lack of supply of high yielding varieties of seeds, modern implements and water for irrigation (Jana 1990).

As intensive Agriculture Development Programme could not reap the expected goal, other programmes like the small farmers Development Agency, Marginal farmers and Agricultural labourers development Agency, High Yielding varieties programme, Multiple Cropping Programme were set up at the later part of the sixties and the beginning of seventies to fill in the gap arising from the introduction of modern technology in Agriculture during the Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-74). All these programmes came into existence because it was felt that large proportion of the cultivators are operating on small and marginal farms which are amateur in nature and result in insufficient to produce. These farmers have a high supply of labour force but due to lack of

funds they could not introduce modern technology in their farms. Even the Co-operative society have not come forward to help this section of population. Therefore, under this programme incentive was launched for optimum utilization of their small holdings by undertaking vegetable growing, horticulture, dairy farming, poultry farming to generate additional income by channalising credit, improved varieties seeds and providing demonstration for different cropping pattern. Though much strides have been taken in these areas, there had been still failure in respect of (i) wants of more agricultural land to small and marginal farmers; (ii) proper management of water and inputs in areas of high yielding varieties; (iii) greater susceptibility of pests and plant diseases and finally; (iv) lack of knowledge of multiple cropping.

Simultaneously, during the early part of 70's there was a great spurt in the construction of major and medium irrigation works, which were felt necessary after the great drought of 1967 and total failure of crops during the middle part of sixties. Consequently, the command area of irrigation in the country was increased. The command area Development Programme was launched in December 1974 (Rao G.V.K.1978). It covered as on 1978, 47 irrigation projects under 36 command areas located in 12 states covering 102 districts of the country.

Additional Special Programmes : During the fifth five year plan 1974-79, additional special programme were started for the development of backward areas and weaker sections of rural society. These programmes are

- (i) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
- (ii) Tribal Development Agency Project (TDAP) and
- (iii) Desert Development Programme (DDP)
- (iv) Hill Area Development Agency
- (v) Industrial Estate Programme for promoting in backward areas
- (vi) Pilot projects on growth centres for rural development
- (vii) National Programme of minimum need
- (viii) Rural Electrification Programme were launched.

Although the objective of all these programmes is sectoral in design, but the idea is for comprehensive rural development. However, by the end of Fifth Five Year Plan it was realised that while there had been a break through in so far as the agricultural production is concerned. Economic disparities among the rural population had widened. It was felt that in the absence of a specific and direct thrust towards assisting the weaker sections, the fruits of economic development are likely to be denied to the rural poor.

Integrated Rural Development : Integrated rural development was carved out during the Sixth Five Year Plan, and was extended to the entire country in 1980. The strategy emphasises the

need for spatial, functional and sequential integration of economic as well as other activities based upon local resources, skills and potentials. Since other approaches like Area Development Approaches and Target group approaches so far adopted, had not made any impact on rural poors which hover to 50 to 60% till now. Hence, this programme was launched by the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi combining both these approaches as a direct attack on poverty by identifying the rural poor from among the poorest of the poor and devising economic programmes based on the family preference and skill. This programme is essentially conceived as the Anti-poverty programme with the basic objective of helping the family below poverty line. It is visualised as an important instrument for achieving the major objective of the Sixth Five-year Plan. For the purpose of identifying a family below the poverty line, an income of Rs.62.00 per head per month was adopted. On an average a rural family may have five members and these families having an income from all sources of less than Rs.3500/- per annum are treated as living below the poverty line (Government of India, 1980). It was necessary to identify such beneficiaries in order to prevent cornering of subsidy and similar assistance by influential and comparatively well-to-do families in rural areas. The main beneficiaries under this programme are small and marginal farmers, agricultural and non-agricultural labourers rural artisans and craftsmen, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Thus, Integrated Rural Development Programme includes not only

the land based activities and schemes but also those coming under the secondary and tertiary sectors. Many earlier schemes were merged with IRDP. To implement the policy and programme of IRDP, District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) have been set up in all the districts of the country. The DRDA of the IRDP Programmes have been given the responsibility of the programme like

- (i) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)
- (ii) Rural landless employment guarantee Programme (RLEGP)
- (iii) Minimum need Programme (MNP)
- (iv) Food for work Programme (FFWP)
- (v) Jawahar Rozgar Jojana etc.

Besides these central sponsored schemes, there are allied schemes sponsored by State Government like, (vi) Self-employment and training for urban poor (SETUP), (vii) Training of Rural Youth for self-employment Programme (TRYSEP), (viii) Self-employment for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY), (ix) Development of women and children in Rural areas (DWCRA).

The main objective of the Sixth Five Year Plan was aimed at redistribution of income and consumption in favour of poorer sections of the population, because it was realised that unemployment and underemployment in the rural areas were the major contributing factors of high incidence of poverty. Therefore, National rural employment programme was launched in 1980 to replace,

Food for Work Programme and subsequently in 1983 Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme was launched pin pointing the rural landless agricultural labourers with a view to provide guarantee of employment to at least one member of every rural landless labour-household upto 100 days in a year. (Government of India, 1989). Thus until 1989, last part of Seventh Five-year Plan emphasis was paid for food, work and productivity with the objective of providing employment to everyone seeking it. "But during 1989-90 a new scheme for intensive employment in backward district with acute poverty and unemployment was launched under the name of 'Jawahar Rozgar Yojana' and it was decided that NREP/RLEGP would be merged into one single rural employment programme. The expenditure under the programme is to be shared between the Centre and the State on 80:20 basis. (Government of India, 1989). Illustrated lists of works to be taken up under JRY are social forestry, works like roadside plantation, along the canal, waste land involving planting of fuel, fodder, and fruit trees, distribution/sale of saplings. Soil and water conservation works, water harvesting structures. Minor irrigation work such as construction of intermediary and main drains and field channels and their improvement, flood protection, drainage and water logging work, construction/renovation of village tanks, construction of institutional sanitary latrine in rural areas, rural sanitation work like drains/sewage and pits, constructions of houses for individual freed bonded labourers' constructions of rural roads subject to prescribed standard in

accordance to MNP Land development and reclamation, construction of godowns, community worksheds, community centres, market yards, works of purely social and community nature such as dispensaries, panchayet ghar, community centres and balwadis construction of primary schools in those villages which have sanctioned schools without building of their own.

There are at present more than 40 programmes of rural development since independence beginning with the community project programme emerging due to compulsion of the changing situation. The Integrated Rural Development Programme with its allied programmes is conceived as the most comprehensive anti-poverty alleviation Programme for emancipating poorest of the poor from the clutches of poverty.

It is evident that four decades of planning processes have contributed to a three-fold increase in food production, six fold in industrial sector, the number of school going children increased five times and expectancy of life increased from 32 years to 60 years. But poverty in the country stood above 60 per cent. Therefore, programmes of poverty alleviation provides the nucleus and in fact the starting point for decentralised planning and this package of poverty alleviation programme will continue at an accelerated pace during the Eighth plan. The objective of reduction of the percentage of people below the poverty line to less than 10% by 1994-95 will be the main goal which will require

a large investment in the programmes for giving self-employment and wage employment to the poor sections of the community.

6.2 APPLICATION OF STRATEGIES IN BISHNUPUR DISTRICT

Prior to the reorganisation of the district, Bishnupur was just a development block, which came into being in 1959. Until June 1985 Bishnupur functioned as a single unit development block, but on 10th June 1985 Moirang community development block was bifurcated from Bishnupur community Development block (Govt. of Manipur, 1986 a). Thus, at present there are two community Development Blocks in Bishnupur district of Manipur.

The Bishnupur community Development Block covers an area of about 230 kms² with a total population of 44,232 persons distributed in 12 Panchayets with two SDC circles, while Moirang Community Development Block has 300 kms² with a total population of 66,314 persons distributed in another 12 Panchayets with one SDC circle. There are all together 47 Census villages in the district with seven towns. It has been felt since the very beginning of the planning process in the country that unless the rural areas have developed with equal speed in industry, transport and power, the country cannot make a real headway. Therefore, comprehensive Community Development Programmes covering agriculture, rural industry, education, housing, health and transport and recreation were launched in the country in 1952

with the creation of blocks within the district administration. Each block comprises of several Gram Panchayets as the second tier and three to four villages as the third tier. But the said thing is that Panchayet Raj institutions in Manipur could not function properly due to lack of adequate power/authority and resources. The transfer of power and responsibilities to these bodies has not been upto the desired level inspite of State Government's effort, to involve the Panchayet Raj bodies in the implementation of all rural development programmes in general and the poverty ellevation programmes in particular in the State. Under these Programmes, the Panchayet Raj institutions will be revitalised by entrusting the funds and schemes to them for planning and implementation. Selection of the beneficiaries will be from the target group those are within the poverty line and their income from all sources not exceeding Rs.3500/- during the period 1978-79 (SUDAN 1982). However, due to inflationary situation in the country there was a need for upward revision of this amount. In this context, to ascertain the poverty line the revision of income by household has been conducted in the district by the block offices in the past. As per the directive of the Central Government, an income of Rs.6400/- had been fixed to identify the household under poverty line. The table indicates the percentage of households coming under poverty line.

Table 6.1 : Concentration of household below poverty line in different Panchayets

Poverty line in per cent of household	Status	Nos. of Panchayets	Percentage of Panchayets	Panchayets
50 - 60	V. low	1	4.2	Ultou
60 - 70	Low	3	12.5	Keinou, Phubala, Thannapokpi
70 - 80	Med.	11	45.8	Sanjengbam, Leimapokpam, Irengbam, Wangoo, Kwakta Thanga Parts I & II.
80 - 90	High	7	29.2	Ishok, Khoijuman, Nachou, Torbung, Saiton, Moirang Khunou, Kha-Thihungei
90	V.High	2	8.3	Terakhong, Borayangbi

Incidence of households coming under poverty line in the district is very high as compared to the State average of 60%. Out of 24 Panchayets, 23 came below the poverty line. The average incidence of households below poverty line in the district is 76.5%. The table 6.1 indicates that incidence of poverty is less ranging from V. low to Low in 16.7% of the Panchayets. These are located near the towns. About 45.8% of Panchayets come under moderate group. It forms a compact area, while 37.5% of the Panchayets show high to very high incidence of households under poverty line. These Panchayets are located around the Loktak lake and in remote areas. The constant flood in the fringe areas of the lake and lake developmental infrastructure in this Panchayets are causes for high incidence of poverty in this area.

With these basic steps for identities the households under poverty line, the district forges forward for the implementation of the rural development programmes. The different rural development programmes undertaken in the district are as follows :

- (i) Community Development Programme (CDF)
- (ii) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)
 - (a) Command area Development Agency (CADA)
 - (b) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)
 - (c) Rural landless employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP)
 - (d) Training Rural Youth for Self-employment (TRYSEP)
 - (e) Development of women and children of Rural area (DWCRA)
- (iii) Jawahar Rojgar Yojana etc.

6.2.1 Community Development Block : The development of rural areas with special emphasis on alleviation of rural poverty has been one of the objectives of the successive five year plans since independence. In order to achieve this objective Community development block was created in the country in 1952, which was further extended to Bishnupur district in 1959. Till 1983, Bishnupur district functioned as a single developmental block with the reorganisation of the district in the Manipur valley, two Development blocks (i) at Bishnupur and (ii) at Moirang were created, to implement the National as well as the State sponsored developmental schemes. The first year i.e. 1984-85 was spent in the reorganisation of the working machinery of the

district rural developmental agency. From 1985-86- community development work was swiftly undertaken in the district. The following are scenes of the findings.

During the Seventh Five Year Plan a sum of Rs.2 lakhs 58 thousand were allotted to each block in the district out of (Govt.of Manipur, a share of Rs.82 lakhs 50 thousand for the state. (District Annual Plan 1986-87 & 1987-88a).

Table No.6.2 gives the details of achievement in terms of rupees in lakhs in the respective year for community development in Bishnupur district.

Table 6.2 : Blockwise allocation of Development fund in lakhs in Bishnupur district.

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Bishnupur Block	0.51	0.38	0.85	0.57
Moirang Block	0.51	0.38	0.85	0.57

It is clear from the table 6.2 that flow of funds for community development in the district are very irregular, which indicates that smooth developmental work could not be achieved in the district. The main objectives of this programme was creation of social infrastructure, economic assets like milch animals, poultry, piggery. Emphasis was also made for improvement of education, agriculture, minor irrigation, horticulture and soil conservation, sports, water supply, communication and employment. But as the C.D. Programme was multi dimensional,

there was no attempt for the alleviation of poverty for the rural poor. Therefore, new schemes were launched to minimise poverty of the rural folk.

6.2.2 Integrated Rural Development Programme : The integrated rural development programme was introduced in the whole country in 1980s. It is a programme taken up to give benefit to poor families by providing work opportunities in both agricultural and non-agricultural occupations. The schemes are taken up on 50:50 basis with the central and state government. The financial outlay for the DRDA Bishnupur in 1984 was 6.39 lakhs, 6.13 lakhs in 1985 and Rs.10.31 lakhs rupees for 1986. (District Annual Plan 1986). It was found at the end of 1986, 518 beneficiaries were assisted in primary sector, 218 in secondary sector and 236 in tertiary sectors. The important work undertaken in this schemes act of incentives to cane and bamboo work, carpentry, tertiary, weaving, bullock cart and bee keeping and other allied activities which are aimed to eradication of rural poverty. For the smooth implementation of the Integrated Rural Development Programme the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) has been created, under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner of respective district. The DRDA has also been the responsibility to look after the other Rural development Programmes like NREP, RLEGP, and other allied schemes.

6.2.3 National Rural Employment Programme : The NREP is a programme designated to create durable community assets for

strengthening the rural infrastructure and thereby generate employment opportunities to unemployed persons to increase their income level in rural areas. This is also the scheme taken up by State Government on 50:50 basis with the Central Government. The allocation of funds for the three years from 1984-86 were as follows. In 1984, the DRDA Bishnupur was given sum of Rs.3.07 lakhs, which was risen to Rs.8.93 lakhs in 1985 but the district spend only Rs.3.80 lakhs. Therefore in the subsequent year 1986 - a sum of Rs.4.62 lakhs were allotted for the NREP Scheme in the district with the rice component of 37.24 MT. In 1986, it was found that the district generated 13,360 mandays of employment against a target of 15,862 mandays. Important work undertaken in this scheme and the achievements are enlisted herewith (District Annual Plan 1986).

Govt.of Manipur,

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Table 6.3 : Achievements during 1984-86

Name of work	1984	1985	1986
1. No. of Const. of youth club building	4.0	5	7
2. No. of Const. of Bazar sheds	-	-	2
3. No. of Const. of Bus Stand	-	10	20
4. No. of Const. of Water Tank	3.	-	-
5. Renovation of Minor channels in Kms	-	10.5	12.5
6. No. of Const.of Poultry sheds	-	-	1
7. Shinglings of inter-village road in Kms	6.0	6.5	12.5
8. No.of Const. of crematory house	-	3.0	5
9. Area of Social Forestry in ha.	14.0	17.5	37.5
10. No.of Const.of School bldgs.	-	-	2.0
11. No.of Const.of Culverts	1.	2	4
12. No.of Const.of Wooden bridge	1	-	4

But the latest records of the achievement of NREP Schemes in Bishnupur district as revealed by Administrative Report 1987-88 (Govt. of Manipur 1987-88) states that the district has generated 41,017 mandays by undertaking works like 34.5 ha social forestry 28 km shingling and renovation of rural roads of and construction of 4 school buildings, 5 sanitary latrine, 29 Bazar sheds, 14 culverts and 8 youth clubs have been successfully completed in the district.

6.2.4 Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme : The District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) is also given the responsibility to monitor the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme. It is a programme designed to reduce poverty caused by unemployment in rural areas giving employment opportunities for the landless workers during the lean agricultural period. This programme is essentially conceived as the anti-poverty programme with a view to provide guaranteed of employment at least to one member of every rural landless labourer household upto 100 days per year. The expenditure under this programme is fully funded by the Central Government. The allocation of funds for the programme in 1984 was Rs.1.59 lakhs which was risen to Rs.2.08 lakhs in 1985 but the amount spent during the period was 0.11 lakhs. A sum of Rs.2.97 lakhs is approved for the year 1986 along with the rice component of 47.24 MT. At the end of 1986 it had been found that 2,824 mandays had been generated against a target of generating 14,345 mandays.

In 1987-88, it was found that 35,278 mandays had been generated for the Programmes like Social Forestry, constructions of 22 Rural Latrines, 10 school buildings and two houses for rural poor (under Indira Awas Yojana). About 3 kms inter village road was laid and shingling was done.

6.2.5 Command Area Development : During the early part of 70's there was a great demand for the construction of major and medium irrigation works which was felt necessary after the great drought which rocked the country in 1967. Culminating in the failure of agriculture in in the whole country, this led to the formation of CADA as a subsidiary wing of community Development Programme. This programme is a centrally sponsored scheme on 50:50 basis and is implemented in a selected areas having major and medium irrigation potential for increasing the cropping intensity with utilisation of irrigation. In Manipur CAD activities were initiated since the beginning of 1983 in the Bishnupur district where the Loktak lift irrigation project commands a culture area of the 24,000 ha. After the establishment of command Area Development Authority in 1983, this agency is functioning as an autonomous body under the supervision of an experienced Director and a Committee with Deputy Commissioner as the Chairman. Until 1988-89, total field canals in Lok^{tok} Command area covered 15,528 ha under Moirang low level canal, Imphal canal and Imphal low level canal. . From the year 1989-90, comprehensive adaptive trials involving on farm water management practices and improved agronomical practices to adopt suitable kharif and rabi crops of

new varieties are being conducted in the selected 150 plots of 0.25 ha. each. Till the inception of adaptive trial, the area was mono-cropped with paddy under rainfall condition. Now the cropping pattern and intensity of cropping are gradually changing from single crop to double and triple cropping. Now, nearly 10% of the area in the district comes under each first crop and Rabi crops and remaining 80% are under HYV paddy.

During the Seventh Five Year Plan out of the approved outlay of Rs.300 lakhs for command area development a sum of Rs.125 lakhs have been allotted for minor irrigation and command area Development Authority. During the Eighth Five Year Plan there is proposal of about 150 lakhs for Minor irrigation and command area development for the district, with the proposal of bringing 40,000 ha of land under the command of River Lift Irrigation (RLI) and Loktak lift Irrigation (LLI).

6.2.6 Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) :

This scheme is a sub-scheme of IRDP sponsored by the State government. The main objective of this scheme is to encourage rural women and children to take up economically viable trades in group basis constituting of 15 to 20 women. There were 15 such women groups in 1986 in Bishnupur district (District Annual Plan 1986) under DWCRA beneficiaries for activities like hand pounding, weaving, lion loom, knitting, tailoring, embroidery, 'gur' making, 'chatal' making, bamboo and caneworks, bee keeping, poultry, fishery, duckery and piggery etc. There is proposal to increase such beneficiaries to a group of 70 by 1990-91 Draft District Eighth

Five Year Plan 1990-95 (Govt. of Manipur, 1990).

The fund position of DWCRA in the district was Rs.4.12 lakhs in 1986 Rs.2.3 lakhs in 1987 and 1.0 lakh in 1988. During 1986, apart from beneficiaries four community halls and four community latrines were constructed through the scheme in the district.

6.2.7 Training of Rural Youth for Self-employment (TRYSEM) :

This is also an important component of IRDP scheme in the district. The main thrust of TRYSEM is to equip rural youth who are below the poverty line of the target group with necessary skills and technology to enable them to seek self-employment by giving them the necessary training. The target is to equip 80 youths per year in Bishnupur district of which 40 are from each block. In the year 1984-85 and 1986, training was imparted to 107, 119 and 143 rural youths in different centres like tailoring, wool knitting, embroidery, dyeing and printing, shoe-making, carpentry, black-smithy, bamboo and cane work weaving and bee-keeping respectively. There is a proposal to impart 2,667 rural youths necessary training during the Eighth Five Year Plan and target for 1990-91 to 533. Draft District Eighth Five Year Plan 1990-95 (Govt. of Manipur, 1990).

6.2.8 Jawahar Rozgar Yojana : The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is a new scheme with broad outlook for the eradication of poverty from the rural areas, has ^{been} carved out after the merger of the programme like NREP and RLEGP, the scheme is meant for the generation of

additional employment for the unemployed and underemployed persons both men and women in the rural areas and to provide fuller employment opportunities to at least one member of each family, living, below the poverty line, which is 76% of total households in the district. The scheme was introduced in Bishnupur district on the year of its inception in 1989-90. A sum of Rs.31.45 lakhs have been allotted including central share, rice component and the State share as the programme is implemented according to 80:20 basis. The aim and object of this programme is to generate 63,037 mandays of employment opportunities. There is a proposal for a sum of Rs.34.82 lakhs for the year 1990-91 and to generate new employment opportunity of 840 beneficiaries.

It has been found that a sum of Rs.30.18 lakhs have already been allotted to the district for the implementation of Jawahar Rozgar Yozana schemes generating 85,102 mandays of employment opportunities. The following are some of achievement of works under the scheme :

Table 6.4 : Achievement during 1990-91

Items of works	Total
1. Preparation of field channels in Km	29 Kms
2. Const. of Earthen Dams in m	50 mtrs.
3. No. of Const. of Pucca dams	1
4. No. of Const. of Kutcha dam in Km	1 km.
5. No. of Const. of Bathing platforms	8
6. No. of const. of village tanks	8
7. Ring bundh const. in kms	35 kms
8. Retaining wall in km.	1 km.
9. Shingling of Rural roads in km	74 kms
10. No. of const. of New school bldgs.	7
11. No. of Repairing of School Bldgs.	6
12. No. of Const. of Panchayet Ghars	5
13. No. of Const. of Clubs	3
14. No. of Urinal sheds	2
15. No. of Const. and repair of Bazar sheds	14
16. Road const. East West in kms.	23 kms
17. No. of const. of Bus waiting sheds	14
18. No. of const. of Community work sheds	7
19. Ground levelling in places	9
20. No. of const. of Crematory sheds	11
21. No. of construct. of Pucca Bridges	2
22. No. of const. of Public latrines	15
23. No. of const. of wooden bridges	9
24. No. of const. of culverts	43
25. No. of const. of Community Halls & Repairs	10
26. No. of const. of Nisha Bandi Halls	4

Apart from these the district formulates, scheme for urban sector by the name of Urban Wage Employment Schemes. Under this, roads and culverts, earth filling, construction of crematory sheds, Bazar shed construction, Public Urinal construction, construction of waiting shed, Sewage and drainage construction were carried during the year 1990-91 creating 24,943 mandays. During this period 828 beneficiaries were identified from the target of 840.

The DRDA Bishnupur simultaneously implements schemes such as (i) Self Employment and Training for Urban Poor (SETUP) and (ii) Self-employment for Educated Unemployed Urban Youth (SEEUY). These schemes are urban oriented schemes where urban Artisian and entrepreneurs below the poverty line are identified and imparted training for self-employment. Such trained youths are provided with seed margin money from the lead bank in the district. In 1990-91, 828 beneficiaries were identified in seven towns of Bishnupur district for SETUP and 111 persons were trained under SEEUY in these towns.

CONCLUSION

It has been observed that application of national rural development strategies are contributing much for the area development but as the needs and problems of different area differs, there are shortcomings in implementation of these

programmes in the Bishnupur district. The programmes like Intensive Agriculture Development Programme (IAAP) could not be of much success because of the poor condition of the farmers in the district. These programmes are said to have good result in areas of high agricultural potentialities (Jana 1990). These programmes were followed by Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA) and Marginal Farmer and Agricultural Labourer Development Agency (MFALDA). These programmes were carried out for the consolidation of land holdings for the application of new agricultural technology but this too could not be a success on different ground like, large nos. of landless agricultural labourers, low mentality of small and marginal farmers and surplus labour forces. These programmes were followed by command area development agency which brought to a considerable area in the district under the influence of Irrigation and HYV Programme. But this too is still unmanaged, because very often there is shortage of HYV seeds, fertilisers, and on the field works, where field channels remain the missing link between the outlet and field. The development of infrastructural facilities such as roads, power, transport, credit and finance, agriculture marketing and storage appear as drawbacks in the study area. With all these programmes now comes the integrated rural development programmes which aims at poverty alleviation which is above 76 per cent in the district much below the State average of 60 per cent. Under this scheme, employment oriented programmes are launched but they could

not reap the desired goal of employment in the rural areas where agriculture is the main stay of the people. The presence of high nos. of landless agricultural labourers and cultivators makes the programme haphazard. Various other programmes like industrial area development programme, (IADP) NREP, RLEGP, TRYSEP, DWCRA, JRY, SETUP, SEEUY are implemented in the district for the eradication of rural poverty. But still no phenomenal change is noticed, the fate of rural folk remain as, it is before. In view of the special problem of the district the Loktak multipurpose project was planned for the overall development of the area. The subsequent chapter will deal with the development work done by Loktak Project.

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