



# Rural Development in India

**With Special Emphasis on Women Empowerment**



**Dr. Tapan Kumar Ghosh  
Dr. Sidhartha Sankar Laha**



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*Edited by:*

**Dr. Tapan Kumar Ghosh**  
**Dr. Sidhartha Sankar Laha**

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Rural development in India is important not only for the majority of the population residing in rural areas, but also for the overall economic expansion of the nation. Rural development usually refers to the method of enhancing the quality of life and financial well-being of individuals, specifically living in populated and remote areas. More than two-third of India's population is dependent on agriculture for their livelihood, and one-third of rural India is still below the poverty line. Therefore, it is important for the government to be productive and provide enough facilities to upgrade their standard of living. Panchayati Raj Institutions have been playing a crucial role for rural development in general and especially for upliftment of down trodden people in rural areas. The main goal of rural development is transformation of rural life and activities in all their economic, social, institutional, environmental and human aspects. National objectives and strategies to achieve this transformation should focus on eradication of poverty, including nutritional improvement, and be governed by policies for attaining growth with equity, redistribution of economic and political power and people's participation. Empowerment of women and women participation in rural development is also a crucial issue covered in this book. The novelty of the book lies in its rich analytical foundation and the use of sophisticated statistical and economic tools. The book brings together a number of interesting research chapters on the burning issues of rural development. The editors include eminent experts in the field from the academic and other worlds as well as young researchers. The chapters touch upon many important general and specific aspects of the rural development in India.



**Dr. Tapan Kumar Ghosh** is an Associate Professor at the Department of Economics, Ananda Chandra College, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal, India. He completed his M.A., B.Ed. and Ph.D. degree in Economics from University of North Bengal, India. He has a wide teaching and research experience. His main fields of interest are Development Economics, Public Finance, Resource Economics, Environmental Economics and Dalit Studies. His research articles have been published in various journals and edited books of national and international repute. He has also authored eight books. He has presented a number of research papers at national and international seminars and conferences in South Africa, Russia, USA, Japan and Bangladesh. He may be accessed at the e-mail: [tkg94342@gmail.com](mailto:tkg94342@gmail.com)



**Dr. Sidhartha Sankar Laha** has been serving as Associate Professor, Department of Lifelong Learning & Extension, University of North Bengal, West Bengal. He did M.A. in Economics and Ph.D. on International Economics from the University North Bengal. He has published numerous articles in the reputed research journals and also contributed few edited books and has completed several national and state level research projects. Dr. Laha has presented papers in national and international seminars and workshops. He is specialized in the area of rural development issues, research methodology and development economics. He is also a life member of Indian Journal of Adult Education, New Delhi. He may be accessed at the e-mail: [sidharthasankar09@gmail.com](mailto:sidharthasankar09@gmail.com)



## ABHIJEET PUBLICATIONS

4658-A, First Floor, Ambika Bhawan,  
21 Ansari Road, New Delhi 110002

Phone: 011-23259444

E-mail: [abhijeetpublication@gmail.com](mailto:abhijeetpublication@gmail.com)



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