



# Rural Development Policies For Sustainable Livelihood

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## Abstract:

Development is a comparative word to context. It has had different focus areas since civilization. In beginning getting sufficient food was the parameter of development later its focus shifted to infrastructure development. Excessive exploitation of resources shifted focus towards sustainable development. Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs is considered sustainable development. Securing the basic necessities of life of own and dependents is the primary concern of human beings. In developing countries like India despite abundant resources, sustainable livelihood is a major concern in rural areas. There are areas like agriculture and farming practices, education, infrastructure, employment opportunities, civic amenities, health care, environmental conditions management etc. Improvements in these areas will help to secure better livelihoods opportunities. After independence government has made several policies for improving rural life with the help of different ministries. Despite several policies, rural poverty and sustainable livelihood is a major issue for rural society and government. The present paper is an effort to compile and explore different policies of Govt. of India towards sustainable livelihood and its impact on rural lives.

**Key Words:** Sustainable development, Livelihood, Poverty, Policies

## Introduction:

Development is progressive and continuous process. It is focal point of human civilization. Entire words ultimate objective is to make its native life easier by development. The countries who skillfully use its resources for Civilization considered as developed nation. Whereas countries like India whose development is in cluster form and are in process of better utilization of its resources are called developing nation. From centuries development is concentrated in urban areas where most of the resources are consumed leaving larger population deprived from development who live in rural areas. Since last few decades focal point of policy makers shifted towards rural areas too.

Rural Development refers to the process of development of such areas that are lagging behind in the apparent growth of the village economy. According to WORLD BANK (1975) rural development is defined as “implying the improvement in the living standard of masses of low income population residing in rural areas and making the process of development self sustaining.

According to Asian centre for development administration (ACDA, 2004) “A process which leads to a continuous rise in the capacity of rural people to control their environment accompanied by a wider distribution of benefits resulting from such control is rural development”.

**Objectives:** The objective of the current paper is to study the -

1. Impact of rural Development policies on Infrastructure Development.
2. Impact of rural Development policies on poverty alleviation
3. Impact of Rural Development policies on employment Generation
4. To explore the Rural Livelihood Status in India.

**Research Design:** The present research paper is an effort to compile information and data related to rural development from different secondary sources available on concerned departmental website and on internet. Present information is compiled from the internet and relevant website for study purpose.

### **Rural Development Need:**

- I. Improve Agricultural Productivity** –Agriculture is backbone of rural economy. Yields of produce have direct impact on farmers income and livelihood. Green revolution and agricultural reforms in agriculture sector have multifaceted impact on agri-produce.
- II. Better Livelihood-** Improved rural infrastructure and rural facilities support ease of life by providing better earning facilities and opportunities.
- III. Higher socio-economic equality-** Socio-economic disparities in rural areas are major concern for development. Higher income opportunity and better lifestyle bridge the socio-economic gap in rural areas.
- IV. Stable Source of Income-** Regular income is needed for stable development. It is observed that due to lack of regular income rural areas are lacking in development.
- V. Poverty Alleviation-** Development brings affluence among people through escalating household income.

### **Dimensions of Rural Development-**

- **Agriculture Development-** Agriculture development is the process of alleviating agricultural practices from present status to desired level of farm produce. In this process several practices adopted at different stage of farm practices. It may be seeding, weeding, irrigation, and harvesting or value addition in farm produce.
- **Infrastructure Development** – Infrastructure plays a critical role in the economic development of any country. Presently 65% of India’s population resides in its rural areas. Therefore, rural infrastructure needs to be developed to provide basic amenities such as civic services and housing to the rural population. This will help boost their quality of life. Growth of rural infrastructure is important from the perspective of agriculture, agro-based industries, poverty alleviation and better access to markets and job

opportunities in rural regions.

Enhancing rural infrastructure in rural areas Govt has initiated **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY - Gramin)** to provide **House for all by 2022**, **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)** to Improving rural connectivity, by providing **all-weather roads** to connect eligible habitations in rural areas. **Har Ghar Nal Se Jal by 2024** under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

- **Personal Development** – Better employment opportunities, improved skill and livelihood opportunities in rural India through rural development program and schemes resulting in the form of personal development.
- **Conceptual Development** – Personal development is a psychological phenomenon which results as change in thought process of individual. It can be seen in rural areas as a result of rural development program and enhanced skill, infrastructure and income of natives.

### Rural Development Scenario in India:

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN INDIA													
S.No	Survey Period	Male						Female					
		Primary Sector		Secondary Sector		Tertiary Sector		Primary Sector		Secondary Sector		Tertiary Sector	
		PS	ALL	PS	ALL	PS	AL L	PS	AL L	PS	AL L	PS	ALL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>RURAL</b>													
1	July 2000- June 2001	688	690	137	136	175	174	812	818	139	133	49	49
2	July 2001- June 2002	672	678	148	145	180	177	819	840	124	109	57	51
3	July- December 2002	685	688	140	138	175	174	834	849	91	87	75	65
4	January- December 2003	704	708	143	141	153	151	841	852	99	95	60	53
5	January- June 2004	654	659	163	160	183	180	820	841	102	94	78	65
6	July 2004- June 2005	662	665	157	155	181	180	814	833	108	102	76	66

7	July 2005- June 2006	64 8	652	167	165	185	183	798	81 3	121	120	82	68	
8	July 2007- June 2008	66 2	665	164	162	175	173	816	83 5	103	97	82	68	
9	July 2009- June 2010	62 5	628	195	193	180	178	789	79 4	121	130	91	76	
10	July 2011- June 2012	59 2	594	221	220	187	187	745	74 9	151	167	10 4	83	
11	July 2017- June 2018		-550		-232		-220		73 2		-	136	-132	
12	July 2018- June 2019		532		235		232		71 1		-	154	-	136
13	July 2019- June 2020		554		231		216		75 7		-	130	-	112
<b>URBAN</b>														
14	July 2000- June 2001		63	66	359	356	579	578	136	183	342	342	522	475
15	July 2001 - June 2002		78	78	322	321	601	600	173	211	309	332	519	457
16	July- December 2002		69	70	338	337	594	593	156	171	298	315	546	513
17	January- December 2003		60	63	338	336	602	601	145	190	299	312	556	497
18	January- June 2004		61	63	348	347	591	590	126	161	289	309	584	530
19	July 2004- June 2005		60	61	346	344	595	595	147	181	303	324	549	495
20	July 2005- June 2006		62	63	345	343	594	594	123	148	313	330	564	522
21	July 2007- June 2008		58	58	345	343	598	597	129	153	305	323	566	524
22	July 2009- June 2010		59	60	348	346	593	593	118	139	316	333	566	528

23	July 2011- June 2012	56	56	353	353	592	591	87109	324	340	589	551
24	July 2017- June 2018	-	54	-	360	-	587	-91	-	301	-	607
25	July 2018- June 2019	-	49	-	353	-	597	-78	-	293	-	630
26	July 2019- June 2020	-	50	-	342	-	608	-82	-	280	-	638
PS : Principal status; ALL : Principal+Subsidiary Status												
Primary sector : Agriculture and allied activities												
Secondary sector : Mining and quarrying , Manufacturing, Electricity, water, etc. and Construction												
Tertiary sector : Trade, hotel and restuarant, Transport,storage and communication and Other services.												
Note : Data on NSS rounds 38, 43, 50, 55, 61, 66 and 68 relates to quinquennial rounds.												
Source : NSS 60th and 61st Round, Periodic Labour Force Survey Report (PLFS), National Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India.												

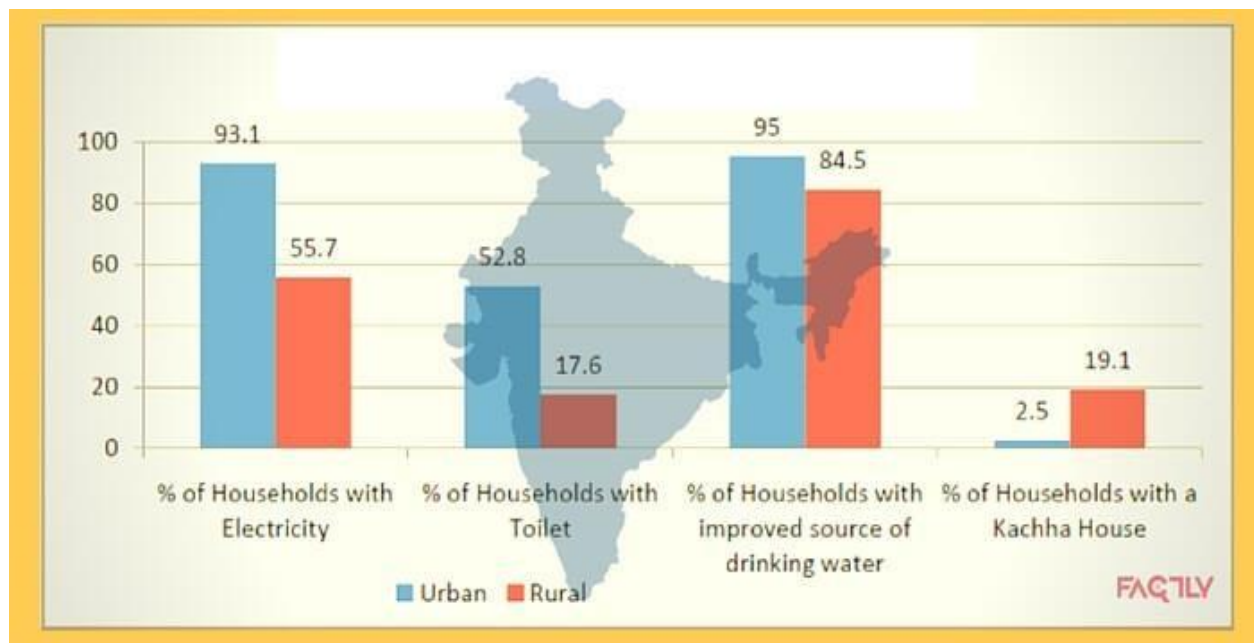
**Table: employment situation in India - per 1000 distribution of usually employed by broad groups of industry for various rounds**

**Sustainable Development:** Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection are the core elements of sustainable development. To achieve Economic Sustainability, Social Sustainability and Environmental Sustainability Govt. national and international organizations are continuously working with their policies and practices.

### Need for Sustainable Development:



Source: <https://www.niti.gov.in/reports-sdg>



Source- <https://factly.in/rural-india-behind-urban-india-in-progress-indicators/>

**Sustainable livelihood:** A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets and activities required for a means of living where as *Sustainable livelihood* is when it can cope with and recover from the stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future without undermining the natural resource base (Chambers & Conway). The sustainable livelihood depend on various capital such as human, natural, financial, social and physical capital.

**The sustainable livelihoods framework:**

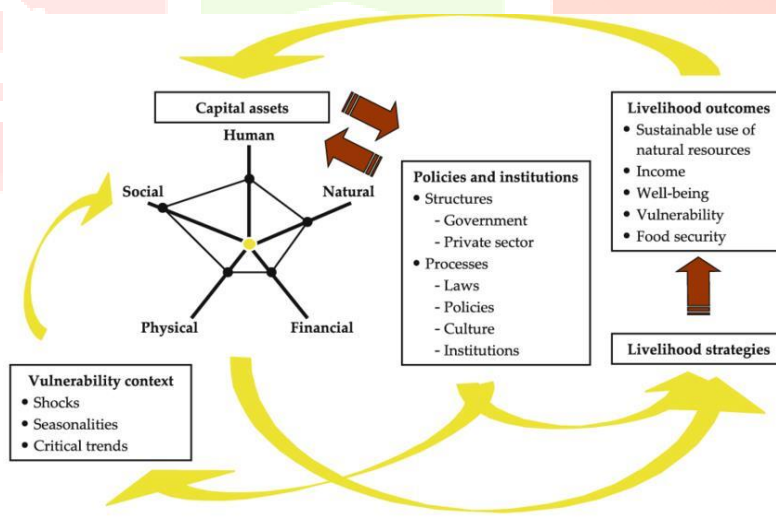


Fig. The sustainable livelihoods framework



## Government Policies for Sustainable Rural Development-

- I. Deen dayal upadhyaya grameen kaushalya yojana
- II. National rural livelihood mission
- III. Mahatma gandhi national rural employment guarantee act- right to work – 2006 by ministry of rural development
- IV. Deen dayal upadhyaya gram jyoti yojana- providing power to agricultural consumers - 2015 ministry of power
- V. Gramin bhandaran yojana- increase farmer's holding capacity-2001
- VI. Sampoorna grameen rozgar yojana
- VII. Pradhan mantri gram sadak yojana
- VIII. Pradhan mantri adarsh gram yojana
- IX. Swamitva yojana
- X. Make in India
- XI. Startup India
- XII. Pradhan Mantri Matritva Vandana Yojana – 2017
- XIII. Janani Suraksha Yojana – 2005
- XIV. Sukanya Samridhi Yojana
- XV. National Child Labour Projects
- XVI. Midday Meal Scheme

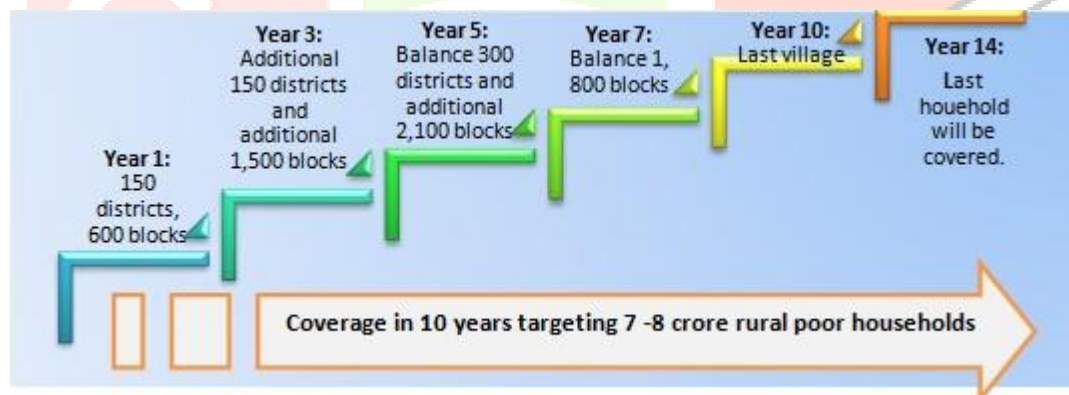
### **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM):**

The National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), is a centrally sponsored programme of the Ministry of Rural Development. The Mission was launched in June 2011. The Mission is implemented by the Rural Livelihoods Division of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India (GoI) in partnership with the State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs). The Mission has since been renamed as 'Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana'- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). The Mission aims to "reduce poverty through promotion of diversified and gainful self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities resulting in appreciable increase in incomes of the rural poor on sustainable basis".



Source: <https://aajeevika.gov.in/en/content/nrlm-framework-implementation>

NRLM Implementation: N.R.L.M is a highly process oriented programme and requires intensive application of resources, both financial and human, in order to mobilize the poor into functionally effective institutions, promote their financial inclusion and diversify and strengthen their livelihoods. It is, therefore, not feasible to roll out the programme in full scale across the country in one go, and therefore, it has been decided to phase the implementation of the programme over period of 10 years. The indicative phasing is as under:-



Source: <https://aajeevika.gov.in/en/content/implementation>

**Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)** – Worlds largest employment gaurntee program The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) which was initially called National Rural Employment Guarantee

Act 2005 is an Indian labour law and social security measure which aims to guarantee the "right to work". The Basic Objectives of the With the basic objective of the **MGNREGA** Act is-

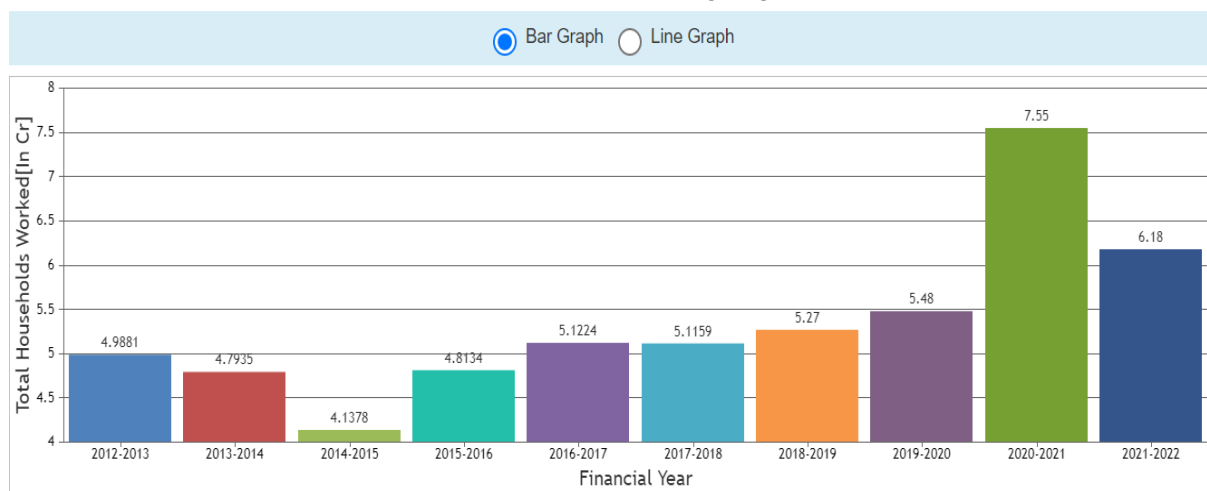


1. It aims to achieve it by providing a minimum of 150 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household, whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work
2. To enhance livelihood security in rural areas.
3. Generating productive assets in rural areas.
4. Empowering rural women
5. Protecting the environment
6. Fostering social equity.
7. Reducing rural to urban migration

The continuing demand for work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme may compel the government to allocate more funds. The government is legally bound to provide the minimum mandated days of work to those seeking employment.

The number of households that benefitted from the scheme climbed to 60.8 million as of October 20, against 53.3 million in FY20. The scheme has helped 87 million workers so far, higher than 76.1million individuals in the financial year 2019.

Total Households Worked[In Cr]





Source: <https://www.financialexpress.com/budget/budget-2020-flagship-scheme-mgnrega-continued-impetus-crucial-for-rural-growth/1839732/>

**Skill India Mission:** Skill India Mission Launched on 15 July 2015, SKILL INDIA MISSION aims to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills by 2022. The mission aims at vocational training and certification of Indian youth for a better livelihood and respect in the society. The chief objective is to empower the youth of the country with adequate skill sets that will enable their employment in relevant sectors and also improve productivity.

**Skill Gap in India:** Even as India struggles to provide basic skills to millions of potential job-seekers, it needs to address the challenge of automation and prepare to impart skills for jobs where humans will not be replaced by robots. India's vocational education and training systems, including: absence of nation-wide Vocational Education and Training standards, lack of an integrated on-site apprenticeship training, inadequate industry interface, insufficient financing of the Vocational Education and Training system, scarce training capacity, poor quality outcomes, and shortage of qualified trainers



**Finding:** While exploring the data and available information on sustainable rural development it is found that with the progressive government policies development is affirmative and reflecting different dimension of rural natives. The policies are still struggling to achieve its objectives. The social, economical, political and psychological reasons are the hindrances to achieve the ultimate objectives of the policies. The influence of media and agencies will help to bridge the gap of outcomes.

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