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# IMPACT OF VARIOUS RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES: AN EVALUATION

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The present study is the part of an empirical study on the role of Rural Development Schemes in the Development of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh, which determined the various aspects and weakness of Rural Development Schemes. The efforts of the Government to uplift the poor masses as the state should be evaluated at micro level then at macro level. Central Government as well as state Government has launched many Rural Development Schemes for the sustainable development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. These schemes have been based on economic and socio-cultural development. Some of them create infrastructure and generate employment. The main object of all the different programs is sustainable human development. There is no significance of Rural Development Schemes, if, it will not generate employment and no significance of employment, if it will not develop the basic structure, because all the Rural Development Schemes are interlinked to each other. Many of them have achieved significant success in this direction. The aim of the tribal development programs and tribal welfare policy in India has been defined as the progressive social and economic advancement of tribal population with a view to their complete integration with the rest of people in the country. Tribal areas need special attention, if the benefits of the new developmental programs are to be accruing to the tribal community. Thus, in order to determine the effectiveness of these programs, it is important to examine the impact and performance of these programs in the rural areas, so that effective rural development programs may be designed for the betterment of the rural community.

**Keywords:** Rural Development Schemes, Tribal Welfare policy, Tribal Areas, Basic structure, Sustainable development

## INTRODUCTION

Rural development is a development of rural people. It is a development of rural areas through extension of irrigation facilities, expansion of electricity, improvements in the techniques of cultivation, construction of school building,

provision of educational facilities, healthcare and roads, etc. The aim of the rural development schemes and tribal welfare policy in India has been defined as the progressive social and economic advancement of tribal population with the rest of the people of the country. The period

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of this will necessarily vary from tribe to tribe and the characteristics and location of the region inhabited by them. While it may be ten or fifteen years in case of those tribes who have already come into contact with the general population by living in the plains or by their proximity to the plains. It may be a decade or more in the case of primitive tribal, who is scheduled, remote and inaccessible traits. The word tribe refers to a community living within a traditional society. It is strongly associated with past attitudes of white colonialists towards so called primitive and uncivilized peoples living in remote undeveloped places.

Central Government as well as State Government has launched many Rural Development Schemes for the sustainable development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. These schemes have been based on economic and socio-cultural development. Some of them create infrastructure and generate employment. The main object of all the different programs is sustainable human development. There is no significance of Rural Development Schemes, if, it will not generate employment and no significance of employment, if it will not develop the basic structure, because all the Rural Development Schemes are interlinked to each other. Many of them have achieved significant success in this direction.

Thus, in order to determine the effectiveness of these programs, it is important to examine the impact and performance of these programs in the rural areas, so that effective rural development programs may be designed for the betterment of the rural community. The objective of the program was to work for all around development of the rural communities. The emphasis was laid down on removing the rural poverty. The present study

is an attempt to highlight the significant aspects and weakness of rural development schemes. It is helpful for scientific and systematic planning and proper implementation of different rural development programs/schemes in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh.

## **RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN TRIBAL AREAS OF HIMACHAL PRADESH**

The aim of the tribal development programs and tribal welfare policy in India has been defined as the progressive social and economic advancement of tribal population with a view to their complete integration with the rest of people in the country. The period for this will necessarily vary from tribe to tribe and the characteristics and location of the region inhabited by them. More particularly in case of those tribes, who have already come into contact with the general population by living in the plains or by their proximity to the plains? It may be decade or more in case of primitive tribal's who lived in scheduled, remote and inaccessible traits. Tribal areas need special attention, if the benefits of the new developmental programs are to be accruing to the tribal community.

## **NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The economy of the state of Himachal Pradesh is largely depended on the assistance of the central Government. The Government has started various rural development programs/ schemes to uplift the rural areas Thus, in order to determine the effectiveness of these programs, it is important to examine the impact and performance of these programs in the rural areas,

so that effective rural development programs may be designed for the betterment of the rural community. The objective of the program was to work for all around development of the rural communities. The emphasis was laid down on removing the rural poverty. The present study is an attempt to highlight the significant aspects and weakness of rural development programs. It is helpful for scientific and systematic planning and proper implementation of different rural development programs/schemes in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh.

The present study is the part of an empirical study on the role of Rural Development Schemes in the Development of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh, which determined the various aspects and weakness of Rural Development Schemes. It is also observed that no systematic study has been conducted in this direction in Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, the need of the time is to monitor the performance and impact of rural development schemes in tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The efforts of the Government to uplift the poor masses as the state should be evaluated at micro level then at macro level. The present research work is based on the impacts of the various Rural Development Schemes on its implementations and results in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh.

## SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The main focus of the study is to evaluate the role of various rural development schemes in the development of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, the scope of the study will be restricted to tribal areas, i.e., Chamba, Kinnaur and Lahaul Spiti. In the present study all the major rural development programs being implementing by the state have been studied. Further the study

will be aimed at to analyze the problems in the implementation of rural development schemes and to suggest the remedial measures thereof. Endeavor has been made to contact the beneficiaries and functionaries personally to know their views about the ongoing rural development programs in tribal areas. The study has been conducted to cover the period of 5 to 10 years depending upon the commencement of particular scheme under this program.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Ajanta (2004), made an attempt to study "Cluster Approach for Developing Rural Entrepreneurship." He observed that the main emphasis on the local community gains directly and indirectly from the success of the cluster. It is attributed to increased local employment and more business opportunities, as firms in the service and support sector drawn into the cluster. The successful engagement of local economic factors in the clustering process can in turn spur the development of an entrepreneurial culture of innovation and initiative through the locality.

Dubey (2000), has conducted a study on various rural development programs. He observed that the ministry of rural areas is implementing various programs by providing avenues for employment generation to most sections of the society through special employment generation programs and for improvement in quality of life in rural areas. The ministry has provided specific guidelines in the program being implemented to ensure adequate flow of resources to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. He revealed that the main objective of Integrated Rural Development Program (IRDP) is to create employment opportunities for self employment in rural areas

to the families, living below poverty line, so that they could generate additional income to enable them to cross the poverty line on sustained basis.

Majumdar (2002), has conducted a study on the food grain stocks in just one of the consequences of the misguided macro economics policies in 1990. He observed that in euphoria of liberalization, the new economic policy largely ignored the rural economy and its development. He finally observed that since, 2000-01, there has been a new agenda of rural development adopting a comprehensive and pragmatic approach.

Pattanaik (2009), made an attempt to study "National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme: Some Preliminary findings from Hoshiapur District". Initial findings of this study showed that the scheme has been successful in achieving the equity, while its efficiency is still a question to be effectively dealt by the implementers of the program. He finally concluded that the better nexus and coordination between the government and the panchayats enabled efficiently implementation of the scheme at the village level.

Reddy and Srinivasa (1998), made an attempt to assess poverty alleviation appraisal of IRDP. They further revealed that the effective implementation of programs required proper coordination between the official machinery, credit agencies, voluntary service organization and the people particularly poor. Finally they concluded that orientation and training must be given to the implementing staff in various activities under IRDP.

Sagar and Kishore (2007), in their research work on "Rural Health Services in India" made an attempt to highlight the role of rural health services in the development of rural areas of India. Their main emphasis was on primary health care. The

authors through their study by primary healthcare approach has proposed by various health programs like epidemic, malaria, blindness and tuberculosis control, leprosy elimination, polio and yaws eradication, reproductive and child health and family welfare, health education, school health programs, etc. They finally suggested that health services should be delivered to the remotest of remote areas of the country.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study was as under:

To evaluate the impact of Various Rural Development Schemes in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Consistent with the objectives of the study, different tools and techniques have been used to analyze the data. The collected data have been presented in tabular form and analyzed with the help of following methods.

### Statistical Tools:

The analysis has been carried out on the basis of data obtained from the beneficiaries regarding to the impact of the various rural development schemes on their amenities and day to day life. The various tools like Mean, Standard Deviation, Kurtosis, Skewness and Chi-Square test of goodness of fit have been applied to the data. It has been carried out as under.

In this Paper, overall impact of the Rural Development Schemes has been analyzed. The efforts have been made to examine the impact of rural development schemes on different sectors. Comparison has also been made between different Rural Development Schemes and their implementation by the different departments. It

analyzed the impact of some randomly selected schemes and also examined the main barriers of Rural Development Schemes. A brief detail is given as under:

### An Evaluation of Various Rural Development Schemes

To generate employment, alleviation of poverty, providing higher standard of living and to improve the socio-economic life of rural people as a whole, many Rural Development Schemes have been launched with the object of making self employment programs more effective, the

erstwhile programs of integrated Rural Development Schemes have been launched.

To evaluate the impact of the different Rural Development Schemes in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh following schemes have been analyzed in the Table 1 given below.

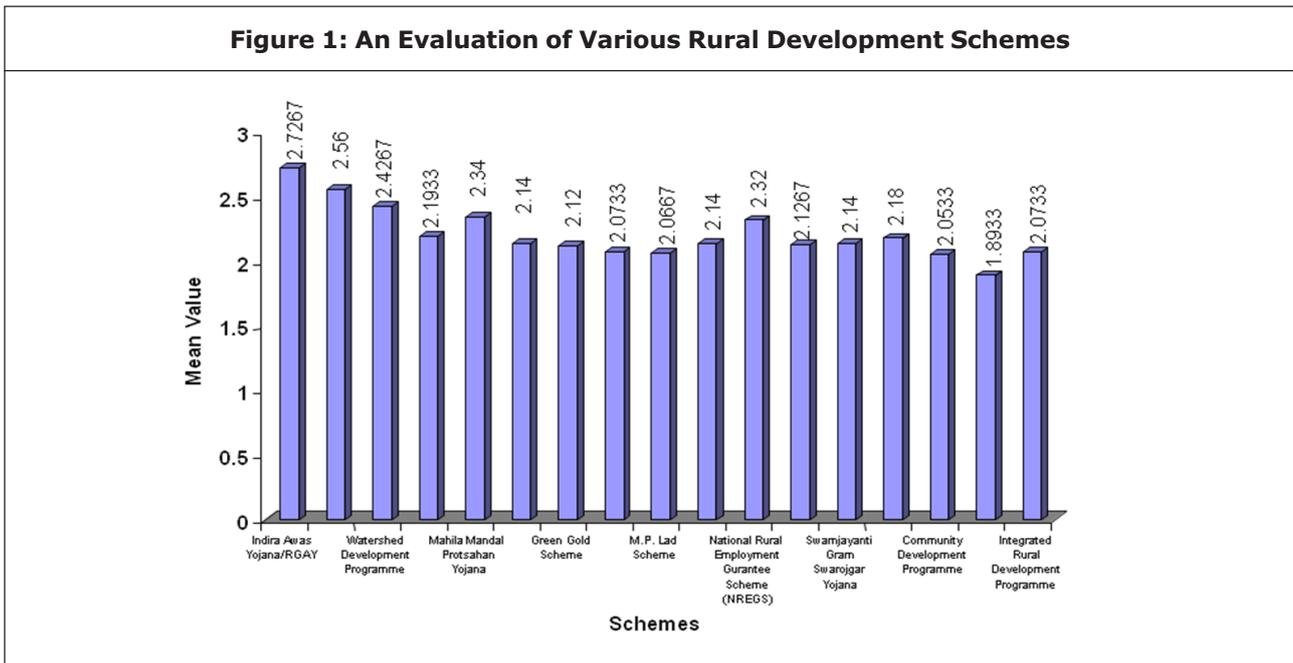
It is clear from Table 1 that the mean score of the responses related to IAY/RGAY is more than the average standard score at three point scale, while skewness is negative. It shows that their opinion is distributed more towards higher side

**Table 1: An Evaluation of Various Rural Development Schemes**

S. No.	Name of Schemes	SA	PA	NA	Total	Mean	SD ( $\sigma$ )	Sk	$K_t$	$\chi^2$	P-value
1	Indira Awas Yojana/RGAY	345	87	18	450	2.7267	0.528	-1.8	2.369	396.1	.000
2	National Family Benefit Scheme	279	144	27	450	2.56	0.606	-1.05	0.068	212	.000
3	Watershed Development Programme	222	198	30	450	2.4267	0.616	-0.58	-0.59	145.9	.000
4	Total Sanitation Campaign	180	177	93	450	2.1933	0.755	-0.34	-1.18	35.52	.000
5	Mahila Mandal Protsahan Yojana	219	165	66	450	2.34	0.72	-0.61	-0.87	80.28	.000
6	Environmental Conservation through Mahila Mandal	141	231	78	450	2.14	0.684	-0.19	-0.87	78.84	.000
7	Green Gold Scheme	126	252	72	450	2.12	0.653	-0.13	-0.68	113.8	.000
8	Vidhayak Kshetra Vikas Nidhi Yojana (VKVNY)	120	243	87	450	2.0733	0.675	-0.09	-0.8	90.12	.000
9	M.P. Lad Scheme	114	252	84	450	2.0667	0.661	-0.07	-0.71	107	.000
10	Backward Sub Plan (BSP)	141	231	78	450	2.14	0.684	-0.19	-0.87	78.84	.000
11	National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)	210	174	66	450	2.32	0.716	-0.56	-0.89	74.88	.000
12	Finance Commission	138	231	81	450	2.1267	0.687	-0.17	-0.88	76.44	.000
13	Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana	156	201	93	450	2.14	0.731	-0.22	-1.11	39.24	.000
14	Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana	168	195	87	450	2.18	0.732	-0.29	-1.09	42.12	.000
15	Community Development Programme	138	198	114	450	2.0533	0.747	-0.09	-1.2	24.96	.000
16	Desert Development Programme	78	246	126	450	1.8933	0.666	0.123	-0.75	99.84	.000
17	Integrated Rural Development Programme	144	195	111	450	2.0733	0.75	-0.12	-1.21	23.88	.000

*Source: Data Compiled through Questionnaire*

**Figure 1: An Evaluation of Various Rural Development Schemes**



of the mean standard score. The calculated value of kurtosis is positive, which depicts that distribution of responses is leptokurtic. The calculated value of  $\chi^2$  is higher than the table value which further supports the above view point. Thus, it can be concluded that there is a positive impact of rural development schemes in respect of IAY/RGY of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh.

It is further evident that majority of people in Tribal Areas are of the opinion that the Rural Development Schemes have developed their areas, through implementing various programs. The mean value supports the above view regarding NFBS. It is noted that opinion of respondents is not equally distributed over this view and majority of the respondents are strongly agree with the progress of NFBS. The responses related to WDP shows that this scheme further supports the progress of this scheme.

It is further observed that the mean value of responses regarding TSC is higher than the average score. Thus, it can be concluded that opinion of respondents is not equally distributed

over this view and support of quality and progress of TSC. Furthermore, the majority of responses related to MMPY are more than the average score. It is further revealed that majority of respondents are satisfied with the quality and progress of MMPY.

The mean value of the responses related to ECTMM depict that majority of the respondents are shifting towards higher side of average standard score. This further reveals that the opinion of the respondents is not equally distributed. Thus, it can be concluded that majority of people agree with the good quality and progress of this scheme. It is further observed that the mean score of the views relating to the quality of Green gold scheme is more than the average standard score at three point scale. Thus, it can be concluded that the opinion of the respondents with respect to above scheme is not equally distributed and majority of people are strongly agree with the good quality and performance of above scheme.

It is noted that the responses relating to VKVNY shows that the VKVNY is playing a significant role in the development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. Furthermore, it is noted that the mean score of the responses related to M P Lad scheme shows that the opinion of respondents is not equally distributed over this issue. Thus, it can be concluded that majority of the people are satisfied with the performance of M P Lad scheme and this scheme have helped the respondents in their development process.

It is further exhausted that the mean value of responses related to backward sub plan is more than the average score means, the majority of respondents are satisfied with the Backward Sub Plan. The scheme has played a significant role in the development of beneficiaries of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. Furthermore, the mean value of views regarding the implementation of National Rural Employment Scheme (NREGS) shows that majority of respondents are shifting towards higher side of the mean standard score. The negative value of skewness shows that their opinion shifting is more towards higher side while the calculated value of Kurtosis is also negative which further depicts that the distribution of responses is platy kurtic. The calculated value of  $\chi^2$  test of goodness of fit is significant at 5% level of significance. Hence, the alternative hypothesis is accepted. Thus, it can be concluded on the basis above discussion that the majority of respondents are satisfied with the MNREGS. They are getting employment and consequently other benefits out of the scheme. The MNREGS has played a very significant role in the development of tribal people of Himachal Pradesh.

The table further depicts that the “*Swaran Jayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana*” has played a significant role in their overall development. It is

further exhausted that the responses relating to community Development program opinion that this scheme had played a significant role in the overall development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. Moreover, it is clear that the mean value of views regarding DDP is of good Quality program, but it has not contributed much in the upliftment of the tribal region under the areas of study, the table revealed that the responses relating to integrated Rural Energy Program shows that this program has helped a lot in the overall economic development of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh.

### **An Analysis Based on Inter-correlation Between Demographic Factors And Rural Development Schemes**

An evaluation of responses regarding rural development schemes have been discussed which depicts the inter correlation matrix between the independent (demographic) variables and various rural development schemes. Table contains 16 variables out of which two variables are demographic. Education and Occupation, other 14 factors are related to the Rural development schemes. It contains awareness regarding Rural Development Scheme, Responses of beneficiaries on benefits of Rural Development Scheme, Responses on problems faced by beneficiaries, Support during the problem, Adequacy of amount of Rural Development Scheme responses on verification of Rural Development Scheme, Sufficiency of Amount of SGSY, Approval of gram sabha for implementation, Selection of rural housing, adequacy of amount for rural housing, Responses on devices under IREP. Institutional mechanism of IREP, Adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP, Requirements for improvements in Rural Development Schemes.

An observation of Table 2 showing inter-correlations among some major variables and other factors related to major Rural Development Scheme depicts the relationship as under:

The table shows that there exist a significant positive correlation between education, occupation, problem faced, support during problems, adequacy of amount under Rural Development Scheme and sufficiency of amount of SGSY. On the contrary, there is significant correlation between the Education and awareness level of Rural Development Schemes and requirement, the improvements of Rural

Development Schemes. This shows that there exists a close relationship between rural development schemes with the education of the beneficiaries. There is significant positive correlation between occupation and responses on verification while sanctioning the Rural Development Scheme and sufficiency of amount of SGSY. This also indicates that sufficiency of amount of SGSY is dependent upon the occupation of the respondents. Furthermore, there exist a significant positive correlation between awareness of Rural Development Scheme and benefits of Rural Development Scheme. This further reveals that awareness level

**Table 2: Analysis Based on Zero Order Correlation Matrixes**

	F 1	F 2	F 3	F 4	F 5	F 6	F 7	F 8	F 9	F 10	F 11	F 12	F 13	F 14	F 15	F 16
F1	1															
F2	.237**	1														
F3	-.216**	-0.603	1													
F4	-0.034	-0.057	.126**	1												
F5	.130**	0.079	-0.059	-0.56	1											
F6	.125**	0.038	-0.016	-0.061	.410**	1										
F7	.099*	-0.035	0.013	-0.03	.105*	0.077	1									
F8	-0.073	.121**	0.052	-0.005	-0.038	-.114**	-.121*	1								
F9	.094*	.111*	-0.061	0.016	0.02	0.02	-.094*	0.059	1							
F10	0.01	-0.049	0.052	0.011	-0.081	0.06	0.019	-0.019	-.116*	1						
F11	0.006	0.072	0.02	.126**	-0.051	0.027	0.014	0.025	-0.077	-.135**	1					
F12	0.037	-0.076	0.035	0.025	.093*	0.037	-.019*	0.077	0.029	-0.085	-0.049	1				
F13	-0.037	-0.008	-0.009	-0.075	0.078	0.089	-.158**	0.058	.139**	-.127**	-.290**	-0.031	1			
F14	-0.087	-0.044	0.016	-0.055	-0.046	0.027	-.167*	0.091	.147**	-0.027	-.199**	.124**	0.55	1		
F15	0.031	-0.009	0.037	0.01	0.012	-0.003	-.215**	0.092	.107*	0.032	-.180**	.222**	.450**	.656**	1	
F16	-.125**	0.001	0.039	-0.071	-.238**	-.132**	-.064**	.195**	.13**	0.012	0.09	0.007	-0.63	0.028	0.043	1

Note: \* Significant at 0.001 levels; \*\* Significant at 0.05 level.

Source: Data Compiled through Questionnaire

about Rural Development schemes and the benefits of Rural Development Scheme are closely associated. The benefits under Rural Development Scheme depend largely upon the awareness level of the respondents. It is also revealed that there is significant positive correlation between responses of beneficiaries on benefits of Rural Development Scheme and selection for rural housing; On the contrary, there is significant negative correlation between beneficiaries of Rural Development Scheme and requirements for improvements of Rural Development Scheme. This shows that the beneficiaries of the Rural Development Scheme do require improvements for their sustainable benefits. Furthermore, there is significant positive correlation between responses on problems faced and support during problems, adequacy of amount of Rural Development Scheme, and adequacy of amount of rural housing. Thus, it can be concluded that all these problems should be attended as to avert any negative impact of rural Development Schemes. It is also noted that there is a significant negative correlation among the adequacy of amount of Rural Development Scheme and response on verification, sufficiency of amount of SGSY, adequacy of amount of rural housing, responses on devices under IREP, institutional mechanism under IREP, and adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP and requirements for improvement of Rural Development Schemes. This shows that the main problem is adequacy of funds amount under Rural Development Scheme which further affects the amount allocation under SGSY. Therefore a due attention should be provided in this regard. Furthermore, there is a significant positive correlation between the responses on verification of Rural Development Scheme and requirement

for improvements in Rural Development Scheme. Thus, it can be concluded that the improvements in Rural Development Scheme should be focused properly. It is further noted that there is significant positive correlation between sufficiencies of amount of SGSY and among the responses on devices under IREP, Institutional mechanism under IREP, adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP. There is significant negative correlation between the sufficiency of amount of SGSY and requirement of improvement of Rural Development Scheme. This reveals that sufficiency of funds under SGSY largely depends upon devices under IREP, Institutional mechanism under IREP, adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP, etc. There is significant negative correlation among the factor selection for rural housing and responses on devices under IREP, institutional mechanism under IREP, adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP. This shows that the selection for rural housing depends largely upon devices under IREP, Institutional mechanism under IREP and adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP. Furthermore, there is significant positive correlation among the adequacy of amount for rural housing and institutional mechanism under IREP, adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP. This shows that the amount for rural housing depends largely upon the institutional mechanism under IREP. Furthermore, the adequacy of funds do depends upon the adequacy of amount for rural housing. There is significant positive correlation between responses on devices under IREP and the adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP. As indicated that the adequacy of exhibition funds depends upon various other funds also, the role of devices under IREP is also significant in this Rural Development Scheme. There is significant positive correlation between the Institutional

mechanism under IREP and adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP. This also depicts that Institutional mechanism itself helps to ensure adequacy of exhibition funds for IREP.

**An Evaluation of the Negative Impact of the Rural Development Schemes**

The analysis regarding impact of Rural Development Schemes shows that there is positive impact on the development of different sectors. There are a few hurdles in the proper implementation of the Rural Development Schemes in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The benefits of Rural Development Scheme

provides to the beneficiary, selected by the Gram Sabha have also been analyzed in detail, but the success of the Rural Development Schemes depends upon effective implementation of Rural Development Schemes. The negative impact of Rural Development Scheme has been analyzed on the basis of the opinion of the respondents.

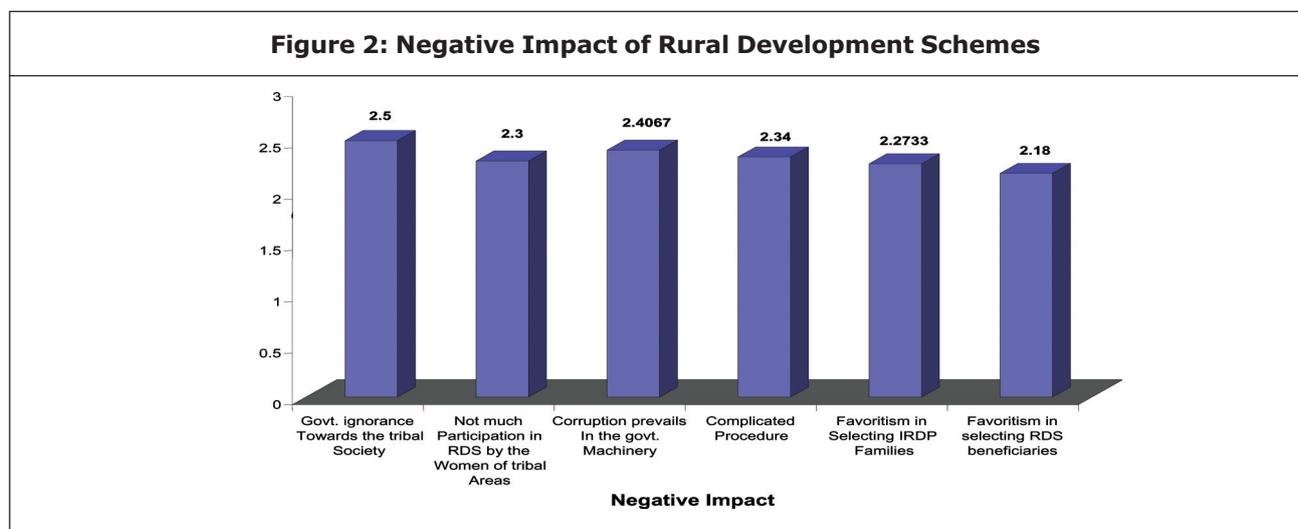
Table 3 reveals the respondents awareness and opinion towards the negative impacts of Rural Development Schemes. Various factors such as govt. ignorance women, participation corruption, and complicated procedure favoritism in relation of beneficiaries have been analyzed. It is

**Table 3: Negative Impact of Rural Development Schemes**

S. No.	Negative Impact	SA	PA	NA	Total	Mean	SD ( $\sigma$ )	Sk	$K_1$	$\chi^2$	P-value
1	Govt. ignorance towards the tribal society	288	99	63	450	2.500	0.7288	-1.092	-0.275	194.760	0.000
2	Not much participation in RDS by the women of tribal areas	132	126	42	300	2.3000	0.7012	-0.492	-0.875	50.640	0.000
3	Corruption prevails in the govt. machinery	207	219	24	450	2.4067	0.5905	-0.416	-0.689	159.240	0.000
4	Complicated procedure	174	255	21	450	2.3400	0.5643	-0.131	-0.702	188.280	0.000
5	Favoritism in selecting IRDP families	162	249	39	450	2.2733	0.6106	-0.230	-0.599	148.440	0.000
6	Favoritism in selecting RDS beneficiaries	129	273	48	450	2.1800	0.6014	-0.096	-0.409	173.160	0.000

*Source: Data Compiled through Questionnaire*

**Figure 2: Negative Impact of Rural Development Schemes**



observed that the mean value of responses related to Government attitude towards the tribal society is more than mean standard score at three point scale. The negative value of skewness indicates that the opinion of respondents is distributed more towards higher side of mean standard score. The negative value of kurtosis shows that the distribution of responses is platykurtic. The calculated value of  $\chi^2$  is significant at 5% level of significance. It leads to reject the null hypothesis which shows that the opinion of respondents is not equally distributed over this issue. It can be concluded that maximum respondents are agreed with the opinion that the government ignore the tribal society. Thus, the government agencies must realize the significance of the Rural Development Scheme with regard to the development of tribal society.

It is further evident that the majority responses regarding little participation of tribal women in Rural Development Schemes should be encouraged. It is further noted that the mean value of the responses relating to corruption prevails in the government machinery shows that corruption is prevalent in system. Therefore, the government must take up the matter seriously to curb the corruption which is also a game of failure of various schemes.

It is further noted that the mean value of the responses related to complicated procedure opined that procedures are complicated, therefore the policy makers must consider it seriously to make them easier and comfortable to the beneficiaries. The mean value of responses related to favoritism in selecting IRDP families is more than the average standard score. The skewness is negative. It reveals that majority of people are agree with the opinion that favoritism is prevalent while sanctioning the loans. That

needs to be tackle seriously. The mean value of the responses relating to favoritism in selecting Rural Development Schemes beneficiaries is more than the mean standard score. Skewness and kurtosis are negative respectively. It reveals that people perceive this negative impact of favoritism and majority of respondents support the same opinion.

The above analysis reveals that the majority of beneficiaries are of the opinion that government ignores the tribal society. Furthermore, there is not much participation in Rural Development Schemes by women of tribal areas and corruption prevails in Government machinery. The government officials are involved in the favoritism in selecting IRDP families and favoritism in selecting Rural Development Schemes beneficiaries. This analysis has also been supported by the various statistical tests.

## CONCLUSION

The present research paper is confined to the impacts of Rural Development Schemes in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The concept of tribal development started with the plan period and government trying to merge the tribal with the mainstream, but after more than 6 decades of independence is still worried about tribal development. Development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh totally depends upon the Rural Development Schemes. The situation of the tribes of Himachal Pradesh was totally different from the present situation. The rural development schemes have changed the scenario of tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The aim of tribal development programs and tribal welfare policy in India has been defined as the progressive, social and economic advancement of tribal population with a view to their complete

integration with the rest of people in the country. Tribal areas need special attention, if the benefits of the new developmental programs are to be accruing to the tribal community. Central Government as well as state Government has launched many Rural Development Schemes for the sustainable development of the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. These schemes have been based on economic and socio-cultural development. Some of them create infrastructure and generate employment. The main object of all the different programs is sustainable human development. There is no significance of Rural Development Schemes if, it will not generate employment and no significance of employment, if it will not develop the basic structure, because all the Rural Development Schemes are interlinked to each other. Many of them have achieved significant success in this direction.

With the objective of making self employment programs more effective, the rest while programs of integrated rural development program TRYSEM, DWCRA, SITRA, *Ganga Kalyan Yojana*, million wells schemes have been merged by the government of India into a New Scheme Namely "*Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana*." Which has been launched from 2003-2004. Similarly, in order to create additional gainful wage employment to the weaker section of the society, generation program, viz. "*Jawahar Rozgar Yojana*" has also been restricted by the government of India and has been *renamed* "*Jawahar Rozgar Yojana*." This scheme focuses on the creation of rural infrastructure for more sustained wage employment and rural development. With a view to provide housing facility to the needy persons in the rural area, houses are being constructed under India *Awaas*

*Yojana* and state plan scheme *Gandhi Kutir Yojana*. The government has taken up the NREGA for generating gainful employment. The Act gives legal guarantee of at least 100 days of employment in a financial year to a rural household. The employment guarantee is an opportunity to create useful assets in rural areas and releasing the massive potential for labor intensive works. It is for the first time in a government program, transparency and accountability has been seen to be possible as a participatory process. Many previous programs like JRY, EAS and other employment based programs have been merged in NREGA.

## SUGGESTIONS

The following suggestions have been made:

1. Majority of the respondents are not aware with the Rural Development Schemes and there is no proper system to educate the rural people about various schemes and their importance. Meeting and seminars may also be organized with rural people at village level.
2. The schemes were made by the government and implemented, but there was no participation of the rural people in it. Emphasis should be given on the formulation of perspective plans, which must be followed by action on the original beneficiaries and people should given their full co-operation and participation for the success of the scheme.
3. The time period for implementation and actual disbursement of the scheme should be reduced. Therefore, efforts should be made to minimize it within 15 days or less than 1 month, respectively.
4. There should be criteria to analyze the

performance of the officials of Rural Development Schemes.

5. Working committees and vigilance committees may be formed at village level for the monitoring of Rural Development Schemes. The government should ensure the transparency in the implementation of Rural Development Schemes.
6. The efforts should be made to simplify the procedure to get the benefits of Rural Development Schemes and the formalities should be minimized according to the knowledge and understanding of the rural people.
7. The amount of the scheme should be adequate according to the estimate and proper verification of the scheme.
8. To connect the remote tribal areas of the state with air services, the government has to construct helipads in tribal areas.
9. The tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh naturally blessed with hilly and mountainous beauty. There is need to exploit it through tourism department to be given to its rapid development.

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