

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Preface

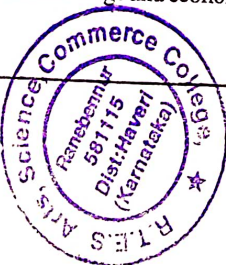
Development essentially is a dynamic Process, Which transforms an economy and society from a relatively backward state to a more advanced state. Since Independence India has made a significant Progress in various sectors of rural development. Efforts have been made to bring about rapid and Sustainable development and socio-economic transformation in rural India with an integrated approach towards improving the quality of life structural development. The success of rural development Programs depends upon the success of the project cycle such as, Identification, Formulation, Appraisal, Implementation, evaluation and Monitoring. Rural development is defined as an improvement in the living standards of the rural people of self sustaining. Rural development in India is identified largely with the poverty alleviation policies. Perhaps no country in the world has invested so much time and resources on poverty. From Community Development, introduced in 1952 with the first Five Year Plan, rural development in India has passed through many phases due to changing social economic and political scenarios in the country. Rural development is a very complex subject and deals with various facets of life. Besides meeting the needs of people living in diversified social, regional and agro-climatic situations in such a vast country like India, it



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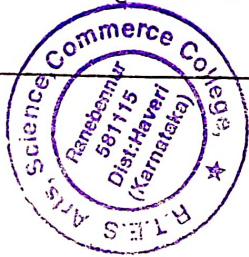
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And, to be able to do that, all efforts must be put in to ensure that villagers, tribal people and aboriginals stay in the rural areas, which will only be possible if we are able to bring to them what they seek from the urban areas: access to proper education (primary, secondary and higher), training and support, and employment and income-generation opportunities on par with their urban counterparts.

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT: SOME ISSUES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WTO NEGOTIATIONS ON AGRICULTURE

Dr. Sarawati. H. Bammanal &
Renuka B. Ambli

Rural development, poverty and agriculture

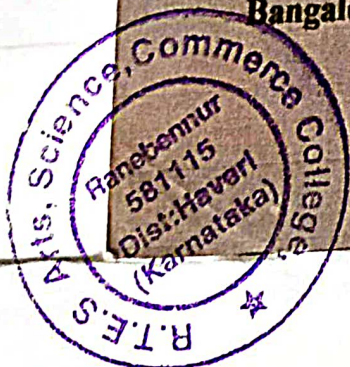
Poverty is largely a rural problem. More than 75 percent of the world's poor live in rural areas and a majority of the poor will continue to live in rural areas well into the 21st century. Although internationally comparable statistics on rural poverty are limited, it is clear that in virtually all developing countries, the rural poor outnumber the urban poor, often by a factor of two or more (Table 1). The rural poor suffer deeper levels of poverty than their urban counterparts and have much more limited access to basic social services such as sanitation, safe water, health services and primary education; thus they suffer disproportionately from hunger, ill health and illiteracy. In many countries, furthermore, the income gap between urban and rural areas is widening. Clearly, the rural poor face overwhelming obstacles in breaking the cycle of poverty.

Agriculture is the key to alleviating rural poverty

Agriculture employs more than half of the total labour force in developing countries and almost three quarters in lower-income



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