

Higher Education in Rural India

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ABSTACT

India is a big country in the world as population wise. Approx. 90% population are dependent on the agriculture activities. There are more than 6, 00,000 villages in India, nearly 501 villages do not have all weather physical connectivity. A loin portion of them are unable to reach their aim or goal due to poverty and illiteracy. They also fail to get a sense of belongingness part of the family and society. The education as a key for social change and mobility can play better in rural development of a country like India. In India, the situation is very sensitive that needs a clear vision on rural education and its strategies to improve the socioeconomic status of rural people. The emergence of the concept of rural institute though belated, created consciousness among the educationists of the academic needs of our rural population. Rural institute would be an alternative system of education as the higher education level all the three components or education-teaching, research and extension- could be successfully carried out. India's first rural institution now as Deemed University name is Gandhi gram. This university give the knowledge of many skills of rural people for improve the life style in rural atmosphere.

Approximately 700 million people of 'rural India' can well be termed as the 'rural India' rural youth are among the most disadvantaged of groups. Often they have limited access to educational programmes that are geared to their situation and needs not surprisingly at an early age. To make India's growth story a truly inclusive one, it become imperative that the development challenges facing rural India and youth are overcome. India's challenged of rural development has many dimensions. Here are some facts that we need to think about:

- (a) The 90% rural population are dependent on agriculture.
- (b) Crisis in agricultural area, the number of 16,196 farmers commuted suicide in India in the year 2008.
- (c) The per capita income is only Rs. 25 per day in rural areas.
- (d) There are more than 6,00,000 villages in our country, about 501 villages out of these do not have all weather road making physical connectivity to these villages highly expensive.
- (e) Now in India the 75% villagers are not getting clean drinking water as prescribed standard WHO and remaining 25% villagers do not have drinking water.

The Present Scenario of Rural India / Rural Youth:-

Majority of the population on a developing country lives in rural area. Out of these around one billion are youth and growth occurring. A loin portion of them are unable to reach their aim or goal due to poverty and illiteracy. The education and training provided to them are either of less use for them or doesn't meet the requirement of the time and the hour. This inappropriate and

irrelevant training puts them in such a situation that mostly they become victims of social evils. Not only this, but there are other social constraints which prevent them from going ahead in life. Beside this lack of support or encouragement and lack of access to capital also plays a pivotal role. Corruption is another major threat of the day. The eligible candidates remain at the back and the ineligible one bags the undeserving post. Due to it many of them lack not only the income but also fail to get recognition and respect in the society as a whole. They also fail to get a sense of belongingness part of the family and society.

Higher Education for Rural India:-

India as a developing country and one of the influential economies in the world cannot ignore the reality of its rural scenario. The country where most of the people are under of the poverty line, definitely have some special and energetic programmes for rural development. We are now in the 65th year of our independence but this achievement has not yet conceptualized to a welfare state and fulfilment of the needs of every corner. It is necessary to know clearly that rural development is limited to the issues for underdevelopment countries, infect many of the developed countries have active rural development programmes. The main policy under the term is to develop the underdevelopment villages. Here education as the key instrument for social change and mobility can play better in rural development of a country like India. In India, the

situation is very sensitive that needs a clear vision on rural education and its strategies to improve the socioeconomic status of rural people. The strategy is as one that achieves minimum costs, makes possible widespread improvement in the welfare of the rural population, contributes to the transformation of a predominates a broader process of social modernization. The emergence of the concept of rural institute though belated, created consciousness among the educationists of the academic needs of our rural population. It was felt that in order to mould the rural intellectual and to develop personal who could understand the rural realities. Rural institute would be an alternative system of education as the higher education level all the three components or education- teaching, research and extension- could be successfully carried out.

Basic Principle of Rural Institute:-

- (a) The basic principle of rural institutes are as follows
Should identify themselves with the people and strive to raise the living Standards in the rural institutes;
- (b) Should serve the rural community and be an instrument for social changes;
- (c) Should develop the courses are need based and location specific;
- (d) Should develop the social consciousness among the youth and motivate them to focus their energy to ameliorate the conditions of the rural life;
- (e) Yet another principle that foregrounds the rural institute do

not impose their ideas and ideals on the villages but encourage the village to evolve their own strategies for development and growth;

- (f) Should strike a balance between pure and applied research. Scientific research in the rural institute is to focus on the sustainable development, ecological and environmental preservation prosperity in the rural areas;
- (g) Should provide excellent rural oriented education based on rural conditions and needs to the youths and motivate them to go back to the villages to serve and uplift the villages;
- (h) The rural institute will act as a vital link between education and a holistic development of an individual and rural reconstruction programme;

There is one most famous of rural institute functioning now in India- the Gandhigram (deemed university).

The Gandhigram Rural Institute:-

Gandhigram was started in 1947. A team of dedicated disciples and contemporaries of Gandhi, Dr. T.S.Soundaram and G. Ramachandran, develop Gandhi gram, the home of many rural development programmes. The Gandhigram rural institute (GRI) was founded in 1956. With undying faith and deep devotion to mahatma Gandhi's revolutionary concept of 'Nai Talim' system of education, Gandhigram rural institute has developed academic programmes in rural development, rural economics and extension education, rural oriented science,

cooperation, development administration rural sociology, English and communicative studies, and Tamil and Indian languages. Students who emerge from its portals tend to meet the personnel needs for rural development under various government and non- governmental schemes.

To teaching was added, the dimensions of research and extension in course of time. This three-dimensional approach becomes a pioneering model which earned appreciation from all over country. The work of the institute invited national attention and the government of India (Ministry of Education), on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission, conferred the status of a Deemed University on the institute under section (3) of UGC Act of 1956, on 3rd August, 1976.

Today, it has become a nationally and internationally recognised institute for its contribution to rural education, so much so that the new education policy of the nation reflects the principles evolved here in developing the rural university concept.

Started in a small way, the institute has developed into a big educational complex,

comprising seven different faculties, offering in all about fifty different programmes. It awards Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degree, Diplomas and Certificates through its seven academic faculties: Rural Development, Rural Social Sciences, Rural Oriented Science, English and Foreign Languages, Indian Languages and Rural Arts, Rural Health and Sanitation, and Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. It has, at present, about 2300 students and 125 teaching and 250 non-teaching staff. The programmes offered here have attracted students from abroad every year.

Conclusion:- It is the best date to full fill the primary needs of every citizen of the country but mostly people of our country are not getting primary needs i.e. clean drinking water, quality education, employment, health, service etc. the unemployment is the biggest problem of India because the quality of education in India is bad without good education. Any country not develop ideal citizen. It is universal truth that ideal citizen makes good country.

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