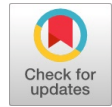


# Development of Social and Economic Programs: Essential in Leading to Progression of Rural Communities



Radhika Kapur

*Abstract Leading to up-gradation of overall nation is regarded as one of the primary goals of all the citizens of the country. In India, rural communities throughout the country are in an under-developed condition. In order to lead to progression of rural communities, there is a need to formulate programs, which would lead to progression of rural individuals and communities. The development of social and economic programs is regarded as vital. Within these programs, there are number of factors that are taken into account, i.e. system of education, employment opportunities, medical and health care facilities, schemes for girls, utilization of pioneering methods and materials, pensions, public distribution systems, housing, infrastructure, amenities and facilities and environmental conditions. The up-gradation of all these factors is essential in leading to up-gradation of rural individuals and communities. Furthermore, these are regarded as essential in bringing about improvements in overall standards of living of rural individuals. All the factors that are taken into account needs to be focused and enhanced in a positive manner. Furthermore, management of financial, technical, human, material and information resources are regarded as vital. As a consequence, one will contribute efficiently in doing well in one's jobs and achieving desired goals. Therefore, it is well-understood, development of social and economic programs is essential in leading to progression of rural communities. The main concepts that are taken into account in this research paper are, social and economic programs are essential in promoting enrichment of rural communities, factors taken into account within social and economic programs and advantages of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs.*

**Keywords:** Development, Economic, Enrichment, Living Conditions, Programs, Rural Communities, Social

## I. INTRODUCTION

In India, more than 70 percent of the population resides in rural communities. In these communities, agriculture and farming practices are regarded as the primary occupations of the individuals. Furthermore, they are overwhelmed by the social problems of poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, and gender inequality. The system of education and medical and health care facilities are in an under-developed condition. On the whole, rural communities are in an under-developed state. There has been considerable expansion of social and economic programs in these communities.

These programs are centrally sponsored and initiated by the state government (Wasan, 2012). These programs have one of the major objectives of leading to up-gradation of rural communities. The areas that are covered are, generation of employment opportunities, pensions, public distribution systems, education, health and sanitation, housing, special schemes for girls and so forth. The old age and widow pension schemes are the ones, targeted to households living below poverty line. In order to lead to progression, there is a need to promote expansion of these programs.

The individuals, belonging to rural communities have recognized the meaning and significance of education. They have formed the viewpoint that education is the instrument, which not only imparts information in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans, but also in terms of ways that are necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country. But it is unfortunate to note that the system of education within rural communities is in an under-developed condition (Surchev, 2010). The various factors of education, i.e. teaching-learning methods, teaching-learning materials, instructional strategies, assessment strategies, extra-curricular and creative activities and so forth are in an under-developed condition. As a consequence, individuals remain unaware in terms of various types of subjects and concepts. Furthermore, one experiences setbacks in acquiring employment opportunities. Hence, social and economic programs are required to put emphasis on leading to up-gradation of all aspects within the system of education. As a consequence, individuals will be prepared in getting engaged in different types of employment opportunities. Therefore, wholehearted emphasis needs to be put on augmenting the system of education and generation of employment opportunities.

### A. Social and Economic Programs are essential in Promoting Enrichment of Rural Communities

Acquisition of employment opportunities is regarded as one of the major goals of individuals, belonging to all communities, categories and socio-economic backgrounds. This is important, as individuals are able to contribute efficiently in generating a source of income. This is necessary in fulfilling all types of needs and requirements and sustaining one's living conditions in an effective manner. The social and economic programs are required to put emphasis on promoting enhancement of employment opportunities.

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These need to be suitable to the competencies, abilities and aptitude of the individuals. These are facilitating to the individuals in bringing about improvements in financial positions and leading to up-gradation of overall standards of living. One of the major advantages is, these are facilitating in alleviating the conditions of poverty. Furthermore, individuals, belonging to rural communities will contribute in an efficient manner in promoting better livelihoods opportunities. In addition, these are essential in leading to up-gradation of rural individuals, communities and nation as a whole. Therefore, individuals, belonging to rural communities acquire an efficient understanding of the factor that social and economic programs are essential in promoting enrichment of rural communities.

Health is wealth. It is necessary for rural individuals to promote good health, physically and psychologically. As a consequence of being healthy, physically and psychologically, rural individuals will contribute efficiently in bringing about improvements in overall quality of lives. The rural individuals are required to augment information in terms of all the factors that are necessary in promoting good health from physical as well as psychological perspectives. The medical and health care facilities are in a deteriorated condition. Hence, there is a need to formulate measures, which are facilitating in promoting enrichment of these facilities. The social and economic programs are focused on leading to up-gradation of medical and health care facilities. The rural individuals are dependent on the natural environmental conditions in order to obtain herbs and medicinal plants. On the other hand, in cases of severe health problems and illnesses, they migrate to urban communities, as medical and health care facilities are well-developed. But in rural communities as well, these need to be up-graded. Therefore, through up-gradation of medical and health care facilities, it is well-understood that social and economic programs are essential in promoting enrichment of rural communities.

In some of the rural households, the birth of girls is not appreciated. In other words, individuals give preference to male children. They form the viewpoint that male children are assets. They will render an important contribution in leading to up-gradation of their families and communities, provided they are given opportunities to do so. Hence, emphasis is put on providing them education, honing competencies and abilities and implementing ways of promoting good physical as well as psychological health conditions. Girls are discouraged from acquisition of education. They are trained in terms of implementation of household responsibilities, as it is believed, they have to eventually get married and go to marital homes. Within marital homes, they will not be able to make use of their educational qualifications in any manner and implement various types of household responsibilities. The girls are in some cases in a deprived state, hence, social and economic programs are required to put emphasis on their up-gradation. Hence, measures to promote up-gradation of girls are emphasised on within social and economic programs. Therefore, it can be stated that social and economic programs are essential in promoting enrichment of rural communities.

### B. Factors taken into Account within Social and Economic Programs

In order to lead to progression of nation as a whole, there is a need to formulate measures, which are necessary in promoting enrichment of all communities throughout the country. The social and economic programs have one the primary goals of promoting enrichment of rural communities. One of the important aspects that needs to be taken into account is, these programs are to take into account all the factors that are facilitating in leading to up-gradation of living conditions of rural individuals. Furthermore, within rural communities, there is a need to promote enhancement of all the facilities, which are necessary in making lives of rural individuals comfortable (Datta, Mishra, Rodgers, Rodgers, & Sharma, 2012).

There are differences in cases of number of aspects within rural and urban communities. Within urban communities, numbers of areas are in a well-developed state, i.e. system of education, employment opportunities, medical and health care facilities and so forth. Whereas, within rural communities, these are in an under-developed condition, hence, in order to lead to progression of rural individuals, one needs to put emphasis on promoting their enhancement. Furthermore, when conducting research on social and economic programs, there is a need to be well-equipped in terms of different factors. These are stated as follows:

### C. System of Education

The individuals, belonging to rural communities have formed the viewpoint that education is the instrument, which not only imparts information in terms of academic subjects and lesson plans, but also in terms of ways that are necessary in emerging into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country. But it is unfortunate to note that the system of education within rural communities is in an under-developed condition. The various factors of education, i.e. teaching-learning methods, teaching-learning materials, instructional strategies, assessment strategies, extra-curricular and creative activities, library facilities, laboratory facilities and overall environmental conditions are in an under-developed condition.

On the other hand, seminars and workshops are not organized within rural schools. In addition, there is absence of modern, scientific and innovative methods and materials. As a consequence, individuals remain unaware in terms of various types of subjects and concepts. Furthermore, one experiences setbacks in acquiring employment opportunities, which are suitable to them. Hence, social and economic programs are required to put emphasis on leading to up-gradation of all aspects within the system of education. As a consequence, individuals will be prepared in getting engaged in different types of employment opportunities. Therefore, system of education is regarded as one of the indispensable factors taken into account within social and economic programs.



#### D. Acquisition of Employment Opportunities

Acquisition of employment opportunities is regarded as one of the major goals of individuals, belonging to all communities, categories and socio-economic backgrounds. Furthermore, rural individuals give preference towards bringing about improvements in one's financial positions.

This is important, as individuals are able to contribute efficiently in generating a source of income. This is necessary in fulfilling all types of needs and requirements and sustaining one's living conditions in an effective manner. The social and economic programs are required to put emphasis on generating employment opportunities. These need to be suitable to the competencies, abilities and aptitude of rural individuals. Furthermore, these are facilitating to the rural individuals in bringing about improvements in financial positions and leading to up-gradation of overall standards of living.

One of the major advantages is, these are facilitating in alleviating the conditions of poverty. Furthermore, individuals, belonging to rural communities will contribute in an efficient manner in promoting better livelihoods opportunities. This is facilitating in incurring the feelings of pleasure and contentment among rural individuals. In addition, these are essential in leading to up-gradation of rural individuals, communities and nation as a whole. Therefore, acquisition of employment opportunities is one of the significant factors taken into account within social and economic programs.

## II. MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

It is necessary for rural individuals to augment information in terms of ways of promoting good health, physically and psychologically. As a consequence of being healthy, from the physical and psychological perspectives, rural individuals will contribute efficiently in bringing about improvements in overall personality traits and standards of living. The rural individuals are required to augment information in terms of all the factors that are necessary in promoting good health from physical as well as psychological perspectives. The medical and health care facilities are in a deteriorated condition. Hence, there is a need to formulate measures, which are facilitating in promoting enrichment of these facilities. The social and economic programs are focused on leading to up-gradation of medical and health care facilities within rural communities throughout the country. The rural individuals are dependent on the natural environmental conditions in order to obtain herbs and medicinal plants. On the other hand, in cases of severe health problems and illnesses, they migrate to urban communities to acquire medical treatment. The main reason being, medical and health care facilities are well-developed. But in rural communities as well, these need to be up-graded. Therefore, medical and health care facilities are an expedient factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

#### A. Schemes for Girls

Within some of the rural households, the birth of girls is not appreciated and preference is given to male children. The main reason being, male children are regarded as assets. It is well-understood that they will render an important

contribution in promoting well-being and goodwill of their families. On the other hand, girls are treated as liabilities. Girls are discouraged from acquisition of education. They are trained in terms of implementation of household responsibilities, as it is believed, they have to eventually get married and go to marital homes.

Within marital homes, they will not be able to make use of their educational qualifications in any manner and will have to carry out various types of household responsibilities. The girls are in some cases in a deprived state, hence, social and economic programs are required to put emphasis on their up-gradation. Through these programs, there is a need to lead to progression of girls. Rural individuals need to be made aware of the factor that girls can also contribute in promoting well-being of their families and communities, provided they are given opportunities to do so. Hence, they need to be provided education and promote enhancement of skills and abilities. Therefore, schemes for girls are renowned factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

#### B. Utilization of Pioneering Methods and Materials

With advancements taking place and with the advent of modernization and globalization, there is a need to be well-informed in terms of different types of pioneering methods and materials. The individuals, belonging to rural communities are required to be well-informed in terms of these methods and materials. Furthermore, they need to utilize these in their tasks and activities, i.e. agriculture, farming practices, production and manufacturing processes and so forth. The different types of these methods and materials are, utilization of charts, graphs, maps, pictures, images, designs, structures, models, tools, devices, apparatus, equipment and various types of technologies. The rural individuals need to acquire an efficient understanding of the concepts. Furthermore, they are required to get engaged in regular practice. This is facilitating in obtaining solutions to certain types of challenging situations that are overwhelming to them.

The social and economic programs are to generate information among rural individuals in terms of meaning and significance of these methods and materials. Within schools, medical and health care facilities and other areas, rural individuals are required to put emphasis on utilizing these methods and materials. As a consequence, one will render an important contribution in carrying out various types of tasks and activities in a less time-consuming and efficient manner. In this manner, there will be an increase in productivity and profitability. Therefore, utilization of pioneering methods and materials is a productive factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

#### C. Pensions

Bringing about improvements in one's financial positions is regarded as one of the major goals of individuals, belonging to rural communities. The social and economic programs are facilitating in introducing pension schemes for individuals.

Furthermore, there is a need to promote development of those activities, which lead to the more productive utilization of resources. The rural individuals are overwhelmed by number of problems and challenging situations within the course of sustaining their living conditions in an effective manner. The scarcity of financial resources and being overwhelmed by the conditions of poverty is regarded as one of the major impediments. Hence, the primary goal of introducing pensions is to bring about improvements in financial positions.

As a consequence, one will render an important contribution in fulfilling various types of needs and requirements. The rural individuals, who are above 60 years of age, are senior citizens are the ones, who are entitled to receiving pension. When the individuals experience decline in capability levels and cannot work, in such cases, they are eligible for receiving pension benefits. Furthermore, different types of health problems and illnesses are also encouraging to the individuals in receiving pension benefits, as these incapacitate the individuals in getting engaged in work and generating income. Therefore, pensions are a prolific factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

### D. Public Distribution Systems

The public distribution system (PDS) evolved as a system of management of scarcity through distribution of food-grains at affordable prices. It was established under the Ministry of consumer affairs, food and public distribution. PDS has become an important part of Government's policy for management of food economy in the country. The primary objective of PDS is to provide food security to individuals, belonging to deprived, marginalized and economically weaker sections of the society. The required food-grains are provided to them and other basic necessities at subsidized rates. This scheme first started on 14 January, 1945, during the Second World War and was launched in the current form in June 1947. The introduction of rationing within the country dates back to the Bengal famine of 1940s.

The PDS has been advantageous to the rural individuals on a comprehensive basis. The main reason being, when they are living below poverty line and are experiencing problems in fulfilling their nutritional requirements, they will have access to food-grains. The social and economic programs are putting emphasis on leading to up-gradation of PDS. The main reason being, it is facilitating in promoting good health, as well as in bringing about improvements in overall standards of living. The social and economic programs are putting emphasis on leading to up-gradation of PDS. Therefore, public distribution systems are a noteworthy factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

### E. Housing

The social and economic programs are focused on taking into account the factors that are facilitating in curbing the problem of homelessness. In order to sustain one's living conditions in an effective manner, it is of utmost significance for rural individuals to have a roof above their heads. This is regarded as indispensable in leading to up-gradation of competencies, abilities and aptitude among rural individuals. Within rural communities, individuals

experience the problem of homelessness. Hence, social and economic programs are required to put emphasis on up-gradation of housing schemes. Indira Awaas Yojana was launched during 1985-1986 as a sub-scheme of rural landless employment guarantee program.

The main objective of IAY is to provide grant for construction of houses to members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, freed bonded labourers and to individuals, living below poverty line. Hence, this sub-scheme has been facilitating in providing solutions to the problem of homelessness. The individuals, belonging to rural communities will render an important contribution in bringing about improvements in their overall quality of lives, when they will have proper homes to live. Furthermore, they will implement all the factors, necessary in promoting good health from physical as well as psychological perspectives. Therefore, housing is a prolific factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

### F. Infrastructure, Amenities and Facilities

Within rural communities, there is a need to formulate programs, which are necessary in leading to up-gradation of infrastructure, amenities and facilities. The social and economic programs are putting emphasis on leading to up-gradation of infrastructure, amenities and facilities. These are referred to power supplies, water supplies, clean drinking water, restrooms, communication networks, roads and rail networks, transportation facilities, heating and cooling facilities in accordance to the weather conditions, furniture, machinery, and various types of technologies. When these are available within educational institutions and medical and health care facilities, the individuals will feel comfortable and will be able to carry out their job duties in a well-ordered manner. Furthermore, within communities, when these are available, individuals will render an important contribution in carrying out certain types of job duties in a well-ordered manner.

The social and economic programs are rendering an important contribution in leading to up-gradation of infrastructure, amenities and facilities. As a consequence, up-gradation will take place of system of education, employment settings, medical and health care facilities and overall environmental conditions. In this manner, there will be an increase in motivation and concentration levels towards putting into operation different types of job duties and responsibilities. The management of financial, human, technical, material and information resources are regarded as vital in leading to up-gradation of infrastructure, amenities and facilities. Therefore, infrastructure, amenities and facilities is an essential factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

## III. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

The social and economic programs are contributing efficiently in leading to up-gradation of environmental conditions.



These programs are facilitating in generating information among rural individuals, which are necessary in leading to up-gradation of overall environmental conditions. These factors are, curbing all forms of pollution, i.e. air, water and land; not throwing any waste materials on the land or water bodies; preventing deforestation; planting more trees and spreading greenery; recycling waste materials; encouraging environmental education within schools; making use of glass bottles and tins instead of plastic bottles; preventing the emission of gaseous fumes into the air; preventing exploitation and wastage of natural resources and generating information in terms of effective and useful utilization of natural resources. All these factors are facilitating in leading to up-gradation of environmental conditions.

When rural individuals are augmenting their information in terms of ways of preservation of the environment, they need to put these into operation. In other words, one needs to put emphasis on acknowledging and implementing these factors. As a consequence, individuals will feel comfortable and there will be an increase in motivation and concentration levels towards putting into operation different types of job duties and responsibilities (Srivastava, & Srivastava, 2009). The management of financial, human, technical, material and information resources are regarded as essential in preservation of the environmental conditions. Therefore, environmental conditions are noteworthy is an essential factor taken into account within social and economic programs.

#### A. Advantages of promoting enrichment of Social and Economic Programs

The social and economic programs are rendering an important contribution in leading to up-gradation of living conditions of rural individuals. These programs are taking into account all the essential factors, which are facilitating in promoting enhancement of living conditions of rural individuals. One of the important aspects that needs to be taken into account is, rural individuals are required to augment their information in terms of all the factors, which would be encouraging in leading to their progression. Furthermore, it is necessary for them to lead to up-gradation of traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness (Yasaswini, Tharaka, & Bhagavanulu, 2017). These are facilitating in coping with various types of problems and challenging situations and leading to enrichment. Therefore, advantages of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs are, promoting community well-being; augmenting competencies and abilities among rural individuals; enabling them to overcome all types of setbacks; leading to up-gradation of motivation levels among rural individuals and promoting enhancement of their overall living conditions. These are stated as follows:

#### B. Promoting Community Well-being

Promoting community well-being is one of the primary objectives of social and economic programs. These programs are acknowledging and implementing all the factors, which are facilitating in leading to up-gradation of rural communities. The areas that are covered are, generation of employment opportunities, pensions, public distribution systems, promoting enhancement of system of education, medical and health care facilities, housing,

special schemes for girls and so forth. Furthermore, the old age and widow pension schemes are the ones, targeted to households living below the poverty line. All these factors are necessary in promoting community well-being and leading to progression of rural individuals. Hence, in order to promote community well-being, there is need to promote expansion of these programs. Furthermore, rural individuals are required to augment their capabilities in order to benefit from these programs. Therefore, promoting community well-being is regarded as one of the indispensable advantages of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs.

#### C. Augmenting Competencies and Abilities among Rural Individuals

It is apparently understood that in order to achieve desired goals and objectives and promote enhancement of overall standards of living, it is of utmost significance to lead to up-gradation of different types of competencies and abilities. Within and outside the homes, one needs to utilise these in order to generate desired outcomes. The social and economic programs are taking into account the system of education. The various factors of education, i.e. teaching-learning methods, teaching-learning materials, instructional strategies, assessment strategies, extra-curricular and creative activities, library facilities, laboratory facilities and overall environmental conditions are put emphasis on. The rural individuals are required to benefit from social and economic programs, when they work diligently in augmenting competencies and abilities. In achievement of all types of goals and objectives, they are required to make use of competencies and abilities in an effective manner. Furthermore, positivity needs to be reinforced in these in order to generate desired outcomes. Therefore, augmenting competencies and abilities among rural individuals is one of the significant advantages of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs.

#### D. Enabling them to overcome all Types of Setbacks

The rural individuals are overwhelmed by different types of setbacks within their lives. These are, related to job duties, methodologies, procedures, health problems, illnesses, unawareness in terms of various factors, poverty, illiteracy, backwardness, lack of implementation of time-management skills, lack of analytical, critical-thinking and problem-solving skills, work pressure and so forth. These are experienced in a major or minor form. Hence, it is of utmost significance for rural individuals to promote enhancement of competencies and abilities, which are facilitating in overcoming all types of setbacks. The main reason being, one aspires to carry out all types of tasks and activities in a successful manner. The family and community members make provision of support to each other in overcoming all types of setbacks. Furthermore, these need to be prevented from giving rise to impediments within the course of putting into operation different types of job duties and responsibilities.

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In other words, these are prevented from assuming a major form. Therefore, enabling them to overcome all types of setbacks is an expedient advantage of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs.

### E. Leading to Up-gradation of Motivation Levels among Rural Individuals

When rural individuals are putting into operation different types of tasks and activities, it is apparently understood that they need to be motivated. The social and economic programs are rendering an important contribution in stimulating the mind-sets of the rural individuals towards implementation of job duties and responsibilities. The main reason being, the different factors, which are acknowledged under these programs, are aiming towards leading to progression of rural individuals. The rural individuals are required to benefit from social and economic programs, when they work diligently in augmenting their motivation and concentration levels. In achievement of all types of goals and objectives, they are required to make use of different types of skills and abilities in an effective manner. The rural individuals will utilize skills and abilities appropriately, only when they are motivated towards putting into operation different types of tasks and activities. Therefore, leading to up-gradation of motivation levels among rural individuals is an eminent advantage of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs.

### F. Promoting Enhancement of their overall Living Conditions

Promoting enhancement of their overall living conditions is regarded as one of the main goals of individuals, belonging to rural communities. When rural individuals are putting into operation different types of tasks and activities, they are required to be well-aware in terms of various factors. In addition, inculcation of traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness is regarded to be of utmost significance. Furthermore, they need to hone their skills and abilities. The social and economic programs are rendering an important contribution in implementing all the factors, which are leading to up-gradation of living conditions of rural individuals. In order to achieve desired goals and objectives, rural individuals are required to be well-informed in terms of all the factors, which social and economic programs are taking into account. Furthermore, they are required to make use of different types of skills and abilities in an effective manner. Therefore, promoting enhancement of their overall living conditions is a notable advantage of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs.

## IV. CONCLUSION

Social and economic programs have one of the major objectives of leading to up-gradation of rural communities. Social and economic programs are essential in promoting enrichment of rural communities. Factors taken into account within social and economic programs are, system of education, acquisition of employment opportunities, medical and health care facilities, schemes for girls, utilization of pioneering methods and materials, pensions, public distribution systems, housing, infrastructure, amenities and facilities and environmental conditions. Advantages of promoting enrichment of social and economic programs are,

promoting community well-being; augmenting competencies and abilities among rural individuals; enabling them to overcome all types of setbacks; leading to up-gradation of motivation levels among rural individuals and promoting enhancement of their overall living conditions. Finally, it can be stated, social and economic programs are facilitating in promoting enhancement of rural communities and nation.

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