WORKING OF DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY IN INDIA

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Abstract

In India, rural development is seen as a fundamental approach for economic growth. There have been a number of rural development programmes developed by the federal and state governments in an effort to help the impoverished. The governments' policies and programmes have not only focused on alleviating poverty, but also on creating employment and income possibilities, providing infrastructure, and meeting the fundamental necessities of the rural poor. In 1980, the SFDA and MFAL were merged into the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) to better administer the Rural Development Programs. The purpose of this essay is to provide readers with a better understanding of how a DRDA works in the context of implementing rural development initiatives.

Paper Identification

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1. Introduction

For the socio-economic development of the state, Directorate of Rural Development Department implements different initiatives for rural people. Rural Development Schemes sponsored by the government are implemented by this department. Coordination with the government of India's Ministry of Rural Development, Planning Commission, State Finance and State Planning Departments is maintained on a regular basis to ensure successful implementation of the department's mandate. The plans are planned and implemented by the District Rural Development Agencies with the support of Block Agencies and other line departments in the districts. Plans, implementation, and monitoring of field-level initiatives are all handled by Panchayati Raj Institutions. They are led by the Additional Deputy Commissioners-cum-Chief Executive Officers of the DRDAs. The Panchayati Raj Department's Engineering Wing is providing the technical help and supervision.

Periodic reports, such as monthly, half-yearly, and annual, are used by the department to keep tabs on the progress of various programmes. Additional Deputy Commissioners and DRDA representatives meet periodically to oversee the appropriate execution of the programmes at the district level.

The BDPO and other staff members are also involved in implementing the plans at the block level. Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis, Zila Parishads, and Gram Sabhas all play important roles in the

establishment and execution of MGNREGA's wage employment and self-employment programmes, as well as IAY's rural housing and IWMP's area development programmes.

Since then, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced a new initiative, the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, to help the Gram Panchayats chosen by the Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

2. Role & Functions of the District Rural Development Agency

1. An efficient delivery agency is just as important as a well-designed programme for the successful execution of rural development programmes. Without a clear goal and a dedication to the mission, none of the anti-poverty programmes will be effective. It is here that the DRDAs make a significant contribution. It is not the responsibility of the DRDAs to carry out specific programmes, but by keeping an eye on them and ensuring that links between them are established, they may greatly improve the quality of the ones that are already being carried out. The DRDA, as a supporting and enabling organisation, must play a very effective role as a catalyst in the process of growth.

2. Second, the District Rural Development Organization is envisioned as an agency capable of handling anti-poverty programmes from the Ministry of Rural Development on the one hand, as well as efficiently integrating these programmes into the District's overall endeavour to eliminate poverty. It is important to note that while the DRDA will continue to monitor and ensure that an anti-poverty program's funds are used in an efficient manner, it will also need to gain a considerably broader understanding of the processes essential for poverty alleviation/eradication. In order to get the best results, it will also need to have the ability to collaborate with other agencies. As a result, it will have to focus on acquiring new skills rather than simply doing duties that belong to the PRIs or line departments. Because of this, the DRDA will play a unique function in comparison to the Zilla Parishad and other government bodies.

3. Third, the DRDAs themselves need to step up their game and be more professional in their dealings with other organisations. You will be working in close collaboration with the Panchayati Raj authorities, banks and financial institutions as well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in order to gather resources for your district's poverty alleviation efforts. For eliminating poverty in the district, it is their goal to achieve inter-sectoral and inter-department coordination and cooperation. It is their ability to organise and bring about a unified strategy to poverty alleviation that sets them apart.

4. The DRDAs are intended to work closely with the Panchayati Raj Institutions to ensure smooth operations. They will not, under any circumstances, carry out the duties of PRIs.

5. It is envisaged that the DRDAs will supervise the district's execution of several anti-poverty programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development. Not to be confused with actual implementation, which will be carried out by the Panchayati Raj and other institutions. Each time a new policy is implemented, the DRDAs will monitor it closely through periodic reports and regular field visits. As well as helping the implementing agencies improve their processes, the mission should be to ensure that the programmes are

implemented to a high standard of quality. Monitoring whether the intended recipients are benefiting from the various programmes is a part of this.

6. The DRDAs are responsible for monitoring and ensuring that benefits designated for specific target groups (SC/ST, women, and people with disabilities) are received. They'll do everything they can to meet the standards.

7. Rural development and poverty reduction should be promoted among the rural poor, and the DRDAs should take the appropriate steps to do so. Poverty, the rural poor's chances, and a sense of self-confidence in their ability to escape poverty would all be part of this. Additionally, it would require the district's many officials to be educated on various areas of poverty and its alleviation programmes.

8. The DRDAs will work to ensure that anti-poverty programmes are implemented in a transparent manner. To this purpose, they plan to disseminate information on the various programmes and how they are being implemented on a regular basis.

9. Financial discipline must be maintained by all DRDAs, regardless of whether they receive monies from the federal or state government, in light of the enormous investment made in poverty reduction programmes. It is their responsibility to make sure that the monies granted to banks or implementing agencies are appropriately kept, in accordance with the requirements of each programme.

10. This is where the DRDA comes in. The DRDA is responsible for developing and implementing anti-poverty programmes, working with other government and non-government organisations, as well as the private sector, on technical and financial issues, and ensuring that communities and the rural poor have a voice in the decision-making process.

11. DRDAs will also be responsible for coordinating and overseeing the BPL Census and other surveys as needed.

12. Action research and evaluation studies started by the federal and state governments will also be carried out or supported by the DRDAs.

13. DRDAs should focus on the Ministry of Rural Development's anti-poverty programmes, not those of other agencies. A clear anti-poverty focus is essential before giving DRDAs responsibility for other ministries' or state governments' programmes. If any other programme is entrusted to the DRDAs other than anti-poverty programmes administered by the Ministry, the Secretary, Rural Development, should examine such request in consultation with the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. In such cases, it must be ensured that adequate provision is made for requisite staffing.

3. Conclusion

As professional entities, the DRDAs are to be in charge of all aspects of planning, monitoring, and evaluating rural development programmes. In addition, the DRDAs are expected to work together with other organisations, particularly the panchayati raj institutions in the district, to coordinate their operations. A number of rural development projects were carried out effectively by the Haryana DRDA in the district. DRDA's performance was praised by two-thirds of those who took part in the survey. However, Haryana DRDA's operation has some institutional and functional flaws.

India's Development Research and Development Agencies (DRDAs) typically have a planning team comprising of an economist and a credit planner and a

rural industries officer, who work together to formulate and implement plans for various sectors. Additionally, DRDAs may have officers from various sectors, such as agriculture, animal husbandry, and women's welfare, among others. The Haryana DRDA, on the other hand, did not have a planning staff or field personnel. Poverty reduction efforts in the district are expected to be coordinated by the DRDA with line departments, panchayati raj institutions, banks and other financial institutions. In order to reduce poverty in the district, it will be their goal to ensure cross-departmental and inter-departmental coordination and cooperation. Because of its coordination and convergence abilities, the district's rural development programmes will have an easier time getting off the ground and achieving their full potential. A district-level coordination committee may be established at the same time in order to collaborate with various district agencies.

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