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WINGS TO YOUR THOUGHTS.....

Development of Hilly Regions Using Preventing Migration with Help of MSME

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Abstract: *The hill areas of the India, particularly the Himalayan and the Western Ghats regions which constitute few per cent of the total area of the population in the country, support the basic life-giving natural resources but have fragile and sensitive ecosystems. The need to conserve natural resources and the environment, particularly to prevent damage to fragile and irreplaceable ecosystems, has been voiced in national policies and programmes for quite some time. The hill area development programmed is not a short terms but also need to develop for long time. Simultaneously, it has also aimed at the goal of balanced regional development. The aim of this paper, points out some specific views how to improve the hill life.*

Keywords: *Hill areas, Hill life, Hill resources, Hill plans*

1. INTRODUCTION

It has been observed that the pathways of development adopted in the past decades have resulted in an uneven distribution of the benefits of economic growth as between geographical areas and also between socio-economic groups. It was in realization of this phenomenon that certain specific target group oriented programmed need to developed, But in spite of these programmed, certain geographical areas present some very special ecological and socio-cultural features, which unless specifically taken into account do not permit the present planning process and the schemes developed within it, to be of major assistance to them. The Hill Areas of the country belong to this category.

The development of the hilly areas in the country, however, cannot be undertaken in isolation from the adjoining plains, with which their economy is closely inter-related. The hilly areas influence to some extent the climate of the plains; they contain the sources, the catchments and the water-sheds of several major river systems which flow to the plains; they abound in forests, plant and mineral wealth as well as hydel energy resources. Our experience of development planning during the last three decades has increasingly underlined the fact that anicss adequate programmed are evolved for the conservation and proper utilization of the resources of the hill areas, not only the problems of these areas will continue to remain unsolved, but the economy of the plains may also be adversely affected. Symptomatic of this aspect are the rapid siltation of dams, reservoirs, flooding, changes in agro-climatic conditions and pressure on the employment market because of the large-scale migration of people particularly men from hill areas. Development of the resources of the hill areas is hence necessary in order to enable the population living in these areas, which are by and large very poor, to have their share of the benefits accruing from modern science and technology. But such development, however, has to proceed in a way that the eco-system constituting the hills and the plains, is not irreversibly damaged, but is preserved in a suitable condition for future generations. There is, therefore, a paramount need for conceiving an integrated strategy for the

development of the hill areas based on sound principles of ecology and economics.

Several alternative development scenarios have been considered in order to see how best the objectives specified in the development perspective can be realized. However, because of the constraint of domestic and foreign exchange resources and the range of possible technological choices, the number of alternatives has been narrowed. Among these were (a) the alternative of a growth rate of 6 per cent in the post-Sixth Plan period which could be achieved provided the Sixth Plan growth rate was kept down to 5 per cent per annum or even less and

(b) a somewhat higher growth rate in the Sixth Plan and a slightly lower growth rate in the period beyond.

It was found that given the initial capacity constraints, especially in sectors with relatively long gestation such as major irrigation, power, transport and steel, any growth rate during the Sixth Plan above 5.2 per cent or so would not 'be feasible; at the same time a growth rate of lower than 5.2 per cent or so would not even cover the basic minimum time bound programmers' for fulfilling the economic and social objectives in agricultural and rural sectors including generation of employment. Thus the choice converged to a growth rate of 5.2 per cent in the Sixth Plan period and 5.5 per cent on the subsequent ten year period. This choice is consistent with the results derived from projections of the long term demand pattern and implications of the goal of self-reliance. The possibility of raising the targeted growth rate to 6 per cent in the post Sixth Plan period will be explored depending on the progress of the economy and the international environment.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

India began the process of planned development nearly thirty years ago with the start of the First Five Year Plan in April, 1951. The central purpose of planning was identified as that of initiating "a process of development which will raise living standards and open out to the people new opportunities for a richer and more varied tire" (First Five Year Plan). The

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manner in which this purpose has been translated into specific objectives has varied from Plan to Plan. However, in a broad sense, the basic objectives of planning in India can be grouped under four heads: growth, modernization, self-reliance and social justice. In one form or another but possibly with varying emphasis these objectives reflect the views of all sections of the population and represent a national consensus on the aims of planning.

2.1 DEVELOPMENTS OF PLANS

Actually we want to establish the specific plan or strategy for those people who are qualified and talent but for the extra income and jobs they want migrate in plain area i.e. (developed part of India "NCR, Gujarat, Punjab..."). was in realization of this need that special hill area development programmed was initiated during the Fifth Plan. During the Sixth Plan also, the hill areas of the country will continue to receive special attention on account of their difficult terrain, agro-climatic conditions, historical lag in economic development, their environmental impact on the plains and above all their great growth potential.

2.2 METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPING PLANS

Development by its very nature is a long term process of structural adaptation, which in turn derives its significance from the basic objectives a nation sets for itself. The scope for structural changes is admittedly limited in the short run but it increases as one extends the time horizon for planning. In the absence of a proper long term perspective there is a danger that short term and even medium term plans and economic policies may be excessively preoccupied with pressing contemporary events, thereby relegating the task of structural reforms to the background. In the process, the available growth potential may not be fully realized. Because of discontinuities and long time lags between investment and the resulting increase in output, the needs for perspective planning in specific terms is particularly strong in the development of infrastructure like power, transport and communications, scientific research, technical education as well as in sectors like major irrigation, coal and steel where there are large gestation lags often extending beyond the period of any single five year plan. In particular, in the present situation, there is an imperative need to have a carefully worked out perspective plan for the energy sector. In all such cases, a perspective plan which takes into account important intersectional linkages greatly facilitates the task of taking consistent, timely and efficient decisions regarding the allocation of scarce resources in the framework of medium-term five year plans. At the same time, it has to be recognized that the future is inherently uncertain and the events of recent years, particularly the growing uncertainty of supply and prices of imported oil, have rendered the task of long term economic forecasting all the more difficult. Therefore, while the use of perspective planning as a valuable guide in framing policies and programmer in the medium term is obvious, the perspective

itself needs to be updated and reviewed periodically in the light of changing conditions.

2.3 STRATEGIES TO PREVENT THE MIGRATION OF HILL FAMILIES

2.3.1 Alternative energy policy

To reduce the pressure on forests and the drudgery to which women are subjected, an alternative fuel policy should be evolved and implemented. It should have two aspects, firstly, providing an alternative source of energy such as electricity, including micro- hydels, kerosene coalcooking gas, at subsidized rates for household consumption to wean away people from fuel-wood and, secondly, use of devices such as fuel-efficient ovens and utilisation of sawmill and logging waste for briquetting.

2.3.2 Fuel and fodder

To achieve sustained supplies of fuel and fodder, denuded forest lands needs to be afforested with tree species which can provide both fuel and fodder. Pasture land development would have to receive attention.



Figure1.1: increase population and decrease energies resources in hill area

2.3.3 Drinking water supply

In view of the rugged terrain, high altitudes and remoteness, a four-fold strategy for drinking water supply will be adopted in hill areas: development of gravitational sources of water, hydraulic rams, storage-tanks and micro- hydel schemes. Provision of safe drinking water is most essential to minimize the incidence of water- borne disease. An attempt should be made to provide all problem villages with adequate and safe drinking water facilities in the Seventh Plan period.

2.3.4 Health

Emphasis will be laid on prophylactic steps in terms of environmental sanitation, protected water-supply and mass immunization against TB, polio etc., and measures of protection against tropical diseases such as malaria, filarial and gastroenteritis as also against malnutrition, particularly vitamin and protein-deficiency and iodine deficiency.

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Infrastructural facilities and the quality of services rendered by primary health institutions will be improved. For the welfare of children it is necessary to strengthen and expand the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme in the hill areas. Pre- and post-maternity care for hill women, particularly those residing in remote areas will be provided. Maximum use should be made of indigenous medical skills; apart from their intrinsic value they have the merit of acceptability and accessibility. Research also needs to be systematically undertaken to develop these skills in their own right and as a supplement of the modern medical system. There is need to augment the training programmes for Dais.

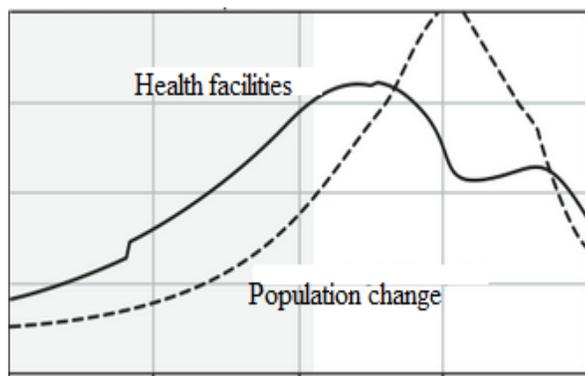


Figure1.2: Relation between health facilities and population

2.3.5 Education

Lack of skilled manpower is a major constraint in the development of hill areas. It is necessary to undertake manpower planning and to link education locally to the specific needs of the hill areas.

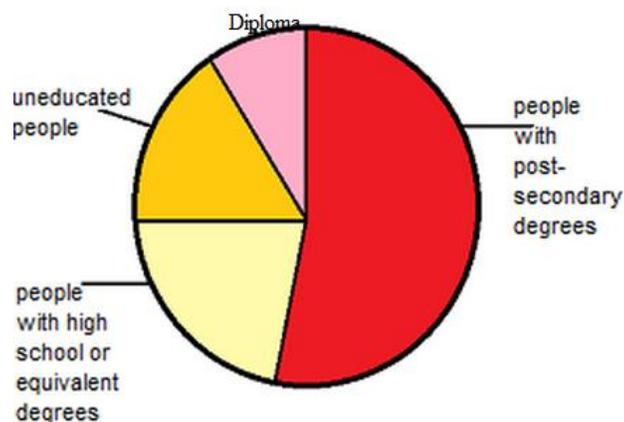


Figure1.3: Status of education in hill area

The hill communities need to be involved in the management of schools locally so that these become culture centers of the villages. Single-teacher schools may not be ideal for these areas; in fact, the norms for location of schools should take into consideration the terrain.

3. CONCLUSION

Strenuous efforts are required towards restoration of the degraded vegetation and forest cover constituting the life-support system. Forestry and social developments programmes will aim at fulfilling the national requirements of forest produce, imperatives of ecological balance and socio-psycosocial needs of village communities. Revenue-earning can no longer be a major goal. Identification of ecologically sensitive and vulnerable areas will be taken up and comprehensive plans for their right treatment implemented. New techniques will be adopted in afforestation, aiming at reduction in per hectare cost and with employment potential. To conserve forest resources, use of substitutes for forest- base industrial raw-materials will be encouraged.

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