

A Survey on the Status and Perspectives of Rural Development in the Border Regions of Haryana and Rajasthan, India

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Abstract-This paper delves into the philosophies of Mahatma Gandhi and Anna Hazare regarding the development of Indian villages, assessing the current rural development programs. It further examines factors and various dimensions of development, categorized into economic, social, sustainable, and territorial aspects of rural development. The study offers a comprehensive perspective on improving the quality of life through various Government schemes in border villages of Mahendergarh (Haryana) and Jhunjhunu (Rajasthan), selected based on a composite index. Primary data was collected through field surveys using scheduled interviews, complemented by secondary data from the District Census Handbook issued by the Census of India in 2011. A significant issue highlighted is the lack of respondent knowledge about Government Schemes, emphasizing the need for proper orientation. The development of villages should adopt a multifaceted approach, including attributes such as effective village leadership (Sarpanch), problem identification, democratic decision-making processes, social reforms, cooperative management systems, special attention to women, facilitation of village organizations, and direct funds for appropriate utilization. Local inclusion in shaping Smart Villages is crucial, leveraging their awareness of regional issues.

Keywords: Smart Village, Rural Development, Ideal Village, Rural Development Programmes, Schemes.

INTRODUCTION

The concept of a smart village, which leverages digital technologies to enhance rural sustainability, is a growing area of interest. Sahana (2020) and Degada (2021) both emphasize the role of IoT in smart village development, with Sahana discussing specific applications such as smart irrigation and automatic street lights. Aziiza (2020) and Garai (2017) provide practical models for smart village implementation,

with Aziiza proposing a comprehensive model encompassing governance, technology, resources, village services, living, and tourism, and Garai presenting a self-sufficient village design with renewable energy sources and modern amenities. These studies collectively highlight the potential of smart villages to address rural challenges and improve quality of life. The successful implementation of smart villages requires a focus on specific application domains, such as energy, water, and waste management (Natarajan, 2017). The EU has recognized the potential of smart villages in addressing economic and territorial inequalities, and has emphasized the need for stakeholder involvement in their development (Górecka, 2021). In Poland, the development of smart villages is seen as a way to bridge the digital divide and leverage local specificities for the benefit of residents and enterprises (Budziewicz-Guźlecka, 2019). Smart Village is a concept adopted by national, state and local governments of India, as an initiative focused on holistic rural development, derived from Mahatma Gandhi's vision of Adarsh Gram (Ideal Village) and Swaraj (Self Reliance).

To understand the importance and role of Indian villages and regeneration of rural life Gandhiji wrote in Harijan on 4th April 1936 "India should be found not in few cities but in its 700000 villages. But we town dwellers have believed that India is to be found in its towns and the villages were created to minister to our needs. We have hardly paused to inquire if those poor get sufficient to eat and cloth themselves with and whether they have a roof to shelter themselves with and whether they have roof to shelter themselves from sun and rain."

Gandhiji addressed in Harijan on 29th August 1936: "I would say that if the village perishes, India will perish

too. It will be no more India. The revival of the village life is possible only when it is no more exploited. While Gandhi aiming to attain a complete swaraj and mentioned it in Harijan on 26th July 1942.

“My idea of village swaraj is that it is a complete republic, independent of its neighbors for its own vital wants and get inter-dependent for many others in which dependence is a necessity. Thus every village’ first concern will grow its own food crop and cotton for its cloth. It could have a reverse for its cattle, recreation and playground for adults and children. Then if there is more land available, it will grow useful money crops, thus excluding tobacco, opium and the like. The village will maintain a village theatre, and public hall. It will have its own water works ensuring clean water supply.”

Gandhi’s dream encircled Economic, Social, Political and Educational development of the village. He urged on the self-sufficiency of Indian village as a basic principle of life because dependency brings in exploitation and corruption. The rich exploits poor, city exploiting villages and undeveloped countries are exploited by developed countries due to absence of self-sufficiency in all level of society.

The concept of smart villages is a promising approach to rural development, with a focus on leveraging digital technologies, telecommunications, and innovation to enhance the quality of life for residents and businesses (Budziewicz-Guźlecka, 2019). This approach is particularly relevant in the context of the EU, where it is seen as a means of addressing economic and territorial inequalities, social exclusion, and the reduction of agricultural activities (Górecka, 2021). The implementation of smart villages often involves the use of IoT-based solutions, such as smart irrigation and automatic street lights, to improve sustainability and self-reliance (Sahana, 2020). A case study in Banyuwangi Regency, Indonesia, further highlights the potential of the smart village model in addressing poverty, education, and technology access issues (Aziiza, 2020).

Rural development is a complex and evolving field, with a focus on improving the welfare of rural households and communities (Janvry, 1998; Janvry, 2002). It is increasingly being viewed as a multi-level,

multi-actor, and multi-faceted process, driven by historical traditions and the need to respond to changing economic and societal demands (Ploeg, 2000). This process is part of a broader structural transformation, characterized by a shift away from agriculture and towards sustained and equitable economic growth (Gill, 1999). The key to successful rural development lies in the design of effective policies and the implementation of sustainable agricultural growth strategies (Gill, 1999). The United Nations defines Rural Development as: Rural Development is a process of change, by which the efforts of the people themselves are united, those of government authorities to improve their economic, social and cultural conditions of communities in to the life of the nation and to enable them to contribute fully to national programme. Rural Development is a process of bringing change among rural community from the traditional way of living to progressive way of living. It is also expressed as a movement for progress. The word development may be used to changes which are positively valued and are quantitatively and qualitatively transformed. Development is the process of becoming better to reach a standard level. It entails a comprehensive improvement in social, political and economic conditions of society. There are certain important policies which are common for rural development strategy and these policies related to land, technology, agriculture, employment, education, research and extension reforming rural institutions and agricultural pricing. In this context an agricultural strategy for rural development comprise the following element: (i) infrastructure building activity related to growth of irrigation, transport, communications and health facility (ii) programmes to improve marketing facilities for the distribution of agricultural inputs and implements (iii) policies related to land tenure, agriculture output, prices and taxation of agricultural incomes (Mehta & Mehta, 2007). Ministry of rural development (1992-93) of the government of India was asserting that rural development has come to mean a direct attack on rural poverty through special employment programmes, land reforms, area development programmes, and measures to provide safe drinking water supply and rural housing and rural sanitation.

Pankaj and Tankha (2010) focus on the impact of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme on

empowering rural women at both individual and community levels in states like Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Himachal Pradesh. The study highlights increased participation of women workers due to job accessibility, equal employment opportunities, and wages. Other studies include Rogers (1969) emphasizing the role of communication technology in rural development, Bishop (1957) addressing approaches to rural development programs, Chatterjee (1957) discussing rural community development programs, and Muyeed (1982) emphasizing education for rural development. The passage also touches upon studies by Anderson (1973) on social indicators in health, Rao (1983) on constraints in rural development, and Pandey (2008) examining Gandhi's perspective on rural development. Additional studies by Penn (1957), Nelson (1984), Neale (1980), Binns and Funnel (1983), Majumdar (2002), and Waghmore (2002) cover topics such as the working conditions of rural development programs, integrated rural development, multi-functional concepts of rural development, caste dynamics, and changes in rural development strategies since the 1950s. Desai (1987) notes the transformation in the definition of rural development, narrowing down to a strategy focused on improving the economic and social life of the economically underprivileged rural population. The primary parameters considered in this study include economic development, human development, and social development. The approach taken to analyze the development conditions and vision for the functioning and evolution of the study area involves examining the growth in the economic sector, development in various sectors (such as agriculture and technological changes), different institutions working for development, and connectivity. These aspects are further categorized into Economic, Agriculture, Infrastructure, and Social dimensions.

In terms of Economic factors, the study addresses village-level economic growth by considering not only statistical indicators but also physical aspects such as the standard of living, education, housing infrastructure, public buildings, road facilities, electricity and water availability, small-scale industry, and agriculture. Government policies play a crucial role in ensuring the equitable distribution of resources in the area. Regarding Agriculture, the study recognizes the sector's significant contribution of approximately 6.1% to India's economy, employing a substantial portion of the workforce. The adoption of new technologies, transitioning from an agriculture-based to an industry-based economy, and overall improvement in living standards are key factors. The development of the agriculture sector is seen as a catalyst for generating income, fostering progress and prosperity in villages and rural areas.

Infrastructure is highlighted as a crucial aspect, with communication and transport playing essential roles in promoting development. Adequate supplies of electricity, telecommunication facilities, and road connectivity facilitate the smooth movement of people and goods between rural and urban areas. In the Social dimension, the focus is on improving the well-being of individuals in society. This involves addressing barriers through poverty reduction, providing educational facilities, improving health conditions, fostering psychological development, and ultimately enhancing living conditions in rural areas.

The paper aims to scrutinize the factors and variables associated with economic, social, sustainable, and territorial development of villages. It also compares the programs and activities of Panchayati Raj in the development of border villages in Jhunjhunu and Mahendergarh. Additionally, the paper explores various government policies initiated in these areas.

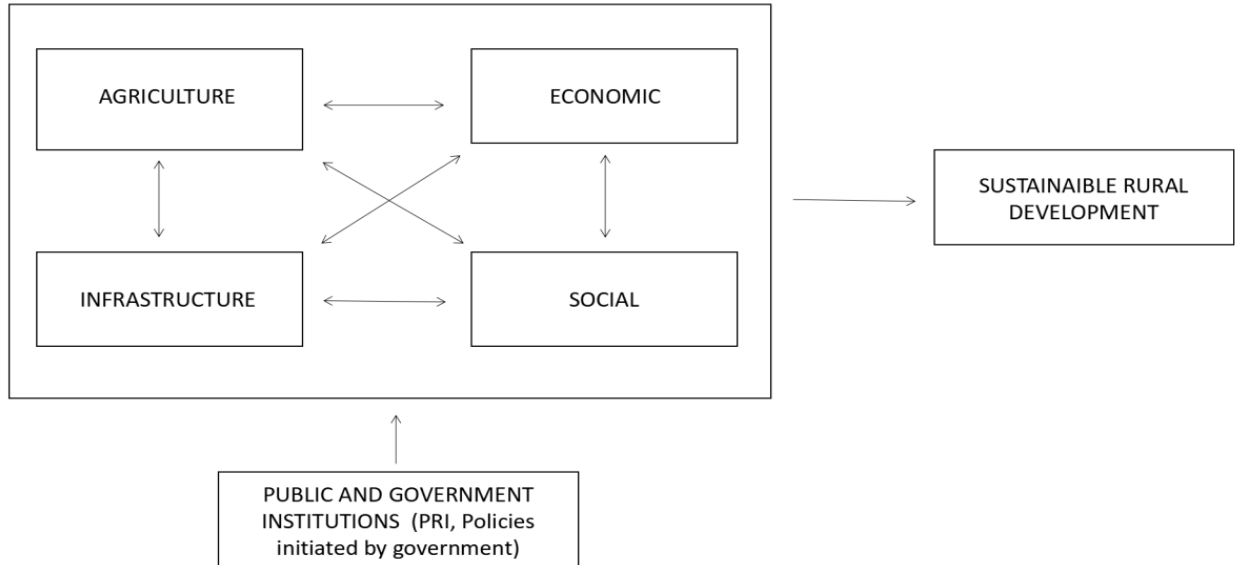


Figure 1 - Interlink between the development parameters

II. OBJECTIVE

The current research delves into analyzing the factors and domains contributing to the advancement of villages, including social, economic, sustainability, and territorial development. It further investigates and contrasts the initiatives and undertakings of Panchayati Raj in promoting the progress of border villages in Jhunjhunu and Mahendragarh. Additionally, the article sheds light on various government policies implemented in these regions.

III. STUDY AREA

The present study is based on the villages of border region of Mahendragarh and Jhunjhunu of Haryana and Rajasthan respectively. Mahendragarh has a geographical area of 1899 square kilometer in which rural area has a share of 1866.02 square km while urban area of just 32.98 square kilometer. Mahendragarh is located between 27° 47' 50" N and 28° 28' 00" N latitude and 75° 54' 00" E and 76° 22' 11" E. Mahendragarh is located in the southern part of the state bordering Rajasthan from south, west and south eastern region, its northern side bordering Bhiwani district while its upper eastern border by Rewari district.

Jhunjhunu district lies between 27° 38' and 28° 31' north latitude and between 75° 02' and 76° 06' east longitudes. It has a geographical area of 5928 sq. Km.

Jhunjhunu district is located in north eastern part of the state bordering Haryana. The district makes north western boundary with Churu district, its north eastern side is bounded by Hisar and Mahendragarh district of Haryana. Rest of the district is bounded by Sikar district of Rajasthan state from all the remaining sides.

IV. DATA BASE

The current study utilizes both primary and secondary data sources. Primary data is obtained through field surveys conducted via scheduled interviews with the target population. Meanwhile, secondary data is derived from the Mahendragarh and Jhunjhunu district census handbooks issued by the Census of India in 2011.

V. METHODOLOGY

The data has been collected primarily as well as through secondary method. In which primary data has been collected from field survey through schedule method of the border villages of Jhunjhunu and Mahendragarh. This selection was done by calculating composite index from the secondary data collected from district census handbook in which different variables were chosen which were population; SC population; Public health centre; community health center; connection with National highway; state highway; major district; and nearest town; road

connectivity: kachcha and pakka; facility of ATM and availability of electricity in the village has been taken. The data which was calculated through composite index on the basis of which the highest, lowest and medium values of villages were taken as the universe.

In which 4 villages from both the districts were taken those were Sureti Maveryana, Dalanwas, Duloth and Kherki from Mahendergarh while Shyopura, Besarda, Jamalpur and Dobra from Jhunjhunu.

TEHSIL	VILLAGE	POPULATION	HOUSEHOLD
Mahendergarh	Sureti Maveryana	1936	390
	Dalanwas	4200	800
	Kherki	2500	500
	Duloth	4600	800
Jhunjhunu	Besarda	2900	450
	Jamalpur	3000	500
	Shyopura	1500	275
	Dobra	1800	600

Table 1 – General Information of Villages

Source – Primary Field Survey of Mahendergarh and Jhunjhunu (Interview Schedule conducted from Sarpanch of the Village, 2018)

VI. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The present study was analyzed through different subdivisions which are Social, Connectivity, Economic and Political aspects of development. The Social Indicator studies the quality of life through education, availability of facilities in the household etc. Connectivity Information explains the information and connectivity facilities rural areas that of urban area in achieving Sustainable rural development. Economic aspect includes the economic condition of the villages which may include agricultural production, beneficiary of bank facility, sector of economy etc. the final subdivision includes political aspect of development which critically analysis the different government schemes whether the target samples have knowledge about it and whether these schemes work efficiently in their villages.

1. Social Indicators of Development- Social development is all about putting an individual or a group at the centre of the development benefitting people not only poor. It may refer as the social progress which helps in development of an individual and the society. According to Bilance (1997), “Social Development is the promotion of a sustainable society that is worthy of human dignity by empowering marginalized groups, women and men, to undertake their own development, to improve their social and economic position and to acquire their rightful place in society.”

Education is the first indicator for social development from the study in which only 28% from Mahendergarh and 34% from Jhunjhunu from the total sample accepted that their children study in the village vicinity. The reason for such a small percent of sample studying in the village is the better economic conditions of the family, lack of facilities in the government school & on the other hand private school situated in the nearby distance provide better facilities and transport. The second parameter taken for social development is ratio of population migrated for better facilities in which 45% and 55% from Mahendergarh and Jhunjhunu respectively reacts positively saying that they have migrated out for better job and education facility dominating male population.

Another parameter which promotes social development is checking the availability of electricity. In which about 30.5% of total sample states that electricity is available for less than 20 hours in which 28.3 percent from Mahendergarh is maximum samples have been collected from dalanwas and duloth both comprising 40% and from Jhunjhunu Besarda with 80% . In the category of electricity available for more than 20 hour, Jhunjhunu contributes 38.3% while Mahendergarh has negative response. Shyopura contributes maximum sample in the category with 100 percent in which 8.8 % of all samples says electricity comes for more than 20 hour. The difference of the response from the same village can be due to economic condition of the household as some can afford for inverters or generators while others cannot.

LPG connection has been asked from the respondents to check whether they live a healthy life as chulha in the household without any proper ventilation affects the health of women and other family members due to smoke. According to the selected samples maximum percent of sample that is 70.8 percent states that they have both chulha as well as LPG in their household in which Mahendergarh comprise 65 percent while Jhunjhunu comprise 70.8 percent. LPG connection and proper sanitation is a must for the healthy and hygienic condition of a household. Government's effective contribution for constructing toilets in village and a compulsion of defecating in toilets only about 19.2 percent of a total collected sample defecate in public area maximum percent is of Jamalpur district with 60% of total sample as they suffers from water scarcity and the economic condition of majority of families are not good, meanwhile the education level is very low in comparison to other village of Mahendragarh and Jhunjhunu.

The final parameter for social development were analyzed to check whether the population of the village is satisfied from the medical facility of the village. Out of which in Mahendergarh has 55 percent while Jhunjhunu comprise 85 percent responses negatively. Samples collected from kherki, jamalpur, shyopura & dobara states that they did not have medical facility and if they have, then the medical facility provided is not satisfactory as many a times nurse/ attendant of PHC and CHC do not come for daily visit because of which people have to travel nearby city for medical facility.

2. Connectivity Facility - Capacity of connecting people of an area or an individual physically or non-physically through transport and communication. As connectivity has been recognized as a crucial factor in developing an area. The extent of interconnection depends upon the number of connection between nodes which may have a substantial impact on the economy of an area which can be achieved through sustainable development goals. The first and foremost parameter which was scheduled during the field

survey was Road connectivity in which 4 villages had *pucca* and semi *pucca* road each. In *pucca* road Sureti Maveryana, Kherki, Duloth and Besarda were listed while in semi *pucca* road Dalanwas, Jamalpur, Shyopura and Dobra was listed. Another parameter to look forward to be a proper drainage facility in the village in which Sureti Maveryana and Shyopura had closed drainage facilities while Besarda and Jamalpur from Jhunjhunu district did not have drainage facilities other village Duloth, Dalanwas, Kherki and Dobra have an open drainage facility. Internet is another yet important parameter as digital India is one of the missions of present government in which respondents of Mahendragarh district are satisfied with the ability of internet facility while in Jhunjhunu 55 percent responds negatively & most of the accessibility of internet network is used through mobile networks of the sample.

3. Economic and Agricultural Development - Economic development includes the development progress and policies through a nation improves its economic, political and social well-being of its individual. Whereas economic development may be a policy intervening endeavor aiming to improve the economic and social well-being of the individuals. As Amartya Sen points out "economic growth is one aspect of the process of economic development". The development of a country has been associated with contrasting approach but is generally enclose economic growth through higher productivity, political systems that represent accurate possible preferences of its citizens, the extension of rights all social groups and the opportunity to get them and the proper functionality of Institutions and organisations that are able to attend more technically and logistically complex tasks (i.e. raise taxes & deliver public services). Government undertakings are meeting broad economic objectives such as price stability high employment and sustainable growth, these process describe the states Capabilities to manage its economy polity society and public administration.

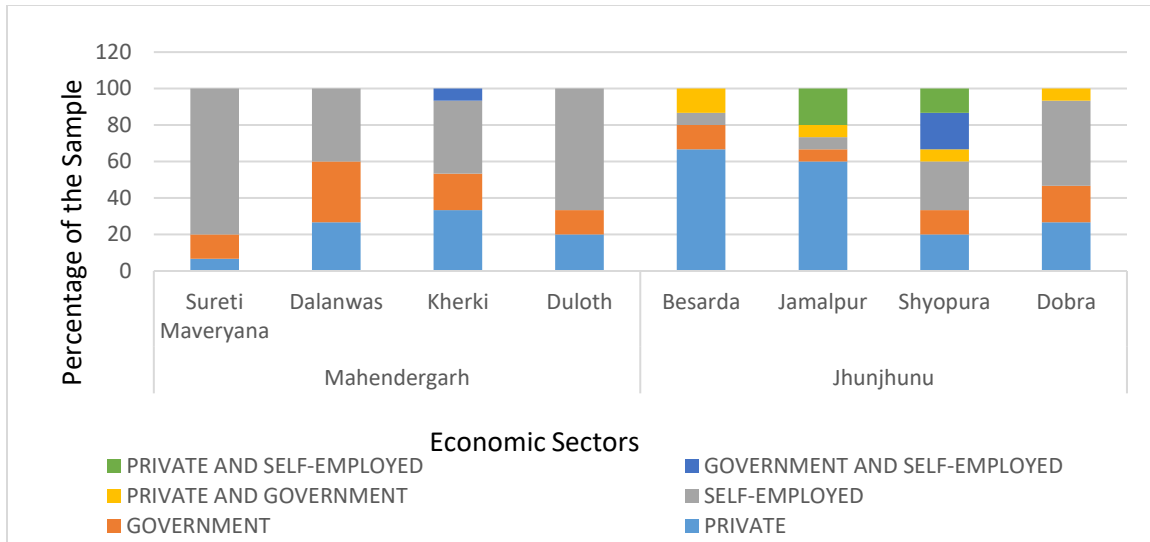


Figure 2 – Economic Sector of the Working Population

Source – Primary Field Survey of district Mahendergarh (HR) and district Jhunjhunu (RAJ.) (2018)

Another parameter for economic development is cultivation of land, breeding of animals and plants to produce food, fibre, medicinal plants and different products to sustain and enhance life is said to be agriculture. There has been invariably a positive relation between agricultural and economic development of society. Enhancing agriculture contributions still encourage the transfer of rural labour, raise the extent of consumption of rural residents and encourage export and increase of farmers' financial conditions. 58.3 percent of the total sample accept that they have agricultural land out of which only 32 samples that is 45.7 percent says that agriculture have a share in the economy of the family while 54.3 percent deny, out of 58.3 percent sample those accepted that are indulge in agricultural activity stated the following reasons such as the area of the land is very less, the production is minimum and is usually utilised in the family and the major reason is irrigation facility. Those who have agricultural and had to face a lot of problems which are discussed as follows:

- Availability of agriculture input the inputs used for agriculture for example seeds, fertilizers etc is not easily available in the vicinity of villages. In which 72.4 percent sample of Mahendergarh an 85.4 percent sample of Jhunjhunu states that they brought their agricultural input from neaby city.

- Use of soil kit - After much initiative taken by the present government in distributing the soil kit to the farmer 92.9 percent of the total households do not use soil kit. Mahendragarh comprising 82.8 percent sample and from Jhunjhunu 100 percent sample have not used soil kit.

- Irrigation - About 48.6 percent of the sample practising agriculture depends on the natural means that is rainfall for irrigation. Therefore the major problems of agriculture in the area are lack of irrigation facilities. 25.1 percent use personal means while 24.3 percent use community means for irrigation. It is the major problem in both the regions as there is no natural source of water in the area and the groundwater is also low. Livestock is also one of the major parameters of economic development in which Mahendergarh accounts 53.3 percent while Jhunjhunu accounts 73.3 percent of samples whose economic condition is dependent upon livestock.

4. Political Development - Concept of political development is getting used far more purposely in nowadays within the expression of development. Lucian W. Pye's study is particularly important, on this concept that he states out the political development is "Adjustment between old patterns of life and new demands." Lerner (1958) describes "political development as one aspect of multi-dimensional social change process". The rural and urban sectors of the economy are interlinked.

Yojana		NRHM	MGNREGA	SABLA YOJANA	ATMA	Soil Health card	NRDWP	PMGSY	DDU-GKY	Ujjawal Yojana	Atal Pension Yojana	Swachh Bharat Mission	DDU-GJY
Sureti Maveryana	1	72.7	75	85.7	0	100	0	71.4	0	55.6	50	36.4	0
	2	9.1	25	0	100	0	100	28.6	100	22.2	40	63.6	100
	3	18.2	0	14.3	0	0	0	0	0	22.2	10	0	0
Dalanwas	1	90.9	50	100	40	0	20	85.7	0	45.5	81.8	64.3	0
	2	9.1	50	0	60	100	80	14.3	0	27.3	9.1	35.7	100
	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.3	9.1	0	0
Kherki	1	100	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	80	90	100	0
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0
	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	100
Duloth	1	100	40	100	0	0	0	71.4	0	80	85.7	71.4	0
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.6	0	20	0	14.3	0
	3	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14.3	14.3	0
Besarda	1	75	57.1	69.2	0	0	0	21.4	0	64.3	85.7	23.1	18.2
	2	16.7	42.9	30.8	100	83.3	100	78.6	100	28.6	14.3	76.9	81.8
	3	8.3	0	0	0	16.7	0	0	0	7.1	0	0	0
Jamalpur	1	88.9	55.6	78.6	0	0	25	100	50	50	57.1	0	50
	2	11.1	22.2	14.3	100	100	75	0	50	50	25.6	100	50
	3	0	22.2	7.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	14.3	0	0
Dobra	1	100	100	100	0	0	75	71.4	0	36.4	92.3	71.4	85.7
	2	0	0	0	0	0	25	28.6	0	36.4	7.7	28.6	14.3
	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.3	0	0	0

1- Work in the area; 2- Do not work in the area and 3- Do not have any idea about its working

Table 2 – Working of Schemes in the Villages

Source – Primary Field Survey of district Mahendergarh (HR) and district Jhunjhunu (RAJ.) (2018)

Government has initiated different schemes to study and enhance the development through these schemes in the villages. In the above table the Shyopura village signifies that they donot have any knowledge of the yojana initiated and discussed in the area. Therefore, they donot have any response regarding the working of these schemes. Other village responses were positive regarding the knowledge of the scheme. When it comes to working it is divided into categories: work in the area; do not work in the area and the final one was they donot have any regarding about the working.

Majority of respondents do not have knowledge about different schemes introduced by the government. There should be proper orientation of these schemes so that the villagers can know about their rights. Many of the schemes are not working in the locality, many a times the leader does not take initiative regarding the social and economic development of the population.

VII. SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the comprehensive analysis of various facets of societal development in the rural areas of Mahendergarh and Jhunjhunu sheds light on the complex dynamics and challenges faced by these regions. Education emerges as a critical factor, with a clear preference for private institutes due to perceived deficiencies in government schools. The safety of girls outside the village is generally endorsed, but issues related to poor transport and connectivity highlight the harsh reality of rural developmental policies. Despite challenges, the majority supports women traveling alone, emphasizing the need for inclusivity in rural development.

Language diversity coexists with a unanimous understanding of the transformative impact of education on society, underscoring the broader importance of education in fostering social, mental,

and economic development. Electricity availability is acknowledged, but concerns about the duration persist, reflecting the need for sustained and reliable power sources. The study reveals a mix of traditional and modern cooking practices, with disparities in sanitation facilities and kitchen amenities across villages.

Connectivity with urban areas poses a significant challenge, particularly in Jhunjhunu, while transport dissatisfaction underscores the importance of infrastructural development. The Digital India initiative has made strides, with a majority enjoying internet facilities, primarily through mobile networks. However, significant disparities exist, with Shyopura highlighting the need for more comprehensive digital infrastructure.

Medical facilities face substantial challenges, with a majority reporting a lack of access. The reliance on fake doctors in the absence of proper medical facilities poses serious health concerns. Despite challenges, the study identifies areas of contentment, such as satisfaction with government hospitals and a preference for private hospitals among respondents.

In summary, these findings underscore the multifaceted nature of societal development in rural areas, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions and holistic strategies to address the diverse challenges faced by the communities in Mahendergarh and Jhunjhunu.

In conclusion, the survey of 120 samples from Mahendergarh and Jhunjhunu paints a comprehensive picture of the agricultural, economic, and occupational landscape in these regions. While 58.3 percent of respondents acknowledge having agricultural land, only 45.7 percent believe it contributes to their family's economy, highlighting a significant discrepancy. Challenges in agriculture, such as limited land area, low production, and inadequate irrigation facilities, affect 78.6 percent of those engaged in farming.

The study underscores the struggles related to agricultural inputs, with 80 percent of households relying on materials from nearby cities, indicating a gap in local availability. Additionally, the low adoption of soil testing kits (7.1 percent usage) reveals a missed opportunity for farmers to enhance productivity. Irrigation remains a major concern, affecting nearly half of the sample, with 48.6 percent

relying on rainfall, showcasing the critical need for improved water management.

Livestock ownership is prevalent (63.3 percent), but its economic contribution varies across categories. Access to banking services is high, with 93.3 percent reporting bank accounts, showcasing financial inclusion in both districts. The occupational diversity, ranging from private and government sector employment to self-employment, highlights the multifaceted nature of livelihoods in these regions.

During financial crises, a significant proportion (39.2 percent) turns to friends and relatives for loans, indicating the importance of social networks in times of need. Interestingly, 25.8 percent opt for bank loans, emphasizing the role of formal financial institutions in addressing financial challenges.

In summary, the findings emphasize the need for targeted interventions in agriculture, including improved access to resources, irrigation facilities, and awareness about modern farming practices. The diversity in occupations and financial strategies highlights the resilience of these communities in navigating economic challenges. The study provides valuable insights for policymakers and organizations aiming to promote sustainable development and address the unique needs of rural communities in Mahendergarh and Jhunjhunu.

Ministry of Rural Development defines Rural Development as it implies both the economic betterment of people as well as greater social transformation. Increased participation of people in the rural development programmes, decentralization of planning, better enforcement of land reforms and greater access to credit are envisaged for providing the rural people for better prospects. Initially main thrust for development was laid on agriculture, industry, communication, education, health, capacity development of rural functionaries, information, education and communication and monitoring and evaluation and other allied sectors. Later on, realizing that accelerated development can be provided only if governmental efforts are adequately improvised by direct and indirect involvement of people at grass root level. The present study explains the need of rural development of border villages of Mahendergarh and Jhunjhunu through different development parameters. In which it can conclude that an effective and more efficient model should be initiated to develop the villages of India. One such example can be taken of

Ralegan siddhi model which was initiated by Anna Hazare which was considered by the World Bank group as “the village of Ralegan Siddhi as a possible to rebuild natural capital in partnership with the local economy, is a model for the rest of the country”. The Gandhi’s perspective of self-sufficient should also be taken as a model in the development of villages as majority of the population of India resides in villages. From the study it can conclude that the basic reason for under development is transport and connectivity facility which was mainly deprived in Jamalpur and Besarda village of Jhunjhunu which becomes a major reason for girls not pursuing for higher studies as they have to travel and there is no proper services in the village and another poor medical facility as nearby towns provide better medical facility which cannot be fulfilled due to poor transport facility. Another major problem is availability of water in the villages due to which samples cannot involve in large land holdings for agriculture. While another major problem is samples did not have proper knowledge about different government schemes initiated by the government of India for the rural development. Sarpanch of the village should provide knowledge of the scheme and its working parameters.

The development of villages should focus on an approach on various attributes that can be selfless leadership of the village leader or Sarpanch, Identification of the serious common problem, democratic decision making process, social reform with strict discipline, cooperative management system, special focus on women, facilitating village organization, funding should be in the hands of village Sarpanch so that proper division of funds on the basis of need and problem can be utilized. There should be inclusion of local people in the developmental activities as they are aware about the problem of the region. There should be a need of making villages smart rather than making cities smarter increasing the problem of social and environmental problems of unemployment; unequal distribution of resources, pollution, urban flooding etc.

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