

RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE TARGETS

Abstract

Progress of any nation depends on the developmental efforts and strategies being followed for the societies residing there. Indian society is divided into rural, urban and tribal structures. India is a web of more than 600,000 villages scattered all over the country and has reported the densest rural population all over the world. Hence development of rural areas is of utmost importance in Indian context with two reasons. Firstly, Majority (72%) of the Indian population resides in rural areas and helps meeting out the food requirements of the growing population. Secondly rural areas are the engines for development as they are the primary producer and produce the raw material for industrial growth and in turn development of the country. Hence India's development lies in the development of villages. However it has been found through different studies that rural India suffers from many issues such as illiteracy, unemployment, poverty, health, crime and violence, lack of new and modifying ways of agriculture, awareness of new technologies to combat hunger and nutritional deficiencies. Looking to this, The United Nations in the Year 2000 has come up with eight Millennium Development Goals focusing on human development- poverty- people and their lives- at the centre of the global development agenda for the new millennium. The Millennium Development Goals come to an end in the year 2015 with goal coverage to a large extent and is superseded with setting up of 17 Sustainable Development Goals to be met out by 2030. Rural Development in the form of encouraging and motivating strategies for the farmers to diversify their agriculture, adoption of Integrated Farming systems and novel farming

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techniques, growing good and healthy food for ensuring nutritional and health security, awareness of government schemes and programmes for availing the overall benefits by majority of the Indian population etc. will itself lead a way ahead for achieving Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

Keywords: Rural Development, Illiteracy, Population

I. INTRODUCTION

Development is a dynamic concept with a multidimensional phenomena referring to change in or a movement from existing situation. Over the years development has emerged with different perspectives with one viewing it as a process of societal change from a rural based to an urban or industrial-based society which brings socio-economic structural societal change. Society whether rural or urban are not static and are transforming with the resultant changes in the way of living, modernization in the customs and traditions, technological intervention for resource management, upgrading of the institutions, etc. The other perspective viewed development as evaluative or indicator led development which focuses on performance assessment through short- to medium-term value judgments assigned towards achievable targets. In 1950-60 development was majorly confined and viewed in quantitative context focusing economic development. However during 1970 it was visualized that the economic growth cannot be sustained due to the depletion of natural resources (arable land, water etc.) at a quite faster rate. Subsequently, it was acknowledged that development is both a quantitative increase in economic production and a qualitative improvement in life conditions without harming the production factors. Generally developmental issues targeted by the nations all over the world are judged by the gravity and severity of the problematic or need based matters being faced by them. Development transforms the traditional social system into a technologically advanced society by introducing novel ideas and thoughts. A developmental effort, focusing on the principle of universality which means not letting anyone behind is the major concern for countries all over the world. Development focuses on building up the people for accelerating the future of any nation as people are the main actors in the human development scale. Human life is a web of several aspects like social, economic, political, religious, familial, educational etc. It initiates with the people's capabilities and move ahead for their enhancement and growth in terms of ensuring quality food, shelter, making available the affordable services to them. Thus it can be rightly said that development focusing economic development is possible only when the various factors like healthy people, better natural resources, good environment etc. are taken into consideration. Hence development can be defined as the process of directing all the efforts towards certain set goals so as to bring purposive change in overall quality of life of people with social justice.

Development is a vision to bring improvement in one's quality of life by formulating the programmes to achieve some set goals described by the national and international agencies. The international agenda on development begin in the second half of the twentieth century with setting up of Millennium Developmental Goals and Sustainable Developmental goals based on the priority issues being faced by the nations all across the globe.

II. RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ITS DIMENSIONS

India is the country which has reported a tremendous increase in population which reached to 1.38 billion during 2022. On the basis of geographical conditions and socio cultural parameters Indian society is divided into rural, urban and tribal structures. India is a web of more than 600,000 villages scattered all over the country and has reported the densest rural population all over the world. About 72.2% of the population lives in villages and the rest 27.8% in towns and urban agglomerations. This figure represents that development of India lies in the development of rural areas and the people residing over there. Rural areas

have access to all the natural resources i.e water, land etc. As per census data records of 2015-16 in India 86.08% are small and marginal farmers, 13.35% are semi medium and medium and only .57 % are categorized as large farmers. Agriculture, with its allied sectors, is the largest source of livelihoods in India. In Rural areas people are engaged in primary sector of production i.e agriculture and can be rightly categorized as the bread producers and feeders of the world's population. India is the largest producer of milk, jute and pulses It is the second-largest producer of rice, wheat, sugarcane, cotton and groundnuts, as well as the second-largest fruit and vegetable producer, accounting for 10.9% and 8.6% of the world's fruit and vegetable production, respectively. This data is painting the picture of India's status in the world due to agricultural contribution. Thus it can be rightly said that India's development lies in the development of villages as they are primary producers for secondary and tertiary sector development of the country.

Despite of rural India's contribution towards economic development many studies have reported that the rural India is suffering from numerous issues which are interdependent on each other. These issues are categorized as:

- 1. People Centered Issues:** It includes people's illiteracy, unemployment, poverty, health, crime and violence. Education and literacy are the vital development indicators and is a sort of ladder for solving all other people centered issues i.e unemployment, poverty, health, crime and violence. Education helps an individual to access opportunities. It is the product as well as a tool for bringing about drastic and positive change in rural society. Education helps people to understand the cause behind the existed problems, exerts their own rights, and are capable of making their own decisions affecting their lives. Educated rural masses are a great human resource for agrarian development as this human resource contributes in all developmental schemes and programmers through participatory rural approach. All efforts in rural development focuses on improving the standard of living of the people by enhancing opportunities within the rural peripheries to get engaged in income generation activities leading to solving the problem of unemployment, migration and poverty.

In rural sector, girls and women generally suffers from the issue of crime and violence in the form of verbal abuse, domestic abuse, physical harassment, sexual harassment etc. Poverty is also one of the major causes of crime and violence existence in rural sector. Education can change the mindset of an individual and results in gender sensitization and changing their attitude which can help to reduce the problems of crime and violence. Education can open up the path of development leading towards income generation and ending poverty. Poor social determinants like poverty, lack of nutritional education, lack of access to safe drinking water, poor sanitation in rural areas are the risk factors behind illness and preventable deaths. Educating rural masses regarding these issues can also results in solving health issues to rural masses to a great extent.

- 2. Agricultural issues:** These issues pertains to urbanization, family social structures, climate change, lack of availability of agricultural inputs, financial issues, inadequate marketing and storage facilities, lack of mechanization, small and fragmented land holdings. Agriculture is the lifeline of rural areas. Drastic changes in the climate over few years occurring as a result of global warming is a major concern for failure of farmers tireless efforts. Untimely rainfall and excess rainfall resulting in floods and drought

affects the crop yield and pushes farmers to leave agriculture as main occupation and thinking of earning money from other sources. This is the main reason of farmers migrating from their native places to cities for earning hard cash.

Another major agricultural issue faced by farmers is financial issue. Now a days farming is becoming a costly affair. Social structures play a major role in this. Earlier in India our family structure is mostly joint type of structure with more than 5 family members. During the peak hours of farming activities whole of the family members actively participate in farming operations. This will reduce the labour cost involved in agriculture. However due to change in family social structures from joint to nuclear the persons for performing farming operations has reduced leading to hiring labour from outside and creating an extra financial burden on the farmers.

Small and fragmented land holdings forces the farmers to stay on an age old practices for performing agricultural operations and minimum use of advanced technology thus making their jobs tedious and labour intensive. Under these circumstances farmers are unable to increase their yields leading to less chances of increasing income. Quality seeds and other inputs are also quite costly which are out of reach of small and marginal farmers. Apart this lack of knowledge regarding availability, procurement and use of quality inputs are a major factor affecting our agricultural sector. Lack of storage facilities is also a major factor behind providing good remuneration to farmers hard turmoil throughout the year. This all thus forces the farmers to rethink to continue agriculture as main occupation and searching the other means of meeting out their day to day living expenses and moving out from rural areas to urban areas where their condition becomes more miserable forcing them to live in a condition where it is not possible to meet out the basic needs for a healthy living .

- 3. Leadership Issues :** People's participation is the base of any nation's development. The guiding factor behind motivating and ensuring their participation is the village level leadership. The three tier structure of Panchayati Raj is the base for planning and execution of various developmental and welfare schemes at ground level. Good leaders at panchayat level acts as a ladder towards making any village a smart village. Leaders with self interest for themselves and to some selected people of the village results in hindering development of people in rural areas. If the leader is selective in his approach towards reaching the benefits of any programme to few people then people's participation in rural programme is defeated leading towards defeated Government efforts. Therefore the responsibility lies in the hands of the people themselves to nominate an active person with no self interest.

Thus for rural development and in turn development of the country the issues such as illiteracy, unemployment, poverty, health, crime and violence, focus on new and modifying ways of agriculture, awareness of new technologies to combat hunger and nutritional deficiencies must be focused. The United Nations in the Year 2000 has come up with eight Millenium Development Goals focusing on human development- poverty- people and their lives- at the centre of the global development agenda for the new millennium. Before Millennium Development Goals United Nations mostly focused on economic transformation and growth. But later on it was realized that any nation's development revolves around the all round development of its human beings Thus

development must focus on the concept of development for the people with the people and by the people. Therefore for quality human resource of any nation it must focus on the goals of poverty, education, health, child mortality, maternal mortality, other diseases, environment and global partnership. The Millennium Development Goals come to an end in the year 2015 with goal coverage to a large extent and is superseded with setting up of Sustainable Development Goals to be met out by 2030

III. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND RURAL INDIA

Sustainable Development Goals also known as Global goals are integrated where actions in one area affects the other area. It works on the agenda of global partnership which is not limited to developing nations but it call for an action by developed nations too. It has been felt that to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 everyone must take responsibility whether it's the states through working at the ground level, institutions and companies, national and international organizations. There are 17 sustainable development goals with 169 targets. In these development goals efforts have been made to cover every aspect of life which includes end of poverty by ways of creating employment opportunities, protecting the earth by wise and efficient use of renewable and non renewable sources of energy and the peoples of the nation enjoy healthy, wealthy and prosperous life. In achieving Sustainable Development Goals rural areas play a vital role which is discussed below.

- 1. Eradication of Poverty:** Poverty is a condition where an individual is not able to afford basic necessities of life like food, shelter and clothing. It may be described as fear for future and living one day at a time. It has different faces like hunger, lack of shelter, poor health, lack of education, social evils etc. It is a complex societal issue affecting every person of the society as it puts pressure and increase the cost of our health system, justice system and other systems. This all have impact on our economy. Looking to this the Sustainable Development Goals focused on poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions targeting the most vulnerable especially the women and supporting the communities by conflict and climate related disasters by increasing basic resources and services.

India is an agrarian country with agriculture being the primary occupation of majority of the Indians. Agriculture constitutes one-fifth of the gross domestic product of Indian economy which indicates that the motivational and informational strategies play a key role in involving rural people in practicing modern ways of agriculture which helps them to generate employment opportunities in their own homes thus help in reducing poverty and consequences related to it. Government has also made strenuous efforts with the projects like Bharat Nirman, MGNREGA, IRDP, Wage Employment Programme, Employment Assurance Scheme (providing employment to rural poor during lean season), etc. to help to reduce rural poverty. This will help in solving the problem of migration of rural people to cities which again puts strain on the economy of the country one by providing better living facilities to overpopulated cities and secondly under population in rural areas where the lands become abandoned and later and sooner they get converted to barren and unfertile lands and it is also difficult to feed our overgrowing population if the farmer leaves agriculture.

- 2. Zero Hunger:** This Sustainable Development Goal focuses on ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture. Our rural areas are the producers and feeders for the growing population of the nation. Focus on these people and encouraging them to get engaged in the farming activities can help meet out the Sustainable goal of zero hunger. Although these rural people are quite skilled in carrying out the age old farming but they are lacking with the new ways and techniques of farming activities and knowledge regarding policies and programmes being initiated by the Government. Hence to meet out the goal of zero hunger there is a dire need for promoting sustainable agriculture, supporting small scale farming, adopting integrated farming system etc. The Government of India has initiated various developmental schemes and programmes for promoting sustainable agriculture like PM-KISAN yojna where the farmers are given the amount of Rs. 6000 in three-4 monthly installments of Rs. 2000. Agriculture depends on nature and drastic variation in the climate results in insecurity feeling among farmers related to farming and sometimes some farmers are forced to either leave farming or commit suicides. Keeping this in view Government in the year 2016 initiated Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna. In the year 2018 Pradhan Mantri Anadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan was also initiated by the Government with the aim of ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce. The collateral loan facility of Kisan credit card has also been extended to the farmers of animal husbandry and fisheries and has increased from 1 lakh to 1.60 lakhs. These all policies of the Government plays a major role to stop migration of people from rural areas to urban areas, continue working in farming sector and thus contribute in feeding the world and themselves
- 3. Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote Well-Being for All at All Ages:** Healthy human resource contributes to economic growth of the nation by getting engaged in productive activities and also by avoiding the undue economic pressure on the health structure of the nation. Health of an individual is associated with the healthy, balanced and nutrient rich diet, income conditions, access to drinking water and sanitation and educational levels. In India malnutrition is prevalent in each age group and each sector which results in increased susceptibility to infections, increased morbidity and mortality which in turns leads to decreased productivity badly affecting the quality of life. It also impairs child's performance in the school. That's why school dropout rate in India is 11 percent as reported by Gouda and Sekher in 2014. This thus again contributes to poverty.

Viewing these problems the Indian government has come up with national nutrition strategy, including the 2019 launch of the multi-ministry flagship initiative called the *Poshan Abhiyaan* nutrition mission, with a goal of making India malnutrition-free. In rural areas people have access to land for growing food including all types of cereal crops, fruit crops and vegetables, have their own livestock for meeting out their food requirement of milk and milk products. The only this is to educate the rural masses regarding how best to meet out their nutritional requirement.

For ensuring social security for Small and Marginal Farmers Indian Government has initiated a scheme named Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojna for the rural poor where a minimum fixed pension of Rs. 3000/-will be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers on attaining the age of 60 years so as to achieve the Sustainable

Development Goal of promotion of well being for all at all ages. This has helped in solving the problem of migration to urban areas and worsening the condition

IV. ENSURING INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFE-LONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Lack of infrastructure, low enrollment rates especially prevalent among girls and people of marginalized communities are the main factors hindering the achievement of this goal. However Indian Government has come up with various initiatives like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan with an aim to increase enrollment, retention, and completion rates, with a focus on disadvantaged and marginalized children. For this an effort has been made to provide free and compulsory education to all children between the age of 6 to 14 years. For improving access to secondary education Government of India has launched Rashtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. For increasing employability emphasis has been put on vocational education through National Skill Development Corporation. Free meals through Mid –Day Meal scheme has also been initiated by the Government with an aim to improve enrollment rate of the children. It has been reported by Egbinola & Amanambu, 2015 that the low quality of sanitation and hygiene provided by schools can negatively influence the learning capacity of children, especially girls. For this reason the government of India improved the quality of school facilities for the sake of adolescent girls' having better educational opportunities and a better school environment in the last few decades. Education plays a vital role in rural development by broadening the mindset of the people, increasing their efficiency of understanding the things in a better way and adoption of whatsoever is beneficial to them. It is viewed as a best way of bringing social change which is a major issue of concern in national development

- 1. Gender Equality with Emphasis on Women Empowerment:** Gender equality is assessed w.r.t the indicators like Sex ratio at birth, Wage gap, (male/ female) Domestic violence, Women in leadership, Ratio of female labour force participation rate and Family planning. Focusing on these indicators India has committed to attain gender equality in all sectors of life both constitutionally and through its policies. For addressing the issue of female foeticide and education of girls government has launched a programme called Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao. For financial security of the girl child government has initiated Sukanya Samridhi Yojna which offers tax benefits and higher rate of returns. For providing support and assistance against domestic violence to women government has come up with One Stop Center scheme. Government has also initiated various Maternity Benefit Programmes for providing financial assistance to pregnant and lactating women. For women in leadership government proposes one third reservation of seats in the Lok Sabha. Under this it is important to create awareness among rural masses about the girl's education and their empowerment as these issues are more prevalent in rural set up and educating rural masses can help achieve this goal to a great extent.
- 2. Clean Water and Sanitation:** Access to clean water and sanitation results in a healthier and more productive human resource. Limited access to safe drinking water and poor sanitation leads to under nutrition and water borne diseases. Most of the child deaths in India occur as a result of poor water, sanitation and hygiene conditions compared to the rest of the world. These put economic pressure on the nation. Rural sector exhibiting agrarian economy largely relies on water. As much as 80 per cent of global cropland is

rainfed, which is only half as productive as irrigated land – and yet 60 per cent of the world's food is produced on rain fed land and its scarcity is adversely affecting the rural economy. Women and girls in rural areas faces special challenges due to lack of proper sanitation facilities including health related hazards emerged due to not using the facilities when required during the night, and physical safety hazards, including sexual violence, to which they are exposed when having to use open sanitation facilities. This all puts an extra pressure on the country to manage these issues which in turn hinders the development of the nation.

- 3. Affordable and Clean Energy:** Remoteness of rural areas making grid connections quite expensive results in rural areas being at a disadvantage in terms of energy. New technology developed for farmers and small entrepreneurs requires energy to operate and thus posing a threat in their business growth and improving their livelihoods. Thus there is a need for installing off grid renewable energies like solar power and wind power as the rural masses have land for its installation. Use of fossil fuels for generating energies will contribute to climate change and environmental degradation and can result of its depletion by 2050. Thus rural areas can contribute significantly in two ways. One by not putting economic pressure for infrastructure development for rural electrification and secondly by lessening down the contribution towards climate change.
- 4. Decent Work and Economic Growth:** World Bank in a study found that impact of poverty reduction growth in manufacturing sector was almost zero, but poverty reducing impact of agriculture growth was quite high. Establishment of Small and Medium enterprises in rural areas can play a vital role in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 8 as rural areas are full of resources (land, labour, raw material , etc.) required for running these enterprises. For achieving the goal of decent work and economic growth focus should be made on the local development strategy. Livelihood business incubators in rural areas should also be promoted. Indian Government has planned various schemes and programmes like Skill India Mission which helps in nurturing skill ecosystem for setting startups, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojna, MUDRA Yojna etc.
- 5. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure:** Infrastructure development including roads, Information and Communication Technology development and important institutions in rural areas play a major role in boosting rural economy. Road development helps and enables distances and creating direct links between companies, areas and distant markets. Rapid development in Information systems facilitates relations with outside. This reduction in space-time, made possible by these technologies, encourages businesses looking for space and a lower rent to locate in rural areas. This will open up the way for rural areas to come up with quality produce, broadening the horizons of agro tourism and accessing new markets and new technologies. This thus helps to boost the economy of the nation through a more diversified way.
- 6. Reduced Inequalities:** Inequalities based on caste, class, gender, ethnicity, religion, age and identity all affect the chances of present and future life. These inequalities especially in rural areas are the root cause behind rural poverty. Poverty is not only a condition of low income but it is multidimensional. Poverty is associated with food insecurity, poor access to productive assets, depleted natural resources, a lack of economic opportunities

and poor working conditions. For reducing rural inequalities and poverty rural development must focus on promoting inclusive agricultural development, ensuring fair distribution and secure access to land and natural resources, focus on improved social protection coverage in rural areas and ending all forms of discrimination.

7. **Sustainable Cities and Communities:** Rapid growth of cities has been observed as a result of migration from rural areas in search of job avenues making the life horrible due to extra pressure imposed on the city resources. Thus it is of utmost importance that economic avenues using natural resources of the village may be generated there itself so that the process of migration may be stopped. This results in controlling overcrowding in the cities and lessens the pressure on meeting the basic necessities of life. It contributes to wards sustainability of cities and communities.
8. **Sustainable Consumption and Production:** For meeting this goal focus should be made on efficient use of resources, following of environmentally sound practices of waste management, adoption of sustainable agricultural practices, consumer education and information etc. Rural areas must emphasize on sustainable food production systems and implementing resilient agricultural practices, integrated water management practices, protecting rural cultural heritage, emphasis on educating rural communities regarding sustainable development and increasing capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities.
9. **Climate Action:** Changing climate due to greenhouse gas effect is a issue of major concern for all countries. Climate change results in losses of hundreds of billions of dollars. It poses great threat to small farmers. Climate change is expected to put an estimated 49 million more people at risk of hunger. Rural people should practice climate smart agriculture with a focus on natural farming practices, cultivation of millets, practicing agro forestry, afforestation and reforestation, rehabilitation of degraded crop and pasture land. Rural people are the custodians of natural resource base and ecosystem. They therefore can play a vital role in mitigating climate change. There are various schemes designed to compensate communities for sustainable management of natural resources and can help implement reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation in developing countries such as Payment for Environmental Services (PES) and Rewards for Environmental Services (RES) .

V. CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES

Seas and oceans are also an important source of livelihood to rural masses. They also influence climate cycles and other global processes to sustain life on the earth. However our seas and oceans are facing degradation due to various practices like overfishing, dumping of waste in the seas, pollution etc. It is evident on the part of people dependent on seas, oceans and marine resources to protect habitat and biodiversity along with having fisheries being a viable income generating source. These people are more skillful, knowledgeable and competent in better management of these resources Voluntary participation of these people results in cutting down the cost of conservation of these resources which helps to a great extent in achieving this goal.

VI. SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS FOR MANAGEMENT OF LIFE ON LAND

Human life depends on earth for their survival and sustenance. Forests and agricultural practices on land helps meeting out basic needs like food, shelter, clothing and a proper atmosphere essentially required for living on the earth. Loss of forests due to deforestation, forest firing etc. results in degradation of land. It also affects climate by contributing towards global warming. This climate change is affecting the agricultural production due to untimely rains and droughts or by influencing the particular environment required for the crop to grow. Hence motivating rural community to adopt a participatory approach towards agro forestry, afforestation etc. can help solving the problem of climate change and meeting out this Sustainable Development Goal

VII. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Development with peace should be emphasized. This is possible with maintaining a proper law order and justice. Strong institutional development can play a major role in achieving this. For the development of rural areas there exists a strong three tier structure of panchayati raj. This system helps in following participatory approach for reaching out the rural masses and educating them , making them skillful and helping them to adopt new technologies so that nation moves forward towards achievement of this goal

VIII. PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

Partnership between government, private and public sector speeds up the development process. . Working together for same goals enhances the power. Partnership results in mobilizing and utilizing the resources in a best way for achieving more. In rural areas Public Private Partnerships contributes to a faster and much more comprehensive development. Public Private Partnerships for agribusiness development; and for improving services for rural smallholders produced interesting results, both in terms of improving market conditions and boosting the livelihoods of the rural poor.

IX. CONCLUSION

The United Nations has set 17 Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by 2030. All the Goals mentioned in it are interrelated to each other and requires efforts of the human resource of the nations for achieving them. India lives in villages and viewing this it is very important that rural development must be kept at centre for achieving Sustainable Development Goals 2030. The nations all over the world depend on the rural sector for meeting out their basic necessities of life. The secondary and tertiary sector growth of the country depends on the rural sector as it is the producer of raw material required for industrialization and boosting the economy of the nation. Rural development directly as well as indirectly contributes in meeting out all the Sustainable Development Goals. It is the only sector responsible for feeding the huge population all over the world and meeting out the goal of zero hunger. Economic returns for agricultural produce results in poverty eradication. Development in rural sectors can help in putting less pressure on the resources of the cities as it helps in controlling migration of rural people to cities. Sensitizing and motivating rural people towards adoption of climate smart agriculture, clean and green energy source can help

control climate change to some extent. Thus overall it can be said that strategies focusing on rural development must be formulated so as to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

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