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21. Nature of rural settlement in Pashchim Champaran district 159
-**Manoj Kumar Paswan**
Research Scholar, Department of Geography, B. N. Mandal University, Madhepura, Bihar, India
-**Dr. Mithilesh Kumar Singh**
Associate Professor, Department of Geography, SNSRKS College, Saharsa, Bihar, India
22. Effects of Institutional Agric Loan, Foreign Aid and Government Expenditure on the Agricultural GDP: An Experience of Nepal 163
-**Arjun Kumar Dahal**
Lecturer (Economics), Mechi Multiple Campus, Jhapa, Nepal
23. Study of stressful behaviour of the people of Bihar during lockdown period: A study of Patna district 180
-**Archana Katiyar**
HOD of Psychology, Magadh Mahila College, Patna University, Patna, Bihar, India
24. Minding the Mental Health during Covid-19 Pandemic 186
-**Dr. Anita Mishra**
Asst. Professor, Santosh College of Teachers Training & Education, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India
25. Rural Development programs in India 196
-**Dr. Mohammad Reyaz**
Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Karim City College, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand, India
26. Retail Industry in India: A study of Organized Retail Industry after Globalization 200
-**Sushma Kumari**
Research Scholar, University Department of Commerce & Business Management, Ranchi University, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India
-**Dr. Neelima Herenz**
Associate Professor, Dept. of Commerce, Ranchi Women's College, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India
27. A Note on Social Resilience Resorted by Raute, Nepal's Last Hunter-Gatherers 206
-**Youba Raj Luintel**
Associate Professor, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal
28. Spatial and temporal analysis of population in Paschim Champaran district 216
-**Manoj Kumar Paswan**
Research Scholar, Department of Geography, B. N. Mandal University, Madhepura, Bihar, India
29. Settlement: Distribution, Density and Growth in Gumla District 221
-**Asha Lakra**
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26

Rural Development programs in India

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Abstract

Since Independence, India has made a considerable progress in various sectors of rural development. It is estimated that around seventy percent of the India population is reside in rural areas. People in rural areas do not have the uniform quality of life as enjoyed by the people living in suburban and urban areas. Hence, Rural Development is concerned with economic growth and social justice, improvement in the living standard of the rural people by providing adequate and quality social services and minimum basic needs, becomes essential. For the purpose of extending the benefits to rural people, many schemes were launched to optimize the standard of living and livelihood of the same. This article is aimed to highlight the important programs and schemes run by government of India for rural development.

Keywords: *sustainable development, wellbeing, suburban.*

Introduction

After independence, for the development of rural society, particularly to develop the socio-economic life of the rural poor, many schemes and programmes were launched from time to time but unfortunately the fruits of these programmes reached to a very low proportion of these people. It was estimated about 70 per cent of rural population was still deprived of the basic necessities of life. For the purpose of extending the benefits to rural people, many schemes were launched to optimize the standard of living and livelihood of the same. This research is aimed to highlight some important schemes programs initiated by government of India for rural development.

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was launched by the Central govt. in March 1976 as a major tool of the govt. to alleviate poverty. Its main goal was to enable selected families of below poverty line in a given time-frame by taking up self-employment in various activities like agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, weaving and handicrafts and services and business activities. The target group consisted of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans having annual

18