

## CHAPTER-35

### RURAL & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

**35.1** India has the largest rural population in the world. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood in rural. Besides manufacturing, construction, trade, hotels and restaurants and transport sector increased in share of employment in the non-farm sector. However, as rural India undergoes transformation with rising incomes and adoption of urban life styles and aspirations, its consumption pattern is also changing.

**35.2** Rural infrastructure has transformed rural livelihoods by improving productivity and living conditions and reducing poverty. While the Government has significantly increased spending on rural infrastructure programmes, a lot remains to be done. Even though village level connectivity has improved, the provision of basic services such as on-premises drinking water sanitation and electricity remains inadequate. India has witnessed in the last few decades is the emergence of large villages and transformation of large villages to small towns. At the same time, people living in these large villages and small towns have become aware of better life and education with exposure to enhanced communications/media and have acquired urban aspirations.

**35.3** The Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development in recognition of the role played by poverty removal, to meet primary needs of rural population such as employment, infrastructural development, social assistance etc. **Schemes for Rural Development:** In the contemporary scenario where our nation is set to emerge as one of the world's most thriving and promising economy, it is imperative that Rural India and Indian woman take the centre stage. Problems like population explosion, abject poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, sanitation & hygiene, gender bias, are well documented hinderances in the growth and development of the country. Some of the important schemes for development of rural sector are:-

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY)/ National Rural Livelihood Mission(NRLM, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Watershed Development Programme and Digital India Land Record Modernization Programme (DILRMP) .

**35.4 Source of Information :** Various components of rural & urban development are dealt by different Departments/ Ministries. consolidated information for most of the schemes relating to rural development is available with **Ministry of Rural Development**, (IWMP – D/o Land Resources & Rest with D/o Rural Development). Information on various programs related to renewable energy is maintained by **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy** whereas information on JNNURM is maintained by **Ministry of Urban Development**. The information on BSUP & IHSDP- Rajiv Awas Yojna is maintained by **Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation**

**Reference :**

1. Annual Report 2015-16 and Web site Ministry of Rural Development.
2. Web site of Ministry of Drinking Water Supply
3. Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation

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