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Assess the problems and constraints in achieving the goal of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

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Abstract

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana was initiated to bring the Member of Parliament of all the political parties under the same umbrella while taking the responsibility of developing physical and institutional infrastructure in villages and turn them into model villages. Under this scheme, each Member of Parliament needed to choose one village each from the constituency that they represent, except their own village or their in laws village and fix parameters and make it a model village by 2016. Thereafter, they took two or three more villages and did the same by the time the next general elections come along in 2019, and thereafter, set themselves ten year long village or rural improvement projects. Villages are being offered smart schools, universal access to basic health facilities and Pucca housing to homeless villagers.

Keywords: Problems, constraints, goal

Introduction

A Gram Panchayat would be the basic unit. It will have a population of 3000-5000 in plain areas and 1000-3000 in hilly, tribal and difficult areas. In districts where this unit size is not available, Gram Panchayats approximating the desirable population size may be chosen. The Member of Parliament would be free to identify a suitable Gram Panchayat for being developed as Adarsh Gram, other than his or her own village or that of his or her spouse. The Member of Parliament will identify one Gram Panchayat to be taken up immediately, and two others to be taken up a little later. Lok Sabha Member of Parliament has to choose a Gram Panchayat from within his or her constituency and Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament a Gram Panchayat from the rural area of a district of his or her choice in the State from which he/she is elected. Nominated Member of Parliament's may choose a Gram Panchayat from the rural area of any district in the country.

Objectives

1. To assess the implementation of programmes in villages adopted by members of parliament under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana during last three years.
2. To study the impact of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana to improve the quality of life of the villagers.

Methodology

Four districts of Faizabad (Ayodhya) Commissioner of Uttar Pradesh were selected for the present investigation. Four adopted villages and their MPs from four districts of Faizabad Commissioner were selected. 50 villagers were selected from each adopted village. Thus, a total sample of 200 villagers was selected for the present study. The important variables examined were socio-economic features which included comparison of respondents in terms of independent variables such as age, caste, education, religion, income, occupation, land holding, family type, size of family etc. and dependent variables such as awareness, participation, adoption, implementation, impact, problems, constraints were also observed. The respondents were interviewed personally with the help of structured interview schedule for obtaining necessary information. The secondary data wherever needed was obtained from the records of block, Gram Panchayat.

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Data collection took about 1 year time i.e. from the month of January 2017 till the end of December 2017. The statistical techniques applied for analyzing the data were percentage, weighted mean, rank and correlation coefficient.

Results

Table 1. Distribution of the Members of Parliament according to their educational qualification

N=4

Sl. No.	Education level	Frequency	Per cent
1.	High School	-	-
2.	Intermediate	-	-
3.	Graduate	-	-
4.	Post graduate	4	100.0
	Total	4	100.0

Most people have a misconception that a Member of Parliament is a person chosen from a village and has very low educational qualification, but it is not so. Education is important for Members of Parliament, because unless an MP will be aware of the rules and regulations of the parliament he will not be able to motivate people through his verbal skills. To become a good orator, it is important to gain knowledge through proper education. Today, the Members of Parliament have to visit different countries and represent India in the meetings of UN for which they need to have good verbal skills and authoritative personality. Mr. Varun Gandhi, Member of Parliament of Sultanpur constituency is one of the highest qualified politicians who acquired his degree from London School of Economics and Political Sciences. Thus, it can be said that education plays a very important role in politics and is an important factor in becoming a good politicians.

Table 2: Distribution of the Members of Parliament according to fulfilling all essential criteria required for making a village an Adarsh Gram

N=4

Sl. No.	Essential criteria	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank
1.	All round infrastructural development	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
2.	Gender equality	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
3.	Women empowerment and dignity	2 (50.0)	2 (50.0)	1.50	II
4.	Social justice	2 (50.0)	2 (50.0)	1.50	II
5.	Cleanliness	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
6.	Community services and toilets	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
7.	Peace	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
8.	Eco-friendly life style	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	IV
9.	Pucca house with proper sanitation facilities	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
10.	Smart school with IT facilities	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	IV
11.	Basic health care facilities	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)	1.25	III
12.	CCTVs in Public areas	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	IV
13.	Piped drinking water and proper electricity	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I

(Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentage of respective value)

Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana is a step towards building an 'Ideal Village' that offers its inhabitants with increased opportunities for holistic growth apart from basic amenities. Inspired by the principles of Mahatma Gandhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana' (SAGY) on 11 October 2014. The objective of the Yojana is simple. Each Member of Parliament (MP) is expected to adopt a village, ensure development of physical and institutional infrastructure in the adopted village and turn them into 'Adarsh' or model villages. The ultimate objective is to develop three Adarsh Grams per MP by March 2019. The Scheme is unique and transformative as it has a holistic approach towards infrastructural development. It envisages

integrated development of the selected village across multiple areas such as agriculture, health, education, sanitation, environment, livelihoods, etc. Far beyond mere infrastructure development, Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana is an ambitious scheme. It aims at instilling certain values, such as people's participation, Antyodaya, gender equality, dignity of women, social justice, spirit of community service, cleanliness, eco-friendliness, maintaining ecological balance, peace and harmony, mutual cooperation, self-reliance, local self-government, transparency and accountability in public life, etc., in the villages and their people so that they get transformed into models for others.

Table 3: Distribution of the Members of Parliament according to the problem faced by them in achieving the goals of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

N = 4

Sl. No.	Problems	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank
1.	Lack of spending capacity of budget	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
2.	Lack of time	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III
3.	Lack of coordination between government administrative officials	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III
4.	Social issues of villagers	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
5.	Non proper work on target time	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III
6.	Excess population growth	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III
7.	Cultural issues	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III
8.	Unemployment	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)	1.75	II
9.	Lack of community participation	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)	1.75	II
10.	Illiteracy	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
11.	Lack of interest among MPs for identifying villages	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III
12.	Lack of self confidence and insecurity	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III
13.	Mobility problem	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	III

(Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentage of respective value)

The Members of Parliament faced problems of coordination among government administrative officials, proper work on target time, population growth, interest among Members of Parliament for identifying villagers, lack of self confidence and insecurity and mobility problem in the study area. In Uttar Pradesh, which has the most number of representatives in Lok Sabha, only 22 of 80 Members of Parliament, all from BJP, adopted a second village. There are several problems faced by the Members of Parliament for poor performance of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana scheme found in the study area. Illiteracy the main problem was keeping the villagers away from development programme. Undue delay between selection of the beneficiaries and distribution of scheme. People were not informed and educated about the development programme at regular intervals. Villagers had visit several times for just submitting the application.

Sometimes corruption was common tendency at every stage in the sanctioning of loan or scheme. Due to lack of information majority of the rural people were unaware of the large subsidies available to them under the specific scheme. Communication gap between those who run the programme and beneficiaries. Lack of proper coordination between the Banks and local officials. And some of the managers of banks were have indifferent attitude towards the subsidy scheme. The Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana has performed poorly in achieving the desired results. It may be stressed here, that Government does not have any specific monitoring cell to check the proper functioning of this development programme. Another major problem noted here on the basis of field survey are indifferent attitude of banks, lack of infrastructure, illiteracy, lack of confidence etc. Therefore, the Government should take suitable action to avoid the above said problems.

Table 4: Distribution of the Members of Parliament according to the constraints faced by them in achieving the goals of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

Sl. No.	Constraints	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank
1.	Government issues and clashes	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
2.	Nexus between politicians – beaurocrats, contractors etc.	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)	1.25	IV
3.	Lack of political will in village adoption	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	V
4.	Lack of knowledge and awareness	4 (100.0)	-	2.00	I
5.	Lack of family support	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	V
6.	Lack of proper advice and guidance	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	V
7.	Lack of expertise and decision making	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	V
8.	Lack of skilled people	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)	1.75	II
9.	Little enthusiasm	-	4 (100.0)	1.00	V
10.	Orthodox thinking of rural people	2 (50.0)	2 (50.0)	1.50	III

(Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentage of respective value)

The Members of Parliament in the study area faced constraints like lack of political will in village adoption, lack of family support, lack of proper advice and guidance, lack of expertise and decision making and little enthusiasm in the study area. There are several constraints faced by the Members of Parliament that are responsible for the poor performance of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana scheme found in the study area.

There was lack of knowledge and awareness to identify which developmental activity suits them and could be pursued with greater interest among the beneficiaries. Due to lack of skilled labour majority of the rural people did not take an interest to start innovative production in the rural area by the use of modern equipments. Due to nuclear family at village level and diversification of family workers, sufficient family workers were not available as our requirements. So majority of the rural people were not interested to start the self employment programme. There was nexus between politicians, beaurocrats and contractors. Orthodox thinking of the villagers was the main hindrance occurred in achieving the goal of an 'Adarsh village'.

Conclusion

The Members of Parliament in the study area faced constraints like lack of political will in village adoption, lack of family support, lack of proper advice and guidance, lack of expertise and decision making and little enthusiasm in the study area. There are several constraints faced by the Members of Parliament that are responsible for the poor performance of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana scheme found in the study area.

Recommendations

1. Gram Sabha meetings should focus and draw the

attention of the villagers to the problems in planning and implementing the programme of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana.

2. M.P. should set up committees in association with youth, clubs and societies who arrange street plays, stage dramas to create awareness and understanding for the development of village.
3. M.P. should arrange guest lectures, door to door campaigns to explain the benefits of small families.
4. Timely and properly evaluation and monitoring should be carried out at all level for effective implementation of the programme.

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