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Chapter - I

Chapter – I

INTRODUCTION, DATABASE AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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CHAPTER → I

INTRODUCTION, DATABASE AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1.1 Introduction

We are in the era of sustainable development and not economic development. The concept of economic development is a narrower concept, which misses environmental and social aspects of development. More importantly, it excludes environmental consequences of development. Now a days, environment has become lifeblood of all living things in general and human beings in particular. The survival of all the living things, coupled with human beings is determined by the state of environment along with the allocation and proper utilisation of environmental resources. Hence, it is sustainable development than the economic development, is necessary to be materialized. It is a fact that sustainable development is a new concept of development, which has not been attempted to achieve in the country like India. India is one of the economically fastest growing economies in the world with domination of rural areas and agriculture as a means of livelihood. Therefore, the development of the rural India can only enable overall development of the Indian economy. Village is a grassroot level unit of rural economy in country like India. Hence, development of village facilitates development of the rural economy, and thereby the economy of the India as a whole. Of course, that development should be sustainable development and not the economic development. This demands to study

sustainable development of village as a representative of rural economy and Indian economy as well. It is against this overall backdrop, the present research study attempts to analyse sustainable development of village Kowad in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra state during the latest period from 2005-06 to 2011-12.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

The present research study is an attempt to study sustainable development of Kowad village in Kolhapur district. The study endeavours to examine the efforts made by the Kowad village to materialize sustainable development along with its nature and scope. Kowad is a village in Chandgad tehsil of Kolhapur district on the border of Maharashtra and Karnataka, with social, economic, political, educational and cultural significance.

Sustainable development requires to achieve economic, social and environmental development coupled with institutional considerations. It is observed that Kowad village has not much attempted to achieve its sustainable development. Total population of Kowad was 3607 in 2011-12, consisting of 1766 females and 1841 males. The total number of families below the poverty line was 78 comprising of 39 open, 26 SC and 13 ST. It has water supply prominently supplied by the wells. Per capita water supplied is only 55 litres per day. Only TCL is used for the purification of the water. The total number of toilets is 760. There are only 40 dustbins in the village. The use of non-traditional energy is meagre. There are only 84 gohar gas plants. This reveals a mixed picture of attempts to achieve sustainable development of the Kowad village.

In this backdrop, the present research study intends to examine the nature and state of sustainable development of Kowad village in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The major objectives of the present research study are as follows :

1. To study the concept of sustainable development;
2. To examine nature and extent of sustainable development of Kowad village;
3. To identify problems in achieving sustainable development of Kowad;
4. To suggest measures on solving problems relating to sustainable development of Kowad;
5. To reveals major conclusions relating to sustainable development and give suggestions to speed up the same.

1.4 Hypothesis of the Study

The hypothesis of the present research study is as follows :

“Kowad village has failed in achieving its sustainable development.”

1.5 Research Methodology

The present research study is based on the secondary data. It covers the latest period from 2005-06 to 2011-12. The secondary data is collected from the annual budgets, administrative reports and official records of Kowad village in Kolhapur district. Both the collected data is

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classified and tabulated in the light of objectives and hypothesis of the study. The tabulated data is processed by employing important quantitative tools such as compound growth rate, ratio analysis. The graphical presentation of some important variables and trends is also given.

The present study makes use of indicators of sustainable village development given by the government of Maharashtra. They are tree plantation and preservation (50%), sanitation (60%), tax recovery (60%), ban on use of plastic carry bags, participation in Sant Gadagebaba Sanitation Scheme, participation in Yashwant Panchayat Raj Scheme, use of non-traditional energy (50%), solid waste management (100%) and recycling (50%), waste water management (50%) etc.

1.6 Chapter Scheme

The chapter scheme of the present research study is as follows :

- Chapter – I : Introduction, Database and Research, Methodology
- Chapter – II : Review of Research Literature
- Chapter – III : A Profile of Kowad Village in Kolhapur District
- Chapter – IV : Sustainable Development of Kowad : An Analysis
- Chapter – V : Conclusions and Suggestions

1.7 Importance of the Study

The significance of the present research study is as follows :

1. The present study enables us to understand the concept of sustainable development.

2. The study is useful in knowing the profile of Kowad village.
3. This study presents the scenario of the sustainable development of the Kowad village.
4. The suggestions of the present study are useful in achieving sustainable development of Kowad and other villages also.
5. The study is useful in formulating sustainable development policy by the government especially for rural areas.

1.8 Limitations of the Study

The noteworthy limitations of the present research study are as follows :

1. The present research study is associated with only one village i. e. Kowad.
2. The study covers the period from 2005-06 to 2011-12 to analyse the sustainable development of Kowad.