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## Self Employment : A Tool of Economic Development



## Self Employment

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## Self-Employment Generation in Rural Economy

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### Abstract

Poverty and unemployment are the two sides of the same coin. When we solve one problem in the society, the second will be taken care along with it. In the present scenario, poverty and unemployment are the still most severe problems faced by the Indian economy. Special income generation and socioeconomic development programmes were introduced among selected target groups in the rural sector for small farmers, landless agricultural labourers and for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes. This new strategy was adopted because, after the critical review of the earlier plans and their achievements, it was found that the benefits of economic growth had failed to percolate to the lower income groups and weaker sections of the society. The majority of the rural poor own very little or no land at all. They are not educated and have no skills, so they cannot find employment. To generate skills among rural youths so as to provide self-employment and wage employment to them, the government implemented a special scheme called 'Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM)'. This programme was very much helpful to the untrained rural youth to take up self-employment. Thus, in this paper, it is felt necessary to evaluate the performance of the programme at the micro level.

**Keywords:** Poverty, Self-employment, Skill, TRYSEM.

### Introduction

'Poverty and unemployment are two sides of the same coin when we are going to solve one problem in the society, second will be taken care with that. The poverty and unemployment at present scenario are most severe problems of Indian economy'(Government of India, 1973). Rural unemployment has been more severe than urban unemployment in India. To solve the problem of rural unemployment, wage employment programmes were stressed in a labour surplus economy like India. After independence, India started the experiment of mixed economy and introduced economic planning for the rapid economic development of the country.

Special income generation and socio-economic development programmes were introduced among selected target groups in the rural sector for small farmers, landless agricultural labourers and for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes. This new strategy was adopted because, after the critical review of the earlier plans and their achievements, it was found that the benefits of economic growth had failed to percolate to the lower income groups and weaker sections of the society. During the last 20-year period, more than 25 specific rural development schemes have been implemented with the aim of alleviation of poverty in the rural sector. India has a long history of government programmes for poverty alleviation. They include national rural employment programmes like Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and target group-specific programmes like the integrated rural development programme (IRDPA)/ Small Farmers Development Agencies (SFDA), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM), etc. A government spending on special area programmes and food subsidy in real terms encourages both self-employment and wage-paid

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