

IMPACT OF IDEAL VILLAGE SCHEME ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN MARATHAWADA: A CASE STUDY OF KINGAON VILLAGE

Mr. Shashikant Prabhakar Shejul*

Research Student
Department of Economics,
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathawada
University, Chh. Sambhajinagar

Dr. S. T. Sangle**

Former Professor and Research Guide,
Department of Economics
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada
University, Chh.Sambhajinagar-431004.

Abstract

Rural development is important in India due to the huge rural population and the dependence on agriculture. Currently, many problems facing rural India have been tackled. A holistic development scheme was introduced in 1992 to replicate the well-known village Ralegan Siddhi model. This study examines the impact of this scheme on the development of the backwards Marathawda study of the Kingaon village. The study used primary and secondary data from the village of Kingaon. We will begin by introducing the ideal village scheme and background of the Kingaon village. The impact of the Ideal Village Scheme is notable in the Village. Before, the village faced water scarcity. After the watershed development work under the Adarshgason Yojana, this problem was resolved, and important changes occurred in the village. The village has increased milk production, changed cropping patterns and increased infrastructure development. Therefore, socio-economic changes occurred in this village, making it an ideal village in Maratahwada.

Key Words:

Ideal Village Scheme, Kingaon Village, Watershed Development, Seven Principle.

Introduction:

Rural development is an integral part of the overall development of a nation. India is a country of villages, and its economy is predominantly rural.¹ This is evident in the fact that in the 2011 census, 68.8 per cent of the population lived in its 6.44 lakh villages, and about 72 per cent of the workforce worked in agriculture and allied activities in the rural

area.² Therefore, the progress of India depends upon the development of its villages. Mahatma Gandhi's strategy of rural reconstruction was based on village Swaraj and the Swadeshi movement. The basic principles of village swaraj outlined by Gandhiji are trusteeship, swadeshi, full employment, bread labour, self-sufficiency, decentralization, equality, etc. Thus, the idea of the ideal village of the Gandhian dream was comprehensive, encompassing the economic, social, political, and educational dimensions. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, had written long back on 29th August 1936 in Harijan that "I have believed India is to be found not in its few cities but in its 7 lacks villages."³ I would say that if the village perishes, India will perish, too. Let will be no more India".⁴ Mahatma Gandhiji focuses on the village progress due to India's development depends on the development of the rural area.

The Government of Maharashtra is engaged in bringing about rapid and sustainable development and socio-economic transformation in rural areas. It has an integrated perspective towards improving the quality of life of rural poor and ensuring equality and effective participation of people. So, the government introduced many schemes and programmes to develop rural society. Unfortunately, the fruits of these programs have reached a very low proportion of people.⁵ Following the footsteps of Ralegansiddhi, in 1993-1995, Hivare Bazar demonstrated an innovative model of successful and effective implementation of Government Schemes. Adarshgaon Hivare Bazar is the result of blessings, motivation, vision, community

planning, consistent efforts, responsibility sharing, belief in the leadership, support by the community, convergence of schemes, transparency in the functioning, periodic and timely evaluation, people's participation, guidance and support of various change agents at all levels.⁶ The process is not yet complete. As Ideal has to strive to achieve greater heights again, Hiware Bazar is using all its potential, such as Punsari Village in Gujrat and Gangadevipalli in Telangana State.⁷ We always develop our potential and strive hard to be a model.

The government of Maharashtra was kind enough to support extending this experiment to other water-scarcity villages in Maharashtra. Now, we are implementing this idea and the experience through the Ideal Village Scheme in other villages of Maharashtra State.

Since 1992, based on the concept of "Village Development through people's participation and Government's participation in Village Programmes", the implementation of Adarshgaon Yojna (Ideal Village Scheme) has been ongoing in the State. During 1992-1995, this scheme was implemented as a district-level scheme. However, since 1996, the scheme has been implemented as a state scheme.⁸

Objectives of the Research Study:

1. To know about the 'Ideal Village Scheme'.
2. To assess the socio-economic Impact of the 'Ideal Villages Scheme' on Rural Development in Marathwada

Hypothesis:

Ideal village scheme helps the socio-economic condition of the rural people.

Research Methodology:

The study used qualitative and quantitative research methods, recording the subjects' subjective experiences using primary and secondary data. Primary data sources for the study have selected samples from Kingaon village in Chh. Sambhajinagar District in Marathawada. The observation method has been used to record the physical changes that are taking place in the infrastructure and other institutions in the selected villages, as well as a case study of the after- and before-changes in the village. Secondary data has been collected

from the various official records of Gram Panchayats and selected non-government organizations. Official records have been used by the Adarsh Gaon State, District and village-level Committees.

Review of Literature:

Below, various reviews are taken related to the impact of the ideal village scheme on village development.

1. Shivpure Narhari (2014) observed that impact of peoples participation in Wawa village he had found Wawa is small village in Chh.Sambhajinagar District transfer from drought village to progressive village. All people's participation in watershed development through voluntary labour. Therefore, impact of watershed increases water level, changing cropping pattern, increase income of the villagers.⁸
2. Phand Sanjay (2005) has studied the impact of the 'Ideal village scheme' on the village of Hiware Bazar in the Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra. This village was awarded 'Ideal Village' status in 1998. The researcher used a 'before-after' research design. Hiware Bazar accepted the principle of 'Ideal Village Scheme' i.e. Tree Plantation the single largest factor in the transformation of 'Hiware Bazar' has been the reassertion of the democratic responsive governance principle at the village level.⁹
3. Kailas Bavale (2002), in their article "The study of fundamental principles of sustainable development: a case study of Hiware Bazar, with special reference to fundamental principles, i.e. voluntary giving and participatory democracy", inspired by motivating leadership and active participation of the people, resulted in creating sustainable wealth for the village—effective & integrated utilization of Governmental developmental schemes, projects and programmes.

The above review is taken from various village case studies, such as Hiware Bazar and Wawa. These villages developed through the ideal village scheme, but the present study is different from the above studies. Present studies show the relation between the Ideal

Village Scheme and rural development in Marathawada.

Ideal Village Scheme:

Ideal Village Scheme was launched in 1992 on the Golden Jubilee Year of the August Revolution Day. Mahatma Gandhij’s dreamt Ideal village comes true with the inspirational guidance of honourable Balasaheb Bharade, Mohan Dharia, Tukaramdada Geetacharya, and Prof. Arun Nikam. Bapusaheb Deshpande, a freedom fighter and some social workers like Anna Hajare were also present. This scheme is based on the concept of “Village Development through People’s Participation and Government’s Participation in Village Programmes” The implementation of Adarshgaon Yojna (Ideal Village Scheme) is ongoing in the State. During 1992-1995, this scheme was implemented as a district-level scheme. However, since 1996, the scheme has been implemented as a state scheme. The Adarsh Gao Yojana is an innovative scheme for transforming rural areas into self-dependent and self-sufficient areas.¹⁰ Under the Ideal Village Scheme, not only do many villages have very satisfactory work, but there are developments in other sectors, viz. watershed and agricultural sector, and significant progress in the socio-economic development. Interested villages must observe the 7 Principles of social discipline (Saptasutri). They are... Family Planning, Ban on Alcohol, Ban on Tree Cutting, Ban on Free Grazing, Voluntary Donation of Labour, Ban on Open Defecation, Ban on Borewell for Farming. All the departments involved in rural development through the ideal village scheme.

Kingaon Village:

Kingaon village is 32 km from Chh.Sambhajinagar city. Kingaon village is included in the drought-prone area, and the average rainfall is 663.60 mm. The total geographical area of the village is 1050.93

Expenditure on the Watershed Work under the Ideal Village Scheme:

Table 1.1: Expenditure on the watershed work under the Ideal Village Scheme:

Water Conservation work	Expenditure	Expected Quantified Benefit
Deep CCT	938603	1407905
Compartmental Bunding	1935647	2903470

hectares, and the population is 3259. The village has a legacy of freedom fighters, and many freedom fighters participated. People of all castes and religions in the village act in harmony, which is why the Gram Panchayat election in the village is uncontested. Agriculture is the main occupation of most of the people in the village. There are mountains on all three sides of the village, and the village’s geographical location is suitable for developing the watershed area. Due to the insufficient and irregular rainfall in the area, water shortages occur for 2 to 3 months in the summer. Due to the tireless efforts of villagers and Shanti Pratisthan Kingaon, the village has participated in the Adarsh Village Scheme.

After Adrashgaon Yojana, the village changed dramatically. The first reason was the effect of the watershed development work on water availability in the village. Second reason is various non-core (infrastructure development) work in the village, and the village adopted seven principles (Saptasutri) such as Family Planning, Ban on Alcohol, Ban on Tree Cutting, Ban on Free Grazing, Voluntary Donation of Labour, Ban on Open Defecation, Ban on Borewell for Farming. All the departments involved in rural development through the ideal village scheme.

Mr Poptrao Pawar Saheb visited the village in July 2012 and took Gram Sabha to inspect the included village in the Adarshgaon Scheme. Earlier, under the guidance of Dr Avinash Pol Saheb, Satara, two cement structures were constructed in the village based on people’s participation. In 2011, all the village villagers came together to implement the Adarshgaon Yojana. According to respondents, Kingaon was selected on 16th August 2012 for this scheme, and Shanti Pratisthan Village NGO was chosen for the programme’s implementation.

Loose boulder, No	105000	157500
Earthen structure, No	45000	67500
GabiyaniBandhara	90000	135000
Cement Nalla Bunds	3500000	5250000
Total	6614250	9921375
benefit-expenditure ratio		1.50

Source: Data received from Gram Panchayat Kingaon,

The table above shows the total expenditure for water conservation under the Ideal Village Scheme. The various benefits of the farmers due to water conservation work calculate an expected quantified benefit.

As mentioned above, Rs. 66,14,250 has been received from the district level for various watershed development works under the core area and Rs. 6614250 has been spent on various works.

Due to water conservation works in the core area, 170.60 TMC of water was intercepted, up from 50 TMC earlier. This allowed about 275 hectares of land in the village to be irrigated, increasing the villagers' income. Therefore, here, the benefit-expenditure ratio is calculated as 1.50. The project is highly profitable if the benefit-expenditure ratio is greater than 1. Therefore, this shows that the expenditure on water conservation work is highly beneficial. This is the core area of the development under the Ideal Village Scheme.

The above-mentioned development works in the core areas have been completed with quality. The water conservation work in Shivara has given farmers an unprecedented experience and has definitely helped in increasing their income.

Non-core area—In the non-core area, useful works such as a shopping complex, mangal kharaiya and a closed sewer scheme have been undertaken. The works done in the non-core areas of the village have contributed a lot to maintaining cleanliness in the village due to the closed sewage have also helped in eradicating

epidemic diseases. Due to the shopping complex, 10 small businessmen in the village have been able to start their business as space has been made available. Due to the Mangal karyalay, an office is provided for the marriage of girls in the village at a very modest rate of Rs. 5000/-. Due to this, it has helped in saving a lot of money on the wedding expenses of the bride's father in the village.

Impact of the Ideal Village Scheme on Kingaon Village Development:

Kingaon village's droughts that occurred in 2003-04, 2007-08, and 2008-09 made people realize the importance of water. Not only during the drought, but Kingaon must supply water by tanker for two to three months every summer. This drought regularly haunts the villagers, and to find a way out of this, the villagers have started coming together for village development work. Kingaon Development started building the temple. The construction of the Maruti temple was completed based on the participation of the villagers. The village's primary business is agriculture and dairy; all the families do agriculture-related business due to water availability, which is necessary for the increased socio-economic conditions. The table below shows the ideal village scheme's impact on Kingaon Village's development. The table shows that the water level increased by 5 meters due to the development of watersheds under the Ideal Village Scheme. Now, the village is self-sufficient, and the water availability of the drinking water is pure and adequate.

Table 1.2: Impact of The Ideal Village Scheme on the Kingaon Village Development.

Items	Measure No./Ha./Meter	Marathawada (Kingaon)		
		Before (AGY)	After (AGY)	Change (%)
Water level status (Average)	Meter	20	15	5 Meter
Purity of drinking water	Situation	Good	Pure	Pure

Availability of drinking water	Form	Scarcity in Summer	Available around the Year	Available around the Year
Increase in irrigation facilities	Ha.	10	20.30	103.00
Mono-cropping system	Ha.	621	621	0.00
Double cropping system	Ha.	385.40	385.40	0.00
Multi-cropping system	Ha.	23.30	37.48	60.86%
Increase in pasture area	Ha.	100.86	142.52	41.30%
Increase in fruit production area	Ha.	7.80	36.84	372.31%
Increase in milk production	Litre	1965	4180	112.72%
Number of self-help groups	Number	12	28	133.33%
Migration	Number	418	220	-47.37%
Number of school children	Number	777	855	10.4%
Establishment of apex organizations of self-help groups/FPO	Number	0	2	
Toilets	Number	289	595	105.88

Source: Village Survey (Village NGO)

The area of Kingawan is in the mountains and valleys. Due to the regular rainfall in the past and the availability of water for agriculture, the farmers of Kingaon used to grow maize and cotton in large quantities due to the soil village being of the dryland type. However, the after-change occurred through the watershed development under the Ideal Village Scheme. Table 1 shows the change in agriculture; currently, there is an increase in irrigation facilities from 10 Ha before to 20.3 Ha of the agriculture is irrigated. In the Kharif season, crops such as bajra, maize, and ginger are grown, while in the Rabi season, jowar, wheat, maize, and green gram are grown. However, a notable change was made in the multi-cropping system. Multi cropping has changed 61% from 23.3 Ha. to 37.48 Ha. Increase fruit area from 7.8 Ha to 36.84 Ha. Farmers are growing sugarcane and water lemons, and vegetables in the annual crops have increased.

Due to the grazing ban, pasture land increased from 100.86 Ha to 142.52 Ha. That increased milk production by 112.72% from 1965 Litres before the ideal village scheme to 4180 litres after.

The number of self-help groups has increased from 12 to 18, and one village-level federation of the self-help group and farmer-producer company has been established in the village to increase agro-based processing. There are four

Anganwadis in the village, and three Anganwadis are ISO. Rating is qualified.

The most notable impact is our migration from urban areas, with 47.37% of people returning to the village from nearby cities like Chh.Sambhajinagar.

This village focuses on education to increase school infrastructure and increase school children from 777 students in the 1st to 10th school after changing to 855, which is a 10 % increase.

Due to Ideal Village, many changes occurred in the village, including increased tree plantation and good roads internal to and from the village to connect to Chh.Sambhajinagar.

According to the 2011 census, the village's total population is 3205, and the number of families is 595. A total of 289 families have toilet facilities in the village, and after the change, 595 have toilets. Six families do not have toilet facilities in the current situation. The village has closed sewerage, and approximately 1200 m of sewage has been managed through sewers. Publicity is done through Kalapathak, Kirtan, Gram Sabha, etc., programs for toilet construction.

Important work in the Kingaon Village:

Due to the water conservation works carried out from top to bottom, the groundwater level has increased significantly. Deep, continuous trenches have been constructed on the slopes of

the hills under the Adarshgaon Scheme. Excellent work has been done in constructing the lattice structure, Campartment Barding, Gabiean Bandhara Cement Nala Band, Stone structure, and Earthen Structure created through the Adarshgaon scheme, which has resulted in the cessation of soil erosion and the drainage of water that soil and water conservation. Rainwater Harvesting—Rainwater from the roofs of the school and government buildings in the village is used for water conservation.

The Adarshgaon scheme has closed the sewage in the villages. Instead of the previous drain, sewage is discharged outside the village through the closed sewer. This scheme has reduced previous epidemics and the expenses incurred by the villagers for illness.

To create awareness, notice boards are posted in visible areas of the village, and Solar lights are placed throughout the village.

Irrigation facilities:

Due to low rainfall, rivers do not have constant water, so wells are the main means of providing water to crops. To some extent, this includes borewells. Due to the construction work carried out in the villages under the Adarsh Gaon Yojana, water from the dam drained into the fields, increasing the groundwater level significantly and benefiting the farmers.

1. Wells – The number of wells in the village is 229.
2. Borewells – The number of borewells in the village is 45.
3. Farm ponds – The number of farm ponds in the village is 12
4. Streams – There are 3
5. Dams – The number of small and large dams in the village outskirts is 84.
6. Lakes – The number of seepage lakes in the village is 2.
7. Rivers – 3 rivers flow through the village outskirts.

The situation of the Seven Principles (Suptsutri):

Grazing ban: Free grazing of animals is prohibited in the village. Two shepherds live in the village. Promote and give subsidies for this family's closed goat farming project. Axe ban (Kurhadbandi): An axe ban is observed in the

village. Trees are not cut down from the roots in the village area, and the branches obtained by cutting down trees are used for firewood. Vasectomy (Nasbandi): There are 556 families in the village, with a population of 3257. Out of them, 1679 are males, and 1578 are females. Female members of the family undergo sterilization after the desired offspring. There is not enough awareness about male vasectomy. Intoxication ban: There is no liquor shop in the village. The proportion of liquor consumption is low. The proportion of smoking is mainly seen among the female class. Lotabandi (Nirmal Gram): Kingaon village is in the middle of the mountains. Sewage is currently managed through septic tanks and public sewerage schemes. A sewerage scheme is in operation for public sewage management. 99% of the households have toilets for personal hygiene. Borewell ban: The village has 45 borewells for agriculture and drinking water. The number of fuel wells (borewells) is negligible compared to the number of wells. All the villagers intend to keep the number of borewells low. Voluntary Labour (Shramdaan): For two days in a month, all the villagers come together to do public works through Shramdaan. This includes cleaning public places, road repair and sanitation, and water and soil conservation.

Honours and Awards –

1. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Social Unity Award 2012-13.
2. Award for fulfilling the criteria for the first year of the Environmentally Balanced Village Plan 2010-11.
3. District-level third place award under Sant Gadge Baba Gram Swachhta Abhiyan 2012.
4. Sant Gadge Baba Gram Swachhta Abhiyan First Prize at Taluka Level.

Conclusion:

The ideal village scheme was implemented in Kingaon in 2012 with the participation of the villagers. Village Non-government Organization Santi Pratisthan plays a major role in the development of Kingaon Village. This village has a total geographical area of 1050 Ha. It is located in the scarcity-prone area of Fulambri Block of Chh.Sambhajanagar

District. It was selected in Ideal Village Scheme in 2012. Villagers built a large community hall by contributing a large amount of funds themselves. Again, with the development of the watershed by deep CCTs and compartment bunding works, the increase in water level has helped them to increase crop production and productivity in the village. Positive changes in sanitation, family planning, Voluntary work, increased green cover, increased milk production, etc., will be made through the impact of the seven principles of Suptsutri. Education and health will also improve by developing various infrastructure in the village. This scheme has a positive impact on the overall development of the village. Therefore, including the drought-prone Marathawada villages will help overcome the rural problems.

Reference:

- ✚ Singh Katar. (2009). Rural Development Principle, Policies and Management, Sage Publication House, New Delhi
- ✚ <https://censusindia.gov.in/census.website/data/census-tables>
- ✚ Joshi, D. (2002). Gandhiji on VILLAGES. Ahamadabad: Gandhiji on VILLAGES Selected and Compiled with an

Introduction by MANI BHAVAN GANDHI SANGRAHALAYA MUMBAI Published with the financial assistance received from the Department of Culture, Government of India. www.mkgandhi.org. <https://www.gandhiashramsevagram.org/on-economy/index.php>

- ✚ Vasant Desai (2009), "Rural development in India (Past, present and future) A Challenge in the Crisis", Himalaya Publishing House, Mumbai.
- ✚ Verma S.B. (2006), "Rural development reform", Deep & Deep Publication, New Delhi.
- ✚ Phand Shahaji and Arya V.P.S. (2007), "Adarsh gaon yojana: a way towards Gandhi's dream village," Journal of Rural Development, vol. 26 No. (2) PP207-225
- ✚ Shivpure Narhari (2014), "Lokasahbhagatun Wawa Gaon Jhale Jalsamrdh" Published in Jalsanvad Mashik.
- ✚ Phand Shahaji and Arya V.P.S. (2007), "Adarsh gaon yojana: a way towards Gandhi's dream village," Journal of Rural Development, vol. 26 No. (2) PP207-225
- ✚ Bavale Kailas (2012), "Study of fundamental principles of sustainable development: a case study of Hiware Bazar", Published in 2nd International Conference on Management in Malaysia.