

**RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS 2013 – 14**  
**VILLAGE ADOPTION STUDIES**  
**KUDI GRAM PANCHAYAT, KORAPUT DISTRICT, ODISHA STATE**

**Dr. Y. Bhaskar Rao**  
**Associate Professor**

**1. INTRODUCTION :**

Recent trends the NIRD has initiated a big study known as Village Adoption Research Study. The study has been started with positive attitude and it provides various learning points and skills including knowing crucial facts what happening in Indian villages. The main idea is behind the village adoption study to identify crucial problems facing by the villagers. This study will help the researcher could find vase and means if the researcher go on visiting particular village time to time finding negatives and positives and it can be documented. After the National Flagship Programmes, Centrally Sponsored Schemes from the Government of India and even the state governments also having their own development schemes and welfare oriented schemes is meant for upliftment of the rural villages. After striving out in executing by the officials, elected representatives this schemes are not able to satisfy the stake holders of the village. In such a situation the NIRD took a the great step in formation of faculty members as a team to send to the select villages and get the socio-economic conditions of the people in respective allotted villages under this village adoption scheme.

**2. STUDY AREA:**

The NIRD is pleased to allotted the District Koraput, Odisha State to me to investigate proper channelizing the problems and prospects of the village which has been selected for me under the village adoption scheme. In this regard the researcher has been selected Simliguda Block in Koraput District. After roaming over the block the researcher could able to select the Kudi Gram Panchayat. In order to achieve integrated development in the village the baseline survey will be needed to go into in depth study the plans will also be metricullessly prepared. All the revenue villages under the study is backward in nature and primarily they are dependent on agriculture. Kudi Gram Panchayat was established in 1991 and Sarugu Nayak was the first Sarpanch of the Gram Panchayat. The gram panchayat is away 10 – 12 kilometres from block headquarters. Under the Kudi gram panchayat, there are 3 revenue villages taking to consideration has a unit of development. The total population of Kudi gram panchayat is 1231 with 308 households. The total male population is 626 and female population is 605. Out of total population there is 41 SCs and STs are 631. The male literacy is 151, the female literacy is 23. There is 300 hectares of land which seems to be cultivable. There is an Anganwadi centres having 55 – 60 children having one teacher and one cook who is also looking after the children. There is also a sub-centre at Kudi with health worker both male and female.

### **3. METHODOLOGY ADOPTED**

A multi stage mixed methodology has been designed for this particular action oriented research study. The criteria for the selection of district, block and gram panchayat is based on its backwardness and it falls under Left Wing Extremist (LWE). The methodology that has been adopted under this Village Adoption Action Research for looking into several dimensions and interventions to understand the socio-economic culture of the village. The researcher will also examine the community participation, how it could be mobilized for effective participation in the village development and decision making. In the village majority of the people use to participate themselves in Gram Sabha and discuss their problems, priorities and selection of development schemes and welfare schemes for the benefit of that particular revenue village. There are 3 revenue villages in Kudi Gram Panchayat sometimes the planning process will be started from the revenue village. In other way 3 revenue villages are able to come together at one point and participate in Gram Sabha after that the gram panchayat can implement their aspects. Under the study, the secondary data and primary data has been collected from the village as well as district and block level for the purpose of primary data a typical questionnaire and check list will be prepared, this can be distributed among the officials of PRIs, elected representatives of PRIs and stakeholders of village.

### **4. INTERVENTIONS MADE:**

After selecting of the village the researcher was taken around of walking into the village for the purpose of getting firsthand knowledge about the village and its surroundings looking at available facilities in the village. After completion of thoroughly visit of the village the researcher come to understand that whatever prevailing problems that can be documented. The next phase there was a possibility to organise Focused Group Discussions (FGDs) mean to say that to interact and find out group dynamics, group perceptions and group revealed their problems and prospects will also be documented.

Under the second phase interacting with gram panchayat officials like Secretary, Rozgar Sevak, Technical Assistant, Field Assistant and Computer Assistant who is working in that particular gram panchayat. This will help researcher to illicit information like implementation of centrally sponsored schemes, state specific schemes particularly welfare schemes. The MGNREGA is being directly implemented by the gram panchayat alone with 50 – 75 per cent of money to be spent.

There is also need to assist the performance of self-help groups in the village there are 8 SHGs out of this 3 SHGs were defunct. The researcher was met with 8 SHGs and interacted asked about their performance and livelihoods protection from the given resources by the state government and government of India.

Obviously the researcher was conducted a baseline survey under the participatory rural appraisal method for taking into clue to mobilize the villagers in participating and creating awareness among the people about the methods of PRA. This will help the people to get firsthand knowledge about the minimum needs approach, how to identified the basic needs of the people and to learn area of the cluster and it could be integrated with gram panchayat plan. The data base has been prepared for each revenue village in respect of key indicators of socio-economic education development of the total village and availability of basic infrastructure, and the critical gaps to be filled by NIRD if necessary.

The study is aimed at bringing out micro-reality of the triggering factors that push people to seek migration and livelihood hoping mechanism, against the backdrop of available natural resources in the village, the interventions by government for the benefit of the people helping by way of protect the natural resources and help them in creating of marketing facilities to market their natural resource products. The NIRD is also having keen interest in providing are creating some kind of durable assets for the select villages such as installation of solar lamps, creating of rural technologies in selected cluster areas the money will be borne by NIRD. Encouraging of vermi compose which can help the farmers to grow traditional crops avoiding the pesticides.

## **5. INNOVATIVE APPROACHES / EXPERIENCES:**

While visiting the villages and interacting with local officials, alights and elected representatives. During our discussions, deliberations several new ideas will be learnt. Sharing of information among the people it is quite interesting listening innovative approaches were narrated by common people. They also reiterated about the functioning of Gram Sabha, Palli Sabha and integrating respective plans to the gram panchayats and leads to block and zilla parishad. However, under this particular village one could not find more innovative and initiatives because this village somewhat different the simple reason is the district falls under LWE.

## **6. CONCLUSION :**

Keeping in view of above backdrop the development indicators were taking place in the village. At the same time the basic amenities also found in the village such as community toilets, health sub-center, primary schools, roads, street lights, drinking water and sanitation. The agriculture is the major livelihood option. Majority of the people are OBCs and STs living in the village. The indicator of transport is significantly high because the gram panchayat is very nearer to the block headquarters and district headquarter. Whatever they produce (paddy, banana toordal and groundnut etc.,) will be marketed. The vegetables vending also very important livelihood option for the villagers and the incremental income will be added for their lifestyle.