

ABSTRACTS

Track 6: Rural Infrastructure, Services, & SDGs

Paper ID (Easy Chair): 4606

Paper Title: ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN RURAL INDIA

Author (s): Pragyan Monalisa Sahoo; Dr. Himanshu Sekhar Rout

Purpose: The paper analysed the status of healthcare infrastructure facilities in rural India and draws a comparison with its urban counterparts.

Design/Methodology: A mixed-method study design is employed to assess the availability of healthcare infrastructure among lower-level public health facilities namely sub-centres (SCs), primary health centres (PHCs), and community health centres (CHCs). WHO's Service Availability and Readiness Assessment (SARA) module in combination with Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) and National Rural Health Mission guidelines were used to substantiate the analysis. Using data from Rural Health Statistics, HMIS, RBI, National Health Profile 2019-20, and National Sample Survey Office 2019, descriptive analysis is carried out to assess the availability of (i) facility density, (ii) basic amenities, and (iii) core health workforce. Health infrastructure index, core health workforce index, and service availability index were calculated for public health facilities for selected states by following the SARA methodology.

Findings: The density of public health facilities is higher in rural areas than in urban areas, however urban public facilities are in a better position in terms of basic amenities and health workers. Rural SCs and urban PHCs are the most neglected. Working positions for health specialists in CHCs in both rural and urban areas are laying vacant and barely meet the total requirement. Almost all of the SCs, PHCs and CHCs functioning in rural areas do not meet the IPHS norms. Huge inter-state variation in all three indices (infrastructure, core workforce, and health availability indices), and only a few have achieved the target (>100).

Originality: Present paper is an initiative to assess the status of rural healthcare facilities and draw comparisons with their urban counterpart at the national level along with calculating public health infrastructure, core health workforce, and service availability index scores for selected states using the SARA indicators.

Paper ID (Easy Chair): 5045

Paper Title: Trend, Issues, and Impact of Asset creation on Rural Economic Development: Special reference to Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS)

Author (s): Dr.Hema Yadav, Dr.Mahesh Kadam, Dr.Pravin Jadhav

Cooperative sector and farmer producer organization (FPOs) mobilize farmers and build their capacity to collectively leverage their production and marketing strength. Schemes of government like Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, have provided financing facility for Agriculture Infrastructure Projects at farm-gate & aggregation points to agribusiness stakeholders like (Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies, Farmers Producer Organizations, Agriculture entrepreneurs, Start-ups, etc.). It also impetus for development of farmgate & aggregation point, affordable and financially viable Post Harvest Management infrastructure.

The main objective of this study is to know the facts and fathom of the government fund moves in the rural infrastructure for asset creation with special reference to cooperatives (PACS) their assets formation, use and its sustainability through viable (Finance and market) value chain business model. eNAM can be strengthened by making storage and assaying marketing functions easy by PACS asset creation and help the farmers to take firm marketing decisions. This study undertaken systematic literature review and carried out focus group discussions with PACS officials. Further the study was carried out to analyze the impact of cooperative and FPOs on agricultural development. Finally based on the observations this paper proposed a model for asset creation through PACS.

This study found that cooperatives and FPOs have played very crucial roles in the development of market infrastructure, management of backward and forward market linkages, making resilient market functionaries of cooperatives societies and creating a viable decorum for institutional opportunities towards the betterment of the grass root level society.

The study findings showcased that although allocation of funding is not enough. Financial Linkages through pledge loan and eNWR will be required. Market Linkages to electronic and spot markets, commodity markets are required to make the asset creation fruitful and viable.

Keywords— Agribusiness ecosystem, Cooperatives, FPOs, Post-Harvest Management, Rural Infrastructure