

The Role of Government Schemes in Social Development of India**Ashutosh Priya**, Professor, Department of Regional Economics, MJP Rohilkhand University**Ruchi Dwivedi**, Assistant Professor, Department of Regional Economics, MJP Rohilkhand University**Bhoop Narain Dixit**, Assistant Professor, English, Rajkiya Mahavidyalaya, Banbasa, UK**Ishika Trivedi**, Research Scholar, Department of Social Work, Banasthali Vidyapeeth, Rajasthan**ABSTRACT**

This study investigates the role of government schemes in driving social development in India, employing a methodology grounded in secondary data analysis within a theoretical framework. Social development, which includes a wide range of aspects like healthcare, education, reducing poverty, and creating jobs, is evaluated through the lens of various government programmes. The study employs a thorough theoretical framework that incorporates concepts from development studies, public policy, and social welfare to help identify and assess important government initiatives. The outcome offers a comprehensive understanding of the evaluation of Government initiatives, shedding light on both the positive impacts and various challenges and criticisms related to social development. This integrated approach ensures a rigorous examination of the intricate relationship between government interventions and social development outcomes in the Indian context.

KEYWORDS: *Government schemes, social development, social welfare, public policy, education, healthcare, poverty alleviation, employment*

India's socio-economic fabric, woven with the threads of diversity and complexity, necessitates the presence of robust governmental initiatives to address the multifaceted challenges impeding equitable progress. The nation's progress towards social development is mostly propelled by government projects, which function as active catalysts for change. A comprehensive framework of policies and programs provides coherence to this complex tapestry, which is characterized by varied degrees of economic prosperity and social inequality. Government initiatives, which are formed and carried out at various administrative levels, including the central, state, and local governments, are essential to promoting social development throughout India (Seenivasan, 2021). The population of the nation suffers a wide range of social and economic difficulties, many of which can be addressed in part by these schemes. Several social sector initiatives have been launched by the Indian government to fight against the concerns related to unemployment, poverty, healthcare, education, and more, for instance, Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), the Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme, the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (NRLM), The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) etc.

These programs cover a wide range of sectors beyond just offering the most basic services. Rather, they represent the ideation and execution of comprehensive plans meant to uplift underprivileged areas, close socioeconomic divides, and promote the overall growth of humankind. While programs aimed at reducing poverty attempt to address the underlying causes of economic inequality, efforts in the fields of education and healthcare concentrate on providing citizens with the means to grow both personally and as a society. Programs for women's empowerment are essential in breaking down barriers based on gender, making sure that everyone in society benefits from growth. By actively addressing historical injustices and systemic inequalities that have endured over time, these programs serve as tools for social justice. The aim is to establish a society where opportunities are available to everyone, regardless of gender, caste, or socioeconomic status, whether via reservation systems,

affirmative action programs, or specific allowances for vulnerable groups. Government programs help to build an inclusive and long-lasting social structure in this way.

The concepts of good governance, openness, and public involvement are essential to the success of these projects. Adding a layer of accountability to the planning and execution processes is the active participation of citizens, non-governmental groups, and other stakeholders. This cooperative strategy makes sure that the advantages of social progress trickle down to the local level, benefiting everyone equally and leaving no one behind. In this complex and dynamic environment, government programs become essential for guiding India toward inclusive social development. By means of a combination of policies, programs, and tactical interventions, these initiatives serve as cornerstones of development, leading the country toward a future in which each person can strive for a life marked by respect, opportunity, and general well-being. As India navigates its journey through these initiatives, the aim is to cultivate a society that reflects the true essence of inclusivity and resilience.

This paper explores an evaluation of the performance and efficacy of certain central government programmes that have a major impact on India's social development environment. It illuminates the transformative potential of these government interventions by examining the concrete effects of programmes like MGNREGA in lowering unemployment and the decline in poverty ratios during 2004–05 as a result of poverty alleviation measures (Sharma, 2013).

METHODOLOGY

The research employs a methodological framework predicated upon a thorough examination of secondary sources, specifically extant reports, surveys, and publications relevant to governmental initiatives (Gomes, 2008; Stewart, 1984). To systematically elucidate the implications of these initiatives on social development indicators, the study meticulously scrutinizes data curated by diverse entities, encompassing government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and esteemed research institutions. The primary focus centers on a comprehensive analysis of statistical data, policy documents, and academic articles, affording a nuanced comprehension of the intricate landscape of governmental interventions in social development (Foa, 2012).

The methodological framework entails a structured and systematic approach to distil salient insights from the amalgamation of secondary sources. Through the synthesis of information derived from authoritative reports, surveys, and scholarly articles, the research endeavours to construct a comprehensive narrative evaluating the efficacy of governmental interventions in fostering social development. This method not only augments the study's robustness but also facilitates a thorough exploration of the inherent challenges in these interventions.

Also, this ensures that the research is firmly anchored in a substantial repository of existing knowledge, thereby contributing a nuanced perspective to the ongoing academic discourse concerning the impact of governmental initiatives on social development

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical framework for investigating the role of government schemes in social development in India is anchored in a multidimensional conceptualization, drawing from key sociological, public policy, and development studies perspectives. In order to support its claim that government programs are vital in creating and allocating social capital, this study applies the Social Capital Theory. It highlights the importance of networks, trust, and common norms as necessary building blocks for the accomplishment of social development projects (Chester, 2021). Through its ability to shed light on structural variables that either enable or impede the efficacy of government initiatives, the Institutional

Theory offers insights into how formal and informal institutions determine their implementation and impact (Hassan, 2008). The study evaluates the degree to which government programs increase people's skills and freedoms using the Amartya Sen Capability Approach, highlighting the significance of weighing agency and empowerment in addition to material results (Bass, 2013). Through the integration of various theoretical frameworks, the research seeks to provide a thorough understanding of the complex dynamics underlying the role of government programs in social development in India. This will lay a solid foundation for methodically examining social, institutional, and individual aspects of the issue and further the academic conversation in this area.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES OVERVIEW

In India, government programmes are essential for promoting social development in a number of important areas. These programs play a critical role in reducing poverty, expanding access to healthcare, advancing gender equality, and accelerating development in both rural and urban areas. Government programs significantly improve the general well-being of the country by tackling these complex issues and fostering a more inclusive and equitable society.

Poverty Alleviation:

Governments around the world recognize the importance of addressing poverty as a key social and economic challenge. Many government schemes and programs are designed to reduce poverty by providing financial assistance and comprehensive support to economically disadvantaged individuals and families. These initiatives aim to create a safety net for vulnerable populations, improve their living standards, and empower them to break free from the cycle of poverty.

- **NREGA (National Rural Employment Guarantee Act):** Enacted for economic security, NREGA assures 100 days of wage employment to rural households engaged in unskilled manual work ((Farooquee, 2013; Haque, 2011; Das, 2016; Kareemulla, 2010). The program, highlighted in the Ministry of Rural Development's 2022 End-Year Review, has benefitted 11.37 Crore households, generating 289.24 crore person-days of employment. This underscores its significant impact on rural development and socio-economic progress.
- **PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana):** Dedicated to "Housing for All," PMAY constructs affordable residences for economically weaker sections, providing shelter and stability (Jadhav, 2022). As of December 15, 2022, PMAY-G has sanctioned 2.50 Crore houses, with 2.11 Crore completed against a target of 52.78 lakh houses in 2022-23. This reflects substantial progress in achieving housing inclusivity and poverty alleviation.
- **PDS (Public Distribution System):** A crucial mechanism for ensuring food security, PDS provides essential commodities at subsidized rates to below-poverty-line families. The One Nation One Ration Card program recorded 93 crore portability transactions under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, which is part of PDS. These accomplishments highlight the efficacy of PDS in addressing food security needs and ensuring equitable access to essential commodities. 1118 LMT of food grains were distributed to States/UTs under this program (George, 2019; Ghabru, 2017).

Education:

Government initiatives, particularly the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) launched in 2001, have significantly shaped education in India. SSA, focused on achieving universal elementary education, ensures access for children aged 6-14, opens new schools, and allocates resources for infrastructure development. Emphasizing quality improvement through teacher training and innovative methods, SSA includes special provisions for marginalized groups and encourages community participation.

Financial support for textbooks and uniforms reduces the economic burden on families, promoting enrolment (Kapur, 2013; Manimagala, 2012).

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme, initiated in the early 2000s, complements these efforts by providing hot, nutritious meals to school children, primarily in government and government-aided schools. Beyond incentivizing attendance, the scheme addresses malnutrition, promotes social inclusion, reduces dropouts, and supports local sourcing, contributing to the overall enhancement of educational access in India (Paltasingh, 2022). According to the scheme requirements, every child in primary school should have a prepared midday meal that contains 450 calories and 12 grams of protein, while upper primary students should receive 700 calories and 20 grams of protein. For an upper primary child, this calorie and protein requirement comes from cooking 150 g of rice/flour, 30 g of pulses, 75 g of vegetables, and 7.5 g of oil. For a primary child, this comes from cooking 100 g of rice/flour, 20 g of pulses, and 50 g of vegetables and 5 g of oil (http://mdm.nic.in/mdm_website/).

Both SSA and the Mid-Day Meal Scheme exemplify a holistic approach to tackling educational challenges and ensuring quality education for all, irrespective of socio-economic backgrounds.

Healthcare:

Government schemes for healthcare department play a crucial role in improving the overall well-being of communities and societies. These programs are often implemented by governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international agencies to address various health and social issues. Some key health schemes are:

Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY): Launched in 2018, this scheme aims to provide financial protection and healthcare access to over 100 million vulnerable families in India through health insurance coverage. According to the Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) database, AB-PMJAY offers health coverage of up to Rs 5.00 lakh per household annually to 10.74 crore impoverished and deprived families. Below are the specifics of the eligibility requirements: Ayushman Bharat - PMJAY is an entitlement plan where eligibility is determined by the SECC database's occupational criteria and deprivation. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Press Information Bureau Government of India, 2019).

- The different categories in rural area include:
 1. Households (without shelter).
 2. Destitute, living on alms.
 3. Manual scavenger families.
 4. Primitive tribal groups.
 5. Legally released bonded labour

Total families covered under PMJAY

Sr. No.	Categories	Households (number in crore)
1.	Rural (on deprivation criteria)	8.03
	Rural (already included)	0.16
2.	Urban	2.33
3.	Such number of families that are currently enrolled under RSBY but not in targeted SECC data	0.22
Total		10.74

Source: (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Press Information Bureau Government of India, 2019)

National Health Mission (NHM): A flagship program launched in 2013 that encompasses various sub-missions, including the National Urban Health Mission (NRHM) and the National Rural Health Mission (NUHM), with the goal of improving healthcare delivery in both rural and urban areas.

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY): Although merged into Ayushman Bharat, RSBY was an earlier health insurance scheme for below-poverty-line families.

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY): An initiative encouraging pregnant women to give birth in a hospital with the goal of lowering maternal and newborn deaths. Launched in April 2005, the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) brought modifications to the National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS), which was originally part of the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and started in August 1995. BPL expectant mothers were initially provided with a fixed financial aid of Rs. 500/-per birth, up to a maximum of two live deliveries, under the NMBS. Originally overseen by the Ministry of Rural Development, this program was moved to the Department of Health & Family Welfare in 2001–2002. But once JSY was implemented, the Rs. 500 cash aid was swapped out for a graded system depending on the recipients' residency in an urban or rural area and the state in which they were classified. States were divided into Low Performing States (LPS) and High Performing States (HPS) based on institutional delivery rates, with eight EAG states and Assam & Jammu & Kashmir classified as LPS, and the rest as HPS (National Health Mission).

The highlighted health schemes in India exemplify the commitment to enhancing healthcare accessibility, reducing financial burdens, and improving maternal and neonatal outcomes.

Women and Child development Schemes:

The schemes employed under the Ministry of Women and Child Development since the year 2014 are as under:

Schemes	Description
POSHAN Abhiyaan	Launched on March 8, 2018, addressing nationwide malnutrition through ICT Application, Convergence, Behavioural Change, Community Mobilization, Jan Andolan, Capacity Building, Incentives, and Innovations.
Anganwadi Services	Delivers six crucial services for Pregnant Women, Lactating Mothers, and Children under 6, including Supplementary Nutrition, Pre-school Non-formal Education, Immunization, Nutrition & Health Education, Health Check-up, and Referral Services.
Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)	Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme offering Rs. 5,000 in three installments to eligible Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers, ensuring nutrition and health conditions are met, with an additional cash incentive under Janani Suraksha Yojana after institutional delivery.
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)	Launched on January 22, 2015, to address declining Child Sex Ratio, focusing on preventing gender-biased sex selection, ensuring survival, protection, and education of the girl child.
One Stop Centre (OSC)	Provides integrated services for women affected by violence.
Universalization of Women Helplines (WHL)	Offers 24-hour emergency and non-emergency response, rescue services, and information about women welfare schemes.

Child Protection Services (CPS)	Supports children in difficult circumstances through institutional and non-institutional care, vocational training, and after-care services.
Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG)	Centrally-sponsored scheme providing nutritional support to out-of-school girls aged 11-14, emphasizing health improvement and encouraging return to formal schooling.
Swadhar Greh	Centrally Sponsored Scheme offering institutional support for the rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances.
Ujjawala	Centrally Sponsored Scheme preventing trafficking and aiding in the rescue, rehabilitation, reintegration, and repatriation of victims of commercial sexual exploitation.
Working Women Hostel (WWH)	Provides safe accommodation for working women (for their children) with day care facilities in urban, semi-urban, and rural areas.
National Creche Scheme	Centrally Sponsored Scheme offering day care facilities, early stimulation, supplementary nutrition, growth monitoring, and health check-ups for children of working mothers.
Mission Poshan 2.0	Integrated nutrition support program addressing Scheme for Adolescent Girls, malnutrition, incorporating Anganwadi Services, and Poshan Abhiyaan.
Mission Shakti	Consists of "Sambal" and "Samarthya," and it emphasizes women's empowerment and protection. While "Samarthya" includes Ujjawala, Swadhar Greh, Working Women Hostel, National Creche Scheme, and PMMVY, "Sambal" includes already-existing programs like OSC, WHL, and BBBP.
Mission Vatsalya	For greater outreach, protection, and care of children in need, the Ministry of Women and Child Development said that the Child Protection Scheme (CPS) has been strengthened.

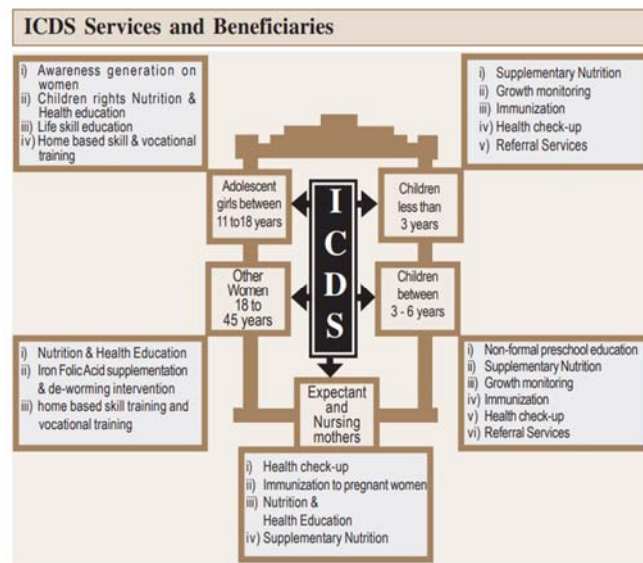
Social Welfare:

In India, fundamental social welfare schemes like the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) are instrumental in fostering social equity and improving the lives of vulnerable groups (Garroway, 2013). NSAP, including initiatives like IGNOAPS, IGNDPS, and IGWNPS, provides crucial financial assistance to elderly, differently-abled, and widowed individuals below the poverty line, addressing their basic needs and promoting overall well-being (Garroway, 2013). The linked bank accounts associated with NSAP's pension schemes further promote financial inclusion and empower beneficiaries (Kotwal, 2020).

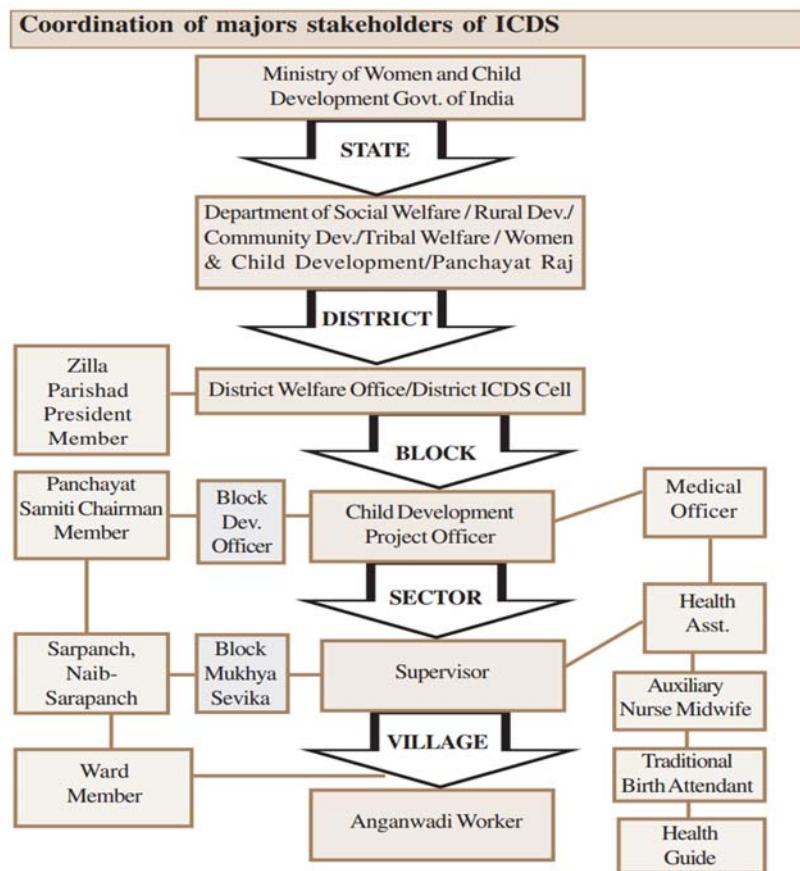
Simultaneously, ICDS focuses on the comprehensive development of children under six years old through nutrition, immunization, health check-ups, and early childhood education. This initiative ensures the holistic growth of children, combats malnutrition, and contributes to improved health outcomes, with healthcare services and engagement programs extending to women and mothers. The community-based approach of ICDS fosters community engagement, instilling a sense of ownership and responsibility (Kapil, 2002; Rathod, 2014).

Both NSAP and ICDS serve as crucial pillars in India's social safety nets, collectively working to protect and enhance the well-being of vulnerable populations. These schemes contribute significantly to poverty reduction, improve access to nutrition and healthcare, and lay a strong foundation for children's early development. By specifically addressing the needs of the elderly, differently-abled

individuals, and children, these initiatives align with broader goals of social development and inclusive growth, ultimately fostering a more equitable and just society.



Source: Reference book (Social welfare and other line Department schemes)



Source: Reference book (Social welfare and other line Department schemes)

Skill Development Program:

At the forefront of fostering economic growth and reducing unemployment, skill development programs, exemplified by India's Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), play a pivotal role in harnessing the potential of the nation's youth (Tripathi, 2021). PMKVY, alongside similar initiatives, focuses on enhancing employability by offering diverse training in various sectors, making participants more market-ready for gainful employment. Beyond creating job seekers, these programs also promote entrepreneurship, empowering individuals to start businesses or become self-employed. By aligning training with industry demands, such initiatives bridge the gap between job market needs and available skills, contributing significantly to economic growth. Moreover, by mitigating youth unemployment, these programs directly impact income levels, improving participants' quality of life and contributing to the overall economic development of the nation (Patel, 2018).

Environmental Sustainability:

Government schemes like the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) work synergistically to promote sustainable agricultural practices and uplift rural communities in India (Mundhe, 2020). The NMSA encourages eco-friendly farming practices, ensuring alignment with environmental responsibility. Simultaneously, the NRLM focuses on improving livelihoods by empowering rural communities to be self-reliant and reducing dependence on environmentally harmful practices (Ghuman, 2018). Both schemes prioritize responsible natural resource management, contributing to a healthier environment. Additionally, these initiatives play a crucial role in climate change mitigation through sustainable practices, significantly contributing to broader adaptation efforts (Lenka, 2015). Notably, the NRLM empowers women and marginalized groups, fostering improved socioeconomic status and gender equality, ultimately reinforcing the interconnectedness of socioeconomic progress and environmental sustainability.

Financial Inclusion:

Financial inclusion programs, such as the Jan Dhan Yojana, are a prime example of how financial inclusion initiatives assure broad access to necessary financial services, which in turn drives economic development (Suresh, 2016; Duhan, 2017). Homeowners can access basic banking services through this inclusive strategy, which also makes savings, credit availability, and safe and easy financial transactions possible. Financial inclusion, beyond its obvious advantages, helps reduce poverty by giving people and families the tools they need to properly manage their money, make investments in profitable ventures, and recover from financial setbacks. By facilitating investments in enterprises and education, the expanded availability of financial services also fosters economic growth and raises general prosperity. These programs also promote transparency and better tax collection while lessening the influence of the black market. Notably, financial inclusion initiatives improve overall family financial stability and advance gender equality by giving women access to bank accounts. As demonstrated by the creation of more than 41 crore bank accounts under the Jan Dhan Yojana, successful government initiatives are crucial instruments for tackling a range of issues, raising standards of living, and promoting social and economic advancement in India.



Source: Retrieved from Web Images

By focusing on education, healthcare, and poverty alleviation, these programs aim to uplift marginalized communities and enhance overall well-being. As these initiatives adapt and evolve, they become instrumental in shaping a more equitable and prosperous future for the nation.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

In India, government initiatives have pushed for a thorough reform of all core areas with the goal of educating the lives of the poor and disadvantaged. Notable effects can be seen in the reduction of poverty through programs like the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana and NREGA, which give rural households work and stability in their finances. There are still obstacles to overcome in order to keep these beneficial impacts going and successfully reach disadvantaged people. In the field of education, the Mid-Day Meal Scheme and the SSA have increased student enrollment, particularly in vulnerable groups; nonetheless, problems with quality and regional inequalities require further attention. Ayushman Bharat has revolutionized healthcare, leading to better health results; yet, issues with sustainability and infrastructure still exist. Programs that support rural development and gender equality have made progress, but ongoing obstacles based in cultural norms demand continued work. While the Jan Dhan Yojana and skill development initiatives have had a significant influence on financial inclusion, obstacles to financial literacy still need to be addressed and active utilization still has to be addressed. Initiatives for environmental sustainability support rural development, however there are still issues in striking a balance between environmental preservation and economic expansion. In conclusion, even if government programs have a significant impact on social development in India, it is crucial to continuously review, adapt, and innovate in order to handle changing challenges and guarantee long-term beneficial results.

CHALLENGES AND CRITIQUES

While government schemes in India have made significant strides in social development, several challenges and critiques are worth noting:

- One common critique revolves around the effective implementation of these schemes. Issues such as bureaucratic hurdles, corruption, and lack of efficient monitoring mechanisms can hinder the intended impact.
- Despite efforts to increase access, the quality of education and healthcare services remains a concern. Insufficient infrastructure, shortage of skilled personnel, and inadequate facilities can undermine the overall success of these programs.
- The sustainability of these schemes is a recurring challenge. Some initiatives may face difficulty in maintaining their impact over the long term, especially if they are not accompanied by complementary measures for continued success.
- Ensuring that the most vulnerable populations are reached remains a challenge. Identifying and reaching those in remote or marginalized areas can be logistically challenging and may result in certain groups being left out.
- Schemes aimed at gender equality and social empowerment face the challenge of changing deeply ingrained societal attitudes and norms. Progress may be slow, requiring persistent efforts to challenge and transform cultural biases.
- Some critics argue that certain schemes may not be economically viable in the long run. The financial burden on the government, especially in terms of subsidies and financial assistance, can raise concerns about the sustainability of these programs.
- Initiatives focused on rural development and sustainable agriculture may face challenges in balancing economic growth with environmental conservation. Striking this balance and ensuring that development is environmentally responsible can be intricate.
- In some cases, lack of awareness among the targeted population about the benefits and procedures of these schemes can limit their effectiveness. Encouraging active participation and understanding is essential for optimal outcomes.

Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive and adaptive approach. Continuous evaluation, feedback mechanisms, and adjustments to policies based on lessons learned are vital for overcoming these critiques and ensuring sustained positive impacts on social development in India

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, even if the current initiatives have shown noteworthy results in a number of areas, it is critical to recognize and resolve the issues preventing them from operating at their best. By strengthening and improving existing programs, the suggested policy changes hope to promote a more adaptable, inclusive, and sustainable strategy. The government may make sure that its social development programs are in line with the changing demands of the populace by improving monitoring systems, tailoring programs to local quirks, and making investments in vital industries like healthcare and education. Furthermore, the long-term success of these programs can be attributed to an emphasis on community involvement, enhanced targeting, economic viability, and long-term sustainability. As India continues its journey towards holistic social development, a proactive and adaptive policy framework will be instrumental in realizing the full potential of government interventions, thereby creating a more equitable and prosperous society for all.

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

- Strengthen monitoring and evaluation frameworks for government schemes to ensure effective implementation, identify bottlenecks, and enhance transparency.

- Customize the implementation of schemes to address specific regional needs and disparities, recognizing the diverse socio-economic and cultural landscapes across states and districts.
- Allocate resources to improve the quality of education and healthcare infrastructure, addressing shortages of skilled personnel, upgrading facilities, and ensuring a higher standard of services.
- Implement robust targeting mechanisms to identify and reach the most vulnerable populations, especially in remote or marginalized areas, to ensure inclusive development.
- Launch comprehensive awareness campaigns to inform the public about the benefits and procedures of government schemes, fostering active participation and ensuring that the targeted population fully understands the available opportunities.
- Integrate environmental sustainability into rural development initiatives, emphasizing eco-friendly practices and balancing economic growth with conservation efforts.

REFERENCES

1. Kumar, A., & Singh, R. (2018). Impact of Government Welfare Schemes on Social Development in Rural India. *International Journal of Social Science Studies*, 6(2), 45-56. DOI: 10.11114/ijsss.v6i2.3148
2. Rao, S., & Reddy, V. (2020). Evaluating the Effectiveness of Health Initiatives: A Case Study of Ayushman Bharat. *Indian Journal of Public Health*, 64(4), 354-360. DOI: 10.4103/ijph.IJPH_86_20
3. Andreas, L. A., et al. (2017). Precarious Drop: Reassessing Patterns of Female Labor Force Participation in India (World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 8024). Washington, D.C.
4. Bardhan, P. (2011). Challenges for a Minimum Social Democracy in India. *Economic and Political Weekly*, XLVI(10), 39-43.
5. Tessa, et al. (2018). Clientelism in the Public Sector: Why Public Service Reforms Fail and What to Do about It (World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 8439). Washington, D.C.
6. International Institute for Population Sciences. (2016). National Family Health Survey – 4. 2015-16. Mumbai.
7. World Bank. (2019). Social Development in India: Assessing the Impact of Government Schemes. Retrieved from <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/449231548954651205/social-development-in-india-assessing-the-impact-of-government-schemes>
8. National Institute of Public Finance and Policy. (2017). Economic Survey of India: Social Sector Development. New Delhi: NIPFP. Retrieved from <https://www.nipfp.org.in/publications/working-papers/1990-2019/1804/>
9. Sen, A. (2015). *The Idea of Justice*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press.
10. Dreze, J., & Sen, A. (2013). *An Uncertain Glory: India and its Contradictions*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
11. Government of India. (2021). Annual Report on the Implementation of Social Welfare Schemes. New Delhi: Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
12. Ministry of Finance. (2022). Economic Survey of India: Social Development Chapter. New Delhi: Government of India.
13. Government of India. (2020). National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). Ministry of Rural Development. Retrieved from <https://nrega.nic.in/netnrega/home.aspx>
14. Planning Commission. (2013). Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017): Social Sectors. Government of India. Retrieved from http://planningcommission.gov.in/plans/planrel/12thplan/pdf/12fyp_vol3.pdf
15. Ministry of Women and Child Development. (2019). Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. Government of India. Retrieved from <https://icds-wcd.nic.in/icds.aspx>

16. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. (2021). National Health Mission (NHM). Government of India. Retrieved from <https://nhm.gov.in/>
17. Ministry of Human Resource Development. (2018). Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Government of India. Retrieved from <https://ssa.gov.in/>
18. National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. (2016). Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA): A Catalyst for Rural Transformation. Retrieved from https://nirdpr.org.in/nird_docs/prerak/report/mgnrega_catalyst_rural_transformation.pdf
19. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. (2022). Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U). Government of India. Retrieved from <https://pmay-urban.gov.in/>
20. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. (2021). National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). Government of India. Retrieved from <https://nsap.nic.in/>
21. National Health Portal. (2020). Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY). Government of India. Retrieved from <https://www.pmjay.gov.in/>