

The Influence of Smart Villages on Rurbanization

***Dr. Mamta Choudhary**

Abstract

Reliability of the data from the 2011 census indicates that 833 million people, or 69% of the total population, lived in rural areas, while 377.1 million people lived in urban areas. In India, smart villages are therefore of utmost importance. The villages are the main source of income for India. It follows that village development must come first in India's development. Villages lack a centralized communication system due to a lack of communication between the communities.

The idea of a "smart village," which is based on Mahatma Gandhi's ideas of "swaraj" (self-reliance) and "Adarsh Gram" (ideal village), has been embraced by the national, state, and municipal governments of India as a comprehensive rural development venture. On October 11, 2014—Gandhi's birthday—Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced "Smart Cities" and "Digital India" as part of India's development agenda, together with the Samsad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY). A rural community adopted and developed into a model by each Member of Parliament and Minister by 2019 is the principal objective of the Parliamentarian's Model community Scheme. Incorporating Personal, Human, Social, and Economic aspects, SAGY aims to create an integrated village development plan.

Keywords: Digital India, Encompassing, Adarsh Gram, Holistic, and Swaraj

Introduction

Village Smart The concepts of Mahatma Gandhi, namely Adarsh Gram (model village) and Gram Swaraj (village self-rule/independence), serve as the cornerstone of India. Gandhi advocates for integrated rural development to benefit the vast majority of people as the main project following India's 1947 independence in his two writings, Hind Swaraj and Gram (Village) Swaraj. The idea of a "Smart Village" was first proposed by the Eco Needs Foundation. The Foundation is adopting villages as part of this project and working toward sustainable development by offering necessities like:

- Safe drinking water,
- Sanitation,
- Internal highways,
- Planting of trees and
- Water saving

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Village Dhanora, Tehsil Bari, District Dholpur, is a remote little village in Rajasthan that has been adopted by the Foundation to develop as India's first Smart Village under the idea of Smart Villages. The village is located 248 kilometers from Jaipur and 30 kilometers from the Dholpur district office. There are roughly 2000 people living in the village, and their health is badly impacted by the lack of drinkable water and sanitary facilities. People suffer greatly from the lack of internal roadways, particularly during the rainy season.

The villagers' resort to open defecation due to ignorance of the existence of toilets and other sanitation amenities. Additionally, the villagers deal with other issues like:

- Drinking water's fluoride content,
- Absence of a water-saving system
- Roadside encroachment,
- Unemployment,
- Variations in electrical power
- Not using outcome-based learning, and
- Lack of resources.

Purpose

The Foundation also strives to raise villagers' standards of living and instill moral values in society. The "Smart Village" idea calls for the village's growth to follow one of five paths:

- Redevelopment through Retrofitting
- verdant meadows
- E-Pan Source of Income

Approach

The foundation that supports urbanization in India is at the forefront of the Smart Village concept. Some essential components of smart communities are:

- Conserving water
- Energy for Health Education
- An efficient transportation network

Smart village requirement

- Energy preservation
- Conserving water
- Excellent medical facility
- An efficient transportation network
- Excellent educational facilities

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- Resolution of grievances
- Bolstering Community-Based Organizations, or CBOs
- Operative bank account
- Facilities pertaining to agriculture
- Modern, reasonably priced healthcare facilities
- Electronic governance
- Utilizing contemporary technology to enhance the community
- An increase in women's empowerment
- Astute security
- Effective public transportation infrastructure
- Enhancing the state of sanitation
- Management of Liquid and Solid Waste
- Rainwater drainage system and rain harvesting
- Facilities that provide safe drinking water
- Utilizing sustainable energy

The benefits of rurbanization

1. By facilitating communication and physical connectivity, it will lessen the gap between rural and urban areas.
2. Because jobs and urban facilities are available, migration backwards will be encouraged.
3. Because of job prospects, the ability to buy of those living in rural areas will rise.
4. Since residents of rural areas will have access to skill development facilities, it will aid in utilizing India's demographic dividend.
5. Because the redesigned smart cities won't have to deal with the burden of rural migration, the Smart Cities Mission will gain momentum.

Reductions in rurbanization

1. To be successful, coordination between a number of organizations—including the private sector, State governments, and the Union Rural Development Ministry—will be necessary.
2. Using the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, the Rurban clusters will be established. On the other hand, operating expenses will rise as a result.
3. In regions where law and order is a problem, such as J&K and the North East, private businesses might not be eager to collaborate with the government in creating rurban clusters.

IMPLICATIONS

There are already a number of rural development plans in place, which could lead to duplication and

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overlap, therefore greater integration is required.

1. To achieve significant development, there must be more involvement of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI) and a bottom-up, area-specific strategy.
2. Without Information Technology Communication (ITC) infrastructure, digital literacy and e-governance will be challenging.
3. For it to be successful, the district, state, and center must work closely together.
4. This is a positive move, provided it is executed properly.

Conclusion

In India, villages suffered greatly during the industrialization era. Given that 69% of Indians live in villages, neglecting these places will impede the nation's economic development. As envisioned by the great Mahatma Gandhi, the Smart Village concept has been launched to strengthen villages socially and economically. Since most operations in the primary sector take place in villages, these areas constitute the foundation of our nation's economic progress. Investigating fresh avenues and perspectives for the rural populace in different industries will undoubtedly accelerate the nation's development. The Smart Village serves as an introduction to the idea of rurbanization along that road.

While there are drawbacks to urbanization, such as poor administration and governance, there are also major benefits, such as the rural demography's empowerment. Effective governance can help to overcome the shortcomings in administration and governance. The potential for urbanization to accelerate our nation's economic growth is enormous, and this benefit extends to rural areas as well.

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