

Contribution of the Youth in Rural Development: A Survey

Rubi Adak

Research Scholar, Department of Sociology, Ch. Charan Singh University, Meerut,
Uttar Pradesh, India

ABSTRACT: Youth are the young people that are skilled, possess efficient knowledge and capabilities and overall they possess the enthusiasm to work and accomplish something good. The youth who are involved in rural development, have adopted this area as their field and all the areas in rural development such as construction, education, employment generation, industries, agriculture, skill development, electricity, energy, water, require development and youth have been effectively involved. The present study has been carried out to know about the role of youth in the rural development. Researcher has selected only 200 respondents (youth) from each household of the selected villages of Mawana District, Meerut. Researcher has taken primary data from the respondents with the help of specific research techniques like; Interview, observation, Interview Schedule and personal records. Researcher has prepared mixed structured interview schedule where both open ended and close ended question was designed to elicit necessary information from the respondent. While secondary data has been collected from different journals, articles, books, magazines and others government and non-government records regarding youth and rural development. First, data has been collected from the study area then it was scrutinized, and prepared in table form for analysis with the help of different charts, bars and other statistical diagrams. It has been indicated that around less than half (45.5%) of the respondents admitted that sometimes they participated or involved in development process within their village especially in some government programmes and schemes.

KEYWORD: Young People, Development, Youth, Populations, Technologies.

Introduction: The concept of youth has been defined by researchers as the period in an individual life that begins from the end of childhood and entry into adulthood. The individual has reached the age of maturity, but yet to acquire the complete rights and duties of adult life, like marriage and earning of livelihood both for self and for one's family. In the case of rural development and particularly agricultural development, youth constitute the compelling force; the mindset of the youth is cultivated in such a manner that they prove to be productive, especially when they have developed this objective to bring about rural development. The main reason being that youth has number of characteristics which when cultivated and nurtured prove to be invaluable towards agricultural and rural development. Youth associations have got involved in number of activities such as planting of crops, community farming, construction of village squares, contribution in enhancement and application of science and technical methods, energy conservation, construction, biotechnology and employment generation for the rural masses (Umeh& Odom, 2011).

The standard of living of the rural people depends upon factors such as food and nutrition level, health, education, housing, recreation and security. Agriculture is of extreme importance and is considered to be particularly important for the rural people. The youth populations are engaged in the utilization of recommended farm inputs and technologies, they are involved into research activities to find new and innovation techniques and ideas that may be beneficial for rural development (Umeh& Odom, 2011).

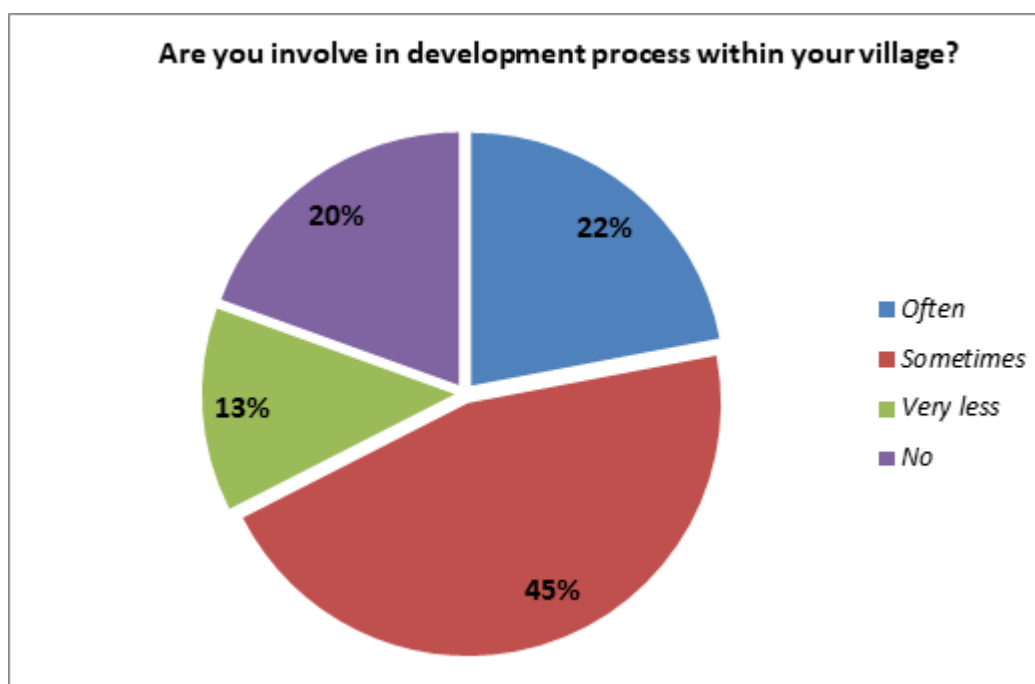
Objectives: The present study has been carried out to know about the role of youth in the rural development

Methodology: Researcher has selected only 200 respondents (youth) from each household of the selected villages of Mawana District, Meerut. Researcher has taken primary data from the respondents with the help of specific research techniques like; Interview, observation, Interview Schedule and personal records. Researcher has prepared mixed structured interview schedule where both open ended and close ended question was designed to elicit necessary information from the respondent. While secondary data has been collected from different journals, articles, books, magazines and others government and non-government records regarding youth and rural development. First, data has been collected from the study area then it was scrutinized, and prepared in table form for analysis with the help of different charts, bars and other statistical diagrams.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION:

Table and Graph 1: Involvement of the Respondent in development process

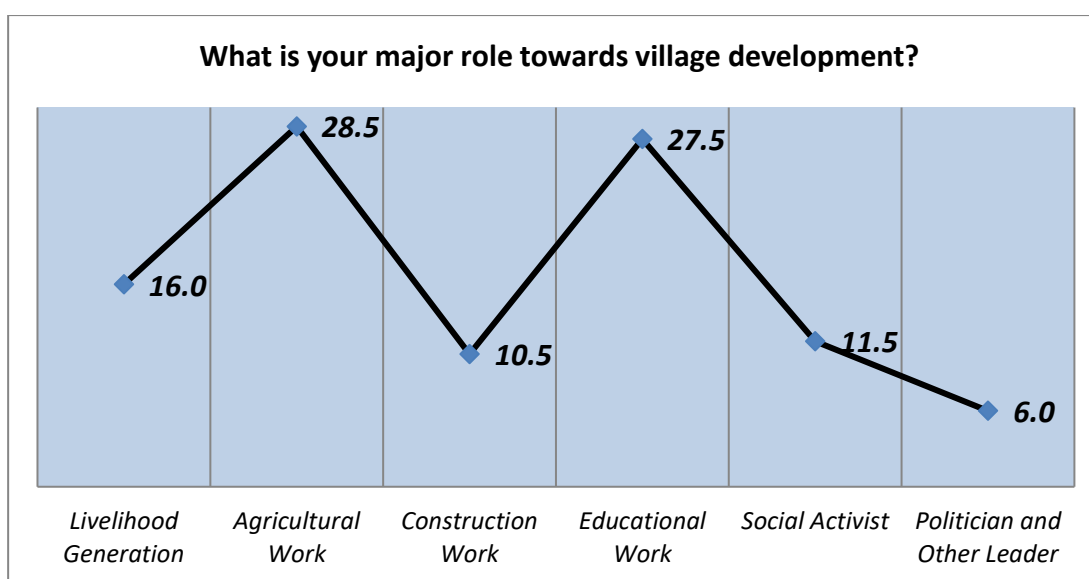
Are you involved in development process within your village?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Often	44	22.0%
Sometimes	91	45.5%
Very less	26	13.0%
No	39	19.5%
Total	200	100.0%



Above table and graph reveal the active participation or involvement of the respondents in development process within the village level. As the data shows that around less than half (45.5%) of the respondents admitted that sometimes they participated or involved in development process within their village especially in some government programmes and schemes while 22.0% of the respondents agreed that they mostly participated or involved in various development process actively in the village development through governmental programmes or voluntarily. Very few (13.0%) of the respondents were participated or engaged in development process was found very less and 19.5% of the respondents never participated or involved in the developmental process within their village level.

Table and Graph 2: Major role of the respondents towards village development-

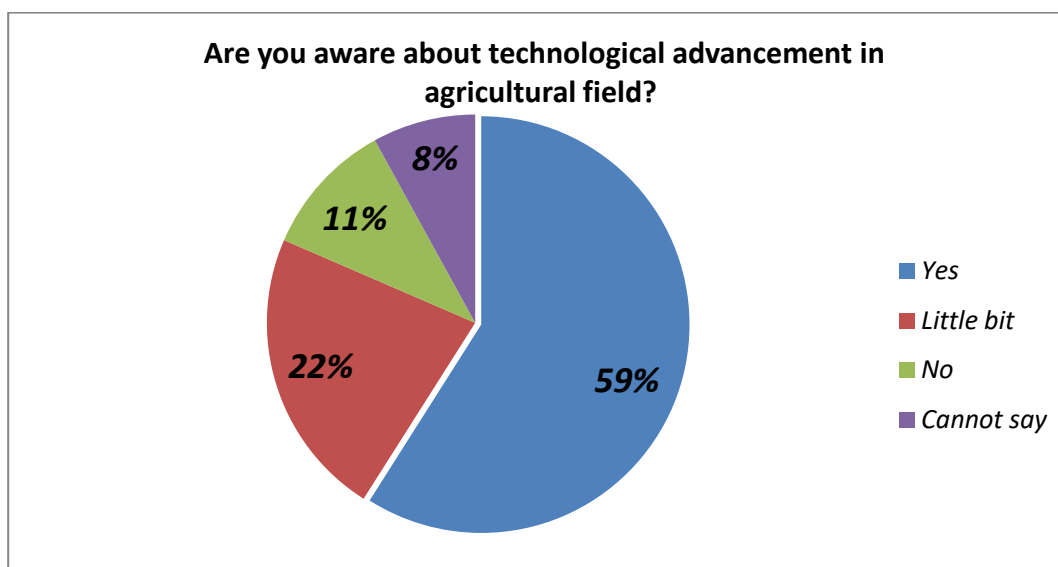
What is your major role towards village development?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Livelihood Generation	32	16.0%
Agricultural Work	57	28.5%
Construction Work	21	10.5%
Educational Work	55	27.5%
Social Activist	23	11.5%
Politician and Other Leader	12	6.0%
Total	200	100.0%



In the question of major role of the respondents towards their village development, above table and graph reveal the responsibilities of the respondents at their village level towards the village development. As the data shows that more than one-fourth (28.5%) of the respondents were engaged in agricultural work at village level while 27.5% of the respondents were engaged in educational work such as studying, research work, private or government teacher etc. 16.0% of the respondents were recorded in livelihood generational activities at local level, 10.5% respondents were recorded in constructional work such as labour work, mason, agricultural labour and so on, 11.5% respondents were recorded as a social activist. Only 06.0% of the respondents were involved in politics and they are playing their political role in village, block and district level.

Table and Graph 3: Awareness about technological advancement in agricultural field-

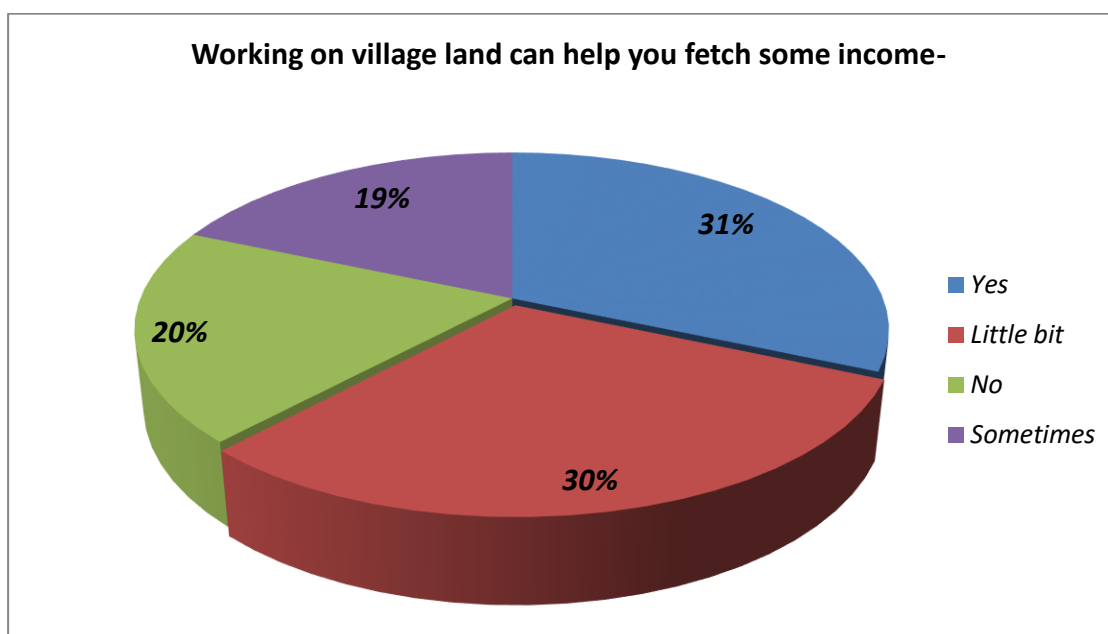
Are you aware about technological advancement in agricultural field?		
	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	118	59.0%
Little bit	45	22.5%
No	21	10.5%
Cannot say	16	08.0%
Total	200	100.0%



Above table and graph discuss about the respondent's awareness about technological advancement and recent trends in high production in agricultural field at village level. Researcher tried to know the availability of modern equipments for yielding and less time consumption at local level. As the data shows that majority (59.0%) of the respondents were found more aware about the recent technological advancement in the agricultural field and they are using for high production in less time. 22.5% of the respondents were having little bit knowledge about recent technology in the field of agriculture while 10.5% of the respondents were not aware about these technological advancement in agricultural field. Only 08.0% of the respondents didn't give any response regarding advancement in agricultural field.

Table and Graph 4: Income generation through working on village land-

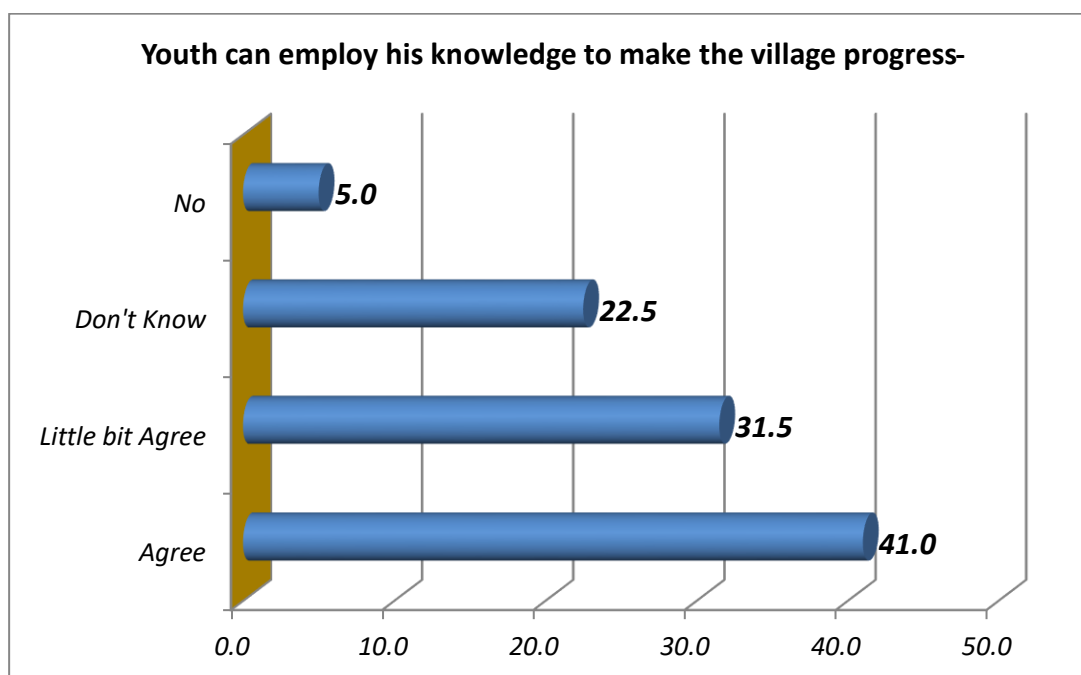
Working on village land can help you fetch some income-		
	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	63	31.5%
Little bit	61	30.5%
No	39	19.5%
Sometimes	37	18.5%
Total	200	100.0%



Above table and graph reveal the status of the respondent's income generational opportunity through working on village land. As data shows that highest percentage (31.5%) of the respondents believed that their village land can help them to fetch some income generational opportunity at village level as compared to other work while 30.5% of the respondents assumed that working on their village land can help little bit to them in order to income generational opportunities due to the advance market, less demands and so on. 19.5% of the respondents disagreed that village land cannot help to them to fetch some good amount of income. Only 18.5% of the respondents believed that sometime village land can help them to fetch some income generational opportunity at market level.

Table and Graph 5: Youth Knowledge to make the village progress-

Youth can employ his knowledge to make the village progress-		
	Frequency	Percentage
Agree	82	41.0%
Little bit Agree	63	31.5%
Don't Know	45	22.5%
No	10	05.0%
Total	200	100.0%



In the question of youth knowledge in order to the village progress, above table and graph has recorded respondent's response regarding this. As data indicate that the majority (41.0%) of the respondents agreed that the youth can employ or utilize his/her knowledge in order to the development of village and youth can insure the proper utilization of various governmental and non-governmental developmental programmes and schemes at village level. They can also make a strategy of village development according to their knowledge and understanding about their village needs, situation and existing resources. They can also aware to the villagers about their rights and various governmental programmes which are especially designed for village or rural development. 31.5% of the respondents seemed little bit agree that youth can employ his/her knowledge for village development because of unaware about ground reality and challenges, lack of people's participation and so on. 22.5% of the respondent didn't respond about this and only 05.0% of the respondents disagreed that youth can employ his/her knowledge for village development. That data clearly indicate that majority of the respondents believed that village development can be possible through the utilization or employ the knowledge of youth which will create not only employment but also living standard of rural communities.

Findings:

1. Around less than half (45.5%) of the respondents admitted that sometimes they participated or involved in development process within their village especially in some government programmes and schemes
2. Majority of the respondents believed that village development can be possible through the utilization or employ the knowledge of youth.
3. Majority (59.0%) of the respondents were found more aware about the recent technological advancement in the agricultural field and they are using for high production in less time.

Conclusion: The role of youth in bringing about development of the rural communities have been regarded significant. In rural communities, the various areas in which the demand for rural participation has been encouraged are in agriculture, small-scale industries, skill development,

education and employment opportunities. These areas are in an under-developed state and improvements need to be made in them.

References:

1. Aminu A. A., (2012). *Youths and Community Development in Nigeria*, Journal of Educational and Social Research, Vol.2(7), Pp 27-30.
2. Anbuthambi B.,& Chandrasekharan N. (2017). *Impact of Skill India on Rural Youth- A Perspective*, ICTACT Journal of Management Studies, Vol. 3(1).
3. Bello A. R. S., Allaja Bou H. A. & Baig M. B. (2015). Attitude of Rural Youth towards Agriculture as an Occupation: A Case Study from Sudan, International Journal of Development and Sustainability, Vol. 4 (4), Pp 415-424.
4. Chachere G.S., Gohad V.V., &et.al., (2018). *Attitude of rural youth towards farming as a major occupation*, International Journal of Chemical Studies, Vol. 6(4), Pp 2789-2791.
5. Harahap R. Y., (2018). *The Role of Youth in Rural Development (Case Study: in Torgamba Sub-district of South Labuhanbatu District)*, IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science, Vol. 23 (2), Pp 76-84.
6. Malik B. K. (2015). "Youth Development in India: Does Poverty Matter?", Springer Plus (A Springer Open Journal), Pp 2-10.
7. N. Jayaram (2000) "Sociology of Youth in India" in ICSSR's A Survey of Research in Sociology and Social Anthropology, Vol. I, Bombay, Popolar Prakashan, pp. 221-274
8. Olujide M. G., (2008). *Attitude of Youth Towards Rural Development Projects in Lagos State, Nigeria*, Journal of Social Sciences, Vol. 17(2), 163-167.
9. Rani A & Roy P., (2019). *Youth in Agriculture: Role of Government Initiatives*, Journal of Agricultural Extension Management, Vol. xviii, No-2, Pp 167-175.
10. Tripathi P & Singh N., (2017). *Promoting Rural Entrepreneurship Through Skill Development for Decent Livelihood: A Review*. International Journal of Current Research Review, Vol. 9, ISSUE 15, Pp21-24.
11. Trucco D. & Ullmann H., (2016). *Youth: Realities and Challenges for achieving Development with Equality*, Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean, ECLAC Book.
12. Umeh G. N & Odom C. N., (2011). *Role and Constraints of Youth Associations in Agriculture and Rural Development: Evidence from Aguata L. G. A. of Anambra State, Nigeria*, World Journal of Agricultural Sciences, Vol. 7(5), Pp 515-519.