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# AN ANALYSIS OF NABARD IN PROMOTING AGRICULTURE AND RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE STATE OF J & K

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## ABSTRACT

*This paper reviews the contribution of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in rural development and roles it has been playing in propelling up this sector in terms of the policy, research and its implementation. The Eighth Five Year Plan witnessed deceleration in public investment in agriculture and rural infrastructure. In this backdrop, RIDF was created in 1995-96 to support infrastructure development in the rural sector. The approach taken was to trace the development of micro-finance and looking clearly at the role of NABARD in the organization of the sector and then the particular SHGs funded by the banks. This paper provides a comprehensive look about sector-wise amount sanctioned under RIDF Projects, Agency wise Bank loan disbursed to SHGs and Outstanding against SHGs, Progress under SHGs Banks Linkage Programme in Jammu and Kashmir State, and financial progress of KCC loans in Jammu and Kashmir.*

## KEYWORDS

rural development, RIDF, Jammu & Kashmir, self help group, KCC.

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

FIF	: Financial Inclusion Fund.
FITF	: Financial Inclusion Technology Fund.
J & K	: Jammu and Kashmir.
SLBC	: State Level Banker's Committee
NABARD	: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.
KCC	: Kisan Credit Card
RIDF	: Rural Infrastructure Development Fund
SHPI	: Self Help Promoting Institutions

## INTRODUCTION

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is an apex bank with a mandate for facilitating credit flow for promotion and development of agriculture, small scale industries, cottage and village industries, handicrafts and other rural crafts. It also has the mandate to support all other economic activities in rural areas including strengthening of infrastructure, promoting integrated and sustainable rural development and secure prosperity of rural areas. Since the creation of RIDF, National bank for agriculture and rural development (NABARD) has been supporting rural infrastructure development in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The focus of the study is on the following objectives:

1. To review the activities of NABARD in rural infrastructure of J&K.
2. To review the sector wise amount sanctioned under RIDF Projects in J&K.
3. To study the bank loan disbursed to SHGs in J&K.
4. To study the financial position of KCC loans in J&K.

## METHODOLOGY ADOPTED

The study of significant part depends on secondary sources. But the information has also been obtained from primary sources which include interviews, observations, opinion, notes, etc. of the persons concerned with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The primary information was also gathered through discussion with persons in NABARD, District Industries centre (DIC), and Chief Agriculture office. Materials for the present study were also collected from the published records available in the libraries of different institutions of J&K, and District Industries Centre, various Economic survey, magazines, journals, and annual reports, have also been gone through to obtain information pertaining to the present study.

## LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The present study suffers from certain limitations. The study is based on the information from secondary source which reduce the degree of consistency. However, attempt has been made to collect maximum information from the official record of NABARD and J&K in particular on the various aspects of the study. Most of the departments neither publish the information nor do they allow the outsiders an access to their records, internal workings etc. Data availability is restricted on the cause of maintaining privacy. So it was difficult to collect all the necessary data from grass-root level.

## NABARD'S INTERVENTIONS FOR RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE STATE

Jammu and Kashmir State has been approved loan for projects under rural roads, rural bridges, minor irrigation, soil conservation, watershed development, schools, rural drinking water supply etc. Since 1995-96, the interventions of NABARD for rural infrastructure development in the State have been as follows:

TABLE 1: SECTOR-WISE AMOUNT SANCTIONED UNDER RIDF PROJECTS IN J&amp;K

Sector Wise Projects	No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Disbursed	Benefits of the project
Irrigation	347	33637.73	25358.53	61,573.68Hectares
Soil Conservation (Flood Protection)	52	10774.80	8574.64	12,748Hectares
Roads	1677	296798.78	238059.75	11,784.12Km
Bridges	261	40400.05	31183.32	-
Public Health Institutions	117	15017.39	10655.05	-
Infrastructure for Rural Education Institutions	1860	3183.56	2414.00	50,054 Students
Rural Drinking Water Supply	283	28520.66	14642.95	11,31,244Souls
Animal Husbandry/Seep Husbandry	79	2299.10	1535.58	16.14lakh people
Others W/S /Agriculture/Horticulture Farms/RMY	34	3225.65	2077.97	-
Total	4710	433857.72	338733.00	

Brackets indicate percentage share

## FINANCIAL INCLUSION

As per the census, 2011, the total population of the state is 12548926 out of which 73% is the rural population. Although the banking sector expanded the branch network significantly but the inequalities in the banking services still exist. Banks in the first phase covered all 795 unbanked villages with population of over 2000 allotted by the SLBC. 401026 households were covered and 441157 savings accounts were opened in these villages as on 30th September, 2014. In the second phase SLBC identified 5582 unbanked villages with population less than 2000 and allotted among banks. These villages include 1393 unbaked villages already incorporated under financial inclusion plan-II for providing banking services under "Extension of Swabhimaan" and beyond programme of GOI, Ministry of Finance for coverage up to March, 2015 and beyond. 831 Villages out of targeted 1504 villages for 2014-15 were covered by banks up to September, 2014. As per the NSSO data, in percentage terms 55.25% villages were covered during this period.

## STEPS TAKEN BY NABARD J&K RELATING TO FINANCIAL INCLUSION ARE AS UNDER

- Awareness programmes on financial inclusion/ financial literacy/ smart card distribution are being conducted on regular basis.
- J&K Grameen bank has been sanctioned 45 awareness programmes on financial inclusion/ financial literacy with financial assistance of ₹ 12.15 lakh.
- Flex boards on financial inclusion are being installed by NABARD in all districts of J&K under financial literacy drive.
- NABARD is creating awareness among rural masses through advertisement on financial inclusion on radio.
- Two capacity building programmes have been sanctioned to J&K Grameen bank with financial assistance of ₹ 0.30 lakh.

## SHGs – BANK LINAGE PROGRAMME

The SHGs-Bank Linkage Programme launched by NABARD is an important strategy in promoting financial inclusion and inclusive growth. The programme has resulted in SHGs being credit linked.

TABLE 2: STATUS OF SHGS BANK LINAGE PROGRAMME (NO. AS ON 2014-15)

Particulars	Total SHG formed	Saving Linked SHGs	Credit linked SHGs	Loans disbursed (Rs in Crore)
31.03.2013	8632	7108	6595	45.14
31.03.2014	10808 (25.21)	9207 (29.53)	7222 (9.51)	51.11 (13.23)
30.09.2014	12066 (11.64)	10456 (13.57)	7923 (9.71)	54.87 (7.36)

A bracket indicates percentage increase over previous year/period.

## INITIATIVES OF NABARD FOR PROMOTION AND CREDIT LINKAGES OF SHG'S WITH BANKS

- NABARD organizes capacity building programmes for the benefit of SHG members enabling them to setup income generating units.
- Various workshops for bankers and Govt. departments, for bank linkage SHG are also being conducted.
- NABARD conducted various SHG orientation awareness programmes for NGOs, SHG members, Bankers and Govt. officials.
- To organize training and capacity building programmes for NGOs and bankers enabling them to act as Self Help Promoting Institutions (SHPI).
- Exhibitions for display and sale of products prepared by SHG members are also organized / sponsored by NABARD.
- To develop connection with the state Govt. to rope Govt. machinery especially ICDS workers for effective promotion of SHG formation.
- Three projects have been sanctioned by NABARD for 3 districts, i.e., Poonch, Doda and Kupwara which have been declared backward by Govt. of India for formation of Women Self Help Groups (WSHG).

## KISAN CREDIT CARD (KCC) SCHEME IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

The Kisan credit Card has emerged as a highly innovative credit delivery mechanism to meet the production credit requirements of the farmers in a timely and hassle free manner. Modified KCC Scheme aims to provide adequate and timely credit support from the banking system under a single window to the farmers for their cultivation and other needs. As on 31-3-2014 the number of KCCs issued stood at 653286 as against 803586 KCC sanctioned. In percentage terms 81.30% KCC were issued of the sanctioned number. Similarly, as against Rs. 522426.36 lakh sanctioned Rs 463047.29 lakh was disbursed measuring 88.63% of sanctioned amount. In the number of KCCs issued 73.75% were issued by commercial banks followed by 15.30% share of RRBs and 10.95% share belongs to co-operative banks. In the amount of credit advanced under KCC scheme share of commercial banks is again highest i.e., 81.44% followed by 14.91% share of RRBs and 3.65% share of co-operative banks. This is cumulatively more than progress made under KCC during last 7-8 years.

TABLE 3: PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PROGRESS ACHIEVED UNDER KISAN CREDIT CARD SCHEME IN J&amp;K STATE (Amount in lakh)

Name of the Bank	Commercial Banks	Cooperative Banks	RRB	Total
Total number of KCC Sanctioned	537668	83871	182047	803586
Amount	401696.70	19807.95	100921.71	522426.36
Total number of KCC issued	481776 (73.75)	71548 (10.95)	99962 (15.30)	653286 (100.00)
Amount	377105.35 (81.44)	16906.76 (3.65)	69035.18 (14.91)	463047.29 (100.00)

A bracket indicates percentage share

## CONCLUSION

NABARD has an important role to play in the development of Jammu and Kashmir. It is one of the most important inputs in economic development. NABARD has been termed as the fuel of economic progress and the prime mover of economic growth and development. As a state with unique features and a strategic location,

the speedy development of Jammu and Kashmir needs an integrated approach. In a nutshell, the study concludes with the observation that NABARD's activities are playing a pivotal role in the State of Jammu and Kashmir's economic development. State finance should also receive proper attention in order to ensure better financial management. A sound policy should be devised to exploit the potential in the sectors of strength. The development of potential sectors such as horticulture, handloom and handicrafts, biotechnology, tourism and information technology will have strong inter-linkages with the rest of the sectors.

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