- Concept, meaning and definition of Rural Development

Rural Development

As a concept, it connotes overall development of rural areas with a view to improve

- the quality of life of rural people.
- It is a comprehensive and multidimensional concept and encompasses the development of agriculture and allied activities
- Village and cottage industries and crafts,
- Socioeconomic infrastructure,
- Community services and facilities, and
- Human resources in rural areas.

Rural Development

- **As a phenomenon**, it is the result of interactions between various

- physical,

- technological,

- economic,

- socio-cultural, and

- institutional factors.

Rural Development

- **As a strategy**, it is designed to improve the economic and social well-being of a specific group of people the rural poor.

Rural Development

- **As a discipline**, it is multidisciplinary in nature representing an intersection of agriculture, social, behavioural, engineering and management sciences.

- A process of developing and utilizing natural and human resources, technologies, infrastructure facilities, institutions and organisations, and government policies and programmes to encourage and speed up economic growth in rural areas, to provide jobs, and to improve the quality of rural life towards self sustenance.

- In addition to economic growth, this process typically involves changes in popular attitudes, and in many cases even in customs and beliefs.

Community Development

- UN: CD as a process by which the efforts of people themselves are united with those of governmental authorities to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of the communities to integrate these communities into life of the nation and to enable them to contribute fully to the national progress

Mukherjee (1967)

- CD is the process of change from traditional way of living of rural communities to the progressive ways of living; as a method by which people are assisted to develop themselves on their own capacity and resources; as a programme for accomplising certain activities infields concerning th welfare of rural people and as movement for progress with certain ideological content.

Conclusion

- Understanding concept as a phenomenon, philosophy and strategy helps in making the concept reality

- Participation of public institutions along with end users id the key