

History of Extension Services

- **Rural reconstruction scheme**
- **Sriniketan attempt**

Indian villages were self contained, self sufficient and self governed

Hardly there was any need for social welfare.

Disturbed by the invaders

At the far end of 19th century the subcontinent has suffered many severe droughts and famines

The then government appointed a commission which recommended rural development work

Rural Reconstruction Scheme (1903):

Sir Daniel Hamilton

- Objective - To create model villages based on cooperative principles in Bengal
- Modus operandi – Establishment of Central Cooperative Bank and Cooperative Marketing Society.
- Established Rural Reconstruction Institute in 1934 for imparting training in cottage and subsidiary industries

Shantiniketan Attempt (Sriniketan Attempt):

Ravindranath Tagore (1908)

The objectives of Shantiniketan attempt were

- ✓ To create real interest in people for rural welfare work
- ✓ To study rural problems and to translate conclusion into action
- ✓ To help villagers to develop their resources
- ✓ To improve village sanitation



Modus Operandi

- Organised and motivated youth
- Village leadership is the panacea for the rural problems
- self help is the best help
- Conducted demonstrations in the fields of farmers to convince the benefits of improved practices.
- Established dairy to supply milk and better milch animals
- Emphasized on women empowerment and they created a class of women functionaries named 'Brati Balika',
- Special emphasis on literacy among rural population

Since there was lack of funds, it was difficult to conduct research oriented studies and to learn from them. Hence the project couldn't expand beyond the cluster of eight villages.

Conclusion

- Individual initiative
- No government support
- Lack of financial support, lack of leadership etc
- Were also location and technology specific.