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Role of Government Development Initiatives in Socio-economic Transformation of Rural Areas of Himachal Pradesh: A Case Study of Kullu District

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Abstract

Democratic governments are dedicated for the welfare and upliftment of people, who elect them and allocate the responsibility to introduce and implement welfare policies and to introduce the development initiatives for the socio-economic and cultural transformation of the people. Development initiatives, welfare policies and projects are tool to remove socio-economic disparities and inequalities and to promote the equal and equitable distribution of the benefits of the development and to provide the equal opportunities to all for their development. In the present study, analysis of the role of the government led development initiatives in the socio-economic transformation of rural areas of Kullu district has been performed, in order to find out the outcomes of these development initiatives and their effectiveness in attainment of the objectives of these initiatives. For this study primary data was collected through field work in order to understand the opinion of the people of the rural areas of Kullu district about the effectiveness of the development initiatives.

Keywords: Democratic Institutions, Governments, Developmental Initiatives, Socio-economic Transformation, Inequalities and disparities, Rural Areas, Kullu District.

Introduction

Modern era is the era of democratic governments democracy and democratic institutions, in which the socio-economic and cultural progress, upliftment, welfare and advancement of the citizens is the sole responsibility of democratic governments and their institutions. In democratic form of the government, the government is being running by the elected representatives, elected by voting system, in order to make policies, laws, and rules and regulations, for the welfare of peoples, and to introduce, enact and implement the welfare schemes and development initiatives and to make road map for execution and monitoring of the development work and to maintain the account and record of allocation of funds and their expenditure for the plan and schemes, to which this fund has been allocated.

Existence of socio-economic disparities and inequalities is universal phenomenon, which affect the livelihood, standard of living, access to welfare schemes and policies and widened the gap between rich and poor people. As majority of population of India live in rural India, so population of rural India is most vulnerable to being affected by socio-economic disparities and inequalities, so there is



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requirement of more attention towards progress and advancement of these areas in order to remove these inequalities.

In order to remove these inequalities and disparities and to promote the equalities and to ensure the equitable distribution of benefits of government schemes and to provide equal opportunities of progress to every citizen, the government introduced various development initiatives, in which various aspects of local socio-cultural landscape are considered and included, and policies and plans are framed as per the local needs and sufficient funds are allocated to obtain the objectives of that development work. Under present study, the role of government in socio-economic transformation of rural area of Kullu district has been chosen in order to identify their role in removal of socio-economic disparities and inequalities and to promote the equalities in Kullu district.

Literature Review

Harkanwal Swarup Sharma (2026), study the effects of government schemes in on rural development. For this study, he discussed about the government initiatives and their role in sustainable development in rural areas, community health and socio-economic status, obstacles or challenges in rural transformation and government approach to tackle these challenges. He concluded that, the digital inclusion, investment in infrastructure, and integrated rural development initiatives can play effective role in lifting of socio-economic disparities and to ensure the well-being of all community members.

Dr. Antrawell Warjri (2025), discussed about the role of government schemes in removal of poverty and unemployment rural area, their effects on income levels, education, health, and infrastructure and access of these schemes in rural areas of Meghalaya. He also discussed about the challenges being faced in successful implementation of these schemes. According to him, although, the government schemes play major role in betterment of services and livelihood in rural areas, but uneven implementation, limited awareness, and bureaucratic intervention affect the implementation of these schemes, and better implementation of these schemes, awareness schemes, and addressing the regional challenges will make these schemes more effective and sustainable.

K. Srimathi and Dr. M.D. Chinnu (2026) discussed about the, participation rates of marginalized people in major government schemes, their impacts on income stability, housing security, and access to basic amenities in rural areas, challenges being faced by the rural population in accessing these schemes. According to them, sustainable employment opportunities, financial support, insurance of the timely crediting the wages and work opportunities, promotion of awareness about farming techniques, provision of better irrigation and water management, improvement of school infrastructure, strengthening of the health services in rural areas, improvement of road connectivity electricity and internet and encouragement to the self-help groups will play effective role in successful



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implementation of government schemes in rural areas.

Anupam Verma and O.P Verma (2024), discussed about the impact of the rural development schemes on the socio-economic advancement of rural population in Shimla and Sirmaur districts of Himachal Pradesh and have identified the key components, playing major role in overall development of these districts by using the descriptive statistics and factor analysis. According to them, support for marginalized group and encouragement of local politics will play important role in socio-economic development in rural area of Himachal Pradesh.

Dr. Jitendra Singh Bidawat (2023), discussed about the various rural development schemes and programs being implemented in India, impacts of these development schemes and programs. According to him, economic hardships, and urban poverty are the outward manifestations of underlying socio-economic conflicts caused by poverty, unemployment and insufficient infrastructure in rural areas. According to him, although, the government initiated many development schemes throughout the India, but lack of awareness among population about these programs and schemes leads to be lagging behind in areas like education, health and sanitation, in order to remove this hurdle use of audio, video, and audiovisual media will play major role in promotion of awareness about these programs in rural areas.

Dr. Keshvendra Nath Srivastava (2019), discussed about the government initiatives of rural development in pre-independence and post-independence period, role of non-governmental organizations and self-help groups in sustainable rural development, issue and challenges being faced in sustainable rural development. According to him, although, government of India have take several initiatives for sustainable development of rural India, but there are many flaws in this developmental process, removal of these flaws will accelerate the process of sustainable rural development. Effective rural development strategies will play effective role in attainment of the objectives of sustainable rural development in India.

Research objectives

Present study have the following objectives

1. To study the development initiatives of Government in Kullu district
2. To study the role of development initiatives in socio-economic transformation in rural areas of Kullu district.

Data Base

Primary data used in this study has been collected through field work and secondary has been used collected from the census of India 2001 and 2011.



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Research methodology

Mixed methodology of research has been used in order to obtain the objectives of the present study. For this purpose content analysis of various research papers has been done in order to identify the work already been done on government development initiatives and role of these development initiatives in bringing out socio-economic transformation of role areas. And quantitative analysis of data collected during field work has been done in order to find out the peoples ideas about development initiatives and about the socio-economic transformation brought by these initiatives.

Results and discussion

Table no. 1 shows various initiative, initiated by the central as well as state government for the socio-economic development and welfare of the people of the rural areas of Kullu district. Central and state government have introduced various welfare and development oriented schemes in order to assure the overall development of residents of rural area of Kullu. Various development initiatives for the socio-economic and cultural advancement of the people of rural areas of Kullu district can be discussed under various headings as below:

Education and health

Education is one of the fundamental need of every individual, which play major role in development of intellectual and psychological capabilities of the individual, and make them capable to survive and to face the difficulties of life. In this way education can be considered as building block of nation. Expansion of education and access to education determine the future destiny of the nation. If we have to discuss, about the government initiatives to promote education in Kullu district, analysis of government initiatives to promote education can be done as below:

Establishment of educational institutes

Both the central and state government are doing their best to promote education in rural areas of Kullu district. Central government has established one Navodaya and one Kenderiya vidhyalaya in order to provide quality and affordable education to the people of rural areas of Kullu district. Similarly, the state government of Himachal Pradesh has also established primary, middle and senior secondary school in every block of the district. In order to provide higher education to the students of Kullu district, the state government has established degree college in every tehsil of the district, which are affiliated with, Sardar Patel University, Mandi. In addition to it, to provide engineering and vocational education, various engineering college, polytechnic and industrial training institutes also have been established by the government.

Free books and school kit distribution

Government of Himachal Pradesh also launched the scheme of distribution of books and



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school kit free of cost to the needy students in order to promote the enrollment of students in schools.

Free bus pass facility

In order to promote the gross enrollment in remote rural areas of Kullu district, government of Himachal Pradesh is providing the facility of free bus pass to visit the education located at distant place so that they can do complete their study.

Mid-day meals and Scholarships

In order to provide balanced and nutritious diet to the students, so that their overall development can be assured, and to protect them from deficiency of vitamins, government has launched the mid-day meals scheme. Similarly in order to promote education among women and marginalized people, the government of Himachal Pradesh has launched scholarship scheme so marginalized people and girl child could be inspired to get enrollment in schools and can complete their education uninterruptedly.

Health services

In order to assure the healthy society and physically as well as mentally well-being of the society, the government is providing and expanding the health and medical services in rural areas of Kullu district, so that they can be prevented from the deadly diseases and any kind of biological disaster. In order to promote and expand the health service, the state government has established dispensaries and health care center in every block of the district. Government of Himachal Pradesh has also established the civil hospitals in Kullu, Banjar, Bhuntar, Sainj, Mandi and Anni cities of the district in order to provide quality health facilities to the residents of the district. In addition to, it in order to promote the animal husbandry and to provide health care facilities to the live stocks, veterinary hospital also has been established in every block of the district.

Agriculture and power generation

Agriculture and power generation play major role in socio-economic development of any area. Agriculture assures the food security for human beings and supply of raw materials for agro-based industries, and power generation assures the availability of electricity for all kind of industrial production, uninterrupted irrigation for agriculture and horticulture and availability of electricity for domestic purpose. In this way it can be said that, the agriculture and power generation are backbone of socio-economic development, food security and of industrial production. In order to assure the development of agriculture and uninterrupted power generation and its distribution and to accelerate the agricultural productivity and power generation and to remove problems being faced in agriculture and power generation government introduced various development initiatives, which play active role in progress of agriculture and power generation. Major developmental initiatives initiated by the



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government in the field of agriculture and power generation can be discussed as below:

Central government schemes for agriculture and horticulture

In order to promote the agriculture and to increase the productivity of agriculture and to provide security to the farmers in case of any disaster and loss of agricultural crops, the central government has introduced various development and farmer welfare plans and schemes in order to assure the progress of agricultural and enhancement of agricultural productivity. Major plan and schemes launched by the central government for the development of agriculture and horticulture can be summarized as, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PMRKVY), Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Rajiv Gandhi Natural Farming Start-up Scheme and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna.

In addition to this, Subhash Palekar Natural Farming (SPNF) is schemes is being implemented jointly by the central government in collaboration with state government for the promotion of natural and organic farming as an alternative to green revolution. For the promotion of horticulture the central government has launched the various plans and schemes, such as, the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna, Sub-mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) in order to assure the development of infrastructure required for horticulture and to provide financial security to the farmer in case of damage and loss due to natural disaster.

State government schemes for agriculture and horticulture

For the promotion and development of infrastructure required for the promotion and development of agriculture and horticulture and to provide assistance and financial security to the farmers in case of crop loss and natural disaster, the state government of Himachal Pradesh has launched various schemes, such as, Himachal Khumb Vikas Yojna (HKVY), Himachal Pushp Kranti Yojna (HPKY), Installation of Anti Hail Nets, Krishi Utpad Sarankshan Yojna (KUSHY), MEHAK, Mukhya Mantri Greenhouse Renovation (MMGRS), Mukhya Mantri Kiwi Protsahan Yojna (MMKPY), Mukhya Mantri Madhu Vikas Yojna (MMMVY), and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) are some of the schemes launched by the government of himachal Pradesh for the promotion of agriculture in Kullu district.

In addition to it, the Prakritik Kheti Khushhal Kissan Yojana has been launched for the promotion of natural farming, similarly “the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA)” has been launched in order to improve the agricultural technology dissemination, improvement the skill of farmers in risk and management practices in agriculture and its sub-



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sectors and commodity specific agriculture chain in order to enable the farmers to realize the higher net income from agriculture in sustainable manner across the state.

Table no. 1 Developmental initiatives of Government in rural areas of Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh

Education and health	Agriculture and power generation
Educational institutions	Central government schemes for agriculture
Free books and school kit distribution	State government schemes for agriculture
Free bus pass facility	Hydro-electric project
Mid-day meals and Scholarships	Employment generation schemes
Hospitals, dispensaries and health schemes	Schemes for the welfare of local artisans and art and craft
Road, infrastructure and Tourism	Social-welfare schemes
4lanes highways	Indira Awas Yojana
National highways and Ropeway	Women and child welfare schemes
Tourism and Airport	Free electricity of 125 units

Hydro-electric project

In order to provide affordable and uninterrupted supply of hydroelectricity, the central government, through National Hydroelectric Power Corporation has launched Hydro-electric project on Parbati River in Parbati river basin. Under this project, 2 units of project, such as Parbati-II, having 800 megawatt capacity and Parbati III of 520 megawatt capacity. In addition to power generation, management of water resources, discharge and flow of water and flood control are another objectives of this project. In addition to, an hospital also being run by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation, which is providing health service to the employees of the project as well as for general public.

Road, infrastructure and Tourism

Road and infrastructure are some of fundamental building blocks, upon which the speed and pace of economic development, productivity of industries and movement of people, ideas and commodities depend. Development and expansion of network of road and other infrastructure, can



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play major role acceleration of the speed and direction of the socio-economic development of any area. Taking it into consideration, the state government of himachal in association with central government has initiated various initiatives for development of road and infrastructure, which can be discussed as below:

4lanes highways

In order to accelerate the speed of socio-economic development and movement of people and commodities, the government has upgraded the existing national highways no. 3, and national highway no. 205 into 4 lanes highways, reduced the travel time between Kullu and Kiratpur significantly.

National highways

Government launched the construction and expansion of National highway No. 3, in which, Atal tunnel connecting Kullu and Lahaul district is situated, national highway No.305, also called as national highway no. 15A, which passing through the Jalori pass connecting the Banjar valley and Seraj, and national highway no. 505, connecting the cold desert of Spiti valley in Kinnaur district to Palchan valley in Kullu are some of the major initiatives of the government in order to accelerate the speed of socio-economic and cultural development of Kullu district and to connect the district with the distant and remote areas.

Ropeway

In addition to construction of national highways, the government of Himachal Pradesh has launched the construction of ropeways, in Solang valley of Kullu district connecting the towns of Kullu and Manali to transport the visitors from the Kullu bus stand to the major destination of tourists. Construction of taxi stand and construction of new bus stand are some of the government initiatives in field of transport. All these initiatives accelerate movement of people, ideas and commodities, which play major role in the socio-economic development of Kullu district.

Airport

Air transport has been emerged as powerful means of transport of peoples, commodities, ideas and other in the distant areas, and in the area having rugged topography, due which there is difficulty in development of road and railways. Taking it into consideration the central government has launched the construction of Kullu-Manali Airport (KUU), formerly also called as Bhuntar Airport for domestic flights for Indian cities, which playing major role in development of tourism in Kullu district.

Tourism

Tourism and related activities, such as, rafting, paragliding and adventurous activities have been emerged as one of means of economic development, and employment generation in Kullu district. Attractive rich culture, topography, attractive climate and natural beauty, play major role in increasing potential of tourism in Kullu district. Taking into consideration, the importance and



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potentiality of tourism, department of tourism, Government of Himachal Pradesh makes the arrangement of government hotels, rope ways, promoting the adventurous activities by giving licenses to the various companies to organize the adventurous sports activities in the district.

Private hotels and individual homestays have been approved by the department in order to provide accommodation to the tourists, also play their role in development and promotion of tourism sector in the district. Nature parks and the infrastructure have been developed and are being developed by the department to develop and promote the tourism. Department is responsible for providing licenses to companies to run tourism and adventurous activities in Kullu. Due to all these efforts tourism sector is developing rapidly in Kullu district, which accelerate the economic development, livelihood and employment generation in Kullu district.

Social-welfare scheme

In order to assure the survival of the marginal people, and for women empowerment the state government has launched various social-welfare schemes. These social-welfare schemes become the important tool of upliftment of marginal people and women, and play major role in their advancement. Important social-welfare scheme launched by government are, Indira Awas Yojna to provide house to needy persons, Sanjivni Yojna to provide health facilities, Mata Sabri Shagun Yojna, Balika Samridhi Yojna and Widow Remarriage Yojna, Free Electricity of 125 Unit Yojna are some other initiatives of government upliftment of people of Kullu. In addition to all these schemes, government also providing scholarship for studying in school to the students belonged to marginal section and for the female child in order to assure their enrolment in school and to make capable them to complete their study.

Schemes for the welfare of local artisans and art and craft

In order to assure the welfare and upliftment of local artisans and to provide protection, conservation and for the promotion of the traditional handloom and cottage industry government has introduced the various welfare schemes and development initiatives, in collaboration with the local artisans such as the Kullu-Kinauri Shawls co-operative society, Bhuttico society co-operative society, and Himbunkar co-operative society, and the great Hadimba weavers co-operative society Manali established by government. In addition to it, government has assisted in the setting up of local co-operative societies at village levels. All these initiatives aimed to provide the employment and protection to weaver families and to provide financial security and assistance in order to preserve the traditional art and craft. In addition to this, the government also inspire the production of traditional products such as, Kullu shawls, stoles, mufflers, tweeds, and blankets with bold geometric borders. All these development initiatives leads to employment generation for local artisans, which leads to their economic upliftment.



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Employment generation schemes

Union government has introduced the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MANREGA), scheme in order to provide employment to labour force in rural India. This schemes emerged as major source of employment and to earn the livelihood for the rural labour force of Kullu district. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MANREGA) is a totally center sponsored scheme aimed to improve the livelihood and financial security to the work force in rural areas by providing the guarantee of 100 days of wages employment to the rural work force, who is willing to do some unskilled manual work in rural areas.

Various kind of developmental work have been initiated under MANREGA scheme, in rural areas of Kullu district, such as the construction and the maintenance of water bodies, construction and the maintenance of roads, construction of boundary walls around water bodies, road and agricultural land, provision of construction and distribution of cow shelter, construction of toilets and washroom to promote open defecation free environment in rural areas.

Socio-economic impacts of development initiatives of government in Kullu district

As we know that, the main objective of any government led development plan and welfare scheme to assure the socio-economic transformation of socio-economically backward people of any area. Effectiveness of any development initiatives could be determine by assessing the impacts of these developmental initiatives on targeted population. In order to assess the impacts of government developmental initiatives on socio-economic transformation of population in rural areas of Kullu district can be done as below:

Impacts of development initiatives on standard of living of people in Kullu district

As we know that, the main objective of development initiative is to raise the standard of living of people by providing employment opportunities so that they can earn their livelihood in dignify manner and can fulfil their basic necessities to live a dignify life. If we have to talk about the impact of development initiatives on the standard of living in rural area of Kullu district, than data collect during field work having shown the positive trends, as 106 respondent out of 150 respondents, who were contacted during field work have accepted and approved the fact that due to development initiatives of the government, there is increase in standard of living of people of Kullu district, on the other hand 46 respondents did not think so according to them there is no impact of development initiatives on standard of living. In other words it can be say that, there is positive relationship between development initiatives and standard of living. Initiation of development work leads to rise in standard of living of people.

Development initiatives and employment generation

As we know that, due to initiation of development work there is increase in demand for man power to perform various task, frame framing and planning the development plan, to implement, execute



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and to monitor the development work and demand for labour force to perform unskilled work also increase, which leads to the generation of employment opportunities so that the development plan could be completed in time allocated and by using the allocated resources, in this way it can be say that any development initiative of government result into generation of new opportunities of employment, which provide opportunities to the work force to earn their livelihood by providing the labour to the development work.

If we have to talk about the impact of development initiatives on employment generation in rural area of Kullu district, than data collect during field work having shown the positive trends, as 99 respondent out of 150 respondents, who were contacted during field work have accepted and approved the fact that due to initiation of the development initiatives by the government, new opportunities of employment generation for the labour taking place Kullu district, on the other hand 51 respondents did not think so according to them there is no impact of development initiatives on employment generation for local people.

In other words it can be say that, there is positive relationship between development initiatives and generation of employment for local people of Kullu district. Initiation of development work leads to generation of employment opportunities for people in rural area of Kullu district.

Table No.2 Socio-economic Impact of development initiatives in Kullu

Whether the developmental initiatives had improved the standard of living of people in Kullu?			
Options	Yes	No	Total
Number of respondents	106	46	150
Whether the developmental projects create employment opportunities in Kullu?			
Options	Yes	No	Total
Number of respondents	99	51	150
Whether the local people benefitted equally from developmental initiatives in Kullu?			
Options	Yes	No	Total
Number of respondents	80	70	150
Whether the developmental initiatives consider the local needs?			
Options	Yes	No	Total
Number of respondents	71	79	150

Development initiatives and equal distribution of their benefits

As we know that, main objective behind the initiation of development work by government is to raise the standard of living of people and welfare of the target population and to provide equal opportunities for upliftment and progress, so initiation of any development leads to equal and equitable distribution of benefits of development so that the desired objectives of development



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work could be obtained by using the allocated resources, in this way it can be say that any development initiative of government result into equal and equitable distribution of the benefits of that development work.

If we have to talk about the impact of development initiatives on equal and equitable distribution of benefits of that development initiative in rural area of Kullu district, than data collect during field work having shown the positive trends, as 80 respondent out of 150 respondents, who were contacted during field work have accepted and approved the fact that due to initiation of the development initiatives by the government, to equal and equitable distribution of the benefits of that development work among the target population is taking place in rural areas of Kullu district, on the other hand 70 respondents did not think so according to them there is no impact of development initiatives on equal and equitable distribution of benefits of any developmental work among the targeted population.

In other words it can be say that, there is positive relationship between development initiatives and equal and equitable distribution of benefits of developmental work among the people of Kullu district. Initiation of development work leads to equal and equitable distribution of benefits of developmental work among the targeted people of rural areas of Kullu district.

Development initiatives and fulfilment of local needs

As we know that, main objective behind the initiation of development work by government is to meet the basic local needs the target population so that they could earn their livelihood and could live their lives in dignify manner. So, the success of any development work can be assessed by the level at which, it playing its role in meeting of the local needs of people of the targeted area.

If we have to talk about the impact of development initiatives on meeting of the local needs of people of rural area of Kullu district, than data collect during field work having shown the moderate to negative effects, as 71 respondent out of 150 respondents, who were contacted during field work have accepted and approved the fact that due to initiation of the development initiatives by the government, leads to meeting of the local needs of the target population in rural areas of Kullu district, on the other hand 79 respondents did not think so, according to them there is no impact of development initiatives on meeting of the local needs of the targeted population.

In other words it can be say that, there is moderate to negative relationship between development initiatives and meeting of the local needs of the people of Kullu district. Initiation of development work did not have any impact on meeting of the local benefits of the targeted people of rural areas of Kullu district.

Development initiatives and changing population structure in Kullu district

Population and its structure are some the fundamental aspects of socio-economic and cultural landscape. As the main objective of any development work is the upliftment, welfare and advancement of the population of targeted area, so the success and effectiveness of any



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development initiatives of government in any area can be determined and assessed by observing the changing taking place in the population structure, its socio-economic and cultural advancement and meeting of basic needs of that population. Table no. 3 given below shows the population structure of Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011. According to this table, total population in Kullu district was 381571 persons in 2001, which increased to 437903 persons in 2011. So there is addition of 56332 persons in total population of Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011.

Similarly if we have talk about the structure of population in Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011, than there were 198016 males and 183555 females in Kullu district, which increased to 225452 males and 212451 females in Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011. During this time period, there is addition of 27436 males and 28896 females in Kullu district. So initiation of various social welfare schemes, and implementation of MANREGA scheme in Kullu district leads to increase in population in Kullu district. Similarly expanding educational and health facilities and various schemes of women empowerment leads to increase in female population in Kullu district. In this way it can be say that the development initiatives and welfare schemes have positive impacts on total population and population of females in Kullu district.

Table No.3 population structure and literate population in Kullu district during 2001-2011

Population structure in Kullu district during 2001-2011					
2001			2011		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
198016	183555	381571	225452	212451	437903
Number of Literate persons in Kullu district during 2001-2011					
143655	95994	239649	174550	133122	307672

Development initiatives and changing literacy rate in Kullu district

Education and its expansion and access of education to the population are some the building blocks of socio-economic and cultural landscape of any area. As the main objective of any development work is the upliftment, welfare and advancement of the population of targeted area, so the success



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and effectiveness of any development initiatives of government in any area can be determined and assessed by observing the level of expansion of education, its access to the population, structure of male-female literate persons, its effectiveness in socio-economic and cultural advancement of the population of any area. Table no. 3 given below shows the structure of literate population of Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011.

According to this table, total literate population in Kullu district was 239649 persons in 2001, which increased to 307672 literate persons in 2011. So there is addition of 68023 persons in literate population of Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011. Similarly if we have talk about the structure of literate population in Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011, than there were 143655 males were literate and 95994 females were literate in Kullu district, which increased to 174550 male literates and 133122 female literate in Kullu district during the time period of 2001-2011.

During this time period, total of 30895 males and 37128 females were added in literate population of Kullu district. So initiation of various social welfare schemes, schemes of women empowerment, schemes of promotion of education among the population especially among the women and marginal people, and provision of scholarship and the scheme of distribution of free books and school bags, and expansion of educational insinuation play major role in increasing population of literate persons in Kullu district.

Conclusion

After above give discussion it can be concluded that the development initiatives of government are means of socio-economic transformation, and reduce the inequalities and disparities and to promote the equalities and equities. Development initiatives and socio-economic transformation are mutually correlated. Objectives of the socio-economic transformation and advancement, welfare and upliftment of people of any area can be obtained by using the tools of development initiatives. Development initiatives initiated by the government leads to radical socio-economic transformation of the people of rural areas of Kullu district. Government initiatives for promotion of agriculture and to increase the agricultural productivity have play major role in promotion of agriculture, in providing the financial security and to increase the agricultural productivity in Kullu district.

Government initiatives to promote the roads, air transportation play major role in movement of peoples, ideas and commodities from one area to other, it also play in improvement in trade and commerce which leads to economic advancement of people of Kullu district. Promotion of tourism leads to employment generation and livelihood opportunities for the peoples of Kullu district. Similarly expansion of welfare schemes, expansion of education and medical facilities play major role in women empowerment education leads to increase in female population and promotion of education among the women and marginal people of Kullu district. It can be concluded that, the



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development initiatives, initiated by government in rural areas of Kullu district leads to socio-economic and cultural transformation of people of Kullu district at greater extent.

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