



**Institute Of Rural Research & Development**

(An initiative of S M Sehgal Foundation)

**India Development Coalition of America (IDCA)  
Sixth International Conference in India**

*Poverty Reduction*



Jay sehgal

*“Working together to empower rural India”*



# Institute Of Rural Research & Development

(An initiative of S M Sehgal Foundation)

## VISION

IRRAD envisions rural people across India **motivated and empowered** to make their lives more secure and prosperous through education, better health, improved skills, and supportive governance.

## MISSION

IRRAD's mission is to implement **Integrated Sustainable Village Development (ISVD)** in select village clusters, build capacity in rural development, undertake rural research, improve village governance, and serve as a premier knowledge institution for rural development and poverty reduction in India



*“Working together to empower rural India”*



## Mewat at a Glance

- One of the 159 most backward District of India
- 491 Villages with Population of 1.2 million
- 100 Kms from Delhi
- Base of the Aravali Hills
- 63 of 503 villages with sweet water

## Area of Implementation

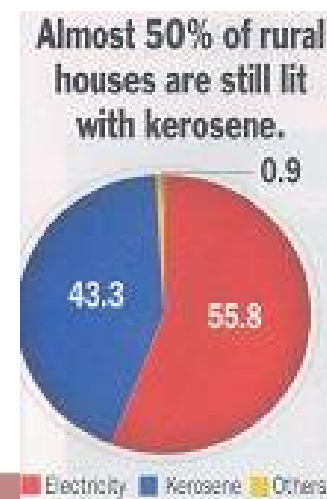




## Why Mewat?

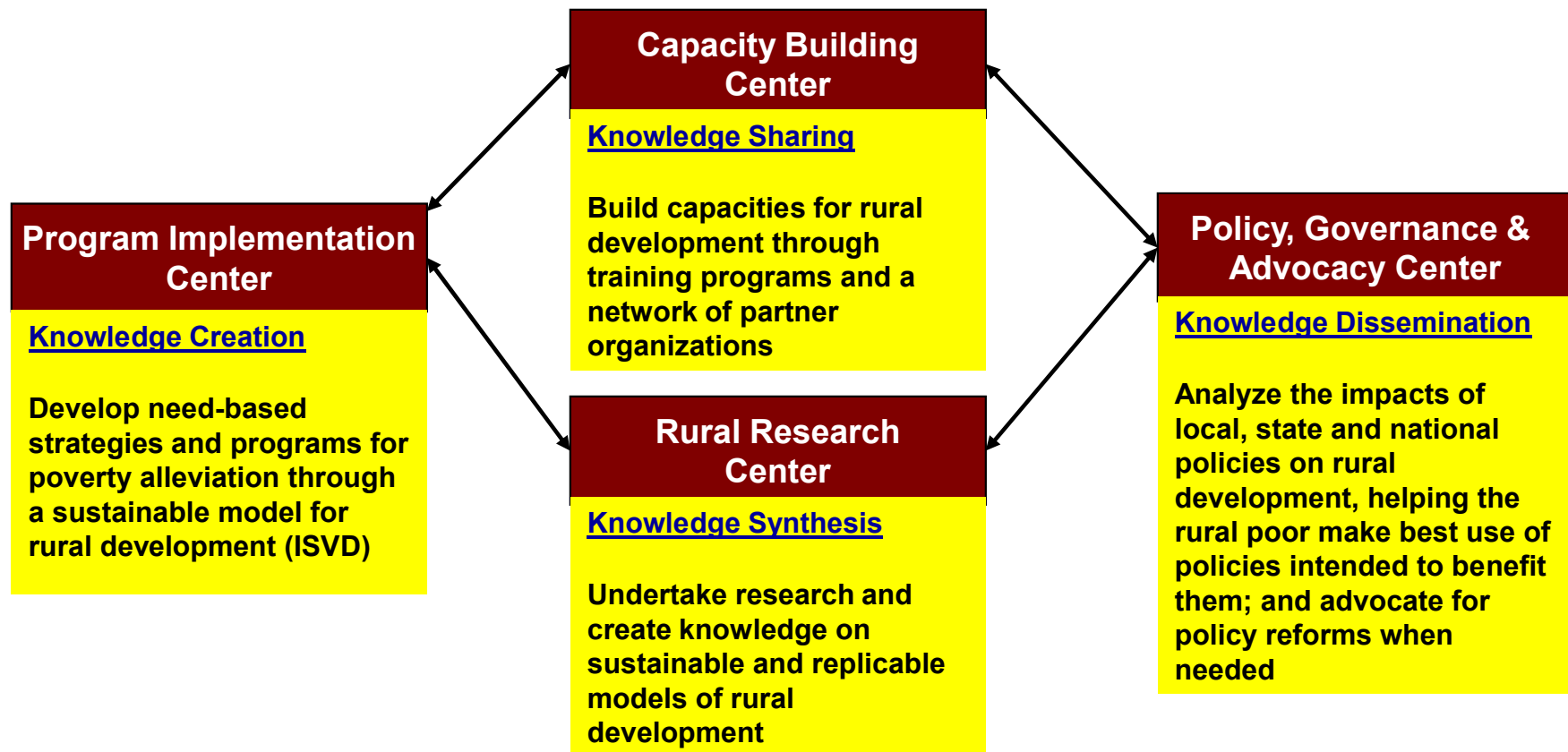
Social Indicators	India	Haryana	Gurgaon	Mewat
Villages	638,588	6764	688	491
Household Size	5.3	6	6	8.4
Literacy Rate	64.8	67.9	62.9	19.23
Sex Ratio	933	861	873	865

### Mewat On a Downward spiral





## IRRAD – A Premier Knowledge Institute







# Institute Of Rural Research & Development

(An initiative of S M Sehgal Foundation)

## WATER MANAGEMENT

- Collection
- Conservation
- Purification
- Wastewater Disposal

## RURAL HEALTH

- Reproductive and Child Health (RCH)
- Hygiene and Sanitation
- Curative Linkages

## ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

- Solar Energy
- Low-cost Energy Solutions



# INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT



**IRRAD**

INSTITUTE OF RURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
An Initiative of S M Sehgal Foundation

## INCOME ENHANCEMENT

- Primary Agriculture
- Secondary Agriculture
- Enterprise Development

## LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION

- Vocational Training
- Social Skills
- Support to Schools
- Non-formal Education

## COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

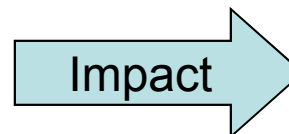
- Village Champions
- Interest Groups
- Women Empowerment

*“Working together to empower rural India”*



## Water Management:

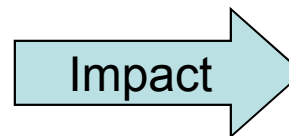
- 35 check dams
- 24 recharge wells
- 10 roof water harvesting
- Borewell water from brackish to sweet
- Increase in water yield in wells
- Increase in ground water table
- Decrease in fluoride, iron and nitrate level in ground water to optimum level



**Water Sustained  
Communities**

## Income Enhancement

- Sprinkler irrigation increased from 5-10% to 40-60%
- Area under vegetable cultivation increased by 60%
- Increase in net profit of 25% through post harvesting processing using carrot washing machines
- Fruits and Vegetables Growers Association (FVGA)
- 1243 acres under micronutrients
- Improvement in soil health
- Increase in productivity/income

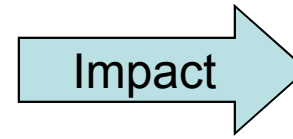


**Increase in Income**



## Life Skills Education

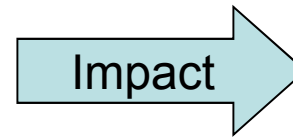
- About 2000 girls completed the course
- Functional village education committees (VECs)
- 600 girls completed the Tara Akshar program
- Vocational training
- 12 SHGs in Jyotisar



**Increase in women  
Literacy and  
Participation**

## Rural Health

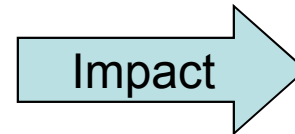
- About 1945 toilets
- Partnerships for curative services
- 80-90% immunization in all villages
- Over 300 cataract operations by Shroff eye care
- Training of dais



**Improved Health &  
Sanitation**

## Alternative energy

- 18 solar lights
- Solar lanterns for one village



**Power availability  
In villages**

## Demonstration Village - Notaki





## IRRAD and Poverty Reduction

- Poverty is a multi-dimensional problem
  - Lack of assets (sometimes even basic needs)
  - Social Discrimination
  - Skewed Opportunities
  - Inability to Participate
  - Lack of voice/non-empowered status
  - Minimal progress in Livelihood growth
- Addressing Poverty: The IRRAD Model
  - A multi-dimensional problem requires a multi-sectoral and an holistic approach hence an “**Integrated Development Model**”



## Escaping Poverty

- Poverty makes people vulnerable to:
  - Climatic Shocks
  - Social and Cultural backwardness (Cyclical)
  - External and Internal economic shocks
- An integrated approach ensures households to move out of poverty, irrespective of the nature of a livelihood insecurity or shock
  - This has been IRRAD's approach since its inception.
  - Our recent studies show that the progress while slow, is definitely sustainable, even in a region as unique as Mewat



## **Proactive approach to reduce poverty**

- **Need to address all regions where poverty exists**

Everyone has a **selfless** role to play to reduce poverty

- **Government – Enabling Policies and Effective Service delivery**
- **Corporates – Good Governance and Civil Society Collaboration**
- **NGOs – Capacity Building and Empowerment**
- **NRIs – Provide support in the form of time, technical advice & Finance**



**Institute Of Rural Research & Development**

(An initiative of S M Sehgal Foundation)

***“The problems of India including corruption and many, many others are well known to all of us. I think that we need to think how each of us can be constructive rather than endlessly 'TALKING' about the problems that are beyond us. India needs doers. We need to get out of the mode of 'argumentative Indian'. We need to work together to empower rural India where majority of our population lives today.”***

***Dr. Suri Sehgal, Founder & Chairman IRRAD***

**Jay Sehgal**

**Jay.sehgal@irrad.org**

***“Working together to empower rural India”***