

SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN INDIA: RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT

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This article is an attempt to understand the central idea of development with special emphasis on the rural development initiatives in India from an interdisciplinary point of view. With an urgent need to problematize development, this article focuses on the several implications that development policies have on the masses and the biosphere at large while emphasizing the issue of land acquisition, development induced displacement of the Project Affected People (PAPs), environmental degradation, impoverishment of the poor and marginalized sections of society. Using case studies, participatory methods and ground eye-view methods to interrogate and understand the consequences of new age development, the authors endeavour that the nation seeks a new path of alternative development that would not only lay emphasis on inclusive policies but also ensure respect for human rights coupled with greater accountability of the state.

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