



SMART VILLAGES PROLIFERATION AND SURGE

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ABSTRACT: *Concept of Smart villages is a global modern approach for off-grid communities. Vision behind this concept is to assist the policy makers, donors and socio-economic planner for rural electrification worldwide, with special focus on Asian and African countries. 68.9% of our population lives in rural areas (Census 2011). Though number is expected to fall in the coming years, it is still estimated that more than half of our population would be rural even in 2050. Despite there being several past initiatives by governments at all levels Central, State and Local in the past, the level of improvement has not kept pace with the rising aspirations among Indians. Smart villages concept is engaged in efforts to combat the real barriers to energy access in villages, particularly in developing countries with technological, financial and educational methodology. ^[1] Since 20th Century Electricity has become a vital part of our lives, though we can survive without electricity but cannot progress and enjoy the benefits of science.*

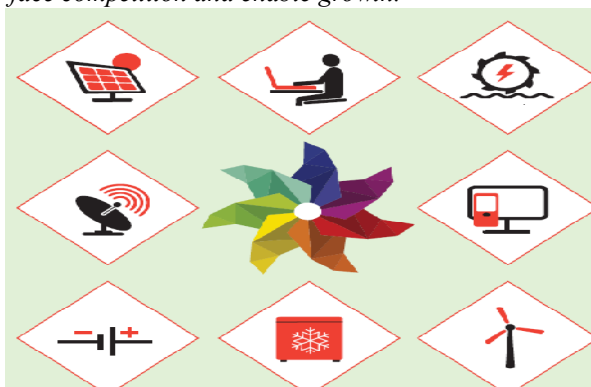
KEYWORDS: *Entrepreneurial, STEREM, Co evolution.*

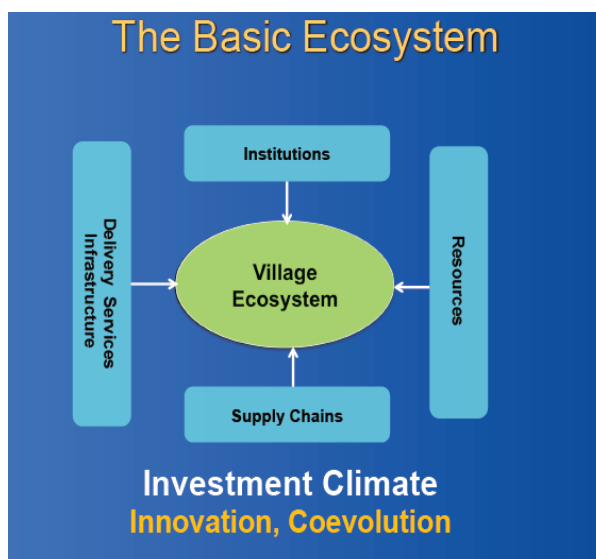
INTRODUCTION:

The best, quickest and most efficient way is to build up from the bottom. Every village has to become a self-sufficient republic. This does not require brave resolutions. It requires brave, corporate, intelligent work. If we interpret brave entrepreneurial and risk taking attitude, corporate to mean setting & meeting strategic goals and objective, intelligent with IT enabled governance models, called smart nowadays, we implement Mahatma's vision. A Smart Village is a bundle of dozens of services delivered effectively to the residents and businesses in an efficient manner. These services could be location specific depending on the demography of the village and occupations of the residents. These services such as Power, Water, Buildings, Retail, Health care, etc. were built several decades ago. New designs, technologies and management models should be used to upgrade the existing ones and in building the new ones. This requires standardization, use of IT and sensor networks. Requires strategy, integrated planning and above all monitoring and execution of the activities using appropriate governance models.

THE FIVE STEREM FORCES:

- Science research generates new and or improved products
- New Technologies (Internet, Search, Solar) rapidly emerging
- New Engineering materials and designs come out every day.
- Institutions including Government and Social Institutions play a very important role in service chains. Regulations and policies with regard to infrastructure, climate change, immigration, trade, outsourcing require attention
- New Management techniques and business models such as outsourcing sell direct, supply hubs, e-retail, and telemedicine, are invented to face competition and enable growth.





Electrification is highly desired by all rural communities. Different international, national and local organizations use different indicators for measuring and reporting mini-grids or stand-alone systems. South Asian countries have been focusing on off-grid electrification of current trend for Rural Electrification (RE) at regional level. India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal have shown good results for RE through off-grid communities. India Awareness Results are as follows.

KEY ELEMENTS OF A MODEL VILLAGE:

A 21st century model village in India needs to incorporate certain key themes which would be essential for its success. The figure below highlights these broad thematic focus areas, and also mentions the important elements under each such theme. An intervention under one of these areas could have an effect across other areas as well. For example, technology could be used to improve the quality and delivery of other services such as health and education, which in turn contributes to sustainable development. Similarly, the use of renewable energy, apart from meeting energy needs, also contributes towards environmental sustainability. Village tree plantation drives could encourage a community participation, benefit the environment, prevent soil erosion and benefit agriculture, conserve water, and finally contribute to the aesthetics of the village. A number of these initiatives have already been taken in different parts of the country, but most of them have been attempted in isolation. The urgent need is to bring about a convergence of all such initiatives, for which 2 things would be essential – a) grassroots level planning; and b) mobilization of resources. For an MP, there are 3 primary resource streams which can be utilized for this purpose:

Funds under existing schemes across different sectors such as health, education, skill development, livelihood etc could be utilized, and based on the specific demands of the village, resources could be channelized into the development of the village. Some important Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) which could be utilized are NRLM, NHM, SSA, NREGA, BRGF, RKVY and Mid-day Meal Scheme.

MPLAD funds (Rs 5 crore per year) could be utilized for the construction of high quality, sustainable assets such as school buildings, hospitals, Anganwadi Centres and school kitchens for Mid-Day meals. Funds could also be channelized into road construction, and the construction of toilets in schools and homes, particularly for girls. CSR funds, of which a much larger corpus is available after the latest amendment to the Companies Act, could also be used for the purpose of infrastructure development in the constituency. Self-help groups, who are eligible for subsidized loans under various Central and State government initiatives Gram Panchayats could also raise loans, if legally permitted to do so under the State Panchayati Raj Acts like in the case of Kerala.

CHOOSING A VILLAGE FOR ADOPTION

As per the latest Census, there are more than 640,000 villages in India, and more than 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs). In other words, every Lok Sabha constituency has more than 450 such Panchayats on an average. Among these, choosing one (or 2-3) GP for the purpose of adoption is also an important decision to be made. According to the latest guidelines, the MP may choose any Gram Panchayat with a population of 3000-5000 people in plain areas, and 1000-3000 in hilly, tribal and difficult areas.

However, as the PM has observed. Creating an environment for community-led planning, with the MP spearheading this campaign

2. *Situation Analysis, including baseline surveying and resource mapping.*
 3. *Identification of financial resource streams*
 4. *Preparation of the Village Development Plan(VDP) by a Working Group set up by the District Collector with representation of experts from diverse fields,*
 6. *Clearance to VDP by the Gram Sabha*
 7. *Approval of VDP by District Level Committee headed by the District Collector in the presence of an MP.*
- Ankapoor is located in the Nizamabad district in the state of Telangana. Ankapoor has been globally recognized as a “Model Agricultural Village” for its achievements in introducing modern technologies in agriculture while ensuring the participation of all sections of the village community, particularly women.*

CONCLUSION:

Measure the performance of individual services & the village for each service, the metrics such as timeliness, reliability, accessibility, user satisfaction, innovations in services, at care measured. Village performance depends on the effectiveness of the individual services rendered, vocational training and its impact on betterment of skill development and employment, new innovations improving welfare, increase in connectivity to outside markets, growth in trade and per-capita income. All the components of the balanced score card must ultimately meet the objectives of the Smart Village which are to improve the utility services, investment climate, enhance promote economic development.