

# **National Rural Employment Programmes (NREP)**

- The NREP was launched in 1980 with a view to significantly increase employment opportunities in rural areas. This was viewed as a major step towards poverty alleviation. The NREP replaced the food for work (FFW) programme.

## **Objectives**

- Generation of Additional gainful employment for unemployed and under employed persons (Both men and women) in rural areas.
- Creation of productive community assets for direct and continuing benefits to the poor.
- Improvement in the overall quality of life in the rural areas.

## **Two main functions of NREP**

- Creation of a large quantum of man days of work per year for the unemployed and under employed in rural areas, and
- Creation of durable community assets to strengthen infrastructural facilities in rural areas.

## **Features of NREP**

- In all works under NREP, preference was given to landless labour.

- Among landless labour, preference was given to SC's/ST's for employment.
- Main provisions relating to works under NREP was that it was not permitted to engage contractors.
- Wages were paid partly in cash and partly in food grain 1-2 kg/day/head
- DRDA was responsible for the entire works relating to planning, implementation, coordination and monitoring of NREP.
- NREP was a centrally sponsored programme with equal sharing of the expenditure by the centre and the states.
- NREP provides training to the personnel in the implementation of the programme.