Rural Development in Indonesia

O start my speech today, allow me to say happy World Rural Development Day to all of us, the first vice president of Indonesia Mohammad Hatta once said that "country will not shine with on torch in the nations capital but will shine because of small candles in every villages". These word of Mohammad Hatta are not marely a figure of speech but are an affirmation that since ancient times, villages have had an important role in the civilization and progress of a nation.

Brothers and sisters whom we are proud of

The formation of a village begins with a communal lifestyle. During the ancient kingdoms, villages already fungctioned as administrative units that regulated people's lives and become a place to manage agricultural land and trade interactions in addition to implementing local government policies. So by understanding about villages, we will know the history, formation, organization, development and how village communities can adapt admist the development of the times.

Talking about world Rural Development Day, it cannot be separated form how villages become advanced with all their innovations and creations. There are many factors that can influence the progress of a villages to become more advanced, independent and prosperous. There are several aspect that in principle influence the development of a village, namely economic, social, environmental and policy aspects.

1) Economic Aspect,

Economy is one of the benchmarks for the success of development in villages and countries, in villages there



are many determinant factors that have an influence:

- a. Natural resource management and local potential development; Villages can utilize the potential of existing natural resources to create jobs for village communities and increase original village income, on the other hand, village government can identify and develop local potential to attract investors and increase village competitiveness.
- **b. Investment**; the government and private sector can invest in villages to develop infrastructure, improve the quality of human resources and create business opportunities.
- c. Community empowerment; village economic development must also involve active participation from the community through empowerment of community groups, village community institutions and villages customary institutions, as well as business entities managed by the villages.
- **d.** Transfer Fund: villages economic development continues to be supported by transfer funds from



both the central and regional government and this is very necessary to support the implementation of village governance, village development, community empowerment and community development.

2) Human Resources Aspect

The level education and health of the village community also plays a role in village progress, Villages with high level of human resources are certainly more skilled in managing community life in village. In addition, the health of population will determine the level of productivity and contribution to village development

3) Natural Resources

Villages that have abundant natural resource potential and are well managed will increase the villages original income, thereby reducing dependence on transfer funds.

4) Environment

A clean and healthy environment is also an important factor in the progress of a village. The awareness of the community and village government to maintain the quality of life has an impact to the maximum contribution to the village.

5) Government Policy;

The last factor that influences village progress is government policy. Policies that support the village and its people will greatly assist in the implementation of good governance and can build active participation of all element in the village.

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Director General of Village Administrations, Republic of Indonesia







To the happy reader

The real from of the current village development program is how villages can strengthen food security in their areas independently and sustainably. This food security program aims to ensure the availability, affordability and safety of food for all village communities. This program aims to increase local food, reduce dependence on imports and strengthen the food distribution system. Besides that, this food security program also includes empowering village communities through training and increasing the added value of local product.

Here are some of the goals of food security in the village

1. Increasing food ability

Increasing food production from agriculture, livestock and fisheries in the village and building food reserves or village food barns.

2. Increasing food affordability

Rural communities have acess to nutritious and affordable food



3. Increase consumption of healthy and diverse food Promotion of nutiritious, balanced and safe local food

4. Increase village community income

This program is intended to create new business opportunities through the development of local products an increase the add value of agricultural, livestock and fishery product.

5. Increase agricultural productivity

Development of agricultural technology that is appropriate to local village conditions and the education process for farmers.

6. Reduce dependence on food imports

By increasing local village food production, village can reduce dependence on food import.

7. Ensuring sustainability of natural resources



This program pays attention to the importance of sustainable natural resource management to support future food society.

These are some of the things that I can convey in commemoration of the world rural development day. I hope that villages can become more advanced with quality governance and increasingly empowered communities, once again I wish you happy world rural development day.

"In celebration of World Rural Development Day, we proudly feature this inspiring message from La Ode Ahmad P. Bolombo, Director General of Village Administrations in Indonesia. His words remind us that sustainable development begins in our villages- where community, agriculture, and innovation come together to shape a nation's future."



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