

this approach is on rapid economic growth as measured by rate of growth in real per capita GDP or per capita national income, price stability, declining unemployment among others. These can only be attained through appropriate harmonisation of monetary and fiscal policies.

This approach works through trickle down effect. That is, as economic growth progresses, the effects will progressively trickle down to the core poor and most advantaged in the society. This approach has been subjected to intense criticism. It is argued that:

(a) There is nothing inherent in economic growth that automatically guarantees poverty alleviation. Also, even some segments of the society, it often creates new poverty or aggravates existing poverty in other segments of the society (Olayemi 1995, Pfeffermann 1991, Kakwani 1990). Therefore, because of the above arguments and the pitfalls of economic growth, the basic needs approach seems to be more favoured.

BASIC NEEDS APPROACH

In this approach, poverty is viewed as being broad-based and that programmes should be targetted to tackle the wider causes of poverty. The basic needs are those basic necessities which enable the poor to live a decent life. However, what these basic needs are vary from one individual to another, and from country to country. Most of the basic needs include such things as food, and nutrition, health and education, employment etc. According to Bamberger (1992), the instrument of this approach is targeting. As such, there is the need to properly identify the poor, the causes of poverty and the needs of the poor.

Olayemi (1995) observed that the basic need approach (BNA) to poverty alleviation programmes are expected to have the following components:

- (a) Economic component to promote broad-based economic growth and create employment and income generating opportunities for both the poor and non-poor but, perhaps with the poor receiving special attention;
- (b) social services component of BNA should provide education, health and nutrition, clean water, good roads, physical social economic infrastructure.
- (c) the safety-net component should provide relief to the old, disabled, destitutes and transitory poor.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

This approach argues for the total emancipation and empowerment of the rural