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THE ROLE OF VILLAGE GOVERNMENT IN INSTILLING DEMOCRATIC VALUES TO THE COMMUNITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT (STUDY OF SUKAJADI VILLAGE, LYRIC SUB-DISTRICT, INDRAGIRI HULU DISTRICT)

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the role of village government in instilling democratic values, implementation and obstacles to the duties of the Village Head in infrastructure development in Sukajadi Village, Lirik District, Indragiri Hulu Regency. In the context of comprehensive, integrated and programmed village development, to achieve its goals and objectives, apart from being supported by good village government management, a clear organization is also very much determined by the participation of the village community concerned. But the fact is that there are still many developments in villages that have not run optimally, such as those found in Sukajadi Village, Lirik District, Indragiri Hulu Regency, where there are still many infrastructure developments that are still inadequate and have not been maximized by the Village Head. The research method used is through a qualitative approach. Data collection techniques through interviews, observation and documentation. The result of the research is that the implementation of development in Petalongan Village based on Merilee S. Grindle's theory has paid attention to aspects of policy content and the context of program implementation. The content of the policy already contains the interests of the village community even though it has not been fully realized. The Sukajadi Village Head as the driving force of government in the village must choose qualified resources so that they can work optimally and optimally in terms of implementing every program that is realized, especially village infrastructure development.

Keywords: *Village Government, Democracy, Development*

INTRODUCTION

In Law No. 6/2014 on Villages, it is explained that a village is a legal community unit that has territorial boundaries that are authorized to regulate and manage government affairs, the interests of the local community based on

community initiatives, origin rights, and/or traditional rights that are recognized and respected in the government system of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Village autonomy gives villages the authority to regulate and manage their own community interests in accordance with local conditions and socio-culture.

Before discussing the design of the formation of democratic and aspirational Village Regulations. It is necessary to first examine the mechanism of absorption of democratic and aspirational community aspirations. This is because the formation of Village Regulations will not be separated from aspirations. Without aspirations from the community, it is unlikely that the formation of Village Regulations will be carried out democratically. The discussion related to the mechanism of community aspiration absorption is actually divided into two. The first is to discuss the mechanism of normative absorption of community aspirations in the formation of Village Regulations. This means discussing the mechanism of community aspiration absorption in accordance with the law. Second, it discusses the reality in the field related to the mechanism of absorption of community aspirations in the formation of Village Regulations. The reality in the field is the reality that occurs at the research location.

In addition to being a channel for implementing democracy, villages also have the function of implementing infrastructure development. The role of the Village Head in building facilities and infrastructure in rural areas is one of the responsibilities of the Village Head as stipulated in Law Number 6 of 2014 Article 26 paragraph 1 which reads; "The Village Head is in charge of organizing Village Government, implementing Village Development, fostering Village communities, and empowering Village communities". (Sirabura.N, 2022)

Development is often conceptualized as an effort to change from a social condition to another social condition that is considered better by those who want to make changes. In this development, the standards or parameters that must be achieved have gone through a process of change that is determined in advance. To achieve the expected standards, of course, planning is needed. The village head is an important pillar in the implementation of village governance,

including village development. Therefore, he is also the decision-maker in every policy and program at the village level and is a major part of the elite ruling class. Under these conditions, the village head is a strategic figure in the administration of village governance and development.

In an effort to improve rural infrastructure development, it is very important to have active participation from the village community. Community participation is community development or activities, effective development requires community involvement (participation) from the beginning of real ideas from various stakeholders in the preparation of activity designs. Communities involved in rural development will realize that what they do is very important for development.

Community empowerment is an effort to facilitate the community in planning, deciding, and managing existing resources, so that in the end they have the ability to independent themselves economically, ecologically, and socially in society, empowerment can also be interpreted as a process to facilitate and motivate the community to be able to utilize existing resources to achieve a prosperous life.

The Village Head, as the leader of the government, must be able to play his role and function optimally, both as a public servant and as an intermediary who can provide solutions to problems that arise in society, especially those that cover the scope of the area under his authority. The aspirations conveyed by the community must be heard and followed up, so that what is the goal of government can be achieved as expected. (Septinsyah, 2021: 25)

Sukajadi Village is located in the Lirik District of Indragiri Hulu Regency. With the economic background of the community working in companies that are around residential areas. With the condition of the majority of the community working, it is feared that the democratic process in the village seems to be ignored by the village community, especially Sukajadi Village.

Based on the background that has been stated, the purpose of this study is to analyze how the Role of the Village Government Towards the Cultivation of Democratic Values to the Community and Infrastructure Development (Study of Sukajadi Village, Lirik District, Indragiri Hulu Regency).

RESEARCH METHODS

This research is a type of qualitative research. Data collection techniques are listening and recording important information in analyzing data by reducing data, displaying data and drawing conclusions so as to get a picture of conclusions regarding literature studies to be developed in this study and to validate the data using data source triangulation.

The type of research is descriptive which is intended to reveal or provide an overview of the problems regarding this research aims to explain and provide an overview of the role of the village government in instilling democratic values to the community and infrastructure development (Study of Sukajadi Village, Lirik District, Indragiri Hulu Regency).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Democracy is a concept of government that is synonymous with popular sovereignty. Where in the concept of democratic government places the people as the highest power holder in implementing the government of a country. The meaning of democracy as the basis of living in society and the state implies that it is the people who provide provisions in matters concerning their lives, including assessing government policies that will determine the fate of their lives. Thus, a state that adheres to a democratic system is a state that is organized based on the will of the people by their own consent because sovereignty is in the hands of the people. (Haryati, 2022)

The principles of a democratic state that have been mentioned above are then outlined in a more practical concept so that they can be used as benchmarks. According to Franz Magnis Suseno, there are 5 (five) characteristics of a democratic state, namely: (1) the rule of law; (2) government under the real control of society; (3) free elections; (4) the principle of majority; and (5) the guarantee of democratic rights. (Haro, Odorra, 2022)

Village and the Role of Village Government

A village is a legal community unit with territorial boundaries that has the authority to regulate and manage government affairs, community interests, rights of origin, and/or traditional rights that are recognized and respected within the government system of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia. This is in accordance with the definition intended in Article 1 paragraph 1 of Law No. 6/2014 on Villages (Law No.

6/2014).

In Law No. 6/2014 on Villages Article 23, it is emphasized that the Village Administration is organized by the Village Government. Article 1 paragraph 3 stipulates that: The Village Government is the Village Head or what is called by another name assisted by Village officials as an element of the Village Government. Thus, the Village Government is an organization that organizes the Village administration, consisting of: (Hanif, 2011)

- a. The leading element, namely the Village Head,
- b. Helping elements of the Village Head (Village Apparatus), consisting of:
 1. The village secretariat, which is a staff or service element headed by the village secretary,
 2. The technical executive element, which is an auxiliary element of the Village Head that carries out technical affairs in the field such as irrigation, religious affairs, and others:
 3. The territorial element, which is the Village Head's assistant in his/her working area, such as the dusun head.

The Importance of Democratic Life in Society

The importance of democratic life in society supports the creation of a comfortable common life. The fact that Indonesia has tried to implement various kinds of democracy also proves the importance of democratic life in society. Problems faced are deliberated together. Important decisions are made through collective discussion. The possibility of conflict between citizens is minimized.

The importance of democratic culture in the life of the nation can be seen in the following:

1. The occurrence of social control from the community over the course of government to prove freedom to the public in expressing opinions and ensuring the creation of a clean government.
2. A culture of democracy can avoid arbitrary actions against citizens because democratic countries recognize the rule of law.
3. A country with government practices elected by the people. In the past, there

were many rulers who tended to act authoritarian, dictatorial, limiting the participation of the community or people and others because businessmen often felt disturbed by their power. The inability to carry out the mandate given by the people makes businessmen behave in this way.

4. Allows every culture to develop well because democracies respect freedom of expression.

Implementation of the Duties of the Village Head in Infrastructure Development in Petalongan Village, Pasir Penyus District, Indragiri Hulu Regency

The success of implementation according to Merilee S. Grindle (in Subarsono, 2011: 93) is influenced by two major variables, namely the content of policy and the implementation environment (context of implementation). According to Theory (In Harbani Paslong 2009: 645), the success of implementation is influenced by two major variables, namely: the content of policy and the implementation environment (context of implementation).

1. Indicators of Policy Content

a. Interests Affecting the Target Group

From the results of the researcher's observations, indeed the infrastructure development programs carried out in Sukamaju Village are infrastructure facilities needed by the community, such as road infrastructure, houses of worship, educational facilities, health and so on.

b. Type of Benefits

The essence of national development is the human being himself who is the center of all development processes and the object to be built is his ability and strength as the implementer and the one to be built is his ability and strength as the implementer and driver of development.

c. Desired Degree of Change

Infrastructure is one of the drivers of economic growth and development. The existence of adequate infrastructure is indispensable. Supporting physical facilities and infrastructure are a very important part of the community service system. As with infrastructure in Sukamaju Village, the development process is carried out to facilitate community activities.

d. Position of the Policy Maker

According to Permendesa Number 21 of 2020 concerning General Guidelines for Village Community Development and Empowerment, published to implement participatory and sustainable village development and synergize village community development and empowerment with government and local government programs, it is necessary to prepare guidelines on village community development and empowerment.

Program Implementers

The implementation of a program must be in accordance with the policy design and understand how to carry it out. The implementation of village development carried out by the village government requires a careful and thoughtful planning process in accordance with what is contained in the RPJM-Village and RKP-Village.

1. Resources

In a policy program, the resources used in carrying out the process are also needed to support the program to run more smoothly.

a. Policy Environment Indicators

1) Power Interests and Strategies of Actors Involved

The implementation of a policy will not be separated from the power, interests and strategies carried out by actors, both by policy makers, implementers and even other actors outside of it either intentionally or unintentionally, and either directly or indirectly.

2) Characteristics of Institutions and Rulers

a) The characteristics of stakeholders or stakeholders in this case are in accordance with the duties and main tasks of each related agency or agency in carrying out their duties.

a. Compliance and Responsiveness

b) The fulfillment of the objectives of a program ultimately depends on the attitude of public opinion. In the focus of this discussion, it will be explained what the community's attitude towards road infrastructure development carried out by the Sukajadi Village Head is.

Obstacles to the Implementation of the Duties of the Village Head in Infrastructure Development in Petalongan Village, Pasir Peny District, Indragiri Hulu Regency

Based on the results of interviews with research informants about the constraints of the Village Head in implementing village development in Petalongan Village, it can be concluded as follows:

- a. Community participation is still lacking in the village development process.
- b. Budget funds for village development in Sukamaju Village are still limited.
- c. The community is less active in village-level musrembang.
- d. It is rather difficult to determine the priority scale of village development.

CONCLUSION

The results showed that:

- a. Based on the results of the study, the implementation of the cultivation of democratic values by the village government has begun to be carried out, but it does require active community participation in this matter.
- b. Based on the results of the research, in the implementation of the duties of the Village Head, there are several things that have not been carried out, such as in efforts to improve rural infrastructure development, the Village Government often faces obstacles from financing so that the development process is hampered.
- c. Based on the results of the research, there are obstacles in the implementation of the duties of the Village Head in infrastructure development in Petalongan Village in the sub-indicators of the interests of target groups contained in the policy content and program implementers. Implementation is the process of implementing programs and activities that have been planned, determined and agreed upon at the beginning of the year, both revenue, financing and village expenditure activities.

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