

## **The Role of the Village Head as Development Administrator**

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### **ABSTRACT**

National and regional development is an inseparable part of village development activities. Villages are a base of socio-economic and political power that needs serious attention from the government. Therefore, this research aims to analyze the role of village heads as development administrators. The research method used is qualitative with a case study approach. Data collection techniques such as observation, interviews, and documentation. Meanwhile, the data analysis technique uses data triangulation, namely data reduction, data presentation, and concluding. The research results show that the role of the village head as a development administrator in Patalassang Village, Sinjai Regency, is as a motivator, facilitator, and mobilizer, where these roles are carried out by encouraging community participation and stimulating the spirit of mutual cooperation. Then, the Village Head visits residents in their homes and talks with them, holds community meetings to listen to their aspirations, and involves them in development by asking for their suggestions and input. The Village Head also often invites community representatives to attend village meetings and provide their input and opinion. This research is important as a guide to the importance of the role of the village head in carrying out his role so that village development can run well.

**Keywords:** administrator, development, role

### **INTRODUCTION**

The implementation of regional autonomy, which began in 2001, has had quite challenging consequences for the regions. On the one hand, creative freedom for regional development is truly open to the regions. However, on the other hand, several problems must be resolved. A very basic problem is the change in regional management patterns from centralized to decentralized, for example, sources of funds to finance development and human resources as implementers of all development activities (Pike et al., 2018; Van Der Ploeg et al., 2017). That national and regional development is an inseparable part of village development activities. Villages are a base of socio-economic and political power that needs serious attention from the government (Adiputra et al., 2021; Jamaluddin et al., 2021; Niswaty, Darwis, et al., 2021). But, development planning has so far made village communities as objects of development, not as subjects of development (Adrianah et al., 2017; Takdir et al., 2021)

The enactment of Law Number 23 of 2014 Concerning Regional Government creates policies regarding villages in providing services, increasing participation, and empowering village communities aimed at community welfare. Regional autonomy and in the era of globalization, regional governments are required to provide better services and empower the community so that the community is involved in development for the progress of their region because it is the community who knows better what they need and the development carried out will be more effective and efficient and the community itself will have a sense of ownership and responsibility. The current development process needs to understand and pay attention to the principles of development that are rooted below, maintaining cultural diversity, and upholding human dignity and freedom.

The development carried out must include a community empowerment process that contains dynamic meaning to develop in achieving goals (Andaria et al., 2020; Aulya et al., 2016; Niswaty, Nur, et al., 2021).

The village government has the right, authority, and obligation to lead the village government, namely managing its own household, and is the main organizer and person responsible in the fields of government, development, and society in the context of implementing village government. The role of village government officials is very important in an area, especially for the community. The village is the organization that is closest and directly related to the community. Villages are the spearhead in the implementation of regional government. Government officials are required to be professional and have good control over their work. If this is related to the majority of Indonesia's population, almost 80% of which are in rural areas, then it is fitting that village community development efforts need to be given top priority in creating a prosperous society.

In Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 47 of 2015 Concerning Amendments to Government Regulation Number 43 of 2014 Concerning Implementing Regulations of Law Number 6 of 2014 Concerning Villages, it is explained that the Village Government is the Village Head or what is known by another name, assisted by Village officials as an element of administering the Government. Village. The village head has a big responsibility in managing village development and the welfare of the community. As the number of government programs to develop villages increases, the role of the village head as administrator of village development and community empowerment becomes increasingly important. Several opinions explain that the village head has a role as a development administrator because, namely, 1) The village head has control in managing the village budget; 2) The village head also plays a role in developing infrastructure and public facilities; 3) The village head must also ensure that existing public facilities are maintained and functioning well; and 4) the role of the village head is also very important in encouraging community participation in the development process (Amar & Hasyim, 2021; Ibrahim, 2019; Nasila & Akib, 2014)

The Village Head has a role 1) as a motivator, namely the function of the Village Government as a driver and encouragement to the local community so that they participate in taking positive actions so that what is hoped can be further developed and one day can become a support for the existing economy; 2) as a facilitator, namely a person who provides assistance and is a good resource person for various problems and facilitates village development activities, providing convenience and smoothness in the development process so that village development programs can run well; and 3) as a mobilizer, namely a person who directs or moves to do something related to development for the common good. So the village head is a mobilizer, that is, the village head moves or invites the community to work together to take real action to develop the village, for example carrying out cooperation, repairing places of worship, and improving other public places.

However, being a village head as a village development administrator is not an easy task. Good leadership skills are required as well as the ability to work with various parties related to village development, including central, provincial, and district governments. Therefore, village heads need to have adequate knowledge about governance and development policies. The biggest challenge faced by the village head in his role as village development administrator is a challenge in managing social and political conflicts in villages. In many cases, conflicts arise due to inequalities in the distribution of resources and the village head's ability to resolve these conflicts is critical to the progress of village development (Hansson et al., 2021; Hasdinawati et al., 2021; Niswaty et al., 2020). Then, there is a lack of skills and knowledge of village heads in managing village government administration and village finances. This can hinder the achievement of development goals and can damage the reputation of the village head and village government. Based on this, this research aims to analyze the role of the village head as a development administrator in Patalassang, Sinjai Regency.

## METHOD

The research method used in this research is qualitative with a case study approach which aims to determine the role of the Village Head as a development administrator. The qualitative research method with a case study approach is an exploration of "a bound system" or "a case/various cases" over time through in-

depth data collection and involving various sources of "rich" information in a context. This bound system is bound by time and place, while cases can be studied from a program, event, activity, or individual.

In other words, a case study is a research in which the researcher explores a particular phenomenon (case) at a certain time and activity (program, event, process, institution, or social group) and collects detailed and in-depth information using various data collection procedures over a certain period. The data collection techniques used were observation, interviews, and documentation. Data sources from informants who have the knowledge or power according to research needs. Meanwhile, the data analysis technique used is data triangulation, namely data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing (Miles & Huberman, 1994)

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Role is a dynamic aspect in the form of action patterns, both abstract and concrete, and every status in the organization. Next, the role is a series of formulas that limit the behavior expected from holders of certain positions. For example, in the family, the mother's behavior in the family is expected to be able to provide advice, provide assessments, provide witnesses, and so on. In this regard, according to Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning villages, it is stated that the Head of the Village/traditional village, or what is called by another name is the head of the village/traditional village government who leads the implementation of village government. A village is a legal community unit that has territorial boundaries that has the authority to regulate and manage government affairs, the interests of local communities 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. Villages are government agents in national development. The development program carried out by the village government cannot be separated from the role of a village head. Based on the research results, it is known that the role of the village head in development administration in Sinjai Regency is as follows:

### Motivator

Vroom's theory of cognitive theory of motivation explains why a person will not do something that he believes he cannot do, even though he wants the results of the work. According to Vroom et al. (2015) that the level of a person's motivation is determined by three components, namely: 1) Expectations (hopes) of success in a task; 2) Instrumentalism, namely an assessment of what will happen if you succeed in carrying out a task (the success of the task to get a certain outcome); and 3) Valence, namely the response to outcomes such as positive, neutral or negative feelings. Motivation is high if efforts produce something that exceeds expectations. Motivation is low if the effort produces less than expected.

Motivation is an action that encourages people to do a job. Motivation can give rise to creativity. When this variable is owned by a leader, increasing the quality of the leader will be realized in the form of increasing creativity, so it can be applied in the form of increasing development in both physical and non-physical forms. As an important figure at the village level, a village head has a big influence on the development and welfare of the village community. Village heads can motivate village communities to be involved in the development process and economic empowerment and can increase community involvement, accelerate village development achievements and strengthen the sustainability of development.

The research results show that to carry out his role as Village Head in Patalassang Village, Sinjai Regency, the Village Head considers that his duties are not only limited to administrative tasks. The Village Head must be able to motivate the community in the village to get involved in the development process. In this case, the Village Head acts as a motivator to encourage community participation and stimulate the spirit of cooperation. Apart from that, in playing his role as a development motivator, the Patalassang Village Head does it in different ways. For example, the Village Head visits residents in their homes and talks with them, holds community meetings to listen to their aspirations, and involves them in development by asking for their suggestions and input. The Village Head also often invites community representatives to attend village meetings and provide their input and opinions. The village head is a motivator, namely the function of the Village Government as a driver and encouragement to the local community so that they take part in

taking positive actions so that what is hoped can be further developed and one day can become a support for the existing economy.

Observation results show that the benefits obtained from this role are very large, not only for village development but also for society. By encouraging community participation, village heads can strengthen social relations, build a sense of togetherness and unity, and overcome resistance to change. The research results also show that the Village Head believes that the people involved in the village development process feel they have responsibility and involvement in village development and feel that this will further motivate them to participate in development. Therefore, it can be concluded that as Head of Patalassang Village, he has played his role as a motivator in the development administrator, namely working together with the community in improving village development by encouraging residents regarding the importance of cooperation in the development process. Apart from that, this certainly received a positive response from the community because encouragement and guidance from the Village Head was needed and awaited by the village community. The role of the village head as a motivator is important in encouraging community participation because people involved in the village development process will feel like they have a stake in development goals. They will feel they have a responsibility to ensure the success of development that occurs and feel actively involved. As a leader, the village head must be able to motivate the community to take part in the development process, and as an intermediary accelerate the achievement of development goals (Darwis et al., 2023; Niswaty et al., 2019; Rifdan et al., 2022)

### **Facilitator**

By playing their role as facilitators, it is hoped that village communities can take part in village programs that have been planned by the village government to participate in village development because based on data obtained at the research location, it is known that the physical development program implemented by the Patalassang Village government comes from the Village Fund Allocation. From the series of development and empowerment activities carried out, significant changes can be seen, especially in the acceleration of village development, especially in Patalassang Village.

The Village Head as a village facilitator is a community companion in implementing and improving village development programs, meaning that a facilitator must be able to provide and be ready with information, including support. The role of the Village Head as a facilitator is quite helpful to the people of Patalassang Village, this can be seen from the many activities carried out during his time as Village Head, namely the repair of road facilities and infrastructure, one example is the repair of roads connecting hamlets to hamlets. In fact, according to the author's observations, this road is currently used as a road to rice fields. By improving this road, it is hoped that it will be easier for village residents to bring their harvests back to their homes and of course, by repairing this road, the village economy will run more smoothly. Apart from that, many empowerment activities are carried out in the form of providing assistance or facilitating residents, as well as training activities and other social assistance, which can now be felt directly by village communities.

Based on this, it can be seen that the role of the village head as a facilitator has so far gone well. It can be seen that the village head is willing to help the village community expedite village development activities, apart from providing convenience to expedite village development. The village head always involves the community around to participate in village government programs and the community is also greatly helped by the existence of programs from PNPM, especially in physical development. The role of the Village Government as a facilitator is to create conducive conditions for the implementation of development to bridge various community interests in optimizing village development. As a facilitator, the village government operates in the fields of training, education, improving skills, and in the field of capital through providing capital assistance to empowered communities. The village head is a facilitator, namely a person who provides assistance and is a good resource person for various problems and facilitates village development activities, providing convenience and smoothness in the development process so that village development programs can run well.

## Mobilizer

A mobilizer is a person who directs or mobilizes to carry out concrete actions related to development in order to achieve common interests. In connection with the role of the Patalassang village head as a mobilizer for development in his area, before taking concrete action, the Patalassang Village Head first holds a meeting or meeting in which the Village Head gives direction to any existing problems. Furthermore, the results of the coordination/meeting were realized in concrete actions by working together to improve the village. Observation results show that one of the efforts made is to improve village infrastructure, such as roads connecting hamlets to other hamlets which aim to facilitate access to friendship between communities. Apart from that, the village head together with the residents widened the ditch so that water could flow easily and anticipate flooding due to rainwater overflowing from the ditch on the edge of the road.

As one of the village subsystems, the community must participate in the village development process. This participation starts from the planning stage, implementation stage to the evaluation stage of development results. Without community involvement, it cannot be determined whether this development can meet the needs of the community in the area. Therefore, village officials or village heads and other parties need to increase community participation in development first.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, it can be seen that the role of the village head as development administrator in Patalassang Village, Sinjai Regency, is as a motivator, facilitator, and mobilizer, where these roles are carried out by encouraging community participation and stimulating the spirit of cooperation. Then, the Village Head visits residents in their homes and talks with them, holds community meetings to listen to their aspirations, and involves them in development by asking for their suggestions and input. The Village Head also often invites community representatives to attend village meetings and provide their input and opinions.

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