

# **Planning Commission Functions**

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**Class-B.A.Part-III**

The 1950 resolution setting up the Planning Commission outlined its functions as the following:

- Make an evaluation of the capital, material and the human resources of the nation, including technical personnel, and study the possibilities of enhancing these resources for building up the nation;
- Draft a Plan for the most balanced and effective usage of the country's resources;
- Define the stages in which the Plan should be implemented and put forward allocation of resources for the completion of every stage;
- Specify the factors that hamper economic development, and ascertain the conditions which, in view of the prevailing social and political situation, should be set up for the triumphant implementation of the Plan
- Determine the kind of machinery required for obtaining the successful execution of each stage of the Plan in all its aspects;
- Regularly appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of all stages of the Plan and propose the rectifications or recommendations of policy and measures that such appraisal may deem necessary;
- Make such interim or ancillary recommendations either for enabling the discharge of the duties assigned to it or on a consideration of the existing economic conditions, current

policies, measures and development programme or on a study of such specific problems which the Central or State Governments can refer to it.

## Composition of Planning Commission

The Prime Minister is the Chairman of the Planning Commission, which works under the overall guidance of the **National Development Council**. The Deputy Chairman and the full-time Members of the Commission, as a composite body, provide advice and guidance to the subject Divisions for the formulation of Five Year Plans, Annual Plans, State Plans, Monitoring Plan Programmes, Projects and Schemes.

## Members of the Planning Commission

- Chairman – Prime Minister; presided over the meetings of the Commission
- Deputy Chairman – de facto executive head (full-time functional head);
  - Was responsible for the formulation and submission of the draft Five-Year Plan to the Central cabinet.
  - Was appointed by the Central cabinet for a fixed tenure and enjoyed the rank of a cabinet minister.
  - Could attend cabinet meetings without the right to vote.

Part-time members – Some central ministers

Ex-officio members – Finance Minister and Planning Minister