

Decentralised Planning

Performance of Decentralised Planning in India:

In India, the process of decentralized planning and its performance is depending upon the activities of Panchayati Raj Institutions established at the district, block and village levels. At the district level there are Zila Parishads or Councils, at the block level there are Panchayat Samitis and at the village level a number of Gram Pachayats are working for the implementation of various plan projects.

In India, under decentralised planning, plans are formulated at the grass root level with the help of elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions, state administration at the district and block levels and financial institutions. In order to have a successful decentralised planning, the planning machinery in the country must be suitably developed both at the district, sub-division and block level.

In India, various states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Assam, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir etc. have already adopted decentralised planning seriously. But there are large deviation in respect of adoption of decentralised planning among the various states of the country.

While the bigger states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan could not achieve much success in respect of decentralised planning and states like Punjab and Haryana did not even feel necessity but the states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Assam and Karnataka have already adopted decentralised planning in a more vigorous manner.

Among these various states, the experiences of Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal and Karnataka in respect of decentralised planning are providing useful lessons to other states of the country. Moreover, effects of decentralised planning in West Bengal percolate to the village level. But the overall

performance of decentralised planning in India is not at all commensurate to its expectations.