

**ANNUAL REPORT
1999-2000**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING COMMISSION
YOJANA BHAVAN, NEW DELHI**



सत्यमेव जयते

ANNUAL REPORT 1999-2000

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PLANNING COMMISSION
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ROLE, COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS

The Planning Commission was constituted in March, 1950 by a Resolution of the Government of India, and works under the overall guidance of the National Development Council. The Planning Commission consults the Central Ministries and the State Governments while formulating Five Year Plans and Annual Plans and also oversees their implementation. The Commission also functions as an advisory body at the apex level.

FUNCTIONS:

2. The following functions have been assigned to the Planning Commission as per Allocation of Business Rules:

- (a) Assessment of the material, capital and human resources of the country, including technical personnel, and formulation of proposals for augmenting such of these resources as are found to be deficient ;
- (b) Formulation of Plan for the most effective and balanced utilisation of the country's resources;
- (c) Definition of stages in which the Plan should be carried out on a determination of priorities and allocation of resources for completion of each stage;
- (d) Determination of the nature of the machinery necessary for the implementation of the Plan in all its aspects;
- (e) Appraisal from time to time of the progress achieved in the execution of each stage of the Plan
- (f) Public Cooperation in National Development.
- (g) Hill Areas Development Programme;
- (h) Perspective Planning
- (i) Directorate of Manpower

3 National Informatics Centre which was earlier assigned to the Planning Commission has been transferred to the newly created Ministry of Information Technology.

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

Shri A.B. Vajpayee Prime Minister	-	Chairman
Shri K.C. Pant	-	Deputy Chairman
Shri Jaswant Singh Minister of External Affairs	-	Member
Shri Yashwant Sinha Minister of Finance	-	Member
Shri Arun Shourie Minister of State Planning, Programme Implementation, Statistics & Administrative Reforms	-	Member
Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia	-	Member
Dr. S.P. Gupta	-	Member
Dr. S.R. Hashim	-	Member
Dr. D.N. Tiwari	-	Member
Shri Som Pal	-	Member
Dr. K.Venkatasubramanian	-	Member

4. The Prime Minister in his capacity as Chairman of the Planning Commission, participates and gives direction to the Commission on all major issues of policy.

5. The Deputy Chairman and the full time Members of the Planning Commission function as a composite body in the matter of detailed plan formulation. They provide advice and guidance to the subject Divisions of the Commission in the various exercises undertaken for the formulation of Approach to the Five Year Plans, and Annual Plans. Their expert guidance is also available to the subject Divisions for monitoring and evaluating the Plan programmes, projects and schemes.

6. The Planning Commission functions through several technical/subject Divisions. Each Division is headed by a Senior Officer designated as Pr. Adviser/Adviser/Addl. Adviser/Jt. Secretary/Jt. Adviser.

7. The various Divisions in the Commission fall under two broad categories:

- (I) General Divisions which are concerned with aspects of the entire economy; and
- (II) Subject Divisions which are concerned with specified fields of development.

The General Divisions functioning in the Planning Commission are:

- (i) Development Policy Division,
- (ii) Financial Resources Division,
- (iii) International Economics Division,
- (iv) Labour, Employment and Manpower Division,
- (v) Perspective Planning Division,
- (vi) Plan Coordination Division,
- (vii) Project Appraisal and Management Division,
- (viii) Socio-Economic Research Unit,
- (ix) State Plan Division, including Multi Level Planning, Border Area Development Programme, Hill Area Development and North Eastern Region (NER), and
- (x) Statistics and Surveys Division,
- (xi) Monitoring Cell.

The Subject Divisions are:

- (i) Agriculture Division,
- (ii) Backward Classes Division,
- (iii) Communication & Information Division,
- (iv) Education Division,
- (v) Environment and Forests Division,
- (vi) Health & Family Welfare Division,
- (vii) Housing, Urban Development & Water Supply Division,
- (viii) Industry & Minerals Division,
- (ix) Irrigation & Command Area Development Division,
- (x) Power & Energy Division (including Rural Energy, Non-Conventional Energy Sources and Energy Policy Cell)
- (xi) Rural Development Division,
- (xii) Science & Technology Division,
- (xiii) Social Welfare & Nutrition Division,
- (xiv) Transport Division,
- (xv) Village & Small Industries Division, and
- (xvi) Western Ghats Secretariat.

8 The Programme Evaluation Organisation undertakes evaluation studies to assess the impact of selected Plan Programmes/Schemes in order to provide useful feedback to planners and implementing agencies.

CHAPTER 1

THE ECONOMY : AN OVERVIEW

The performance of the economy during the first three years of Ninth Five Year Plan is described in the following sections.

Growth and Sectoral Output

2. The overall performance of the economy has improved during 1998-99 compared to the previous year. As per the Quick estimates, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1998-99 records a growth of 6.8 per cent as against the growth rate of 5 per cent during 1997-98. The increase in the rate of economic growth is mainly due to higher growth in agriculture, electricity and trade. After a negative growth of 1.9 per cent in 1997-98, the agricultural GDP registered a growth of 7.2 per cent in 1998-99. 'Electricity, gas & water supply' and 'trade, hotels & restaurants' recorded higher growth at 7.9 per cent and 8.1 per cent respectively during 1998-99.

3. The sectors indicating slowdown during the year 1998-99 are 'mining and quarrying', 'manufacturing', 'construction', 'transport, storage & communication', 'financing, insurance, real estates and business services', 'community, social and personal services'. On the industrial front, the rate of growth of the manufacturing sector in 1998-99 is marginally lower at 3.6 per cent as compared to 4.0 per cent in 1997-98.

4. As per the advance estimates of National Income, the GDP is estimated to grow at 5.9 per cent in 1999-2000. The estimated slow down in the growth of the economy is ascribed to low growth of 0.8 per cent in agricultural sector, mainly attributed to negative growth in wheat, coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds and cotton. The sectors indicating higher growth are manufacturing (7.2%), electricity, gas and water supply (8%), construction (9%), community, social and personal services (9.8%) and financing, insurance, real estates and business services (10.5%).

Savings and Investments

5. Gross Domestic Savings (GDS) constituted 22.3 per cent of GDP at market prices in 1998-99. This is less than the savings rate of 24.7 per cent realised in 1997-98. Similarly, Gross Domestic Investment as a proportion of GDP has declined from 26.2% in 1997-98 to 23.4% in 1998-99. These rates are also lower than the savings and investment rate assumed in the Ninth Five Year Plan. However, these figures are not strictly comparable with the estimates contained in the Ninth Plan since the plan targets are based on the old series of NAS.

Fiscal Position

6. A high level of fiscal deficit continues to be an area of concern for the policy planners. Ever since economic reforms were initiated, achievement of a sustainable fiscal position has been a constant endeavour. But progress in this area is still limited.



Chapter 1 : The Economy - An Overview

7. The method of calculation of the fiscal deficit of the central government in the 1999-2000 Budget has undergone a change. Under the new method, fiscal deficit excludes the transfer of the share of net small savings collection, which is now paid from the public accounts. On this basis, the fiscal deficit of the central government is estimated to decline gradually from 4.7 per cent of GDP in 1997-98 to 4.5 per cent in the revised estimates of 1998-99 and further to 4 per cent in the Budget estimate of 1999-2000.
8. The fiscal position of the states is under severe stress and much adjustment would be required before a sustainable fiscal position can be achieved. The combined fiscal position of center and states in 1998-99 is indicated by a gross fiscal deficit of 7.26 per cent and revenue deficit of 4.27 per cent, resulting in a primary deficit of 2.17 per cent of GDP.
9. The main area of concern, as far as the centre's fiscal position is concerned, is the slow growth of tax revenues. The Ninth Plan has envisaged an increase in the tax-GDP ratio of about 1 percentage point during the five years period. However, since 1994-95, the gross tax revenue of the central government has remained stable around 9 per cent of GDP. The ratio of direct and indirect taxes in gross tax revenue is 1:2.
10. On the expenditure side of the central government, the components, which have grown rapidly, are interest payments, defence services and pension and other retirement benefits. Total revenue expenditure is growing at an annual compound rate of more than 14 per cent since 1993-94. The expenditure of the state governments is growing at a rate of 16 per cent annually, whereas, the non-developmental expenditure is growing at a high rate of more than 20 per cent. The expenditure on administrative services has been more rapid, at a rate of 26.1 per cent.

Inflation

11. The Ninth Plan envisages a reasonable degree of price stability. The average inflation rate measured by changes in Wholesale Price Index (WPI) was 4.8 per cent in 1997-98. The inflation rate increased to 6.9 per cent in 1998-99 but declined to around 3 per cent in the first nine months of 1999-2000. This moderation in the rate of inflation was achieved against a relatively high rate of monetary expansion (M3) of about 18 per cent in both 1997-98 and 1998-99 and also increases in the administered prices of certain petroleum products in 1999-2000.

Balance of Payments

12. The export to GDP ratio declined marginally from 8.5 per cent in 1997-98 to 8.2 per cent in 1998-99. Import to GDP ratio declined from 12.2 per cent in 1997-98 to 11.4 per cent in 1998-99. In US \$ terms, exports declined by 3.85 per cent in 1998-99 as compared to a growth of 4.6 per cent in 1997-98. In US \$ terms, imports in 1998-99 increased by only 0.90 per cent as compared to an increase of 6.01 per cent in 1997-98. During the first nine months of the year 1999-2000, the imports increased by 9% over the corresponding period of the previous year.
13. There has been an improvement in the current account deficit, which as percentage of GDP declined from 1.3 per cent 1997-98 to 1.0 per cent in 1998-99. In tandem, India's foreign exchange reserves during this period increased from US \$ 29.4 billion to US \$ 32.5 billion.



Chapter 1 : The Economy - An Overview

14. The economic parameters of the Ninth Five Year Plan as approved by the NDC were based on the National Accounts Statistics (NAS) with base year of 1980-81 published by the Central Statistical Organization(CSO). Since then the CSO has introduced a new series on NAS in February 1999 with the base year changed to 1993-94, which also captures the structural transformation experienced in the economy during the intervening years. Introduction of this new series necessitates recasting of plan parameters, and a reassessment of the feasibility of the plan targets. The Commission is already in the process of reformulating the macro parameters in conformity with the new series of NAS. The same is expected to be firmed up through the Mid Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan.



CHAPTER 2

THE PLAN

Ninth Five Year Plan

1. The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) obtained the final approval of National Development Council (NDC) on 19th February 1999. The salient features of the Ninth Five Year Plan are a target annual average growth rate of 6.5 per cent for the economy as whole, and a growth rate of 3.9 per cent for agriculture sector, among others. The key strategies envisaged to realise this target rest on attaining a high investment rate of 28.2 per cent of GDP at market prices. The domestic saving rate, which determines the sustainable level of investment, is targeted at 26.1 per cent of the GDP, resulting in a current account deficit of 2.1 per cent for Ninth Five Year Plan. Care has been taken to ensure achievement of a sustainable growth path in terms of external indebtedness as well as fiscal stability. Accordingly, the target growth rates for import & export are estimated at 10.8 per cent and 11.8 per cent per annum respectively.

Objectives of the Ninth Plan

- Priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty;
- Accelerating the growth rate of the economy with stable prices.
- Ensuring food and nutritional security for all, particularly, the vulnerable sections of society;
- Providing the basic minimum services of safe drinking water, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, shelter, and connectivity to all in a time bound manner;
- Containing the growth rate of population;
- Ensuring environmental sustainability of the development process through social mobilization and participation of people at all levels;
- Empowerment of women and socially disadvantaged groups such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes and Minorities as agents of socio-economic change and development;
- Promoting and developing people's participatory institutions like Panchayati Raj Institutions, cooperative and self-help groups.
- Strengthening efforts to build self-reliance.

The Ninth Plan has incorporated Special Action Plans on :-

- Doubling of food production and making India hunger free in 10 years;
- Rapid improvement in physical infrastructure;
- National Water Policy;
- Social Infrastructure : Rural Housing, Urban Housing, Health Care Services, Education, Urban water Supply and Sanitation; Rural water Supply and Sanitation and;
- Information Technology

2. The Ninth Plan assumes an Incremental Capital-Output Ratio (ICOR) of 4.3, which implies an assumption of average domestic savings and investment rates of 26.1 per cent and 28.2 per cent of GDP, respectively. The Ninth Plan proposes an investment of Rs.2171 thousand crore during the period 1997-2002 at 1996-97 prices, most of which (92.6% amounting to Rs.2011 thousand crore) could be financed from domestic resources. Investment in the public sector would be Rs.726 thousand crore constituting about 33 per cent of the total investment as against the level of 34.3 per cent realised during the Eighth Plan period. The public sector outlay is proposed at Rs.8,59,200 crore, out of which the Central Plan outlay would be Rs.4,89,361 crore, which includes provision to implement the additional requirements of Special Action Plans. The details of the Plan Outlays by broad heads of development for the Centre/UTs for the Ninth Plan is given in Annexure 2.1. and 2.1 (a). The Central Budgetary Support to the Plan is targeted at Rs.374,000 crore at 1996-97 prices.

3. The Ninth Plan Document was tabled in the Lok Sabha on 1st December, 1999 and in the Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 1999.

- It is also available on our web site <http://planningcommission.nic.in>
- A compact disc of the Ninth Five Year Plan Document was also released on 25th January, 2000.

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Formulation of Annual Plans

4. In the course of formulating the Annual Plan, the Planning Commission assesses previous year's Plan performance in various sectors and suggests a reorientation of policies and modifications of strategies consistent with the changing context and requirements so as to ensure achievement of the long-term objectives. The Annual Plan includes the Plan of the Centre and the State Governments.

5. Discussions are held in the Planning Commission, at the level of technical experts and the political level. The dimensions of the State Plans are designed, in consultation with individual State Chief Ministers. Simultaneously, discussions are also held with Central Ministries, to arrive at a public investment programme which is consistent with Plan priorities, known and anticipated constraints and available resources.

Chapter 2 : The Plan

6. In the beginning of the third quarter of each financial year, the Planning Commission indicates to the State Governments and Central Ministries important objectives, issues and concerns that should be kept in view while formulating the Annual Plan for the ensuing year and to furnish their Plan proposals, including physical targets and the corresponding financial outlays, within the overall framework of their respective Five Year Plans. The State Governments are also expected to furnish their estimates of financial resources, including proposals for mobilising additional resources, for their Annual Plans. These resource estimates and the respective requirements of the State Governments for Central Assistance are discussed in-depth in a series of meetings scheduled generally during November-December. These Working Group Meetings are attended by the concerned senior Officers of the State Governments and the Planning Commission. Similarly, in-depth discussions are held with senior officials of the Central Ministries/Departments on their Annual Plan proposals, during December-January of each financial year.
7. The Plan outlays arrived at in the meetings between the Deputy Chairman and State Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors in respect of State Plans and in the meetings taken by Secretary, Planning Commission with the Secretaries of Central Ministries/Departments, regarding the Central Plan forms the basis for budgetary provisions for the Plan for the ensuing year.
8. The exercise for Annual Plan, 1999-2000 was undertaken against the backdrop of significant shortfalls in Plan expenditure during the preceding two years (1997-98 & 1998-99) of the Ninth Plan and the need to pursue fiscal consolidation at both Centre and State level. Thus, the necessity of maintaining a reasonable level and the desired sectoral pattern of allocations in Annual Plan 1999-2000, had to be reconciled with the priorities of the Government as reflected in the Prime Minister's Special Action Plans (SAP), as also the commitment to contain fiscal deficit. The Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for the Annual Plan 1999-2000 was fixed at Rs.77,000 crores (registering an increase of Rs.8,629 crores over the Revised Estimates for the previous year.) of which Rs.44,000 crores were allocated to the Annual Plan of Central Sector and of this, as much as Rs. 31,035 crores of Budgetary Support has been provided to 18 Ministries and Departments which are covered by the Special Action Plans. The remaining Rs.33,000 crores being the Central assistance to State and UT Plans.
9. The total Central Plan Outlay for the Annual Plan 1999-2000 is Rs.103521 crores, it exceeds the revised estimates of Rs.88481.75 crores for Annual Plan 1998-99 by 17 per cent. The details of the Plan Outlays by broad heads of development for the Centre and the States/UTs for Annual Plan 1998-99(RE) are given in Annexure 2.2 and 2.2 (b). The details of the Plan Outlays for the Annual Plan 1999-2000 by broad heads of development for Central Sector are given in Annexure 2.3 and 2.3(c).
10. The allocation of GBS for Annual Plan 1999-2000 was made on the basis of assessment of Plan programmes/schemes of each Ministry/Department and also keeping in view their expenditure performance as reflected in the Revised Estimates for 1998-99. Thus, from within the available resources of Centre Sector, priority was given to the SAP covering 18 Ministries/Departments. Accordingly, the outlay of the SAP Ministries/Departments has been increased by about 12 per cent. This includes an increase of nearly 16 per cent in the GBS. For the remaining

Chapter 2 : The Plan

Ministries/Departments, every effort has been made to provide an increase in their revised GBS for 1998-99. Thus, for the non-SAP category of Ministries/ Departments, outlay has been decreased by about 4 per cent and GBS has been increased by about 15 per cent.

11. In pursuing Prime Minister's Special Action Plan, a Task Force on Information and Technology Software Development was set up in May, 1998 under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. Out of the allocation of Rs.300 crore for Information Technology Development in the Ninth Five Year Plan, Rs.50 crore have been provided in the year 1999-2000 for the promotion and development of IT. This amount would be available to the Central Ministries/ Departments.

12. The Annual Plan discussions to finalise the plan size of different States and UTs during 1999-2000 were held during June/July, 1999. An outlay of Rs.88655.70 crore has been approved for all the States/UTs for the Annual Plan 1999-2000 . The outlay for 1999-2000 includes an amount of Rs.3700.00 crore and Rs.385.08 crores towards Additional Central Assistance for Basic Minimum Services and Slum Development respectively. The States/UTs have been given the option to allocate the amount provided for seven Basic Minimum Services in accordance with their priorities. A separate provision of Rs.450.00 crores has been made for the plan of North Eastern Council during the year 1999-2000.

CHAPTER 3

THRUST AREAS

Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA)

1. The effectiveness of public intervention in obtaining developmental goals is very closely linked to the efficiency of delivery mechanisms and the institutional environment on which it is founded. We have to not only find adequate resources for the priority sectors and programmes but, at the same time, make every effort to strengthen the institutional framework with a view to improve the implementation of public programmes on the one hand and create a conducive environment for private initiatives, on the other. In this regard, the Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) exercises for the Ninth Plan has been initiated by the Planning Commission. The primary objective of the Appraisal will be to assess the possibility of reaching the targets of the Ninth Plan, identify the areas of significant shortfall and the reasons therefore, so as to arrive at a basis for evolving appropriate Policy Package/Plan Strategies for mid-term corrections in the implementation of the Plan. The Editorial Committee of the Planning Commission, constituted for the Mid-Term Appraisal Document, is in the process of finalising the draft chapters.

Task Force on Employment Opportunities

2. Despite a targeted decline in the population growth rate, the growth of labour force peaks in during the Ninth Five Year Plan period. In order to tackle this problem, the Government has decided that ten crore people should get employment opportunities over the next ten years. Accordingly, employment opportunities have to be created at the rate of one crore jobs per annum to meet this objective. In this context, the Planning Commission has set up a Task force on Employment under the chairmanship of Shri M.S. Ahluwalia, Member of the Commission.

3. The Task Force on Employment Opportunities has divided its task in a number of sub-groups. The LEM Division in the Planning Commission, in addition to providing secretarial support to the Task Force, worked on Special Employment Programme, Labour Legislation, Labour Force Projection etc., for use as input in the deliberations of the Task Force.

Study Group for Development of Small Enterprises

4. A Study Group on Development of Small Enterprises has been set up under the chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission, to review the problems faced by small enterprises and to suggest new programmes and modifications in the existing policies for the development and growth of small enterprises in the country in the light of international experience and recent economic policy reforms under implementation by the government.

5. The Study Group held its third meeting in Chennai on 30/9/1999 and visited a number of SSI units in industrial estates of Chennai. The Study Group has heard the views on a number of Tamil Nadu Small Scale & Tiny Industry Associations to get the first hand knowledge about their problems. The tenure of the Study Group has been extended upto 20.02.2000. Four sub-groups have been set up by the Study Group. These sub-groups have also held two/three meetings each and are in the process of finalising their reports which would be submitted to the Study Group for consideration.

Chapter 3 : Thrust Areas

6. The Secretary, Planning Commission, chaired a meeting of the handloom experts on 9/11/99 in New Delhi, to discuss the recommendations of the Satyam Committee on Textile Policy with respect to handlooms sector. Issues that emerged during the discussions would be considered while finalising the new Textile Policy.

State Fiscal-Reform Measures

7. The National Development Council which met on the 19th February, 1999 expressed concern over the fiscal situation of States and decided that immediate action should be taken to tackle the short and medium-term fiscal problems of the State Governments. Some immediate relief has been given within the financial year 1998-99. As a further follow up of the NDC decision, the Union Finance Minister convened a Meeting with some of the State Chief Ministers on 20th March, 1999. Based on the decisions of the Meeting, measures are being evolved to address the immediate financial needs and medium term fiscal sustainability of the States.

8. The Planning Commission is actively involved in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of fiscal reform measures taken up by States to improve their finances. In particular, discussions were held with the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for formulating medium term fiscal reform strategy for the State. On the basis of these discussions, the State Government submitted a Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the Planning Commission listing out various reform measures along with milestones with a view to reduce primary deficit below one per cent of the State Domestic Product. A note for the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on creation of a Medium-term facility to promote fiscal reforms and improve governance in States is under consideration.

9. An Official Committee chaired by the Secretary, Planning Commission has been constituted to work out state-wise reform programme and the package of immediate assistance to be extended to the States. The Official Committee was set up in July, 1999. The Meetings of this Committee are held periodically to review the State finances.

Focussed attention on weaker sections

10. To monitor the implementation of the strategies of the Special Component Plan (SCP) for SCs and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for STs, a Standing Tripartite Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Member, Planning Commission, in-charge of Backward Classes Welfare, in 1999 to review and resolve various policy oriented issues thereto in respect of Central Ministries. Similarly, Standing Tripartite Committees in the States are also being set up under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.

11. A Discussion Paper for 'Empowering the Tribals of India' has been prepared focusing/ envisaging comprehensive development amongst the STs. Efforts are being made to organize a 'National Conference on Empowerment of Tribals in India' shortly by inviting Special Articles from the experts who have been working on different tribal problems and issues. Necessary initiatives have been taken to publish these articles in a Special Issue of 'Yojana'.

Information Technology

12. A National Task Force on Information Technology & Software Development (headed by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission) to formulate the National Informatics Policy aimed at enabling the country to emerge as an Information Technology Superpower within the next ten years, has since submitted some of its Reports to make the adoption of information technology into a national movement. This recommendation addresses the felt need for easy availability and extensive transparency of government information.

13. The National Informatics Centre (NIC) is the nodal information technology development and service organisation under the Planning Commission till early November,1999. During the current year, Video Conferencing facilities have been established at all Seven State capitals of the North Eastern Region and at the North-Eastern Council (NEC) Headquarters, Guwahati. The Video Conferencing services are also being extended over Local Area Network (NICNET-LAN) established in various Central Government Bhavans.

14. Committee has been constituted by the Commission on 07.12.99 under the chairmanship of Shri M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission to consider and recommend on the two year Action Plan and the resource needs, as prepared by Department of Telecom. The Committee of Secretaries (COS) in its meeting on 29th October, 1999 decided that the Department of Telecommunications would prepare a two year Action Plan, indicating its resource position and put up before the Cabinet for consideration.

15. A facility to increase access to information-'Soochna Dwar'-with three computers with Internet connections, designed to cater to the needs of visiting journalists, academics and experts has been set up near the Reception Desk in the Ground Floor of Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi. The users can surf the Internet for information relating to planning and development. Facilities for downloading such information are also available for the visitors. This facility is expected to become an interactive centre for exchange of ideas on various aspects of planning and development.

Towards a Knowledge Society

16. In order to implement the Prime Minister's five point agenda for making India a knowledge super power a Task Force has been constituted with Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission as its Chairman. This Task Force will assess the current status of knowledge society and will suggest strategies and plan of action for new education system in the 21st Century leading India as a knowledge super power and developing education for developing a learning society among other things. The Task Force will have Dr.K. Venkatasubramanian, Member as its Member-Convenor, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Prof. R.A. Mashelkar, DG, CSIR, Dr. Mrs. Manju Sharma, Secretary, Department of Bio-Technology, Shri N.R. Narayanamurthy, CEO, Infosys, Dr. Hari Gautam, Chairman, UGC, Shri K.K. Baksi, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission, Prof. J.S. Rajput, Director, NCERT, Dr. N. Vijayaditya, Acting DG, NIC as its Members and Dr. V.P. Garg, Joint Adviser, Planning Commission as Member-Secretary.

Research Advisory Committee

17. The Research Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning

Chapter 3 : Thrust Areas

Commission has been reconstituted in December, 1999. The Terms of Reference of the Committee is to assess and advise on the future directions of social, economic and industrial development of the country. In this context, the Committee will deliberate upon the current and future technological needs and options and will provide the agenda for research and development and technology acquisition by Government and industry. The committee held its first meeting in December, 1999.

Education

18. An Expert Committee on Current Status of Expenditure on Education in relation to a target of 6% of GDP was constituted by the Planning Commission which was chaired by Pr. Adviser (Edn.) and

The Standing Committee on Educational Statistics has prepared a Synthesis Paper highlighting the current status of educational statistics, gaps in educational statistics and has recommended the future plan of action.

Joint Adviser (Edn.) as Member Secretary. The objectives of the Committee were to assess the current status, both in the public and private sector and to make recommendations regarding implementation strategies for gradual increase of governmental and non-governmental spending on education upto a limit of 6% of GDP. The final Report of the committee has been submitted. The Committee has since been dissolved.

19. The Planning Commission has also constituted a Standing Committee on Educational Statistics, with reference to emerging needs, to identify gaps in educational statistics and make suitable arrangements for assigning functional responsibilities to suitable agencies for standardization of formats, collection and interpretation of data, qualitative improvement and further dissemination. The Committee was also to suggest a convergence of efforts and authentication of statistical data to be released by the agencies in a manner that would be acceptable to national and international agencies and other users. The Standing Committee held three sittings.

Natural Resource Management

20. Special Groups have been set up, keeping in view the key objectives of the 9th Plan to look into certain issues of great relevance generally having inter-departmental ramifications where the whole issue in its totality is not being dealt by any particular Ministry as the Planning Commission needs to function as an expert body advising the Government after considering all the facets of such broad issues.

- i) A Task Force on Agro-Forestry was constituted under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission to work out the strategy for development of Agro-Forestry in the country. Two meetings of the Task Force on Agro Forestry have been organised during the year and the recommendations of the Task Force are likely to be finalised soon.
- ii) Two meetings of the Steering Committee on Integrated Development of the Himalayan Region were held under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Group on the Integrated Development of the Himalayan Region.

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- iii) During 1999-2000, three meetings of the High Powered Committee on Maintenance of minimum flow in the river Yamuna were held under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission.
- iv) Meeting of the National Steering Committee on the project Capacity-21 was held under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission to review the progress of the projects.
- v) A group to review the impact of globalisation of bio-resources and its implications on indigenous medicines and Patenting focussing on the need for inter-sectoral coordination has been set up under Member (Environment) and consisting of Secretary (DBT), DG (CSIR), Secretary (ISMH) and Principal Adviser (S&T).
- vi) Uniform norms under the Watershed Development Schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Rural Development, has been attempted.

National Population Policy

21. Population and sustainable development are key issues that determine the future improvement in quality of life. Over the last five decades, there have been massive changes in demographic and health indices of the population. The next two decades will witness an unprecedented increase in the number of persons in 15-59 age group. There is a need to meet health and contraceptive needs of this population. The number of births may remain unaltered but there is an urgent need to reduce maternal and infant mortality so that there is a reduction in the desired level of fertility. There has been a paradigm shift in Family Welfare Programme; centrally defined method specific targets have been replaced by community based need assessment, decentralized planning implementation of the programme to fulfill these needs. Taking all this into consideration, the Department of Family Welfare has formulated a draft National Population Policy. A Group of Ministers (GOM) was constituted by the Cabinet under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to have a critical look at the draft National Population Policy and make suitable recommendations. The GOM after a number of meetings and consultation with experts suggested several modifications. The Government has since approved the National Population Policy.

Review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

22. An issue that has been consistently brought up by State Governments in many fora pertains to the proposal for transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) to the States. In this regard, Planning Commission undertook an exercise to compile all the existing CSS as on 1.4.1996 and a proposal was sent to the States seeking their comments on the transfer of these schemes to the States. The Planning Commission has decided to take this list of CSS and the consolidated comments of the States on this proposal to the NDC.

23. In pursuance of the decision taken in the National Development Council (NDC) meeting held in February, 1999, a NDC Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission with members from both the Central Ministries and the States on the Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). The RD Division is functioning as the nodal Division for that Committee. The meeting noted that there is a wide divergence of opinion among the States and between

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the Central Ministries and the States on the transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the modalities of transfer of the schemes. After discussions, the NDC decided to constitute a Committee of the NDC under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The members of this Committee include Union Ministers of Finance, Human Resource Development, Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs, the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, and Member, Planning Commission. The Committee is expected to submit its report by 31.3.2000.

24. Meanwhile a detailed exercise has been undertaken in the Internal Planning Commission to seek convergence of related schemes and weed out those which are no longer relevant. An attempt has been made in the Planning Commission to isolate those schemes which can be weeded out. Some schemes have been identified for transfer to the States, while a number of other schemes are sought to be converged. At present, Members are engaged in consultations with the concerned Central Ministries, going through every scheme in great detail.

Agriculture and Allied Sector

25. On the suggestion of Planning Commission to bring in convergence in ongoing Central Sector and centrally sponsored schemes and also weeding out of the schemes which have lost their relevance, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) has decided to shift from scheme/programme approach to Macro Management Mode of assistance to states in the form of work plans through a three-dimensional state/crop/intervention matrix, formulated in an interactive mode and implemented in a spirit of partnership with the states. The state work plans will specifically focus on the major concern of each state/UT and will comprise of specific intervention to address the same and achieve maximum gains through most efficient utilization of Plan funds. The DAC would evaluate the accomplishment of milestones by the states as per work plans and other guidelines issued from time to time. Initially, 34 schemes will be converged with the Macro Management Mode and later on other schemes will also be brought under this in a phased manner. The proposed change in respect of 34 identified, schemes is to become operational with effect from 01-04-2000.

26. The National Agenda for Governance has given top priority for doubling food production and making India hunger-free in ten years. Food production will include not only foodgrains, i.e. rice, wheat, coarse cereals and pulses but also all major food items including oils, sugar, fruits & vegetables, livestock products like milk, egg & meat and fish. Ninth Plan envisages a detailed strategy and specific programmes to substantially increase the supply of various food items in such a way that demand for these items for the entire population is comfortably met and some exportable surplus also become available.

27. To ensure food security a three-pronged strategy is envisaged to be adopted to increase the purchasing power of the poor to have access to basic food requirement which include, (i) Increase in overall employment and incomes by raising farm productivity and supporting growth of other economic activities in the rural areas; (ii) Provision of gainful employment through employment generation schemes such as SGSY, EAS, which will also help in creation of durable rural infrastructure and support to small business and industrial activities in the urban areas; (iii) Distribution of foodgrains through public distribution system at concessional prices of those living below the poverty line.

28. In Animal Husbandry and Dairying sector, focus is on the genetic upgradation of milch animals, development of dairy processing and marketing infrastructure through cooperatives and protection of

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livestock from diseases with emphasis on creation of disease free zones. A scheme for Assisting the Sick Milk Unions /Federations set up in different parts of the country under the Operation Flood Programme was approved with the aim to revive sick unions by wiping out their accumulated losses.

29. Planning Commission organized a seminar on 9th September, 1999 to deliberate upon the issues concerning research and development thrusts in agriculture in the wake of globalisation. This was chaired by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. Besides distinguished Member of Parliament, a number of experts, academicians and government representatives participated in the deliberations. Major issues concerning tariff levels, market access and subsidy levels in the context of WTO regime were discussed. Discussions also covered other issues such as bio-diversity, need for documentation of flora and fauna, natural resource management and state of extension support, land-use pattern and poverty amelioration measures. The seminar highlighted the need for additional investment in research and development and promotion of biotechnology and tissue culture, hybrid seeds and application of microbiology. ICAR was advised to bring out a clear strategy on sustainable agriculture with high productivity.

30. A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, on 22-10-1999 to discuss the issues relating to the agriculture sector. Representatives from Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAH&D) and Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) participated in the meeting. A presentation on the important issues in agriculture sector was made by the Agriculture Division of Planning Commission. Some of the important action points identified include, intensification of development of rainfed areas, exploitation of ground water potential in Eastern region, strengthening of soil testing facilities, augmenting seed replacement rate, minimizing the use of pesticides through popularisation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach, strengthening of post harvest handling, processing and marketing facilities, enactment of legislation on multi-state cooperatives, rationalization of import subsidies, development of fodder, review of policy of deep sea fishing, etc.

31. Progress of the working of Agro-Planning Information Bank (APIB) established under the Agro-climatic Regional Planning Project (ACRP) was reviewed in a meeting held under the Chairmanship of Member (SRH) on 1.11.1999. It was decided that database for ACRP planning for three Districts of Karnataka generated by APIB must be made operational by the State Government and its extension agencies.

32. Member (SP) reviewed on 22-02-2000 the progress of project relating to Agro Climatic Regional Planning (ACRP). Senior officers of the concerned Central Ministries, Vice Chancellors/experts from State Agricultural Universities representing on Zonal Planning Teams, representatives from State Department of Agriculture/nodal officers associated with Institutionalising of ACRP concept and implementation of ACRP experiments participated.

Evaluation

33. A conference of the representatives of Evaluation Organisations of Centre and States was held on 28th July, 1999 under the chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission. The conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and was attended by the representatives of Planning Departments and Evaluation Wings of 15 Major States and representatives from academic Institutions. In the conference major emphasis was given to strengthening the Evaluation Organisations both at Centre and States/UTs.

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34. The Monitoring Cell in the Planning Cell is being strengthened so that impact studies of Central Projects by reputed organisations of NGOs, apart from the Commission and Programme Evaluation Organisation are carried out. This would enable us to identify the good schemes, which could be encouraged, and to weed out certain other schemes (and locate the gaps), which would make the on-going schemes more effective.

Task Force on Infrastructure

35. The Government has set up a Task Force on Infrastructure, under the aegis of the Planning Commission with the aim of attracting investments to specific projects of national and regional importance and ensuring their timely completion. The Task Force has finalised the blueprint for the National Highway Development Project with an East-West corridor linking Silchar to Saurashtra and a North-South corridor linking Kashmir to Kanayakumari. It incorporates and further extends the earlier Golden Quadrangle Project linking the four Metros. A draft of the National Integrated Transport Policy that seeks to maximise the synergy between Railways, Roads, Ports, Airports and Inland Waterways has been prepared. Sufficient resources will be mobilised for implementing the project from the multiple sources and Private Sector participation is being enabled through BOT basis.

Transport Sector

36. During the period, the Division was closely associated with the work relating to Task Force on Infrastructure. The Task Force finalised the alignment of National Highway Development Project which consists of Golden Quadrangle linking up Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai and North-South and East-West corridors. The schedule of implementation of the project was also finalised along with financing of the project. Considering the need for completion of development of Golden Quadrangle, the schedule was revised and this part of NHDP is likely to be completed in 4 years as against 5 years as envisaged originally.

37. In respect of development of International Airport, it was decided to involve the private sector for their development through long term lease route.

38. The Division also drafted Integrated Transport Policy, keeping in view the transport demand generated by higher rate of growth of GDP to ensure transport development of all regions. The focus would be on developing a transport system as an integrated structure and objective is to create better system in which all transport sectors play their role in accordance with the comparative advantage enjoyed by them. The draft Integrated Transport Policy would be considered by the Task Force on Infrastructure.

Rural Roads

39. An exercise was undertaken to assess the position relating to connectivity of villages in the country. Presentation was made on rural roads. Inter-ministerial discussions were held for utilisation of accruals on account of additional duty on HSD for supporting the initiatives in rural development and social sectors. After deliberations, it was decided that 50% of accruals on account of additional duty on HSD would be utilised for development/ maintenance and up-gradation of rural roads.

Greater Interaction with State Governments

40. There has been more frequent interaction between the State Governments and the Planning Commission. The Advisers in-charge of State Plans have been asked to frequently tour the States. The Working Group discussions to finalise the States' Annual Plan of different sectors have been renewed after a gap of about 3 years. In addition, special discussions are being held with the State Governments on area specific problems.

Competitiveness in Indian Industry

41. The Commission felt that the overall impact of globalisation and WTO's stipulation on our industry and how we should prepare ourselves for increasing competitiveness should receive greater attention. A meeting on International Competitiveness of the Indian Industry was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission wherein several issues were discussed in detail which included the present status of international competitiveness of Indian industry, long term issues about international competitiveness from the point of view of WTO, labour standards, environment etc. and road map for improving India's international competitiveness at the sectoral/ industrial/firm level. As a follow up of this meeting, presentations were made by the Director General, National Productivity Council and Director General, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in this regard.

Vision Document

42. The Planning Commission has offered to assist the State Governments in preparing a Vision 2020 Document in order to have a Perspective Plan for the development of the States for the next 20 years or so. This would enable the States to have a preview of where they would like to reach by 2020 A.D. Similarly, a Group under Dr. S.P.Gupta, Member, Planning Commission is preparing a broad perspective framework for a Vision Document at the Central level.

State Level Human Development Report (HDR)

43. The Planning Commission has decided to support the preparation of the State Level HDRs which would be an important tool for identifying areas that are deficient in social infrastructure, with a view to increase the flow of allocations to these areas and improve the delivery systems. A National Workshop on this subject was organised.

Golden Jubilee of Planning Commission

44. A Steering Committee was set up in the Planning Commission under the chairmanship of Prof. S.R. Hashim, Member, Planning Commission in connection with celebrating 50 years of setting up of Planning Commission. The Committee in its meetings considered draft programmes to observe 50th year of the Planning Commission.

Other Areas Currently Engaging the Attention of the Planning Commission

45. The effect of globalisation and WTO stipulations on the Agriculture Sector, which needs special attention, and the institutional arrangements for the same have to be re-examined, so that agricultural production increases speedily.



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46. Owing to excessive controls over labour intensive units in the cottage industries, there is a transition from self-employment to wage employment. A Paper has been prepared and Action Points are being identified.

47. The Planning Commission recognizes that there should be emphasis on good governance so that a more identifiable linkage between the plan expenditure and the actual delivery of benefits is established. There is a need for greater transparency and accountability in the implementation machinery. A Paper is being prepared for internal circulation within the Planning Commission, before the States are sensitized.

48. The issue of differential growth rates of States was brought in sharp focus. The Financial Resources Division has brought out a paper showing the state wise performance. A presentation was also made in the Planning Commission.

49. A committee to look in the State PSUs was constituted. An interim report has already been prepared.

World Trade Organisation (WTO)

50. The International Economics Division of Planning Commission undertook a comprehensive examination of major World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreements with a view to advise the Government well before it engaged in any decision making or revision of its negotiating position. A Report was prepared summarising the results of the analysis based on factual information available from domestic and international sources and discussions with Ministries and Departments, research institutions and trade and industry bodies.

51. The Report brought out in brief the following: (i) Issues before the Seattle Round; (ii) India's negotiating position on various issues; (iii) official views on strategy of negotiations; (iv) the proposals submitted by India in General Council of WTO on major issues; (v) views expressed in Inter-Ministerial meetings and meetings with trade and industry bodies; and (vi) suggestions for considerations of the Government concerning developmental issues in WTO negotiations.

Labour in Public Enterprises

52. Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, is the Convener of a group of Ministers to work out a strategy for liquidation of outstanding statutory dues of workers employed in Central PSUs. Various options are under study to mitigate the hardships of employees of PSUs. Roughly, 79,000 workers have been identified as surplus and fund required for a separation scheme for these workers is estimated around Rs.2800 crore; outstanding dues are additional to this. The Ministry of Finance has been providing budgetary resources in the form of non-plan loans for payment of wages and salaries to workers in those CPSUs which are not operational and have to be wound up.

53. An overall view on issues relating to labour in public enterprises has become necessary. The issues include besides the outstanding dues, periodicity and criterion for wage revision, future of sick units and terms for job separation. A Group of Ministers with wider terms of reference has, therefore, been asked to recommend measures to settle these issues, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, is Convener of the Group.

CHAPTER 4

MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN THE PLANNING COMMISSION - 1999-2000

The 48th Meeting of the National Development Council (NDC)

1. Planning Commission is the Secretariat for National Development Council. The 48th meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held on 19th February, 1999.
2. The following issues/points emerged in the NDC Meeting held on 19th February, 1999.
 - (i) The NDC approved the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) Document, as placed before the Council.
 - (ii) The NDC endorsed the recommendations of the NDC Committee on Power and urged the Union and the State governments to implement these recommendations on priority. The meeting took note that the Union Government and several State Governments had already started implementing some of the recommendations of the NDC Committee.
 - (iii) While appreciating the concerns surrounding the periodic revision of administered prices of essential commodities it was felt that though the interests of the farmers and the consumers, particularly of poorer sections of the society, must certainly be the primary concern, yet the macro-economic imperatives of fiscal stabilisation and control of inflation, which hurts the poor more than others, cannot be ignored. A balance has to be struck in taking such decisions.
 - (iv) The NDC decided to set up a Committee under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, with members drawn from Central Ministries and States to go into the criteria for allocation of funds under major rural poverty alleviation schemes. The members of the Committee include the Union Minister for Rural Development, Chief Ministers of Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, the Minister of State for Planning and Member, Planning Commission. The NDC Committee meeting was held on 12th January, 2000 and the various criteria for allocation of funds under major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes were discussed. There was a consensus and agreement on continuation of presently used criterion i.e. 15 per cent adjusted shares, as approved by the Full Planning Commission under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister.
 - (v) The meeting noted that there is a wide divergence of opinion among the States and between the Central Ministries and the States on the transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the modalities of transfer of the schemes. After discussions, the NDC decided to constitute a Committee of the NDC under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The members of this Committee include Union Ministers of Finance, Human Resource Development, Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs, the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh,

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West Bengal, and Member, Planning Commission. The Committee is expected to submit its report by 31.3.2000. Meanwhile a detailed exercise has been undertaken in the Internal Planning Commission to seek convergence of related schemes and weed out those which are no longer relevant.

- (vi) The Finance Minister informed the NDC that the Governor, RBI has agreed to implement the revised ways and means advances to States from 1.3.1999 as against the earlier decision of doing so with effect from 1.4.1999. In addition, the RBI would consider allowing the States to roll over outstanding Overdrafts beyond the end of the current financial year as a short term measure to tide over the financial problems.
- (vii) The Union Finance Minister met a group of the State Chief Ministers/Finance Ministers on 20th March, 1999 to discuss the fiscal problems facing the States in a medium-term context. In the meeting it was decided that an Official Committee chaired by the Secretary, Planning Commission would be constituted to work out state-wise reform programme and the package of immediate assistance to be extended to the States. The Official Committee was set up in July, 1999. The Meetings of this Committee are held periodically to review the State finances.

3. Planning Commission has taken note of the demand from some State Governments to reconsider the criteria, based on the Expert Group methodology of estimating the incidence of poverty, for allocation of funds under the major Centrally Sponsored rural poverty alleviation programmes, viz. Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Million Wells Scheme and Indira Awaas Yojana. An exercise was undertaken to rationalise the criteria for allocation of funds for the said programmes by calculating weighted average shares of States-UTs, giving equal weightage to the share of Task Force estimates for 1987-88 and the Expert Group estimates for 1993-94. The Commission felt that this should be placed before the NDC for its consideration.

4. The following Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) have been approved by the Full Planning Commission during 1999-2000:

- i. "Upgrading Existing Polytechnics to Integrate the Physically Disabled in the Mainstream of Technical and Vocational Education" of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education).
- ii. A new 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) titled "Annapurna for benefit of Indigent Senior Citizens (Sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Development) during the Ninth Five Year Plan.
- iii. "National Programme for Women's Education", a new CSS of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

5. The Y2K solution and management was a major issue concerning the global economy during 1999. Creation of awareness about the problem and the need to prepare time bound action plans for solving the problem was a pre-requisite towards ensuring a successful handling of the

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problem. The C&I Division, in collaboration with National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) organized a National Seminar in the beginning of the year for generating the necessary awareness in the Government and the allied sectors.

6. To provide the necessary impetus and focused attention to the Government's efforts to address the Y2K problem, a High Level Action Force on Managing the Impact of Year 2000 Problem in India was set up in October, 1998 under Chairmanship of Shri M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission. Besides the Govt., it had representatives from PSUs, financial institutions, public utilities, defence and trade & industry associations. The Action Force interacted continuously with the Central Departments, the State Governments and the private sector towards preparation of detailed sectoral Action Plans and contingency planning and held several meetings to discuss, deliberate and finalize the action required, especially with regard to the eleven priority sectors of Power, Banking and Finance, Insurance, Telecommunications, Civil Aviation, Railways, Ports, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Atomic Energy, Space and Defence. The final Report was submitted on October 18, 1999. The Action Force also continuously monitored and reviewed the progress being made by various sectors. The Division was actively involved in the year long work of the Action Force and provided necessary technical and secretarial support to the Action Force in completing its work.

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance

7. The Standing Committee on Finance set up by Lok Sabha under the Chairmanship of Shri Murlidhar Deora examined the Demands for Grants for 1999-2000. Senior officers appeared for oral evidence before this Committee on 23rd March, 1999. Detailed replies to the points raised by this Committee were subsequently submitted.

8. A brief overview of major activities undertaken by the different Divisions of the Planning Commission is summarized in the following paragraphs.

4.1 AGRICULTURE DIVISION

9. A regionally differentiated strategy based on land & water resources and productivity levels and potentials in different Agro-Economic Zones is to be adopted to achieve a 4.5% growth in agriculture. It places emphasis on accelerating the growth of horticulture products such as fruits & vegetables, livestock products and fishery. The accelerated activities in the horticulture sector will offer a vast scope for diversification of Indian agriculture, generate additional employment opportunities, improve agro-industrial base, provide much needed nutritional security and also enhance export earnings. It will substantially improve incomes of the farmers particularly, belonging to small and marginal categories in the lesser developed areas.

10. In order to increase the production of cotton, Technology Mission on Cotton has been established which would address the issues in totality, including research on production technology, technology transfer and input supply to farmers, post harvest processing technology and marketing.

11. A project for oil palm development has also been recently approved which is aimed at increasing production and augmenting the supplies of edible oils in the country.

12. In order to widen the coverage of risk against crop damage/failure owing to natural calamities, a Rashtryia Krishi Bima Yojana has been launched with provision to cover all crops and all willing farmers.

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13. As a part of post-harvest infrastructure, Government has approved a credit linked capital subsidy scheme to set up additional 12 lakh tonnes of cold storage capacity, modernisation/rehabilitation of existing 8 lakh tonnes or cold storage capacity and creation of 4.5 lakh tonnes or onion storage capacity. 25% subsidy subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh (33.33% subject to maximum Rs.60 lakh in N.E. region) is allowed to each of the project for cold storage or onion storage.

14. The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is an autonomous apex body at the National level for promotion of science and technology programmes in areas of agricultural research and education. New activities undertaken in ICAR during 1999-2000 include (i) support to private agricultural colleges, (ii) setting up of Agriculture University at Jammu, (iii) creation of network of Haemorrhagic septicaemia, (iv) creation of AICRP on Gastro-intestinal parasitism, (v) NRC on Seed Spices and Millets, (vi) creation of Bureau on Agriculturally important micro-organism, (vii) setting up of ICAR complex at Patna, and (viii) setting up of RRS of Central Soil Salinity Research Institute at Lucknow.

Important Activities in the B.C. & T.D. Division

- Reorientation and Rationalization of Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes related to welfare and development of SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities.
- Mid-term Appraisal of various welfare and development schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- A Chapter on 'Empowerment of Socially Disadvantaged Groups' has been prepared for inclusion in the Mid-term Appraisal Document of the Ninth Plan.
- Associated with the nodal Ministries for formulation of development schemes for the welfare of the disadvantaged groups.
- Preparation of a Discussion Paper for National Conference on 'Empowerment of Tribals in India'.
- Constituted a Standing Tripartite Committee to monitor the implementation of SCP and TSP both at Centre and State levels.
- Finalised the Annual Plan 1999-2000 outlays of the i) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities; and ii) Ministry of Tribal Affairs for welfare and development of STs.

15. Fisheries Sector occupies an important place in the socio-economic development of the country. The major thrust in fisheries has been focused on optimizing production and productivity, augmenting export of marine products, generating employment and improving the welfare of fishermen and their socio-economic status. In consonance with the overall strategy of the Ninth Plan, the major thrust is on expansion of aquaculture in freshwater and brackishwater, development of reservoir fisheries, strengthening of infrastructure like fishery harbours, fish landing centres, marketing etc.

4.2 BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

16. The Backward Classes and Tribal Development (BC & TD) Division is concerned with the welfare and development of the Socially Disadvantaged Groups, viz., the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and the Minorities.

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17. Having focus on ' Growth with social Justice and Equity ' and with a specific objective of 'Empowerment of the Socially Disadvantaged Groups and enabling them to act as agents of socio-economic change and development , the BC & TD Division has been working towards reorienting and rationalising various welfare and developmental programmes. In order to review, assess the progress made during the first three years of the Ninth Plan (1997-98 to 1999-2000) and suggest necessary interventions, various on-going welfare and developmental activities taken up through Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs (set up in 1999) were scrutinised through Mid-Term Appraisal during 1999. Keeping in view the expansion and improvement of Social Infrastructure such as drinking water, housing, education, health care and sanitation, as committed in the Ninth Plan, status of extension of these Basic Minimum Services to the weaker sections was reviewed in the Mid-Term Appraisal. A Chapter on Empowerment of Socially Disadvantaged Groups has been prepared by the Division for inclusion in the document of Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Plan.

18. The Division had interacted closely with the nodal Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs in formulation and implementation of various need based policies and programmes for the welfare and development of SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities, especially focussing on their educational and economic development.

19. For the Annual Plan 1999-2000, the outlay approved by the Planning Commission for implementation of these schemes was Rs. 1095 crore.

State Working Group Discussion

- Working Group Meetings were held with the States' nodal Departments of SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities Welfare to discuss their Annual Plan (1999-2000) proposals.
- Recommendations were made to adopt various measures to effectively implement the existing ongoing schemes of the States and the Centre.
- Impressed upon the States to put accelerated efforts towards fulfilling the Ninth Plan commitment of empowering the Socially Disadvantaged Groups. Eradication of Manual scavenging and Survival, Protection and Development of Primitive Tribal Groups were accorded priority.
- Stressed upon to strictly adhere to the strategies of TSP and SCP towards ensuring adequate flow of funds and earmarking under various development sectors to attain social and economic development amongst the SCs and STs.

Working Group discussion for the Annual Plan 2000-2001 for 18 States were held to finalise the size of the outlays to the B.C. Sector of these States.

20. The State Working Group Meetings were arranged in the Planning Commission with State's nodal Departments dealing with welfare and development of SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities to discuss their Annual Plan (1999-2000) proposals. The Working Group, besides recommending outlays for the BC Sector for States/UTs for the Annual Plan under reference has also suggested various measures for effective implementation of the existing ongoing schemes of the States and the Centre. Efforts were also made to impress upon the States to work towards fulfilling the

Ninth Plan commitment of empowering the Socially Disadvantaged Groups. The Working Group has stressed upon the strict adherence to the special strategies of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for Scheduled Tribes and Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes towards ensuring adequate flow of funds and earmarking under various development sectors to attain social and economic development amongst the SCs and STs.

21. Deviating from the present practice of convening the State Working Group Meeting after deciding the Plan size of the States for the Annual Plans, the B.C & T.D Division arranged the State Working Group Meetings with the major States for the Annual Plan 2000-2001 in the Planning Commission during the year under reference to review the proposals of the State Government focusing on the present policies, priorities set and programmes implemented for the welfare of SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities so as to make the planning for these disadvantaged groups more meaningful.

Terms and Reference of Standing Tripartite Committee

- To look into the reasons for not implementing the Guidelines concerning SCP and TSP and to suggest specific measures for their compliance
- To identify specific schemes which would benefit SCs and STs under various development sectors, their prioritization along with earmarking of them
- To review the process of implementation, impact assessment and monitoring of SCP and TSP and utilization of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to TSP and the Grant-in-Aid (GIA) under Article 275(1) and advise the Planning Commission on measures which would serve the interests of these communities more effectively;
- The Committee will recommend allocations/earmarking of funds under TSP as also specific/additional schemes consistent with the Guidelines, where necessary, for various Central Ministries and State Governments which are to be taken into account while finalizing their Annual Plans each year;
- To suggest institutional and advocacy arrangements for participating beneficiary groups in preparation and implementation of schemes under SCP to TSP and Central allocations referred to in (iii) above, taking into consideration among others, priorities of 73rd and 74th Amendments and other

22. To monitor the implementation of the strategies of the Special Component Plan (SCP) for SCs and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for STs, a Standing Tripartite Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Member, Planning Commission, in-charge of Backward Classes Welfare, in 1999 to review and resolve various policy oriented issues thereto in respect of Central Ministries. Similarly, Standing Tripartite Committees in the States are also being set up under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.

23. An exclusive Ministry of Tribal Affairs was established in the year under reference so as to ensure focused and exclusive attention to the development of the Scheduled Tribes leading to their empowerment. Keeping this in view, a Discussion Paper for Empowering the Tribals of India has been prepared focusing/envisaging comprehensive development amongst the STs. Efforts have also been made by the B. C & T. D Division to organize a 'National Conference on Empowerment of Tribals in India' during 1999-2000 by inviting Special Articles from the experts who have been working on different tribal problems and issues. Necessary initiatives have been taken to publish these articles in a Special Issue of 'Yojana'.

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24. In an attempt to streamline the performance and for better implementation of the Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes related to welfare and development of the socially disadvantaged groups in the States and UTs, the Officers of the BC & TD Division visited the States and UTs during the year under reference, specifically to review the programmes being implemented for the development of Primitive Tribal Groups. A Senior Officer of the Division visited Andaman and Nicobar Islands especially to study and review the problems and developmental activities of the Primitive Tribes in these Islands.

4.3 COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION DIVISION

25. Communication, Information and Broadcasting Division is primarily concerned with the Plans, programmes and policies relating to Telecom, Postal, Information and Broadcasting and Information Technology sectors of the economy.

26. During the year, the Division critically examined the other issues relating to telecom sector. The major policy issues examined include:

- Corporatisation of Department of Telecommunications.
- Migration of existing licensees of Cellular, Basic and other Value added services to the revenue sharing regime under NTP'99.
- Tariff revision and its impact on revenue generation in the telecom sector.
- Allocation of international bandwidth to ISPs for setting up of international gateways.
- India Mobile Personal Communication Services
- Use of satellite other than INTELSAT for international connectivity.
- Restructuring the INMARSAT project.

27. The Committee of Secretaries (COS) in its meeting on 29th October, 1999 decided that the Department of Telecommunications would prepare a two year Action Plan, indicating its resource position and put up before the Cabinet for consideration. The Action Plan would be routed through a Committee to be set up under the chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission. Following the above decision of COS, a Committee has been constituted by the Commission on 07.12.99 under chairmanship of Shri M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission. The main task of the Committee would be to consider and recommend on the two year Action Plan and the resource needs, as prepared by Department of Telecom. The Division would provide the necessary input support – both secretarial and technical – needed by the Committee to complete its work.

28. The Department of Telecommunication has set up several inter-ministerial groups to monitor the implementation of various provisions of National Telecom Policy 1999. The Division is represented in many of such groups like Groups on Rural Area Telephony, Expansion of Telecom in the North-East, Wireless Planning, Co-ordination Committee etc.

29. The Y2K solution and management was a major issue concerning the global economy during 1999. Creation of awareness about the problem and the need to prepare time bound



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action plans for solving the problem was a pre-requisite towards ensuring a successful handling of the problem. The Division, in collaboration with National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) organized a National Seminar in the beginning of the year for generating the necessary awareness in the Government and the allied sectors.

30. To provide the necessary impetus and focused attention to the Government's efforts to address the Y2K problem, a High Level Action Force on Managing the Impact of Year 2000 Problem in India was set up in October, 1998 under Chairmanship of Shri M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission. Besides the Govt., it had representatives from PSUs, financial institutions, public utilities, defence and trade & industry associations. The Action Force interacted continuously with the Central Departments, the State Governments and the private sector towards preparation of detailed sectoral Action Plans and contingency planning and held several meetings to discuss, deliberate and finalize the action required, especially with regard to the eleven priority sectors of Power, Banking and Finance, Insurance, Telecommunications, Civil Aviation, Railways, Ports, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Atomic Energy, Space and Defence. The final Report was submitted on October 18, 1999. The Action Force also continuously monitored and reviewed the progress being made by various sectors. The Division was actively involved in the year long work of the Action Force and provided necessary technical and secretarial support to the Action Force in completing its work.

31. Postal sector is one such sector which has been least touched by the wave of liberalization initiated in early 90s. Modernization of postal services, by increased use of Information Technology and simultaneous expansion of service in rural, remote, hilly and far flung areas is a priority area. The Division deliberated on various schemes in this regard, including computerization of postal services on lease finance basis and revival of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras.

32. Annual Plan proposals (1999-2000) submitted by the Department of Telecommunications, Department of Posts and Ministry of Information & Broadcasting were examined and their Plans finalized. Preparation of the chapters concerning Mid-Term Appraisal of these sectors is underway. The Appraisal regarding broadcasting sector has raised basic policy issues facing the sector in the light of new and converging technologies in information, telecommunications and broadcasting.

33. The Division has been entrusted with the works relating to the newly formed Ministry of Information Technology.

34. The Division in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre, has started a Cyber Cafe near the Reception Desk in the Ground Floor or Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi. The Cyber Cafe named 'Soochna Dwar' has three computers with Internet connections and it has been designed to cater to the needs of visiting journalists, academics and experts. They can surf the Internet for information relating to planning and development. Facilities for downloading such information are also available for the visitors. The Cafe is expected to become an interactive centre for exchange of ideas on various aspects of planning and development.

35. The Division continued with the "Internal Information Service" by bringing out a computerised Daily Digest of selected news items. Besides, it continued to send newspaper clippings of plan related items to the Office of the Deputy Chairman, MOS and other senior officials of the Commission on a daily basis. The Division was also responsible for bringing out a number of publications of the Planning Commission and ensured their wider circulation among various institutions and individuals, both in the Government and non-Government sectors.

4.4 DEVELOPMENT POLICY DIVISION

36. The Development Policy Division examined the various price recommendations during the year as made by the Commission on Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) for the major crops, covering almost two thirds of the cultivated area, in regard to Minimum Support Prices to be paid to the farmers. It also provided its comments on fixation and revision of Central Issue Price for wheat & rice for distribution under the Public Distribution System as well as for open sale. The Division also examined the various proposals in regard to foodgrains storage, relaxation of fair average quality (FAQ) of foodgrains for procurement as well as transportation of foodgrains. The Division also examined the various proposals in regard to import and export of agricultural commodities and gave its comments on policy options vis-à-vis quantitative restrictions and imposition of variable tariff etc.

37. The Division vetted the Annual Plan proposals relating to the Public Distribution System sent by the Department of Food & Civil Supplies for Annual Plan discussions. It also prepared brief notes on issues relating to 'subsidies on food, kerosene & fertilizer', 'subsidy on sugar' and 'the need to review the Essential Commodity Act'. The Chapter on Public Distribution System and Food Security for the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Plan was also prepared in the Division.

38. The Development Policy Division monitored the major economic indicators of the Indian economy on a continuous basis during the period and also reviewed the macro-economic performance of the economy for the full year. The Division prepared the chapter on Direction for Reforms for inclusion in the Mid Term Appraisal of the Ninth Plan. The chapter on Recent Economic Developments for Annual Plan Document was also prepared in the Division. The Division also contributed in a significant manner in co-ordinating the preparation of the background material for the Economic Editor's Conference (November 17-19, 1999).

39. The Development Policy Division, has been also coming out with Weekly Report on the "Latest Price Situation" on quite a regular basis. The Report is useful in preparing the Brief for the Deputy Chairman for the meetings of the Cabinet Committee on Prices (CCP) chaired by the Prime Minister.

4.5 EDUCATION DIVISION

40. Education Division during the year continued active interaction with nodal Departments of Education, Art & Culture and Sports and Youth Affairs. The major activity was the finalisation of the revised Ninth Plan Chapter on Education, including Culture and Sports & Youth Affairs. Another activity undertaken was the mid-term appraisal of the Ninth Plan in all the sectors. The draft Chapter on the Mid-term Review of

The Mid-term Review of Education Sector was undertaken which reflects major Schemes of Education, Art & culture and Sports and Youth Affairs.

Education sector was undertaken on the basis of review of major schemes in all the sectors of education like elementary, secondary, higher education, technical education, adult education, language development and book promotion, including copyrights. The schemes in the sector of Art & Culture and Sports & Youth Affairs were also reviewed, in consultation with the Dep't. of Culture and Dep't. of Sports & Youth Affairs. The final draft would be ready shortly.

41. An Expert Committee on Current Status of Expenditure on Education in relation to a target of 6% of GDP was constituted by the Planning Commission which was chaired by Pr. Adviser (Edn.) and Joint Adviser (Edn.) as Member Secretary. The objectives of the Committee were to assess the current status, both in the public and private sector and to make recommendations regarding implementation strategies for gradual increase of governmental and non-governmental spending on education upto a limit of 6% of GDP. The final Report of the committee has been submitted. The Committee has since been dissolved.

42. The Planning Commission has also constituted a Standing Committee on Educational Statistics, with reference to emerging needs, to identify gaps in educational statistics and make

The Standing Committee on Educational Statistics has prepared a Synthesis Paper highlighting the current status of educational statistics, gaps in educational statistics and has recommended the future plan of action.

suitable arrangements for assigning functional responsibilities to suitable agencies for standardization of formats, collection and interpretation of data, qualitative improvement and further dissemination. The Committee

was also to suggest a convergence of efforts and authentication of statistical data to be released by the govt. agencies in a manner that would be acceptable to national and international agencies and other users. The Standing Committee held three sittings.

43. A Sub Group constituted by the Committee has prepared a Synthesis Paper, entitled "Educational Statistics in India: A Status Review and Action Plan" which the Committee discussed in detail. Data gaps in the respective sectors were highlighted besides deficiencies in the system of collection of educational statistics, issue of validation, quality, reliability etc. The final version of the Synthesis Paper of the Report of the Standing Committee is being prepared.

44. The Plan Investment and Evaluation Group for Educational Development met in April, 1999. The meeting was attended by the State Secretaries who shared their experiences in the sector of education, particularly elementary education in their respective States and the measures being taken by them to accelerate the process of universalisation of elementary education. Main decisions taken during the meeting

Under the Plan Investment and Evaluation Group for educational development, the State Secretaries of educationally backward States have taken decisions to accelerate the process of universalisation of elementary education in their respective States.

were:

- (i) Each State to constitute a group under their respective Chief Ministers for construction of school buildings for which money available under different schemes for construction of school buildings to be pooled and the Committee should sanction and monitor the release of funds to Panchayats for construction of school-buildings, and under various incentive schemes of free text-books, uniforms, subsidies etc. which could be provided to the Panchayats;
- (ii) To decentralize their school administration by delegating power to Panchayats. Regulatory mechanism may accordingly be developed. Government should work as facilitator and not as road blocker ;

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- (iii) To circulate the note on Madhya Pradesh Model of EGS to other States;
- (iv) To work for convergence of schemes of elementary education;
- (v) Alternate meetings in rotation are to be held every quarter in all Member States and the next meeting is scheduled to be held shortly in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. NIEPA is also going to organize a Workshop on UEE.

45. The National Steering Committee on Technology Development Missions was reconstituted and its meeting was held on 6th April, 1999 in the Planning Commission to discuss the final Reports of the Missions and to decide future line of action and take decisions on pending work of the projects being executed by various IITs and IISc, Bangalore. The Committee also discussed the achievements and the future prospects of the Missions. Planning Commission had directly corresponded with the industrial partners to get feedback from them independently as to how the Missions have been useful. The response had been very encouraging and the success rate of the Missions is nearly 70%. The major decision taken was that there will be second phase which will be discussed in the next meeting of the Steering Committee and the focus will be to identify project Missions related to national importance and the common man.

46. A Coordination Committee on Vocational Education and Training has been set up to serve as a coordinating mechanism between ministries /organizations, /agencies, to promote close

The Co-ordination Committee on Vocational Education and Training has been set up which aims at effective co-ordination between Ministries/ Organisations/Agencies for vocationalisation of education at school stage. This Committee will also promote close interface between Government, Industry and Trade.

liaison and favour of interaction with meaningful partnership of Govt. with industry, trade and commerce concerning vocational education and training; to suggest ways and means for quality improvement in vocational education and training; to suggest financing and administrative

measures for promotion of research and developmental programmes in manpower planning needed for the fulfillment of objectives of vocational education and training.

47. The Education Division also initiated the work in getting a number of schemes evaluated through independent research and evaluation organizations existing in different regions of the country in the sector of elementary education. The following studies have been allocated:

- (i) Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-Day Meal), A comparative Lessons of Experience in U.P. & Himachal Pradesh;
- (ii) Navodaya Vidyalayas in U.P. & H.P. – A Comparative Analysis;
- (iii) Comparative study of Externally Aided Projects in the field of Elementary Education in the State of Rajasthan & Haryana;
- (iv) Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education with spl. references to Girl literacy in the States of Rajasthan & Haryana;

The success stories of innovative practices under elementary education received from different States are being disseminated for wider application.

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- (v) A comparative study of nutritional support to Primary Education (Mid-Day-Meal Scheme) in the States of Orissa & Tamil Nadu;
- (vi) A comparative Study of Girl Literacy in Orissa & Tamil Nadu;
- (vii) Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education with special reference to Girl Literacy in West Bengal & Bihar;
- (viii) Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education. A Comparative study of Girl Literacy in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh;
- (ix) Responsiveness of various schemes to Girl Literacy/Education in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;
- (x) A Study of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Karnataka & Kerala.

48. For reviewing the progress of the evaluation studies, a meeting was held in November, 1999. The final Reports are expected to be submitted in February, 2000. These Reports will be discussed in detail with the organizations concerned also, before their final adoption.

49. Projects and Proposals are also being received from the Dep't. of Education as a follow up of the recommendation of the National Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission for taking immediate steps for removing bottlenecks in the path of rapid development for information and technology in India and to promote software industry

50. A 10-member delegation from Bangladesh visited Education Division, Planning Commission to learn about its working. A meeting with the delegates was held under the chairmanship of Member(Education), Planning Commission. Information regarding general programmes and policies in the field of education sector was provided to the delegates and the officers of the Education Division interacted with the member-delegates.

51. As a member of the Review Committee, Deputy Adviser (Edn.) visited Sarfoji Saraswati Maha! Library, Tanjavur and Tibetan Library and Archives Dharamshala for assessing their financial requirements and to make necessary recommendations.

52. The Education Division continued its efforts and focus on convergence of schemes, similar in nature in all the sectors which are in operation or are proposed to be initiated, for optimum utilization of resources in an economical manner, particularly in the field of elementary education and education for girls. The proposals of the Dep't. of Education for making elementary education a fundamental right with reference to Eighty Third (Constitutional) Amendment, Scheme of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan - a holistic and convergent approach for universalisation of primary education, modification of certain parameters of the DPEP Programme, restructuring of the existing Non-formal education as alternative and innovative education programme for providing schooling facilities for working and out of school children, were supported. Similarly, the proposal for upgrading the Polytechnics to integrate physically disabled in the mainstream of technical

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education was supported for providing increasing opportunities in the education system and employment. 25 seats in each selected Polytechnic would be kept for giving admission to disabled students in regular three-years diploma course.

53. The Division held detailed discussion with the Dep't. of Education, Art & Culture & Sports & Youth Affairs of the HRD in the formulation of Annual Plan, 1999-2000. Similar Working Group discussions were also held for finalizing the Annual Plan of the State and UTs and constructive suggestions were given on various schemes from the point of view of convergence and streamlining.

4.6 ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS DIVISION

54. The Environment & Forests Unit of the Planning Commission deals with formulation of the Five Year Plans, Annual Plan and Policies pertaining to the Ministries/departments of Environment & Forests, Wastelands Development and Animal Welfare. In addition, the Unit has been working as Secretariat of the Island Development Authority which was set up under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister and its Standing Committee is chaired by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. Since January 2000, the IDA Secretariat has been transferred to the Multi Level Planning Division of the Planning Commission.

55. This year the thrust areas of the Environment & Forest Division were to,

- Ensure the fuller participation of the people in the protection and management of forests on the basis of care and share.
- Design a strategy for the development of Agro-Forestry in the country.
- Review the progress of various ongoing projects in the related areas in the Central Ministry and the State Governments

56. During the year 1999-2000, the E&F Unit undertook the exercise of conducting the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan for the Environment & Forests, Wastelands Development and Animal Welfare sectors. A Task Force on Agro-Forestry was constituted under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission to work out the strategy for development of Agro-Forestry in the country. Two meetings of the Task Force on Agro Forestry have been organised during the year and the recommendations of the Task Force are likely to be finalised soon.

57. Following matters were also attended to during the current year:

- (i) Two meetings of the Steering Committee on Integrated Development of the Himalayan Region were held under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Group on the Integrated Development of the Himalayan Region.
- (ii) During 1999-2000, three meetings of the High Powered Committee on Maintenance of minimum flow in the river Yamuna were held under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission.
- (iii) Meeting of the National Steering Committee on the project Capacity-21 was held under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission to review the progress of the projects.

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- (iv) A study on the implications of global warming and the effects of the likely sea level rise on the Lakshadweep Group of Islands was conducted and the Report prepared. The highlights of the study have been communicated to the Ministries /Departments concerned.
- (v) A meeting of the Monitoring Committee on the National River Conservation Plan under the chairmanship of Member (Environment & Forests), Planning Commission was organised to review the progress of the National River Conservation Plan.

4.7 FINANCIAL RESOURCES DIVISION

58. Assessment of Financial Resources for the Plans is an integral part of plan formulation. The studies and analysis for projections and estimates of financial resources for the Plan are undertaken at the very start of the Five Year/ Annual Plan formulation. This includes the review of the actual scheme of financing the approved Plan of the Centre and the State Governments during the previous (Annual/Five Year) Plans and exploring the ways of raising additional resources required for financing the ensuing Plan. The Financial Resources Division is responsible for such assessment of financial resources for the Five-Year Plan and Annual Plans for both the Centre and the States/ U.Ts.

Annual Plan 1999-2000

59. During the period under review, the Division completed the assessment of resources for the Annual Plan 1999-2000 for the Centre and for the States. The Chapter on Financial Resources together with annexures providing quantitative details of financing the Annual Plan 1999-2000 was prepared for inclusion in the Annual Plan (1999-2000) document. The allocation of amounts to be raised through Tax-free bonds by selected Central Public Sector Enterprises/ Corporations for financing their Plan was also completed as a part of the Centre's Annual Plan formulation for 1999-2000.

Annual Plan 2000-01

60. The process of estimating/ assessment of financial resources for the Annual Plan 2000-01 was initiated during the period under review. The officers of the Division have been associated in the exercise undertaken by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance for the assessment of Internal and Extra-Budgetary Resources (IEBR) of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) for Annual Plan 2000-01.

61. The necessary details of trends in Plan expenditure (including Central Assistance to States/ U.Ts' Plans) and Non Plan expenditure during 1997-2000 and the tentative estimates of Gross Budgetary Support for the Annual Plan 2000-01 were provided to the Commission to facilitate discussions between the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance in this regard. With regard to the State Plans, detailed guidelines were issued to all States for formulating the scheme of financing of their Plans. The proposed scheme of financing, as proposed by the States on the basis of such guidelines, were discussed in details by the Working Groups on Financial Resources under the chairmanship of Adviser, Financial Resources Division. The Working Groups comprise officers from the F.R. Division, Department of Expenditure, Department of Economic Affairs,

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Reserve Bank of India and respective States/ U.Ts Governments. The consensus arrived in the Working Groups forms the basis of discussions between the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chief Ministers for finalisation of outlay for the Annual Plans of the States/ U.Ts .

Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan

62. The fiscal position of the Centre and the States has been under considerable strain during the nineties due to low growth in tax and non-tax revenues, vis-à-vis the persistent growth in non-plan expenditure. This resulted in lower resources than what was envisaged for the financing of Plan investment.

63. Figure 1 shows that the declining trend in the share of Plan expenditure (in the total expenditure of the Centre) witnessed during the Eighth Plan had continued in the first two years of the Ninth Plan also. Plan expenditure accounted for only about 30 per cent of the total expenditure of the Centre, in the first year (1992-93) of the Eighth Plan. During the first two years of the Ninth Plan i.e. 1997-98 and 1998-99, the share of Plan expenditure declined to 25 and 24 percent respectively of the total expenditure. The financing pattern of Plan expenditure of the Centre (given in Table I) would show that in these two years (i.e. 1997-98 and 1998-99), the Balance from Current Revenues (BCR) of the Centre which was estimated to be negative, deteriorated further substantially compared to the corresponding estimates of the scheme of financing the Annual Plans. Therefore, the recourse to higher levels of borrowings became unavoidable to finance even the lower Plan investment. The internal resources of the Public Sector Enterprises also declined to a large extent compared to the Plan / Budget estimates. The borrowings of these enterprises also declined vis-à-vis the Plan estimates proposed for their investment.

Table 4.1 : Financing of Plan Expenditure of the Centre
(Figures at current Prices) Rs Crores

Sl. No.	Resources	Rs Crores				
		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000
		BE	Actual	BE	Pro- visional	BE
1	BCR (Centre)	-2821	-21602	-15848	-36075	-20656
2	Internal & Other Resources of CPSEs	38372	33635	45457 **	36925 **	43095
3	Bonds/Debentures by CPSE's	11819 **	9491	11784 **	8923	10980
4	Borrowings & MCR	62138	78768	84459	101013	96096
5	Net Inflow from abroad	9052	6190	8872	6320	7007
6	Aggregate Resources (1 to 5) *	118560	106482	134724	117106	136522

* Inclusive of Central Assistance for Plans of States and UTs
 ** Figures are Revised Estimates
 BCR - Balance from Current Revenues
 MCR - Miscellaneous Capital Receipts (net).
 CPSEs - Central Public Sector Enterprises

64. Figure II would show that the gap between Revenue Receipts and Revenue Expenditure of States increased during the first three years of the Ninth Plan. The Revenue Receipt of States declined slightly in 1998-99 (Latest Estimates) as compared to the previous year while Revenue Expenditure increased by over 20 percent. If States fail to raise Revenue Receipts or rein in Revenue Expenditure, the gap represented by BCR, projected for 1999-2000 (AP) is likely to be wider in the latest estimates (LE). The Financing of the Plans of the States during the first two years of the Ninth Plan (as shown in Figure III) has also been characterised by greater reliance on borrowing. The borrowings exceeded the total Plan Expenditure of States during 1998-99(LE).

65. The problems of Non-Plan expenditure far exceeding the near stagnant/ declining revenue receipts resulting in lower resources for Plan investment despite greater reliance on borrowings are receiving the due attention of the Planning Commission in its Mid-term appraisal of the Ninth five-year Plan initiated during the year 1999-2000. The objective of this exercise with regard to financial resources is to compare the pattern of financing the Plan expenditure during the first three years of the Ninth Plan with the projections made at the time of its formulation and identify reasons and areas of shortfall in the mobilisation of resources with a view to suggest possible corrective measures. The mid-term appraisal is also expected to serve as an important input towards formulating the Annual Plans of the last two years of the Ninth Five-Year Plan. A concerted and consensus approach has become necessary in order to deal with various issues relating to the deteriorating finances of the Central and State Governments. A series of deliberations between the Planning Commission, the Finance Commission and the State Governments have been initiated in this regard. Some of the initiatives already taken with regard to fiscal correction are outlined below:

Consultations between Planning Commission and the Eleventh Finance Commission

66. Apart from the normal terms of reference under Article 280 of the Constitution, the Eleventh Finance Commission has been entrusted with the review of the state of finances of the Union and the States and to suggest ways and means by which governments, collectively and severally, may bring about a restructuring of public finances so as to restore budgetary balance and maintain macro-economic stability. A process of mutual consultation on various policy issues and problems relating to Central and State finances has been initiated during the year. A detailed presentation was made by the Planning Commission to the Finance Commission on the "Trends in Plan and non-Plan expenditure" and "Medium term fiscal reforms strategy for the Centre and the States". The F.R. Division provided the necessary material for the discussion.

Zero-Based Budgeting in the Government of India from 2000-01

67. In pursuance of the point made by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 1999-2000, the Central government has initiated the necessary exercise towards a system of Zero-Base Budgeting (ZBB) in all its departments. The objective of this exercise is to ensure judicious allocation of scarce resources. The Planning Commission (F.R Division) has been closely associated with this exercise of zero-base budgeting. The Central Monitoring Group constituted by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, includes the representative of the Planning Commission (F.R Division), besides the Financial Advisers and officers of the Ministry of Finance with Additional Secretary (Budget) as its Convener.

State Fiscal-Reform Measures

68. The Planning Commission is actively involved in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of fiscal reform measures taken up by States to improve their finances. In particular, discussions were held with the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for formulating medium term fiscal reform strategy for the State. On the basis of these discussions, the State Government submitted a Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the Planning Commission listing out various reform measures along with milestones with a view to reduce primary deficit below one per cent of the State Domestic Product. The Planning Commission (F.R. Division) also prepared a note for the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on creation of a Medium-term facility to promote fiscal reforms and improve governance in States.

Reports, review papers / notes and other Items

69. The FR Division is the nodal division for preparation of analytical notes, review papers which focus on financing of Plan investment. The list of the reports, review papers and briefs prepared during the year is given in the Box below :

REPORTS, REVIEW PAPERS / NOTES PREPARED DURING THE YEAR BY FR DIVISION	
i)	Interim Report of the Study Group on Dis-investment in State PSUs.
ii)	Note on the Central budget 1999-2000 with special reference to the financing of the Central Plan.
iii)	Material for the brief by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission in the Economic Editors Conference.
iv)	A Status Paper titled "External Aid in Plan" covering the period 1992-93 to 1999-2000.
v)	Alternative Scenarios for State-wise allocation of budgetary provision for Additional Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects for 1999-2000
vi)	Time-series data on Plan expenditure of Central Ministries and Departments for use in the Commission - as part of a data-base on financial resources and Plan investment.
vii)	A base- paper on the Finance Commission recommendations and the Central Assistance to States/ U.Ts' Plans for Seminar conducted by the Inter-State Council in the context of the visit of a delegation from Sudan Government.

70. Other regular items of work such as review of implementation of Plan schemes, revision of Plan outlays of particular Schemes/ programmes, preparation of briefs on Cabinet notes circulated by other Ministries/Departments, providing comments on transfer of Plan funds to Non-Plan schemes and examination of various aspects relating to States and Central finances including Central-State financial relations referred to the F.R. Division by other Subject Divisions in the Commission as well as Central Ministries/Departments were attended to during the period under review.

FIGURE I

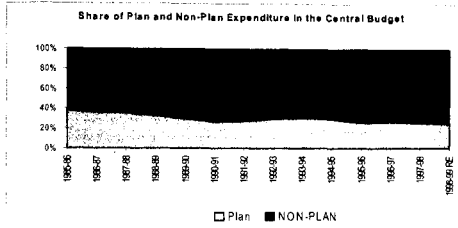


FIGURE II

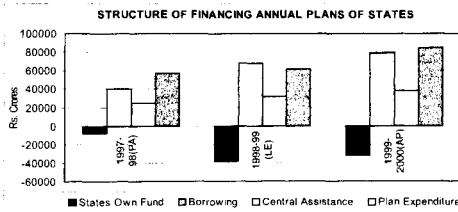
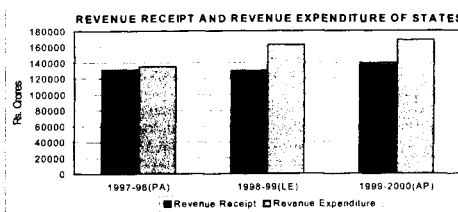


FIGURE III



PA - Pre-Actuals

LE - Latest Estimates

AP - Annual Plan Estimates.

4.8 HEALTH, NUTRITION AND FAMILY WELFARE DIVISION

71. Human development and improvement in quality of life are ultimate objectives of all planning. Rapid completion of demographic transition and achievement of population stabilization are key elements for sustainability of developmental process and human development. Improvement of health and nutritional status of the population is a major thrust area for social development programmes. These are to be achieved through improving access to utilization of health, family welfare and nutritional services with special focus on under served and under privileged segments of the population.

The Division looks after

- Health
 - State and Centre
 - Modern system of medicine and ISM&H
- Family Welfare
- Nutrition

The Division has the responsibility of:

1. evolving policy and strategy guidelines pertaining to
 - infrastructure and manpower (modern system of medicine & ISM&H)
 - disease control programmes,
 - Family Welfare programme and
 - initiatives to improve nutritional status of the population.
2. monitor changing trends in life style, disease profiles and plan for future strategies for tackling these emerging problems
3. examine current policies, strategies and programmes both in the State and in the central sector and suggest appropriate modifications and mid course corrections.
4. suggest methods for improving efficiency and quality of services.
5. evolve priorities for basic, clinical and operational research essential for improving health status of the population
6. look into inter-sectoral issues and evolve appropriate policies for convergence of services so that the population benefits optimally from on going programmes
7. draw up short, medium and long- term perspectives and goals for these sectors

The Division represents the Planning Commission in:

- Advisory Committees of Department of Health, Family Welfare &, ISM&H
- EPC/ SFC pertaining to Dept. of Health, ISM & H & Family Welfare
- National Nutrition Council
- Steering Committee of National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau,
- Scientific Advisory Groups of Indian Council of Medical Research.
- Scientific Advisory Committees of major ICMR Research Institutes

72. Health is a state subject and State Governments are responsible for infrastructure creation, manpower deployment, human resource development for health and specific health programmes. The Central Dept of Health supplements efforts of the states in tackling major public health problems through Centrally Sponsored disease control programmes; the CSS provide essential

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equipments, consumables, diagnostics, drugs and assistance for IEC and training. The major on-going Centrally Sponsored disease control programmes are Malaria and Vector Borne Diseases, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, HIV and Blindness. These programmes are implemented through the existing state health infrastructure. Family Welfare is a Centrally Sponsored Programme partly implemented through the state health infrastructure and partly through the infrastructure created by family welfare programme. Nutrition is a multi-faceted problem, coordinated intervention from all concerned sectors is required for improvement in nutritional status and reduction in disease burden due to nutritional problems. Under the Integrated Child Development Scheme, the Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD) is implementing food supplementation programme for improving nutritional status of mothers and children. The DWCD funds infrastructure for implementing the programme, while the State Governments fund food supplements. Department of Health and Department of Family Welfare are implementing programmes for tackling major micro nutrient deficiencies such as anaemia, Vitamin A deficiency and iodine deficiency disorders.

Working Group discussions with the States

73. The Division had completed the Working Group discussions with the states and Central Ministries for the Annual Plan 1999-2000; performance of problems encountered and midcourse corrections in on-going programmes in Health, Family Welfare, ISM&H and Nutrition in each State were discussed in detail. Some of the major aspects discussed during the working groups include improving the functional status of the existing urban and rural Primary health care institutions by appropriate reorganization and restructuring of the infrastructure, redeployment of manpower and correcting the mismatch between the two.

Improvement of logistics of drug supply

Disease surveillance and response at district level

74. Improved implementation of the disease control programmes and family welfare programme. Intersectoral coordination between the ICDS and the family welfare functionaries at the village level. Hospital Infection Control and Waste Management. Horizontal Integration of vertical programmes at or below district level.

Monitoring improvement in Primary Health Care

75. Identifying the existing gaps in primary health care infrastructure and manpower and correcting them so that they become fully operational and effectively deliver health and family welfare services is critical to successful implementation of on-going programmes in the health sector. Currently, in addition to funding through the earmarked basic minimum services in the State Plan Budget, funding from Additional Central Assistance for basic minimum services, externally assisted projects for strengthening health infrastructure and centrally sponsored programmes in Health and Family Welfare provide funding for strengthening infrastructure, covering critical gaps in manpower, equipment, consumable and drugs. In order to monitor the progress in terms of narrowing of the gaps through effective utilization of the funding under all these and improving utilization, Planning Commission in collaboration with Family Welfare had designed a proforma. This proforma has been approved by the EFC and the CCEA for use

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throughout the country to monitor progress in this critical sector and has been shared with all the states during the Working Group meetings.

Development of a framework for appraisal of Secondary Health System Projects

76. Development of First Referral Units (FRUs) and district hospitals so that they are able to provide adequate care to persons with major health problems in the vicinity of their residence has been one of the identified priority areas in the Ninth Plan. During the last three years several states have prepared project proposals for strengthening these institutions and some have submitted their proposals to World Bank or other external agencies for funding. Planning Commission had prepared a detailed note providing the framework for appraisal of these proposals. A Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Hashim, Member, Planning Commission with Secretary (Planning Commission), Secretary (DEA) and Secretary (Health) as members was constituted to review these. After reviewing the situation, the Committee recommended that (1) the Department of Health may draw up clear cut guidelines for State governments on preparation of health system projects and how the various ongoing initiatives in health sector during the 9th Plan, such as horizontal integration of ongoing vertical programmes at a below district sector, strengthening and operationalising health management information systems, diseases surveillance, hospital infection control and waste management will be dovetailed within the framework of health system projects. (2) Every effort should be made to avoid duplication of efforts and expenditure especially in the above mentioned areas as well as IEC and training.

Development of Referral Hospitals and Health Manpower Development in NE Region

77. North East region had been a region with inadequate facilities for tertiary and super-speciality care and also in Human Resource Development for Health; focussed efforts have been made during the last two decades to rectify these. In addition to funds from the State Plan, funds made available through the Central Ministry of Health, Ministry of Home Affairs and North Eastern Council have been utilised for development and strengthening of tertiary and super speciality care centers in the North East region so that the patients from the region could get care within the region; facilities for training the required medical and paramedical personnel from the region in the institutions within the region have also been built up. In the last two years, funds from the Non-lapsable pool have also been provided for this purpose.

78. During this period, there has also been a growing and changing need for health care in the region. This would inevitably lead to changing requirements for specialized care as well as health manpower at professional (super specialists, specialists and general practitioners) and para-professionals at various levels. Planning Commission has requested the Department of Health to set up a Committee to review referral, tertiary and super speciality facilities available in the NE region, changing health problems of the region, need for medical and para medical personnel in the region and based on the analysis of this data, prepare a perspective plan for development of appropriate health infrastructure in NE region with the focus on cost effective interventions and optimal utilization of available facilities. The Department of Health had constituted a Committee which met in December, 1999. The recommendations of the Committee are expected shortly.

Horizontal Integration of Vertical Programmes

79. One of the major initiatives during the Ninth Plan is Horizontal Integration of Vertical

Programmes at and below district level in order to improve efficiency and optimal utilization of available infrastructure and manpower for effective implementation of on-going national programmes in Health & Family Welfare. One of the suggested interventions to hasten this process is formation of single Health & Family Welfare Society at the State and District level. The Central Council for Health & Family Welfare had endorsed this step and recommended that all States should try to implement this. Orissa and Himachal Pradesh have completed the process of establishment of a single Health & Family Welfare Society at the State and District level during 1999-2000.

National AIDS Control Programme Phase II

80. Planning Commission approved the initiation of the Phase II of the National AIDS Control Programme with the objective of reducing the spread of HIV infection in India and to strengthen India's capacity to respond to HIV/AIDS on a long-term basis. While approving the revised pattern of operation and funding, the Planning Commission had suggested that that NACP (Phase II) should involve a paradigm shift (a) from raising awareness to changing behaviour (b) decentralized area specific need assessment, planning, implementation and monitoring of intervention programmes (c) IEC strategy to reach the unreached through emphasis on interpersonal communication (d) changing the emphasis from condom promotion to reinforcement of traditional ethos of mutually faithful monogamous relationships and (e) emphasis on low cost strategies for prevention, counseling and care of HIV infected persons. The Commission had also emphasized the need for obtaining adequate epidemiological data on HIV infection in the country and ensuring that uniform norms for expenditure are adapted for various interventions.

Improving access to Information Technology in training institutions

81. Improving access to information technology can play a critical role in Human Resource Development for Health. This has been a thrust area identified in the Ninth Plan. Planning Commission provided Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to the University of Health Sciences in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab and Tamil Nadu so that they could accelerate the progress in information technology upgradation and networking between pre-service and in-service training institutions for medical and para-medical personnel. The progress of work is being monitored. Other States are also being encouraged to embark on a similar initiative.

Rationalisation and reorganization of the FW infrastructure

82. The NDC Sub-Committee on Population had recommended that the State should progressively increase the contribution to meeting infrastructural costs of the Family Welfare Programme and the Department of Family Welfare should rationalize and restructure the infrastructure and manpower. The Ninth Plan had stated that there is a need to review infrastructure created by the Department over years and transfer to the State those which are functioning as a part of primary, secondary and tertiary care infrastructure of the state. The Ninth Plan recommended that there is a need for reorganization and restructuring of urban and rural family welfare infrastructure, so that the Department has an effective and efficient system for running the programme. At the same time, realistic revision of norms would enable the Department to ensure arrears payable to the State do not accumulate and come in the way of effective implementation of the Family Welfare Programme. At the request of the Planning Commission the Department of Family Welfare had constituted a Consultative Committee to consider these

issues and come up with suitable recommendations. The Committee has prepared a draft report which provides data on existing pattern of financial assistance as well as suggestions regarding reorganization of family welfare infrastructure between the state and center in a budget neutral manner for both, and revision of norms for reimbursement of expenditure. The Department is in the process of consultation with the States before finalizing and implementing the recommendations.

National Population Policy

83. Population and sustainable development are key issues that determine the future improvement in quality of life. Over the last five decades, there have been massive changes in demographic and health indices of the population. The next two decades will witness an unprecedented increase in the number of persons in 15-59 age group. There is a need to meet health and contraceptive needs of this population. The number of births may remain unaltered but there is an urgent need to reduce maternal and infant mortality so that there is a reduction in the desired level of fertility. There has been a paradigm shift in Family Welfare Programme; centrally defined method specific targets have been replaced by community based need assessment, decentralized planning implementation of the programme to fulfill these needs. Taking all this into consideration, the Department of Family Welfare has formulated a draft National Population Policy. A Group of Ministers (GOM) was constituted by the Cabinet under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to have a critical look at the draft National Population Policy and make suitable recommendations. The GOM after a number of meetings and consultation with experts suggested several modifications. The Dept. of Family Welfare has revised the draft National Population Policy and the revised draft has been sent to Prime Minister's Office.

Immunisation

84. In order to hasten the elimination of poliomyelitis, the Department of Family Welfare initiated nationwide Pulse Polio Programme in December, 1995. While approving the initiation of the programme, Planning Commission had indicated that programme should continue until the target of elimination of polio is achieved. Coverage under the pulse polio immunization has been over 90% in all States, however, it has been a matter of concern that coverage under routine immunization has not improved; in fact, in some States there has been a substantial decline. There are segments of population who escape both routine immunization and the pulse polio immunization. As a result of all these, the decline in number of polio cases, though substantial, was not sufficient to enable the country to achieve zero polio incidence by 2000. In order to achieve zero incidence polio by the end of 2000, the Department of Family Welfare has now embarked on four nationwide pulse polio immunization during 1999-2000 and two more pulses in eight States where the large number of polio cases were reported. While agreeing to the newer strategy, Planning Commission has suggested that the Department should make every effort to trace those children who had not been covered on the National Immunization Day (NID) through household surveys undertaken soon after the NID and give polio immunization to them. The Department of Family Welfare has reported that with this strategy the coverage has gone up to over 98%. Planning Commission has in addition suggested that:

- (i) Every effort should be made to ensure 100% coverage under routine immunization. ion.

(ii) Additional assistance is to be given to poorly performing States in order to achieve 100% routine immunization.

85. Polio surveillance should be strengthened and appropriate ring immunization around detected case of polio be taken up.

86. Planning Commission has recommended that currently focus should be on elimination of polio, universal coverage under routine immunization for the six vaccine preventable diseases on sustainable basis in all the states; until this is achieved, the Department of Family Welfare should refrain from adding any new vaccines in the National programme.

Identification and referral of high risk pregnant women

87. Neonatal, perinatal and maternal morbidity and mortality had not shown a substantial decline in the last four decades. Lack of universal screening of pregnant women for risk factors and appropriate referral are the major factors responsible for this. Identification of high risk pregnant women and referring them to appropriate level of care is a critical component of RCH programme. The programme envisages provision of necessary equipment for screening pregnant women and a massive skill upgradation training for the personnel in the primary health care system for carrying out screening during pregnancy. In order to ensure effective, timely and appropriate referral, an antenatal card for risk identification and referral has been developed by the Planning Commission in collaboration with the Dept of Family Welfare. This is currently being tested in some of the training institutions. During the Working Group meeting these prototype antenatal cards have been provided to all the states with a request that they may be tested out in RCH district project and feedback regarding their usefulness, modifications needed to meet the local requirements may be shared with Planning Commission and Department of Family Welfare.

Review of funding of food supplementation under the ICDS programme

88. The Department of Women and Child Development funds the infrastructure for implementing the ICDS Programme; the States Governments fund for supplements provided. Inadequacy of funds is one of the major factors responsible for erratic food supply and poor coverage, under the Nutrition component of the ICDS Programme. In 1999, Planning Commission reviewed the State Government's funding of nutrition component of the ICDS programme. The current norms envisage that the State Government provides funds for feeding 72 beneficiaries in every anganwadi (against the average of about 200 eligible children and women in the community). The programme guidelines are uniform for all blocks and do not take into account the prevalence of undernutrition in the block or percentage of the families living below the poverty line (BPL). At the national level only 30 million out of the country's 162 million children are covered. The 'covered' children may not be the most needy groups or individuals. There is no guideline for targetting the available food to the most needy. Planning Commission computed the statewide requirement of funds as per the existing ICDS guidelines and if supplements were to be given only to women and (0-4) children from BPL families taking into account state specific birth rates (1997) and BPL rates (1994). Under either of these two scenarios there are huge gaps between required funds and amount actually provided by the states. Planning Commission suggested that the Department of Woman and Child Development may discuss and evolve appropriate alternative strategies to fill this critical gap.

Intersectoral coordination between the ICDS and the FW functionaries

89. The continued high incidence of low birth weight and consequent high neonatal mortality is a matter of concern. In many states, majority of deliveries still occur at home. In order to reduce neonatal mortality, it is important to identify the low birth weight infant soon after birth and refer those with weight below 2 kg to FRUs for care. During the Working Group discussions the feasibility of utilizing anganwadi workers to weigh all infants soon after birth and referring those with birth weight between 1.5-2kg to FRUs has been discussed. It has also been suggested that information on nearest FRU with a paediatrician and obstetrician should be made available in every village for ensuring prompt referral to appropriate facilities for care.

Focused attention for Grade III and Grade IV under nutrition

- ◆ Feasibility and effectiveness tested out in Orissa.
- ◆ Possible to ensure appropriate inter-sectoral coordination between ICDS and health functionaries at all levels
- ◆ Programme achieved substantial decline in severe grades of under-nutrition within the existing constraints.

90. Rapid reduction in severe grades of under-nutrition and associated health hazards has been identified as a major thrust area in the Ninth Plan. During the Working Group discussion with the State Government, Planning Commission has been suggesting that anganwadi workers should weigh all infants and children at least once in three months, identify those with Grade III, Grade IV under nutrition; these children should be provided with appropriate quantities of food supplements on priority basis; in addition the AWW should seek the assistance of the ANM to ensure that these children receive treatment of infection and other health problems. Orissa had initiated a programme on this basis and has achieved substantial reduction in Grade III and IV under nutrition.

91. It is a matter of concern that coverage under massive dose Vitamin A programme had been sub optimal. Linking the first dose of massive immunization has resulted in substantial improvement in coverage; but coverage under subsequent rounds continues to be low. The AWW is the most suitable person for improving the coverage under the massive dose Vit A supplementation to children between 1-3 years of age and combat the problem of milder forms of Vit A deficiency in childhood. This suggestion has been discussed during the Working Group discussions and Gujarat has indicated their willingness to initiate this study.

4.9 HOUSING, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND WATER SUPPLY DIVISION

92. The Housing, Urban Development and Water Supply (HUD&WS) Division of the Planning Commission

deals with formulation of Five Year Plans, Annual Plans and policies pertaining to Housing, Urban Development, Urban Poverty Alleviation, Water Supply and Sanitation.

93. During the year under report, the Division continued to monitor the programmes relating to Housing, Urban Development, Urban Poverty Alleviation, Water Supply & Sanitation of the

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Ministries of Urban Development, Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Home Affairs and Department of Justice.

94. The Division undertook Mid-Term Review/Appraisal of the Ninth Plan in respect of Housing, Urban Development, Urban Poverty Alleviation, Water Supply and Sanitation sectors as a part of the general Mid-Term Review exercise of the Planning Commission to analyse and review the physical and financial progress of various schemes, including the impact of programmes and to suggest corrective measures wherever necessary to achieve the objective of the 9th Plan.

95. A meeting was organised on 22.4.1999 to discuss the growing problems of arsenic in drinking water in West Bengal, the magnitude of the problem, remedial measures and to review the ongoing programmes with concerned departments and experts under the chairpersonship of Pr. Adviser (HUD&WS), Planning Commission.

96. The meeting on Abolition of Manual Handling of Night Soil was organised under the chairpersonship of Pr. Adviser (HUD&WS), Planning Commission on 17.5.1999 and attended by the officers of Ministry of Urban Development, HUDCO and leading NGOs in the field to review the position and expedite adoption of Legislation (Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines Provision Act) by the States and UTs. where it is not under implementation.

97. The Division organized a Special Meeting on "Key Issues of fast Urbanisation of Delhi" on 23rd July, 1999 under the chairpersonship of Pr. Adviser (HUD&WS). In the meeting, representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, NCRPB, DDA, NDMC and MCD participated.

98. The Division also organized a Workshop on formulation of an "Action Plan for Shelterless Poor of Delhi City" on 19th November, 1999 under the chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission, to make an assessment of shelterlessness and suggest measures to deal with the problem. In addition to Central Government Departments and Govt. of NCT of Delhi, various Non-Governmental Organisations also participated in the Workshop.

99. The Division participated and presented view of the Planning Commission in various Conferences/Meetings/Seminars relating to Housing, Urban Development, Water Supply and Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as :

- State Level Sanctioning Committee on Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns;
- State Level Sanctioning Committee on Mega Cities;
- NCR Planning Committee/Board/Project Sanctioning and Monitoring Group meeting;
- Swaran Jayanti Sahri Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) review meeting.

4.10 INDUSTRY AND MINERALS

100. The Industry and Minerals Division actively participated in the project and performance appraisal of various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and the High Power Committee to fix targets for Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) for the financial year 1999-2000. The Division was involved in PSU reforms like granting greater autonomy in their functioning, capital restructuring as well as disinvestment of PSUs and examined

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the reports of the Disinvestment Commission concerning disinvestment of shares of 53 PSUs recommended by the Commission. The Division was also involved in the quarterly progress review meetings held by various ministries/departments to review the progress of various plan schemes which are under implementation.

101. The Growth Centres Scheme continues to be under implementation and a number of additional Growth Centres were considered and approved. Out of 71 identified Growth Centres, 68 have been approved for various States.

102. Preparation of the final document on Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan in progress.

103. Over the years, adjustments have been made in the policy to accelerate the pace of industrial growth by providing greater freedom in investment decisions keeping in view the objectives of efficiency and competitiveness, technological upgradation, maximisation of capacity utilisation and increased exports. Of late, the performance of the industry sector has shown encouraging signs of revival. The performance of the industry during April-Sept., 1999-2000 indicates that the industry is on the path of recovery with the overall growth in general index being 6.4 per cent, compared to 3.9 per cent during 1998-99.

4.11 INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DIVISION

104. The International Economic Division is responsible for the study of issues relating to India's foreign trade and balance of payments as well as issues concerning foreign investments in the context of the planning process. The Division also handles work relating to bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation. In this context, the Division is also engaged in analysing the trends and issues in the international economy.

105. A comprehensive position paper on Imports was prepared in the context of the Mid-term Appraisal of the 9th Five Year Plan including projections and expected growth rates during the Plan period.

106. The World Competitiveness Year Book - 1999 received in the I.E. Division of Planning Commission was examined in detail and a comprehensive note was prepared on India's competitiveness vis-à-vis the rest of the world in terms of various economic indicators.

107. In connection with the National Conference on Agricultural Marketing held from 12-14 October, 1999 at Hyderabad, a comprehensive paper was prepared on Indian Agricultural Marketing and Exports, including implications of the WTO Agreement on Indian Agriculture.

108. In connection with the visit of the ADB Mission to the Planning Commission, a detailed background note was prepared on the external economic situation of India.

109. A comprehensive paper was prepared regarding the EXIM Policy and Tariff Policy Developments since 1991 covering the Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan periods.

110. A detailed paper on India's foreign trade with special focus on the performance of the export sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan was prepared.

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111. Detailed comments were prepared and sent to the Ministry of Commerce on the Action Plan for UNCTAD-X formulated by the G-77 Countries and the amendments proposed by the US, EU, Japan and Switzerland.

112. Various WTO Agreements were analysed in the context of the Third Ministerial Conference at Seattle in November-December, 1999.

4.12 IRRIGATION AND COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

113. The draft chapter for the Mid-Term Appraisal of Ninth Five Year Plan in regard to Irrigation, Flood Control and Command Area Development Programme was prepared.

114. Various Projects in the sector were considered by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control & Multipurpose Projects of the Ministry of Water Resources. Based on the Committee's recommendations investment approvals were issued, details of which are indicated in Annexure 4.1.

115. During the year 1999-2000, the Union Government provided central assistance by way of loans under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme to the States for timely completion of selected Irrigation & Multi-purpose projects.

116. Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) was started in 1995-96 to extend loans to the State Governments for various purposes which inter alia include irrigation, soil conservation, water-shed management, rural roads and bridges etc. During 1998-99 under RIDF-IV, an amount of Rs. 3000 crores was allocated to NABARD for providing loans to the State Governments in order to accelerate the completion of Rural Infrastructure Projects including Irrigation & Flood Control Projects. This would help the State Governments in early completion of various ongoing projects. The corpus of RIDF V was raised to Rs. 3500 Crores.

117. The Government of India had constituted a High Powered Commission in September 1996 for Integrated Water Resources Development Programme to take a holistic view of the overall water resources in the country and maximizing the availability and its utilization including consideration of inter-basin transfers. The Commission has submitted its report on December 1st 1999.

Table 4.2: Project Approved by I&CAD Division of the Planning Commission from 1st April 1999 & onward

(Rs.in lakh)

Sl.No	Name of Project	Estimated Cost	Date of Approval	State
1	Scheme on raising and strengthening to T/Dyke along R/B of Kopilli river from Abuturi-Amsoi P.W.D.Road to A.T.Road and A.T. Road to Rly.Bridge (ch.0 m to ch.15.800 m)	271.79	12.4.99	Assam
2.	Scheme on "Protection of Bazar area and surrounding paddy field at Harangiao from erosion of river Jatanga and its tributaries(ch.190 m to ch.1490 m)	134.92	12.4.99	Assam

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3.	Scheme on Protection of the villages Mogornari, Kachibari, Barman Bazar, Lalmati and also adjoining area from the erosion of river Gaurang (L/B)	346.27	12.4.99	Assam
4.	Scheme on Raising and Strengthening of flood embankment along Kollang River from Raha to Jagi R/B and Azarbari to Rly.Bridge L/B (Phase-D (ch.18899 m to Ch.3800m)	262.33	12.4.99	Assam
5.	Scheme on Protection of different reaches from the erosion of river Dhansiri at Assam-Nagaland border in Karbi-Anglong district of Assam, Phase I	334.25	12.4.99	Assam
6.	Scheme on Protection of different reaches from the erosion of river Dhansir at Assam-Nagaland border in Karbi-Anglong district of Assam, Phase-II	303.13	12.4.99	Assam
7.	Scheme on Anti-erosion measures to protect Singari-Siparin area from the erosion of river Brahmaputra under Sonitpur district	188.86	4.6.99	Assam
8.	Scheme on raising and strengthening to dyke along left bank of river Katakhal from Ratanpur ghat to Mohanpur including anti-erosion measures at Ratanpur	247.278	4.6.99	Assam
9.	Scheme of Protection of Katakhal Bazar from erosion of river Barak on its left bank at Kalinagar area	329.885	4.6.99	Assam
10.	Lower Suktel Irrigation (Major)Project -- Orissa	21713	25.6.99	Orissa
11.	Scheme on Construction of retirement from ch.33.45 km. To ch.38.75 km of B/Dyke from Balikuchi to Faktirgang at Jaleswar - Beldubi area	332.11	8.12.99	Assam
12.	Bawabhadri Major Irrigation Project, Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh	16157	16.12.99	Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

4.13 LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND MANPOWER DIVISION

118. The L.E.M. Division is mainly responsible for taking up a macro view of the employment and unemployment situation in the country and to study its various co-relates for formulation of policies in this regard. The Division also handles matters relating to Labour Welfare and Social Security for workers and other various issues/aspects related to vocational training.

EMPLOYMENT

119. Estimates of Labour Force, Work Force, Employment and Unemployment in the country is an integral part of the planning exercise. This exercise is undertaken for five year plan formulation. Estimates are made on the basis of NSSO Sample Surveys and on the basis of these estimates, employment projections are also made. Technical exercise for formulation of employment estimates are done in the Division during the year. L.E.M. Division is responsible for such technical assessment of employment and unemployment in the country for the Five Year Plans and Annual Plans. The Division also handled matters relating to employment strategy, employment policy and other related issues.

120. Research capabilities of the Institute of Applied Manpower Resource (I.A.M.R.) for

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carrying out research in employment and unemployment were strengthened. Technical matters were discussed. Interaction between L.E.M. Division and I.A.M.R. continued with several meetings on technical matters.

121. The Division is currently engaged in analysis of Employment and Unemployment data at both State level and all-India Level and projections of Labour Force, Work Force and Unemployment in the country in the coming ten years are also being made.

122. An assessment of the changes in the labour market and employment scenario was made to monitor achievements made during the initial years of the Ninth Plan, as part of the Mid-Term Appraisal exercise.

123. The Division provided information on employment to Ministry of Finance for the Economic Survey 1999-2000. The Division also supplied input on "Population Projection and the Labour Force" for the special chapter on "Population - Emerging Domestic and Global Trends and Policy" for the pre-budget economic survey 1999-2000.

124. The Division examined a study by Prof. G.S. Bhalla and Dr. Gurmail Singh entitled "A district level study - recent developments in Indian Agriculture." The study gives trends in productivity and employment at district level. The results would be useful for district level employment planning.

125. An exercise to estimate the dependency ratio in the total population was done in the Division. Also, an attempt was made to understand the reasons for low participation of women in labour force and work-force, as reported in NSSO and census data.

Task Force on Employment Opportunities

126. A Task Force on Employment Opportunities has been set up under Shri M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission. The Division, in addition to providing secretarial support to the Task Force, worked on Special Employment Programme, Labour Legislation, Labour Force Projection etc., for use as input in the deliberations of the Task Force.

LABOUR WELFARE

127. The schemes of the Ministry of Labour were evaluated and investment decisions were taken. The schemes examined in the Division are Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour and Janata Personal Accidental Insurance Scheme for members of labour contract/construction of forest operators.

Housing for Hammals

128. A consultation paper on 'Economic Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons' was prepared for development of national policy on economic rehabilitation of handicapped persons through the schemes of Ministry of Labour, i.e., Continuation & Setting up of new Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRCs) for Handicapped including Skill Workshops (STWs) and Rural Rehabilitation Extension Centres (RRECs).

129. Issues relating to labour policies and programmes are also handled in the Division. In

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this context, the Division examined issues like social security in both organised and unorganised sectors, present Labour Laws, Vocational Training Institutions and Role of Employment Exchanges, etc.

130. An assessment of the progress was made in the field of labour and labour welfare sector during the initial years of the Ninth Five Year Plan as a part of the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Plan exercise.

131. The proposals of new Centrally Sponsored Schemes, i.e., (i) Opening of new ITIs in the North-Eastern States, and (ii) Modernisation & Strengthening of ITIs in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, received from Ministry of Labour, were examined and approval of the Planning Commission, in principle, has been accorded.

132. All the on-going schemes of the Ninth Five Year Plan of the Ministry of Labour were critically examined. In this regard, the Ministry of Labour was requested to supply the location specific details of the expenditure incurred till date for the projectisation of schemes under continuing schemes and new schemes to be included in the Ninth Plan with zero date.

133. Proposal of the Ministry of Labour, DGE&T, regarding modernisation of 11 selected Employment Exchanges on pilot basis was examined in the Division and comments were sent to the Ministry of Labour for framing the proposal for consideration by the Standing Finance Committee. The objective was to modernise employment exchanges through computerisation for experimenting in Integration of Vocational Guidance/Career Counselling & Employment Market Information activities.

134. The Schemes of the Ministry of Labour on Training were evaluated and investment decisions taken in respect of the following schemes :

- Restructuring & Strengthening of National Vocational Training System (NVTS);
- Modernisation & Expansion of Instructor Training Programme.

135. A Sub-Committee was constituted to study the existing Vocational Training to identify the gaps, mismatch and to bring improvement linking to employment opportunities.

136. For formulation of Annual Plan 2000-01, suggestions/inputs have been provided in the format for collection of information pertaining to Labour & Labour Welfare Sectors.

INSTITUTE OF APPLIED MANPOWER RESEARCH (I.A.M.R.)

137. The Division functions as the nodal Division in Planning Commission for the administrative control and guidance of the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (I.A.M.R.). The Division also represents Planning Commission in the :

- General Council
- Executive Council
- Standing Committee on Research Programmes of the Institute. It is also represented in the :
 - Building and Campus Development Committee

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- Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Ishwar Dayal on Post-Graduate Diploma Course on Human Resource Planning and Development for National Participants in IAMR.

4.14 MULTI LEVEL PLANNING DIVISION

138. MLP Division is concerned with Special Area Programmes, namely, Hill Areas Development Programme(HADP) including Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP)and Border Area Development Programme(BADP).

HILL AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

139. The HADP has been in operation from the Fifth Five Year Plan. Under this programme, special Central Assistance is given to Designated Hill Areas over and above normal plan assistance in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments for development of these ecologically fragile areas.

140. The main objectives of the programme are eco-preservation and eco-restoration with emphasis on preservation of bio-diversity and rejuvenation of the hill ecology.

141. The HADP and WGDP operate in Designated Hill Areas. Areas under HADP were identified in 1965 by a Committee of the National Development Council (NDC) while WGDP areas were recommended in 1972 by the High Level Committee set up for the purpose.

142. The hill areas covered under HADP are :

- Two hill districts of Assam – North Cachar and Karbi Anglong.
- Twelve districts of Uttar Pradesh – Dehradun, Pauri Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Chamoli, Uttarakashi, Nainital, Almora, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Champawat, Rudrapur and Udham Singh Nagar.
- Major part of Darjeeling District of West Bengal
- Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu.
- 159 talukas of Western Ghats area comprising part of Maharashtra (62 talukas), Karnataka (40 talukas), Tamil Nadu (25 talukas), Kerala (29 talukas) and Goa (3 talukas).

Pattern of Funding

143. Financial Assistance given under the HADP is in the form of Special Central Assistance which is given as 90% grant and 10% loan. The funds available under HADP have been divided amongst the Designated Hill Areas covered under the programme and the talukas covered by the WGDP in the proportion of 84:16.

Sub-Plan Approach

144. For the hill areas covered by the HADP, the Sub-Plan approach has been adopted i.e. for each of these hill areas the concerned State Government prepares the total plan comprising the flow of funds from the State Plan and Special Central Assistance made available under HADP. In the case of WGDP, the schematic approach is being followed since the taluka(which is the

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territorial unit of planning in the WGDP) is the unit of demarcation in respect of which the flow of funds from State Plan are difficult to quantify. However, efforts are being made to follow the State Plan approach in WGDP also.

145. Allocation / Releases made under HADP are as follows:

(Rs. crore)

State / Area	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000
	Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases	Allocation
(A) Hill Areas in the the State of					
Assam	46.32	46.32	50.16	50.16	50.9
Tamil Nadu	19.62	19.62	21.70	21.70	22.01
Uttar Pradesh	217.07	217.07	237.41	237.41	240.86
West Bengal	22.23	22.23	22.23	22.23	22.23
Survey & Studies	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-Total (A)	305.49	305.24	331.50	331.50	336.00
(B) Western Ghats Region:	46.51	46.51	58.5	58.5	64.00
Grant Total (A + B)	352.00	351.75	390.00	390.00	400.00

4.15 WESTERN GHATS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

146. Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP) was launched in 1974-75 as part of the programme for development of Hill Areas of the country. The Central theme of the programme is eco-development, eco-restoration and eco-preservation of the areas covered by the Programme by securing active participation of the people living in the region.

147. The Programme covers 159 talukas of Western Ghats areas comprising 62 talukas of Maharashtra, 25 talukas of Tamil Nadu, 29 talukas of Kerala, 40 talukas of Karnataka and 3 talukas of Goa. In addition, 4 talukas of Nilgiris district are separately covered under HADP (Nilgiris) of Tamil Nadu. The criteria of elevation (600 metres above MSL), contiguity and taluka as the lowest administrative unit were adopted for delineation of areas for coverage by the Programme. Total area of 1.60 lakh sq.kms. and a population of 4.42 crores (1991 census) is covered under the Programme.

148. To achieve the specific objectives of the Programme, the approach for the WGDP has been to take up development activities in an integrated manner on the compact watershed basis. The schemes being implemented under the Programme are meant for improving life style of inhabitants of the Western Ghats region with sustainable use of natural resources of the area.

149. The important activities relating to WGDP and HADP (Nilgiris) during 1999-2000 are as under :

- i) The progress of implementation of WGDP in constituent States was reviewed in the meeting of Secretaries Committee on WGDP held on 6th August, 1999 at Mysore.
- ii) Annual Plans of 1999-2000 of the constituent States under WGDP and HADP (Nilgiris)

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of Tamil Nadu have been finalized. Total Special Central Assistance of Rs. 64.00 crore (including Rs. 0.30 crore for Survey & Studies an Western Ghats Secretariat) has been allocated for all the constituent States of WGDP. Special Central Assistance of Rs. 22.01 crores has been allocated for HADP (Nilgiris) of Tamil Nadu.

- iii) The progress of implementation of WGDP and HADP (Nilgiris) is being monitored on financial and physical terms by the Western Ghats Secretariat.
- iv) At the instance of the Planning Commission, all the constituent States of WGDP have appointed nodal officers for coordinating the various line departments executing the Programme.
- v) To update implementation skills of the officers connected with the Programme, a ten day training course on Integrated Watershed Management for the Middle Management Level Officers and a three-day Sensitisation Programme for the Senior Management Officers are being undertaken.
- vi) At the instance of the Planning Commission, all the constituent States implementing WGDP were requested to take up Joint Evaluation Study with the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission. These Evaluation Studies are now available in respect of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Further, in order to have a long-term planning of WGDP, the State Governments were requested to get a Perspective Plan of the Programme prepared. These Perspective Plans are now available in respect of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra. It is now proposed to prepare a common document based on the Evaluation Studies and the Perspective Plans for all the States which would become a base for the preparation for a long term strategy for improvement of Western Ghats.

4.16 BORDER AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

150. Border Area Development Programme (BADP) was started during the Seventh Plan with the twin objectives of balanced development of sensitive border areas in the Western region through adequate provision of infrastructural facilities and promotion of sense of security amongst the local population. The programme was revamped in the Eighth Plan (1993-94) and extended to States which have an international border with Bangladesh. The nature of the Programme was changed from a schematic programme with emphasis on education to a State level Programme with emphasis on balanced development of Border areas. During the Ninth Plan, the Programme has been extended to all the states which have an international land border.

Coverage

151. Border Area Development Programme at present covers Sixteen States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Funding

152. Funds under BADP are provided as Special Central Assistance with 100% grant for the execution of approved schemes. Funds are divided amongst the states by giving equal weightage

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to the following three parameters: Population of border blocks (as per 1981 census), area of border blocks and length of the international borders.

Eligible schemes

153. Schemes are designed to take care of the special problems faced by people living in the border areas. The State Government may undertake a study of remote villages in the border blocks in order to assess the needs of the people and the critical gaps in physical and social infrastructure. Schemes which address problems such as inadequacies relating to provision of essential needs, strengthening of the social infrastructure, filling up of critical gaps in the road network etc. are taken up under the programme. Emphasis may be laid on schemes for employment promotion, production oriented activities and schemes which provide for critical inputs in the social sector .

Executing Agencies

154. To provide flexibility, schemes under the programme may be executed by any of the following agencies: (i) State Government, (ii) Central Government, (iii) Para Military Organizations located in the State and (iv) Voluntary Agencies as considered appropriate.

Committees

155. There are two committees for this Programme. The Empowered Committee with Secretary, Planning Commission as its Chairman and Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Secretary, Department of Expenditure and Chief Secretaries of the BADP States as its members decide the policy matters relating to the programme. The last meeting of this Committee was held on 11.8.1999.

156. The Screening Committee at the State level which is headed by the Chief Secretary of the State and representatives of Planning Commission, Ministry of Home Affairs and Para Military Organizations as its Members decides the schemes to be taken up under the programme.

Release of funds, monitoring and reviewing

157. The State Governments submit quarterly progress reports. Periodical monitoring of the schemes is done by the concerned State Plan Advisers / Adviser (MLP).

4.17 MONITORING DIVISION

158. Monitoring Cell in the Planning Commission was created during the current year with a view to undertake close monitoring of the quality of implementation of the schemes in selected social sectors by initiating a few concentrated studies in 5-10 villages in selected districts of the country through reputed research institutions/NGOs so that the performance and impact could be assessed over a period of time. So far four studies have been awarded to institutes/organisations and one study is being given to an NGO.

159. The Data Bank of Planning Commission, which was operated by Project Appraisal and Management Division, has now come under Monitoring Division. The Minimum Data Record (MDR) comprising information on outlay and expenditure on Central and Centrally Sponsored

Schemes is being updated. The information is collected by subject divisions from the concerned Ministries/Departments. In addition, timely and full utilisation of Plan funds relating to the schemes of the Planning Commission is also being monitored by this Division.

4.18 PERSPECTIVE PLANNING DIVISION

160. The work of Perspective Planning Division (PPD) relates to the overall integration of the plan into macro-economic framework delineating possibilities and constraints; and projecting a long term vision of development in terms of potentials, constraints and critical issues.

161. The Division assists the Commission in planning and policy issues which span across multiple sectors of the economy such as agriculture, industry, infrastructure, financial resources, foreign trade, balance of payments, social services, demography, poverty and employment. To bring about inter-sectoral consistency in the plans, a system of plan models, sub-models and material balances is used. The exercises done in the Division help in evolving the overall macro framework, projecting the needs of consumption, investment and production structure as well as Social Development.

162. The Division, as a part of its regular activities:

- prepares an overall framework for medium and long term plans by analysing implications of long term plan objectives for the appropriate strategy of development.
- examines the current policies and programmes in the inter-temporal, inter-regional and inter-sectoral contexts.
- studies consistency between plan objectives and plan allocation, conformity of regional distribution of public sector outlays with the regional needs of development, effect of price rise on consumption level of people in different income groups, trends in saving, investment and growth in economy, trends in foreign trade and the implications of various developments in the economy for public investment.
- renders advice on the influence of macro-economic development on principal commodities such as food, crude oil and steel.
- assists the Planning Commission in forming its views on technical issues pertaining to planning process, shift of a public sector programme from Non-Plan to Plan side of Government expenditure and vice-versa, and
- contributes to the response by Planning Commission on issues pertaining to "Planning Process" posed by Parliament, forum of economists and economic editors, representatives of economic planning agencies in the States, delegations from National Planning Commissions from other countries and trans-national institutions, such as UN, SAARC and ESCAP; the interaction with trans-national institutions being through the respective nodal Ministries of Government.

163. On behalf of the Planning Commission the Division estimates the number of poor in the country, at National and State/Union Territory levels and carries out studies on poverty situation.

164. The Division functions as administrative Nodal Division for the "Development Planning

Centre" established as an arm of Planning Commission in the Institute of Economic Growth

165. The Division represents Planning Commission in

- Governing Council of NSSO,
- Advisory Committee on National Accounts of CSO,
- National Advisory Board on Statistics
- Governing Council of the "Development planning Centre" in the Institute of Economic Growth,
- "Standing Research Advisory Committee" set up by Department of Statistics,
- "Expert Committee for the study of rationalisation of work of some Divisions of Department of Statistics, set up by Institute of Applied Manpower Research.

166. Current economic issues were analysed in the Division, in the light of periodic estimates of macro-economic aggregates released by the Central Statistical Organisation.

167. The performance of the external sector of the economy is periodically reviewed in the division and the information was made available to various divisions of the Planning Commission. Import/export vectors for 1997-98 and 1998-99 by input/output sectors were prepared.

168. Demand of Principal Commodities viz., Coal, Electricity, Finished Steel and Cement were reassessed for the Mid-term Review of the Ninth Five Year Plan 1997-2002. The following Working Papers were prepared in this Division:

- External Economic Situation in India-Recent trends and Policy Implications;
- Alternative Scenario for Tariff Negotiations;
- A study on Level of Living at NSS regional level.

169. The work in progress in the Division includes:

- a) The recent revision of the National Accounts to 1993-94 base indicates significant changes in the structure of the economy, which necessitates a reappraisal of a number of key parameters of the Indian economy. Efforts are being made to identify these changes and their implications on both planning and macro-economic policies.
- b) In order to study the impact of alternative policy measures on macro-economic parameters, such as, overall rate of growth of the economy, rate of inflation, balance of payments, fiscal deficit, etc, and also for a clear understanding of the inter-sectoral linkages, a computable general equilibrium (CGE) model for the Indian economy under real and financial sector framework is being prepared in collaboration with the Erasmus University, Rotterdam under the Indo-Dutch co-operation programme.
- c) Implications of East and South-East Asian crisis for trade and financial policies in India.

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- d) A comprehensive study on the nature of financial sector reforms and the desirable role of financial intermediation in growth and development.
- e) The impact of growth and inequality in the post-reform years on the level of living, particularly of the poorer section of the society.
- f) Construction of a price index for the poor.
- g) The Officers of the Division participated in the following Seminars/ Workshops/ Training Programmes

(a) SEMINAR

- (i) International Seminar – Infrastructure and Investment India, 99 held in April, 1999 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- (ii) Macro-econometric modelling for planning in India organised by Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi in May, 1999 and January, 2000.

(b) WORKSHOPS

Workshop on different agreements under World Trade Organisation (WTO) particularly that on Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMs), the proposed Multilateral Agreement on investment (MAI), Agriculture, Trade Related Safeguards conducted by CII and ICRIER at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

(c) TRAINING

- (i) Training programme on macro-economic management and policy organised by the Reserve Bank of India and International Monetary Fund at Pune, Maharashtra.
 - (ii) In-service training programme on macro-economic management for the Indian economy organised by the Ministry of Finance for Indian Economic Service officers at the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow.
 - (iii) Refresher Course on Index Number for middle/Senior level officers of Indian Statistical service conducted by the Central statistical Organisation.
 - (iv) Training Programme on World Trade Organisation at the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai held in November, 1999.
170. The Officers of the Division participated in imparting training to the participants of
- (i) Indian Statistical Service Probationers on Macro-modelling in July 1999 and January, 2000.
 - (ii) A course on Official Statistics & Related Methodology organised by International Statistical Education Centre (ISEC), Calcutta, during October, 1999.
 - (iii) International Training Programme on the Audit of Rural Development Programme Organised by the Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India,

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- (iv) M.Stat Course of Indian Statistical Institute attending the training programme in National and International Statistical Systems held in May, 1999.
- (v) Training programme on "Official Statistics and Related Methodology" organised for the supervisory level statistical personnel of Central Ministries/State/UT Governments and public sector bodies held during August, 1999.

4.19 PLAN COORDINATION DIVISION

171. The Division co-ordinates activities of all the Divisions for the Planning Commission. In particular, it has the responsibility for coordinating the formulation and preparation of the Five Year Plans, the Annual Plans, including specific responsibility for the sectoral allocation of the Centre Sector Plan, Annual Report of the Planning Commission and coordination of the Parliamentary work. In addition, the Internal Meetings of the Planning Commission, Meetings of the Full Planning Commission and the meetings of the National Development Council are organised and co-ordinated by the Plan Coordination Division.

172. The Government of India Resolution setting up the Planning Commission envisages that the Planning Commission will "appraise, from time to time, the progress achieved in the execution of each stage of the Plan and recommend the adjustments of policy and measures that appraisal may show to be necessary". Accordingly, the Planning Commission had been undertaking appraisals of the past Five Year Plans.

173. The Ninth Five Year Plan, launched on 1st April, 1997, has entered the third year of implementation, a time period reasonable enough to facilitate evaluation of the progress of achievements of the objectives of the Five Year Plan, identification of constraints being faced as well as to embark on mid-course corrections, if shortfalls are noticed in any of the sectors. A comprehensive review of these Plans would throw light on the progress of the Plan vis-à-vis the objectives envisaged in the Document and would help in identifying weak areas for focussed action.

174. The Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) exercise for the Ninth Five Year Plan began during the year with the preparation of Appraisal Notes/Position Papers on individual sectors by the respective Principal Adviser/Adviser/Head of Division. The primary objective of this appraisal will be to assess the possibility of reaching the targets of the Ninth Plan, identify the areas of significant shortfall and the reasons therefore, so as to arrive at a basis for evolving appropriate Policy Package/ Plan Strategies for mid-term corrections in the implementation of the Plan. The Central Ministries/ Departments were requested to prepare Appraisal Notes for Centre Plan activities and the State Governments for State Plan activities as per set of proforma sent to them alongwith guidelines by Planning Commission.

175. The sectoral MTA reports were discussed by the Members of the Planning Commission with the concerned Ministries/Departments to facilitate finalisation of the MTA chapters. Suggestions received from economists, industrialists, trade union leaders, social workers, including NGOs by the concerned Division were used as inputs for preparing draft Chapters of the MTA.

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The individual Chapters proposed by the Members, were being discussed by the Editorial Committee headed by Member (MSA), Planning Commission and should be ready shortly.

176. The Plan Coordination Division prepared a scheme of classification of Chapters for the MTA Document for circulation in the Planning Commission along with time-schedule for completion of various chapters of MTA Document.

177. The exercise for the Annual Plan 2000-01, including the preparation of guidelines to be kept in view for the Central Ministries/Departments in formulating their Annual Plans proposals was undertaken, as scheduled, for the Centre Sector. The in-depth discussions were held with the representatives of the Central Ministries/Departments to consider their Annual Plan proposals for 2000-01. Thereafter, the Secretary, Planning Commission finalised outlays for the Centre Sector Annual Plan 2000-01 for Central Ministries/Departments. With the approval of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, the final allocations to each Ministry/Department were communicated to the respective Ministries/Departments and the Ministry of Finance.

178. The Division compiled and consolidated the information and material with respect to different sectors of the economy for the preparation of Annual Plan Documents 1998-99 and 1999-2000. It may be observed that in doing so, there has been sufficient reduction in the time-lag in the release of these two Documents than before.

179. Annual Report of Planning Commission is obligatory to be laid down on the table of Lok Sabha every year. Material for compilation of Annual Report 1999-2000 was compiled, edited and formed into book version. It will be placed in both Houses of Parliament after getting it printed bilingually in the Budget Session of Parliament (2000).

180. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) are formulated by the Central Ministries/ Departments, in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories and are implemented by the State Governments/Union Territories. Plan Coordination Division processes the proposals/schemes for obtaining approval of Full Planning Commission for the new CSS. During the year, Full Planning Commission approval was obtained for three new CSS and process was going on for yet another couple of Schemes.

181. The other regular activities of the Plan Coordination Division include sending a monthly D.O. letter on major activities in the Planning Commission to the Prime Minister's Office and the Cabinet Secretariat. Action Taken Report on the Points arising out of the Hon'ble President of India's address to the Joint Session of Parliament on 25th October, 1999 was sent to PMO in time. The material relating to Planning Commission was sent to PMO for President's Address to the Budget Session of Parliament (2000). A Note on issues likely to come up before Parliament was also sent before commencement of the Sessions of the Parliament during the year. Similarly, material for incorporation in the Finance Minister's Budget Speech and material for publication in the Pre-Budget Economic Survey, 1999-2000 was sent to the Finance Ministry.

182. Prepared a Paper on Policies, Issues and Tasks before the new Government for sending it to PMO. The information for Standing Committee on Finance on Demand-for-Grants was

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furnished for considering Planning Commission's Annual Plan proposals. Information called for by the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit of Lok Sabha was also sent to Lok Sabha Secretariat.

183. Steering Committee was set up in the Planning Commission under the chairmanship of Prof. S.R. Hashim, Member, Planning Commission in connection with celebrating 50 years of setting up of Planning Commission. The Committee in its meetings considered draft programmes to observe 50th year of the Planning Commission. Among other things it was decided that a booklet giving a statistical profile of 50 years of Indian planning and a handy graphic "poster-chart" on selected indicators of development would be prepared for releasing in connection with commemorative functions. The material for the booklet was being compiled by the Plan Coordination Division.

184. A new feature to review the day-to-day functioning of the Planning Commission could be attributed to the Monday Meetings chaired by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission with the Members and senior Officers of Planning Commission. Detailed discussions on various sectoral issues were held in these Meetings and time bound actions were suggested to the Divisions. This was intimated to the Divisions by Minutes of the Meetings and a regular follow up action was taken and the progress was discussed in the subsequent Meetings.

185. The division brought out a discussion paper on the role of planning commission.

186. From a highly centralised planning system, the Indian economy is gradually moving towards indicative planning where Planning Commission will concern itself with the building of a long term strategic vision of the future and decide on priorities of nation. It will work out sectoral targets and provide promotional stimulus to the economy to grow in the desired direction.

187. Planning Commission will play an integrative role in the development of a holistic approach to the policy formulation in critical areas of human and economic development. In the social sector, schemes which require coordination and synthesis like rural health, drinking water, rural energy needs, literacy and environment protection have yet to be subjected to coordinated policy formulation. It has led to multiplicity of agencies. An integrated approach can lead to better results at much lower costs.

188. The emphasis of the Commission will be on maximising the output by using our limited resources optimally. Instead of looking for mere increase in the plan outlays, the effort will be to look for increases in the efficiency of utilisation of the allocations being made. The priorities, programmes and strategies of the Plan, therefore, have to take into account all these factors.

189. With the emergence of severe constraints on available budgetary resources, the resource allocation system between the States and Ministries of the Central Government will be under strain. This will require the Planning Commission to play a mediatory and facilitating role, keeping in view the best interest of all concerned. It will have to ensure smooth management of the change and help in creating a culture of high productivity and efficiency in the Government.

190. The key to efficient utilisation of resources lies in the creation of appropriate self-managed

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organisations at all levels. In this area, Planning Commission will play a systems change role and provide consultancy within the Government for developing better systems.

191. In order to spread the gains of experience more widely, Planning Commission will also play an information dissemination role.

4.20 POWER AND ENERGY DIVISION

192. Power & Energy Division is concerned with all major plan related policies and programmes in the energy sector. This includes demand assessment, supply side management and conservation efforts. The Division is also working on a National Energy Policy. The Division has three units dealing with Power and Energy Economics, Coal and Petroleum. Some important tasks handled by these units are mentioned below. The Power unit also examines proposals leading to investment approval for power schemes in the State Sector.

Power and Energy Economics unit

193. The Power and Energy Economics Unit has finalised the Annual Report on the working of the State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments.

194. The unit has prepared the draft Mid-Term Appraisal Report of the Ninth Plan. The unit reviewed the Plan targets and achievements in respect of installed capacity addition, progress on structural reforms by various States and the role of private sector participation.

195. A meeting of experts from various organisations was convened under the chairmanship of Member (Energy), Planning Commission to review the Ninth Plan Mid-Term Appraisal Report of the power sector.

196. A Working Group under the chairmanship of Pr. Adviser (Energy), Planning Commission has been constituted to look into different options for Rural Electrification in remote and difficult areas.

197. A presentation was made to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission by the Member (Energy) on the role of Private Sector in the infrastructure development during Ninth Plan. The unit prepared the presentation material in respect of power sector highlighting progress of private sector investment in Ninth Plan, and feasible investment at the end of Plan.

198. The unit carried out the upgradation of Data Bank.

199. Action for formulation of Annual Plan 2000-01 has been initiated.

Coal Unit

200. The Coal Unit prepared the Draft Mid-Term Appraisal of Ninth Five Year Plan of the Coal Sector after the detailed discussions.

201. The Unit conducted the Quarterly Performance Review Meeting alongwith the review of Prime Minister's Special Action Plan for Coal Sector.

202. The Unit has provided material for drafting Energy Policy Committee Report.

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203. The officers of the Unit have interacted with a Consultant Team engaged by the Department of Coal for review of Regulatory Framework of Indian Coal Sector. Also, participated in different Seminars and undertook field visits for upgrading the knowledge.
204. The upgradation of Data Bank has also been carried out.
205. Action for formulation of Annual Plan 2000-01 has been initiated.

Petroleum Unit

206. The Unit has finalised the draft Mid-term Appraisal Report of the Ninth Plan in consultation with the various experts from the different organisations. The unit reviewed the plan targets in respect of demand, and refining capacity addition, overall policy framework and role of private sector participation.
207. The officers of the unit participated and provided vital inputs for the preparation of Hydrocarbon Vision 2025. The unit also coordinated the activities of Energy Policy Committee and prepared a draft report on long term perspective for Energy Sector.

4.21 PROJECT APPRAISAL AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION

208. The Project Appraisal and Management Division (PAMD) was reorganised to create a Monitoring Unit. The Equipment Unit comprising Photocopy section, charts & Maps Unit and modernisation programme of office systems was transferred to General Administration. The work relating to Construction Industry Development council (CIDC) was transferred to Transport Division. The work relating to Data Bank of Planning Commission was transferred to Monitoring Unit, a new unit created in Planning Commission. The functions of the reorganised PAMD, are as follows :

- a) To develop formats and guidelines for the submission of proposals for projects / programmes and for their techno-economic evaluation
- b) To undertake support research studies with a view to improving methodology and procedure for appraisal of projects and programmes
- c) To undertake techno-economic appraisal of major projects and programmes in the public sector
- d) To assist Central Ministries in establishing proper procedures for preparation of reports of projects and programmes

Appraisal Work

209. As a part of techno-economic appraisal, PAMD appraised Central Sector schemes/ projects costing Rs.15 crores and above, and prepares Appraisal Notes in consultation with the Subject Division of the Planning Commission before these are considered by the Public Investment Board (PIB), Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) and Committee of Public Investment Board ((CPIB) depending upon the nature and size of the proposal. The Division has started appraisal of proposals from the Ministry of Railways costing Rs.50 crores and above from 1995-96.

Highlights

210. Appraisal Note would be issued within four weeks of the receipt of the proposal. Standing Committee's constituted to examine time over-run and cost-overrun and assign responsibility for the same.

- PAMD reorganised to create a monitoring unit.
- Data relating to 3,750 projects computerised.

211. Planning Commission, with a view to cut down delays, inter-alia, in appraisal of project proposals and to ensure PIB/EFC decision within 4-6 weeks of receipt of PIB/EFC Memorandum from the Departments/Ministries, had decided as under :

212. PAMD would act as Management Adviser to the PIB/EFC and on receipt of PIB/EFC proposal, based on the information contained in the PIB/EFC Memorandum, it will complete appraisal and management advice tendered to PIB/EFC.

213. With a view to ensuring that the appraisal carried out by the PAMD is comprehensive and meaningful, the project authorities/administrative Ministries have been requested to submit only such proposals which are complete in all respects.

214. The outer limit for issue of appraisal note by the PAMD has been fixed at four weeks from the date of receipt of PIB/EFC proposal. In case PAMD fails to appraise the proposal within the prescribed time limit, PIB/EFC meeting could be fixed and their views obtained in the meeting.

215. Proposals on projects/schemes costing Rs.1.5 Cr. and more but less than Rs.15 Cr. are to be considered by the Standing Finance Committee (SFC). The concerned Ministry /Department can now convene SFC meeting without waiting for comments of the Planning Commission provided that :

- the scheme is included in the plan, and no net increase in domestic budgetary support (excluding EAPs) for the Ministry / Department is required.

e) In cases where only condition (ii) in (d) above is fulfilled, SFC Meeting may be held after 4 weeks in case Planning Commission comments are not received within this time limit. Comments, if any, of the Planning Commission would be offered in the meeting itself.

216. During the year 1998-99, 244 projects/schemes involving a total cost of Rs.1,22,899.2 Cr. were appraised in the Division. During 1999-2000 (1.4.99 to 30.11.99) 140 projects appraised included both the new as well as the proposals on Revised Cost Estimates (RCEs).

217. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, Standing committees were constituted in Ministries to examine the Revised Cost Estimates proposals, where time overrun and cost overrun have occurred and to assign responsibility for the time and cost overruns.

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Updated figures
Facts and Figures

Table - A	
1999-2000*	
Number of projects/schemes appraised	140
Capital cost of the projects appraised above (Rs. Cr.)	32,788
Number of projects appraised in	
- Agri. and Allied Sector	33 (23.6 %)
- Energy and Transport	54 (38.6 %)
- Industry and S & T	14 (10 %)
- Social Sector	30 (21.4 %)
- Others	9 (6.4 %)

* Relates to the period 1.4.1999 to 30.11.1999

218. The sectoral distribution of projects appraised during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is given in Table A above. Information pertaining to major groups of sectors is summarised below :

S. No.	Sector	1998-1999				1999-2000*			
		Project		Cost Rs. crore.		Project		Cost Rs. crore.	
		No.	%	Amt.	%	No.	%	Amt.	%
1.	Agri. & Allied	67	27.5	13881.2	11.3	33	23.6	2182.0	6.6
2.	Energy	39	16.0	43830.2	35.7	21	15.0	13600.0	41.5
3.	Transport	30	12.3	5500.2	4.4	33	23.6	4203.6	12.8
4.	Industry	15	6.2	6996.5	5.7	12	8.6	6892.2	21.0
5.	Science & Tech.	6	2.3	499.2	0.4	2	1.4	65.8	0.2
6.	Social Services	56	23.0	46463.9	37.8	30	21.4	4550.5	13.9
7.	Communication +	25	10.2	4143.4	3.4	3	2.1	618.6	1.9
8.	Others ++	6	2.5	1583.9	1.3	6	4.3	675.5	2.1
	Total	244	100.0	122899.2	100.0	140	100.0	32788.2	100.0

* From 1/4/1999 to 30/11/1999

+ Includes Information & Broadcasting, Post, Environment & Forest, Urban Development and Rural Development

++ Includes Home Affairs & Department. of Personnel (including NEC Projects not elsewhere included), Planning Commission, Statistics and Programme Implementation, Economic Affairs, Tourism and commerce.

Data Bank of Appraised Projects

219. As an effort to develop Data Bank on project statistics, data pertaining to projects were taken out from the files and appraisal notes of the projects appraised in the PAMD in the past and computerised. The data of 3750 projects have been computerised upto November, 1999.

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Data Bank of Planning Commission

220. During the year, Monitoring Unit was carved out of the existing PAMD to undertake the responsibilities of maintaining data bank and monitoring of schemes. This Unit is working under independent charge of another Adviser. In view of this, all the records pertaining to the data bank, earlier maintained in PAMD, were transferred to the monitoring unit.

221. Equipment Unit comprising of photocopy and other allied services and Charts & Maps Unit were also transferred from PAMD to the General Administration, during the year.

222. Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), which was created to promote development of Construction Industry was transferred to Transport Division.

223. The Modernisation Programme of office systems, intended to promote best office practices, congenial atmosphere and efficient discharge of work was transferred to General Administration.

4.22 RURAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

224. The Rural Development (RD) Division was involved in the restructuring and revamping of the on-going programmes pertaining to rural poverty alleviation and area development, land reforms, panchayati raj and rural housing for their effective implementation in the Ninth Plan. The Division also contributed in the formulation of the new guidelines issued with respect to the schemes of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). With regard to the restructuring of the EAS, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Hashim, Member, Planning Commission was constituted.

225. The RD Division prepared the chapters for the Annual Plan Document for 1998-99 on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation and Basic Minimum Services. Further, it examined the proposals of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) for the Annual Plan 1999-2000. It also examined the proposals of the State Governments/UTs for the RD Sector for the current year 1999-2000 and held Working Group Discussions in this regard.

226. The RD Division has formulated the Chapter on 'Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes and Sections on Decentralisation and Panchayati Raj, Rural Housing, Watershed Development Programme and Basic Minimum Services (BMS) for the Mid Term Appraisal of the Ninth Plan.

227. The BMS Cell in the RD Division is the nodal unit for the BMS programme. During the year, the outlays for BMS were discussed with the States/UTs in order to ensure adequate investment or a minimum adequate provision for these seven basic services in their respective Plans. Detailed guidelines for implementation of BMS programme have been prepared and circulated to all States/UT Governments.

228. The RD Division coordinated the organization of the Workshop on key concerns and core indicators for National and State level Human Development Reports which was held in July, 1999 jointly by the Planning Commission and the UNDP. The Division is also handling and coordinating the work relating to preparation of State Human Development Reports.

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229. The RD Division acted as the nodal Division with regard to the work undertaken by the National Development Council (NDC) Committee on the Criterion for Allocation of Funds under Major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes. The meeting of the NDC Committee on the Criterion for allocation of Funds under major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes was held on 12th January, 2000 in Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The meeting was attended by the Members of the Committee namely; Union Minister for Rural Development, Chief Ministers of Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Member, Planning Commission. Planning Minister of Uttar Pradesh attended the meeting on behalf of the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. The NDC Committee discussed various criteria for allocation of funds under major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes. There was a consensus and agreement on continuation of the presently used criteria i.e. 15 per cent adjusted shares as approved by the Full Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister. This allocation criteria is based on poverty estimates for 1993-94 as per the Expert Group methodology with loss to any State contained within 15 per cent band. However, some States made the observation that some incentive might be provided to the States that had performed well in terms of poverty reduction. The Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission appreciated their concern and agreed that this issue would be given due consideration at the time of the formulation of the Tenth Five Year Plan. It was also noted that there were special needs and pockets of acute distress in some States and these would also be addressed. The above recommendations of the NDC Committee would be placed before the NDC.

230. In pursuance of the decision taken in the National Development Council (NDC) meeting held in February, 1999, a NDC Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission with members from both the Central Ministries and the States on the Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). The RD Division is functioning as the nodal Division for the Committee.

231. The Adviser (RD) has been representative on several Committees which include among others (i) Advisory Committee of the Micro Impact of Macro and Adjustment Policies (MIMAP)-India Project and Advisory Committee of Programme of Research in Human Development Project of National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), (ii) Member of Governing Council, Indian Institute of Rural Management, Jaipur; (iii) Member, Board of Governors Institute of Human Development, New Delhi; (iv) Member General Body of National Society for Promotion of Development Administration, Research and Training, Mussoorie; (v) Member, General Body of National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad; (vi) Member of Programme Management Board for Community Based Pro-Poor Initiatives. The Adviser (RD) participated in the Regional Seminar on Rights and Development organized by UNDP in Sri Lanka. The Director (RD) is a member of the following Committees: (i) Project Screening Committee for SGSY Special Projects; and (ii) Standing Committee for the Community Based Pro-Poor Initiatives Programme. The officers of Rural Development Division participated in the Second Session of the ESCAP Committee on socio-economic measures to alleviate the poverty in rural and urban areas held in Bangkok and Seminar on Planning of Rural Development organized by the Asian Productivity Organisation (APO) in Manila, Philippines.

4.23 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

232. The S&T Division deals with the formulation of Five Year Plans, Annual Plans,



examination of plan projects/ schemes etc. relating to S&T sector both for the Central S&T Departments/ Agencies and S&T programmes of the States/UTs. During year 1999-2000, the following major activities were undertaken:

- i) The Annual Plan (1999-2000) proposals of Central Scientific Departments / Agencies were examined. Separate discussions were held with the concerned departments / agencies to finalise their Annual Plan outlays. Focus was made on the programmes/projects/schemes implemented by these departments/agencies in the areas of technology development and capacity building for achieving self reliance in the field of nuclear science; development and operationalisation of indigenous satellite, launch vehicle and associated ground segment for providing space based services; building and sustaining a strong science and technology base in the country; support to scientific and industrial research linking of R&D to market place; promotion of biotechnology research for bio-industrial development of the country; conservation of biological resources; survey and exploration of ocean resources and coastal zone management etc. S&T Chapter for the Annual Plan 1999-2000 document was prepared.
- ii) The S&T Division was involved in the Working Group discussions on the Annual Plan proposals of the various States/UTs for the year 1999-2000 and outlays pertaining to Science and Technology were finalised. During the Working Group Discussions with the State/UT representatives, emphasis was laid on the activities/programmes relating to S&T promotion in the States particularly on the identification and support to location specific S&T projects for the development of the State. Need for the close interaction with the Central Scientific Departments/ Agencies was also focused.
- iii) The Mid Term Review exercise of the Central Scientific Departments/ Agencies was undertaken by examination of their proposals, preparation of the discussion note, organization of separate meetings with the concerned departments/ agencies under the Chairmanship of Member (Science). Mid Term Appraisal Chapter for the S&T Sector was prepared. The thrust during the Mid Term Review Exercise was on optimum harnessing of S&T for societal benefits, R&D programmes on mission mode, nurturing of outstanding scientists by offering them facilities comparable with international standards, attract young scientists for taking science as a career, strengthening linkages between the industry and research institutions/ laboratories for development and market technology, development of clean and eco-friendly technologies, creation of awareness on technology marketing etc.
- iv) Several EFC/SFC memos, Cabinet Papers etc. in the areas of nuclear science, space science, ocean science, biotechnology, R&D for industrial development, promotion of S&T in the country etc. were examined and meetings connected with SFC/EFC attended

4.24 SOCIO ECONOMIC RESEARCH UNIT

233. The Socio-Economic Research (SER) Unit assist Planning Commission implementing the scheme of grant-in-aid to Universities / Research Institutions for encouraging the activities on Planning and Development.

234. Initially it was introduced in 1953 in the shape of Research Programme Committee (RPC) headed by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission for sponsoring and assisting

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research and investigation in economic, social, political and administrative problems of national development.

235. Later on it was re-constituted in 1962 in the shape of Committee for Research in Planning and Development (CRPD), with the Deputy Chairman as its Chairman, for promoting research in basic problems of Planning and Development. The object was to develop collaborative research with selected research institutions, viz Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi-Calcutta, National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi and the Department of Economics, University of Mumbai.

236. The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was set up in 1982 under the Chairmanship of late Professor Sukhumoy Chakravarty, of University of Delhi, a former Member (Economics) of Planning Commission, who at that time was Chairman of Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister in the rank of Member of State. Thereafter, the Office of Chairman was held by Deputy Chairman (1991 to March, 1998) with the intervening periods Chairmanship with Member PC (1990), An External Expert (1991 January to June) and Minister of State for Planning (October, 1996 to June, 1997).

237. The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was recently re-constituted on 21st August, 1998 under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. It includes eminent economists and Scientists as members. The scope of work of this Committee is broader than the earlier RAC. In view of the on going economic reforms and the changing scenario of world economy, the type of research required in various disciplines has undergone a major change. The Committee will mainly focus attention on the national level research requirements. This includes assessment of and advice on the future directions of social, economic and industrial development of the country.

238. The meeting of Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was held on 9th December, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and full time Members of Planning Commission also participated as special invitees.

239. The composition of RAC are at Annexure-4.2.

240. The main terms of reference are:

- The Committee will assess and advice on the future directions of social, Economic and industrial development of the country. In this context, the Committee will deliberate upon the current and future technological needs and options of the Nation for all spheres of economic activities, and its work should provide the agenda for research and development, and technology acquisition by Government and industry.
- The advise on any other matter relevant or incidental to discharge the above function.

241. A Group of Advisers headed by Secretary, Planning Commission has been constituted in September 22, 1998 for the purpose of considering the research proposals on studies, seminars. This Group met twice upto December, 1999.

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242. Grant-In-Aid amounting to Rs.29,99,195/= have been released during 1999-2000 as on 10th January,2000 for the following activities:-

i) Research Studies	Rs.28,99,195/=
ii) Seminars / Workshops	Rs.01,00,000/=
<hr/>	
Total:	Rs.29,99,195/=
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243. The Institution-Wise details of grant-in-aid provided during 1999-2000 is at Annexure-4.3.

244. Ten Research Studies and two Seminars / Workshops have been completed during 1999-2000 and the draft /final report /Proceedings are received. Details are at Annexure-4.4.

245. Eighteen New Research Studies and Three Seminars / Workshops have been approved by the Group of Advisers for Grant-in-aid for Research under SER scheme of the Planning Commission during 1999-2000. Details are at Annexure-4.5 and 4.6 respectively.

Centre for Research in Planning and Development (CRPD), Mumbai

246. Planning Commission is supporting a Centre for Research in Planning and Development Unit in the Department of Economics, Mumbai University, Mumbai. The thrust area of research in the Unit is social dynamics in urban areas. CRPD has completed a project on Urban Dynamics and Varied Socio-Economic Issues related to Dalit and Migrants among them during the post – Independence era and Dawn of the Twenty-First Century in Mumbai Metropolises.

Centre for Research in Planning and Development, Pune

247. Planning Commission is supporting a Centre for Research in Planning and Development Unit at the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune. The Thrust area of research in the Unit is Structural Changes – Implication and Assessment. The Unit has completed two Projects On "Capital Coefficients in the Organised and Unorganised Manufacturing Sector of the Indian Economy and Movement of Energy Prices".

Development Planning Centre at Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi

248. The Development Planning Centre (DPC) was set up at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi to carry out research on Techniques of Development Planning in the changing economic environment. A major research work being done for Planning Commission is the Development of a macro economic model.

249. The Scheme of Socio Economic Research (SER) has been in operation for nearly 47 years. The objective is to promote research for a better understanding of planning process. Grant-in-aid is provided to universities and research institutions for carrying out research studies. The programme has also sponsored Seminars, Workshops and Conferences to stimulate an informed debate on research themes/ topics relevant to development planning.

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250. A Group of Advisers headed by Secretary, Planning Commission has been constituted for the purpose of considering the research proposals on studies, seminars, institutional development and publication of research work. This Group met twice upto January, 2000.

4.25 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WOMEN'S PROGRAMMES (SD & WP) DIVISION

Women and Child Development

251. The Women and Child Development Division deals with the empowerment of women and development of children. Details of the important activities undertaken by the Division during the year 1999-2000 in respect of women and child development are given below :

Important Achievements in the Women & Child Development (WCD) Sector

- At the instance of the SD & WP Division, a quick evaluation of the working of Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) was undertaken by a Joint Study Team of the Officers of both - the Department of Women and Child Development and Planning Commission. Based on the findings, IMY has now been recast to enrich the programme by adding the component - training for capacity building and income generation activities with the support of both forward and backward linkages and tie-ups with Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) for credit services. IMY is a programme with an integrated approach which aims to minimize the cost and optimize the impact through convergence of all the existing women related services.
- As part of the exercise of Rationalisation and Minimisation of the ongoing schemes prompted the D/WCD to initiate action to merge 4 schemes with similar objectives viz, i) Support for Training and Employment Programme (STEP); ii) Training-cum-Production Centres (popularly known as NORAD); iii) Socio Economic Programme (SEP) and iv) Condensed Courses of Education & Vocational Training (CCE & VT) for adult women into one single umbrella programme of ' Training and Employment for women '.
- Towards universalising the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), the programme is being expanded to another 851 blocks during 2000-2002. In this context, the Division advised the Department to restructure ICDS, on experimental basis.

252. Towards effective implementation of the Ninth Plan strategy of Empowering Women and Development of Children, the Division continued to interact / coordinate effectively with the nodal Department of Women and Child Development and the other women-related Central Ministries / Departments to ensure that the policies, plans and programmes are put into action in the right perspective of achieving the Ninth Plan commitments. The major efforts of the Division during the year was to pursue vigorously the implementation of the new strategy of 'Women's Component Plan' so that the flow of benefits from other developmental sectors do not by-pass women. As per the information available, the following 12 Central Ministries/Departments viz. Health and Family Welfare, education, Labour, Agriculture, Rural Development, Social Justice and Empowerment, Textiles, Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Information and Broadcasting have confirmed stating that they have already initiated action in formulating Women's Component Plan.

253. The Scheme of Balika Samridhhi Yojana (BSY) originated with the announcement of the Prime Minister on 15 August 1997 stating that the Government would extend financial help to the families to whom a girl child is born if they are living Below Poverty Line (BPL). Later, scholarships would also be given when the girl child goes to school. Accordingly, a programme of Balika Samridhhi Yojana was launched on 2 October 1997 to extend a post-delivery grant of Rs.500/- for the mother of the Girl Child belonging to the BPL Group. For this, the Government released an ad-hoc grant of Rs.60 crore to cover 12 lakh girl children in the financial year 1997-98.

254. To make the programme more effective, a Group of Ministers reviewed the implementation of the programme in 1999. Based on their recommendations, the programme was recast as a CSS with the following features: -

i) the post-delivery grant of Rs.500/- per girl child will, instead of being paid in cash, be deposited in an interest-bearing account in the name of the girl child with the nearest bank/post office. This amount would be paid to the girl child upon her completing 18 years of age. Withdrawal by transfer would be permitted from this account for the sole purpose of paying premium under any insurance scheme benefitting the girl child:

ii) Annual scholarships would also be given to the girl child when she starts going to school. The rate of the scholarships will be Rs.300 each in classes I-III, Rs.500 in class IV, Rs.600 in class V, Rs.700 each in classes VI and VII, Rs.800 in class VIII and Rs.1000 each in classes IX and X. The scholarship amount may be deposited in the same Account at the option of the guardian of the Girl Child, in which the post-delivery grant of Rs.500/- has been kept. These deposits will mature upon the girl child attaining the age of 18 years and remaining unmarried till then. The amount of scholarships can also be paid in kind at the discretion of the guardian of the girl child. The Programme of Recast BSY with the above revisions will be put into action during 1999-2000.

Balika Samridhhi Yojana (BSY)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BSY - a special intervention to raise the status of the Girl Child promises a grant of Rs.500/- to be deposited in an interest-bearing account in the name of the girl child with the nearest bank/post office; and• Scholarships to be given when the girl child starts going to school• At the rate of Rs.300/- per annum each in classes I - III, Rs.500/- in class IV, Rs.600/- in class V, Rs.700/- each in classes VI and VII; Rs.800/- in class VIII; and Rs.1000/- in classes IX and X;• The amount of Scholarship may also be deposited in the same interest bearing at the rate of Rs.300/- per account at the option of the guardian of the girl child and to be given to her at the age of 18 years, if remaining unmarried;

255. The Division, in close collaboration with the Project Appraisal and Monitoring Division (PAMD) examined / cleared various plan programmes of the Department in respect of EFC Memos / Cabinet Notes, ICDS(General), the World Bank Assisted ICDS (Phase-3), the Recast Indira Mahila Yojana, the Recast Balika Samridhhi Yojana, ICDS Component of Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Project (APERP) etc.

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256. As part of the Annual Plan exercise at the central level, the Division examined the Plan proposals of the nodal Department of Women and Child Development for 1999-2000, assessed the scheme-wise financial requirements and assisted the Plan Coordination Division in finalizing the outlays for the Department.

257. To discuss and finalize the State Annual Plans for 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 in respect of Women and Children, Sectoral Working Group Meetings were conducted under the Chairpersonship of Adviser (SD & WP) during the year under reference. Besides, the State representatives, the Working Group Meetings were attended to by the representatives of the nodal Department of Women and Child Development. The Working Group reviewed the progress of various policies and programmes, assessed the financial situation, identified the existing gaps and weak links and suggested necessary measures to overcome the shortfalls and difficulties. Summary Records of the Working Groups were circulated to all the concerned for necessary action. Based on these discussions, brief Notes for the use in the meetings between the State Chief Ministers and the Deputy Chairman were also prepared for finalisation of Annual Plans referred to above.

258. During the year under reference, the Division was also actively involved in the preparation of the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan in respect of the Women and Child Development Sector. The Draft MTA Chapter on Empowerment of Women and Development of Children was being finalized for incorporation in the main Document 'Mid-Term Appraisal' of the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002).

259. The Division has also participated in various International Fora related to Women and Children. The Adviser (WCD) represented the Planning commission as part of the Indian Delegation to the 'ESCAP - High Level Inter-Governmental Meeting' held at Bangkok during 25-30 October, 1999 to review the regional implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action.

4.26 SOCIAL WELFARE

260. As the Ninth Plan reaffirms the earlier commitment of making as many disabled as productive contributors to the national economy and lays special emphasis on adopting an integrated approach to empower the disabled, the Division initiated action towards effective convergence of the existing services available under various disabled - related sectors of health, education, nutrition, women and child development, labour, rural development, urban development, science and technology etc.

261. In this context, an Inter-Ministerial Meeting was also organized in August 1999 under the Chairpersonship of Dr. D.N. Tiwari, Member, in-charge of the Sector. All the concerned Central Ministries/Departments including the nodal Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment deliberated, in detail, all the important issues relating to convergence of services in the implementation of The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (PD Act). Important decisions arrived at in the Meeting include - i) the nodal Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (M/SJ &E) would prepare a Blue Print along with a National Plan of Action on Empowering the Persons with Disabilities; and ii) the proposed Plan of Action should clearly identify those Ministries/Departments who would be the

partners in this common endeavour and what would be the responsibilities; mechanism for Inter-Ministerial Coordination convergence, etc.:

262. In support of the efforts of the nodal Ministry to fulfill the Ninth Plan commitment of 'Reaching the Un-reached - the rural disabled', the Division extended all the necessary support and expertise in formulating the need-based Action Plan and Programmes, both infrastructural and service-oriented. The Ministry is expected to come out with a Blue Print of the National Plan of Action for the Disabled very shortly listing out the commitments / responsibilities of all the concerned Central Ministries / Departments as Partners in the common endeavour of implementing the PD Act of 1995 ensuring protection of rights, equal opportunities and full participation to the persons with disabilities.

263. As a follow-up action of the implementation of the PD Act, the Division assisted the nodal Ministry to initiate action in launching new interventions. One of the important initiative refers to - launching of a country-wide programme of extending rehabilitation services with a special focus on the rural disabled through a State Sector programme of 'National Programme for Rehabilitation of the Persons with Disabilities'. The programme aims to extend rehabilitation services through State / District Rehabilitation Centres in close collaboration with the NGO Sector.

Important Achievements in the Social Welfare Sector

- To reach the unreached rural disabled through effective involvement of States / UTs, by launching of a new scheme National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in the State Sector
- Setting up of 6 Regional Composite Resource Centres to cater services to all categories of disabled and 4 Regional Rehabilitation Centres for Spinal Injured and other Orthopaedically disabled.
- Toward effective implementation of Provisions of PD Act, 1995, a National Monitoring and Evaluation Unit is being set up
- The existing JJ Act, 1986 has been recasted towards ensuring qualitative improvement in its implementation, in partnership with the States and involvement of NGOs
- The programmes related to the caring and well being of the Older Persons and Street Children, have been revised to address a wide range of initiatives relating to their security, shelter, welfare and development, by involving voluntary sector

264. The Division, in close collaboration with the Project Appraisal & Monitoring Division also examined EFC/SFC Memoranda and Cabinet Notes in respect of - I) Setting up of 6 Regional Composite Resource Centres for the Disabled, 4 Regional Rehabilitation Centres for Spinal Injured and other Orthopaedically disabled, 4 Auxiliary Production Centres of Artificial Limb Manufacturing Company (ALIMCO); ii) Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment; iii) construction of - Rehabilitation Service Building and Staff Quarters at National Institute for Rehabilitation, Training and Research, Cuttack; Office building for Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi; iv) Setting up of a National Monitoring and

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Evaluation Unit for the disabled. Besides, the Division constantly inter-acted with the Ministry and also monitored the implementation of various social welfare programmes meant for the disabled, social deviants including the juvenile delinquents / vagrants; alcoholics / drug addicts; child / adult sex workers and for the other disadvantaged groups viz., the aged, the destitutes and the street children.

265. To discuss /finalize the State Annual Plans for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 in respect of Social Welfare, Working Group Meetings were held under the Chairpersonship of Adviser (SD & WP) in June and December 1999, respectively. Apart from the State representatives, the Working Group Meetings were attended by the representatives of Central Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Besides reviewing the progress of the implementation of the various policies and programmes, the Working Groups assessed the financial requirements of individual states and made recommendations in the allocation of resources in respect of Social Welfare Sector. Similarly, the Division also made an assessment of the financial requirements of the nodal Ministry and helped the Plan Coordination Division in allocating the necessary outlays for the year 2000-2001.

266. As part of the total exercise of the preparation of the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the Division attempted an over - all review of the Sector and identified the following gaps - i) Social Welfare services continued to be urban-oriented and as such hardly reached the rural population. In respect of Disabled, the total coverage was limited only to 5%; ii) Only a few States, which are already doing well, are enjoying a major share of grant-in-aid causing regional imbalances; iii) Lack of effective co-ordination between the Central and the State Governments and between the Govt. and NGOs; iv) Mandatory Institutions in the field of Social Defence are deprived of even basic minimum services; v) State Governments have failed to develop ownership of the programmes for prevention / prohibition of drug addicts. As a follow-up of this exercise, midterm corrections are being planned for.

4.27 STATE PLANS DIVISION

267. The State Plans Division is entrusted with the responsibility of assisting in finalizing the Annual Plans and Five Year Plans of States/ Union Territories. The division coordinates all activities relating to the formulation of Plans of States/ UTs such as issuing of guidelines, organization of meetings between Deputy Chairman and Chief Ministers/ Governors/ Lt. Governors of States/ UTs, for deciding the plan size as well as organizing Working Group Meetings for finalisation of sectoral outlays of States/UTs.

268. The division also deals with matters relating to sanction of Additional Central Assistance to States/UTs for specific schemes/ projects and also proposals regarding externally aided projects and revised outlays of States/ UTs. The division is the repository of detailed information relating to Plan outlays and expenditure of States/UTs. During the year 1999-2000, the database on State Plans during the Ninth Plan period has been fully computerized and networked, and procedures put in place so that they are updated and improved to act as a reference for use by the Commission.

269. The Division also dealt with the work relating to Inter Ministerial Group and NFCRA Committee meetings pertaining to national calamities, and coordinated the work relating to Sarkaria Commission recommendations and Inter State Council and Zonal Councils. During the year, officers from the State Plan Division participated in the Central Teams that visited the natural

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calamity-hit States of Orissa, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, to assess the relief requirements. Tenth Finance Commission recommendations for grants for upgradation of Administration, Special Problems like providing drinking water in Primary Schools, Fire Services and Education etc. were also dealt with by this division during the year.

Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)

270. The thrust of the Ninth Plan has been to accelerate the growth rate leading to higher growth in employment, eradication of poverty and enhancing domestic capabilities in mobilizing resources for development. In order to improve the quality of life of the people emphasis is being laid on providing Basic Minimum Services which include drinking water, primary health services, primary education, housing to the shelterless, mid-day meals in primary schools, connectivity of villages and the Public Distribution System. Agricultural and Rural Development continues to get special attention in addition to physical infrastructure and reforms of public sector enterprises. Keeping in view the objectives of advancing the principles of economic federalism, States are allowed greater autonomy in formulation of plans during the Ninth Plan period.

Annual Plan 1999-2000

271. The Annual Plan discussions to finalise the plan size and outlays of different States and UTs for Annual Plan 1999-2000 were held during June/ July, 1999. During these discussions, presentations on the salient features of the proposed Annual Plan and major issues relating to a State were prepared by the officers of the State Plan Division, and made during the meeting of the Deputy Chairman with Chief Ministers of States. Following these high level meetings, an outlay of Rs. 88741.96 cr. has been approved for all the States/UTs for the Annual Plan 1999-2000, as compared to an outlay of Rs. 80720.31 crore approved for the year 1998-99, indicating an increase of 9.94%. A total of Rs. 33,000 crores was provided in the Budget Estimates for 1999-2000 as Central Assistance for State and UT Plans of which Rs. 16,540 crores was on account of normal Central Assistance and the remaining for other priority categories. This included Rs. 5,500 as additional Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects. The plan outlay for 1999-2000 includes an amount of Rs. 3700.00 crore and Rs. 385.08 crore towards Additional Central Assistance for Basic Minimum Services and Slum Development respectively

272. With a view to ensure investment in priority sectors as per plan objectives, the practice of earmarking of outlays under selected schemes/ projects was continued. Outlays under various schemes in selected sectors of importance to the States economy, Special Area programmes, Externally Aided Projects, Basic Minimum Services and some Irrigation and Power Projects were earmarked. The States/UTs have been given the option to allocate the amount provided for seven Basic Minimum Services in accordance with their priorities. A separate provision of Rs. 450.00 crore has been made for the plan of North Eastern Council during the year 1999-2000.

273. After a gap of two years, Working Group discussions were held this year for all States. The general experience was that these Working Group meetings were useful in exchange of views in understanding the problems of States in various sectors, and as a learning exercise regarding successes and failures in different States.

Preparation for Annual Plan 2000-2001

274. Based on the feedback received from State Government officials during the working group discussions for Annual Plan 1999-2000, it was felt that such meetings should be held before the Annual Plan discussions at the level of Deputy Chairman and Chief Minister, so that the sectoral projections as well as the problems of different sectors could be raised at the highest level. Accordingly, Working Group meetings for the Annual Plan 2000-2001 were held in the period November, 1999 to January, 2000. To allow greater flexibility and to complete the exercise of working group discussions before the meetings of Deputy Chairman with Chief Ministers, the practice of holding the Working Group for a particular State on the same date was changed for the Annual Plan 2000-2001 exercise. Twenty subject matter oriented sectoral working groups headed by the respective sectoral Advisers of the Planning Commission were formed. The meetings of these Groups were then called by the Advisers separately for the sectors concerning them in each State. This enabled the sectoral Advisers to have discussions with the State representatives in greater depth, and the outcome of their deliberations to serve as an input into formulation of Annual Plans for 2000-01.

4.28 TRANSPORT DIVISION

275. The Transport Division is primarily involved in the process of planning and development for the Transport and Tourism Sectors to meet the growing demand for the related services in the country. It is concerned with the overall budgetary and physical planning for various modes of transport and its efforts are directed towards attaining an appropriate inter-modal mix in the transport network. Some of the important activities are indicated below :

- Demand assessment for Transport Services both passenger and goods traffic.
- Assessment of existing capacity of different modes and estimation of resource requirement for the Plan.
- Identification of the role of private sector in infrastructure investment to supplement the effort of Government for speedy removal of sectoral bottlenecks.
- Overall planning of Transport Sector in the country.
- Finalisation of Annual Plan outlay for transport and tourism sectors.

During the year following salient activities were undertaken by the Transport Division.

276. The Draft Integrated Transport Policy was discussed with concerned Ministries and subsequently a Sub-Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Member (MSA), Planning Commission. The Draft Integrated Transport Policy was reconstructed sector-wise, as per recommendation of the Sub-Committee and submitted.

277. The Mid-term appraisal report for Ninth Five Year Plan for Transport and Tourism sectors was drafted.

278. Annual Plan 1999-2000 proposals in respect of related Central Ministries and State Governments/UTs and NEC were discussed and recommendations made after having in-depth examination.

279. Investment proposals formulated by Central Ministries of Surface Transport, Railways,

Civil Aviation and Tourism were appraised.

280. Organised meetings and presentations focussing on policy framework and performance of various sub-sectors of transport, problem of resource mobilisation, formulation of investment strategy, private sector participation etc.

281. Carried out assessment of resources in respect of 47 State Road Transport Undertakings (SRTU) for the Annual Plan 2000-01 which, inter alia, involved different physical and financial parameters of passenger transport services operated by the SRTU. The physical and financial data on transport operation during 1999-2000 by the SRTUs was also compiled and Undertakings were advised to take corrective measures to improve their performance and bring down the financial loss through measures like voluntary retirement scheme, privatisation of certain routes, increase in bus fare, reduction in overhead expenditure, improvement in km. Operation through redeployment of buses, reduction in the number of overaged fleet etc. The losses incurred by SRTUs is given in Bar Chart I (Annexure 4.7) and its physical performance in Bar Chart II (Annexure 4.8).

4.29 VILLAGE AND SMALL INDUSTRY DIVISION

282. The VSI Sector includes the sub-sectors like :

1.	Small Scale Industries	}	Ministry
2.	Khadi & Village Industries	}	of
3.	Coir Industries	}	SSIA&RI
4.	Handlooms	}	Ministry
5.	Powerlooms	}	of
6.	Handicrafts	}	Textiles
7.	Sericulture	}	
8.	Wool Development	}	
9.	Food Processing Industries	}	Ministry of Food Processing Inds.

283. At the instance of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, a Study Group has been set up for Development of Small Enterprises under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission. Adviser (I&M/VSI) is the Convener of the Study Group. The Study Group is to look into the problems of SSEs and suggest measures for growth and development of SSEs to increase their contribution in the economy. The Study Group was to submit its report by the end of November, 1999, but its tenure is being extended.

284. So far the Study Group has held three meetings.

285. These sub-groups have also held two/three meetings each and are in the process of finalising their reports which would be submitted to the Study Group for consideration.

286. The Planning Commission monitored the progress of projects for meat processing industries by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries and also represented on the Committee for monitoring the progress of schemes for handloom weavers.

Chapter 4 : Major Activities - 1999-2000

287. The VSI Division had evaluated important schemes/programmes in the VSI sector, like, Credit Guarantee Fund, Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana and Disinvestment in Modern Food Industries Limited.

4.30 ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER SERVICES DIVISION

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

288. Apart from the Divisions mentioned above, which are primarily concerned with Plan formulation, monitoring and evaluation, the Planning Commission is supported by the services of house-keeping branches to look after the matters of establishment, accounts, general administration, vigilance and career management, including training requirements of personnel belonging to the Commission. The activities of Vigilance Cell are given under a separate chapter, "Vigilance Activities", as per instruction received from Central Vigilance Commission vide their letter No. 99/PRV/1, dated 30th August, 1999.

289. The use of Hindi in official work is monitored by an Official Language Unit. The details of the achievements of the Hindi Section are mentioned in this Report under the heading 'Hindi Section'.

290. To provide for the welfare and redressal of the grievances of the employees, Senior Officers have been entrusted with responsibility for prompt action. An officer designated as Liaison Officer for Scheduled Castes /Scheduled Tribes functions in the Commission who in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs ensures the reservation of posts and provision of other assistance to SC/ST Staff and Officers. Similarly, the interest of Other Backward Classes and minority Communities are being taken care of in pursuance of the policy formulated by the Ministry of Welfare in this regard.

291. Officers and Staff of the Commission are exposed to various training programmes conducted within and outside the country by various national and international organisations of repute. Senior Officers also participate in various seminars & symposia organised by Indian and international organisations. In addition, short-term training programmes are organised and imparted on planning process for various categories of trainees from India and abroad.

292. The Commission maintains a well-equipped library, housing a large collection of books, periodicals and journals covering a wide spectrum of subjects, particularly on the subject of developmental planning. The library functions under supervision of an Advisory Council consisting of Senior Officers of the Commission. The Library has been renovated. The proposal for installation of CD-Rom Unit in the Library has been approved and equipments required for the same are likely to be received during the current financial year.

293. The Officers of the Planning Commission do not come into contact with the general public in its day-to-day work. However, for the redressal of complaints/grievances etc., from the serving as well as retired employees of the Planning Commission, including those of the Programme Evaluation Organisation and the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, an Internal Grievance Redressal Machinery has been set up as per guidelines issued by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. Principal Adviser (PC & Admn.) is the in-charge of the Grievance Redressal Machinery and is assisted by the Staff Grievance Officers of the level of Director/Deputy Secretary.

294. Monitoring Cell in the Planning Commission was created during the current year with a view to undertake close monitoring of the quality of implementation of the schemes in selected Sectors by initiating a few concentrated studies on villages in selected districts of the country through reputed research institutions/ NGOs so as to assess the progress and impact over a period of time.

CAREER MANAGEMENT & VIGILANCE DESK

Career Management

295. During the year 1999-2000 (April - December), two Officers were deputed for long-term courses in U.K. under Technical Co-operation Training Programme (Colombo Plan). 16 Officers were deputed to represent Planning Commission/Government of India in International Workshops/ Seminars etc. or to participate in training programmes organized by the International Organizations such as the UN, ILO, UNDP, World Bank, IMF, APO etc. in various countries. Moreover, a foreign tour of Deputy Chairman, 4 foreign tours of Member (Dr. S.R. Hashim) and one foreign tour each of Members (Dr. D.N. Tewari and Dr. S.P. Gupta) were also processed by this Desk during this period.

296. About 65 officers belonging to IES, ISS, GCS, CSS, etc. were sent for various training programmes conducted by Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Statistics, Department of Personnel & Training, Institute of Applied Manpower and Research (IAMR) and various other Government and Autonomous Institutes/Organizations at different places within India. Besides, about 20 officers/staff belonging to CSSS and CSS were sent for various mandatory and other training programmes conducted by Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM) at New Delhi.

297. Further, Planning Commission also conducted familiarisation programmes for Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IAAS) Probationers, Indian Railways Electrical Engineering Service (IRSEE) Probationers, Senior Officers of Defence Services (LDMC), Indian Defence Estates Service (IDES) Probationers and foreign delegates from the IMF and Vietnam during the period under report.

HINDI SECTION

298. During the year under report, Hindi Section of the Planning Commission translated various documents covered under section 3(3) of the Official Languages Act, besides translating the documents required to be issued in Hindi alone or both in Hindi & English which include Annual Plans, Cabinet Notes, material for various Committees etc.

299. To accelerate and facilitate the use of Hindi for various official purposes of the Planning Commission, several steps were taken which include distribution of Comprehensive Glossary of Administrative Terms, introduction of various incentive schemes for doing original work in Hindi, declaration of 4 more Sections/Divisions for doing cent percent work in Hindi raising thereby the total number of Sections/Divisions so far specified from 7 to 11, nomination of personnel for training in Hindi, Hindi typewriting and Hindi stenography and to get the services of trained personnel utilised for Hindi typewriting/Hindi stenography work to the extent possible.

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300. Kautilya Award Regulations, 1998 were notified on 29th April, 1999 revising the earlier Regulations of 1989 and modifying the Kautilya Award Scheme of Planning Commission to encourage the original writing of books in Hindi. The amount of awards was also increased from Rs.10,000/-, 7,000/- & 5,000/- to Rs. 18,000/-, 12,000/- & 8,000/- respectively.

301. "Hindi Day" was observed in the Planning Commission on 14th of September, 1999. Golden Jubilee Celebration of Rajbhasha also commenced from this Day in Planning Commission with the organisation of Senior Officers' meeting in which messages of Hon'ble Home Minister, Minister of State for Planning and Cabinet Secretary were read out and circulated also. The meeting was presided over by Shri K.K. Baksi, Principal Adviser (Education) in Planning Commission and a lecture on the Official Language policy of the Union was delivered by Shri Nishikant Mahajan, ex-Secretary in the Committee of Parliament on Official Language and a retired Joint Secretary from the Department of Official Language (Ministry of Home Affairs).

302. From the 14th to 28th September, 1999, "Hindi Fortnight" was observed during which various Hindi competitions were held. The Fortnight was concluded with a function chaired by the then Hon'ble Minister of State for Planning, Shri Ram Naik who distributed prizes to the winners of the various Hindi competitions held during the Fortnight. The function concluded with a "Kavi Sammelan" in which 9 poets of repute recited their poems.

303. In order to encourage the Sections/Divisions of the Planning Commission to do most of their work in Hindi, a running Shield was awarded to Admn-V Section as winner of the 1st Prize and the Second prize was given to Admn-II Section for their performance in Hindi during the year 1998-99. These prizes were also awarded by the then Hon'ble Minister of State for Planning & Programme Implementation .

304. The Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) was inspected by a team constituted by the Planning Commission, which included a representative from Department. of Official Language also, to assess the progress made by the Institute in the compliance of Official Language policy after the visit of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language and a report was submitted to the Committee in compliance of the assurance given to the Committee.

305. Two more offices under the control of the Planning Commission have been got notified under rule 10(4) of the Official Language Rules, 1976 raising thereby the total number of offices so far notified under this rule from 14 to 16, including Planning Commission itself.

INTERNAL WORK STUDY UNIT

306. Planning Commission, due to its very nature of functions, does not come into contact with the general public in its day to day affairs and therefore, hardly receives any grievance from the public. However, the Commission has set up an Internal Grievance Redressal Machinery, as per the guidelines of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances to deal with grievances of its serving as well as retired employees including those of the Programme Evaluation Organisation and the Institute of Applied Manpower Research. Information on the position of redressal of grievances is transmitted on-line to the Department of AR&PG every month. So far, during the current year, i.e., 1999-2000, six cases of grievances were received and all these cases have been examined and appropriate remedial action suggested to the Administration.

LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

307. The Planning Commission Library continued to provide reference service and lending facilities to officers of the Planning Commission including PEO and NIC located at Yojana Bhavan. Library also borrowed books on Inter Library Loan from other libraries for the use of Senior Officers of the Planning Commission.

308. The library has computerised almost all its activities viz., circulation, documentation, acquisition, reference etc. These activities are being done on Pentium through LIBSYS Software. Library continues to be the member of Delhi Library Network (DELNET). 307. Electronic mail service is also available which helps in sending messages to the libraries connected with the electronic mail. The Internet facility is available in the Library through which information is provided to the Officers.

309. The library is also bringing out its publications, viz., (i) DOCPLAN : A list of selected articles, with abstracts, culled out from selected journals received in the library; (ii) RECENT LIST OF ADDITIONS : A list of books added to the library, with annotations; (iii) DIVISIONAL DOCUMENTS LIST : A list of such documents prepared by or on behalf of the Planning Commission; and (iv) An Annual List of periodicals received by the library.

310. During the period under report, 799 English and 249 Hindi books/publications have been added to the collection. By the end of March 2000, it is expected that more books in Hindi & English will be added in the Library. 291 Periodicals were also received in the Library. The library also provided about 8000 reference queries, inspite of the closure of the Library due to renovation & shifting. Hence, outside readers/visitors were not entertained. However, the reference queries from the higher officials and exigencies were attended to by the Library.

311. The proposal for installation of CD-ROM Unit in the Library has been approved and equipments required for the same are likely to be received during the current financial year. As soon as the unit starts working, the CD-ROM of the Publications of the Planning Commission, will be released.

312. The Library staff was given training in advance techniques of Library computerisation and Information Retrieval procedures. The Library staff participated in national and international conferences and presented papers on the relevant themes in the field of Library and Information science.

NATIONAL INFORMATICS CENTRE - YOJANA BHAVAN UNIT

313. All computerization needs of Planning Commission are being looked after by the NIC-YBU, stationed at Yojana Bhavan. A brief account of various Computerisation activities of Planning Commission is as stated below :

Infrastructure Development

Hardware

314. Ninety three (93) 486 systems have been upgraded to Pentium systems. 190 Pentium II multimedia systems have been installed in the last six months, thereby bringing the total number of Pentium based client systems in Planning Commission to 400.

LAN

315. A UTP based Local Area Network has been established in the Planning Commission for 473 nodes. This has been connected to NICNET and INTERNET through RF link, ISDN lines and FTDMA VSAT. All 400 client systems have been configured to this network.

iii) Mail Facility

316. Two mail servers namely 'yojana.nic.in' and 'yojana1.delhi.nic.in' have been installed. User IDs have been created for all the users on both the systems so that in case of failure of one of the systems, mails can be relayed to the other, thereby reducing the risk of loss of mails. All client systems have been configured for both the user IDs in the Microsoft Outlook Express. Group of users have been created for broadcasting messages, for example, member@yojana.nic.in for all Members of Planning Commission.

Software development

317. Four different types of software packages have been developed:

- Web Based Applications on INTRANET of Planning Commission :

Bulletin Board Alert Service

318. A Bulletin Board Alert Service has been developed on which news items of current interest from Internet as well as from Planning Commission are available. Using any Internet browser, this can be accessed at <http://planning/bulletin>.

Less Paper Administration

319. All the circulars, incumbency statements, entitlements, etc. are available on INTRANET so that any user can browse the site and get the information instead of going to the administration division. Forms like HBA, LTC etc. can be down loaded from the site and submitted.

Library Index

320. Doc Plan and recent addition in the library of books and Journals are available for the users of library.

- Telephone Directory
- Telephone directory of officers in the Planning Commission including their E mail addresses is available on the Intranet.
- Forms for booking of Committee Rooms :
- There are six committee rooms in the Planning Commission which can be booked Electronically by browsing the site and sending mail to the Protocol Section, requesting for booking without using paper forms.

Network Based Application

321. A common database server 'yojana-data' has been established for 24-hour operations. Databases developed by different divisions is available on this data base server which could be

Chapter 4 : Major Activities - 1999-2000

accessed by the users from the network neighbourhood. Databases for the following divisions are available on this server :

- Labour, Employment & Manpower
- State Plan
- Financial Resources
- Development of databases is in progress for other divisions also.

Complaint Monitoring System

322. This system registers hardware complaints from all users directly on the system.

Stand Alone Databases

323. These databases are developed for single user and is not available on the network.

a. Centrally Sponsored Schemes

324. This database has been developed for the Rural Development Division. It contains information on sanction of schemes, budgetary allocations/expenditure, etc.

b. Training Data base

325. This database contains the list of officers who have attended/propose to attend the training conducted/to be conducted by NIC-YBU.

c. Demand for Grants

326. Demand for grants for Planning Commission has been computerized. Several other reports, which are sent to Finance Ministry like, plan Budget link etc. can also be generated from this database in English and Hindi.

d. Expenditure Monitoring System

327. This system generates scheme wise (Plan and Non Plan), Major head wise and object head wise, monthly expenditure reports for internal use in the Planning Commission.

e. Basic Minimum Services

328. Menu driven software is developed for data entry and updation. Reports are generated for services like, Education, Nutrition, Health, Drinking water, etc.

f. Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO)

329. Software has been developed for data entry, validation and report generation for the surveys conducted for this year for Employment Assurance Scheme, Khadi and Village Industries Project and Public Distribution System.

Release Monitoring System

330. This software has been developed to monitor the release of funds to the implementing agencies under NSAP in the Ministry of Rural Development. Replicating this software in other divisions in the Ministry is in progress.

Client Server Applications

331. Big databases have been developed and loaded on the SQL Server, which can be accessed by the clients through the LAN.

a. Non-Governmental Organisations Database

332. This database compiles the list of NGOs funded by various Ministries/Departments like Ministry of Human Resources Development, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, etc. Cross referencing between the funding by various Ministries, performance of organisation, list of organisations working in a particular geographical area, list of organisations working on a particular field, etc. can be queried from this Database.

b. Village Amenity database

333. The database containing infrastructure details upto the village level as per census 91 can be accessed by all clients on the LAN. It is proposed to convert this package into window based version. GIS upto district level will be interfaced with this database.

c. Minimum Data Records System

334. This system monitors all Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes, containing Annual Financial Data and Five Year Plan Data. This has been classified into sectors/sub sectors/Ministries/Departments/undertakings for ongoing and new schemes. This data base contains data for about 13,000 schemes starting from 1985-86.

Support Services

335. Hardware, Software and LAN maintenance is provided by inhouse engineers as well as AMC vendors.

Cyber Café

336. A Cyber Café "Soochna Dwar" has been set up near the reception desk in Yojana Bhavan. 3 computers connected to INTERNET have been installed. Following facilities are available at the Soochna Dwar for Journalists, academicians and experts :

- Internet Browsing
- Information on Planning Commission
- Information on Plan & Development
- Downloading information from Internet

Home Page

337. The Home Page of Planning Commission has been developed and is available at 'planningcommission.nic.in'. This was officially released by the Deputy Chairman on the 25th January, 2000.

Five Year Plan for Information Technology

338. The Five Year Plan for IT for the Planning Commission has been prepared giving details of the infrastructure requirement, budgetary estimate, etc.

Implementation of Centrally Developed Software

339. The following Software developed centrally are being implemented at Planning Commission:

- Office Procedure Automation
- Personnel Information System
- Geographic Information System

Training on Computer Awareness

340. Two Weeks training programme in batches is being conducted regularly at the NIC-YBU on Computer Awareness, MS Word, MS Excel, PowerPoint, etc.

341. A three week training programme was conducted for 144 Children of Planning Commission employees in 6 Batches to inculcate computer awareness among them.

342. One week training was conducted for officers and staff of PEOs and REOs outside Delhi to apprise them of the latest software trends and also about the software developed by NIC for their use.

PLANNING COMMISSION CLUB

343. The Planning Commission Sports & Recreation Club conducts various sports and cultural activities in the Planning Commission. Deputy Secretary (G.A.), Planning Commission, is its Honorary President. Secretary, Planning Commission, is the patron of the Club.

344. The Planning Commission Club promotes sports amongst its members, which includes employees of Planning Commission and Programme Evaluation Organisation. Planning Commission was represented in various Inter-Ministry Tournaments and the performance of the players was praiseworthy.

345. Internal Tournaments of the Planning Commission and Annual Athletic Meet are also conducted.

CHAPTER 5

PROGRAMME EVALUATION ORGANISATION

Eradication of poverty and improvement in the quality of life of the masses is one of the basic objectives of planning in India. To meet these objectives, the Government has been formulating and implementing various development programmes/schemes with the provision of adequate funds for Social Sector Development Programmes in each successive Five Year Plans. In the post reform era, a number of new schemes have been implemented and some old ones redesigned to work as safety nets for those who are likely to get adversely affected because of some drastic changes in macro policies. However, all these efforts put in during the last four and a half decades of planning have not yielded the intended results. This is because of inherent inadequacies in the planning and implementation of plan programmes. To make these development programmes more effective and result oriented, it is desirable that these inadequacies be identified and removed. This can be achieved through rigorous monitoring and evaluation of these programmes. Monitoring and evaluation are, therefore, important tools for increasing the efficiency in the formulation and implementation of development programmes

2. The Ninth Plan Document has dwelt extensively on the weaknesses in design and implementation of plan schemes and their sub-optimal performance. It is noted with concern that while an elaborate monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system was in place, adequate follow-up actions on the findings for the system have not been taken to bring about the desired improvement. This general apathy towards the M&E system has adversely affected its health. The decentralized planning and development administration, as envisaged in the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, would require a strong evaluation machinery to ensure accountability of the implementing agencies and optimum use of public resources for development activities. Strengthening the evaluation organization at the Center and states to make them effective in the planning process, therefore, constitutes an important element of the Ninth Plan strategy.

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3. The Programme Evaluation Organisation undertakes evaluation of selected programmes/schemes under implementation, as per the requirement of the various Divisions of Planning Commission and Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The evaluation studies are designed to assess the performance, process of implementation, effectiveness of the delivery systems and impact of programmes. These studies are diagnostic and aim at identifying the factors contributing to success/ or failure of various programmes and deriving lessons for improving the performance of existing schemes through mid-course corrections and better design of future programmes.

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4. Broadly speaking, the objectives of evaluation work taken-up by PEO includes objective assessment of process and impact of the development programmes, identifying the areas of success and failures at different stages of administration and execution, analysis of reasons for success or failure, examining extension methods and people's reactions thereto and deriving lessons for future improvement in the formulation and implementation of the new programmes/schemes. Evaluation in this sense has been recognised as quite distinct and separate from analysis of progress and review on the one hand, and inspection, checking and scrutiny of the schemes and works on the other hand.

5. The PEO is conducting external evaluation, independent of the administrative channels, through direct observations, sample surveys and social science research methods. Thus the evaluation studies carried out by the PEO are different from progress reporting or checking and scrutiny work as being done in the administrative Ministries/Depts. However, the PEO tries to involve planners and implementing agencies at all stages of evaluation to make the PEO reports useful.

Organisational Structure

6. The PEO is primarily a field organisation under the over-all charge of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. It has a three-tier structure, with its Headquarters at New Delhi. The middle rung is represented by the Regional Evaluation Offices while the next link are the Field Units, known as Project Evaluation Offices.

7. At the apex is the Headquarters at New Delhi, which is responsible for evolving suitable methodologies including statistical designs for various type of evaluation studies, organising execution and monitoring of sample surveys, data processing, statistical analysis and interpretation of qualitative and quantitative data generated by the field units and also for bringing out the Evaluation Reports. The Organisation is headed by Adviser (Evaluation). At the headquarters, the Adviser is supported by a Joint Adviser and 5 Deputy Advisers. The Deputy Advisers are responsible for designing and execution of evaluation studies and act as 'Project Directors'.

8. The middle link of the PEO represents 7 Regional Evaluation Offices which are located at Calcutta, Chandigarh, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow and Mumbai. Each Regional Evaluation Office is headed by a Regional Evaluation Officer of the rank of Director/ Deputy Adviser and is assisted by two Research Officers, two Economic Investigators Grade I and one Economic Investigators Grade II. The Regional Evaluation Offices are responsible for the supervision of the field work, scrutiny and compilation of field data collected for Evaluation Studies and provides guidance to Project Evaluation Offices under their jurisdiction. They are also responsible for maintaining a close liaison with the State Governments and also providing technical guidance to State Evaluation Units in organising State level studies.

9. The Field Units, known as Project Evaluation Offices constitute the third tier of PEO. These are located in the capital cities of 8 major states of the country, viz.: at Guwahati Bhubaneswar, Shimla, Bangalore, Bhopal, Patna, Trivandrum and Ahmedabad. Each Project Evaluation Office is headed by a Project Evaluation Officer of the rank of Senior Research Officer, who is assisted by one Research Officer, two Economic Investigators Grade-I and two Economic Investigators Grade-II. Each PEO is under the administrative control of

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a Regional Evaluation Office. The Project Evaluation Offices in the Programme Evaluation Organisations are responsible for reporting the working and progress of the development programmes in their areas and for conducting evaluation studies under the guidance of their concerned REOs. They are also responsible for maintaining a close liaison with the State Governments under the overall supervision of Regional Evaluation Officer.

10. The State/UT-wise coverage of the PEO and its field units known as Regional Evaluation Officers (REOs) and Project Evaluation Offices (PEOs) is as under:-

State/UT-wise coverage of the Programme Evaluation Organisation

Name of Regional Evaluation Office/ Region 1	Attached Project Evaluation Office/ Field Units 2	States/UTs covered by the REOs/PEOs field units 3
I. Eastern Region 1. Calcutta	Guwahati Bhubaneswar	Arunachal Pradesh Assam Manipur Meghalaya Mizoram Nagaland Orissa Sikkim Tripura West Benal A & N Islands
II. Northern Region 2. Chandigarh	Shimla	Haryana Himachal Pradesh Jammu & Kashmir Punjab Chandigarh Delhi
III. Southern Region 3. Chennai (Madras)	4. Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala Tamil Nadu Lakshadweep Pondicherry
IV. South Central Region Hyderabad	5. Bangalore	Andhra Pradesh Karnataka
V. Central Region 5. Jaipur	6. Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh Rajasthan
VI. Northern Central Region 6. Lucknow	7. Patna	Bihar Uttar Pradesh
VII. Western Region 7. Mumbai (Bombay)	8. Ahmedabad	Goa Gujarat Maharashtra D&N Haveli Daman & Diu

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Evaluation Advisory Committee

11. In order to guide the Programme Evaluation Organisation for prioritization of areas of research, methodologies to be adopted and establishment of linkages between PEO and various evaluation, research organizations and academic institutions and follow-up action on evaluation results, the Planning Commission has set up an Evaluation Advisory Committee in Programme Evaluation Organisation. This Committee includes experts from the Planning Commission and from Non-Government organizations/ academic institutions.

Meetings/Seminars/Workshops and their Progress

12. One way to get feedback on the quality of evaluation reports and their utility in design and implementation of programmes is to interact with the planners, implementing agencies and academia. To facilitate this interaction, seminars are held on topics relevant to the areas of work of PEO. The representatives of the concerned Ministries/Departments, academicians who are known to have worked in specific areas and representatives of State governments are invited to the seminars. During 1999-2000, the following meetings/ seminars were held:-

Follow up action

To promote informed debate and follow up action on evaluation findings, seminar and workshop are organized in which planning policy makers, academia and implementing agencies participate. The findings of recently completed reports on CHCs and SSHs have already been presented and deliberated during 1999-2000.

- (a) A meeting of REOs/PEOs was held on 30th, 31st March, 1999 and 1st April, 1999 to discuss the design/Instruments of the Evaluation Study on Construction of Godowns and Purchase of Vans/Trucks for Strengthening of PDS - Infrastructure in the states/ UTs for launching the study in field.
- (b) A seminar of EAC members and senior officers of Planning Commission as well as representatives from Health Ministry and Child and Women Development Department was held on 16th August, 1999 to present the findings of evaluation studies on (i) Community Health Centres and (ii) Short Stay Homes for Women and Girls chaired by Principal Adviser (SP) and Chairman Evaluation Advisory Committee.
- (c) A seminar to discuss the findings of Evaluation Study on Community Health Centres (CHCs) conducted by PEO of Planning Commission was held on 17.12.1999 under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission in which Member (SRH), Member (S), Member (DNT), Secretary, Planning Commission and Pr. Adviser (SP) & Chairman EAC, Planning Commission attended the meeting. Representatives from Health Ministry and academicians have also attended the Seminar.
- (d) A meeting of REOs/PEOs is being held on 3rd & 4th February, 2000 to discuss the design/ Instruments of Evaluation Study on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for launching the study in the field.

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Availability of PEO and State Evaluation Reports on Internet and to the Press for wider publicity

PEO Reports on Internet

The Ninth Plan document observed that the potential users of evaluation findings do not usually have easy access to evaluation reports. To address this issue, a decision has been taken by planning Commission to put all PEO reports on the Website of Planning Commission. The Website Address www.planningcommission.nic.in

13. In order to disseminate the findings of PEO studies for improvement in programme implementation and increasing the awareness of people regarding developmental programmes, PEO reports are being given wider publicity by putting them on the internet on Planning Commission Website and sending the reports to media, leading research institutions and State Evaluation Organisations.
14. The PEO is also encouraging State Evaluation Organisations to send the reports to Planning Commission, so that these reports can also be put on the internet.

Evaluation Priorities During the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)

15. The Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan has made extensive use of the results of monitoring and evaluation studies and suggested various steps for improving the performance of programme formulation and implementation which, inter-alia, included allocating more funds to consolidate the infrastructure, providing for requisite training/re-training of those associated with programme formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, strengthening the linkages between the evaluators and the users of these findings, attaching greater weightage to follow-up actions, giving wider publicity to the findings of the evaluation studies and fostering the methods of participatory evaluation in the implementation of various programmes in the country.
16. The strategy proposed above would definitely contribute to efficiency in resource use and improved performances of plan programmes. To make evaluation, an effective tool for this, capabilities of evaluation organisations will have to be enhanced. This, however, requires greater flow of physical and financial resources to the Evaluation Organisations established in various States/UTs and at Central level. The Planning Commission have initiated steps in this regard.

Progress of Work in Programme Evaluation Organization

17. The Programme Evaluation Organisation has so far conducted 177 Studies of which 17 studies (excluding three other documents concerning to evaluation activities and techniques) were completed during the Eighth Five Year Plan period and 10 studies have been completed during the first 3 years i.e. during 1997-2000 period of Ninth Plan (1997-2002).
18. Some of the programmes of national importance like (i) Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP), (ii) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and (iii) Mahila Samridhhi Yojana (MSY), (iv) Non-Formal Education (NFE), (v) Short Stay Homes for Women and Girls (SSHs) (vi) Community Health Centres, and (vii) Border Area Development Programme

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have recently been evaluated. To provide ready access to the findings of the evaluation studies of similar programmes implemented in the past, a Compendium (in 3 volumes) of evaluation studies conducted by PEO since its inception in 1952 to 31st December, 1999 has already been completed and released as well as put on internet of the NIC.

19. Evaluation studies on Employment Assurance Scheme, Social Safety Net Programme (SSNP) of PHCs, Functioning of State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), Khadi and Village Industries Programme (KVIP) in general and its impact on rural employment generation, Construction of Godowns and purchase of Vans/Trucks for strengthening of Public Distribution System- Infrastructure in the States/UTs, Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribals under Tribal Sub-Plan and Member Parliament Local Area Development Scheme are underway. These studies are at various stages of completion during the year 1999-2000.

The Progress of work during 1999-2000 is as under:-

Sl. No	Name of Study/Activity	Status
1	2	3
1.	Evaluation Study on the Scheme of Short Stay Homes for Women and Girls (SSHs) – Final Report.	Completed (July,1999)
2.	Compendium of Evaluation Studies Conducted by PEO Vol. -III	Completed (July, 1999)
3.	Evaluation Study on Functioning of Community Health Centres (CHCs).	Completed (September, 1999)
4.	Evaluation Study on Border Area Development Programme (BADP)	Completed (October, 1999)
5.	Evaluation Study on Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)	In Progress
6.	Evaluation Study on Khadi & Village Industries Programme in general and Its impact on rural employment Generation.	In Progress
7.	Evaluation Study of Social Safety Net Programme (SSNP) for PHCs	In Progress
8.	Study of the functioning of State Pollution Control Boards.	In Progress
9.	Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribals under Tribals Sub-Plan.	In Progress
10.	Evaluation Study on Construction of Godowns and purchase of Vans/Trucks for strengthening of Public Distribution System – Infrastructure in the States/UTs.	In Progress
11.	Evaluation Study on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	To be launched shortly in the field.

Follow-up Action on the findings of Evaluation Reports

20. The findings and suggestions emerging from the evaluation studies are communicated to the concerned implementing Ministries/Departments for necessary follow-up action. It is encouraging that some of the findings of PEO Studies (Non-Formal Education, Mahila Simridhi Yojana, etc.) have been acted upon.

Chapter 5 : Programme Evaluation Organisation

Other Activities undertake during the for 1999-2000

Conference of Evaluation Organisations of Centre and States

21. A conference of the representatives of Evaluation Organisations of Centre and States was held on 28th July, 1999 under the chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission. The conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and was attended by the representatives of Planning Departments and Evaluation Wings of 15 Major States and representatives from academic Institutions. In the conference major emphasis was given to strengthening the Evaluation Organisations both at Centre and States/UTs.

Sensitizing Planners & Evaluators

The need for evaluation was recognised in early years of the planning process. The PEO and SEOs were established and attached to the Planning Commission/ Departments to give continuous feedback on programme performance and impact. The Ninth Plan Document, however, observed that these evaluation organisations have grown weaker over the years and that there was need for strengthening these organisations. To sensitise the planners and the evaluators, PEO took the initiative to organise a conference of the Government Evaluation Organisations on 28th July, 1999.

22. In order to optimally use their capacities, a better coordination and inter-action between them was proposed. To meet this objective, the Planning Commission would help State Evaluation Organisations for imparting training to their officers, publication of their reports for wider publicity and capacity building. The States were advised to use the Internet facilities for giving wider publicity to their reports and in accessing PEO reports. The need for establishing a data bank of evaluation studies was also stressed. It was also agreed, that prior to every Annual Plan discussions, the evaluation studies conducted by State and Centre would be reviewed by PEO of Planning Commission starting with 2000-2001 Annual Plans.

Training Programmes for Evaluation Personnel

23. During the Ninth Five Year Plan, greater emphasis is laid on training of evaluators. As a first step in this regard, a training programme was conducted in Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, for Senior Level IES officers of PEO Headquarters as well as working in its field offices (REOs/PEOs) from 17.5.1999 to 28.5.1999.

On Training

The Ninth Plan Document observed that the evaluators did not receive regular training on evaluation methods/techniques. The literature on the subject has made tremendous progress during the last 20 years. The quality of evaluation reports could improve only through regular training. The Planning Commission took the necessary initiative to organise one training programme at National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) Hyderabad for the Junior Level Officers of PEO.

24. The PEO has also organized Training in Computer Techniques of the Stenographers/UDCs/LDCs of REOs/PEOs and of PEO Hqrs. from 21.6.1999 to 25.6.1999 at NIC Yojana Bhavan Unit, New Delhi for upgrading their skills in computer techniques.

Chapter 5 : Programme Evaluation Organisation

25. To upgrade the skills in evaluation techniques, the PEO has organised training in evaluation at NIRD, Hyderabad from 20.12.99 to 31.12.1999 for the Investigators working in PEO Headquarters and in its field units (REOs/PEOs).

26. The PEO is also organizing training programmes for its officers on computer techniques with the help of National Informatics Centre, Yojana Bhavan Unit, New Delhi from time to time.

Increasing Efficiency of PEO

It was observed that the time taken for completion of PEO studies could be substantially reduced if the PEO field units are equipped with computers. According, it has been decided to give computers to all PEO field units. The 7 REOs have already received PCs and this has contributed towards greater co-ordination with filed units and computational efficiency. The other field units (PEOs) will be equipped with PCs soon.

Liaison with State Evaluation Organisations

27. The PEO also associates with the State Evaluation Organisations and other research and academic institutions for taking up the evaluation studies of regional and local importance and those innovative in nature. Keeping this in view, the Planning Commission has advised all the States/UTs to include evaluation studies in their Annual Plan w.e.f. Annual Plan 2000-2001. These evaluation studies will be taken up by the State Evaluation Organisations in consultation with Programme Evaluation Organisation of Planning Commission since Annual Plan 2000-2001 onwards.

Reference Books/PEO Library

28. The PEO (Headquarters) maintains its own library (Technical) where reference books on various evaluation techniques to be adopted for designing/instrumenting development programmes/schemes and Evaluation Study Reports are kept for reference purposes.

Organisational Chart

29. The Organizational chart of the PEO Headquarters and Field Units (REO/PEO) is enclosed at Annexure 5.1.

Task Ahead

30. There is a link between the national evaluation capacity and good governance. While the need for good governance has been recognized, the various mechanisms to ensure this are yet to be put in place and practice. For a robust evaluation system, the various dimensions that must be developed are: (i) demand for evaluation, (ii) capacity building of evaluation organizations and (iii) a sound information infrastructure. These aspects were identified in the conference of Evaluation Organisations held on 28th July, 1999. The PEO, being the apex evaluation body, is planning to initiate suitable steps to ensure that the evaluation organizations in the country contribute to the cause of good governance.

CHAPTER 6

VIGILANCE ACTIVITIES

Vigilance Cell in the Planning Commission is working under 'Career Management & Vigilance Desk'. Vigilance activities carried out during the year are given below.

Vigilance Set up

2. The vigilance unit of the Planning Commission which functions under a part-time Chief Vigilance Officer deals with all vigilance cases, i.e., cases of corruption, mal-practices and lack of integrity in respect of 'A', 'B' and 'C' officers. It is also responsible for issuing vigilance clearance certificates at the time of promotion, forwarding of applications for outside jobs/passports, release from the Planning Commission on transfer/retirement etc. and advising the administration on other disciplinary cases which may be referred to it for advice.

3. Planning Commission being a non-public dealing department did not receive any complaint of vigilance nature from the general public during April to December, 1999 except a few complaints against officials of NIC which were transferred to the Ministry of Information Technology after the NIC was transferred out of the Planning Commission to that Ministry.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment

4. In accordance with the guidelines and norms prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in a Public Interest Litigation WPNo (crI) 666-70 of 1992, a complaints Mechanism committee on Sexual harassment in the Planning Commission headed by Dr. (Mrs.) Prema Ramachandran, Adviser (Health) with two other Members was constituted. The relevant provisions of the conduct Rules on the subject were widely circulated in the Planning Commission. During the period April-December, 1999, not a single complaint has been reported to the Committee.

ANNEXURE

Annexure 2.1

**Public Sector Outlay by Major Heads of Development
in the Ninth Plan (1997-2002)**

(Rs. crores)

	HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT	CENTRE	STATES/UTS	TOTAL
1	Agriculture and Allied Services(*)	17167	80715	97882
2	Rural Development	42278	32408	74686
3	Energy	153807	68568	222375
4	Industry and Minerals	51664	13484	65148
5	Transport	81791	37582	119373
6	Social Services	72284	110989	183273
7	Others(†)	70370	22444	92814
8	Area Programmes	0	3649	3649
	Total	489361	369830	859200

(*) Includes Agriculture and Irrigation Sector.

(†) Includes Communications, Science Technology and Environment.
General Economic Services and General Services.

ANNEXURE

Annexure 2.2

PLAN OUTLAY BY BROAD HEADS OF DEVELOPMENT
FOR ANNUAL PLAN 1998-99 (REVISED ESTIMATES)

(Rs. Crores)

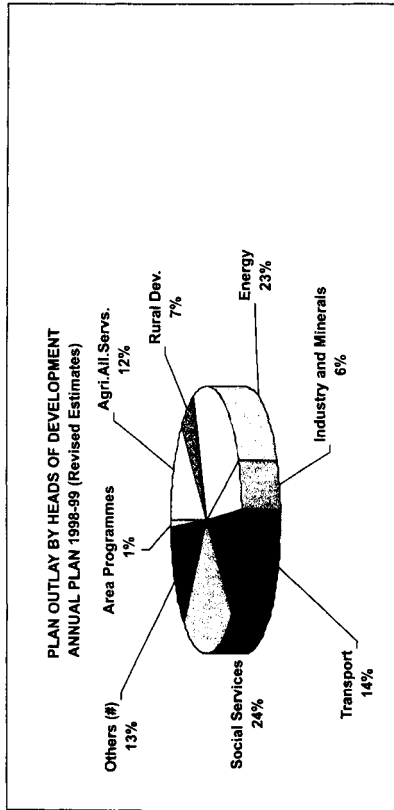
Sl.No.	Head of Development	CENTRE		STATES & UTs		TOTAL	
		Outlay	%-age to Total	Outlay	%-age to Total	Outlay	%-age to Total
1	Agriculture & Allied Services(*)	3121	4	16053	23	19174	12
2	Rural Development	5564	6	5431	8	10994	7
3	Energy	23979	27	13317	19	37296	24
4	Industry and Minerals	7955	9	1868	3	9824	6
5	Transport	14397	16	7604	11	22002	14
6	Social Services	16412	19	20998	30	37410	24
7	Others (#)	17053	19	3632	5	20685	13
8	Area Programmes	0	0	1214	2	1214	1
GRAND TOTAL		88482	100	70117	100	158598	100

(*) Includes Agriculture and Irrigation Sector.

#) Includes Communications, Science Technology and Environment, General Economic Services and General Services.

ANNEXURE

Annexure - 2.2 (b)



ANNEXURE

Annexure 2.3

PLAN OUTLAY BY BROAD HEADS OF DEVELOPMENT
FOR ANNUAL PLAN 1999-2000

(Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	Head of Development	CENTRE	Outlay	%-age to Total
1	Agriculture & Allied Services(*)		4084	4
2	Rural Development		5408	5
3	Energy		27381	26
4	Industry and Minerals		8672	8
5	Transport		16850	16
6	Social Services		19800	19
7	Others (#)		21326	21
8	Area Programmes		0	0
GRAND TOTAL			103521	100

(*) Includes Agriculture and Irrigation Sector.

#) Includes Communications, Science Technology and Environment, General Economic Services and General Services.

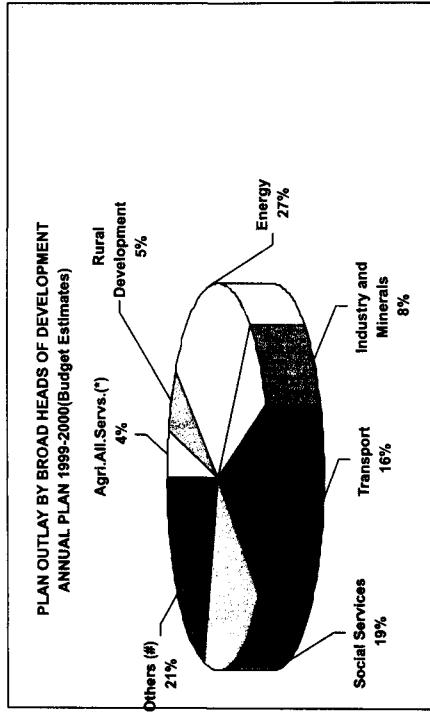
Note:-

These are Budget Estimates.

The figures for States/UTs are not yet available.

ANNEXURE

Annexure - 2.3 (c)



ANNEXURE

Annexure - 4.1

PROJECT APPROVED BY I&CAD DIVISION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION
FROM 1ST APRIL 1999 & ONWARD

(Rs.in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Estimated Cost	Date of Approval	State
1.	Scheme on raising and strengthening to T/Dyke along R/B of Kopili river from Ahuguri-Amsoi P.W.D.Road to A.T.Road and A.T. Road to Rly. Bridge (ch.0 m to ch.15.800 m)	271.79	12.4.99	Assam
2.	Scheme on "Protection of Bazar area and surrounding paddy field at Harangiao from erosion of river Jatinga and its tributaries (ch.190 m to ch.1490 m)	134.92	12.4.99	Assam
3.	Scheme on Protection of the villages Mogomari, Kashibari, Barman Bazar, Lalmati and also adjoining area from the erosion of river Gaurang (L/B)	346.27	12.4.99	Assam
4.	Scheme on Raising and Strengthening of flood embankment along Kollang River from Raha to Jagi R/B and Azarbari to Rly.Bridge L/B (Phase-D(ch.18899 m to Ch.3800m)	262.33	12.4.99	Assam
5.	Scheme on Protection of different reaches from the erosion of river Dhansiri at Assam-Nagaland border in Karbi-Anglong district of Assam, Phase I	334.25	12.4.99	Assam
6.	Scheme on Protection of different reaches from the erosion of river Dhansir at Assam-Nagaland border in Karbi-Anglong district of Assam, Phase-II	303.13	12.4.99	Assam
7.	Scheme on Anti-erosion measures to protect Singari-Siparni area from the erosion of river Brahmaputra under Sonitpur district	188.86	4.6.99	Assam
8.	Scheme on raising and strengthening to dyke along left bank of river Katakhal from Ratanpur ghat to Mohanpur including anti-erosion measures at Ratanpur	247.278	4.6.99	Assam
9.	Scheme of Protection of Katakhal Bazar from erosion of river Barak on its left bank at Kalinagar area	329.885	4.6.99	Assam
10.	Lower Suktel Irrigation (Major) Project - Orissa	21713	25.6.99	Orissa
11.	Scheme on Construction of retirement from ch.33.45 km. To ch.38.75 km of B/Dyke from Balikuchi to Faktirgang at Jaleswar - Belububi area	332.11	8.12.99	Assam
12.	Bawabthadi Major Irrigation Project, Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh	16157	16.12.99	Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

ANNEXURE

Annexure – 4.2

COMPOSITION OF RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC)

1.	Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission	Chairman
2.	Prof. A.P.J Abdul Kalam	Member
3.	Dr. H.N.Sethna	Member
4.	Dr. P.K.Iyengar	Member
5.	Dr. R.S.Paroda	Member
6.	Dr. R.A. Mashelkar	Member
7.	Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia	Member
8.	Shri Ashok Parthasarthy	Member
9.	Secretary, Planning Commission	Member-Convenor.

ANNEXURE

Annexure - 4.3

LIST OF RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS / UNIVERSITIES TO WHOM GRANT-IN-AID RELEASED DURING 1999-2000 (*) FOR CARRYING OF RESEARCH STUDIES AND ORGANISING SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS UNDER SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH SCHEME OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

RESEARCH STUDIES:-

Sl. No.	TITLE	NAME OF INSTITUTION	AMOUNT
1.	Impact of various scheme related to Elementary Education with special reference of Girl Literacy in the State of Rajasthan.	Indian Institute of Education, Pune.	1,84,000/-
2.	Conducting a Socio Economic & Development Survey on Majuli Island in River of Brahmaputra.	Majuli Island Protection & Development Council, Dispur - Guwahati.	17,000/-
3.	Frams and Linkage of Common Property Land in Kosi Embankment Area of North Bihar.	University of Delhi.	5,881/-
4.	A Comparative Study of the Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education.	A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna.	95,340/-
5.	Status, Impact and Determinations of Farmers Participation in Irrigation Management in India.	Institute of Resource on Field of Elementary Education on the State of Rajasthan.	1,00,000/-
6.	Externally aided project in the field of Elementary Education on the State of Rajasthan.	Indian Institute of Education, Pune.	1,65,600/-
7.	Agriculture Growth in India during 1980-83 and 1990-93.	Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi.	25,000/-
8.	Responsiveness of various scheme to Girl Literacy / Education.	Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research, Dharwad.	92,400/-
9.	Water Management in Kerala : A case study of Periyar Valley Irrigation Project.	Indian Institute of Regional Development Studies, Kottayam.	42,400/-
10.	Status, Impact & Determination of Farmers Participation in Irrigation Management in India.	Institute of Resource Management & Economic Development, Delhi.	50,030/-
11.	Navodaya Vidyalays in U.P & H.P.	Girl Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow.	91,644/-

ANNEXURE

12.	Impact of various scheme related to Elementary Education : a Comparative study of Girl Literacy in Maharashtra & M.P.	Madya Pradesh Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain.	86,100/-
13.	A Study o Kendriya Vidyalaya in Karanataka & Kerala.	Institute for Social & Economic Change, Bangalore.	95,340/-
14.	Nutritional support to primary Education (mid Day Meal scheme) in Orissa & Tamil Nadu.	Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar.	95,340/-
15.	Comparative study of Girl Literacy in Orissa & Tamil Nadu.	Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar.	95,340/-
16.	Impact, Assessment of Socio-Economic Development Programme.	Asia Pacific Socio-Economic Research Institute, New Delhi.	1,20,000/-
17.	Evaluate all Schemes/Programme of Health, Education, Poverty, Allocation, Rural Development women & Child Welfare etc.	Advantage India Community Development Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.	1,50,400/-
18.	Poverty Allocation Programme & Structural Changes in the Rural Economy.	Institute of Small Enterprises & Development Cochin.	99,960/-
19.	A Research Study on "Evaluation of Implementation of Social Sector Programme in Different Districts in connection with the mid-term Appraisal of Ninth Five Year Plan.	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi.	1,80,800/-
20.	Estimation of Compliance of Personal Tax in India & A Study of its Determinants.	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi.	3,37,940/-
21.	Estimation of Compliance Cost of Corporate Income Tax in India.	National Institute of Public Finance & Policy, New Delhi.	3,24,170/-
22.	Compliance Costs and its relationship with Compliance behaviour of the Tax Payer in relation in Personal Income Tax in India.	National Institute of Public Finance & Policy, New Delhi.	2,23,800/-
23.	A Comparative Lessons of Experience in U.P. and H.P.	Giri Institute of Lucknow.	93,660/-
24.	Migration of Workers to Urban Internal Sector - A Case study of Five Class-I town in Orissa.	Nabakrushna Choudhary Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar.	1,27,050/-
		Total:	28,99,195/-

ANNEXURE

SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS:-

Sl. No.	TITLE OF SEMINAR / WORKSDHOP	NAME OF INSTITUTION	AMOUNT
1.	Workshop on " Development of Cross Road".	Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Rural Management & Rural Development, Patna.	25,000/-
2.	41 Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics.	Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai.	50,000/-
3.	81 st Annual Conference of the Indian Economic Association held on 26-28 Dec. 98 at Bangalore.	Bangalore University, Bangalore.	25,000/-
		Total	1,00,000/-
		Grand Total	29,99,195/-

(*) As on 10th January,2000

ANNEXURE

Annexure - 4.4

THE FOLLOWING RESEARCH STUDIES /SEMINARS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED/ ORGANISED DURING 1999-2000 (*) UNDER SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH SCHEME OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Sl.No.	TITLE OF STUDY / SEMINAR	NAME OF INSTITUTION
1.	Status, Impact and Determination of Farmers Participation in Irrigation Management in India.	Institute of Resource Management and Economic Development, Delhi.
2.	Migration of Workers to Urban Informal Sector – A case study of Five Class-I Town in Orissa, Bhubaneswar.	Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar.
3.	Socio Economic Aspect of Aging in Contemporary family and Society and Inter Disciplinary Research in the context of Development.	University of Baroda, Baroda
4.	Pre-Census Population Project in India	Socio Economic Research Institute, Calcutta
5.	Survey of Mathematical Manpower in Industry and Interaction with Industry.	University of Calcutta, Calcutta.
6.	Structuring and Dynamic of Urban Economy : Study of Linkages between Formal and Informal Sector.	National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi.
7.	Optimisation of Project Mix – for Self Sustaining Financing Mechanism for Infrastructure Development in Mega Cities.	Association of Development Authorities, New Delhi.
8.	Collective Bargaining - A response to adjustment proceeds and enterprises restructuring in India.	International Management Institute, New Delhi.
9.	Regional Disparities and Environmental implication in H.P	Allahabad University.
10.	Action Research Self Reliant Development at the Macro level.	Kerala Agricultural University, Kerala
11.	Workshop on Development of Cross Road. O-15018/02/97-SER	Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Rural Management & Rural Development, Patna.
12.	81 st Annual Conference of the Indian Economic Association. O-15018/21/98-SER	Bangalore University, Bangalore.

(*) As on 10th January,2000

ANNEXURE

Annexure - 4.5

THE FOLLOWING NEW RESEARCH STUDIES HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE GROUP OF ADVISERS FOR GRANT-IN-AID FOR RESEARCH UNDER SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH SCHEME OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION DURING 1998-2000 (7).

Sl. No.	TITLE OF RESEARCH STUDY	NAME OF INSTITUTION
1.	National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-day Meals) A Comparative Lessons of Experience in U.P. and Himachal Pradesh .	Girl Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow.
2.	Navodaya Vidyalays in U.P. and H.P: A Comparative Analysis .	Girl Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow.
3.	A Comparative Study of Externally Aided Projects in the field of Elementary Education in the States of Rajasthan & Haryana.	Indian Institute of Education, Pune.
4.	Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education with Special Reference to Girl Literacy in the States of Rajasthan & Haryana.	Indian Institute of Education, Pune.
5.	A Comparative Study of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-day meal scheme) in Orissa & Tamil Nadu.	Nabakrushna Chaudhury Centre for Development studies, Bhubaneswar.
6.	Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education with Special Reference to Girls Literacy in West Bengal & Bihar.	A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna.
7.	Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education: A Comparative Study of Girls Literacy in Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh.	M.P. Institute of Social Sciences Research, Ujjain.
8.	A Comparative Study of Girls Literacy in Orissa & Tamil Nadu.	Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar.
9.	Responsiveness of Various Schemes to Girl Literacy/ Education in Karnataka & A.P.	Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research, Karnataka.
10.	A Study of Kendriya Vidyalays in Karnataka & Kerala.	Institution for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore.
11.	Estimation of Compliance Cost of Personal Income Tax in India and a Study of its Determinants.	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi.

ANNEXURE

12.	Estimation of Compliance Cost of Corporate Income Tax in India.	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi.
13.	Compliance Cost and its Relationship with the Compliance Behaviour of the Tax Payers in Relation to Personal Income Tax in India.	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi.
14.	Impact of Socio-Economic Development Programmes - A case study of Himachal Pradesh.	Asia Pacific Socio-Economic Research Institute, New Delhi.
15.	Research Study in the fields of Health Education, Poverty Alleviation, Rural Development, Women and Child Welfare etc.	Advantage India Community Development Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
16.	Poverty Alleviation Programmes and Structural Changes in the Rural Economy.	Institute of Small Enterprises and Development, Cochin.
17.	Studies for Evaluation of Implementation of Social Sector Programmes in different districts.	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi.
18.	Performance of Social Sector Scheme of Rural Areas of Uttar Pradesh.	G.B. Pant Social Science Institute, Jhusi, Allahabad.

ANNEXURE

Annexure – 4.6

SEMINARS/ WORKSHOP PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE GROUP OF ADVISERS FOR GRANT-IN - AID FOR RESEARCH UNDER THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH SCHEME OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION DURING 1999-2000 (*)

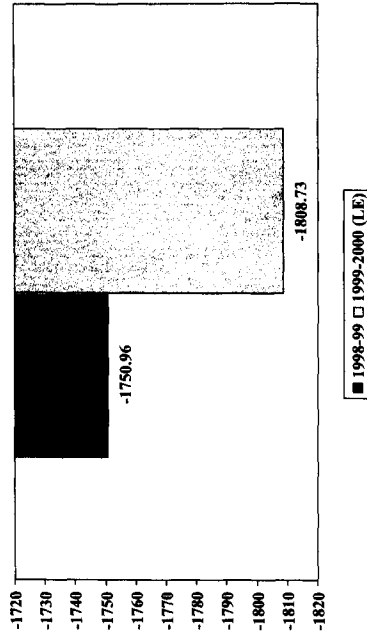
SL. NO.	TITLE	NAME OF INSTITUTION
1.	Workshop on Development & Cross Road of Rural Development , Patna.	Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute
2.	41 st Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics.	Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai.

(*) As on 10th January,2000

ANNEXURE

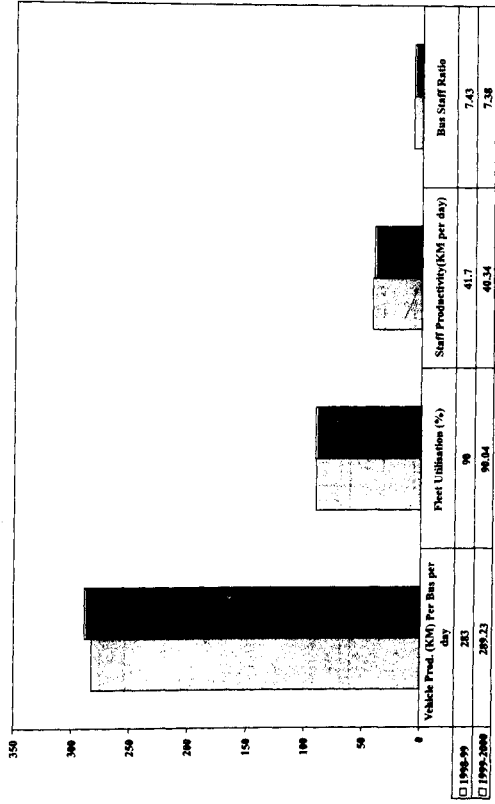
Annexure - 4.7

Net Profit/Loss of State Road Transport Undertakings (Rs. Crores)

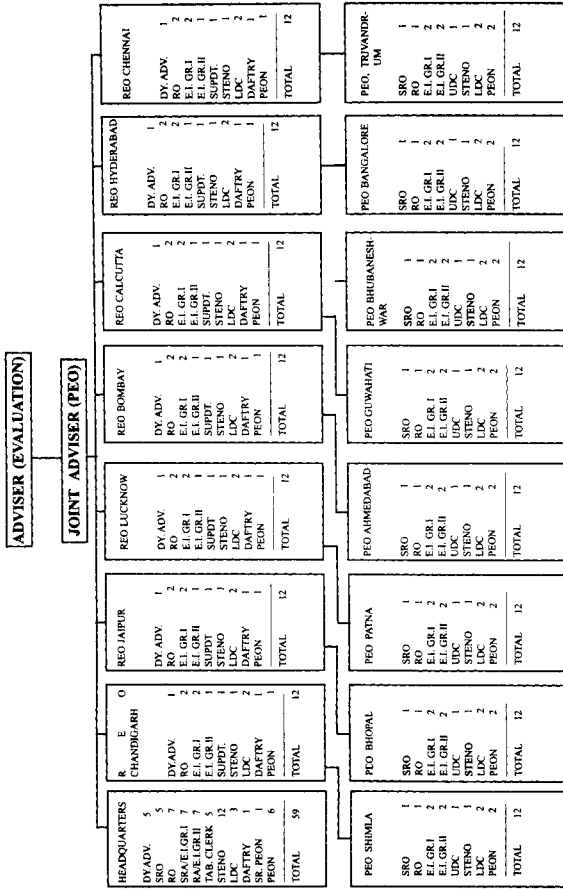


Physical Performance of State Road Transport Undertakings

□ 1998-99 ■ 1999-2000



ORGANISATION CHART OF THE PROGRAMME EVALUATION ORGANISATION



ORGANISATION CHART OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

AS ON 15-02-2000

ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE
CHAIRMAN

K. C. PANT
DY. CHAIRMAN

ARUN SHOURIE
MINISTER OF STATE
EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

- Parliament Questions
- Programme Implementations
- Twenty Point Programme
- Monitoring of Plan Schemes

- Programme Evaluation
- Organisation
- Information & Broadcasting

