

DOES PANCHAYAT RAJ PROMOTE RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KARNATAKA?

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ABSTRACT

Overall development of country is the main objective of Indian government since its independence. Earlier the main thrust for development was laid on Agriculture, Industry, Communication, Education, Health and Allied sectors but soon it was realized that the all round development of the country is possible only through the development of rural India. Keeping this in view Panchayat Raj Institutions have been introduced under the 73rd Amendment Act of the Constitution of India. Rural Development includes measures to strengthen the democratic structure of society through the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). It also includes measures to improve the rural infrastructure, improve income of rural households and delivery systems pertaining to education, health & safety mechanisms. Government of India has taken many steps to develop rural India and for this Department of Rural Development has been setup under the control of Ministry of Rural Development. The department through PRIs has launched various development schemes such as Sampoorna Swachhta Abhiyan, Gram Vikas Yojna, Farmer Market & Livestock Market, Underground Drainage System Construction Scheme, MGNREGA and so on. Through these schemes Government of India seems to accomplish its dream of rural India's development. Although some loopholes may also be seen. Without overcoming these drawbacks Government of India won't be able to foster the growth of rural India.

Key words: Panchayath Raj, Rural Development, Planning, Karnataka.

INTRODUCTION:

India has been a welfare state ever since her Independence and the primary objective of all governmental endeavors has been the welfare of its millions. Elimination of poverty, ignorance, diseases and inequality of

opportunities and providing a better and higher quality of life were the basic premises upon which all the plans and blue-prints of development were built.

According to Ministry of Rural Development (Govt. of India) “Rural Development implies both the economic betterment of people as well as greater social transformation. In order to provide the rural people with better prospects for economic development, increased participation of people in the rural development programmes, decentralization of planning, better enforcement of land reforms and greater access to credit are envisaged.”

Initially, main thrust for development was laid on agriculture, industry, communication, education, health and allied sectors but later on it was realized that accelerated development can be provided only if governmental efforts are adequately supplemented by direct and indirect involvement of people at the grass root level. Keeping in view the needs and aspirations of the local people, Panchayati Raj Institutions have been involved in the programme implementation and these institutions constitute the core of decentralized development of planning and its implementations. The Ministry is also vigorously pursuing with the State Governments for expeditious devolution of requisite administrative and financial powers to PRI's as envisaged under 73rd Amendment Act of the Constitution of India.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Real India is still a rural India as 61 percent of Karnataka's population and 69 percent of Indian population lives in rural area. With economic development, the shift of labour from agriculture to other sectors has gathered momentum in last two decades. As a consequence, though the contribution of agriculture to GDP has come down to 14 percent, yet, the share of agriculture in employment still remains significant at 54.6 percent in India, it is 54.8 percent in Karnataka. Therefore, India and Karnataka are still largely rural agrarian economies. Therefore, the focused approach to promote rural development is the real path to achieve the desired goals in economic as well as human development.

Table 1.1: Trends in Rural Population- Karnataka and India- 1961-2011

Years	Karnataka	India
1961	77.7	82.03
1971	75.5	80.09
1981	71.10	76.69
1991	69.07	74.28
2001	66.01	72.19
2011	61.43	68.89

Source: Census of India 1961-2011

The proportion of rural population in total population is declining over the time period. The decline is faster in Karnataka as compared to India. The decline in the proportion of rural population is 4.58 percent between 2001-2011 for Karnataka, and it is 3.30 percent for India. This is evident from the Table 1.1.

Development of rural areas has been at the core of planning process in the country and also in the State. Rural Development is a broad, inclusive term which takes in its consideration socioeconomic and political development of the rural areas. It includes measures to strengthen the democratic structure of society through the Panchayati Raj Institutions as well as measures to improve the rural infrastructure, improve income of rural households and delivery systems pertaining to education, health and safety mechanisms. Poverty alleviation is a key component of rural development. Government of India has taken many initiatives for rural development. For this purpose it has setup the Ministry of Rural Development. This Ministry is a nodal department for the two international organizations viz., the Centre on Integrated Rural Development of Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) and the Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO).

The Ministry consists of the following three Departments:

1. Department of Rural Development
2. Department of Land Resources
3. Department of Drinking Water Supply

The Department of Rural Development implements schemes for generation of self employment and wage employment, provision of housing and minor irrigation assets to rural poor, social assistance to the destitute and Rural Roads. Apart from this, the Department provides the support services and other quality inputs such as assistance for strengthening of DRDA Administration, Panchayati Raj Institutions, training & research, human resource development, development of voluntary action etc. for the proper implementation of the programmes. The major programmes of the Department of Rural Development are Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, (PMGSY), Rural Housing (RH) Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) and Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY).

PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS

Panchayats have been the backbone of the Indian villages since the beginning of recorded history. Gandhiji, the father of the nation, in 1946 had aptly remarked that the Indian Independence must begin at the bottom and every village ought to be a Republic or Panchayat having powers. Gandhi ji's dream has been translated into reality

with the introduction of the three tier Panchayati Raj system to ensure people's participation in rural reconstruction. "Panchayat" literally means assembly of five wise and respected elders chosen and accepted by the village community. Panchayat Raj is a system of governance in which gram panchayats are the basic units of administration. It has 3 levels: village, block and district. The term 'panchayat raj' is relatively new, having originated during the British administration. 'Raj' literally means governance or government.

Mahatma Gandhi advocated Panchayat Raj, a decentralized form of Government where each village is responsible for its own affairs, as the foundation of India's political system. His term for such a vision was "Gram Swaraj" (Village Self governance). It was adopted by state governments during the 1950s and 60s as laws were passed to establish Panchayats in various states. In the history of Panchayat Raj in India, on 24 April 1993, the Constitutional (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 came into force to provide constitutional status to the Panchayat Raj institutions. This Act was extended to Panchayats in the tribal areas of eight States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka Orissa and Rajasthan from 24 December 1996. Now Panchayati Raj System exists in all the states except Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram.

PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTION IN KARNATAKA:

Panchayats are India's ancient autonomous democratic institutions. Whose description is found in the ancient Indian text 'Rigveda' in the form of 'Sabhas' and 'Samities'. At various points of time these autonomous bodies of governance have proven their importance inspite of the political disturbances within the country.

BRIEF HISTORY:

The move to establish local governments was strengthened only with the realisation that Grama Swaraj can be achieved only with the establishment of Grama Panchayats. In our country's system of sharing of powers between the Center and the State, the responsibility of setting up Grama Panchayats and implementing Panchayat related structures and mechanisms is the sole responsibility of the State. The Central governments does not have any role to play in any law making at the State level.

For the first time in 1959, Karnataka passed the Grama Panchayat and local governments Act (Panchayat and Local Board Act) was adopted. Following that in 1960, laws were passed for Grama and Taluk Panchayats, and outlined membership in Zilla Panchayats. This situation was in force till 1983. During that time, elections were not held from time to time and administrators used to lead the Grama Panchayats.

At the national level, there are many examples of States – Gujarat, Maharashtra, or even West Bengal. In 1988 in West Bengal, the ruling party amended the existing Panchayat Raj Act and ushered in a new system with 3 tiers of government. An interesting point to note is that even without the Constitutional Amendment, West Bengal has been conducting elections to Panchayats every five years since 1978 without any interruption of even a single day. In Karnataka Panchayati Raj system was the dream child of D. Abdul Nazir Sab. The respected Ramakrishna Hegde believed in this vision, and gave strength to it, facilitating its adoption in 1983. However, to become official, it required the approval and adoption by the Center and by the Prime Minister, therefore it was pronounced as law only in 1985. In 1987 for the first time elections were held for Zilla and Mandal Panchayats. The 1985 law detailed the role and functions of the Zilla Panchayats, the Taluk Panchayats and legal committees. However, the implementation of this law was brought to a conclusion soon after it was set in place, due to the discussions of several Committees set up related to the Constitutional Amendment, particularly the Ashok Mehta Committee. These committees made recommendations for the ushering in of Panchayat Raj institutions based on a Constitutional Amendment, and proposed that only through this way will the Panchayat system be impact-ful.

The District Planning Committee is very important. When we hear the word decentralization, we mostly speak about administrative decentralization. However, for true development to occur, what is required is decentralization of planning. The government makes many announcements at several levels regarding the programmes that should happen every year. Following this, local institutions should discuss it in the Grama Sabha, Grama Panchayat, Zilla Panchayat, etc, and make their recommendations and plans to table before the District Planning Committee. The Zilla Panchayat President is the President of the District Planning Committee. The recommendations from local institutions should be discussed in the District Planning Committee and once sent to the State Government, the State does not have the legal authority to make any changes to the plan. If there are any State or Central preferences for programmes, they should be brought to the attention of the District Planning Committee as suggestions and recommendations, and the Committee needs to avail of grants for these and bring them into implementation.

However, until today, several States – including Karnataka – have not created the District Planning Committees as per the description provided above. Other than saying that the District Planning Committees have been set up, there has not been any initiation of work. Till today, the State has not been able to give us a clear picture of whether and how it is functioning. It is not clear if the District plans that are being released are made by the District Planning Committee or not. The Committee have not yet gained a true meaning under decentralisation. The fact that the Committees are not functioning in Karnataka is very unfortunate.

Secondly, according to our State laws, a State Panchayat Council is to be established. The Hon Chief Minister will be the President of this and the Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj will be the Vice-President. Additionally, Panchayat representatives from different levels will be members of the Council. Earlier, we had the process of District Councils, where the Chief Minister used to coordinate the meetings. The reason was to have a space for the Chief Minister to understand our feelings and problems and discuss and find solutions. However the government is not giving any attention to this now.

There is most definitely no place where the Constitution refers to State-level Minister representatives playing instrumental roles in the Panchayati Raj institutions. On the other hand, there are clear reservations for SC, ST and women in Panchayat Raj institutions, while there are no reservations for any other forms of marginalised groups. Decisions on these additional reservations have been left to the State Assemblies.

RURAL GOVERNANCE:

The series of rural development programs initiated from the sixties, especially with the adoption of the target group approach emphasizing on targeting growth to weaker sections and backward sub-regions, have given primacy to decentralized planning.

Karnataka has been a pioneer State in the decentralized governance, more specifically in nurturing Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). The 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution in Indian Democratic Republic saw the dawn of powerful local governments all over the country. Karnataka was the first state in the country to enact the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act, during 1993 incorporating the features of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment. Elections are being successively held to the three-tiers of PRIs. Politically, there is a broad consensus and sincere commitment in favour of decentralisation that finds a place in the ideologies of all political parties in the State. The Panchayati Raj System in the state has been stabilized with the conduct of five elections. An outstanding feature of the Panchayati Raj System in Karnataka is the determined effort to empower the voiceless section of society by providing for specific reservation not only in its membership but also to the post of Chairpersons of these Institutions. It is a matter of great pride that women have been provided with 50 per cent reservation both in membership and authority positions. More significantly, in order to promote participatory governance the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act, 1993 has been further amended for enhancing the quality of people's participation through greater empowerment of Gram Sabhas and Ward Sabhas thereby bringing in transparency and accountability in the functioning of PRIs

ROLE OF PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Panchayat Raj Department is an important department of Uttar Pradesh related to the rural development. The main objective of this department is to strengthen the Panchayati Raj System in the state according to the 73rd amendment of Indian constitution. So that panchayats can realize the dream of rural administration and rural development with complete coordination and transparency. For this purpose the department has provided a Citizen Charter. For the sake of public convenience and knowledge, this charter has been divided into 7 subjects:-

1. Financial aid to Gram Panchayats.
2. Rural Cleanliness Programmes.
3. Responsibilities of the Panchayats- (Transparency in work, rural administration & development).
4. Responsibilities of public towards Panchayat.
5. Decentralization Programme.
6. Control over the Gram Panchayats
7. Arrangement of Panchayat Help-line.

Citizen Charter is a continuous process which will change periodically according to the feelings, recommendations, experiences and reactions of the public.

FINANCIAL AID TO THE GRAM PANCHAYATS

Gram Panchayats are given financial aids on the recommendations of State Finance Commission. The main objectives of the financial aid given to these Panchayats are:

- a) Drinking water supply, cleaning and maintenance facilities.
- b) Maintenance of public lamp posts, roads, drainage system, cleanliness programmes, primary schools and maintenance of other public assets.
- c) Construction of Panchayat Bhawans for meeting halls and for the residence of secretary of Gram Panchayat.
- d) Construction of Gramin Kisan Bazaar and Livestock Markets.
- e) Construction of underground water drainage system for the objective of environmental cleanliness.

RURAL CLEANLINESS PROGRAMME

Sampoorna Swachhta Abhiyan (Complete Cleanliness Mission) is a programme financed by the Indian government with an objective to provide toilets to all rural families by the end of year 2012 and to make the public aware of the cleanliness programmes and to encourage them to learn and follow cleanliness habits.

The four main objectives of the mission are:

- a) Usage of toilets by the rural inhabitants and to change the habit of open toilets till 2012.
- b) To construct toilets in government schools and Anganwadi Centres for children in order to develop the habit of using toilets among children from their childhood.
- c) To develop the habit of washing hands before taking meals and after using toilets in rural areas.
- d) To control the diseases arising due to the usage of dirty water by practicing cleanliness in rural areas.

Under this scheme following main programmes are carried on:

- Personal Toilets
- School Toilets
- Anganwadi Toilets
- Community (Women) Toilet Complex
- Rural Cleanliness Market Production Centers
- Solid and Liquid Waste Management

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PANCHAYATS

Following are the responsibilities of Panchayats:

- a) Periodic meeting of Gram Sabha in order to communicate the functioning of Panchayats.
- b) Monthly meeting of Gram Panchayat to communicate the related information to the elected members.
- c) Monthly meetings of Samities for the completion of predetermined functions with the coordination of 6 samities.
- d) Increase in the income of Gram Panchayat through the collection of taxes and fees prescribed by the act of legislature.
- e) For transparency in work a notice board on the wall of public premises will be displayed showing all the details of usage of the funds.

- f) Rural cleanliness through environmental cleanliness and stopping usage of open toilets.
- g) Control over Government Ration Depot.
- h) To plan and pass different welfare programmes with the coordination of public upto the amount of Rs. 50000.
- i) The Gram Pradhan should inspect all the assets of Gram Samaj at least once in a quarter.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITIZENS:

- a. Coordinating the meetings Public should get the information regarding the works and plannings of Gram Panchayat and the usage of received funds. Public should elect the deserving candidate for different schemes.
- b. Checking Cleanliness All the families should built and use the toilets. Toilets should be built keeping in view the convenience of ladies and elders. The cleanliness of drains and surroundings should be taken care of.
- c. Security of Gram Panchayat Assets Public should check the illegal cutting of trees, illegal possession of land of Gram Sabha and maintenance of community buildings.
- d. Increase Public Coordination Public should share hands in development and construction works, periodic cultural activities should be promoted.

DECENTRALIZATION PROGRAMME

Under the programme of decentralization Gram Panchayats are given the following works:

- a) For promoting education Gram Panchayats have to open primary and secondary schools.
- b) All the present and new Hand Pumps are the asset of Gram Panchayat. Gram Panchayat is responsible for the repair and maintenance of these Handpumps.
- c) Akhadas, Gyms, Sports Ground and Sports related works are being operated by the Gram Panchayat for youth welfare.
- d) Medical, Health, Family welfare and Mother & Child welfare centres are all under the control of Gram Panchayat.
- e) For women and child development different Anganwadi programmes and other welfare programmes are being carried on by the Gram Panchayats.

- f) Livestock department has been transferred to the Gram Panchayats under this they have to maintain 'Pashu Seva Kendra' and 'D' Category veterinary hospitals.
- g) Agriculture related all the village level programmes will be run by the Gram Panchayats.
- g) For the rural development 'Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojna' is being carried on by Gram Panchayat.
- h) Gram Panchayats have right to distribute all kinds of scholarships.

CONTROL OVER GRAM PANCHAYAT:

To stop the misuse of funds at Gram Panchayat level, there is a law of investigation against Pradhans, Deputy Pradhans and the members.

- a) The complaint along with affidavit and relevant proofs can be given to the district magistrate.
- b) The investigation of the complaint will be done by the district level officers only.
- c) A Chartered Accountant will be appointed for the completion of the accounts of Gram Panchayat.
- d) The audit of Gram Panchayats will be done by the Chief Accountant.
- e) Gram Sabha can relegate the Pradhan by passing a no confidence resolution if there is any grave charge against the Pradhan.

PANCHAYAT HELP-LINE

- a) A Panchayat help-line system has been implemented for the information regarding Panchayati Raj system, legislature or related rules and programmes.
- b) All the departmental officers from state to district level will be available on office telephone between 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- c) At district level, every Panchayat member can say his problem on the telephone of Zila Panchayat Adhikari Office.
- d) For the solution of the problems of Gram Panchayats they can also call on the telephone of state commission offices.

On the basis of the above analysis we suggest the following measures:

1. Department should collect data which help in estimating the number of toilets needed in rural areas.
2. It should further be estimated as to how much construction is possible in one year.
3. The reviews of the number of constructed toilets and allotted amount shall be done more frequently.
4. PPP model can be adopted for better utilization

5. The development programmes shall be carried out throughout the year in a phased & planned manner.
6. Involvement of local professionals or NGOs can be done to ensure better outputs.

FISCAL DECENTRALISATION IN KARNATAKA:

The State Government has taken steps to improve the administrative and economic conditions of Panchayat Raj Institutions. In this regard, action is taken to bifurcate the larger Grama Panchayats and recognize on the basis of geographical condition. At present 6022 Grama Panchayats exists along with 176 Taluk Panchayats and 30 Zilla Panchayats.

Decentralised Planning as the Strategy:

Accelerating rural development and ensure benefits of development reach equitably call for the evolution of an appropriate rural development planning strategy - a strategy that strengthens various indicators of rural development as also brings a qualitative change in their reach to all sections of the society. In order to achieve this objective, the Government of India opted for a strategy of decentralized planning and entrusted the responsibility of planning and implementing rural development programs to the decentralized government bodies like PRIs in rural areas and urban local bodies in urban areas. With the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1993 the PRIs have acquired a statutory status, become integral part of our polity and more importantly, they have been recognized as 'institutions of self-government'. They have been given the important responsibilities of preparation and implementation of Plans to ensure economic development in rural areas and to ensure social justice in the distribution of benefits of such development process (Article 243G).

Consequently, decentralized governance and planning have emerged as strategies for initiating socio-economic transformation in rural areas with the prime objective of developing rural infrastructure and improving the living conditions of the rural people, especially the weaker sections.

Gram Panchayaths has to prepare 5year development plan on the basis of basic needs of the people and other local necessity. These vision plans has to include priority basis schemes and this has to be submitted to the Taluk Planning and development committee within October Month. Taluk Planning and development committee has to examine all these planned report and submit it to the district planning committee for further consideration. All these reports are in digital form. District planning committee will consider all these reports on the basis of available resources and annual grants. District planning committee after scrutinising all these plan schemes

submit consolidated report to the state decentralised planning and development committee which is headed by the Honorable Chief Minister.

Role of Civil Society Organisations in Decentralised Planning Process:

The Karnataka Government has amended Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act, 1993 wherein it has introduced new sections as mentioned in Column (I) to the act for realization of the concept of decentralization. Civil society originally referred to social groups organised for emancipating themselves from the oppressive rule of feudal lords and tyrant rulers. But today the term connotes a wider meaning and embraces a plethora of institutions outside the State. The civil society is a voluntary organisational structure intended to promote the well-being of its members by self-management of their own affairs with little or no interference from political regime. In recent years, civil society has come to assume a greater role in the life of people because of the following reasons: (i) In the modern world, the needs and aspirations of people have multiplied beyond imagination such that the State alone cannot fulfill all these needs. (ii) The State by its very nature is less responsive to people's needs on account of the bureaucratic structure it has built. (iii) Interventions by the State are not cost effective as it operates with huge administrative machinery. On the other hand, civil society, being people's organisation, can be more responsive to the needs of the people and, being participative in its approach, it can also be cost effective. In view of these merits, civil society has obviously assumed a greater role today.

The powers and functions of the Grama, Taluk and Zilla Panchayatis have been listed in sections 58, 145 and 184 of KPR ACT, 1993. As per the three schedules (I, II, III) the panchayatis are authorised to carry out functions such as preparation of annual plans, annual budgets and sectoral schemes for promotion of agriculture, animal husbandry, rural housing, drinking water, roads and bridges, rural electrification, education, rural sanitation, public health, women and child development, social welfare, public distribution system, maintenance of community assets, cooperative activities and promotion of libraries. Section 309 of 1993 Act provides for the preparation of development plan by the grama panchayatis, taluk panchayat is and zilla panchayatis.

Furthermore, Section 310 of the Act makes it mandatory for the state to constitute District Planning Committees (DPCs) in each district which are required to consolidate the plans prepared by the panchayatis and municipal bodies and to prepare the draft district development plan of the district by taking into consideration the needs of the spatial planning, physical and natural resources and the level of infrastructure development. Dr. D M Nanjundappa's Report on Redressal of Regional Imbalances also recommended that DPCs in each district should do the planning keeping 'taluk' as the primary unit in the planning process.

The PRIs prepare the action plans as per the allocations, discuss them in the various Standing Committees and place them in the general body meetings and seek guidance of the District Planning Committees after which the implementing officers start executing the plans/programmes. In the preparation of plans the ward sabhas and grama sabhas play a crucial role and their recommendations and suggestions do figure in such action plans emphasising the fact that the plans so prepared are the byproduct of people's wishes and demands. Thus, the entire planning process can be termed as 'participatory planning processes.

Decentralized Planning Process –

Allocation of Funds to District Sector Panchayat Raj Institutions have been strengthened during 2017-18 by converging plan and non plan programmes The decentralised planning process as described in the plan documents begins with the determination of annual plan size at the state level, and allocation of funds to the district sector. Then district sector allocation for various programmes is done in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of each Zilla Panchayat, District level Sectoral officers and State level Department officers. After this, the data is provided to Finance Department to integrate the district sector data with the State and also to print budget link documents. The Budget Link Documents are placed before the Legislature as a part of State Budget. Once the budget is passed, the link documents are made available to the Zilla Panchayath for the preparation of Action Plans at ZP, TP and GP level.

Table 1.2 provides information on allocations to the different sectors in the annual plans of 2012-13 to 2017-18 As may be seen in Table 1.2 sectors like education, rural employment, welfare of women and children, welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, rural housing has been the priority sectors of panchayats having been receiving better allocation compared to other sectors. It can also be seen that there is a perceptible increase in the allocation made to these sectors across the plan years.

Table 1.2
Sector wise Allocation of the District Sector State Plan Funds (Rs. lakh)

Sl. No.	Sector	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	Public Works						16760.00
2	Education	175653	234354	299565	340237	367238	1404503.00
3	Sports & youth services	2223	2770	2929	2483	3116	4926.00
4	Art & Culture and Library	69	88	104	166	194	240.00
5	Medical & Public health	14254	17700	19035	21455	21965	108131.00
6	Family welfare	35297	42195	46803	50246	50340	46153.00
7	Rural water supply	22939	22983	23652	51488	62586	162385.00
8	Rural Housing	53668	28225	101999	102000	114700	150675.00
9	Welfare of SCs & STs	40151	53090	55244	61064	91921	221888.51
10	Welfare of BCs	9715	14690	18663	22622	25431	68601.49
11	Welfare of Minorities	1490	1816	2116	2769	3610	
12	Labour, Employment & Trg.	118	120	465	471	473	1379.00
13	Welfare of Women & Children	77226	92798	96785	102271	106656	119549.00
14	Welfare of Disabled & Sr. Citizens**	651	814	1049	1158	1273	
15	Nutrition	37557	68825	56855	61742	64347	156693.00
16	Agriculture	4090	4192	4273	2967	2965	20275.98
17	Soil and Water Conservation	20429	17995			0.00	3356.00
18	Horticulture	2242	2127	2207	2442	2642	10464.11
19	Animal Husbandry	11761	14145	15469	16002	17549	50156.00
20	Fisheries	643	714	771	907	1061	2900.00
Sl. No.	Sector	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
21	Forest	2288	2469	2779	3235	3899	14308.00
22	Co-operation	480	524	517	586	583	571.00
23	Agriculture Marketing	155	205	252	367	486	540.00
24	Area Development & RD programmes	7182	7258	23610	12928	40466	458735.00
25	Rural Energy	1925	1896	1569	1686	1894	1764.00
26	Rural Employment - NREG	151280	151280	151000	151000	151000	178264.00
27	Grants to PRIs including ZP Office Buildings	90292	91459	101003	104126	96206	13754.00
28	Minor Irrigation	74	76	76	100	99	2578.00
29	Village & Small Industries	316	567	613	697	843	10092.21
30	Sericulture	466	502	554	631	763	1568.47
31	Roads & Bridges	15518	15517	15920	13935	15205	43885.00
32	District Planning Unit	316	317	1748	489	1184	2603.00
33	Handlooms & Textiles	274	287	290	325	356	1055.32
34	Civil Supplies						16.00
35	Hill Areas						446
36	Science & Technology	151	152	157	176	202	218.00
	Total	780893	892150	1048070	1132771	1251253	3279434.00

Source: Department of Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics, **Merged under welfare of women and Children

To increase the resources of Grama Panchayats, the tax levying coverage area and criteria has been revised. Building and land tax has been levied based on their market value in Grama Panchayat limit. Provision has been made for Grama Panchayats to levy taxes on mobile tower, wind power based electricity generating plants and solar energy based electricity generating plants in Grama Panchayat area.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Decentralization of planning process is taking at slow pace in the State. The basic challenges are:

- 1) Enhance the capacity building through requisite training, for accelerated and growth oriented plan.
- 2) For better participation of civil society to enhance in the implementation of development programmes it is necessary to create awareness among them and also build up knowledge through capacity building programmes.
- 3) Spatial planning is essential to reduce the regional imbalances.

CONCLUSION:

Thus, we can say that due to the negligence of system the rural areas remain under developed. The government in spite of providing huge amount of funds remains unsuccessful in fostering the growth of rural India. There is a need to keep a strict watch over the utilization of funds by Gram Panchayats.

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