

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING COMMISSION



REPORT
OF
JOINT STUDY TEAM

Uttar Pradesh
(Eastern Districts)

Ghazipur
Azamgarh
Deoria
Jaunpur

January 1964

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FOREWORD

In 1957 while working on the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee, I had occasion to look into the problems of development of some of the distressed areas of the country. The report of the Committee contains a brief study of the local problems of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The Committee had recommended that detailed and intensive studies should be undertaken in these areas before long.

In 1962, the Planning Commission and the Government of Uttar Pradesh appointed a Joint Study Team—

- (i) to make a study of economic and social conditions and problems of development in four districts of Uttar Pradesh—Azamgarh, Ghazipur, Jaunpur and Deoria;
- (ii) to make an assessment of the progress, under the two Plans and development envisaged in the Third Five Year Plan in these districts; and
- (iii) to suggest administrative and development measures for acceleration of progress in these districts.

2. Though one of the basic objectives of planned economic and social development in this country is to ensure balanced growth of the different regions, there are many areas and sub-regions which have not benefited in the same manner as the rest of the country from the process of economic and social development which commenced in 1951. Among the various factors responsible for the situation, I may refer to the two main ones:

First, in the early stages of planned development, investment of limited resources in the national and States' economies is naturally influenced by consideration of sustained and rapid rate of growth and, therefore, they are allocated to regions which are favourably endowed by nature and have a well-developed infra-structure.

Secondly, in spite of efforts of the planners to broad base the planning process and the machinery in the States through the districts, blocks and villages, the five year plans of States could not be effectively related to the needs and potentials of development of the regions.

3. It must, however, be realised that the aim of policy can neither be to ensure a uniform rate of growth nor to achieve a uniform level of development in different regions of the country.

Nevertheless, in the context of the Fourth Five Year Plan we should initiate in an organised manner a process of planning under which, within the limits of the resources available, there is an opportunity for each area to develop to the maximum extent feasible its potential for growth. Undoubtedly organised planning on these lines for utilisation of human and material resources of the regions

will facilitate the establishment of an egalitarian society in which a basic national minimum can be assured by 1975-76.

4. The two important pre-conditions of formulation of specific plans of economic and social development for "backward areas" in the country are:—

- (i) identification of "backward areas" by State Governments, on the basis of selected indicators of growth and development, and.
- (ii) a number of intensive studies by competent technicians and administrators of the economic structure of the areas—their deficiencies and problems of growth and the resources of these areas in the perspective of development of the national and States' economies.

The process of formulation of the development plans should be so arranged that they receive the due impact of the aspirations of the different sections of the community in these neglected areas as well as of the technical advice and the administrative judgment of the concerned departments of the government. Then alone will it be possible to evoke the efforts needed.

The Report of the Joint Study Team in four parts indicates in great detail the approach and methodology to be adopted in the development of backward areas. In this sense, the Report might be regarded as a "type study" and takes its place in that body of literature which is drawn upon with profit by persons engaged in the planning process of the country. The publication of this Report at a time when the State Governments are engaged in the preparation of the Fourth Five Year Plan would facilitate studies already undertaken and contemplated on this subject.

5. While recommending specific schemes/projects of development in different fields, the Study Team has suggested certain orientation in the pattern and policy of Central assistance to States for development of backward areas, a special machinery for implementation, a personnel policy and rationalisation of administrative procedure to accelerate the tempo of execution of the development plans in the backward areas. I am sure that these suggestions would be considered with due care and specific action taken by the appropriate authorities.

I hope that in the remaining two years of the Third Five Year Plan action will be taken to identify and study the problems of the backward areas in the country so that as an integral part of the Fourth Five Year Plan and after proper study and deliberation, measures can be taken for accelerating the rate of growth in these areas and for lifting the levels of living of their inhabitants.

ASOKA MEHTA.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

My dear Shri Mehta,

You may recall that a Joint Study Team was appointed under Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission's d.o. letter of December 3, 1962 to Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh, to make a detailed study of the economic and social conditions of four eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh and to suggest administrative and development measures for the acceleration of their progress. Due to emergency the commencement of the work of the Study Team was somewhat delayed. The Team's report is now ready and I have great pleasure to send you two copies of this report which is a unanimous one.

I shall be grateful if you could arrange to send at an early date a copy of this report to the Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh. The report envisages accelerated developmental work in each of the years of the Third Five Year Plan and in the Fourth Plan. The Team has also broadly estimated the level of output and investment by 1970-71 and for certain purposes even upto 1975-76. In the current year's budget some provision was made to accelerate the minor irrigation works, but an earnest attempt will have to be made in 1964-65 to accelerate development work in a coordinated manner. Therefore, an early discussion is necessary on the recommendations made in this regard in the Team's report between the Planning Commission and the State Government.

2. I am glad to say that during the Team's work we had full co-operation from the different Divisions of the Planning Commission, the Central Ministries concerned and the State's Planning and other Departments.

Yours sincerely,

B. P. PATEL

The 13th *January* 1964

Shri Asoka Mehta,
Deputy Chairman,
Planning Commission,
New Delhi.

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