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District Planning : Concept, Mechanism & Process

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CHAPTER - I

DISTRICT PLANNING : CONCEPT, MECHANISM AND PROCESS

1.1 Concept of District Planning :-

In a developing country like India, the main emphasis of economic planning has to be on the optimum utilisation of available resources for achieving economic development in the minimum possible time. The concept of economic planning was introduced therefore with a twin objective of creating and fostering favourable condition for rapid economic development. In the beginning economic planning was implemented and directed only at the national and state levels. However, in a vast nation like ours planning has to be sub divided to bring it down to the district level.

For the first four five year plans, planning was formulated only at national level. The concept of District Planning was introduced only in the fifth five year plan. The change in the planning strategy in this way was facilitated by political and administrative set up and evolved at district level. It is also true that the democratic economic planning should move from bottom to top rather than from top to bottom. This increases like

the participation of individuals at the lowest levels in the process of plan formulation and implementation. At present we have a three tier structure for formulation and implementation of the plan. At the district level, we have District Planning Board, at the state level the State Planning Board, and at national level the Planning Commission.

In India, we have adopted multi - level planning frame work and the most important element of same is district planning. The importance of district level planning emerges from the objectives of economic development in the decentralised agricultural and allied activities and it is also important as it is related to the administrative machinery at the grassroot level. The principles and objectives of district planning have mainly drawn from the social and political ethos in our nation. The real success of district planning however, will require a more mature district planning that would strengthen the complex development process and help to harness the resource at the district level. In fact Maharashtra State has certainly emerged as the pioneer of district planning in India.

According to Dr. D.R. Gadgil, District Planning is concerned with aspects of special organisation, the

district is not a region as the term is usually understood. The district is essentially a local administrative division. and in the area divisions of governmental authority the district forms, a part of a larger region which may be economically homogenous. In such regions the development plans of all the districts will have to adopt the appropriate approach for regional development. The problems of planning at the state level are all met in a somewhat simpler way. District development planning is still more simpler because the degree of heterogeneity and complexity in a district would be necessarily less than that in a state.¹

1.2. Importance of District Planning :-²

The Fifth Five Year Plan particularly emphasised the need for District Planning which is a must at the grassroot level. Because;

- (1) planning appears as the most important, single unified instrument of government intervention and participation in the economic system in order that the government can control, regulate and activate the economy for bringing about self - sustaining economic development. So the district planning is a must.

- (2) The role of national economic planning is conceived as that the increasing proportion of total national income and expenditure passing, directly or indirectly through public agencies. So that the growth generating impulses can be realised and strengthened in the economy.
- (3) District Planning tries to decentralise its resources spread over in agricultural and hidden potentiality which help to formulate micro level planning as a federal policy. So District Planning is essential and decentralisation is necessary.
- (4) A District in India can be looked at from the point of view of agriculture and allied activities and the activities of providing many types of social overhead facilities and infrastructure. Decision making and operational decentralisation at the district level is possible in order to bring informational decisional making and implementation instructure into harmony with each other.
- (5) The main problem is that in the central and state planning effectiveness is less and decision - making delayed. There is considerable confusion, delay and uncertainty in the process of planning.

Planning at district level is more effective.

- (6) Another argument for district level planning is that since more intimate, precise and detailed information about physical, geographical, techno - economic socia - political factors is known to the planners. So the effectiveness in the process of planning is observed and maintained.
- (7) District Planning avoids, delays, duplication, long - gestation period, wrong survey and misutilisation of resources.
- (8) Another task to which planning at lower levels amkes significant contribution is the setting up of norms for making allocations of physical and financial resources.
- (9) Moreover District Planning helps :-
 - (i) to consider and advise the state planning board on the schemes pertaining to the development of the area concerned which may have been included in the five year plan or in the annual plan.
 - (ii) to review the progress of development schemes in the areas.
 - (iii) to suggest such changes or modification in

the schemes for the better implementation of the plan.

- (v) to recommend such measures as to accelerate the development of backward area within the district.
- (v) to assist in the formulation of long term plan of the Central Government.
- (vi) to function as a co-ordinator between the state and panchayats.
- (vii) to collect and process district data and conduct district surveys, suggest plans and enforce them.
- (viii) to identify local needs and implement the plan.
- (ix) to determine plan priorities.
- (x) to use local resources.
- (xi) to identify factors which retard economic and social development.
- (xii) to remove the imbalance between the talukas.

1.3. The Planning Machinery :-

As district planning was introduced in the Fifth Five Year Plan it is a new experiment and is still in the process of evolution. Even in the first two years, it has

undergone lots of changes and it still continues to be in a state of flux. This is true both with reference to the planning process as well as the planning machinery, which undertakes this work at the district level. The most important feature of the planning process at the district level has been the involvement of the representatives of the people in the actual process of planning and implementation. Preparation of a district plan cell for concerted effort on the part of the various organisations such as the government departments, Zilla Parishads, Panchayat Samities, Municipal Councils and the Financial Institutions like the District Co - Operative Banks, the Land Development Banks, the Public Enterprises, associations of industries and academic institutions and the like. In order to achieve co - ordination amongst all these agencies, the Government of Maharashtra in the beginning, constituted a District Planning Board which was composed of the the following.

- (1) Designated Minister of the District .. Chairman
- (2) The Commissioner of the Division .. Vice -
Chairman
- (3) The Collector of the District .. Member
- (4) The President of the Zilla Parishad. .. Member
- (5) The President of the Largest
Municipal Council in the District. .. Member

- (6) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad .. Member
Secretary
- (7) Chairman, District Central Co-op. Bank .. Member
- (8) Chairman. Land Development Bank. .. Member
- (9) The Regional Manager of the Lead Bank .. Member
- (10) Three non - official members to be .. Member
nominated by the Government.

This District Planning Board was assigned the following three main functions.

- (a) to ensure co-ordinated action by various implementing agencies including the Zilla Parishad.
- (b) To give guidelines to the various implementing agencies in regard to the preparation and implementation of the five year plan of the Government.
- (c) Subject to the orders of the State Government to approve the five year plan and the annual plans of the district.

To assist the Planning Board, the district planning team consisting of the following officers was also envisaged.

- (1) The Collector of the District -- Chairman
- (2) The Chief Executive Officer,
Zilla Parishad, Sangli. -- Member
- (3) Deputy Director of Agriculture -- Member
- (4) District Deputy Registrar of
Co - operative Societies. -- Member
- (5) District Statistical Officer -- Member
- (6) Divisional Forest Officer -- Member
- (7) Industries Officer -- Member
- (8) Planning Officer, Zilla Parishad -- Member Secretary

The Chairman of the District planning team was authorised to call any other officer for specific meetings or consultations. It was the responsibility of the District planning team to take an over all view of all the resources available or being made available to various agencies in the district, to ensure their proper allocation in the light of the district priorities and needs and to supervise the implementation of various plan schemes including central plan and sponsored schemes.

In order to associate the sections of the public opinion with the planning process, the District Development

Counsultative Council was set up to act as a forum for ascertaining the views of the people in the matter of the district and their felt needs and for the periodical review of the District plan. The composition of this Council was as follows.⁵

- (1) The Designated Minister of the District .. Chairman and Chairman of the District Planning Board.
- (2) Vice - Chairman and other members of .. Members the District Planning Board.
- (3) All members of Lok Sabha and Vidhan .. Members Sabha who have been elected from the District.
- (4) All members of Rajya Sabha, M.L.C.s .. Members residing in the District.
- (5) Four representatives to be nominated .. Members by the Government to represent the interests of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Universities and Social Welfare Institutions in the District.
- (6) The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla .. Member Parishad. Secretary.

The main functions of the Council were :-

- (a) To advise the District Planning Board in the formulation of the perspective Five year and Annual Plan of the district.
- (b) To associate itself with the review of the District plan from time to time.

This body was expected to meet once in a six months. As soon as the District Planning Board had outlined the major proposals to be included in the plan, these were supposed to be presented before this body for general discussions and for listing their comments and suggestions. The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad was the Member Secretary on both District Planning Board and District Planning Consultative Council. Secretarial people consisted of the Planning Officer, the District Statistical Officer and the District Employment Officer and all these three officers were designated as Joint Secretaries of the above bodies.

This was the planning machinery originally envisaged by the government at the district level. The idea was that the District Planning Board should be a sort of powered body and it has, therefore, to be kept as a small and compact group. This was done mainly to

to enable the board to discuss the various alternatives threadbare fully and frankly in an atmosphere free from political tensions and restraints. It was felt that if all the elected representatives were associated with this body the emphasis would be only on voicing the demands of their respective constituencies and the body would, not be in a position to take hard decisions which are essential for formulating perspective plans and for allocating resources from the cost benefit point of view. However, as was only to be expected, the elected legislature took strong objection in shaping the destiny of the District to which they belonged. This was, therefore, a clamour for associating all the elected legislators with the District Planning Board and the government ultimately had to yield and the entire planning machinery underwent a complete change. The District Planning Board and the District Development Consultative Council were both merged and a new body as District Planning and Development Council was formed.

This body consisted of the entire District Planning Board, all members of the Lok Sabha, Vidhan - Sabha, The Rajya Sabha and Vidhan Parishad elected from or residing in the district. The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, was made the Member Secretary of this body. For the purpose of serious deliberations

this District Planning Board and Development Council was authorised to constitute its own Executive Council consisting of the Chairman, the Member Secretary, the Collector of the district and three non - official members to be appointed by the Chairman of the Council. These non - official members could be either the M.L.A.s or any other non - officials and this matter was left to the discretion of the Council or its Chairman. However, subsequently, the legislators again objected to the Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad being the Member Secretary of this body because they felt that since the Zilla Parishad was concerned only with the welfare of the rural masses the entire urban population would tend to get neglected if the Chief Executive Officer continued to be the Member Secretary. The real objection, however, was that since the Chief Executive Officer worked under the Zilla Parishad, he would tend to be influenced more by the office - bearers of the Zilla Parishad and the demands of the legislators would, therefore go un-headed.

Recently, therefore, government has brought about another vital change in the planning machinery and the Collector of the District has now been ~~made~~ Member Secretary of the District Planning and Development Council in place of the Chief Executive Officer. As a result, the

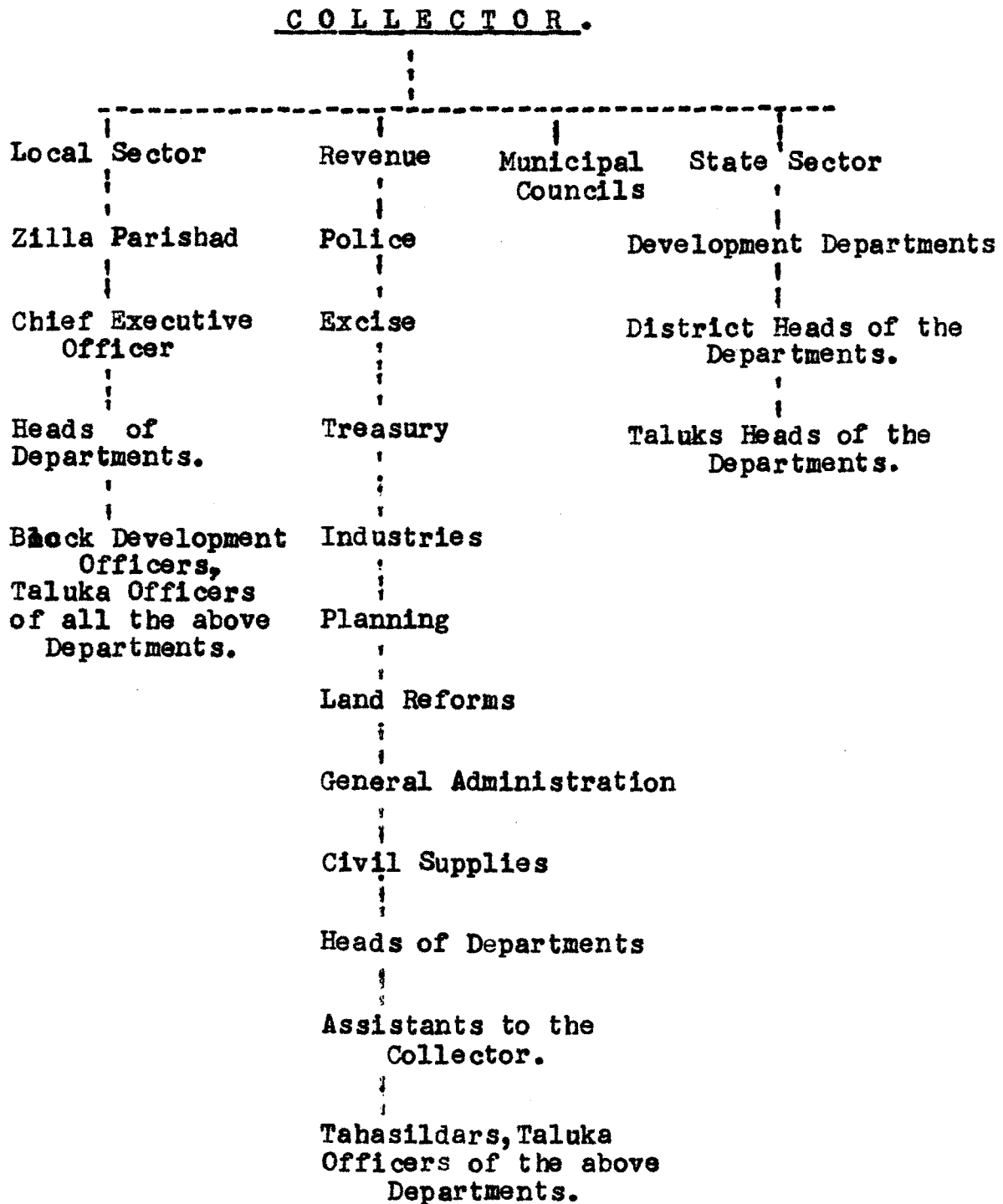
entire Planning Secretariate has also been transferred to the control of the Collector of the district. It was also felt that the Collector of the district by virtue of his traditional authority and by virtue of immense powers vested in him for running that district administration, would be able to play a major role in the framing and the execution of the District Plan. This change seems to be a logical outcome of the demands of the democratic setup. And this in fact should have been the case right from the beginning itself. It is hoped that this arrangement will continue in the interest of stabilising the process of planning and implementation at the district level.

1.4. The Planning Process :-

The State Government had grouped the various development schemes and had suggested percentage-wise outlays to the District Planning Boards. A list of the existing and continuing plan schemes was also provided to the District Planning Boards. The first step of the planning process was therefore, naturally a close scrutiny of the existing schemes. The changes which were required to be made were discussed. The various proposals received from the Municipal Councils, the Panchayat Samitis, the Village Panchayats and the

different departmental heads at the district level were discussed at the length by the planning team. In addition, the various departments at the state level, has also circulated various schemes, which they intended to be taken up for the consideration of the District Planning Board. The accepted proposals were made out as per priorities provided by the State Government and the approach to the national plan. As soon as they were formulated they were within the district allocations. The plan was passed on to the State Government for approval. In short, planning process at the district level involved the following steps with a scientific organisational frame work from Collector (with various agencies) to last agency of administrative hierachy (see chart).

- (1) The evaluation of the plan schemes already in process.
- (2) Receipt of proposals from various authorities and organisations.
- (3) Discussions and co-ordination of the district level amongst all the Heads of the departments and the planning team.
- (4) Discussions by the Planning Board.
- (5) Discussions by the District development

Chart No. 1.1

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Consultative Council and the finalisation of all the proposals.

- (6) Scrutiny by the state planning department and its approval.
- (7) Publication of the Final Five Year Plan of the District.
- (8) Formulation of the Annual Plans on the basis of the approved Five Year Plan which again has to go through each one of these steps.

1.5. The Formula adopted for the Distribution of Outlay :-

As a sequel to the policy of District Planning and balanced development of all districts, the state government have adopted a scale of weightage for determining the allocation of funds to different districts for their annual plans. The formula provides for allocation of outlays as under.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Percentage of total allocation</u>		
(1) Total Population	--	--	60
(2) Urban Population	--	--	5
(3) Backward Class Population	--	--	5
(4) Backwardness in Agriculture	--	--	10

<u>Item</u>		<u>Percentage of total allocation</u>
(5) Industrial Backwardness	--	5
(6) Communication Backwardness	--	5
(7) Irrigation Backwardness	--	5
(8) For Special Problems	--	5

		100

Notwithstanding the fact that district has been adopted as a unit of planning, it has to be recognised that there will be several fields of socio-economic activities such as -⁹

- (1) Generation and distribution of Power.
- (2) Investment in Corporate Sector and other institution.
- (3) Surveys, Research and Training Programmes.
- (4) Administrative and Presidential buildings.
- (5) Strengthening of the staff at the head quarters and regional level.
- (6) Universities including agricultural universities and institutions of professional education -

like Engineering, Medical; excluding Arts, Commerce and Science colleges and Polytechnics.

(7) State and National Highways.

1.6. Following the Central and State Objectives :-

Even though the district has been adopted as a unit of planning, the district does not exist as an entity independent of the state and the country. The District Planning Boards, naturally have to function within the over all framework of policies adopted by the government of India. as well as by the State government. While evolving a developmental pattern at the district level the guidelines provided by the planning commission as well as the State Planning Board have to be kept in mind. The major objectives set out in the approach paper of the Fifth Five Year Plan, as approved by the National Development Council, namely removal of poverty and self reliance are to be kept insight. Another very important feature of the plan is the national programme of minimum needs which has components, like Education, Public Health, Rural Electrification, Rural Roads, Houses to Rural landless and slum improvement and Clearance.

Besides all these broad principles, the Maharashtra State Government, in addition, has evolved its own 15 points programme to be taken up simultaneously with high priority to the welfare of Backward Classes, guarantee of employment in manual work to all rural adults who need work, Self employment to educated unemployed, development of Adivasis with the area development approach, provision of hostel facilities for economically backward classes and special welfare schemes for nomadics (Vimukta Jatis) and Nav Boudhas. The state has also decided that all villages should be provided with drinking water supply.

The District planners have to keep these objectives while preparing their plans and fixing their priorities. To that extent the broader model of allocation of funds is given as guideline.

The model of allocation of funds prepared by
¹⁰
 State Planning Board is as below :-

Group I	Agricultural Programmes, Co - operative and Community Development.	15 percent of district allocation.
Group II	Irrigation and Power	40 percent of district allocation.

Group III	Industry and Mining, Transport and Communications and Miscellaneous including Employment Schemes.	15 percent of district allocation.
Group IV	Social Services including minimum needs programme.	30 percent of district allocation.

It may be stated in all fairness that these are only the guidelines and not at all binding on the District Planning Boards in any manner whatsoever. So, there is a scientific link between planning agencies among various aspects of planning.

1.7. A Reconciliation of Various Objectives :-

The demands of a district have to be taken into consideration while formulating the district plans. It should not work as a of Central and state planning implementation body. It should consider its local demands. The job of District Planning Board is a very complicated one which involves a reconciliation of the various objectives outlined by the Planning Commission, the State Planning Board and the needs of the district. In the process of formulation, it may so happen that some of the national objectives or the state objectives will have to be revised to meet the demands of the district and vice - versa. Efforts have to be made to reconcile

all things and to present as best a plan as possible keeping the position of resources in view. What may happen ultimately is that the National objectives or the state objectives or the district objectives may only be partially achieved and certain norms may have to be lowered down. District should have a freedom to utilise the funds other than meant for the projects, if project need is fulfilled. The district planning authority has to consult the local agencies like Municipalities, Zilla Parishads, Panchayat Samities and Gram Panchayats too. So as to get aspiration of the local people within the areas of their respective jurisdiction.

1.8. Implementation Bodies :-

As stated in earlier chart Collector with its various vertical agents, the district planning implementation activities are being carried out with the help of local self government and state government officers located at taluka levels. Collector stands at the helm of the planning and implementation hierarchy.

1.8.1. The Planning Implementation through the Collector of the District :-

Traditionally, the Collector was the King-pin

of the district. An institution in himself, he was expected to provide both the vision and drive to make the district progress. The people of the district looked up to him for solving their problems and difficulties. He was accepted by the heads of all the functional services in the district as their natural leaders and approached by them for advice, guidance and positive assistance in the achievement of their respective programmatic goals. So far as the state was he was the man on the spot responsible for keeping the peace and ensuring good administration including¹¹ timely and effective action in emergencies.

This position has greatly changed in recent years. The number and size, variety and complexity of promotional or developmental activities and complexity connected with them have made it impossible for the Collector to manage as he was doing before. New departments have been set up at district level for specific areas of activity and in all departments the lines of functional control have been strengthened. The bifurcation of the Collector's functions into regulatory and developmental and entrustment of the latter to Panchayati raj as in the case of Maharashtra and Gujarat have further eroded his position of leadership in the district administration. This writ does not run

in the district with the same speed, vigour and certainty as before. This has inevitably led to a deterioration in the standards of administrative management and poor achievement of plan results.

The experience with the implementation of Panchayat Raj Institutions in Maharashtra has revealed that the development programmes of a district cannot really take off without the active participation of the District Collector. For instance, it is not possible to implement an urgent construction programme without an adequate supply of cement, nor is it possible to go ahead with an irrigation project without expeditious disposal of land acquisition cases. Similarly a Collector cannot be expected effectively to maintain law and order unless he understands the needs and aspirations of the people and can ensure timely formulation and implementation of development programmes meant for them. Therefore, in district planning bodies, the Collector must play the role of the Chief co-ordinator. To enable him to discharge these responsibilities properly and efficiently he must have the necessary status, powers and responsibilities. He should be able to effect the necessary horizontal and vertical co-ordination in the planning and implementation tasks.

The state of Jammu and Kashmir has demonstrated that the single line administration has considerable merits. But it is doubtful if the well established line departments which have taken deep roots of their vertical hierarchy into the district set up will allow such a change to come about. In view of this hierarchical growth of line departments, it is difficult to ensure smooth implementation of district level schemes. The only way to counter this is to make the district level officers rally round the Collectors as the head of the district. In order to move towards this goal, the departmental functionaries must be considered as on deputation from their respective departments and posted to the district planning bodies. In this way they will be made responsible for implementation of their respective programmes at the district level and will be held accountable for their performance to the district planning bodies. This is no doubt a major structural reorganisation. But such changes are very necessary if the district planning process is to be made effective.

1.8.2. The Planning Implementation through the Zilla Parishad :-

In order to free the District Collector from the day to day routine of the development work, the

government had constituted the Zilla Parishad in the year 1962. This Zilla Parishad continues to be a statutory development authority entrusted with the task of development of the rural areas of the district. This body has powers to raise its own resources in accordance with the Maharashtra Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samiti Act. This is a three tier organisation having the Zilla Parishad at the district level, the Panchayat Samiti at the taluka levels and the Village Panchayat at the village levels. Each of these three tiers has the authority to levy taxes and to undertake its own developmental schemes and the Zilla Parishad is the overall controlling authority for this entire Panchayat Raj organisation. This body does not work under the control of the district Collector and it decides its own schemes, so far as they are financed from the revenues assigned to or raised by this body. The District Planning Board has been authorised to issue guidelines to this body for the purpose of integrating the Zilla Parishad Plan with the district plan as a whole.

In addition, the State government has retained the authority to entrust any of the government schemes to the Zilla Parishad for implementation. Any officers working under the Zilla Parishad can be

requisitioned by the State Government. This organisation has its own hierarchy of officials and non-officials at various levels and the official part of this organisation works under the overall control of the Chief Executive Officers. This organisation plays an important role in the formulation of the district plan and its implementation, the monitoring of the execution of the plan etc. It also provides through its non-official machinery a vital source of feed-back of information regarding the execution of the various schemes of the various agencies. The feed-back which is obtained from the official channels can be cross checked with the feed-back which is available from this informal and non-official channel and the planning authorities are, therefore in a better position to take vital decisions in a proper perspective.

1.8.3. The Planning Implementation through Development Council :-

Of all the State Planning Boards in the country, Maharashtra had one of the most elaborate in structure. It was the only state to have named its specialised planning machinery; state planning and development council. Although the Administrative Reforms Commission initially did not suggest any elaborate district planning machinery, Maharashtra attached much importance to it from the outset as a positive part of the total

state framework for planning. The State's district planning organisation existed in the form of Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis, which were in charge of planning and implementing local developmental programmes. For various reasons, this arrangement was found to be defective, therefore, a District Planning Board was constituted for each district to formulate co - ordinated development plans perspective of five years and annuals. A District Development Consultative Council was also set up for each district to associate with the planning process the elected representatives of the people in Parliament and the state legislature and representatives of various interests in the district.

The District Planning Board and Development Councils, too were advisory and deliberative bodies. However, they finalised the district plans and these plans were processed by the planning department. The suggestions of the District Planning Bodies were given due consideration when district plans were finalised at the state level by the planning department in consultation with the departmental heads of Government and the district planning authorities themselves.

The Executive Committee of each District Planning and Development Council was responsible for

the day to day functioning of the District Planning and Development Council and for making recommendations to the council on the broad policies and programmes to be adopted for the district under the Five Year or Annual Plan. It was also responsible for reviewing the resources position in the district ensuring a proper allocation of it to the various district agencies in the list of district priorities and needs and supervision of the implementation of plan schemes, including the central plan and the centrally sponsored schemes. The Executive Committee could meet as often as required, but at least once in two months.

1.8.4. The Planning Implementation through the
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Municipal Councils :-

Just like Zilla Parishad, there are Municipal Councils for each of the urban area located in district. Unlike the Zilla Parishads, however, these Municipal Councils do not have a well unit tiered system of organisation because each municipal council is independent of the other. A municipal council can also raise its own resources by levying taxes in accordance with the Maharashtra Municipalities Act within its own jurisdiction. The Municipal Councils like Zilla Parishad, are also free to frame their own budgets so

long as they are financed from their own resources raised by them or assigned to them by the state government. Each Municipal Council has its own official machinery for implementing the various projects undertaken by it. The district planning, however has been authorised to provide guidelines to these bodies for the purpose of integrating their plans with the district plan.

Regional plans in the form of district plan have been adopted in our country to co-ordinate the objectives of the national and state plan with that of the local needs. The machinery evolved for formulation and implementation has gained strength and experience through time. The Collectorate, the Zilla Parishad and Municipal Councils and the catalyst agents to conceive, formulate and implement the plan at the district level.

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1.9. The Limitations of a District Plan :-

Following are some of the limitations of district planning :-

(1) Adequate data are not available so far, the sample was framed for the entire country as a whole. Thus the findings obtained from these sample surveys are not always relevant to each district individually. Even in such vital matter as the number of persons

living below the poverty line etc. such survey will therefore have to be conducted afresh for formulating the district plans because otherwise the district plan will not conform to the actual situation prevailing in the district.

(2) In some cases the District Planning Boards have recognised the importance of detailed survey of the district. They have formulated different study groups to undertake surveys and to recommend in each of the different aspects of the planning for example, study groups for Agriculture and for Industries etc.

(3) There are factors of production over which one district administration as such has no control what so ever. To illustrate this point, a specific example may be taken of agricultural production. Even if the district Sangli, decides to increase its agricultural production during a plan period by 25% and frames its plan accordingly. It will just not be possible because the achievement of this objective will depend on the increase in the production of fertilisers, the availability of improved seeds, the pricing policy adopted by the Central Government

and even the availability of credit in accordance with the directives of the Reserve Bank of India. Similarly, in the industrial sector, a district may decide to introduce 10,000 power 100 but it may clash with the licensing policy of the Government of India. It naturally follow therefore, that a district plan perforce, has to conform to the national and the state plans.

(4) Even though the district plans are formulated by the District Planning Boards the various technical and administrative sanctions required for carrying out, such plans have to remain within the competence of the state and the Central Government for the simple reason that sufficient expertise is not available at the district level.

(5) There are so many financial institutions, corporations and other quasi government organisations working for specific development projects. The activities of these organisations extend to various districts. The authority of the District Planning Boards does not extend to the working of these institutions.

(6) The 5th Five Year Plan is only a continuation of the previous Fourth Five Year Plan and

by their very nature, there are various schemes which keep on spilling over from one plan to another. The resources earmarked for the district, therefore, in actual practice tend to get committed to the continuation of the previous schemes only because otherwise the investments already made in these schemes would prove to be wasteful.

It may be stated, however, that with all these limitations, there are still many things which could be successfully undertaken by the District Planning Boards. And that we are going to examine with reference to Sangli District Planning Board's role, performance and problems in respect of agricultural development sector only.

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14. The Discussion Relating to this Point is based on the following :-

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District Development Planning,
Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics,
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