CONCLUSION
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We are all aware of the fact that the importance of the local-self governing institutions or Panchayati Raj institutions has increased tremendously. It is felt that in a big democratic country like India, parliamentary democracy can work successfully with the support of the Panchayati Institutions at the grass root level.

It may be noted that the Indian Constitution seemed to be improved when the Seventy-third Amendment concerning with the new Panchayati Raj system was made to the Constitution of India on April 23, 1994. The 73rd Amendment made especially the main initiative of the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi brought a rare type of change in the Panchayati Raj system of India. This new Panchayati Raj system aims at decentralising democracy at the grass root level, empowering the people and providing statutory opportunities to the weaker sections and also giving every eligible voter a forum for expressing his/her views and also to receive support from both the central and state governments for welfare and development schemes. This new system works the dawn of a new movement for democracy, making the people at the grass root level conscious of their position in the society. This very consciousness is a step towards political development. Lucian Pye’s ideas equality, capacity and differentiation which are the characteristics of political development are found to be implemented in matters connected with democratic decentralization of Panchayati Raj Institutions getting formed, functioning, operating etc. in both the Imphal East and the Imphal West Districts of Manipur. It is
interesting to note that all these things are made possible after the Manipur Panchayati Raj Act 1994 was passed.

According to the Administrative Report 1995-96, of the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Government of Manipur, there are 166 Gram Panchayats, 9 Panchayat Samities and 42 Nyaya Panchayats and at three districts, Imphal, Thoubal and Bishenpur, Zilla Parishads were established in 1991.

The Manipur Panchayati Raj Act 1994 provides for a two-tier system of Panchayats in Manipur, e.g. Gram Panchayats at the Village level and Zilla Parishads at the District level.

It can be mentioned that, from early times Manipur had Panchayats in the traditional forms known as Singlup, Keilup etc. The Singlup looked after the welfare of the members of the locality. Each house was usually a member of the Singlup. The development programmes, social and religious functions, festivals etc. were organized by the Singlup. It will continues to exist in Meiteis society but now-a-days it is more concerned with the matters connected with the death of a member of the locality like, determination and collection of the amount of subscription for each house for the cremation and shradha ceremony of the deceased etc.

Modern Panchayat were introduced for the first time in Manipur in 1960, applying the United Province Panchayati Raj Act, 1947. The Hill Areas, the Municipal cantonment areas and Notified areas were excluded from the jurisdiction of the Act. The first election to 227 Gram Panchayats and 43 Nayaya Panchayats was held in 1964, with the passage of time so
many developments came up and the Manipur Panchayati Raj Act 1975 came up. In accordance with this Act, rural local government was recognized and the Act also provided for the establishment of Panchayat Samiti in every development block. The powers, functions are determined by the Act. The Act also contemplated the establishment of Zilla Parishads and with the Act of 1994, Zilla Parishads were established in the Districts of Imphal, Thoubal and Bishenpur.

In this piece of research work, it has been so interesting and illuminating to find and observe that the establishment, working, formation etc. of the Panchayati Raj institutions instills an ideas of consciousness about values of democracy in the minds of the people, both rural people and urban people. This consciousness itself is a step for political development, so Panchayati Raj institutions work as the step for political development in the state of Manipur.

The type of political culture that the people of both the Imphal East District area and the Imphal West District area possess is quite conducive for the growth of political development. Election to the Panchayati Raj Institutions are the most important occasions where the political culture of the people could be easily manifested. What type of political culture do the people of the two districts of Imphal possess could be easily ascertained at the time of elections. The attitudes to the democratic institutions, the belief in the Panchayati Institutions, the aspirations of people regarding the outcome of the functioning of the Panchayati Institutions are all interesting observation. They expect that the Panchayati Institutions will definitely do something for local development etc. the nature of meetings of the members
of the Panchayati Institutions the political behaviour of the Pradhans all reflect the point that the Panchayati Institutions act as the step for political development.

Of course, we are all aware of the defects of these Panchayati Institutions. It should have been better if we keep ourselves on guards against these defects. One of the defects is that it breeds localism. It may narrow down the outlook of the people. It can, of course be checked through proper education of the people. Another defect is that local self government officials are not properly trained in the field of administration. They must be given proper training so that people/clients to be served are made satisfied as citizens of a democracy. The tendency of certain concerned Block Development officer using the Pachayat members Pradhans etc. as rubber stamps n policy making and work implementation must be checked by the people themselves and the State Government. And the local administration is dependence on grants from the State Government. The State Governments must have proper provision for the financial reforms of the local government. It must have some autonomy in the proper use of the local funds for development. There must not undue interference from the State Government.