Chapter – IX

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

In this concluding chapter, an attempt is made to present the relative aggregate levels of development of the districts and suggest measures for reducing the inter-district disparities in the level of development.

**Pattern of development in aggregate level:**

In the previous chapters, pattern of development in (i) Agriculture and Allied sector, (ii) Transport and Communication sectors, (iii) Economic Infrastructure sectors, (iv) Social Service sectors and (v) Industry and Allied sectors has been discussed. The scores contributed by the selected indicators in each sector has also been given. Accordingly, ranking in sectoral levels has also been identified with the help of first principal component (PCA).

In this chapter, the total scores made in the sectoral levels have been taken as the raw data for identifying the total score made by the districts in the aggregate level. The scores made by the districts in the sectoral levels are given in ANNEXURE-R1.

The correlation due to Karl Pearson is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>R1</th>
<th>R2</th>
<th>R3</th>
<th>R4</th>
<th>R5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R2</td>
<td>0.83402</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>0.87251</td>
<td>0.92581</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R4</td>
<td>0.61987</td>
<td>0.84779</td>
<td>0.68242</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R5</td>
<td>0.64561</td>
<td>0.91915</td>
<td>0.78702</td>
<td>0.95871</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All the correlation coefficients are positive with value greater than .6. The indicators (R2) is strongly correlated with (R3). Similarly, (R4) is also strongly correlated with (R5). All the indicators are correlated positively.

The standardised data matrix is given in ANNEXURE-R2.
The derived equation of composite index \( R \) on aggregate level is given by \( R = (.20242) \cdot R_1 + (.23184) \cdot R_2 + (.21837) \cdot R_3 + (.21041) \cdot R_4 + (.22101) \cdot R_5 \), where \( R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5 \) denote the values of the variable chosen in standardised form and figures in parenthesis are “factor loading” or “weights”. The word factor loadings or weights are those factor of Factor Score Coefficient Matrix due to Principal Component Analysis with Varimax rotation worked out through Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS). The scores of each district for each indicators with total scores are given in ANNEXURE-R3. It is observed that 99.1\% of the total variance is explained by first three factors; the first factor explaining 84.9\% of the variance, 2\textsuperscript{nd} factor explaining 11.3\% of the variance and 3\textsuperscript{rd} factor explaining 2.9\% of the variance.

The final score of each districts are given below:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of the district</th>
<th>Status on district (Hill/Valley)</th>
<th>Scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Imphal</td>
<td>Valley district</td>
<td>1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thoubal</td>
<td>Valley district</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bishnupur</td>
<td>Valley district</td>
<td>0.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Churachandpur</td>
<td>Hill district</td>
<td>-0.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Senapati</td>
<td>Hill district</td>
<td>-0.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chandel</td>
<td>Hill district</td>
<td>-0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ukhrul</td>
<td>Hill district</td>
<td>-0.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tamenglong</td>
<td>Hill district</td>
<td>-1.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The result arrived at are in consistent with the general impression that valley districts are better off than the hill districts in aggregate level.

The districts, as done in the sectoral levels, are further classified into four categories namely highly developed, developed, less developed and backward. The districts with score more than mean + standard deviation is categorised as highly developed, those lying between mean + standard deviation to mean as developed, those lying between mean to mean – standard deviation as less developed, and those less than the mean – standard deviation as backward. The calculated value of mean and standard deviation of the final score matrix are 0.00 and 0.9999. The range of score is $1.738 - (-1.088) = 2.83$. 
The districts falling in the category of highly developed in order are Imphal and Thoubal, falling in the category of developed is Bishnupur, falling in the category of less developed are in order Churachandpur, Ukhrul, Senapati and Chandel whereas falling in the category of backward is Tamenglong district. Thus, in sum, among the valley districts, Imphal is most developed, and among the hill districts Churachandpur ranked the top and Tamenglong ranked the bottom. Care should, however, be taken to observe that the terms ‘highly developed’, ‘developed’ etc. are used in the relative sense. No district in Manipur is in fact highly developed in the absolute sense.

**Toward Equalisation of Development:**

To reduce the regional disparity has been an important objective of Indian Planning as well as the State’s plan. The objective of regional equalisation, in fact, has to be achieved through the maximum exploration/utilisation of natural endowment of a particular district/region. As all the regions are not equally endowed and locational advantages differ from region to region, it has not been practical to make all the region equally developed. In fact, equilisation should not be at the cost of the development programmes/activities of developed districts. It should be achieved by stepping up the rate of development of the less developed districts. In fact, at the time of the prioritisation of plan-investment, the issue of reducing the regional gap should be always taken into consideration and district-specific programmes/projects should be taken up accordingly.

In view of the above, towards *regional equalisation* the following few recommendations may be made:

(i) To make an attempt to ensure the maximum utilisation of natural endowments of each district. Based on the natural endowment and resources available, specific spatial programmes/schemes are to be taken up to develop the district. This, in fact, should supplement in raising the economy of the District/ State in particular and national economy in general.
(ii) To earmark some percentage of the State’s development fund for the backward or less developed districts.

(iii) To identify the prioritised district-wise schemes/programmes to be take-up to ensure the accelerated growth of the district.

(iv) To create the sense of competitiveness among the districts.

(v) To take up necessary steps to ensure the maximum reach of development funds for the specified area/location.

(vi) To take up speedy programmes/schemes to bring the PC habitations to the status of FC habitations in Water Supply.

(vii) To take up accelerated programmes towards bringing the quality education in the State particularly in the hill districts.

(viii) To strengthen/modernise district administration for effective implementation of the development programmes.

Few suggestions/recommendations towards the development of the districts:

1) **Imphal district:**
   
i) To take up accelerated programmes on Water Supply to enable to meet the fast growing demand of safe drinking water.

   ii) To take up necessary steps to upgrade/modernise the existing roads to suit with the fast growing population.

   iii) To take up measures for promoting the growth of modern small scale industries in the suburbs of Imphal city.
2) **Thoubal district:**
   i) To take up actions to save the fast eroding paddy fields, lakes etc.
   ii) To take up actions to upgrade the existing irrigation facilities in the district to boost up the food grain production.

3) **Bishnupur district:**
   i) To take up steps to protect the fish farms and also to encourage fish farmers.
   ii) To take up steps to ensure the expansion of cultivable command of Loktak Lift Irrigation.
   iii) To take up steps to check the erosion of cultivable lands.

4) **Senapati district:**
   i) To conduct a comprehensive survey of the potential of the industry.
   ii) To take up steps to expand the transport and communication system.
   iii) Rearing of livestocks like cattles, buffaloes, pigs is very common in the district. Many interior villagers take up the rearing of livestocks as their means of livelihood. Therefore, to improve rural economy of the district, it is necessary to extend possible helps to live stock raising.
   iv) To take up steps to expand trade and commerce.
   v) Of the total 517 census villages, only 43, 54, 21 and 33 villages are provided with Medical, Post and Telegraph, Market, and Communication facilities respectively. Thus, a larger percentage of villages are without these basic amenities. Therefore, it is suggested to take up steps to extend these basic amenities in better way.
5. **Churachandpur district:**
   i) Most of the area of the district is covered with forest of different varieties of tropical moist evergreen forest type. Many important medical plants, orchids, etc. are abundantly available in the district. A suitable planning to explore the hidden natural forest resources should be taken up towards the development of the district.

   ii) To take up necessary steps to check/control of jhum cultivation.

   iii) As the soil and climate of the district is conducive for a healthy growth of the varieties of fruit, a policy is required to encourage the villagers to grow the fruits. Further, necessary arrangement is to be made for marketing these products.

6. **Chandel district:**
   i) The district being hilly is inaccessible because of poor transport system. Local forest and non forest produces are mainly marketed only in the markets of the districts viz (i) Moreh, (ii) Chandel, (iii) Pallel and Chakpikarong bazars. Further, the district is deficient of items like kerosene oil, sugar, salt, medicine, readymade germents, electrical goods, etc. Necessary steps are to be taken up to ensure steady and timely flow of essential commodities to the interior places.

   ii) Home made wooden goods are very popular. Therefore, necessary steps are to be taken up to encourage of the local people to produce the goods in larger scale and explore the avenue for marketing the products.

   iii) Rearing of cattles, pigs and other livestock should be encouraged.
7) **Ukhrul district:**

i) To take up steps to develop the important tourist locations viz (a) Shirui hills, (b) Khangkhui cave.

ii) Of the total 222 inhabited census villages, 177 villages are without medical facilities. Therefore, it is necessary to take up steps to extend the medical facilities in the selected prioritiesed villages.

iii) To take up steps to improve the transport and communication system which is very poor at present.

iv) The district is rich in forest resources like hard wood, timber, superior varieties of bamboos, cane etc. For proper and efficient use and reservation of these forest products, it is necessary to take up necessary steps.

8) **Tamenglong district**

i) To take up a comprehensive analysis on the availability of the basic amenities for the people of the district. Accordingly, development investment may be intensified.

ii) Many of the villages are without basic amenities like Education, Medical, Market and Communication facilities. In the absence of these basic facilities, taking up of the development activities will not yield to the desired result. Therefore, necessary steps are required to be taken up to extend the above facilities as far as practicable. Just for instance, of 194 census villages, 161 villages are without medical facilities.

iii) To conduct a detail survey of industry potential of the district.

iv) To take special care for the improvement/extension of existing poor transport and communication system.

v) To explore the possibilities of horticulture and cultivation of Plantation Crops.