CHAPTER -- VII

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION
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The hill areas of Uttar Pradesh have been important for the State and the country since ancient times. The natural resources endowments, rivers, hill places, rich forests and other spots at great Himalayas are well known all over the world. The hill region of the State also become strategically important from the defence point of view.

The hill region of Uttar Pradesh comprises eight northern districts of Dehradun, Tehri Garhwal, Pauri Garhwal, Uttar Kashi, Nainital, Almora, Pithoragarh and Chamoli. Geographically this region lies in the Central Zone of Himalayas. Its ecological and geophysical features are distinct from other parts of the State. The terrain is most rugged and steep.

Uttranchal of Uttar Pradesh is spread in an area of about 51,125 sq. kilometres accounting for about 16 per cent of the total area of the State. Population of Uttranchal according to 1991 census was recorded at 58.74 lakhs. In fact at present it is the second largest populated hill region of the country, after Jammu and Kashmir.

The entire hill region of the State is not a homogenous unit, as it varies in climate texture of the soil and topography. This region is divided into four parts, namely Terai and Bhawar, Lesser Himalayas, great Himalayas and the trans-Himalayan Zone.
Demographic features in the region have been too much by physical conditions. Owing to difficult living conditions, the density of population of hill areas in Uttar Pradesh shows large variations. In 1991, the density per sq. kilometer between districts varied from 30 to 229 persons. Overall density of population in Uttarakhand is placed at 115 persons per sq. kilometer.

The growth pattern of population in different districts shows that maximum growth rates were recorded in Dehradun and Nainital districts. Other districts of the region have not shown any spectacular growth during last five decade. Growth rate of population varied from 5.97 percent to 37.03 per cent in Pauri Garhwal and Nainital respectively.

Employment Scenario of Uttarakhand also presents different picture. According to sample survey reports of NSS, the figure of employed persons rose from 13.86 lakhs in 1951 to 17.5 lakhs in 1981. Agriculture and allied sector employed 71.2 per cent workers, while Industry Sector engaged about 5.76 per cent of the workers. The remaining portion is accounted for by tertiary sector.

As far as the land holdings in the hill area of the State are concerned, the 1985-86 agriculture census reports that out of 7.67 lakh operational holdings in the hill region, 5.44 lakh holdings are below one hectare with an average size
of 0.34 hectare. However, taking all holdings into consideration, the average size of holdings of the region works out to about 0.9 hectare and average per cultivator comes to 0.6 hectare. In the total reporting area of 53.6 lakh hectare in 1988-89, 63.9 per cent were under forest and 12.65 per cent, i.e., 6.8 lakh hectares was shown as cultivable area. Area under horticulture use accounted for about 3.9 per cent of total reporting area.

Cereal crops, at present, account for as much as 83 per cent of the total sown area. The main crops grown in the hills of the State are wheat, maize, sugar-cane, Madua and Sawan.

The industrial structure in the hill area is weak. Most of the factories are located in the plains of Dehradun and Nainital, which are the most industrialist districts of the region. No industry of medium or large scale is reported in border districts. According to estimates of income, the per capita income of hill region at 1970-71 prices was Rs. 500.00, as against the State per capita income of Rs. 337.00. In 1986-87, at current prices the per capita income of Uttranchal was recorded at 1,366.00 rupees as against State per capita income of Rs. 1,114.00 in 1986-87.

During earlier stages of planning hill region of the state received attention of the State and Central Governments for financing planned economic development. A separate Border
Development Department was created only in 1973 for development of three border districts while specific plan outlays for the development of hill region were started from Third Five Year Plan. The Border Development Department was expanded later on and converted into a full-fledged Hill Development Department. Recently, the State Government has established Uttaranchal Vikas Vibhag in place of Hill Development Department. If we persue the data regarding plan outlays for the development of hill region in the State, we find that the total outlay during the first two plans was of the order of Rs. 33.00 crores. This increased to about Rs. 50.00 crores in Third Five Year Plan and Rs. 73.00 crores in Fourth Five Year Plan. However, the allocation for the Fifth Five Year Plan jumped up to Rs. 204.00 crores, registering an impressive growth in plan allocation. Outlays during Sixth and Seventh Plan periods were of the order of Rs. 658.87 crores and Rs. 1,075 crores respectively. According to draft Eighth Five Year Plan, the targetted plan outlays for the period 1992-97 is Rs. 743.85 crores.

The Government of India has also provided Central Assistance for the development of Uttranchal. Percentage of Central Assistance to total plan outlay for hill region of the State, has varied between a low 46.21 during annual plan 1979-80 to a high 61.4 during Sixth Plan period. However, on an average the share of Central Assistance in total plan outlay for the development of Uttranchal has remained around 50 per cent.
The main objective during successive Five Year Plan periods has been to reduce the disparities in the levels of socio-economic developments, viz. Social Service and Basic infrastructure facilities between the backward and relatively developed areas. When we look to sector-wise allocation of outlays, we come to the conclusion that agriculture and allied services have received maximum attention, followed by transportation, water supply, housing and urban development, energy, education and other social services. Other sectors, like Rural Development, Irrigation, Industry, Mining, General economic services, Medical and Health, etc., have also received due attention. Economic assistance to weaker sections in hill areas have also been extended through different programmes, like MNP, MPDA, SFDA, NREP, RLEG, IRDP and JRY (Jawahar Rozgar Yojna), etc. Latest trends show that JRY and Din Dayal Upadhyaya Rozgar Yojna are new schemes for financing the economic development of weaker sections of the society in the hill areas.

As far as Agricultural Sector of the Uttranchal is concerned, the main crops grown in available cultivable area are paddy, Madua, Sawan, Maize, Wheat, Pulses and Barley. Total area sown under these crops in 1990 was 10.13 lakh hectares as against 9.86 lakh hectares in 1981-82. 38.7 per cent of this area was covered under Wheat, followed by Paddy 27.64 per cent, Madua 15.6 per cent, Sawan 8.1 per cent, Maize 3.5 per cent and Barley 3.4 per cent during 1990-91. Data for production
and productivity of principal crops in the hill region of the Uttar Pradesh show that productivity per hectare in case of paddy increased from 11.91 quintals in 1974-75 to 19.71 quintals in 1990-91. In the same manner, productivity of wheat per hectare went up from 12.53 quintals in 1974-75 to 15.58 quintals in 1990-91. Other crops, in fact recorded moderate increases in productivity. While productivity per hectare of Maize, Madua and Barely increased from 11.16, 10.49 and 10.09 quintals, respectively in 1974-75 to 14.00, 12.22, and 11.66 quintals respectively during 1990-91. Agricultural production of food-grains, which was recorded at 610,000 metric tonnes in 1950-51, went up to 1,563,070 metric tonnes in 1990-91. Thus the growth rate in food-grains' production was recorded at about 21 per cent between 1950-51 to 1970-71 and about 37 per cent between 1960-61 and 1970-71. However, the rate of growth in food-grains' production in hill regions of Uttar Pradesh declined to about 30 per cent during 1970s and to about 13 per cent during 1980s.

Proposed measures for agricultural development during Eighth Five Year Plan are diversification of traditional agricultural crops to high value low volume cash crop, arrangement of necessary inputs like seeds, fertilizers, high yielding varieties of seeds, etc. increase in area under multiple cropping system, training programme for farmers and intensification for soil and water management measures. During Eighth Five Year Plan, a growth rate of 6 per cent per annum is proposed in case of
food-grains. So far as the development of cash crops is concerned, sugar-cane development programmes have been taken up in the reserved areas of the sugar factories spread in the plains of Nainital and Dehradun. Financial and other types of assistance are also being provided to small and marginal farmers.

Uttaranchal has tremendous potential for the cultivation of all types of horticultural crops, i.e., fruits, vegetables and ornamentals. At present the Department of Horticulture & Food Processing in the hills has 104 Horticultural Nurseries, 10 Potato Production Farms, 186 Horticultural Mobile Centres and 45 Canning Centres covering all districts of State. According to statistics of area under fruit cultivation, there has been significant growth from 2513 hectares in 1950-51 to 141,000 hectares in 1984-85. Production of fruits and vegetables has also gone up during these years. Fruits weighing two lakh tonnes and vegetables weighing 85,000 tonnes were produced during 1979-80, which increased to 4.95 lakh tonnes and 2.75 lakh tonnes respectively during 1991-92.

During planning period soil and water conservation measures and other steps have been taken for agriculture and allied sector. Mainly these steps fall into three categories, namely: Agriculture Development Programmes, Forest Development Programmes and Integrated Water Shed Management Programme.
Main thrust of these programmes has been increasing the area under cultivation and preventing soil erosion.

Animal husbandry is an important means of occupation and plays a vital role in improving the socio-economic condition of the hill region in general and weaker sections in particular. According to latest livestock census, the livestock and poultry population of the hill region in the State is placed at 41.5 lakhs and 5.12 lakhs respectively. There has been significant improvement in animal health coverage during plans. Improved breeding facilities have been extended through various centres, as a result the production of eggs, wool and milk in the hill areas of the State has increased significantly. Egg production increased from 328 lakhs in 1984-85 to 491 lakh in 1991-92. Similarly wool production went up from 6.42 lakh kgs to 7.82 lakh kgs during these two years. Milk production in Uttranchal has also recorded impressive increase from 350 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 to 535 lakh tonnes during 1990-91. Measures proposed during Eighth Five Year Plan include improved health and breeding facilities for live stock, better processing facilities and infra-structural services, fair and remunerative prices to milk producers, good quality milk and milk products to urban consumers, etc.

The hill region of the state is gifted with rivers, reservoirs, ponds and streams which offer immense potential
in the hill region of Uttar Pradesh consists of approximately 2138 kilometres of stream length of important rivers and their tributaries. Low altitude lakes with a total area of 257.6 hectares are located in Naini Tal. Fish production during plan has also gone up from 58.3 quintals in 1979-80 to 79.7 quintals in 1990-91.

Development of Forestry and wild-life in the hill areas of the State has also been significant during plans. For Forestry development the State Government took various steps during earlier plans. Main areas in this sector relate to Forest Research and Wild Life Protection. An impressive outlay of Rs. 670 lakhs was allocated for this Sector during Fourth Five Year Plan. Expenditure for forest and wild life has increased continuously, so as to reach a level of Rs. 1250 lakhs during 1990-91. In fact, heavy dependence of human and cattle population on forests in respect of timber, fuel wood and fodder has resulted in gradual depletion of forests which has led to severe soil erosion and loss of vegetative cover. Recurring floods have also been posing serious threat.

Main schemes under Forestry and wild-life sector during recent plans have centered around industrial and pulp wood plantation, forest protection, fuel wood, fodder products, energy plantation, management and creation of parks and sanctuaries, soil erosion and fire protection.
Food storage and were-housing and cooperative development activities have also been important in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh. Agricultural Research and extension education have been given due consideration, apart from marketing and quality control measures.

Since the beginning of the planning period various developmental and functional programmes in the rural areas of Uttranchal at village, block and district levels have been planned and executed by the Community Development Organisation. Main thrust has been on maximising the efforts under buffer alleviation programmes through SFDS, MFDA, IRDP, DPAD, NREP JRY, etc. Twenty Point Economic Programme for socio-economic uplift of rural masses in hill areas, has also benefitted people of Uttranchal.

IRDP, which was started in 1980 in place of SFDA and MFDA has been the main Rural Development Programme in hill areas during plans. Under IRDP income levels of small and marginal farmers are sought to be raised. Provision of employment for unemployed landless labourers and village artisans has also been made through this programme. IRDP is based on schemes of agriculture, mining, irrigation, animal husbandry, cottage and small scale industries, small trades and rural services. Outlay under IRDP has continuously increased so as to reach Rs. 3640 lakhs during Seventh Five Year Plan.
The target for Eighth Five year Plan is proposed to be Rs. 5000 lakhs benefitting 1.07 lakh families.

Another scheme for rural development concerning youth; namely TRYSEM was started in 1979 as a facilitating component of IRDP. Objective of TRYSEM is to provide technical skills to rural youth from families living below poverty line by taking up self-employment in agriculture and allied activities industries, services and business activities.

Another programme named DPAP is being implemented since 1985 in hills. The main aim of this programme is to reduce the intensity and effects of drought and scarcities in areas of uncertain rain fall. DPAP also aims at restoring ecological balance and improving the production techniques.

Certain special programmes for rural development in hill areas have also been taken up during planning period. Important among these are Integrated Tribal Development Projects and Special Component Plans.

Among the programmes for rural employments, important schemes were NREP and RLEG. NREP was started in 1980 and RLEG in 1983. NREP replaced Food for Work Programme, which was implemented upto 1980. The basic objectives of NREP were generation of additional gainful employment for the unemployed
and under-employed persons, creation of productive community societies and improvement in overall quality of life in rural areas. Against an outlay of Rs. 10 crores in the Sixth Five Year Plan Rs. 8.17 crores were spent upto the 31st March 1985. During Seventh Five Year Plan Rs. 14.98 crores were spent against total outlay of Rs. 22.5 crores.

Under Integrated Rural Energy Programme, IREP which was started in the year 1983-84, schemes for energy development have been implemented in the districts of Dehradun, Naini Tal and Almora. An expenditure of Rs. 30.00 lakhs was incurred during the year 1990.

JRY which is meant for providing employment to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes was started in 1989. Expenditure under this programme is shared between the Central and State Governments on 80:20 basis. Total outlay for the year 1990-91 was Rs. 804 lakhs out of which Rs. 568.00 lakhs were spent. Proposed outlay for the Eighth Plan (1992-97) is Rs. 55.00 crores.

Keeping in view the programme of unemployment, the State Government initiated a new scheme, named Pandit Din Dayal Upadhyaya Rozgar Yojna on the 25th September 1991. Among other programmes for rural development, Panchayat Raj Institutions
are playing a vital role, as through these institutions that benefits trickle down to rural poor. Such constructions of workshop of Panchayat Udyogs, improvement in pavements and drains, etc. have received due attention during recent years. Training of Panchayat Raj Office-bearers, Gram Panchayat Udyogs and Village Pradhans has also been taken up for the rural development of hill areas. Pradeshik Vikas Das and Yuvak Mangal Dals are also providing various socio-economic services to the inhabitants of hill districts.

Apart from the above mentioned rural development and employment programmes, consolidation of land holdings in hill areas and construction of residential buildings in blocks, Gaon Sabhas, etc., have also been taken up during planning period. Rural Development Department through Rural Engineering Services has been taking various steps in this direction.

Although huge water potential is available in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh, as all the major rivers of the State, such as Ganga, Yamuna, Ramganga, Kosi and Sharda originate from this area, actual utilisation of this potential has been practically negligent. In fact cultivable area lies mainly on considerable heights and there is dearth of water. Percentage of net irrigated area to net sown area is only about 33 per cent in the hill region, as against the state average of 27.4
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per cent. Terai region of Naini Tal and Dehradun districts have sufficient irrigation facilities, while other areas in Uttaranchal suffer from adequate irrigation facilities.

In hill areas of the state main sources of irrigation are tanks constructed to store rain water. In the Tarai and Bhawar areas of Naini Tal, Dehradun and Pauri districts, tube-wells have also been constructed. The thrust during earlier plans in this sector has been on stream-lining private and state minor irrigation programmes. Besides construction of hill channels Hydram Sprinkler irrigation has also been given priority. Potential for the development of major and medium irrigation sources in the hill areas of the state is extremely limited. No significant progress in this direction has yet been achieved. However, detailed survey work for Nandhora Barrage is being taken up.

Almost all irrigation works in the hills have been carried out in the minor irrigation sector. Private minor irrigation, such as tube-wells and pump-sets, are main sources in the hill areas. Land has also been provided to cultivators to meet the high cost of construction of minor irrigation works. Artisan wells have also been constructed in Tarai area of Naini Tal at selected places.
Intensive service and identification of valley areas were taken up by the State Government for irrigation in hills as the cultivable area in hills is scattered and lies at varying heights, it was not possible to take up sufficient schemes for medium irrigation. A number of channels constructed in the pre-independence period outlived their usefulness. Some of these channels were re-modelled during planning period, while new projects have also been constructed. During earlier plans levels of achievements were low due to the fact that hill areas of the State were not accorded any special significance upto Third Five Year Plan. After 1972, separate provisions were made for hill development in the State budget. Irrigation potential flow of state irrigation works at the beginning of Fourth Plan was 1.151 lakh hectares. In 1973-74, it increased to 1.27 lakh hectares and at the end of the Fifth Five year Plan this potential went upto 1.68 lakh hectares. At the end of Sixth Five Year Plan, the irrigation potential increased to 208.75 lakh hectares and by 1990 this went up to 301.55 lakh hectares.

Expenditure on private minor irrigation works amounted to Rs. 8.8 crores during Seventh Five year Plan, while proposed outlay for Eighth Five Year Plan is placed at 16.43 crores. Similarly expenditure on state minor irrigation works including hill channels and tube-wells amounted to Rs. 67.5 crores during Seventh Five Year Plan and proposed outlay for the Eighth
Five Year Plan is Rs. 94.5 crores.

In hill areas of Uttar Pradesh, soil erosion causes much damage to towns, villages and cultivable areas, including forests. To protect Uttaranchal from such damages, State Government through its Irrigation Department has been implementing various schemes. During first three plans flood control expenditure amounted to Rs. 50.00 lakhs. During Fifth Five Year Plan flood control spending increased to about Rs. 76.00 lakhs. State Government implemented various schemes on the flood control in Naini Tal, Dehradun and Almora districts. Expenditure on flood control during Seventh Five Year Plan amounted to Rs. 5.13 crores, while proposed outlay for Eighth Five year Plan is placed at Rs. 18.00 crores.

Power is most important infra-structure for the development of the economy. Hill region of the state, which is relatively more backward, requires special attention in this regard. Power supply is essential to promote agricultural and industrial development in hill areas. Main sources of energy in Uttaranchal have been forest resources. In order to reduce pressure on forests, alternative arrangements were required to be made. High priority has, therefore, been assigned for accelerating the pace of power development through optimal utilisation of hydro-potential in the hills. During five year plans micro and mini-hydel schemes have been implemented, while major
thrust has been directed towards electrifying the maximum villages and strengthening existing transmission system.

During first fifteen years of the planning period no significant progress could be achieved in the area of power development. The pace of rural electrification remained slow and implementation of many Hydel schemes was also delayed. Certain efforts were made during late 60s, when an outlay of Rs. 17.56 crores was allocated for the hill region's power development during Fourth Five Year Plan. At the beginning of Fourth Five Year Plan there were only 975 private tube-wells in the hill region. Most of these tube-wells were located in the Naini Tal and Dehradun districts. At the end of Fourth Five Year Plan, the number of private tube-wells rose to 2,506.

For the speedy development of the hill region, number of energised tube-wells and rural electrification programme was given due priority during later plans. A target for 4,929 villages was kept during Sixth Five Year Plan for electrification. The achievement during Sixth Five Year Plan was 68.2 per cent in this regard. At the commencement of Seventh Five Year Plan installed micro-generating capacity including diesel was 13,922 kilometres. An outlay of Rs. 125 crores was provided for Seventh Five Year Plan to the power development sector.

District-wise break-up of electrified villages shows
biased pattern towards Naini Tal, Dehradun and Uttar Kashi. All other districts of the hill region have not been paid due attention. Mini and micro hydel schemes were identified during Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plan period. The development of such schemes, at present, is being looked after by Uttar Pradesh Laghu Jal Vidyut Nigam. During Seventh Five Year Plan 21 schemes, having a total installed capacity of 27,000 Kws. were started. Achievements during Seventh Five Year Plan show that these schemes are providing required benefits to people in the hill region. About 20 schemes are under construction and 28 schemes under detailed investigation.

Non-conventional sources of energy, like Solar, Bio, Wind and Geo-thermal energy are also on experimental stage in the hill region. The State Government's Nodal Agency for work in this area is the non-conventional energy development agency, which was established in 1983. This scheme has made significant progress during Seventh Five Year Plan. Another 100 per cent centrally sponsored scheme for Bio-gas development was also implemented during Sixth Five Year Plan. To implement and popularise non-conventional energy systems, a sum of Rs.8.14 crores for NEDA programmes and Rs.2.13 crores for Integrated Rural Energy Programme were spent during Seventh Five Year Plan. These amounts are likely to be increased during Eighth Five Year Plan.
Although hill areas of the Uttar Pradesh have been endowed with plenty of natural resources, comprising a variety of forest products and mineral wealth, industrial development of the hills has not achieved any considerable level. Hill region of Uttar Pradesh continues to be industrially backward because of its geographical location, topographical features and inadequate infra-structural facilities. There has, however, been some progress as far as industrialisation of the region as a whole is concerned; but the industry in the real sense has not reached the interior of the region. Enterpreneurs have shown lack of willingness to set up industries in the hill region due to enforcement of laws relating to preservation of environment, lack of subsidies, lack of raw materials and lack of basic infra-structural facilities.

Industrial development in hill areas of the state was not given due attention up to the end of Third Five Year Plan. Uttar Pradesh State Hill Development Corporation was set up in March 1971 to promote all round development in the hill region. Certain schemes were implemented by the Corporation during Fourth Five year Plan which related to pencil, slates, bobbins at Uttar Kashi and Wood Plant and March Factory at Rishikesh and Electrical Equipment Industries at Kathgodam and Kotdwara. During earlier plans main emphasis was laid down on the development of resource based industries, forest
based industries and demand based industries of the region. Large and medium industrial enterprises were not given proper attention due to topographical region. Upto the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan fruit processing units, units manufacturing packing cases and furniture were developed. In the large and medium sector, several industries were set up involving an investment of more than Rs. 40.00 crores upto the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Important among these include HMT Watch Complex, Bharat Electronics, Hindustan Refractory, Hindustan Photo Films and Steel Wire Units. These units provide employment to more than 40,000 persons. The pattern of industrialisation in the hills has been in favour of large and medium industries in Tarai regions. The interior of the region has not seen any significant progress in this sector. During the Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans major projects for manufacture of watches, telephones, electronic components, portable generators, lamps and tubes, TV picture tubes, solvent extraction and natural gases have been commissioned. Upto Seventh Five Year Plan 100 large and medium industries have been set in this region, involving total investment of Rs. 675.00 crores. U.P. State Textile Corporation, U.P. State Hill Development Corporation, Garhwal and Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigams, U.P. State Industrial Development Corporation, U.P. State Co-operative Sugar Factories Federation, etc., have been major institutions, which have established their industrial enterprises in the
region. U.P. State Electronics Corporation and Hiltron have established their electronic estates at Bhimtal, Dehradun, Muni-ki-Reti, Almora, Ramnagar and Kotdwara. Various schemes including TV repairs, transistor radios, tape recorders, digital electronic watches, testing equipments, electronic toys, electromagnetic equipments, voltage stabilisers, emergency lamps, personal computers, loud speakers, amplifiers, VCR, VCP, etc., were proposed for establishment during Seventh Five Year Plan. Total investment under this project is stated to be around Rs. 6.2 crores. These projects, when implemented, are likely to employ more than 16,000 persons. Eighth Five Year Plan strategy for electronic sector is hold enough to provide sites for manufacturing of electronic items and training technical managerial and marketing staff. Hiltron have established several units; for example, Teletronics and Kumtel Limited at Bhimtal, Kumtron Limited at Bageshwar (in Almora district). Extension of tele-communication facilities and up-gradation of Electronic Tests and Development Centres has also been taken up by this Corporation.

In the area of small-scale industries various mini industrial estates have been established at block levels in hill districts. Existing promotional programmes are to be strengthened for small-scale industries development in future. Sixth Five Year Plan expenditure on small scale industries
was around Rs. 3.00 crores, which was increased to Rs. 6.5 crores during Seventh Five Year Plan. Khadi & Village Industries in the hill areas have also been promoted in interior region. At present there are 21 departmental centres functioning in the districts of Chamoli, Uttarkashi, Pithoragarh and Dehradun. For the benefit of weaker sections and poors, Khadi and Village Industries Commission has been trying to increase their income by providing jobs in spinning weaving under hill-wool scheme. Certain centrally planned schemes, applicable in Almora district have also been implemented since 1983. Handloom and Sericulture have been given due attention as these involve less investment and is also not detrimental to ecological balance. Upto Seventh Five year Plan period small-scale industries numbering 16,000 were financed by the commission which generated employment of over 17,000 persons. Draft Eighth Five Year Plan proposes to establish 11,500 more units providing employment to more than 34,000 persons.

Various schemes of subsidy on plots in mini-industrial estates are also under implementation. Other facilities provided for small-scale industrial sector in the hill region involve concessional bank finance for training individual entrepreneurs strengthening the delivery system, strengthening of the existing training centres and Hill Wool Schemes.
Mineral development has also been given due attention in the hill areas. The Directorate of Geology and Mining which is entrusted with the responsibility of mineral exploration has done a commendable job. U.P. State Mineral Development Corporation has been looking after the development of mineral deposits and their commercial exploitation. Progress during five year plans in this regard has been quite satisfactory. Main activities for mineral development in hill areas have concentrated around prospecting and assessment of deposits of Gold, Polymetallic Ore, Zinc, Cement Grade Lime Stone, Magnesite, etc. During the Sixth Five Year Plan 15 mineral investigations were carried out which became fruitful after large quantities of various deposits of lime stone, dolomite, soap stone, magnesite, marble, gypsum, copper, lead, zinc, tungston, tin, building stones, sand, bajri, etc. being explored. Achievements during Seventh Five Year Plan were also considerable. The Government has been looking after the mineral exploration activities, mining administration and geological engineering in a satisfactory way. Eighth Five year Plan programmes are likely to centre around investigation, mining and strengthening of training activities.

Any discussion on socio-economic development of hill region in Uttar Pradesh cannot be completed without special mention of transportation facilities, socio-economic services
Since railway transport in hill areas is not feasible, roads are the life line of Uttrakhand and development of all-weather network of roads is, therefore, indispensable for hill areas to have an efficient communication system for socio-economic development.

Roads have been treated as core sector of the economy of the hills. In far flung mountainous areas, roads are important, road building techniques have to be drastically changed, so that adverse environmental impacts are minimised.

Road system in hills has been developed during planning period in such a way to provide efficient and quick transportation. The total road length of the hill region as on April 1, 1989 was 13,257 kilometres. This road length, per lakh of population comes to about 274 kilometres. Mainly districts of Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi and Chamoli have been neglected in case of road construction. In upper reaches of hill areas, there were practically no roads, except few kilometres before independence and pilgrimage and tourism was confined only two foot-hills. During planning period, roads have been constructed so as to provide better transport facilities. Nagpur Plan, drawn up in 1943 envisaged total of 25,715 kilometres of motor roads for Uttar Pradesh. Targets of this plan were achieved in 1957; but hills were neglected
in this regard. Bombay Plan for road development 1961 envisaged target of 5,511 kilometres of roads in Kumaon and Garhwal regions. Kumaon and Garhwal regions have achieved the target of Bombay Plan by the end of 1981. Another long term road development plan was drawn up in 1981 for the period upto the turn of the century. According to this plan road net-work is to be developed, so as to connect all the villages in hill areas with pucca roads. Cluster approach for rural roads and connecting each village through roads is the mainstay of the present plan.

Forty kilometres of roads are to be provided per 100 sq. kilometres of area in the hill region. Motor roads, light vehicle roads, bridge roads, etc., were targeted during Seventh Five Year Plan up to the extend of 1950 kilometres. The growing traffic in the hill areas also demands arterial roads constructed with modernised technology. For such roads, Government have provided Hot Mix Plants and Pavers, etc., for road construction in hill areas. At the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan a total of 3,485 kilometres of roads and 85 bridges on motor and bridle roads were left to be constructed. The Eighth Five Year Plan strategy emphasises upon the construction of roads, particularly light vehicle and bridle roads, so as to cater requirement of local people and tourists.
Tourism is fast growing and universal industry and it is also recognised as a source of employment as it is very high labour intensive industry. Hills of Uttar Pradesh abound with places of religious importance and scenic beauty to attract a large number of tourists. World famous shrines; like Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri have always been a source of inspiration for the pilgrims and natural beauty spots like flora and fauna, Nainital lake, Mussoorie, etc., have attracted a large number of tourists. Tourism development has been accorded due importance during planning period. Main emphasis was laid down on basic infrastructural facilities like transport, accommodation, fooding, etc. Later on from Fourth Five Year Plan period, special attention was given to wild-life, trekking, recreational tourism and development of sports.

During last three plans, Kumaon and Garhwal Division Development Corporations have paid due attention to conduct tours and Government on its part has constructed various tourist bungalows and rest-houses. Arrangement for middle and low-income group pilgrims and tourists have also been strengthened by providing additional accommodational facilities in hill areas.
STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND SUGGESTIONS

The experience of planning has revealed that unless programmes based on the concept of "Development without Destruction" are evolved for the conservation and proper utilization of resources of the hill areas, not only the problems of hill areas will continue to remain unsolved but the economy of the plains may also be adversely affected. "Conservation" and "Development" are twin objectives that can be aimed at simultaneously in the Uttaranchal hill region. Development of resources of Uttaranchal is necessary both for enabling population living in these areas to share its benefits. Major thrust, therefore, during the Eighth Plan (1992-97) would be on "Development without Destruction".

The eco-system of the Himalayan region has been greatly impaired due to denudation of forest, indiscriminate grazing, unscientific land use practices, uncontrolled mining and road construction etc. It is essential to balance economic development with the imperatives of environmental conservation and to formulate realistic and manageable programmes for tackling the problems involved in eco-development. In this background eco-development strategy in the Eighth Plan envisages: (a) Protective (b) Regenerative, and (c) Productive measures. The source base has, therefore, to be developed in a manner so as to meet
the requirement of the local community for water, food, fuel and fodder. The core strategy for the development of Uttaranchal is a combination of protection, regeneration and production amongst other things. The priorities of planning have to be determined by correct land use, regeneration of resource base, new reorientation of programme with community consent and their involvement, adoption of massive plantation for farm forestry replacing steep slope agriculture with grass lands and pastures, reduction of both human and animal pressures on land, a dynamic alternate fuel policy and intensive soil and water conservation measures.

Major thrust needs to be directed towards an integrated development which would imply a quest for what can be achieved in terms of land capability, human resources, financial resource and material resources on the one hand and a positively improved environmental situation, higher production and productivity, higher income and more employment on the other.

For successful development, strategy would be to have a good communication system, a net-work of roads, adequate and dependable supply of energy and good transport system. Generation of maximum employment opportunities will be the main objective for which stress will be laid on productive programmes of agriculture including horticulture, forestry,
soil and water conservation, small and village industries, tourism, animal husbandry and dairying and construction works of economic and social basic infrastructure. Road communication is therefore, much important but the road building techniques need to be suitably changed so that adverse environmental impacts are minimized. Roads being the life-line of hills, are supposed to be a condition precedent for development of difficult areas like Uttarakhand of Uttar Pradesh.

In hill environment agriculture cannot be treated as compartmentalised activity. It has to be mixed with sericulture, horticulture, animal husbandry and grassland development if the best results in terms of land preservation, land fertility and land productivity are to be achieved. A new pattern of land use and integration of different uses in combinations that will both protect and enhance the land capability will be adopted.

Soil and water conservation has to be treated as a whole. The major uses of water in the hills are for drinking, for domestic use including use for animals, for agrosilviculture systems, for industrial uses, for irrigation and for generation of energy. The first priority is obviously drinking water. In this context, emphasis has to be laid to restore perennial drinking water and regenerating the water sources through massive afforestation programme and to establish reliable
water delivery systems through gravity based conveying systems.

On account of limited possibilities of additional irrigation facilities, the main thrust would have to be on gravity based hill channels sprinkler irrigation, drip irrigation, rain water, harvesting by constructing small storage tanks of structure with local materials. Besides, integrated soil and water conservation, suitable crop rotation strip cropping and bunding, minimum tillage, much use of grass lining of water courses, etc. are also envisaged.

The road systems are envisaged to be maintained in a well coordinated mix, viz. rural roads, bridges, missing links, jeepable tracks, bridle paths, etc. so that this work is completed without causing great damage to mountain slopes.

Electric supply including alternate fuel, and energy resources need to be provided for reducing the inexorable pressure on forests. To achieve this, a dynamic alternate fuel and energy policy is being pursued. Emphasis will be on promoting use of solar energy and harnessing wind energy. Another important aspect of energy use is the great need for conserving it through more efficient and economic methods.

The main thrust of social development programmes is to improve levels of living standard and skills of the people in terms of health, nutrition, education, employment and incomes
as also for building a relationship between education and work opportunities so as to reorient education and training to non-farm skills such as trade, industry services, processing, etc.

Another important area is women's education. Women play a much greater role in economic activities in hill areas than in the plains. Special emphasis would, therefore, be laid on women's education, women's literacy and women's participation in development efforts. Ex-servicemen can be trained and utilized for many economic occupations and services based on local requirements.

While physical and social infrastructure are required for giving a fillip to economic activities, resources have to be made available specifically and separately for enabling the poor and weak to improve their lot through better incomes and useful asset formation. Important programmes for poverty alleviation and employment generation need to be streamlined. For hill areas, the norms set for individual projects which can push up the poor above the poverty line have to be liberal on account of higher cost factors. Besides, these programmes should have a clear orientation towards protection and enhancement of hill environments calling for detailed micro-planning and beneficiary oriented delivery systems. Backward and forward linkages call for effective, well-coordinated, intervention. A system is required for recording beneficiaries' income and employment gains.
The development activities have hardly made any dent on the secondary and tertiary sectors of economy of hills. Development of industrial base and local trades has, so far, little impact on absorbing talents and educated youth in the area. Since agriculture continues to be the most important economic activity of the population, emphasis would be laid on increase in productivity and cash income realization through activities of high-value low-volume and dry farming technology suitable for hills.

The major solution to the optimum utilization of the unemployed and underemployed manpower lies in maximising off-farms occupations. Employment programmes in the Eighth Plan would have to be tailored to suit the social conditions. Strategic changes in plan programmes are called for to raise the stakes in favour of private sector employment in carefully selected high value activities in agriculture, horticulture, domestic industry, tourism and business and services sector. At the same time, there has to be major shift in the nature of education in favour of technology, which has a relevance to the regional resources and economic potential. The optimum utilization of the unemployed and underemployed manpower lies in maximizing off-farms occupations.

Major structural changes in the types and kinds of employment which have to be identified and catered for, by
increasing the range, number and quality of skills being formed. Industrial development would encompass various types of industries in small, medium and cottage scale based on:

- Local raw material and local markets;
- Local raw material and external markets;
- External raw material and local markets;
- External raw material and external markets;

Pollution free industries, manufacturing products of high value and low volume would be of crucial importance on account of the high transportation costs in the hills. These include: electronics, communications and transportation equipment, cameras, optics, light engineering, watch-making, precision instruments, etc. Other industries which would be augmented are:

- Ecologically compatible resources based industries;
- Traditional and non-traditional industries including wood-craft, metal craft, wicker-work for the local as well as tourist markets;
- Food and fruit processing industries;
- Medical herbs/plants processing units; and
- Industries relating to woollen and cotton handloom, hosiery, silk products, and carpet making.

Mining has severe and serious environment implications which would need to be carefully assessed before this activity can be expanded.
Tourism has vast potential on account of the natural endowments of the region. Untapped potential has to be harnessed but tourism must be made environment-friendly. This would imply matching tourist load to infrastructure, dispersal of tourism concentrations, providing for skill formation and establishing proper institutional mechanisms for developing and financing mountain tourism.

MAJOR THRUSTS

(a) The prime object of the national plan is to increase production and productivity, employment opportunities and alleviating poverty, rural development and social uplift. In consonance with the above objectives, the Uttarakhanchal sub-Plan's core strategy is "Development without Destruction" for which protective regenerative and productive measures would be streamlined during the Eighth Plan period. In belief efforts are directed towards the following measures.

(b) Environmental ecological security for which programmes of massive afforestation protection conservation and scientific management of forests, proper land use, integrated soil and water conservation and watershed management projects on sub-Water sheds/Micro-Catchment basis.

(c) For increasing production and productivity and raising income and employment levels, diversification of agriculture and agriculture according to land capability, off-season vegetable fruit marketing and processing, minor irrigation, power development
including alternate sources of energy (Solar and Wind energy) encouraging pollution free small scale and cottage industries specially electronics, Optics, Handloom and Sericulture, tourism as an industry, animal husbandary, pasture development, dairying programmes, etc. would be intensified.

(d) Intensifying rural and urban employment under poverty alleviating programmes viz. I.R.D.P., DPAP, JRY with special emphasis on labour intensive programmes and family focussed programmes for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and other backward classes, women, ex-servicemen.

(e) Streamlining women education, training, skill improvement and extension programme for women's involvement in forestry pasture grass land development, agriculture, horticulture, dairying, handicrafts, handloom and electronic, etc.

(f) Progressive reduction of inter-regional/intra-regional disparities in economic and social field by increasing plan investment on productive/income generating sectors on the one hand and basic social inputs in the other.

(g) Extending community services and basic social facilities of general education, public health, drinking water, etc. in unserved, remote and inaccessible areas.

(h) Human resource development, employment oriented education, technical training and skill development through vocationalisation of general education, service education and strengthening of
polytechnics/rural polytechnics, ITIs/Branch ITIs and modernisation and introduction of new trades suitable for hills. Diversification of occupation through augmentation programmes for trade, industry and tourism etc. would also be streamlined.

(i) Construction of roads programme would be linked with economic programmes of mill areas. In view of ecological factors, reorientation of road construction strategy has been envisaged viz. instead of constructing only motor roads, coordinated programme for MIX of motor road, light vehicle roads, link roads, missing links, rural roads, bridle roads and foot bridges for maximising benefits with minimum investment and least harm to environment corrective measures for arresting ecological/environmental degradation from road construction would also be taken up.

(j) Streamlining decentralised planning according to local requirements and ensuring people's participation. Provision of "United Funds" for meeting urgent and critical local requirements of districts, specially for increasing efficiency of existing assets or other works which are normally not taken care of by any departmental agency at local level. Strengthening of planning machinery specially district plan mechanism, monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation.

(k) Development of action oriented research base, training and extension support, transfer of modern technology to ensure land-laboratory relationship, involvement of universities,
research, training and technical institutions for effective transfer and diffusion of technology.

(1) An overall stress on rural development and about 75 per cent of the total sub-plan outlay for rural component is being ensured.

**INTTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT**

A new direction to integrated development, based on micro watershed/catchment areas for implementation of development programmes is being given. Special efforts would be made particularly in the following activities:

**Integrated watershed management development project**

It will include programmes of agriculture, horticulture, forestry, dairy, minor irrigation, drinking water, alternate sources of energy and habitat development for the populace.

**Tourism Development**

In the places of tourists importance, integrated programmes and arrangements relating to drinking water, urban development and basic services, industries, transport/communication and power supply would be taken care of during the 8th plan.

The programmes of the hill region of the state has been formulated with the objectives and framework of the national plan taking care of the special requirement of the area.
EMPLOYMENT

Highest priority has been accorded to generation of employment through productive, profitable and sustaining employment mainly in the agriculture and animal husbandry and manufacturing, processing, commerce, construction work, etc. for creation of maximum employment opportunities.

For employment opportunities, such schemes/projects would receive preference which could generate employment locally, particularly labour intensive programmes. This would also help in checking migration of able bodied persons from rural areas. Women are the active participants in Uttaranchal. Efforts would, therefore, be concentrated for their self employment and change in occupational pattern through training and skill development. Employment will also be created by setting up cottage and small industries and units based on agriculture and horticultural activities. Qualitative improvement would also be made in the traditional activities.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

About 82 per cent of the population of the region lives in rural areas. With a view to bridging the gap between rural-urban areas and between different areas of the region about 75-80 per cent of the total outlay will be provided to rural areas for socio-economic uplift of the people through various programmes. A new scheme "Dr. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Employment Yojna" has also been introduced. Under this special
projects like new model charkha, multipurpose cooperative for procurement and marketing of milk, vegetables, herbs, etc. would be made functional for increasing employment and income opportunities to rural people through coordination and marketing support.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

In Uttarakhand, women are active partners in the economic activities and their contribution is pivotal. Therefore, the basic thrust would be to raise their social uplift and quality of life so that they may be brought into the mainstream of economic development.

People living below poverty line, particularly rural poor including working poor women and men of scheduled castes/tribes and other backward classes would be given special attention through their involvement in economic programmes and larger access to employment/income opportunities for which package facilities for inputs, financial incentives, training and institutional support measures would be streamlined. The quality of life of rural masses will be improved through basic facilities of literacy, basic information facilities, services, education, health, water supply, nutrition etc. would also be increased with all possible limits.

In the 8th plan and 1992-93 Annual Plan, increasing emphasis would be laid on fiscal management of economy and
and efficiency to bring out tangible results and visible impact of various programmes. Accordingly, the priority in implementation of 8th plan programmes have been determined and following order of preference would be vigorously pursued:

Priority would be given to (a) those schemes which would be maximising benefits from the completed schemes or from the existing facilities, (b) Critical on-going schemes and (c) New schemes for coverage for thrust areas.

In conformity with national objectives and priorities of Eighth Plan and special problems of Uttarakhand (Hill Region) of the State, basic approach during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) has been envisaged to ensure consistency within the framework of over all strategy of development of hills with especial emphasis on the aspects of environmental safe-guards and progressive promotion of employment opportunities.

In view of the imperatives for keeping up the pace of growth in order to generate adequate employment, alleviate poverty meet the most essential social needs, reorientation in planning for U.P. hills has been taken care of Integrated Development of the area with a realistic approach and a clear policy thrust for critical areas like human resource development, efficiency in management resource mobilisation and effective utilization of resources for the priority sectors will be given utmost attention for effective field delivery of various programmes.
PRIORITIES

For the Eighth Five Year Plan the following objectives would be given priority for the socio-economic growth and interest-production and productivity, employment and income opportunities to people of the area on the one hand and improving the social conditions/living standard of the people of the Uttarakhand on the other.

I. For Economic Development

(a) Energy including rural electrification.
(b) Transport and communication.
(c) Irrigation including intensive use of watershed management concept in rainfed/drought prone areas.
(d) Diversification of agriculture to horticulture and pisciculture, water management and wasteland development and better use of modern seed technology, etc.
(e) Continued emphasis on horticulture including agriculture both for increasing production of foodgrains, pulses, oilseeds, fruits and vegetables, forestry, soil and water conservation, tourism, village and cottage industry animal husbandry and dairying.
II. For Human Social Development

(a) Employment generation

(b) Population control.

(c) Literacy and universalisation of primary education, technical education, development of appropriate technology for hills and upgradation of skills.

(d) Minimum health care.

(e) Providing drinking water in every village.

HIGHLIGHT AND REORIENTATION

With a view to ensuring effective and proper benefit to local people some specific decisions have been taken on the basis of existing facilities/services and ongoing programmes. Reorientation of such programmes has already been initiated to cater to various problems for which following structural changes/linkages have been incorporated in the important programmes of Eighth Plan.

Agriculture/Horticulture

Crop plan has been linked with seed plan.

Crop-specific potential areas/packets have been identified for cash crops, fruits, vegetables specially off season vegetables.

Effective extension support for package of services and timely supply of inputs to farmers.

Forestry

Strengthening of transport/communication net work for intensive forestry works, management and production and development of forests as also for easy access to remote/interior settlements for the fuel, fodder grasses and other needs.
Animal Husbandry

Provision for intensive coverage for improved/exotic cattle breeding, sheep breeding; Angora rabbit breeding; pasture development.

Multipurpose milk cooperative societies for milk and vegetable produce and herbs collection and marketing.

Tourism

Integrated development of new tourist centres/towns under "Tourist Grid Project".

Providing basic services and facilities like good transport, electrification, water supply, hotelling and catering, accommodation and development and beautification of tourist places/off beat places of tourist interest.

Beautification of sites and services near irrigation canals of historical and scientific importance for tourist attraction.

Bringing the area on Air-map for promotion of tourism.

Privatisation of tourism as an industry.

Roads and Bridges

Relatively higher provision for bridle roads, foot bridges/hanging bridges, missing linkes, link roads and rural roads.
Water Supply

Reorganisation of old water supply schemes and renovation of schemes for rehabilitating/restoring supply of drinking water to villages.

Cent per cent coverage of villages with the facility of drinking water supply during the Eighth Plan.

Introducing rain water harvesting technique for drinking water supply to remote villages, particularly for reducing cost of such assets where multi-stage pumping is involved and cost burden is enormous.

Single village drinking water scheme or structure to be run and looked after/maintained by concerned village or Gaon Sabha.

Power:

Maximising house-hold connections in electrification of villages.

Exporting the possibility of 100% electrification of villages during the Eighth Plan period through coordinated effort of SEB, Misero Hydel Corporation and NEDA.

Education

In view of severe constraints of resources, instead of construction of new building of schools/colleges, construction of 2 or 3 class rooms/laboratories will be taken up.
Industries

A wool bank will be established in Almora for proper collection, distribution, processing and marketing etc. of local wool from sheep rearers of the Uttaranchal to ensure remunerative price for their wool.

Promotion of Electronics industries in a big way and special emphasis on sericulture, woollen, handloom, khadi and village industries and handicrafts.

Medical

Ayurvedic system of medical and health facilities will be given preference.

A "Jari Booti (Herbs) Development and Research Institute will be established.

A Medical College in Uttaranchal will be established.

Environment

A Bhilangana Bhagirathi Valley Development Authority is being established for ecological/environmental protection and safe-guards of new Tehri town and adjoining areas.

Social welfare

Training/Coaching centres one each for Kumaun and Garhwal will be established for scheduled castes/tribes coaching for PCS, CPMT competitions, etc.
SUGGESTIONS

Due to recent severe earthquake in Garhwal Region redressal and reorganisation of whole socio-economic structure, assets and projects is being planned through intensive measures and physical and financial inputs. Economic activities in this area, therefore, require large investment from plan funds.

Hill area of Uttar Pradesh being the part of northern most Central Himalayan zone, is very sensitive border area and of significant strategic importance. Since the new U.P. Government has come to the power with a clear mandate and will of the people for a separate Uttaranchal State, the State Government has already passed a resolution in the State Assembly to this effect.

The present alarming situation prevailing in this sensitive border area is that of a growing demand for a separate Uttaranchal State leading to separatist tendencies among the people on the one hand and assumptions and big aspirations from the new Governments at the Centre and State to mitigate and solve their crucial problems of poverty, unemployment and out migration of the people on the other. The growing aspirations of the people could only be fulfilled, to a certain extent, if the following immediate problems and requirements are tackled properly and desired basic facilities are provided through expected plan investment. Following steps are suggested in this regard.
1. For solving the problem of basic infrastructure, viz. facilities of transport and communication means, roads and bridges, irrigation and power facilities, etc. the spill over works need be expedited. At present the spill over cost of these works is estimated to the order of about Rs. 400 crores.

2. For arresting ecological/environmental degradation, higher investments are required for soil and water conservation, forestry and watershed management programmes to check severe soil erosion, landslides, etc.

3. More plan funds are required for World Bank/externally aided projects of Watershed Management, Horticulture, Urban Development, Water Supply and Sanitation and technical education projects, particularly for new sanctioned projects or new projects likely to be taken up for which desired outlay would have to be provided in the Uttaranchal Sub-Plan.

4. Higher investments are required for essential basic facilities under Minimum Needs Programmes (MNP) of rural roads, rural water supply, rural electrification, rural health and elementary education, housing and slum improvement etc., particularly in unserved, remote and inaccessible rural areas.

5. For increasing production, productivity and income as also enlarging an access of employment opportunities under programmes of priority sectors/thrust areas like development
of Horticulture, Tourism as industry, Village and Cottage Industries, development of Tourist Grid and integrated development of existing and new tourist towns/centres, women welfare, employment oriented education and technical training for self employment and improvement of quality of life of weaker sections (SC/ST's), ex-service men and socially handicapped persons of hill areas.

6. There is dearth of functional and non-functional (residential) buildings in the hill areas which also need special attention for proper service/field delivery of programmes and projects. At present the spill over cost of such buildings relating to schools, hospitals, ITI's Polytechnics Engineering College Buildings of development blocks and other departmental buildings is about Rs. 100 crores for which higher outlay is required to expedite their construction, particularly for early pay off works. Besides, the new buildings are also to be taken up for construction to meet the requirements.

The U.P. Hill area is adjacent to Himanchal Pradesh and problems and potentials of both areas are also similar but owing to Himachal Pradesh being a special category Hill State, it derives all the benefits of this category viz. special incentives, central subsidies and special treatment in allocation of plan and non-plan funds, which has led to its progressive development in the past than that of U.P. Hills, Uttaranchal is relatively more backward and needs special attention of
Government of India irrespective of allocation of funds. A comparison of plan expenditure and Special Hill Assistance of U.P. Hills and Himachal Pradesh during the previous plans is self-revealing that U.P. Hills lagged behind of this advantage.

Since growing aspirations of U.P. Hill people have much bearing on substantial allocation of plan funds for their various local requirements on the one hand and to catch up the pace of development and basic facilities as compared to that of their neighbouring State of Himachal Pradesh on the other, it has now become very much essential than plan investment of Uttaranchal U.P. Hill is increased substantially in view of the past back-log in this respect. With a view to achieve this objective plan outlay and special central assistance of Uttaranchal (U.P. Hills Sub-Plan) 1992-97 and 1992-93 are required to be raised and at least per-capita plan outlay of U.P. Hills Sub-Plan has also to be at par with the per capita central assistance to Himachal Pradesh.

7. In view of the magnitude of the problems of Hill areas, financial investment required for taking integrated watershed management and conservation of land and vegetation for entire hill areas is colossal. It is, therefore, essential that the Central Government should assume financial responsibility in a big way to take up major critical watersheds of U.P. Hills to preserve and improve eco-system in the national interest.
outside the Hill Area Sub-Plan.

8. On account of near absence of institutional back-up and poor economy of U.P. Hills, Central Public Sector Undertakings are also required to act as catalyst for industrialisation. Besides, hill areas of U.P. should be treated like special category states of Himachal Pradesh, J & K, Assam and Nagaland in respect of incentives, special subsidies and other facilities by the Government of India because the U.P. Hills are a sensitive border area and part of the strategic area of Himalayan range.

9. Keeping in view the topography, terrain and geophysical features of hill areas, present MNP norms for hill area need be modified by the Government of India because thinly and sparsely populated area needs special consideration of distance/height as a main factor for any norm instead of only population based norms under MNP.

10. In the field of tourism development, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and Tourism Corporation of India should undertake some projects for the development of tourist complexes in Kausani, Binsar, Pindari, Gangotri and Yamunotri, etc. under 100 % centrally sponsored and aided schemes.

11. Central industrial undertakings, especially relating to electronics and optics need to undertake some projects in U.P. Hills, as also for setting up research and technology centres and establishing some units in the interior areas of the hills.
12. High altitude research project including training, design and technology centres for hills in the fields of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, micro-hydel and industries, etc. should also be taken up by the Government of India.