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INTRODUCTION

Under a recent initiative, Planning Commission has started preparing State specific Development Reports. The objective is to publish credible documents at the State level with identification of critical developmental issues and corrective policy suggestions mainly by experts from specialized institutes. The Reports would be of use to the Centre and State machineries engaged in steering the plan process of the State on a higher and equitable growth path.

A Core Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed, Ex-Member, Planning Commission worked out the modalities for preparing the State Development Report for Jammu & Kashmir and availed of the expertise of the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi and the Department of Management Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar. The Government of J&K was also associated in the process. Major part of the job was completed during the tenure of the Core Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed.

The SDR for J&K is a well-documented paper with analysis of development performance of the State Government, highlights of the potential sectors of the state economy and policy suggestions for attaining a more proactive development scenario in J&K. The report would be extremely useful at this juncture when the Government of J&K is shaping its operative Annual Plans for realizing an envisaged annual growth rate of 6.27% during the Tenth Plan.

I would like to appreciate Shri B.K. Goswami, Chief Coordinator, experts from the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi and the Department of Management Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar for their effective contribution in preparing the Report. I am thankful to the Government of J&K for rendering full cooperation and support to the team of experts involved in preparation of the Report.


(S.P. Gupta)