

CHAPTER – II **Objectives**

Such abysmal pace of development in the state could not escape the notice of its people who of late have been realizing and experiencing the ill-effects of its economic backwardness coupled with all pervasive mismanagement of available resources and large scale horizontal and vertical corruption in the delivery system of government development schemes. The economic situation has generated resentment and social strife in rural areas. Absentee landlordism has grown. Cultivable lands have been deliberately left fallow. Because of prevailing social tension, private traditional investment in agriculture results in profit deprivation of the cultivator investor. Poverty has therefore come to stay in Bihar, because of absence of private investment. In agriculture and forced localized cut in outlay of public investment. This has given birth to challenge of existing system by organized groups who not only use force to seek their cut from the financing of development schemes but who like parasites exploit the village people also. Private investors who risk investment in agriculture are made to share their harvest with unsocial elements on the threat of physical elimination. Situation has shied away both public and private investment in rural areas.

This study intends to develop a strategy, which may lead to evolution of systems both for productive exploitation of available rural resources and for suggesting complementary steps to enhance the effective implementation of public investment. In this study attempts to locate the development interventions made so far to enhance the economic well being of people of this state have been made. Colin Clark affirms that the aim of economic activity is not wealth but well being of people. Clark has suggested measurement of well being by making comparisons between the performances of different countries by various indicators. An important

element in development is that the people of the country must be major participant in the process that brings about changes in structures. Participation in the process of development implies participation in the enjoyment of the benefits of development as well as in the production of those benefits. People's participation in development implies, people's contribution to development efforts, collective decision making and sharing of the fruits of development. In this context, Amartya Sen explains, "millions of people living in rich and poor countries are still unfree, they are denied elementary freedom and remain imprisoned in one way or another by economic poverty, social deprivation, political tyranny or cultural authoritarianism". The main purpose of development is to "remove the sources of unfreedom and to expand the real freedom that people enjoy". Development presupposes a concern for human values. The Ninth Plan has therefore, attempted to introduce corrective ness in the development strategy and identify areas of special importance for state interventions. These areas are (a) better quality of life of citizens, (b) improvement in productivity and (c) reduction in regional imbalances. In this connection the Tenth Five Year Plan has this to say "Economic growth cannot be the only objective for nation planning and indeed over the years, development objectives are being defined not just in terms of increases in GDP or per capita but more broader in terms of enhancement of human well being. This includes not only an adequate level of consumption of food and other types of consumer goods but also access to basic social services especially education, health, availability of drinking water and basic sanitation. It also includes the expansion of economic and social opportunities for all individuals and groups, reduction in disparities, and greater participation in decision making".

Tenth Plan also aims to emphasise the importance of ensuring balanced development for all states. The tenth plan would include a state

wise breakdown of the broad development targets, including targets for growth rates and social development.

During the nineties, the slow decline in Crude Death Rate and Crude Birth Rate, low sex ratio and wide inter State/inter district differences in health and demographic indices have led to necessity of initiating special efforts during the tenth plan to enable these states to fully achieve their potential. Bihar is one of such States. This study highlights the inter-district differences in implementation of various development schemes in the state in respect of following parameters:-

1. Infrastructural facilities.
2. Educational facilities.
3. Public Health and Nutrition facilities.
4. Agriculture and irrigation.
5. Effect of Natural calamities.
6. Development and Employment Generation Schemes.
7. Small Scale Industries.
8. Animal Husbandry facilities.
9. Fisheries Development.
10. Storage facilities.
11. Marketing facilities.
12. Land Reforms.
13. Public Distribution Scheme.
14. Law and Order.
15. Forestry and Environment.
16. Women Empowerment Scheme.
17. Poverty Alleviation Programmes.
18. Extension activities.
19. Aspirations of Development.
20. General Improvement in Sanitation etc.

21. Attitude towards Family Planning.
22. Attitude towards sharing Responsibility for the growth of village.

In this way this study gives an assessment of the areas, which require special efforts for meeting the objective of the tenth plan for ensuring even spread-over effects of the development programme.

The second part of this study is preparation of model development plan for two villages. Herein study has been made to endeavor optimum exploitation of available physical and financial resources of the villages. This leads to involvement of local rural poor in formulation of need based development programmes and their active participation in the execution of these programmes. Development Plan of villages based upon available local resources has been studied. This may help the Panchayats and Gram Sabhas to formulate future programmes. However availability of local resources falls much short of the requirement of funds for the development of the villages. This wide gap has to be bridged partly from local efforts and partly through external assistance. These programmes relate to execution of schemes of basic services like sanitation programmes, provision of safe drinking water, primary education, safe maternity services, public health services, construction of bundhs, desilting of canal bend etc. The draft model plan for village development covers community oriented innovative approaches to fill in this resource gap for executing rural areas felt need based-planning.

In this way the second part of this study has attempted to evolve strategies for enhancing people's participation in developmental activities from formulation of schemes to their execution stages. This study therefore has attempted to meet one of the basic objectives of the tenth plan.