

**POINTS RAISED DURING THE MEETING OF THE CHAIRMAN, CO-CHAIRMEN,
DEPUTY CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS OF MEGHALAYA STATE PLANNING BOARD
HELD ON 4TH JULY, 2006 IN THE OFFICE CHAMBER OF THE CHAIRMAN,
MEGHALAYA STATE PLANNING BOARD, MEGHALAYA SECRETARIAT BUILDING.**

Shri S.C. Marak, Chairman welcomed Shri S. Nongrum, Co-Chairman, Dr. R.C. Laloo and Shri A.C. Marak, Deputy Chairmen and Shri A.H. Scott Lyngdoh, Member to the meeting.

The meeting felt that the issue of having the Panchayati Raj System in the state as well but under a different name (Say committee) so that funds from Govt. of India meant for Panchayati Raj could as well come to Meghalaya needs to be deliberated at length and at different levels of Government machinery keeping in mind that the same is of sensitive nature.

Shri A.H.Scott Lyngdoh expressed his opinion that the Meghalaya State Planning Board itself does require to move in an objective direction with slogan as viz.,(1) Consolidation, (2) Innovation and (3) change. On the changeover to Panchayati Raj System, he pointed out that perhaps the personnel from Planning Department be made to study the local self-Government in the State and find a suitable forum that will satisfy all the tribes of the State.

Dr. R.C. Laloo, Deputy Chairman pointed out at the existing level where a number of villages constitute a Gram Sevak Circle and suggested that perhaps this may be considered equivalent to a level of that of the Panchayati Raj System at the Grassroots level. On this, the question arises as to who is to process or initiate this restructuring of Gram Sevak Circle akin to Panchayati Raj System.

The Chairman felt that the need of a change over to Panchayati Raj System is imperative so that the state is not deprived of funds from the Centre meant for development at different levels but an endeavour is to be made to find out a nomenclature socially acceptable to all the people in the state keeping in mind that people indeed are quite sensitive on issue of change over from traditional set up.

Shri A.H. Scott Lyngdoh felt that since Planning Department have a capable manpower, it may be requested to submit a note on essential features of Panchayati Raj System in the Country and how to prepare the institutions that we already have to fall in line with the Panchayati Raj System and make a case for Meghalaya. Shri S.C. Marak, Chairman agreed with the views of Shri A.H. Scott Lyngdoh and asked the latter to submit a note on such change over to Panchayati Raj System and on that basis, the Planning Department may be directed as suggested.

On Approach Paper to the 11th Plan to be prepared by the Meghalaya State Planning Board for submission to Govt. the meeting felt that the note on the some where Departments have been mentioned may be sent to all the Co-Chairmen, Deputy Chairmen and Members of the Meghalaya State Planning Board seeking their views/comments and also requesting them to look into other Departments for their comments. Such information should reach the office of the Board at the latest by 14.7.06 and a meeting of the full body of the Board to meet on 20.7.06 at 11.00 A.M. to discuss on the same.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the Chair.

Sd/-
(S.C. Marak)
Chairman,
State Planning Board.