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MESSAGE

Conventional wisdom always defined development in a uni-dimensional manner by considering only the economic growth. It was only when the concept of Human Development evolved, that the parameters of growth were enlarged to include social indicators coupled with economic variables. In this backdrop, with this Human Development Report, Chhattisgarh joins a selected band of States who have published such Human Development Reports.

I would like to congratulate UNDP and the Planning Commission, Government of India for joining hands for preparing the First Human Development Report. I would also like to place on record my appreciation for the seminal role played by CHIPS (CHhattisgarh infotech and biotech Promotion Society) in the preparation of this Report.

(DR. RAMAN SINGH)

अमर अग्रवाल

मंत्री

छत्तीसगढ़ शासन

वित्त, योजना, वाणिज्यिक कर,
सांख्यिकी, नगरीय प्रशासन, वाणिज्यिक एवं
उद्योग, ग्रामोद्योग, सार्वजनिक उपक्रम,
सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी तथा जैव प्रौद्योगिकी



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दिनांक ... 26.6.05

MESSAGE

The main objective of the HDR is to provide a platform and trigger a debate to evolve the human development blueprint for the State of Chhattisgarh. The problem and challenges for development are many, but I am sure the Report will help us to focus on the core issues and crystalise a growth and development model which takes into account the hopes and aspirations of the local populace, helps retain its culture and heritage and restores the ecological balance by creating synergy between elements of nature, science and technology.

UNDP and the Planning Commission deserves special mention for their contribution to this Report. The contribution of CHIPS (Chhattisgarh infotech and biotech Promotion Society) is very commendable as it volunteered to take up the responsibility of preparation of HDR at a time when there were hardly any institutions in the State which could have taken up this responsibility.


(AMAR AGRAWAL)



सत्यमेव जयते

Planning Commission



India

MESSAGE

We congratulate the people and the Government of Chhattisgarh for preparing their first Human Development Report.

A novel approach was adopted for the preparation of the Report, whereby a remarkably participatory process culminated in the State Human Development Report. It is heartening to note that a large number of village level and sixteen district level reports, aptly called *Jan Rapats* (People's Reports), have been prepared as part of the process. We are confident that the methodology applied for the preparation of the Report would be of immense interest globally.

The Report echoes people's voices on a range of issues that affect their day-to-day lives – issues related to livelihoods, health, education, natural resources and institutions. All through the Report, one gets glimpses of the strong desire of people to attain higher levels of human development by adopting new concepts and modern systems even while retaining respect for traditional knowledge and wisdom. It further emerges from the Report that issues of sustainability are close to people's hearts.

We are hopeful that this unique endeavour will contribute to designing and implementing policies and programmes that are conducive to human development.

Rohini Nayyar
Adviser (RD), Planning Commission
Government of India

Maxine Olson
UNDP Resident Representative &
UN Resident Coordinator