



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

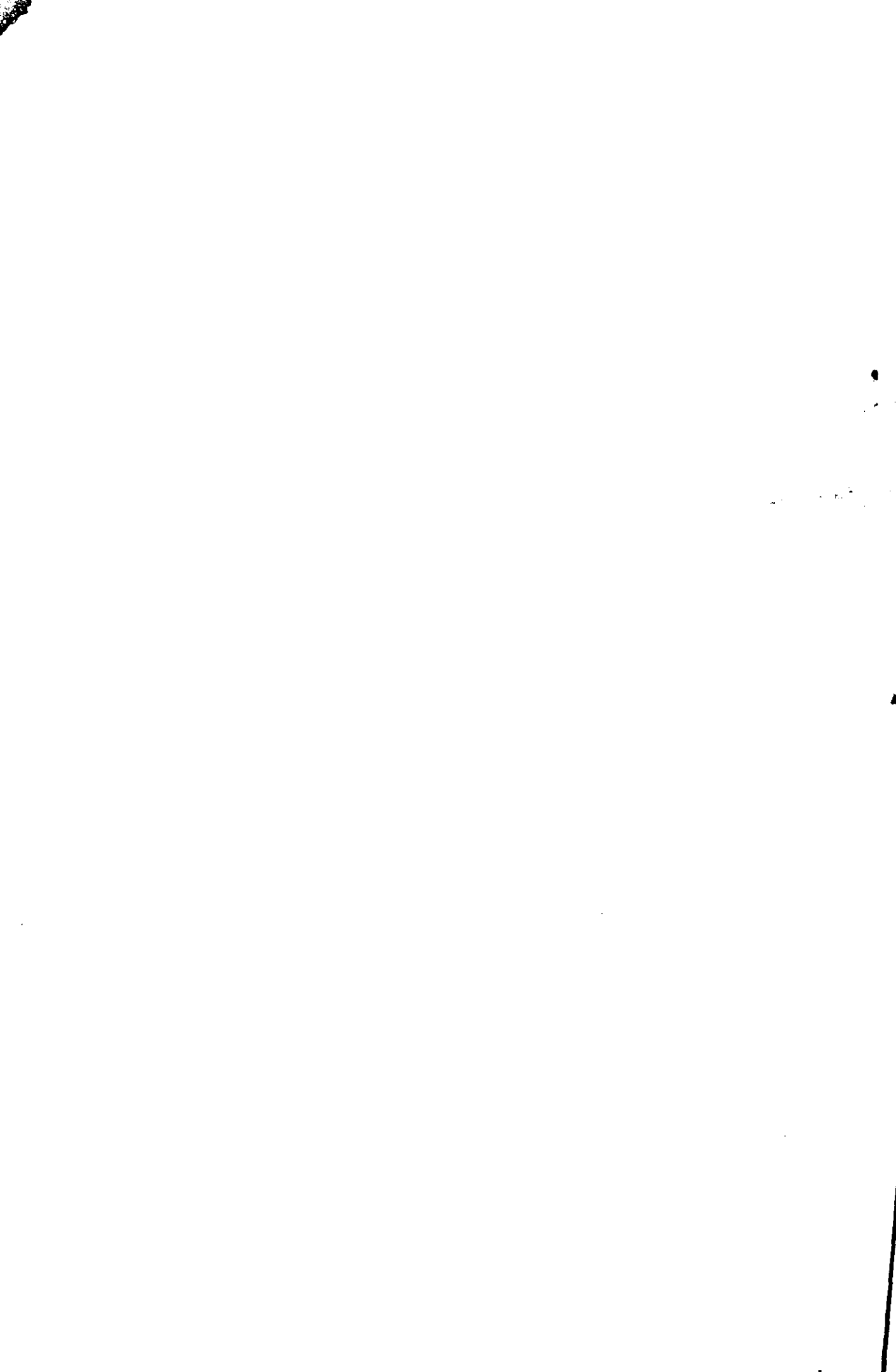
**REPORT ON  
ACTION RESEARCH  
IN LOCAL LEVEL STATISTICS**

IN  
**PULLAMPARA PANCHAYAT**

**DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS**

VIKAS BHAVAN  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
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1384



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### **PROJECT TEAM**

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## **Terms of Reference**

1. Take stock of the availability of the existing data, system for their collection, Periodicity, their reliability, level of use etc.
2. To identify the gap exists in the collection and compilation of statistical data for local level planning.
3. Evaluate the system for collection of by product statistics for sectors like Information Technology, Communication, Tourism, Industry, Labour, Health and Demography, Nutrition, Infrastructure, Transport & Environment, Forest, Water resources, Agriculture and allied sectors, Banking, Revenue, Education, etc.
4. Evaluate the system for collection of statistics on public assets and suggest an Appropriate system if the existing system is not satisfactory.
5. Suggest a system for collection and use of Environmental Statistics at the local level.
6. Suggest techniques and modifications in sampling to put to use natural statistics at local level, eg: NSSO surveys.
7. Suggest how Economic Census can be used for local level planning.
8. Suggest the role of the Department of Economics & Statistics in the new scenario and how it should be restructured to cater to the needs of local governments.
9. Suggest a system for assigning responsible for the regular collection of statistical data and its monitoring.
10. Suggest a system for collection of data pertaining to human development at the local level.
11. To evolve a system for the integration of data at the Block, District and State level.

## CHAPTER I

### SUMMARY FINDINGS AND RECOMMEDATIONS

A summary of the major findings and recommendations based on the filed study in the Pullampara Panchayat is as follows.

#### **Summary Findings**

1. The Panchayat committee and even officials of the line departments have admitted that there is a need to collect, compile and make available authentic information for development planning in the panchayat and this is possible only through an agency which has the technical and other capabilities.

2. Prescription of a Performa alone is absolutely inadequate to get good quality data. It should be combined with personal who are well versed in the art of data collection and well trained in methods and measures.

3. Multiplicity of agencies, lack of adequate and timely coordination in adequate resources and other support activities have hindered data availability to the local bodies.

4. None of the local panchayats have a satisfactory arrangement of collection and compilation of information in a scientific manner.

5. All secondary sources of information and data need not be authentic and reliable.

6. Certain activities are knowingly neglected and promoted by the local bodies in the interest of employment generation or any other interests. It might be difficult for the local bodies to check such activities but needs separate monitoring mechanism, particularly issues related to environment.

7. A regular system of collection and collation of data and a streamlined mechanism consisting of both technical personal and public participation is a must for the long run working of the system.

8. Innovative developments in the analytical techniques and tools that develop from time to time need to be passed on to the officials of the department for cost effective collection and estimation of data.

9. Appropriate legislation should be brought in for the effective and speedy collection of data.

10. Participation of the ward Members, Panchayat President and other functionaries could enhance the authenticity and reliability of the data collected.



11. There exists certain area in which no data exists at all, at the same time they are of some importance in the development paradigm. Such areas need to be explored and data needs to be collected.

12. Some of the line departments are lacking in statistical capability, and requires to be adequately strengthened.

13. There are departments without any statistical personal at all who can do the activities relating to data and its management. New Units must be of some help to such departments.

## **Recommendations**

1. There should be a co-ordinating mechanism at all levels of local level planning, viz. Panchayat, Block, District and State level for the effective collection and flow of information.
2. At the grass root levels only technical advice and management can be carried out by the Statistics Department. Hence we recommend bringing in a separate mechanism with public participation.
3. Requirements of Statistical information have to be identified well in advance at all levels so that proper and effective planning can expedite the making available of information as and when needed.
4. The services of the Statistical Investigator/Research Assistant can be effectively utilised in the Panchayats as well as in the C.D. Blocks as Data Managers.
5. Adequate training, including training on the use of IT should be made a routine programme in the Department. The IT wing of the department should be suitably strengthened.
6. There should have a Statistical Adviser to government over and above the departmental functionaries, who should be a candidate capable enough and well versed in latest trends and tools of Statistics. He should be able to provide over all advise to Government on all matters relating to Statistical information.
7. The Director, Department of Economics and Statistics may be raised as Director General and one more post of Director and One post of Additional Director may be created.
8. The post of Deputy Director as District head may be raised to Joint Director.
9. Wherever no data exist fresh efforts should be made to collect and compile information.
10. The information collected should be scientifically valid and hence the data collectors need to be adequately trained in the training centre of the Department of economics and Statistics.
11. Natural Statistics should be suitably strengthened wherever feasible so as to get a reliable estimate for each Panchayat.
12. Periodic submission of by product Statistics should be ensured by the concerned line departments, under the supervision of the Statistical Adviser to Government.

13. Adequate training in advanced tools of data collection and estimation needs to be made a routine process since there exist scope for making use of such innovative methods to existing data.

14. The Economic Census can be effectively utilised to construct an index of informal sector growth through appropriate legislation to submit returns to the statistical authorities.

15. The Panchayat should keep a stock of the environmental changes that are visible and taking place in and around them.

16. Generation of the Panchayat level data on Agricultural Statistics should consider the cultivation in non revenue land also. Methodologies that are practiced at present needs to be suitably modified.

17. Regular collection of data should be entrusted with the Ward Statistical Samithi in the wards, Panchayat Statistical Samithi for the Panchayat as a whole and the Block Statistical samithi in C.D. Blocks.

18. At least one Investigator has to be made available to each Panchayat to work as data Manager.

19. Modern methods like Participatory Rural appraisal techniques may be used to identify the need of the data for the local community.

20. Adequate training on methods of data collection and techniques should be provided both to the officials of line departments who will be engaged in the collection of data as well as to other political personal who will be involved.

21. A new Analysis wing may be created in the Directorate to appropriately interpret the data collected and should be manned with experienced and knowledgeable manpower.

22. Planning may be made to switch over to completely computerised data management system may be implemented in all places of the department and the local bodies.

23. Some of the line departments need to be adequately strengthened to convert by product statistics to good quality. In a few others separate new units should be started.

24. EARAS scheme should be redesigned suitably in such a way to make realistic estimate of the agricultural production within each local body as the present design do not reflect the real production in the local body level. There exist under estimations in certain crops, as a result of the exclusion of some of the cropped areas from the structure of the design itself.

## **CHAPTER-2**

### **ACTION RESEARCH – AN INRODUCTION**

Government of Kerala, on realising the importance of updating and upgrading its statistical system, especially in the light of the recommendations of the National Statistical Commission has launched a study with assistance from the UNDP. The Statistical system in Kerala is graded to be one among the best state level systems prevailing in the country. Consequent on the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> constitutional amendments the local bodies in the State had gained considerable importance both in the devolution of powers and also on the responsibilities of the elected representatives in carrying out the process of developmental activities. As one-third of the State's plan funds are channelled through the local bodies, there is a felt need for good quality data at the local level in respect of all sectors. The Local Governments in the State numbering 991 Grama Panchyats and 53 Municipalities show diversity sectorally and geographically. Since the grama panchayaths have been statutorily provided with the autonomy to decide their course of development, the requirements of data also varies. The conventional system of collection of information and statistical data needs a drastic change in its approach and design. The action research on local level statistics aims to critically evaluate the present availability and to evolve suitable methodologies for collection, collation and dissemination of local level statistics, so as to make use of it for the purposes of planning by the local bodies. It also aims to identify and suggest suitable methodologies for bridging data gaps, if any, so that all data requirements of the local bodies are met.

The present project funded by UNDP has identified five panchayats and a municipality for carrying out Action Research on local level statistics. These regions were selected on the basis of Malabar, Kochi, Travancore, Coastal, Hilly and urban areas. Over and above this, the criteria for selection of the locations of study was, predominantly agricultural or agriculture dependant, predominantly industrial, coastal and fisher folk, urbanisation etc. The above selection was carried out with specific purpose of representation from all sectors and sections of population like backward area, industrial area, agricultural area, fisherman area, tribal area and urban area.

The Directorate of Economics & Statistics was entrusted with the task of action research in **Pullampara Panchayat** in Thiruvananthapuram district. As mentioned above, the said panchayat was selected in order to identify and suggest measures for improvement of statistical system to a typically Agrarian society.

### **Pullampara Panchayat – an overview**

Situated in the north of Vamanapuram River, south of Manikkal panchayat, east of Paravoor panchayat, west of Nellanad panchayat and north-east of Nanniyode panchayat. It has land gifted with natural flora and fauna. Vengamala, a possible tourist spot surrounded by small and big hills, valleys, canals, paddy fields etc. is situated in the panchayat. It is also a known pilgrime centre for Hindu particulars in the Tribal belt. In the Vamanapuram River, near Santhinagar, there is a natural waterfall, which, could possibly attracts tourists. The genesis of the Panchayat dates back to 1953.

Located in the Vamanapuram block panchayat, Nedumangad Taluk of Thiruvananthapuram district, it has an area of 25.9 sq.km with a total population of 26890 (5247 households as per the latest census of 2001). The number of wards in the Panchayat as of today is 12. The following table gives a brief description of the demographic particulars of the panchayat.

**Table No. 1**  
**Pullampara Panchayat - an overview**

Sl. No		Male	Female	Total
1.	Population	13750	13140	26890
2.	SC	1817	1952	3769
3.	ST	28	29	57
4.	Literate	8568	8441	17009
5.	Illiterate	2162	3281	5443
6.	Workers	5413	1310	6723
7.	Main workers	4048	7321	4776
8.	Casual labourers	384	17	401
9.	Agricultural labourers	717	120	837
10.	Marginal workers	1365	579	1944
11.	House less	1	0	1

One shocking information evinced from the table is that there exists a large number of illiterates among the population, despite the phenomenal achievements in the

state. These are mostly tribes living inside forest regions and have very poor connection with the external world. These large illiterates itself till now development is a problem to the district. Also as it stands today local bodies are increasingly involved in primary education specific targeting is required to make the illiterates read and write. Yet another striking point is the large number of marginal workers, who could possibly be employed only partly, a usual phenomenon in an agrarian District

Major crops grown in this panchayat are paddy, coconut, rubber, pepper, tapioca, cashew, areca nut, and plantain with minor crops like betel leaves, vegetables etc. Only 11 % of the total panchayat area is paddy field. The major crop grown is Rubber. There is also cultivation in non revenue land, which cannot be captured in the usual surveys of the Department.

Government offices in the Panchayat are, the Village Office, Panchayat Office, Krishi Bhavan, Veterinary hospital, Ayurveda hospital, Primary Health Centre and Village Extension Office. There are 187 Kudumbasree units working in the Panchayat, engaged in various activities such as manufacturing of agarbathi, soap, chappals, bag, umbrella, pappad, detergents, etc. Field visit has been made and several discussions were conducted with the Panchayat President and other Members. The stock of available statistics in the panchayat and how they go about in arriving at decisions in the process of approval of schemes came up for discussion. Lapses and lacunae in the already existing data sets were discussed. Some of the areas in which there is absolutely no data available, have been pointed out by the president and panchayat members. The present system of how data are collected and made available to the local body for panchayat level planning and maintenance of records were verified with the Anganwadis, Primary health Centre, Sub centre, Ayurveda Hospital, Veterinary hospital etc.

The existing stock of data and the methodology of collection were also subjected to serious discussion among the group. Both the Panchayat members as well as some of the field level officers whom we met are of the opinion that data are at stake in quality in many of the sources, although it may be difficult for them to officially admit the lapse.

The major areas in which data are required by the Panchayat and the existing data sources and gap are discussed in the next.

## CHAPTER-3

### STOCK OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE EXISTING DATA, SYSTEM FOR THEIR COLLECTION, PERIODICITY, RELIABILITY AND LEVEL OF USE AND IDENTIFICATION OF DATA GAP

#### Introduction

Under para 167 of the Panchayat Raj act it is stated that the panchayats can be given the authority to do the following over and above the functions already stipulated in the earlier rules. collection of land revenue, survey of land and maintenance of records on land, Collection of Rural Statistics, Maintenance of primary schools owned by government, control and maintenance of Primary health Centres and mother and child institutions, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Communication, small and cottage industries, Soil Conservation, Environmental Protection, Forestry and wild life protection, Protection of destitute and old age, cultural activities and adult education etc are the functions that are brought under the control and supervision of the local bodies. This shows that the panchayaths are empowered to initiate and implement developmental project in the aforesaid activities within the local body area.

The action research in this report is primarily considering the data requirements of a local body in an agrarian area. From the discussion with the Panchayat committee of Pullampara Panchayat the following areas have been identified as the key areas for collection of data for Planning, implementation and Monitoring of the Development schemes under the Panchayat. These can be further divided into different categories as shown below.

1. Demographic statistics
2. Land use Statistics
3. Data on housing - Requirement stock & gap
4. Data on Industry: - Small and cottage industries - potential and existing.
5. Agricultural and non-agricultural enterprises: -
6. Employment unemployment situation in the local body
7. Data on roads and communication
8. Educational statistics
9. Health and family planning
12. Livestock Statistics and Fisheries
13. Forestry
14. Mining and quarrying
15. Water resources including drinking water
16. Public health
17. Poverty statistics
18. Other public Institutions including orphanages, old age homes
19. Natural resource

20. Statistics on crops and crop damages
21. Statistics on Markets for agricultural produce
22. SC/ST colonies
23. Private hospitals and nursing homes
24. Traditional Medical Practitioners
25. Tourism
26. Statistics on stone blasting and quarrying and sand mining
27. Data on female-headed households
28. Data on empowerment and gender issues
29. Data on settlement of disputes.
30. Data on labour availability and stock.
31. Statistics on Ayalkoottams.

The above are only indicative of the plausible areas to get an idea and back ground. If one goes deeper each one of these needs to be further disaggregated into different sub and sub minor categories for collection, storage and retrieval of data.

Data are expected to be available on many of the above aspects as per the Performa for collection of details drawn and made available to the Anganwadis and other institutions. But due to lack of adequate incentives, technical guidance and inadequacy, data even if expected to be available are not in proper shape or form. Hence it is necessary to have the technical guidance of personal from the Dept. of Statistics. Having examined the need areas one should also explore the extent to which information are available. In order to ascertain the present availability of Statistics, its acceptability, content and reliability the team has visited almost all the offices and NGO centres within the panchayat area. The extent of availability, acceptability and reliability of information has been ascertained through the examination of records maintained and available and also through discussions. A detailed statement of availability, acceptability etc. is appended below.



DATA AVAILABILITY AND ACCEPTABILITY IN RESPECT OF PULLAMPARA PANCHAYAT

Sl. No	Sources of data	Areas/subjects covered	Type of data available	Periodicity	Comments on acceptability and authenticity	Suggestive action for filling data gaps	suggestions for consolidation analysis and reporting
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>A. PUBLISHED SOURCES</b>							
1.1	Population Census Reports	Demographic data	Ward wise, sex wise, educational standard wise, Type of employment wise, Economic activity of main and marginal workers, type of industry of employment, class of workers, facilities of transport, Age wise, marital status wise, Household amenity data such as housing, Water, sanitation. Particulars on fertility, migration with reason for migration, etc.	Decennial/ panel Data are available	Acceptable	Nil	Analysis at local body level would through an analytical background for policy.
1.2	do	Demographic data on SC/ST/others religion etc	The above information are available caste wise, religion wise and scheduled caste and tribe wise	Do	All data are acceptable		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.1	Livestock Census	Data on cattle, sheep, goat, mule, dog, pigs, birds etc.	<p>4</p> <p>Details of stock of different animals, age specific and sex specific along with details of poultry on a quinquennial basis. Details of veterinary medical facility and distance to the facility are covered. Fish market, fishing harbours, Ice plant, details of dairy farms, poultry units, broiler farms, Gobar gas plants, The data are available for SC/ST and others. Cross bred and indigenous animals, whether used for work or breeding, whether in milk and if so average yield per day. Details of almost all domesticated animals and birds are available. Details of agricultural implements, irrigation equipment's, tractor and power operated machines, no of persons in each house engaged in fishing, details of trawlers, nets, liners, traditional gears etc.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>2003 quinquennial</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Reliable</p>	<p>7</p> <p>ward wise are available - quality ensured</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Detailed analysis of the available data are yet to be carried out</p>
2.2	Reports on integrated sample survey	Annual changes in the livestock data are estimated by the Animal Husbandry dept. from the integrated sample survey	<p>Production of milk, poultry, eggs, etc estimated on a regular basis</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Reliability is at stake at panchayat level</p>	<p>Sample size needs to be enhanced with suitable stratification in order to ensure better quality</p>	<p>Detailed analysis of the available data are not being carried out</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.1	Hand book on Panchayat level Statistics	workers and work participation, number and area of individual operational holdings, details of SSI units, details of handloom societies, Transport, number of motor vehicles, road tax collected, communication facilities, Electricity connection and average monthly consumption, Public distribution system, Medical Institutions, social and cultural institutions, number of beneficiaries scheme wise etc.	Workers and work participation, number and area of individual operational holdings, details of SSI units, details of handloom societies, Transport, number of motor vehicles, road tax collected, communication facilities, Electricity connection and average monthly consumption, Public distribution system, Medical Institutions, social and cultural institutions, number of beneficiaries scheme wise etc.	1996 & 2001	Reliable	Annual renewal of the data are required. some of the information provided are too old and needs updating.	Data collected by the concerned panchayats need to be vetted by a group of officers in the district consisting of DD Education, Manager - EI of DIC (as district co-ordinator), Principal Agriculture Officer, DD - Harijan welfare, Tribal welfare district officer, and the District Information Officer with the District Collector as Chairman of the Committee and DD, Economics and Statistics as the Convenor.
3.2	Report on Economic Census	Data on enterprises	Ward-wise details of number of enterprises in both unorganised and organised sectors, number of employees, working proprietors, sex wise and details of child labour. Details are also available on industry group wise, number of premises, multiplicity of enterprises type of ownership etc.	Every five years but recommended to be decennial	reliable	ward wise data can be generated for different categories	Analysis have not been carried out so far

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.3	Report on Agriculture Census	Data on agricultural situation, land holdings, agricultural implements, irrigation etc.	Panchayat wise estimates of type of land operational holdings, type of crops, agricultural implements, irrigation details etc.	Every 5 year Quinquennial	Census sample but reliability of estimates is to be ensured	Panchayat wise can be estimated from the samples of data collected for the wards in a panchayat	Analysis needs to be carried out.	
3.4	Report on All India Education Survey	Data on school facilities, enrolment ratio, drop out rate, schemes implemented in the schools, Number of teachers, school amenities etc. of all types of schools - both aided and unaided	School wise information on facilities, enrolment ratio, drop out rate, schemes implemented in the schools, Number of teachers, school amenities etc. of all types of schools - both aided and unaided. Information on sex wise details of students.	Quinquennial	Reliable	Data is generally available at AEO level but can be computed from existing data itself to cater to Panchayat needs.	Analysis at local level could not be carried out since the data were not released to the local bodies.	
3.5	Report on the Third Census of SSI units	Data on sickness in SSI units and its incidence	Panchayat/ward wise information on number of units in operation, nos sick and reason for sickness	Decadal	reliable	Generally gives an idea on the sickness and causes of sickness but only registered SSI units are covered	Further analysis have not been carried out	

3.6	1 Report on Irrigation Census	2 Category wise no of MI schemes, proposed area irrigated, actual area irrigated social group of the scheme, reason for non working, Command major irrigation to which source connected	3 Quinquennial	4 partly reliable	5 a sample check at the time of Irrigation Census by the DES could ensure quality	6 A minor Irrigation Census on defect and partly constructed schemes are being undertaken by the Dept.
3.7	1 Administration reports of the Panchayat	2 Financial and physical achievements	3 Annual	4 Expenditure details are acceptable rest one needs further check	5 The monitoring mechanism suggested could partly solve the problem of quality.	6 Recently many of the local bodies are not publishing
		4 Annual revenue, expenditure, grants received, plan funds etc. details of works carried out such as social security benefits, housing for the poor, educational expenses to schools, roads constructed, ponds constructed/renovated, dug wells constructed/renovated, extension activities to agriculture and agri related activities etc in brief.				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>UN PUBLISHED SOURCES</b>							
1.	Anganwadi 1) Family Survey Register	Demographic details of families, birth, death, nutritional status of children, mothers and adolescent girls, immunisation, drinking water facility, sanitation facility, electrification, Family planning, physical handicaps, etc.	Data are expected to be updated periodically hence annual data can be easily compiled	Annual	Data on items available are unreliable but the questionnaires in which they are expected to collect information are found to be incomplete, in many of them.	Adequate training needs to be imparted to the workers and also effective supervision on collection of data so that accuracy can be ensured.	Data were not available for analysis hitherto.
	2) Birth Register	Name & address, age date of birth, sex of the mother, sex, weight at birth of child, delivery details(normal/scissarian)	All household details under the jurisdiction of the ANGANWADY, sometimes we have to aggregate details from two or more Anganwadies to get ward data.	Annual			
	3) Pregnancy Register	Name & address of pregnant women, age, caste, last menses period, expected delivery date, actual date of delivery, details of injections, supplementary nutrition etc	Annual data can be compiled from these registers	Annual			
	4) Lactating Register						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	Panchayat						
	1) Marriage Register	Name, Age, Address and occupation of the married couples	Occupation wise and religion wise details can be compiled	Continuous	Reliable	Data consolidation and reliability needs to be checked in respect of some of the periodicals	Needs to be further examined and analysed
	2) Birth/Death Register	Details of the number of Birth and death	Monthly data on birth, sex of the child, type of delivery, death, infant death, hospitalisation, type of treatment etc. Ward wise type of structure wise data can be compiled on an annual basis.				
	3) Assessment Register	House No., Name and address of the owner, Type of the building, Value of the building, Rent value of the rented house, Building Tax, Tax exempted houses	Annual classification of the expenditure can be made according to the purpose for which the amount is spent. Annual data can be compiled				
	4) Expenditure Register	Head of account wise details of expenditure	Annual data can be compiled				
	5) Revenue Register	Head of account wise details of revenue					
	6) Beneficiary Registers	Data on unemployed, agricultural labourers' pension, maternity benefits separately shown					

<p>7) Register of Vacancy Remission</p>	<p>Details of property value, building value, vacancy, remission with assessment on building and amount of remission allowed under different heads.</p>	<p>Industry group wise employment can be computed</p>	<p>Continuous</p>	<p>Reliability need to be checked</p>
<p>8) register on shops and establishments</p>	<p>Name and address, license, employment, etc</p>	<p>Age wise, sex wise, education group wise details on employment</p>	<p>Annual</p>	
<p>9) Registers on Kerala Development Programme (Janakeeya asuthranam)</p>	<p>Sector wise details of different projects.</p>	<p>Data on each of the projects and details of the project. Nature of work amount of assistance etc.</p>	<p>Monthly data can be compiled</p>	<p>Reliable</p>
<p>10. Annual Financial statement</p>	<p>Annual expenditure details of each of the works carried out. Consolidated details of the annual item wise expenditure and revenue at a glance.</p>	<p>Consolidated data on activities in an year</p>	<p>Annual</p>	<p>Reliable</p>



<p>3 Krishi Bhavan 1) Basic data Register 2) Registers on various schemes</p>	<p>Data on land, area under crop, pesticide used, seeds distributed, and assistance distributed, geographical area, no of SC/ST colonies, no of agricultural labourers, no of padasekharams under padasekharams</p>	<p>Data on land, area under crop, pesticide used, seeds distributed, and assistance distributed, geographical area, no of SC/ST colonies, no of agricultural labourers, no of padasekharams, Area under padasekharams</p>	<p>monthly and annual</p>	<p>grossly unreliable as the numbers are fictitious</p>	<p>Data cannot be used for any further analysis</p>	<p>No analysis has been carried out so far</p>
<p>4. Veterinary Hospital 1) O.P. Register 2) Insemination Register 3) Infertility Register 4) Post-mortem Register 5) Stock Register</p>	<p>Assistance details from Coconut Development Board, Technology transfer, details on natural calamity, state level agricultural insurance, classification and number of cultivators etc. Owner's name and address, category of animal, type of disease, medicine prescribed, No. of insemination, animal description, semen no, details of payment received. Infertility details, prescriptions for infertility, Information on insurance of animals, Data available on animal health management information system, details of extension services provided Daily stock and induction of medicines, data on distribution of chicken,.</p>	<p>Annual data on assistance details from Coconut Development Board, Technology transfer, details on natural calamity, state level agricultural insurance, classification and number of cultivators etc Disease wise, ownership wise and animal category wise data can be generated on monthly basis, but restriction of panchayat may be difficult as there can have overlapping depending on the distance. Seasonal data on infertility can be computed on region wise.</p>	<p>Continuing</p>	<p>Reliable</p>	<p>Data needs to be classified and analysed</p>	<p>No analysis so far</p>

<p>5. Primary Health Centre</p> <p>1. Out patient register</p> <p>2. Pharmacy register</p> <p>3. Mother and Child care record</p>	<p>Data on individual medicines used, investigations undergone, morbidity, laboratory</p> <p>Daily disbursement of each category of medicine, stock of medicine etc.</p> <p>Details of pregnancy, age wise, order of pregnancy, No of living children, details of laboratory test on urine, blood, expected date of confinement, height, weight etc of the mother, Distribution of iron tablets, folic acid etc. Danger signals of the foetus if any, date and place of delivery of the child, type of delivery, delivery complications if any, Family Planning acceptance. These records are available with each ANM. But reliability is highly questionable.</p>	<p>Age wise, sex wise classification of disease, and medicine used. Monthly-consolidated data is being sent to DMO.</p> <p>Monthly data exist</p> <p>Data are not at all usable due to very poor quality and maintenance of records.</p>	<p>Continuing</p> <p>Continuing</p> <p>continuing</p>	<p>data on very few items are reliable</p> <p>Reliability is absolutely poor.</p> <p>Reliability is absolutely poor</p>	<p>through training needs to be imparted to get reliable data. More over manipulations in the accounts of medicines need to be checked.</p>
<p>. Child record</p> <p>5. Sterilisation Register</p> <p>6. Antenatal Clinic Register</p>	<p>Weight of the child on delivery, date of birth, sex, date of BCG, OPV doses, DPT, immunisation status after one year, nutrition supplementation etc. Family Planning both temporary and permanent measures. Details of all pregnant women.</p>				

7. Communicable disease register	Contains attack of epidemic and details of communicable diseases of all seasons. Name of disease, age sex etc. Contains details on name of the deceased, age, sex, nature of disease etc.					
8. Death Register	Details on date of insertion, No of children, age, removal date, failure case if any, etc.					
9. IUD Register	Details on name of the member, head, usual resident or not, age, sex, marital status, education, occupation, income, No of children, sex of children etc.					
10. Family health Register						
6. Ayurveda Hospital		Monthly/quarterly data can be compiled	continuing	partly reliable	May not be of much use to local area planning, since patients from other local bodies also avail the service	Analysis to be done
1. O.P. Register	Particulars of patient, disease, medicine prescribed.					
2. Medicine stock register	Stock of medicines received from the Oushadhi					
3. Medicine daily preparation register	Details of raw ayurvedic materials for the preparation of medicines.					
7. Schools	Basic school register, data on number of students with break up on SC/ST, standard wise, drop outs, number and qualification of teachers, and basic amenities of school such as play ground, urinals, garden etc.	Annual data can be compiled	Annual	Reliable	Only consolidation is required	Analysis need to be made

	continuing	reliable	permanent classification of land can be obtained from the village records according to ownership, forest land etc	Analysis need to be made. The land records as such may not be of any use except for revenue collection.
<p>8. Village Office Basic Tax Register Field Measurement Book Register of certificates issued</p>			<p>Data on land classification, survey No., Area etc  Details on survey No. And sub division. Details of revenue recovery,  Details of about 178 types of certificates being issued by the Village Officer.</p>	
<p>9. Roads and communication</p>			<p>Length of roads and type</p>	
<p>10. Electricity</p>	Continuing	Reliable	<p>No. of connections (domestic, commercial, industrial, agriculture), No. of street lights.</p>	<p>A reclassification according to local bodies is required since Electrical Sub divisions cut across boundaries.</p>
<p>11. Village Extension Office</p>	Continuing	Doubtful	<p>Name, address, age, sex, land possessed, class such as SC,ST, Physically handicapped etc, details of loan class of assistance selected such as animal husbandry, agriculture, industry, services, trade etc.</p>	
<p>application forms for assistance</p>	Continuing		<p>Identification of the beneficiary, SC/ST/Women, category such as small farmer, Agri.Labour, Non Agri. Labour, Rural artisan, Family income no of members, name of financial institution etc. Particulars of subsidy eligible recommended, sanctioned, utilised.</p>	

SGSY Register	Name and address of beneficiary and amount sanctioned. Survey data on total sanitation	Ward wise information on occupation, below or above poverty line, extended of land possessed, nature of well, drainage system, latrine, type of latrine if available, composting facility, water logging if any, ponds etc, existence of smoke free chimney, staple, etc.	One time survey	Needs reverification of authenticity and correctness	
IAY Register Total sanitation	Verification data on assets				
Kudumbastree units.	Data on members such as name, age, sex data on micro-finance, thrift, loans sanctioned and availed, type of skill of the members etc.	Assets existing, disposed off, details of loan repayment, no of defaulters, nature of default and reason for default, etc. Data on BPL survey are also available but it is grossly unreliable.	Continuous	Reliable	
Co-operative Banks	Details of membership, Sc/St separate, Loans and advances made, repayments received, purpose of loans, deposits received, period of deposit, interest rate followed etc.	Monthly data can be compiled	continuous	Reliable	
Milk Co-Operatives	Details on membership, distribution of feed, milk received, type of cattle, off take of milk per day, Fat content of the milk, payments to members etc.	Monthly data can be compiled	continuous	reliable	

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## DATA GAPS

Data gaps exist to a major extent in many of the sectors and sub sectors of the local economy. Although in several cases data are being collected lacunae still exist because of certain technical issues. The following are major gaps noticed in the panchayat and the discussions with the panchayat members confirm the same.

Land use pattern available with the village authorities are in sufficient to meet the requirements of local level planning. Data generated by the Dept. of Economics and Statistics need to be revamped so as to suit to the requirements of the local body with sufficient redesign and enhancement of samples could plug the gap. A true reflection of the entire agricultural production in the local economy is needed.

Details of micro enterprises, subsidy flow to enterprises, assistance received problems in marketing, other problems faced etc are absolutely unavailable neither in the local body level nor at an aggregate. We suggest certain inexpensive measures to collect such information.

Details on Mining activities, quarrying and clay mining are very much prevalent in the panchayat. But no details are available both from the resource point of view as well as from the resultant problems in depletion of ground water and other environmental problems. Since such mining is on the rise from time to time exploitation of such resources beyond a point will be disadvantageous.

Knowingly or unknowingly the panchayats are forced to take a passive stand and in certain cases they are even promoting it by providing licences on the plea that it would generate employment or even disperse some of the existing employment avenues. Studies should be conducted in such areas to fix a point to which such exploitation can be made depending upon the regenerative capacity.

Details of major agricultural products particularly plantation crops are not at all available or being collected at a disaggregate level. Information available with the *Krishi Bhavan* in the panchayat is admittedly unreliable and is not authentic. They are not collected in a scientific manner.

Credit flow through non-banking financial intermediaries is greatly prevalent in rural areas. Despite the presence of nationalised and regional rural banks and co-operatives people are forced to approach such moneylenders for their immediate short-term requirements. Our focus group discussions suggest that such short-term facilities are not being extended to them by the formal institutions at present. The rate of illiteracy prevalent among the local community

exacerbates the phenomena, as they have to resort to a surety in the formal sector. Although this does not come under the jurisdiction of panchayat activities it has a high influence on the economic activities among the poorer sections of the area. Statistics on this is of immense use for saving the community from undue interest charged by the money lenders. This is an area in which no data exist.

Data on employment and unemployment in the panchayat is not available on a reasonably good quality excepting the decennial census. Census data are also not available to the local body as and when they require it at disaggregate level. A stock of manpower according to their education and activities are expected to be available from the Anganwadi but this is never collected in full. In the employment scenario, skill position and use are not available. Statistics on stock of such man power would be of importance to the local area planning. The local Krishi Bhavan keeps a record of the man power available under Agricultural Labour but is very crude and not dependable.

Conversion of land from agricultural to many other uses in the local area is not available and is a decisive factor in policy making in the panchayats. Similar is the case with shifting of cultivation.

Data on floriculture and horticulture are not available, in the panchayat area.

Panchayat wise estimates of production of Milk, Eggs etc and its demand needs to be estimated with enhanced sample size in the integrated sample surveys through appropriate design changes in the survey. They present size of sample is too small to make a minimum error estimate.

Drop out statistics on educational institutions is suggested to be forwarded to the concerned local body by the headmaster of the school. The panchayat may initiate suggestive measures. Statistics on Adult Education is of much importance since the panchayat has a large number of illiterates. But the efforts and measures seems to be too meagre to get a tangible outcome.

There are several such areas in which data gap exists. A reasonable account of such gaps is provided along with the table in the pre pages. However the following table provide areas in which no data exist neither through by product statistics nor through primary collection. Such data are also of importance for the working of the panchayat machinery.

**Table 2-TABLE SHOWING AREAS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE LOCAL BODY BUT NO DATA EXIST**

Sl. No	Area where no data exist	Suggested methodology for collection	Suggested periodicity	Sl.No	Area where no data exist	Suggested methodology for collection	Suggested periodicity
1	Marketing of Agro products	Through separate survey	Seasonal	9	Data on mining activities & quarrying	Through introduction of legislation and its monitoring	Annual
2.	Employment & skill	"	Annual	10	Data on water table and drinking water availability	Ward wise	Seasonal
3.	Informal money lending	"	Annual/ Seasonal	11	Reliable poverty statistics	"	Quinquennial
4.	Tourism, festivals and culture tourism	"	Seasonal	12	Data on Pvt.medical institutions	Through legislation	Annual
5.	Free forest collection	"	Seasonal/ Annual	13	Data on traditional medicine particularly among tribes	through PRA's	one time
6.	Production of Plantation crops yield estimation	Crop cutting by season + Verbal autopsy	Crop cutting by season	14	Data on female headed households	Survey	Annual/ Bi annual
7.	Data on gradually extinct crops cultivation pattern and reason for substitution	One time	One time	15	Data on IT	Survey	Biannual
8	Data on conventional cottage industries	One time	"	16	Data on inland fisheries	Survey	Seasonal/Annual



## CHAPTER - 4

**EVALUATE THE SYSTEM FOR COLLECTION OF BY PRODUCT STATISTICS FOR SECTORS LIKE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, COMMUNICATION, TOURISM, INDUSTRY, LABOUR, HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY, NUTRITION, INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT & ENVIRONMENT, FOREST, WATER RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS, BANKING, REVENUE, EDUCATION, ETC.**

Running of routine activities by various institutions within the Panchayat area itself has some organisational structure. As a result of this several information are generated. Information on by product statistics are available to the panchayats only in respect of certain sectors and sub sectors, that too on an ad hoc basis. Information on communication data is available with the BSNL and local service providers. Information Technology (IT) is an up coming area and has not penetrated much into the rural panchayat like that of Pullampara, though there exist one or two private computer training institutions. IT has several sub sections in its backing. Existing data are very much inadequate in these. Data on Computer institutions can be had from the Census of computer institutions, recently carried out by the Dept. of Economics & Statistics. However, this is a one time Census. There exists no other possible source of data in the local authority level. This can be updated once the system of data collection envisaged in the report materialises.

Data on **Tourism** with particular reference to panchayats and local bodies is mainly on tourist spots and availability of facilities. There exist no system of collection of data on tourism in the Panchayat although there are certain tourist spots and culture tourist centres where daily/weekly visits take place.

A large number of tourists particularly low budget tourist visiting from other countries would like to have a natural environment for their stay and food (Bed and beak fast). Many of them are resorting to local houses for their accommodation and food, like paying guests. On the one hand it is an income earning activity to the local residents who can spare some space in their house for accommodating such tourists and also there can have a large demand later. But no data exist on this till date in the Panchayat nor does the panchayat have any plan although there are certain potential spots.

The local body can identify minor tourist spots, wherever feasible. This can be taken up with the Tourism Dept. of the state in order to convert it to a popular tourist

place, so that some revenue can be generated. The facilitation of the spots can also be made by the local body initiatives with assistance from the Tourism Dept. The panchayat under study has identified two such areas, which can be further developed to a reasonably well equipped destination.

In the industrial scenario, there are certain forest based manufacturing by using bamboo, reeds etc particularly among tribes. But data on any of these activities are not attempted nor any assistance extended to gather it, as we could understand by interviewing some focus groups. The panchayat also admittedly do not have any information on this nor by the line department.

Data on nutrition and nutrition related activities are being collected through Anganwadi surveys. But their reliability needs to be checked,

Data on environment do not exist in Pullampara panchayat as in the case of many of the local bodies. There exists no machinery also to check the environmental hazards in the Pullampara panchayat. For that matter there is no machinery probably in the whole C.D.Block.

## **CHAPTER-5**

### **EVALUATE THE SYSTEM FOR COLLECTION OF STATISTICS ON PUBLIC ASSETS AND SUGGEST AN APPROPRIATE SYSTEM IF THE EXISTING SYSTEM IS NOT SATISFACTORY**

Public assets in the local body area are usually constructed, operated and maintained by different agencies. A systematic data on such assets are not available in most of the local bodies and the same is the case with Pullampara panchayat. Each of the line departments are constructing such assets as part of their system and some of them are later handed over to the local bodies and some are operated and maintained by the parent organisation itself. The Rural Development Dept. through the CD Blocks and of late with the involvement of panchayats construct roads, bridges, ponds etc. as part of their employment generation programmes. Similarly the Ground water Dept. constructs bore wells and Tube wells for Irrigation. The KWA has constructed Mini water supply systems earlier. The Agriculture Dept. through the Krishi Bhavans also constructs Irrigation wells for irrigation.

The system of a separate collection of statistics for the use of the local body is required to take stock of the existing infrastructure available. An annual stock taking of such newly build systems would keep track of the stock and update the position.

## **CHAPTER - 6**

### **SUGGEST A SYSTEM FOR COLLECTION AND USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL.**

Statistics on Environment is a newly developed area, and data are not available on many aspects even in the district and state. The main source of data at present is from the State Pollution Control Board. Discussions with the Panchayat reveal that they have no idea about environmental issues in their locality. No data on local area are available nor there any felt need among the local bodies. The major problems that are confronted in the local level are;

- (i) Agriculture induced
- (ii) Small and tiny industry induced
- (iii) Mining and quarrying induced.
- (iv) Forestry related.
- (v) Water and water related issues.

We have only identified the major groupings. Each such major group can have several minor groups and measurement of each of them requires specific methodologies. Separate methodologies have to be evolved for sorting out these and measuring the problems. Some of these like availability of drinking water can be measured through some crude indicators like measuring the depth of water level in each location at some fixed points. At present there is no such system of collection of data in the local area level. How ever they feel serious shortage during summer as opined by some of the panchayat members.

Besides the above there can have Environmental problems from Households and other commercial establishments, butchery etc. The gravity of the problem depends on the level of development and achievement of the panchayat. No such data exist on these aspects. The ward Statistical samithi can be entrusted with the collection on certain areas. But certain other areas require specific scientific input.

## CHAPTER - 7

### SUGGEST TECHNIQUES AND MODIFICATIONS IN SAMPLING TO PUT TO USE STATISTICS AT LOCAL LEVEL, E.G.: NSSO SURVEYS.

The question of putting use of statistics like that of NSSO surveys, sample check area enumeration etc collected as part of the national programmes are insufficient to meet the needs at local level. The sample size and design of the surveys are envisaged for a national purpose or at the most for use at the level of the state or district. Hence the use of it at the panchayat level would be rather difficult considering the size of the samples used and the limitations in the design of such surveys.

The present system of collection of NSSO surveys, sample size etc are given in table 3.

The above table shows that the samples selected for detailed enquiry at household level is absolutely inadequate on several respects. Estimations based on the above samples cannot be made at even district level. Hence it is recommended that the sample size needs to be enhanced to at least between 1.5 and 2 percent level of households. In order to ensure a reasonable distribution of samples the samples of First stage units i.e. panchayat ward portions in respect of rural samples and UFS blocks (portions of municipal wards) are to be enhanced suitably.

Still it would be difficult in some of the rounds of NSSO to get one sample in each panchayat. This can be partly tided over by using recently developed statistical tools.

Methodologies are at the evolving stage in these, although no empirical application of these exists at the true sense of theoretical formulation excepting the ones made by World Bank, WIDER etc. Efforts are being made by IASRI to explore the possibilities of such studies. They are very much in their infant stage.

One such method that is evolved is the **Methods of Small Area Estimation Technique**. The technique says that "When a large sample is available from a large population and estimates are needed for numerous small domains of the population, traditional methods often fail because of small domain wise sample sizes. In small domain estimation, often referred to as small area estimation, in case the domain refers to a geographical region "traditional" or "direct" methods which utilize sample

**Table -3 Percentage of households selected for various rounds of National sample survey**

Sl. No.	Round No	No. of samples allotted for survey			Schedule type and schedule No.	No. of households / enterprises/ selected from the state Region			Percentage of households selected for study from the State		
		Rural	Urban	Total		Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	55	480	336	816	1. Employment Unemployment (10)	5760	4032	9792	0.114	0.234	0.146
					2. Informal non agricultural enterprises (2.0)	11520	8064	19584	0.230	0.470	0.292
					3. Consumer expenditure (1.0)	5760	4032	9792	0.114	0.234	0.146
2	56	584	504	1088	1. Unorganized manufacturing enterprises (2.2)	9344	8064	17408	0.186	0.470	0.258
					2. Consumer expenditure (1.0)	2336	2016	4352	0.046	0.118	0.064
3	57	848	460	1308	1. Unorganized services (2.345)	30528	16560	47088	0.610	0.964	0.700
					2. Consumer expenditure (1.0)	3392	1840	5232	0.068	0.108	0.078
4	58	344	216	560	1. Survey of classified persons (26)	4128	2592	6720	0.082	0.152	0.100
					2. Housing conditions (1.2)	4128	2592	6720	0.082	0.152	0.100
					3. Consumer expenditure (1.0)	1376	864	2240	0.028	0.050	0.034
					4. Village facilities (0.21)						
					5. Particulars of slums (Urban only) (3.1)						
5	59	600	304	904	1. Land and livestock holdings (18.1)	4800	2432	7232	0.096	0.142	0.108
					2. Debit and Investments (18.2)	8400	4256	12656	0.168	0.248	0.188
					3. Consumer expenditure (1.0)	2400	1216	3616	0.048	0.070	0.054
6	60	400	200	600	1. Morbidity and health care (25.0)	4000	2000	6000	0.080	0.116	0.090
					2. Employment and Unemployment (10)	3200	1600	4800	0.064	0.094	0.072
					3. Consumer expenditure (1.0)	1600	800	2400	0.032	0.046	0.036
7	61	728	392	1120	1. Employment Unemployment (10)	7280	3920	11200	1.460	0.228	0.166
					2. Consumer expenditure (1.0)	7280	3920	11200	1.460	0.228	0.166
					No. of households - 2001 census	5010259	1716097	6726356			

observations specific to respective domains alone are not often very fruitful because of smallness in the domain – specific sample sizes. So indirect estimators that involve sample values within respective domains may often gainfully employed. The rationale is that some or all domains may have similar features, which may encourage borrowing strength across “similar domains” by way of improving upon the direct estimators.

The newly emerging methods that can be made use of are

1. Synthetic methods
2. Composite Estimator – weighted combination of low variance synthetic estimators
3. Generalised regression methods
4. Empirical Bayesian estimation techniques,
5. Variance components analysis techniques,
6. Time series analysis,
7. Kalman filtering approach

The above methods make use of postulated models, which reflect “similarity of domains”. Despite all the above it is felt that the estimation can be made with reasonable accuracy only at CD Block level. Another problem that could be confounded is the availability of sufficient auxiliary information.

Taking into consideration of all the limitations in application to Agricultural Statistics as their design exists today estimates can be arrived at the Panchayat level if sufficient supplementary information using verbal autopsy techniques are collected to support the crop cutting experiment data.

Apart from all these, it needs to be emphasised that trained manpower is lacking in such methodologies in the department. Hence adequate training need to be imparted on these aspects either from IASRI or ISI Calcutta or both.

## **CHAPTER - 8**

### **SUGGEST HOW ECONOMIC CENSUS CAN BE USED FOR LOCAL LEVEL PLANNING.**

Economic Census in general takes two approaches in its data collection. The first is the enterprise approach and the second is the household approach. This gives an account of micro units of enterprises in the lowest unit of administration. This gives us a stock of such units prevalent in the local body area at one particular time point. The number of units is an indication of the production and services that undergo in the local area.

In order to make use of the data at local area level this is not enough. Hence we suggest the following. It is necessary to explore, over periods whether such pattern is sustainable or progressing or regressing or falls short of.

First legislation may be passed in the legislature that all such units have to submit a Performa on certain selected information such as the inputs used, out put generated, profit, no of workers etc. Impose a heavy penalty if the same simple Performa are not submitted. The Panchayat bill collector should be made responsible for collecting the information. Based on these we shall be able to work out a quarterly/half yearly index of informal sector for all the panchayats and these can be used for comparison between panchayats and over periods.

The local problems of the entrepreneurs can be identified and suggestive rectification measures to protect or support can be extended by the local body.

There could be problems with this data. In order to ascertain whether the data are correct or nearby to the truth, conduct sample surveys in selected local bodies or selected such informal sector units. Some times the samples of NSSO follow up surveys itself can be used to measure the authenticity of the data submitted by the units. The CSO also is prepared to fund for such studies on an occasional basis.



## CHAPTER - 9

### **SUGGEST A SYSTEM FOR ASSIGNING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE REGULAR COLLECTION OF STATISTICAL DATA AND ITS MONITORING**

Collection and streamlining of the statistical data from grass root level to that of the state calls for a thorough revamping of the existing system and also it involves a new approach in the level of the local body right from the ward level. It is not simply possible to collect the information through the existing machinery. It is suggested that the existing machinery can be used for collation and management of data. Also in order to get authentic information at grass root level it is necessary to collect information with the participation and involvement of local personal. The following system is suggested for collection and consolidation of data. The technical guidance and advice should still be from the department of statistics itself.

#### **Ward Statistical Samithy:**

Data in the grass root level is envisaged to be collected at ward level. The ward statistical committee is proposed to be consisting of the elected representative of the ward, the Anganwadi worker/s and the Health worker of the respective wards. An elected/nominated representative from social organisations may also be included in the ward statistical committee. It is the responsibility of the ward Statistical Samithy (WSS) to collect information required as per the guidelines of the Panchayat Statistical Samithy (PSS). Some of these details may be available with the Anganwadis and /or with the Public Health Nurse. Information that are not available with them need to be collected. The required technical guidance and training will be imparted from the Dept. of Economics and Statistics. This could ensure the quality of data collected. The Statistical Investigator (proposed Data Manager of the local body) will provide any further guidance on this.

Discussions with the Panchayat Members reveal that at present they do not have a system, which is strong and capable enough to provide sufficient statistics on a regular basis for their planning. The discussions with the President and the Panchayat Members also could not arrive at a tangible solution to solve the data needs and hence we feel that the following "Panchayat Statistical Samithy" (PSS) would be of help.

### **Panchayat Statistical samithy :**

Data collected by the ward Statistical Committees will be consolidated in the panchayat level by a group of members and Officials. The PSS is proposed to be consisting of the President, as Chairman and the Investigator in charge of the Panchayat as Convenor. The Chairmen of Panchayat standing committees should be ex-officio members of the PSS. The Investigator should function as the Data Manager (DM) of the Panchayat. Extension Officer (P&M) of the respective CD Block in which the local body is situated should be a member of the PSS. Besides the above the heads of offices of the line depts like Agriculture, PHC, Animal Husbandry, Ayurveda, etc and the Secretary to the Panchayat should be made as Members. The President can co-opt any other technical personal or elected ward member to be a member of the PSS.

It is necessary that the Panchayaths should know the pulse of the people before formulating and implementing the development plans and programmes. In order to ascertain the type of Development that is envisaged by the community. The panchayath before starting collection of data and before formulating programmes should carry out a series of focus group discussion or even PRA's. The WSS should be entrusted with the task of conducting such discussion. The suggestions and recommendations in the focus group discussions facilitated by the WSS should be transmitted to the PSS for further consolidation and discussion. This can provide sufficient guideline to the PSS to formulate programmes and also to suggest areas in which data need to be collected.

Data requirements vary from panchayat to panchayat depending on the type and level of development activities that are undertaken by them. It varies depending on the development perspective that is envisaged in the Panchayat council and in the Five year development plan. Based on the above in mind the PSS in their meeting can discuss and decide the areas and nature of data to be collected during each year, of course the basic data have to be collected in all respects and should be updated also. This has to be passed on to the Ward Statistical samithy for collection of course with the advice and concurrence of the Data Manager of the Panchayat for uniformity and also for meeting the statistical requirements. Required data should be collected by the WSS in the prescribed format and then passed on to the PSS. Data entry and other validation have to be done by the panchayat themselves under the guidance of the Data Manager. The Data Manager will look after management of the entire data and

guidance for collection and compilation alone. The line departments should directly furnish the data to the PSS and should be vetted by the PSS for authenticity and correctness. At present there are only 811 Investigators working in the field who can be assigned with the charge of local bodies. Hence it would be difficult to spare the services of one Investigator to each of the Panchayats. In certain cases one Investigator has to look after the functions of Data Managers in two Panchayats. Considering the work load and the need and effectiveness of the functioning it is desirable to have one Data Manager for each of the Panchayats. Assistance for consolidation, tabulation and scrutiny of data have to be carried out by the personal in the Panchayat itself under the guidance of the Data Manager with the support of Computers. The Data manager should have the responsibility to call out information, provide them in the required format and tables and assist the Panchayath samithi to take appropriate interpretations for decision making. He can also seek the guidance to TSOs in case of doubts. The PSS should provide the required information to the Block Statistical Samithy (BSS) and hence we suggest a "Block Statistical Samithy".

**Block Statistical Samithy:**

Data collected at the Panchayat level need to be consolidated at the Blocks and the same may be supplemented if required by the BSS for their use and functions. The structure of the BSS is as follows. The Chairman of the Block Level Statistical Samithy should be the President of the Block Panchayat. All Chairmen of the standing committees in the Block should be Members of the BSS. The Extension officer (P&M) should be the Convenor and the Taluk Statistical Officer of the respective Taluk should be the member. The office heads of the line departments and the Block Development Officer should be members of the BSS. The President of the BSS can co-opt any personal that can contribute to the working of the BSS. The Extension Officer (P&M) can function as the Block Data Manager (BDM). It will be the responsibility of the BSS to scrutinise and validate the data and forward to the District Statistical Samithy.

The BSS based on the five year development programme already charted out by the Block Development Council, should decide areas in which data are to be collected for meeting their requirements. This has to be passed on to the PSS and them, in their turn to the WSS for collection of the information. The data so collected have to be computerised either in the panchayat level or in the block level. The data collected for the BSS have to be scrutinised by the BSS before acceptance. The Block

Data Manager.iii if required can obtain technical assistance and guidance from the District Statistical Office.

**The District Statistical Samithy (DSS):**

The District Panchayat President can act as the Chairman of the DSS. The District Collector may be designated as the Vice Chairman. The Joint Director of Economics and Statistics (proposed) can be the Convenor. The Chairmen of the Standing committees in the District Panchayat can be the members and the district heads of line departments can be ex officio members. For the smooth and speedy functioning of the District Statistical System, it is suggested to have a sub committee in the district. The committee may consist of the District Collector as the Chairman, the Joint Director of Statistics (Proposed) as the Convenor, the District planning Officer as member and heads of District Offices and chairman of district standing committee as Members. It will be the responsibility of the sub committee to identify and assess the requirements of data in consultation with the line departments. Data flown from the Panchayats and Blocks as a result of their efforts for collection have to be passed on to the DSS for aggregation and scrutiny. After careful analysis of the data so received the DSS may permit the Joint Director Statistics (Proposed) to finalise the same. The finalised data have to be again vetted by the DSS and published for further use.

When ever data specifically required for the use of the District Panchayat and the DSS for the development planning in the district as a whole the Joint Director (proposed) and the District Statistical machinery should collect the information, collate it, scrutinise and validate the data and submit the same to the DSS. The state machinery in such cases will provide the required statistical advice and technical support. The DSS can examine the same and approve before publication and documentation.

In the District it will be a huge task to carry out all the activities of District Level Statistics. In order to co ordinate the activities it is suggested that the services of the Manager (Economic Investigation) in the District Industries Centre should be made as the coordinator. The District level data machinery needs to be connected with the State Statistical System, which needs improvement.

**State Statistical System:**

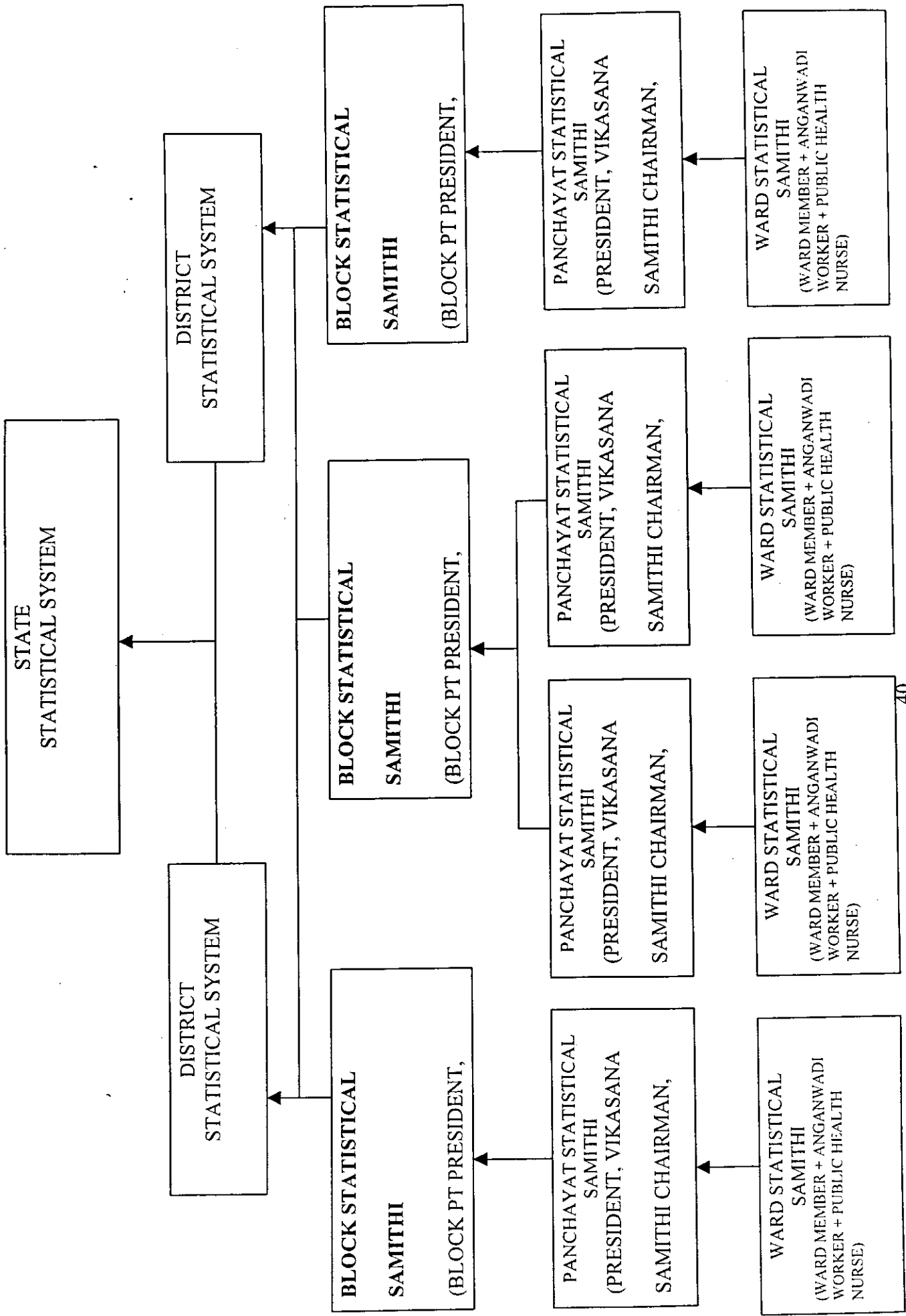
In the state head quarters the Department of economics and Statistics is the designated Statistics Authority. The Government of India also have declared the

Director of Economics and Statistics as the 'State Agricultural Statistics Authority'. The Present state statistical system is with a view to provide information based on sample surveys and secondary sources of data from line departments. Existing system of statistics do not envisage such disaggregated availability of data. With the introduction of the 73rd and 74th constitution amendment bill the responsibility, need and authenticity of the data and the requirement have expanded considerably. It should also be emphasised that the conventional methodology of collection of statistics requires a change to suit to the local conditions and also the error should be completely warded off. Hence we suggest the system as mentioned above.

The National Statistical Commission in its report submitted to Government of India has recommended, upgrading the position and grade of the Director of Economics and Statistics, to that of a Secretary to Government. We propose to upgrade the position of the Director to that of the Director General of Economics & Statistics. Below him we propose to have two Directors in the Headquarters, followed by four Additional Directors with specific functions and duties.

Apart from the above there should be a Statistical Adviser/Commissioner of Statistics to Government in the rank of a Secretary to government who should be able to oversee all the statistical activities and advise government as and when required. The post of Adviser/Commissioner of Statistics is suggested since it involves co-ordination and frequent discussions with almost all line departments of the government in order to assess data requirements and also to collect, collate and provide sufficient data. The Adviser should be well qualified with at least a Doctoral Degree in Economics/Statistics and should be capable enough to provide all support and advise required.

Considering the volume and quality of work and the technical backing the post of Directors are proposed. Almost all line departments of the government are having a statistical unit working, manned by personal from the Dept. of economics and Statistics. Joint Directors head a substantial number of these. Hence in order to co ordinate their functions and also to provide technical advice the existing post of Joint Director (Co-ordination) may be up graded to that of Additional Director (Co-ordination). In the new scenario there is the need for co ordination of the District Statistical samithies, which will be looked after by the Additional Director (Co-ordination). There is also the need for dissemination activities and publication of data, and research results under his control.



When the suggested statistical system right from the WSS up to the state headquarters reaches its full working, the technical support, co ordination of field activities, tabulation, and dissemination of data and also to conduct research studies a full fledged Director is required over and above the existing.

When the networking of the entire Statistical system of the state through Computer network comes to a full fledged operation there is the need to have complete control from the headquarters under the guidance of an Additional Director. The Additional Director (General) shall co ordinate all such activities. The flow and quantum of data also expands considerably when the system becomes fully operational. Over and above this the Additional Director (general) should look after the computation of the Human development index and the Research activities of the Dept. The present post of Additional Director (State Income) and Additional Director (Prices) shall be maintained as such but their role and functions expand. The Additional Director (State Income) will be in charge of the computation of District Domestic product and related District level poverty measures. The Additional Director (prices) may continue with the present workload.

For the smooth functioning of the activities as envisaged the strengthening of some of units in the headquarters becomes a must. There is only a small Library to the Dept. mostly with ad hoc additions. It is not manned at present with any one who has knowledge in Library science. There is the need to strengthen the Library with specific provision in the annual budget for procurement of books and other publications and other library and documentation tools.

The Computer unit in the head quarters as well as in the Districts are quite weak. There is an urgent necessity to strengthen the same with both hardware as well as software. There will be computerisation in the PSS level. The BSS system is already computerised. When a net work of data flow from these to the DSS and to the headquarters become operational the management, co ordination and aggregation of data will be all the more important. In that context the computer system in both headquarters as well as in the districts are important to be strengthened with not only software and hardware but also should be manned with trained personal.

At present the data collected and published are not systematically analysed and interpreted for ensuring appropriate policy formulations. It will be the responsibility of the Research wing to analyse and interpret data collected from time to time and also to analyse the long run trends and time series.

The present training system is to impart training on statistical methodologies and principles only to the department officers. But there exist a need to expand the training programme to that of elected representatives of local bodies and other legislative units. In the context of the 73rd and 74 th constitution amendment bill there is the need to train the elected members as well as the officers on statistical data collection, as it is a joint effort of both, that make the system a successful one. It is also possible that exploratory methods of data collection and analysis that are developed should be put into operation only through thorough training. In order to make it more resourceful we may seek joint efforts for training with the CSO also.

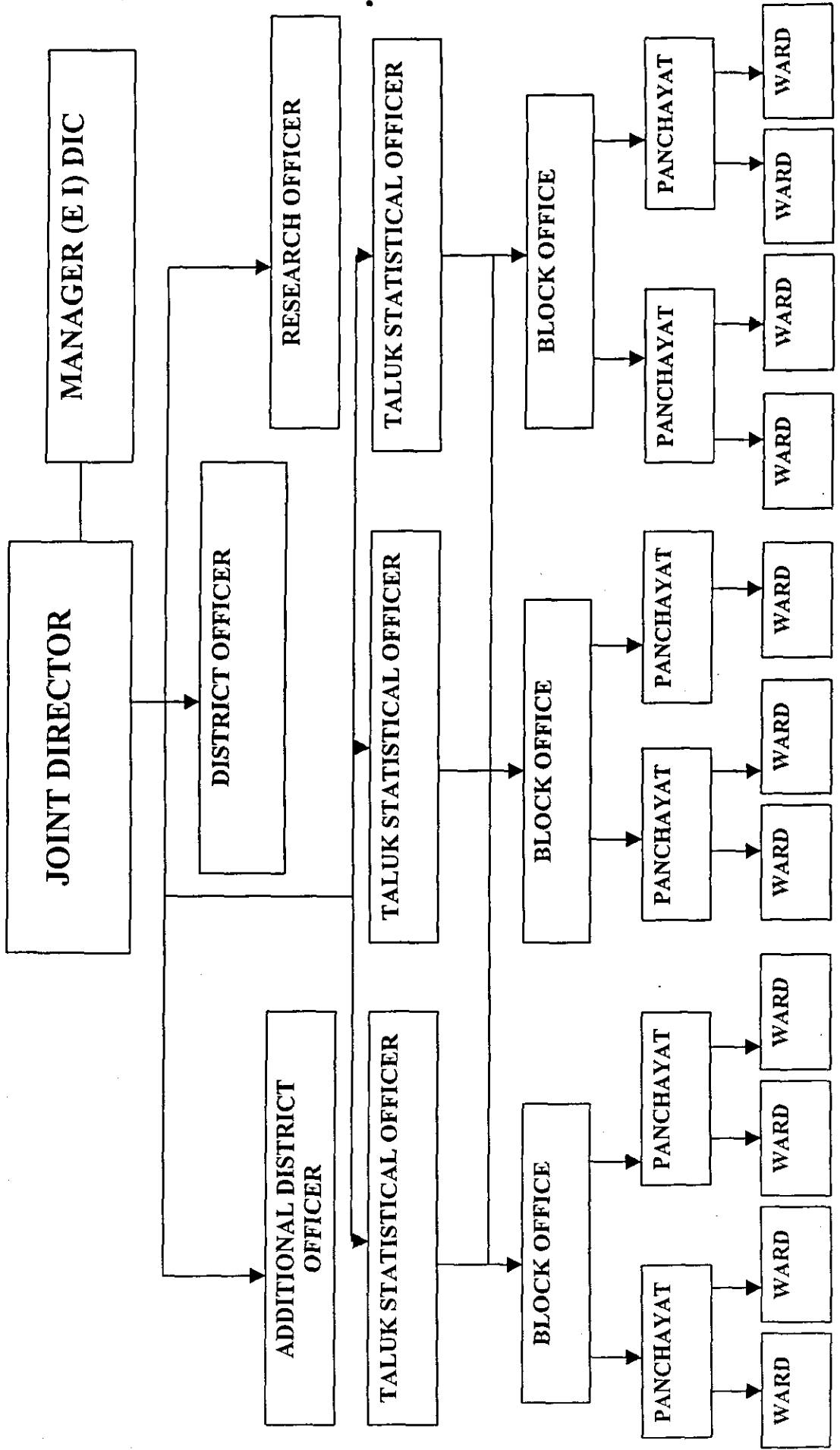
Considering the above it is strongly suggested that in order to carry out the aforesaid activities at the PSS and BSS level the minimum qualification of the Investigators should be raised to that of a Graduation from that of SSLC. All the field staffs engaged in collection of data as well as attending to the duties of the data Managers in the Panchayats as well as in the Blocks have to travel much more. In order to enable them to carry out their work smoothly and also to reach the offices in time is it suggested that the Government may provide interest free conveyance loan to the field staff.

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# ORGANISATION CHART - DISTRICT



### **Strengthening of Statistical cells in other line departments**

Different departments and organisations require data on various aspects of the state economy. In order to co-ordinate and make available data to its users it is required to know the data requirements. There should be a state level Statistical Committee to assess the requirement of data of each department well in advance, so that the same can be passed on to the concerned divisions for early action and avoid time delay in collection and finalisation of data. The committee is suggested to be under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Planning with the Director General of Economics and Statistics as the Convenor. Heads of all line departments and Research Institutions can be made as Members.

Further in some of the major departments of the government there is no Statistical Cell. If at all it exists it is too small consisting of very junior officers, like Research Assistants or even UD compilers. It is highly essential to strengthen such cells with higher level officers considering the volume of work and the nature of data requirements. In the absence of a well-organised unit manned by qualified personal data is not getting consolidated in a proper manner. For e.g. the Social welfare department, Registrar of co-operatives, Tourism department, Collegiate Education, Directorate of Panchayats, Directorate of Municipal Administration, etc.

In certain other departments like Directorate of Vocational Higher Secondary there is no Statistical Unit at all. It is highly essential to set up units in such places. In some cases proposals have already been made.

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