Department of Extension Education and Communication Management College of Community Science, ANDUAT

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CONCEPT OF FIVE YEAR PLANS

Planning is an important aspect of any change in a society and implies continuous changes in the policies, according to the objectives set. According to Planning Commission, "Planning is, not a once for all exercise for a five year period, it requires a continual watch on recent trends, systematic observation of technical, economic and social data and adjustments of programmes in the light of new requirements.

Planning in India was soon started after independence. The Government of India initially appointed a planning commission in 1950, with the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru as its Chairman, to prepare a blueprint for the development, taking into account the needs and resources of the country. The Planning Commission evolved a system of **Five Year Plans** which are developed, implemented and regularly monitored through it.

The defined **objectives of any development policy** have been to bring about rapid improvement in living standards of the people. It describes for full employment at an adequate wage and reduction of inequality arising from the uneven distribution of income and wealth. The formulation of Five Year Plans helps in the accomplishment of the tasks for development between the:

- Central Government and the States
- States and the local authorities
- Voluntary social service agencies involved in constructive work
- Administration and the people
- Among the people themselves

The guiding principles of India's Five Year Plans are provided by the basic objectives of growth, employment, self reliance and social justice. Each five year plan takes into account the new constraints and possibilities faced during the period and attempt to make the necessary directional changes.

Need of planned development

1. To ensure careful consideration of what is to be done and why.

- 2. To have available in written form a statement for general public use.
- 3. To furnish a guide against which to judge all new proposals.
- 4. To establish objectives towards which progress can be measured and evaluated.
- 5. To have a means of choosing
 - Should important from the individual problems
 - The permanent from the temporary changes
- 6. To fulfill both felt (psychology) and unfelt (normative) needs.
- 7. To aid in the development of leadership.
- 8. To avoid wastage of resources
- 9. To promote general efficiency

Functions of Planning Commission

Keeping in view, the Fundamental Rights of the citizens of India, and certain Directive Principles of State Policy as well as the declared objective of the government to facilitate a rapid growth in the standard of living of the people by proper utilization of resources of the country, improving production and offering employment opportunities to all for the welfare of the community, the Planning Commission was set up. There is no account of Planning Commission in the Indian Constitution. Therefore it was constituted in the form of an Advisory and specialized institution by means of a document of the government. The then Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was appointed as the first Chairman of the Planning Commission.

The functions of Planning Commission are:

- To estimate the physical, capital and human resources of the country
- To prepare plan for making effective and balanced utilization of countries resources.
- To determine the various stages of planning and to propose the allocation of resources for each stage on priority basis
- To indicate those factors to the government which prove an obstacle in the
 economic development and also to determine the circumstances which are
 necessary for the implementation of the plans during existing social and political
 situations.
- To evaluate from time to time the progress achieved in every stage of plan and also to suggest remedial measures.
- To advise the centre and state government from time to time on special matters referred to by the Commission.

Organizational Structure of Planning Commissions

The Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of the Planning Commission. The tenure of its members and Deputy Chairman is not fixed and there is no definite qualification for its members. The members are appointed by the government on its own discretion and the members keep on changing according to the wish of the Government.

Draft of Five Year Plan

- 1. Formulation of plan
- 2. Examination
- 3. Final form of Five Year Plan
- 4. Report of Five Year Plan

Formulation of plan

In July, 1951, the Planning Commission presented a draft outline of a plan of development for the period of five years from April, 1951 to March, 1956. The plan involved a number of development projects which had already initiated and others which were yet to start. Initially the Draft Plan consisted of two parts:

- First part involving an expenditure of Rs. 1,493 crores, for the projects which are to be implemented for sure and
- Second part with a proposal of expenditure of Rs. 300 crores, to be implemented only if external assistance was available.

Method of Plan Formulation

National Development Council

Method of Plan Formulation

The plan has to go through various stages in order to reach its final form. About two to three years before the implementation of the plan, the discussions on the targets and programmes of the plan are started. The Planning Commission collects the data of national product, national consumption, availability of resources, national investment and saving for the future plan, and it prepares micro and macro plans keeping in view their allocation arrangements. Thereafter, these plans along with the data are sent to the National Development Council (NDC). The NDC again sends it to the Planning Commission with or without any amendment. Based on this, the ministries in the centre and the state government are asked to prepare their projects.

On the basis of the requisites of the plan obtained from different ministries and opinion of different specialists, the Planning Commission prepares a Draft Memorandum of the plan in which all policies and important details of the plan are laid down. The Draft

Memorandum is sent to the central cabinet for discussion. After assessment, the central cabinet sends it to the National Development Council along with its suggestions. The NDC again sends it to the Planning Commission along with its suggestions.

The Planning Commission prepares a draft outline of the objectives and programmes of the plan, keeping in view the Draft Memorandum and suggestions given by the cabinet and NDC. This outline is sent to the various state governments and central ministries. It is published after receiving acceptance from the NDC. This published format along with the reactions and suggestions of the experts is again sent to the central cabinet and NDC. The approved format is laid down in its final form, which is presented to the *Lok Sabha* for discussion. After getting it ratified from the parliament, the government implements the plan.

National Development Council

It is a non-statutory body which was constituted to build cooperation between the States and the Planning Commission for economic planning. NDC was constituted on 6th August, 1952, by a proposal of the government. The Prime Minster is the Chairman and the Secretary of the Planning Commission remains the Secretary of the NDC (Fig. 25.4). Initially, only the Chief Ministers of the states were its members, but after 1967, all the ministers of the central cabinet, administrators of the states ruled by the centre and all the members of the Planning Commission were included as members of this body.

Main Functions of National Development Council are:

- 1. To evaluate the implementation of national planning from time to time
- 2. To examine the social and economic policies that influences the economic development.
- 3. To give suggestions in order to achieve the determined goals in National Plan and to achieve maximum cooperation of people.
- 4. To study plan prepared by Planning Commission and after mutual discussions give it the final shape. It is only after its ratification that the format of the plan is published.

Examination

Since the publication of the Draft Outline of the plan, it has been thoroughly examined by the Central Government and the State Governments. It has been well discussed in Parliament and most of the Legislatures in the states. Opinions about the draft have been obtained from a number of organisations like commerce, industry, farmers and labour. At the request of the Planning Commission, many educational institutions had organized seminars for teachers and students to study the plan and send their views and comments to the Commission. District Boards, Municipal Committees and district groups of officials and non-officials analyzed the

plan in reference to the local problems. As a result of the discussion and comments obtained from varied groups, each and every aspect of the proposals mentioned in the Draft outline has been examined to the greatest possible extent.

Final Form of Five Year Plan

The final form of Five Year Plan does not involve its division into two parts and all the different development projects and programmes are all grouped together in one plan. The resources are distributed among the following major areas of development:

- Agriculture and Community development
- Irrigation and power development
- Transport and communications
- Industry
- Social services
- Rehabilitation
- Miscellaneous

Report of the Five Year Plan

Planning Commission closely analyses the aspects of policy matter like land and food problem, availability of finance for agriculture, programmes for small and large scale industries and conservation of resources etc. The Planning Commission while framing its recommendation takes into account that defining of policies in different areas is always a continuous process and within the objectives and priorities formulated. With regards to policy matters, the central and state governments have to work in close co-ordinations with one another.

Five Year Plans: Objectives and Achievements

Five year plans

Until now, ten five year plans have been completed. The tenth five year plan completed its term in March, 2007 and subsequently the eleventh plan started in April, 2007.

All the five year plans, starting from first to eleventh are being described here one by one.

| 1. | First Five Year Plan | (1951-56) |
|----|-----------------------|-----------|
| 2. | Second Five Year Plan | (1956-61) |
| 3. | Third Five Year Plan | (1961-66) |
| | Three Annual Plans | (1966-69) |

| 4. | Fourth Five Year Plan | (1969-74) |
|-----|-------------------------|-----------|
| 5. | Fifth Five Year Plan | (1974-79) |
| 6. | Sixth Five Year Plan | (1980-85) |
| 7. | Seventh Five Year Plan | (1985-90) |
| | Two Annual Plans | (1990-92) |
| 8. | Eighth Five Year Plan | (1992-97) |
| 9. | Ninth Five Year Plan | (1997-02) |
| 10. | Tenth Five Year Plan | (2002-07) |
| 11. | Eleventh Five Year Plan | (2007-12) |

First Five Year Plan (1951-56)

The first five year plans was presented to the Parliament of India on 8th December, 1951. The first plan was launched to get the country's economy out of the cycle of poverty, when the country was recovering from trauma of the partition in 1947 and the crisis created by the Second World War.

At the time of this plan, the country was faced with three problems:

- Influx of refugees
- Severe food shortage
- Mounting inflation

The total planned budget of first five year plan was allocated to seven brood areas.

- Irrigation and energy
- Agriculture and community development
- Transport and communications
- Industrial sector
- Social services
- Land rehabilitation
- Other sectors and services

Objectives

• To correct the disequilibrium in the economy caused by the 2nd World War and partition of the country.

- Rehabilitation of refugees, rapid agricultural development so as to achieve food sufficiency in the shortest possible time to decrease reliance on food grain imports and control of inflation.
- All round balanced development which could ensure a rising national income and a steady improvement in the living standards of the people over a period of time.
- The plan accorded highest priority to agriculture including irrigation and power projects.
- To increase the rate of investment from 5-7% of national income.

- The country's national income increased by 18 per cent, per capita income by 11 per cent and per capita consumption by 9%.
- The actual achieved growth in the gross domestic product was 3.6 percent per annum as against the target set for 2.1 per cent.
- Irrigation projects like Bhakra Dam and Hirakud Dam were started during this period.
- World Health Organisation (WHO), with the Indian Government, addressed children's health and reduced infant mortality.
- At the end of the plan in 1956, five Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) were started as major technical institutions.
- University Grant Commission was set up to take care of funding and measures to strengthen higher education in the country.
- Contracts were signed to start five steel plants, which came into existence in the middle of second five year plan.
- The Indian government also made considerable effort in improving posts and telegraphs, railway services, road tracks and civil aviation.
- The programme was overall a quite success.

Second Five Year Plan (1956-61)

The second plan was launched in an atmosphere of economic stability as the agricultural objectives fixed in the first plan had been accomplished and a fall in price level was observed. Hence the second plan shifted a focus from agriculture to industry, especially the heavy industries which could give a big push to the economy, so that it enters the take off stage. This plan sought to enhance the pattern of development which would lead to establishment of a socialistic pattern of society in India which stressed that the benefits of planned development should go more to the relatively underprivileged sections of society. The plan followed Mahalanobis model, an economic development model, named after the

statistician Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis in 1953. This plan assumed a closed economy in which the main trading activity would be centered on importing capital goods.

Objectives

- An increase of 25% in the national income.
- Rapid industrialization with particular emphasis on the development of basic and heavy industries, such as iron and steel, heavy chemicals including nitrogenous, fertilizers, heavy engineering and machine building industry.
- Large expansion of employment opportunities.
- Reduction of inequalities in income and wealth, and a more even distribution of economic power.

Achievements

- Hydroelectric power projects and five steel plants at Bhilai, Durgapur, and Rourkela were established.
- Coal production was increased.
- More railway lines were added in the north eastern part of the country.
- The Atomic Energy Commission was formed in 1958.
- The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research was established as a research institute. The institute conducted several programmes to search for talented individuals.
- A talent search and scholarship programme was started in 1957 to find talented young students to train in nuclear power work.
- As compared to First Five Year Plan, the second Five Year Plan was a moderate success. Unfavourable monsoon in 1957-58 and 1959-60, affected agricultural production and the Suez Crisis blocked international trading, increasing commodity prices.

Third Five Year Plan (1961-66)

The third plan emphasized on agriculture owing to Green Revolution and improving production of rice, as the work shown in first and second five year plan but due to the brief Sino – Indian war of 1962 with China and with Pakistan in 1965, weaknesses in the economy were exposed and India witnessed in price of products and hence the approach of the third plan was shifted to defence, price stabilization and development. The plan aired to achieve a significant advancement towards self sustaining growth.

Objectives

- To secure an increase in the national income of over 5% per annum.
- To achieve self sufficiency in food grains, increase agricultural production to meet the requirement of industry and exports and India does not depend on others for food products.

- To expand the basic industries like steel, chemicals, fuel and power.
- To utilize fully the manpower resources of the country and ensure substantial expansion in employment opportunities thereby minimizing rate of unemployment.
- To establish greater equality of opportunity and bring about reduction in disparities of income and wealth.

- Construction of dams.
- Cement and fertilizer plants built.
- Many primary schools opened in rural areas.
- Panchayat elections started in an effort to bring democracy to the grass root level.
- State electricity boards and state secondary education boards were formed.
- State road transportation corporations were formed and road building become a state responsibility.
- The achieved growth rate of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) was 4.3 percent.

Three Annual Plans (1966-69)

The Fourth Five Year Plan could not be started in 1966 due to the pressure created on the economy of the country due to Indo-Pakistan conflict in 1965, two successive years of severe drought, devaluation of the rupee and general rise in prices with erosion of the resources. Hence the IVth Five Year Plan could not be finalized; instead three annual plans were formulated between 1966 and 1969, some of the economists called this period as 'Plan Holidays'.

Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-74)

The Fourth Five Year Plan also served as a stepping stone for the economic growth. This plan mainly emphasized on growth with stability and progressive achievement of self reliance. India had to reform and restructures its expenditure agenda, due to attacks on India in the years 1962 and 1965. India had hardly revived when it was struck by drought and a stint of reason. During this plan, India did not concentrate on long term goals, instead responded to overcome the crisis.

Objectives

- The plan focused to increase the rate of development by reducing fluctuations in agricultural production as well as the impact of uncertainties of foreign aid.
- To raise the standard of living through programmes designed to promote equality and social justice.
- Particular emphasis on improving the conditions of the less privileged and weaker sections, through prevision of employment and education.

• Efforts to reduce concentration of wealth, income and economic power to promote equality.

Achievements

- The government nationalized 14 major Indian banks.
- Green revolution advanced agriculture.
- India performed the Smiling Buddha underground nuclear test in 1974.
- Food grains production increased.

Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-79)

The Fifth Five Year Plan was formulated at the time when the country was undergoing great economic crisis due to severe inflation, hike in oil prices and failure of the government takeover of the wholesale trade in wheat: Stress was laid on employment, poverty alleviation and justice.

Objectives

- Removal of poverty.
- Attainment of self reliance, through promotion of higher rate of growth, better distribution of income and a very significant step-up in the domestic rate of saving.
- To bring inflation under control and achieve stability in the economic situation.

Achievements

• Electricity Supply Act was framed in 1975, which helped the Central Government to enter into power generation and transmission.

Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85)

This plan aimed for rapid industrial development, especially in the area of information technology, under the leadership of the young Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. This plan also called the Janata Government Plan, marked a reversal of Nehruvian model of Five Year Plans.

The Janata Govt. ended the 5th five year plan, one year earlier to its term i.e. only within 4 years span (1974-79) and introduced a new plan since April 1, 1978. This plan named as "Rolling plan. In this first phase of Rolling plan the 6th plan was initially stated for 5 years (1978-83) on Apritl, 1978. In 1980, the Sixth plan (Rolling plan) prepared by the Janata Government was abandoned and a new 6th plan was introduced for the period 1980-85. The highlight of the Scheme was launching of DWACRA to provide suitable opportunities of self employment to the women belonging to the rural families. Thus the tilt was towards rural empowerment.

Objectives

• Removal of poverty and industrial development was core objective.

- To move this plan simultaneously towards strengthening infrastructure for both agriculture and industries.
- Emphasized on handling interrelated problems through systematic approach
 efficiency, intensive monitoring in all sectors, involvement of people in formulating
 specific schemes of development at the local level and establishing their quick and
 effective implementation.

- The Indian national highway system was introduced for the first time and many roads were widened to accommodate the increase in traffic and betterment of traffic system in India.
- Tourism expanded.
- Beginning of economic liberalization.
- Price controls eliminated and ration shops closed.
- Family planning expanded to prevent over population.
- People living below the poverty line decreased from 48.3 percent in 1977-78 to 36.90 percent in 1984-85.

Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90)

The seventh plan was introduced after the country had enjoyed a reasonable rate of economic growth during the sixth plan, where there had been steady growth in agriculture, control on rate of inflation and favourable balance of payments.

This plan had a strong base on which it could build the superstructure of industrial development for the betterment of India's economic position. The plan stressed on improving the productivity level of industries by up gradation of technology. The plan tried to bring about a self sustained economy in the country.

Objectives

- To increase economic productivity, production of food grains and generating employment opportunities through the development of various policies and programmes.
- The thrust areas of the plan were
 - Social justice
 - Removal of oppression of the weak
 - Using modern technology
 - Agricultural development
 - Anti poverty programmes
 - Full supply of food, clothing and shelter
 - Increasing productivity of small and large scale farmers

- Making India an independent economy
- To reduce social and economic disparities
- Energy protection and development of non-conventional energy source.

- Special programme like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana was launched to reduce the unemployment problem.
- The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew at an average rate of 5.8 per cent exceeding the targeted growth rate by 0.8 per cent.
- Food grains production during this plan grew by 3.23%, as compared to long term growth rate of 2.68% between 1967-68 and 1988-89.

Annual Plans (1990-92)

The Eighth Five Year Plan (1990-95) could not take off due to the fast changing political situation at the centre. The new Government which assumed power in 1991, decided that the Eighth Five Year Plan would commence on 1st April, 1992 and the years 1990-91 and 1991-92, be treated as separate annual plans. The basic thrust of these annual plans was on maximization of employment and social transformation.

In 1991, India faced a crisis in Foreign Exchange (Forex) reserves as was left with reserves of only about \$1 billion (US). This period was the beginning of privatization and liberalization in India.

Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97)

Eight plan was introduced at a time, when the country was going through a severe economic crisis caused by a balance of payment crisis, an increasing debt burden and budget deficits, rising inflation and recession in industry.

Objectives:

- Controlling population growth.
- Reduction in poverty.
- Employment generation to achieve near full employment level by the turn of the century.
- Universalization of elementary education and complete removal of illiteracy among the people in the age group of 15-35 years.
- Provision of safe drinking water and primary health care facilities including immunization to the entire population.
- Growth and diversification of agriculture to achieve self-sufficiency in food and also to generate surplus for export.

• Strengthening the infrastructure (transport, irrigation, communication) and institutional building in order to support growth process on a sustainable basis.

Achievements

- Modernization of industries.
- Gradual opening of the Indian economy to correct the budget definite and foreign debt.
- The economic performance of this plan was encouraging and the country achieved rapid economic growth.
- During this period only, India became a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on January, 1995.
- An average annual growth rate of 6.7% was achieved against the target of 5.6%.

Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)

The Ninth Five Year Plan was launched in the 50th year of India's independence. The Ninth Five Year Plan was formulated to act as a tool for solving the economic and social problems existing in the country. The plan was formed with the realization that the latest economic reserves of the country, which were still not explored, should be used for the overall development and benefit of the Indian economy in next five years.

Objectives

- Priority to agricultural sector and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty.
- Industrialization at a rapid pace.
- To accelerate the growth rate of the economy by stabilizing prices.
- Gaining self sufficiency in local resources.
- To ensure food and nutritional security for all.
- To provide for the basic minimum services of safe drinking water, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, transport and shelter.
- To check the increase in population growth.
- To encourage social issues like women empowerment, conservation of certain benefits for the socially disadvantaged groups such as scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and other backward class and minorities.
- To create an independent market for enhancing private financial investment.

Achievements

• The growth rate was merely 5.35 % which is lesser than the GDP growth of 6.5% targeted during the period.

Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07)

The plan decides for immediate implementation of all the policies formulated in the past. The primary aim of the plan is to renovate the nation extensively making it competent enough with some of the fastest growing economies across the globe. The tenth Five Year Plan was framed with the main aim of improving quality of life of the people by setting the following objectives.

Objectives

- Reduction of poverty ratio from 26% to 21% (by 5 per cent points) by 2007.
- Providing gainful employment to at least keep pace with addition to the labour force.
- All children to be in school by 2003 and all children to complete five years schooling by 2007.
- Reducing gender gaps in literacy and image rates by 50%.
- To reduce population growth from 21.3% in 2001 to 16.2% in 2011.
- Literacy rate to increase from 65% in 1999-2000 to 75% by 2007.
- Reduction of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to 45 per 1000 live births by 2007 and to 28 by 2012.
- Reduction of Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) to 2 per 1000 live births by 2007 and to 1 by 2012.
- Providing potable drinking water in all villages.
- Increase in forest and tree cover to 25 per cent by 2007 and 33 per cent by 2012.
- Cleaning of all major polluted rivers by 2007 and other notified stretches by 2012.

Achievements

- Private sector investment revived after a long phase of dormancy.
- The plan gave a favourable climate for the development of Foreign Direct investment.
- Performance of industrial sector improved.

Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12)

The eleventh plan has been launched with the following objectives.

1. **Income and Poverty**

- Accelerate growth rate of GDP from 8% to 10% and then maintain at 10% in the 12th Plan in order of double per capita income by 2016-17.
- Increase agricultural GDP growth rate to 4% per year to ensure a broader spread of benefits.
- Create 70 million new work opportunities.
- Reduce educated unemployment to below 5%.

- Raise real wage rate of unskilled workers by 20 percent.
- Reduce the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points.

2. Education

- Reduce dropout rates of children from elementary school from 52.2% in 2003-04 to 20% by 2011-12.
- Develop minimum standards of educational attainment in elementary school, and by regular testing monitor effectiveness of education to ensure quality.
- Increase literacy rate for persons of age 7 years or more to 85%.
- Lower gender gap in literacy to 10 percentage points.
- Increase the percentage of each cohort going to higher education from the present 10% to 15% by the end of 11th plan.

3. Health

- Reduce Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to 28 and Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) to 1 per 1000 live births.
- Reduce Total Fertility Rate to 2.1.
- Provide clean drinking water for all by 2009 and ensure that there are no slip-backs by the end of the 11th Plan.
- Reduce malnutrition among children of age group 0-3 to half its present level.
- Reduce anemia among women and girls by 50% by the end of the 11th Plan.

4. Women and Children

- Raise the sex ratio for age group 0-6 to 935 by 2011-12 and to 950 by 2016-17.
- Ensure that at least 33 percent of the direct and indirect beneficiaries of all government schemes are women and girl children.
- Ensure that all children enjoy a safe childhood, without any compulsion to work.

5. Infrastructure

• Ensure electricity connection to all villages and BPL households by 2009 and round-the-clock power by the end of the Plan.

- Ensure all-whether road connection to all habitation with population 1000 and above (500 in hilly and tribal areas) by 2009, and ensure coverage of all significant habitation by 2015.
- Connect every village by telephone by November 2007 and provide broadband connectivity to all villages by 2012.
- Provide homestead sites to all by 2012 and step up the pace of house construction for rural poor to cover all the poor by 2016-17.

6. **Environment**

- Increase forest and tree cover by 5 percentage points.
- Attain WHO standards of air quality in all major cities by 2011-12.
- Treat all urban waste water by 2011-12 to clean river waters.
- Increase energy efficiency by 20 percentage points by 2016-17.

Twelfth Plan (2012–2017)

The Twelfth Five-Year Plan of the Government of India has been decided to achieve a growth rate of 9% but the National Development Council (NDC) on 27 December 2012 approved a growth rate of 8% for the Twelfth Plan. [13]

With the deteriorating global situation, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Montek Singh Ahluwalia has said that achieving an average growth rate of 9 percent in the next five years is not possible. The Final growth target has been set at 8% by the endorsement of the plan at the National Development Council meeting held in New Delhi.

"It is not possible to think of an average of 9% [in the Twelfth Plan]. I think somewhere between 8 and 8.5 percent is feasible," Ahluwalia said on the sidelines of a conference of State Planning Boards and departments. The approached paper for the Twelfth Plan, approved last year, talked about an annual average growth rate of 9%.

"When I say feasible... that will require major effort. If you don't do that, there is no God given right to grow at 8 percent. I think given that the world economy deteriorated very sharply over the last year...the growth rate in the first year of the 12th Plan (2012–13) is 6.5 to 7 percent."

He also indicated that soon he should share his views with other members of the commission to choose a final number (economic growth target) to put before the country's NDC for its approval.

The government intends to reduce poverty by 10% during the 12th Five-Year Plan. Ahluwalia said, "We aim to reduce poverty estimates by 9% annually on a sustainable basis

during the Plan period". Earlier, addressing a conference of State Planning Boards and Planning departments, he said the rate of decline in poverty doubled during the Eleventh Plan. The commission had said, while using the Tendulkar poverty line, the rate of reduction in the five years between 2004–05 and 2009–10, was about 1.5% points each year, which was twice that when compared to the period between 1993–95 to 2004–05. [14] The plan aims towards the betterment of the infrastructural projects of the nation avoiding all types of bottlenecks. The document presented by the planning commission is aimed to attract private investments of up to US\$1 trillion in the infrastructural growth in the 12th five-year plan, which will also ensure a reduction in the subsidy burden of the government to 1.5 percent from 2 percent of the GDP (gross domestic product). The UID (Unique Identification Number) will act as a platform for cash transfer of the subsidies in the plan.

The objectives of the Twelfth Five-Year Plan were:

- To create 50 million new work opportunities in the non-farm sector.
- To remove gender and social gap in school enrolment.
- To enhance access to higher education.
- To reduce malnutrition among children aged 0–3 years.
- To provide electricity to all villages.
- To ensure that 50% of the rural population have accesses to proper drinking water.
- To increase green cover by 1 million hectare every year.
- To provide access to banking services to 90% of households.

In brief,

- I. Its duration is from 2012 to 2017, under the leadership of Manmohan Singh.
- II. Its main theme is "Faster, More Inclusive and Sustainable Growth".
- III. Its growth rate target was 8%.

For a long time, there had been a feeling that for a country as diverse and big as India, centralised planning could not work beyond a point due to its one-size-fits-all approach. Therefore, the NDA government has dissolved the Planning Commission which was replaced by the NITI Aayog. Thus, there was no thirteen Five Year Plan, however, the five-year defense plan was made. It is important to note that the documents of the NITI Aayog have no financial role. They are only policy guide maps for the government.

The three-year action plan only provides a broad roadmap to the government and does not outline any schemes or allocations as it has no financial powers. Since it doesn't require approval by the Union Cabinet, its recommendations are not binding on the government.

| Five Year Plan | Year | Key Features |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| Ist | 1951-56 | Agriculture central to the economy. |
| IInd | 1956-61 | Industrialization, in addition to agriculture got emphasis. Planning on socialist pattern of economic development. |
| IIIrd | 1961-66 | Continued with the socialist pattern of development. Set back due to drought, external conflicts and devaluation of the rupee. |
| Annual Plans | 1966-69 | Beginning of "Green Revolution", step increase in agriculture output with a combined use of new varieties of seed/fertilizers and pesticides. |
| IVth | 1969-74 | Environment as an issue was realized and resulted in the setting of the National Committee on Environment Planning and Coordination (NCEPC). In Agriculture increased use of High Yielding varieties. |
| Vth | 1974-79 | Problems of inflation due to steep rise in prices of imported oil. |
| VIth | 1980-85 | Constitution of department of environment, land degradation issues also received attention with the setting up of National Wastelands Department Board (NWDB). |
| VIIth | 1985-90 | Animal Husbandry Programme given focus and the success of 'Operation flood project' for meeting country's milk and milk product needs. |
| Annual Plans | 1990-92 | Major restructuring of the economic policy. Process of economic reforms and liberalisation measures initiated. Planning redefined from a highly centralized planning to indicative planning. |
| VIIIth | 1992-97 | Role of planning refined to achieve goals of sustainable development. Human development as crucial to sustainable development. A no. of employment generation schemes launched in rural sector. Health related programmes also received greater attention. Launch of the National drinking water mission, setting of the National aforestation board. |
| IXth | 1997-02 | Greater integration of human development programme with environment, health and local development programme. Further process of economic reforms in many sectors. |
| Xth | 2002-07 | Main emphasis on reducing poverty ratio, mortality rate of children and school drop outs. Increased literacy rate at the same time reducing gender gaps in literacy. |
| XIth | 2007-12 | Main objective is to achieve socioeconomic development by |

| | | increasing the literacy rate. More emphasis is on education. So XI Five Year Plan is also called as 'Educational Plan', 'Keep on Going' plan. |
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| XIIth | 2012-17 | The broad vision and aspirations which the Twelfth Plan seeks to fulfil are reflected in the subtitle: 'Faster, Sustainable, and More Inclusive Growth'. The Twelfth Plan therefore emphasizes that our first priority must be to bring the economy back to rapid growth while ensuring that the growth is both inclusive and sustainable. "faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth". Raising agriculture output to 4 percent. Manufacturing sector growth to 10 % The target of adding over 88,000 MW of power generation capacity. |

Different Programmes under Five Year Plans

| Different Programmes under Five Year Plans | | |
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| Five Year Plan | Year | Programmes |
| First Five Year Plan | 1951-56 | Community Development Programme (CDP) (1952) NES (1953) |
| Second Five Year Plan | 1956-61 | Intensive Agricultural District Programme (IADP) (1960) Mid day meal (1960) |
| Third Five Year Plan | 1961-66 including annual plan (1966-69) | Intensive Agricultural Area Programme (IAAP) 1964. Intensive Cattle Development Project (ICDP) 1965. High Yielding Variety Programme (HYVP) 1966. |
| Fourth Five Year Plan | 1969-74 | Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA) 1970-71. Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Programme (MFAL) 1970-71. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) 1970-71. Pilot Project for Tribal Development (PPTD) 1972-73. Training and Visit Programme (T&V) 1974. Tribal Areas Development Programme (TADP) 1970-71. |
| Fifth Five Year Plan | 1974-79 | Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) 1978-79. Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) 1979. Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). Command Area Development Programme (CADP) 1975. Desert Development Programme (DDP) 1977-78. Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) 1974-75. |

| | | 7. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) 1975. |
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| Sixth Five Year Plan | 1980-85 | National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) 1980. Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) 1982. National Agricultural Extension Project (NAEP) 1983. Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) 1983. Swawlamban 1982-83. |
| Seventh Five Year Plan | 1985-90 | Technology Mission on Oilseeds (TMO) 1986. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) 1989. Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) 1986. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) 1985. |
| Eighth Five Year Plan | 1992-97 | Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) 1993. Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium 1994. |
| Ninth Five Year Plan | 1997-02 | Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) 1999-2000. Rural Drinking Water Supply Programme (RDWSP) 1999. Restructural Central Rural Sanitation Programme (RCRSP) 2002. Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) 1999. Balika Samriddhi Yojana (BSY) 1997. Swayamsidha 2001. |
| Tenth Five Year Plan | 2002-07 | Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) 2002-03. Vandemataram (2004) Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) 2005 |
| Eleventh Five Year Plan | 2007-12 | 1. Sabia (2011) 2. Ayush (2011) |