

CONTRIBUTION OF VIDARBHA STATUTORY BOARD IN THE DEVELOPMENT IN VIDARBHA

Vidarbha is the eastern region of Maharashtra state made up of Nagpur Division and Amravati Division. Its early name is Berar. It occupies 31.6% of total area and holds 21.3% of total population of Maharashtra. It borders the state of Madhya Pradesh to north, Chhattisgarh to east, Andhra Pradesh to south and Marathwada and Khandesh regions of Maharashtra to west. Situated in central India Vidarbha has its own rich cultural and historical background distinct from rest of Maharashtra. The major city in Vidarbha is Nagpur, second largest is Amravati followed by Akola, Yavatmal, Chandrapur and Gondia. A majority of Vidarbhians speak Varhadi a idiom of Marathi. The region is famous for growing oranges and cotton. Vidarbha holds two-thirds of Maharashtra's mineral resources, three quarters of its forest resources and is a net producer of power. Throughout its history, Vidarbha has remained much calmer during the communal troubles than the rest of India; but it is plagued very much by poverty and malnutrition. It is less economically prosperous compared to the rest of Maharashtra.

Growth and transform is a continuous process in all its forms in different parts of the world. However, historical and geographical conditions certain regions and communities remain at the farther end of the development range compared to other regions. In Maharashtra State also, development problems, regional imbalances and subsequently setting- up of the three Statutory Development Boards can be traced to geo-historical and political reasons that prevailed during the last few centuries.

Due to the diligence of the Socio- economic imbalances in the three regions (which is evident even at present) for a long time, this was highlighted by the social activists, politicians and intellectuals in different platforms. Even after the formation of the separate Maharashtra State, the regional imbalances increased so, the Maharashtra State Legislature passed an unanimous resolution requesting the Central Government to set-up three Development Boards so that decentralisation and all round regional development can be brought out. The three Statutory Development Boards: Vidarbha, Marathwada and Rest of Maharashtra were set-up by a Presidential order under article 371 (2) of the constitution on 9th March 1994.

The second chapter mentions about the aims and objectives of present study, they are given as below –

- a. To study the contribution of Vidarbha Statutory Board in the development of Vidarbha region.
- b. To study the levels of development expenditure over the region during plan period.
- c. To study the impact of various development efforts in removing backlog.
- d. To study the proper arrangements for providing adequate facilities for Technical education and Vocational training.
- e. Sufficient opportunities for employment in the services under the control of the State Government in the region subject to be requirements of the State as a whole.

- f. To assess the extent to which the specific objectives of the establishment of boards are being met.
- g. To find out the factors leading to rural distress in Vidarbha region.
- h. To study the existing relief packages announced by the State Government.
- i. Overall investigation and study of the Vidarbha Statutory Board

The third chapter deals with literature survey. Under this chapter the study carried by different researchers and views of different authorities. Based on these previous works and guidelines the present study has been further extended.

The next chapter i.e. fourth chapter deals with significance of the study which is the most important base of the research study.

The fifth chapter a deal with Methodology of which is the most important base of the research study.

The sixth chapter deals with the conclusion part of thesis. In this chapter, the Recommendations And Suggestions have been drawn with the help of data available, statistical study of sample gathered.