

## **Conclusion:**

The District of Cooch Behar, as it was observed in the preceding chapters, can be described or characterized as the backward district due to its locational and other disadvantages.

Following routine features are present and found prominent in the district for many years and till date. They are:—

From the Natural viewpoint, there are reports of devastation and heavy loss of lives and properties caused by monsoon flood and soil erosion at the bank of a lot of rivers that flowed in the district.

There are reports of leaving of a bulk of marginal labourers to the other States each year in search of livelihood.

According to a research report, in the North Bengal University, there is male domination over the women Panchayat members in the district of Cooch Behar.

There is the problem of unemployment in the district. Woefully poor people in the district can not afforded to be employed. They therefore end up doing low productivity jobs in agriculture and informal service sector.

However, all the citizens including the poor, especially the disadvantaged sections like the women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the district are also entitled to an equitable share of basic public resources. A welfare State generally tries to provide these services in the field like education, health, roads, safe drinking water, sanitation etc. Entitlement also includes a basic level of social

security for the old, disabled and infirm, for children and those who are unable to get any work.

The modern and civil society of Cooch Behar cannot let its citizens starve and suffer from chronic hunger and the Government must come forward to provide food and shelter to the destitute. The democratic society of Cooch Behar must go further and empower the poor who cannot afford to pay for the education of their children.

Access to information is an important element of empowerment. The poor people of Cooch Behar must have the right to information relating to the expenditure spent for their development by the Panchayat.

The district of Cooch Behar has enormous potential for entrepreneurship, innovation, and creative development. Here in Cooch Behar, there are very much presence of the people, their diverse form of activity and associations such as Cooch Behar Byabsayee Samity, Agricultural Graduates Club, Farmers Club, different clubs, societies, cooperatives, Trusts and Other NGOs etc. (as enumerated in the earlier chapters prevailing at Cooch Behar). All these actors must be allowed and encouraged to play their due role.

Certainly, a paradigm change is needed to achieve the goals and objectives (as enumerated in the earlier chapters) for the development of Cooch Behar. Otherwise, the failure of the Government may be revealed as much more pervasive than the failure of the market. That is, the Government may be treated as the part of problem and not a solution.

Let the researchers be described such an event that can be treated as one of the darkest day in the history or daily life of the people of Cooch Behar.

In the district of Cooch Behar, the mass-dharna of the *Greater Cooch Behar Peoples Association (GCPA)* in the end of the year 2005 raised unique question mark in front of the Government . The GCPA demanded review of the historic Act by which Cooch Behar was included Under the Union of India.The Government had no immediate alternative to persuade and prevent the GCPA at the moment. Therefore, the stalemate continued for three days at a stretch, which disrupted the transport and the civic life of the entire district of Cooch Behar.

What was the lacuna on the part of the District -Administration? It was simply because that the District Administration had no any prior information of such vigorous movement or the sentiment of the GCPA regarding the issue. It may be also true that inspite of getting the information relating to the demand of the GCPA; the Government was apathetic to their demand. What was the ultimate result? It brought enormous casualty bearing the death of five persons on the part of both the agitators and the policemen including a Deputy Inspector of Police.

*Such an incident clearly indicates that there were some gaps in the feedback - mechanism in the political system. It was alleged by the Forward Block –a major coalition partner and important party in Cooch Behar under the Leadership of Kamal Guha on the indifferent attitude of the Government relating to the activities of the GCPA. Kamal Guha personally too repeatedly*

warned the Government relating to the activities of the GCPA but the Government did not found to bother or respond to the situation.

It was claimed if there was a better relationship between the Civil Society Organization or Civil Society as such and Panchayat Raj Institutions at the rural level, the District - Administration certainly could get earlier information of such a movement of the GCPA. The question is not whether the demand of the GCPA is right or wrong, justified or parochial; the question of the hour is to understand the nerve or the sentiment of the society.

It is claimed that it is wise decision to understand the problem of the social-political groups and to come forward with a package of amicable solutions for the future generations. And the Civil Society of Cooch Behar may or can explore the alternative in a better way .The Civil Society of Cooch Behar may or can fight against any illegitimate or genuine demand, if so, any kind of gathering on these issues. Let the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) or the Civil Society be come forward to offer meaningful solutions to various problems for the people of the District of Cooch Behar.

And it is necessary to give a better passage to the CSOs to shoulder the responsibility to carry out the social, cultural, economic and political development of the people of Cooch Behar and the region of North Bengal as a whole.

From the preceding analyses of the present work the researcher is confident to believe that at the present moment there is enough examples of good rapport between the *Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the Panchayat Raj*

*Institutions (PRIs)*. There must be many more researches further to ventilate the possible and justified areas in which such relationship can accelerate the good, humane, responsible and civic governance for the people of the district of Cooch Behar.