Outlook

62. Indian planning has accorded importance to poverty alleviation and development of human resources. There is evidence that various employment generation and anti-poverty programmes have started showing positive results. However, the problems of poverty alleviation and human resource development are large and complex. Sustained and serious efforts are required to reduce wide disparity among States and regions, between rural and urban areas and between male and female. 63. To ensure adequate budgetary allocations to social sectors, financial resources will have to be mobilised by both the Centre and States. Furthermore, available resources need to be better targeted and effective safety nets need to be designed to protect poor and vulnerable sections against income fluctuations and market failures. In this context, public efforts and resources need to be supplemented by private sector participation and support from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for the development of social sectors.