

One-day 'District Decentralised planning' workshop at Mandla, M.P – A Brief Report



A one day workshop on Decentralised district planning for Head of the Departments (HoDs) and Master trainers (MTs) has been held in Yojna bhawan, Mandla on August 16th, 2013. Sixteen heads of departments including District Planning officer, District Forest officer (East) and Master Trainers from all the nine blocks and five ULBs (Urban Local Bodies) were present in the workshop.

Objective of the workshop was to facilitate the implementation of the DDP processes in the district and trained the Master trainers on planning, implementation and monitoring of DDP process for the year 2014-15.

Workshop started with the opening note by Dr. B.L.Sharma (Economist, SPC) on the need and objectives of Decentralised planning. He gave a brief overview of the process and asked participants to participate in the workshop sincerely and flag the issues when needed. It was proceed by demonstration of planning software by Mr. Jitendra Pandit, State Facilitator (SPC). In demonstration, he revealed the linkages between entries and its impact on the information depicting on the web application. He emphasised on the situation analysis part of the application and sensitized the departmental heads to respond on the problems/situations emerged from the different villages. Departmental heads revisited the response planning process and understand the gaps in the district data. "There should be no activity remains in 'yet to decide' column, it



shows that you have not responded properly” he added during his session.

It was proceeded by the presentation on ‘why department should participate in the process of planning’ by Mr. Jitendra, State Facilitator (SPC). In his presentation he described the resources available at different levels and need for it proper rationalisation with public demand. With examples of various CSS/SS scheme guidelines, constitutional mandate, he established the need for the participation of the departments. “Approval from gram sabha and Village planning are the mandate of almost every flagship scheme and decentralised planning is the only way through which we can achieve this objective with sharing of responsibilities” he added



A presentation on ‘Process and key element’ of planning was done by Dr. Sharma. In his presentation he made known the key eight principals of planning. Started with the needs identification then deciding of priorities, he emphasised on the resources identification also. He linked the principles with DDP process and cleared the doubts of the participants. During his presentation he briefly told the MDGs (Millennium Development goals) and its indicators to the participants. He also described the step by step process of decentralised planning and the institutional arrangement it at different level. “Quality composition of the TSGs (Technical Support Group) and its full presence in the Gram Sabha is half battle won in this process” he added during his presentation. He detailed out the roles and responsibilities of different persons and groups in the planning.

Thereafter, formats were discussed by Mr. Jitendra with the participants. Second half of the training was fully dedicated to the practical issues and TSGs’ village planning process. A film of urban planning process and its implementation was also demonstrated and discussions were held after that.

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