The Chhattisgarh Panchayati Raj Adhiniyam

- ▶ Born on November 1, 2000, Chhattisgarh constitutes the youngest member of Indian Union and formed with the 16 districts of undivided Madhya Pradesh. It shares with border with six states namely Jharkhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
- Chhattisgarh forms the 9th largest state of India with a geographical area of around 1,35,000 sq. km. The state lies at 17°46' N to 24°5'N latitude and 80°15' E to 84°20' E longitude.
- It accounts for two percent of India's population of which 80 percent demography reside in the rural areas and the rest 20 percent in urban areas. T

- Major source of economy of Chhattisgarh is agriculture. 80% of the masses owing to rural sector depend on agriculture for their livelihood and so known as the "rice bowl of central India".
- ► The state is endowed with all the major minerals including diamonds and comprises for mega industries in steel, power, mining, aluminium and cement sector.
- ▶ It accounts for more than 13% of India's total mineral production. While the official language of the state is Hindi but Chhattisgarhi is majorly spoken in most parts of the state.

GARIABAND DISTRICT

Gariaband district carved out of Raipur district operationalized from January 2012. The district covers an area of 5822.861 km2 and is a forest landscape.

It is divided into five blocks namely Gariaband, Mainpur, Chhura, Fingeswar and Devbhog. Chhura, Mainpur and Gariaband blocks are the multiplicity of tribal zones. Pairy and Sodhurriver flows from here and the district starts at the ancient temples of Rajim, which is also a famous pilgrimage center.

- The total population of the district is 5,97,653 and the sex ratio stands at 1020. There are around 711 villages in the district with a literacy rate of 68.26%. The main occupation of demography is agriculture with 49.56% area of farms in the district is irrigated.
- ► Saal and Teak forests comprises mostly the forest zone of Gariaband with a total forest cover area of 1951.861 sqkm.
- There are four urban bodies in the district in which there is one Municipality(Gariaband) and three Nagar Panchayats (Rajim,Chhura and Fingeshwar).ea of district is covered by forest.

- ► The socio-economic status, quality of life and level of education is quite low among the demography of Gariaband district.
- ► The tribal economy depends upon minor forest produce and labor activity.
- They are totally dependent upon rain for paddy cultivation. Their annual income is less than 35 thousand rupees and more than 90% of the people are below the poverty line.
- Women are mostly illiterate and only a few percentages are able to complete their education

- A three-tier Panchayat System operates in the Chhattisgarh state with Gram Panchayat at the village level, Janpad Panchayat at the intermediate block level and Zila Panchayat at the district level.
- Additionally Gram Sabha acts as a basic unit in the Panchayati Raj mechanism.
- ► The first panchayat elections were held in Chhattisgarh in the year Jan' 2005. Gram Panchayats constitutes the smallest unit of elected local selfgovernance at the village level.

- The elected Panchs and a Sarpanch heads the Gram Panchayat proceedings and village affairs.
- Sarpanch is deputed by an Up- Sarpanch and also a Secretary who may service one or more Gram Panchayats. Secretary is appointed by the State government who services a Gram Panchayat or a group of two or more Gram Panchayats and is responsible for maintenance of records of the Gram Panchayat and administratively responsible to the Chief Executive Officer of the Janpad Panchayat.
- ▶ General Administration Committee, Construction & Development Committee and Education, Health & Social Welfare Committee are the three standing committees constituted by the elected members. (Paul, The Right to Information and Panchayati Raj Institutions:Chhattisgarh as a Case Study, 2006)

Thank you