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Public Private Partnership (PPP) in West Bengal: A Study

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ABSTRACT

Public-private partnership (PPP) describes a government service or private business venture which is funded and operated through a partnership of government and one or more private sector companies. These schemes are sometimes referred to as PPP, P3 or P3. A typical PPP example would be a hospital building financed and constructed by a private developer and then leased to the hospital authority. The private developer then acts as landlord, providing housekeeping and other non-medical services while the hospital itself provides medical services.

In the present article an Endeavour has been made by the author to view PPP from macro and micro level. The article has been classified into two parts. At the outset the theoretical and conceptual perspective of the PPP has been thoroughly reproduced. In the second part of the article West Bengal has been taken for case study. The different sectors of West Bengal have been thoroughly studied to explore the impact of implementation of PPP Model. The article ends with some valid concluding observations.

Keywords :

Broadly Public Private Partnership (PPP) refers to an agreement between government and the private sector regarding the provision of public services or infrastructure. Purportedly it means bringing together social priorities with the managerial skills of the private sector, relieving government of the burden of large capital expenditure, and transferring the risk of cost overruns to the private sector. Rather than completely transferring public assets to the private sector, as with privatization, government and business work together to provide services.

In a PPP, each partner, usually through legally binding contract(s) or some other mechanism, agrees to share responsibilities related to implementation and/or operation and management of a project. This collaboration or partnership is built on the expertise of each partner that meets clearly defined public needs through appropriate allocation of:

- Resources
- Risks
- Rewards
- Responsibilities

The allocations of these elements and other aspects of PPP projects such as, details of implementation, termination, obligations, dispute resolution and payment arrangements are negotiated between the parties involved and are documented in written contract agreement(s) signed by them.

"The Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Project means a project based on contract or concession agreement between a Government or statutory entity on the one side and a private sector company on the other side, for delivering an infrastructure service on payment of user charges."

The PPP models vary mainly by:

- Ownership of capital assets
- Responsibility for investment
- Assumption of risks, and
- Duration of contract.

The Essence of the Term PPP:

The name "public social private partnership" (PSPP) is a development of Public Private Partnership (PPP). PPP is one

expression of a strong trend towards privatization, which in some European countries has arisen as a result of more difficult economic conditions in recent years and the associated structural crisis in the public sector. The growth in public-private partnerships as a way of fulfilling public tasks in partnership between the state administration and private enterprises deserves attention.

Shift from PPP to PSPP:

In the social services sector, PPPs have been implemented mainly in the health services and overseas development until now. In now days instead of using the term PPP the term PSPP is in vogue. Public social private partnership (PSPP) is not merely an extension of the PPP idea, but a precondition for ensuring that a PPP with a social goal:

- assures and implements the public aims, agendas and tasks in the sense of community benefit, welfare, etc.;
- adheres to and sustains the agendas and aims of co-operations in the mid- and long-term;

Plans and suitably applies the necessary conditions and resources (e.g. financing) for sustainable results.

Objectives of the Study:

The present study is directed towards the following objectives:

- i) To unearth the actual essence of the term PPP (Public Private Partnership).
- ii) To assess the advantages of implementation of PPP Model.
- iii) To explore the extent of implementation of PPP model in West Bengal .
- iv) To derive the benefits obtained by implementation of PPP model in West Bengal through assessing different sectors in detail.

Economy Achieved due to adoption of the PPP Model:

West Bengal is the third largest economy of India. With one of the largest consumer markets in the country, the state has remarkably improved its state for the last few years. The State Gross Domestic Product (SGDP) of West Bengal was USD

25.09 billion as recorded in 1999-00, which impressively grew to USD 47.85 billion till the year 2005-06. The compound annual growth rate (CAGR) for the same period was calculated to be about 8.94, which is a great achievement for the state.

SGDP of West Bengal (USD billion)

Year	SGDP
1999-00	25.09
2000-01	26.70
2001-02	29.42
2002-03	33.4
2003-04	39.08
2004-05	41.92
2005-06	47.85

(Source: www.ibef.org)

Though contribution from the primary sector has marginally decreased over the year, the secondary and the tertiary sectors have remarkably added to the impressive economic performance of the state.

Percentage Distribution of SGDP :

Primary Sector	25.2%
Secondary Sector	20.5%
Tertiary Sector	54.2%

(Source: www.ibef.org)

In terms of investment, the state has witnessed a strong inflow of funds in the manufacturing industry. A total of nearly USD 50 billion of investment has come to the state as on March 31, 2007. The majority of the investment is shared by the manufacturing sector that attracted an investment of USD 20.37 billion.

Investment Scenario in West Bengal :

Sector	Investments
Manufacturing	41 %
Electricity	28%
Services	20%
Construction	10%
Mining	1%

(Source: www.ibef.org)

An overview of the Different Sector of West Bengal :

Infrastructure:

West Bengal is one of the most important destinations for trade and investment. The state is famous for its vast natural resources, availability of raw material, cheap workforce, investor-friendly government, and good infrastructure. The state government has been constantly putting efforts to improve the amenities required for a steady and sustained growth of the economy. The state government has gained an impressive Human Development Index ranking. Major focus has been on rural development, land reforms, a supportive social infrastructure system and empowering local governance institutions.

Social infrastructure:

West Bengal has a literacy rate of 69.22 per cent against the national average of 65 per cent. The state ranks sixth in terms of literacy rate.

Its vast educational network comprises over 66,925 primary schools, 3,159 secondary schools and 9,659 high schools

and higher secondary schools. There are 18 universities, 53 engineering college, 450 degree colleges, 43 polytechnics, 50 ITS and ITCs, 23 management institutes, and 9 medical colleges .

Universities	18
Engineering Colleges	53
Degree Colleges	450
Polytechnics	43
ITIs and ITCs	50
Management Institutes	23
Medical Colleges	9

(Source: www.ibef.org)

Health

West Bengal's network of health facilities comprises 433 hospitals, 1268 health centers, 10365 sub-centers. The state's hospitals have 70519 in-patient beds. The total numbers health units in the state are 12957. Recently, the state has seen some significant private participation in healthcare facilities. Apollo Hospitals Group has set up a 325 bed, multi-specialty hospital in Kolkata with an investment of USD 47 million with financial participation from a Singapore based investor.

Health Facilities	Numbers
Govt & Non-Govt	433
Health Centers	1268
Sub-Centers	10356
Total	12957
Total No of Beds	70519

(Source: www.ibef.org)

The state government has received financial and technical assistance from various from external sources. Department for International Development (DFID) funded Health Systems Development Initiative (HSDI) programme was launched by the West Bengal government in 2005. The same year also witnessed the launch of the National Rural Health Mission.

Power

West Bengal is a power surplus in India. A recent ranking of NASSCOM, Gartner reveals West Bengal's power infrastructure amongst the best in India. As of August 31 2008, the state has an installed capacity of 8400.7 MW of electricity. Key players in power generation in West Bengal include some of the best state as well as central agencies. These include, Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC), Disergarh Power Supply Corporation (DPSC), Durgapur Project Ltd (DPL), West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd (WBPDCL), West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB), NTPC and DVC.

Major Policy Initiatives

- Announcement of a thermal power plant at Bardhaman district and a project of Integrated Renewable Energy.
- The State Government took steps for installation of an additional capacity of about 525 MW of power in 2007.
- West Bengal had an installed electricity generating capacity of 8400.7 MW as of August 31, 2008.

State of Electricity Generation in West Bengal

- Announcement of a thermal power plant at Bardhaman district and a project of Integrated Renewable Energy.
- The State Government took steps for installation of an additional capacity of about 525 MW of power in 2007.
- West Bengal had an installed electricity generating capacity of 8400.7 MW as of August 31, 2008 .

Year	Installed Capacity (MW)	Generation Capacity (MU)
2001-01	7099	29455
2001-02	7309	27808
2002-03	7316	34615
2003-04	7330	37406
2004-05	7616	40821
2005-06	7616	29255
2006-07	8141	
2007-08 (Upto 31/08/2008)	8400	

(Source: www.ibef.org)

Roads :

The total length of roads in West Bengal is over 92,023 km. West Bengal's road density is 103.69 km per 100 sq km, higher than the national average of 74.7 km per 100 sq km. The total length of national highways passing through the state is 2,325 km.

Growth in Road Network				
Year	1993	1996	1999	2002
Total Length (In Km)	58554	77579	79255	92023
Surfaced Length (In Km)	34532	45569	44970	49517

(Source: Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India)

Salient Features

- Total road length of over 92,023 Km.
- Existing network being upgraded, with express highways and freeways being taken up,
- The Kolkata to New Delhi is being widened to four lanes.
- Golden Quadrilateral project undertaken by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) will pass through major North Bengal districts.
- Road density of 1.04 Km/ Sq. Km., national average 0.75 km/Sq Km

Major Land Port in West Bengal

- Jaigaon
- Changrabandha
- Fulbari
- Panitanki
- Radhikapur
- Hili
- Mahedipur
- Petrapole
- Ranaghat
- Khidirpur (TT Shed)
- FEPZ (Falta)

In 2004, the West Bengal Government signed an agreement with a consortium led by P&O, UK, for development of a third port in the state - the Kulpi port. The port will cover a total area of over 3,000 acres and will have a Special Economic Zone.

Growth in port traffic					
Port	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Kolkata	10.3	7.2	5.4	7.2	8.7
Haldia	20.7	22.8	25.0	28.6	32.4
Total	31.0	30.0	30.4	35.8	41.1

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1) Monthly Review of State of India, Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy | 2) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India | 3) www.ibef.org | 4) Ppp. rajasthan.gov.in | 5) Wikipedia (en.wikipedia.org) | 6) PPP in India, Ministry of Finance, Government of India

(Source: www.ibef.org)

Salient Features

- Combine volume of both the ports was over 52 million tonnes of cargo in 2005-06.
- The West Bengal government will construct a USD 265 million container port at Kulpi.
- West Bengal has two modern ports located in Kolkata and Haldia.

Airport

West Bengal has an international airport at Kolkata and a domestic airport at Bagdogra. Currently, the Kolkata airport is being modernised with an investment of US\$ 30 million. This includes the development of a new integrated cargo complex.

Salient Features

- International airport at Kolkata NetajiSubhas Chandra Bose International Airport, domestic airport at Bagdogra.
- The Government of India has recently sanctioned USD 0.68 million to set up a perishable cargo complex at Bagdogra airport

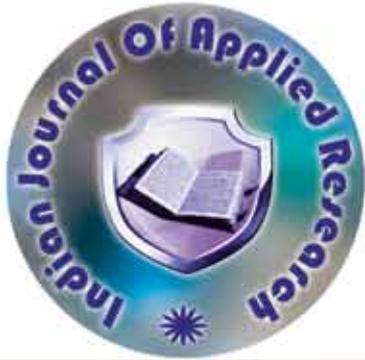
Name	Cost (USD million)	Status	Location
Kolkata Airport up-gradation Project	44	Proposed	Kolkata
Kolkata Terminal Bldg Phase-2 Project	20	Under implementation	Kolkata
Air Taxi Project	09	Announcement	West Bengal
Total Investment	73		

(Source: Monthly Review of State of India, Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy)

Concluding Observations and Suggestions :

West Bengal, the third largest economy in India has been recording an impressive and sustained growth rate over the year. West Bengal has contributed to the state as well as the national economy in several sectors and industries. Some of the most vital areas that contribute to the economic development of the state include food processing, IT & ITeS, leather products, petroleum & petrochemicals, steel and others.

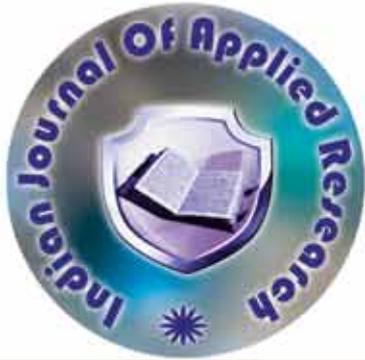
West Bengal is one of the largest consumer markets in India. Known as a power surplus state, West Bengal is the largest producer of vegetables and fruits in the country. The state offers significant opportunities for the food processing industry and attracts huge investment in the sector. There is a huge depository of mineral resources, especially iron, in the state that attracts the steel producers. Availability of ports, sufficient power supply, large water resource, has turned West Bengal in to an industrious state.



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