

In the past two decades, annual expenditures by the Federal Government have increased fourfold. Within that period, vast new responsibilities have been undertaken—in supporting the old, the ill, the handicapped and the poor, in providing financial aid for projects of national value or of local value in the less-developed parts of the country, in providing financial assistance for technical and vocational training and for universities, in undertaking measures to improve the flexibility of the labour force, and in contributing to productivity and industrial development through research and the provision of basic facilities and services in many areas.