Historical Perspective of Decentralization of Government in PNG.

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1. Introduction

• Professors W Tordoff and R L Watts:

  “... in our experience of political systems in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, we have not come across an administrative system so highly centralized and dominated by its bureaucracy.”

• CPC Report 1974, Chapter 10, para 6

  “Power must be returned to the people. Government services should be accessible to them. Decisions should be made by the people to whom the issues at stake are meaningful, easily understood, and relevant. The existing system of government should therefore be restructured, and power should be decentralized, so that the energies and aspirations of our people can play their full part in promoting our country’s development.”

• CPC Report 1974, Chapter 10, para 8

• Hon Sasindran Mutheval, Governor of West New Britain

  “Give Greater Economic Autonomy to Provinces. ... (The) current system that centralized powers in Port Moresby made service delivery difficult in the provinces.”

• Post Courier, Wednesday 19 January 2022
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