

CHAPTER – III

SPECIAL AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

3.1. BORDER AREAS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

3.1.1. Meghalaya is bounded on the south and as well as on the west by Bangladesh. The length of the international boundary for the State of Meghalaya is about 423.00 Kms. On the other sides, the State is surrounded by Assam. The partition of the country in the year 1947 has upset the economic condition of the people living therein due to the choking up of trade linkages which has brought about trade imbalances, population displacements etc to the citizens of India residing in the State of Meghalaya. In order to ameliorate the economic sufferings of the people in the Border Areas and to rejuvenate the erstwhile prosperous economy, special schemes were taken up in the notified border villages, in addition to the normal State Plan schemes. As a result of implementation of the special schemes, the economic condition of the people is gradually improving and there is more to be done so as to bring this area at par with the rest of the State.

3.1.2. The Eleventh Plan approved outlay under Border Areas Development sector is Rs.189.09 crores. The approved outlays for the Annual Plans 2007-08 & 2008-09 are Rs.1230.00 lakhs and Rs.1357.00 lakhs respectively. The actual expenditure during the first year of the Eleventh Plan i.e.2007-08 is Rs.1311.72 lakhs and the anticipated expenditure during the current year 2008-09 is Rs.2020.77 lakhs. The proposed outlay for 2009-10 is Rs.2027.00 lakhs. The schemes being implemented under this sector are as follows :-

1. AWARD OF BORDER SCHOLARSHIP

The Scheme for award of scholarship to the students hailing from notified border villages will continue for those students securing 1st Tenth position and 1st Division at pre-matric stage and those at the Post Matric Stage studying in the High Schools and colleges within and outside the state including professional courses. During 2008-09 an amount of Rs.33.16 lakhs is approved for the purpose and Rs 42.00 Lakhs is proposed for 2009-10.

2. BORDER AREAS RURAL ROAD UNDER (PWD)

Road communication is the main factor for accelerating the pace of all round development activities in the Border Areas bordering Bangladesh. Road schemes are taken up in the areas of the state where communication facilities are lacking. Earlier the scheme was implemented by the P.W.D (Road) upto the year 2006-07. From the year 2007-08 onwards, the scheme is being implemented by this Department as the P.W.D is no longer in a position to implement the same as they are already over burdened with their own schemes.

During 2008-09, an amount of Rs.300.00 lakhs is the approved outlay for construction of rural roads in the border area An amount of Rs. 350.00 lakh is proposed during 2009 – 10 for the purpose.

3. BORDER AREAS DEVELOPMENT (DIRECTORATE):Land acquisition and construction of offices of the BADOs :-

The schemes taken up under this programme are construction of office buildings, quarters, approach roads, etc. at the respective offices of the Border Areas Development Officers and are implemented by the Directorate. The current year's approved

outlay under this programme is Rs.55.66 lakhs and it is anticipated to be fully spent. For the Annual Plan 2009-10, an amount of Rs.60.00 lakhs is proposed.

4. GRANT UNDER ART.275(1) :

Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been providing financial assistance under Art.275(1) as an alleviation programme to the people living in the border areas to undertake some sustainable developmental activities by the villagers. The approved outlay during 2008-09 is Rs.15.00 lakhs and the proposed outlay for 2009-10 under this programme is Rs.50.00 lakhs.

5. BORDER AREAS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (BADP) UNDER S.C.A. :

Border Areas Development is implementing the Special Central Assistance (BADP) which is 100% funded by the Government of India. The schemes under Special Central Assistance (BADP) are being implemented by the Local Committees formed by the concerned villages with the technical supervision from the Department for (i) Generating employment amongst the local people of the area and (ii) better quality and early completion of the schemes except those schemes which are highly technical in nature where implementation has to be done through the technical department only. The approved outlay for 2008-09 under this programme is Rs. 603.00 lakhs for taking up various developmental schemes in the border area and an amount of Rs.1267.00 lakhs is anticipated to be utilized as per allocation of Govt. of India. An outlay of Rs. 1460.00 lakhs is proposed for the annual Plan 2009-10.

Break up of the Eleventh Plan (2007-12), Annual Plan (2008-09) and Annual Plan (2009-10 outlays is given in the table below:

Sl. No	Name of schemes	11 th Plan Projected Outlay	Annual Plan 2008-09		Annual Plan 2009-10 Proposed Outlay
			Approved Outlay	Antcd. Expenditure	
1.	Education: Scholarship and stipend.	210.00	33.16	32.93	42.00
2.	Border Area Rural Road (PWD).	2300.00	300.00	300.00	350.00
3.	Border Areas Dev.(Directorate) : Direction & Administration.	253.50	47.83	47.83	62.00
4.	Agro-Custum-Hiring in the Border Areas.	16.50	2.35	2.35	3.00
5.	Land Acquisition & Construction of office Building of BADOs.	220.00	55.66	55.66	60.00
6.	Special Central Assistance under Border Areas Programme.	14409.00	603.00	1267.00	1460.00
7.	Central Assistance under Art.275(1).	1500.00	15.00	15.00	50.00
8.	One time ACA for Construction of Dawki- Bholaganj road & Master Plan for Border Areas.		300.00	300.00	-
	Total	18909.00	1357.00	2020.77	2027.00