

CHAPTER -- X

GENERAL ECONOMIC SERVICES

9.1. SECRETARIAT ECONOMIC SERVICES

9.1.1. The Projected Eleventh Plan outlay (2007 - 2012) for the Secretariat Economic Services including Programme Implementation Department & Evaluation Unit is **Rs.3100.00** lakhs. The Approved Annual Plan 2007-08 is Rs325.00 lakhs which is expected to be utilised in full. **The proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2008-2009) is Rs. 410.00 lakhs.** Out of the Projected Tenth Plan (2002-2007) outlay of Rs.870.00 the total expenditure is Rs.891.06 lakhs.

9.1.2. The Planning Organisation of the State is the major component of Secretariat Economic Services. The Planning Organization is the machinery which is responsible for the formulation of the Five Year Plans, Annual Plans and all allied matters in the State. The Organization also function as a liaison body between the Planning Commission and the State Government on all matters relating to Planning and Development for the State of Meghalaya. The State Planning Board which is an apex planning body in the State, form a part of Planning Organization at the Headquarter and is actively involved in Plan formulation and reviewing of the implementation of Plan Schemes. At the district level, there is District Planning and Development Council at all District Headquarters to formulate, monitor and review of developmental activities in the State.

9.1.3. Besides, the above Organization, the State Government has also set up the following Councils/ Commissions :-

- I Meghalaya Resource and Employment Generation Council :**
- II Meghalaya Economic Development Council:**
- III Regional Planning & Development Council :**
- IV Programme Implementation Department & Evaluation Unit.**

9.1.4. The broad break-up of the proposed outlay of Rs. 3100.00 lakhs for Secretariat Economic Services during the Eleventh Plan and also during Annual Plan 2008-09 are indicated below :-

Sl. No.	Items	Projected Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) Outlay	Annual Plan 2007-08		Proposed Annual Plan 2008-09
			Approved Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	
	Secretariat Economic Services				
1	Planning Machinery at the State & Dist. Headquarter	1700.00	150.00	150.00	190.00
2	State Planning Board	500.00	60.00	60.00	55.00
3	Programme Implementation & Evaluation Unit including SDRC	550.00	70.00	70.00	120.00

4	Meghalaya Resource & Employment Generation Council	55.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
5	Meghalaya Economic Development Council	80.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
6	NEC/ Regional Meetings	65.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
7	Regional Planning & Development Council	150.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
	Total :-	3100.00	325.00	325.00	410.00

9.2. TOURISM

9.2.1 Tourism is a multi-faceted activity – an amalgamation of transport, accommodation, cuisine, entertainment and other related industries. Among the smallest States in the country, Meghalaya is blessed with picturesque landscape, conducive geo-ecological settings, salubrious climate, sparkling waterfalls, cascades, legendry & mythological sites, rich traditional culture and warm and hospitable people. It has a rich cultural heritage and is blessed with a salubrious climate, which is naturally attractive for short sojourn by tourists from the plain areas. It has special attractions in its Shillong golf course and in the rainiest town of Cherrapunjee (Sohra).

9.2.2. During the Tenth Plan, the State's investment in this sector has provided employment to the daily labourers whenever infrastructures are created. In addition to that, unemployed youth have already started taking up income generation activities by establishing mini private parks, hotels, restaurants etc. Because of this, efforts are being made to create a congenial atmosphere for the development of tourism in the State. In recent years tourism has gained momentum especially with the lifting of the Restricted Area Permit, it is expected that more foreign tourists would visit the State and the flow of tourist traffic both domestic and foreign would increase rapidly in the near future.

Statistical data of Domestic and Foreign tourist arrivals in Meghalaya are as indicated below :

Year	No. of Domestic Tourists	No. of Foreign Tourists	Total
2002	2,68,529	3,191	2,71,720
2003	3,71,953	6,304	3,78,257
2004	4,33,495	12,407	4,45,902
2005	3,75,911	5,099	3,81,010
2006	4,00,287	4,259	4,04,546

9.2.3. The approved outlay during the Tenth Plan (2002-07) is Rs 1650.00 lakhs. As against this, the actual expenditure is Rs. 821.30 lakhs. The projected outlay for the Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) is Rs.3500.00 lakhs. The approved outlay for 2007-08 is Rs 300.00 lakhs which is expected to be utilized. The proposed outlay for 2008-09 is Rs.375.00 lakhs.

9.2.4. Programmes for 2008-09:- During the first Annual Plan (2007-08) of the Eleventh Plan period, priority and attention is being given for the implementation and timely completion of the continuing/on-going schemes like Development of tourist Spots, provision of transport and accomodational facilities to the tourist, water-sports, wild life and adventure tourism, children's park etc and more fully on the creation of infrastructure, community assets, road connectivity to tourist destinations, wayside amenities etc. Community-based assets will be handed over to the concerned local authorities/ communities for their management and maintenance.

Assessing from the above prospects, schemes/ programmes as drawn up are indicated in the Table below:-

(Rs.in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Major Heads/Minor Heads of development	Annual Plan 2008-09 Proposed Outlay
1	2	4.
1	Development of Tourist Spots.	133.93
2	Beautification Scheme in and around Cherrapunjee	4.91
3	Tourist Bungalow in Tura.	1.97
4	Provision of Yatri Niwases	1.96
5	Provision of Way side Amenities	10.71
6	Transport facilities for Tourist	9.82
7	Financial Assistance to MTDC	19.64
8	Direction & Administration	22.59
9	Training Facilities	1.96
10	Hospitality Schemes	4.91
11	Publicity Tourist Festival & Printing of Publicity Materials.	68.75
12	Other Tourist Information Centre	9.82
13	Production of Documentary Film	4.91
14	Purchase of Boats	2.68
15	Wildlife Tourism (Trekking in Natural Reserves)	2.41
16	Development of Caves	2.68
17	Adventure Tourism	1.79
18	Food Craft Institute	1.79
19	Project Formulation Architectural Fees etc.	0.98
20	Travel Circuits (Golf Course Development)	14.73
21	Improvement of Pine Wood Hotel	4.91
22	Shillong Orchid Hotel	4.91
24	Infrastructural Development of Sacred Lumsohpethneng	1.96
25	Provision of approach road, wayside amenities connecting Umsohpieng village to Umsohpieng & Riangthied Waterfalls, through Mawjiej village	1.96

26	Provision of approach road and wayside amenities connecting the sacred Lum Mawirang near Myndo Village	1.97
27	Provision of Community-Based Projects/Infrastructures	29.46
28	Provision of approach road and wayside amenities connecting Kamriangsih village to Ara waterfalls	1.97
29	Provision of approach road and wayside amenities connecting Syntu Ksiar	1.97
30	Provision of approach road, wayside amenities connecting Kyllang Rock	0.98
31	Provision of approach road and wayside amenities connecting Mawthadraishan Range.	1.97
	TOTAL	375.00

9.3. SURVEY AND STATISTICS

9.3.1. The Eleventh Plan proposed outlay is Rs. 1400.00 lakhs. The Approved Outlay during 2007-08 is Rs. 175.00 lakhs which is expected to be fully utilized. The Proposed Outlay for Annual Plan **2008-09** is Rs.**220.00** lakhs. Out of the Projected 10th Plan (2002-07) outlay of Rs.470.00 lakhs for this sector the total actual expenditure is Rs. 454.43 lakhs. During **2008-09** the following existing schemes are proposed to be taken up:-

(a) **Crop Estimation Survey.**

(b). **National Sample Survey.**

© **Gross Domestic Product.**

9.3.2. It is also proposed to take up (i) Strengthening of Statistical Organisation at the Directorate Headquarters and District levels (ii) to analyse and prepare statistical report on Price Statistics, Census of Government Employees, Gross Domestic Product, Agricultural Statistics, National Sample Survey, electronic data processing of the 64th Round (iii). Publication of statistical reports on Social Statistics, Housing Statistics and other statistical information of common interest and (iv) to continue programme on Census of Government Employees during 2008-2009.

9.3.3 The proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2008-09 is Rs. 220.00lakhs of which the break up is indicated below:-

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl. No.	Items	Projected 11 th Plan (2007-12)	Annual Plan 2007-08		Proposed Annual Plan 2008-09
			Approved Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	
1.	State Statistics Organisation	232.99	75.00	75.00	82.50
2.	Annual Survey of Industries	49.13	5.20	5.20	5.72
3.	National income estimation	34.86	-	-	-
4	Bulletin, Handbook, Abstract etc	-	1.00	1.00	1.10
5.	Economics Census	25.69	-	-	-
6.	Capital formation	-	-	-	-
7.	Training Unit	10.00	0.67	0.67	0.74
8.	Strengthening of Price section	25.76	0.67	0.67	0.74

Sl. No.	Items	Projected 11 th Plan (2007-12)	Annual Plan 2007-08		Proposed Annual Plan 2008-09
			Approved Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	
9.	Data Rank Electronic Processing , Crop Insurance Scheme	235.14	58.00	58.00	91.30
10.	Agricultural Statistics Division	23.22	7.20	7.20	7.92
11.	National Sample Survey Division	68.77	15.06	15.06	16.56
12.	Establishment of Modern Data Processing Facility	14.40	3.20	3.20	3.52
13.	Collection of Housing Statistics	27.43	-	-	-
14.	Strengthening of Publication & Reference Division	25.69	9.00	9.00	9.90
15.	Construction of Building Staff Quarter.	520.00	-	-	-
	New Schemes				
	(i) District Income Estimation	73.24	-	-	-
	(ii) Budget Analysis	33.68	-	-	-
	Total	1400.00	175.00	175.00	220.00

9.4 CIVIL SUPPLIES

9.4.1 The approved Tenth Plan outlay for this sector was Rs.165.00 Lakhs and the actual expenditure was Rs. 459.36 Lakhs. The proposed outlay for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) is Rs.1300.00 Lakhs and the approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2007-2008 is Rs.100.00 Lakhs which is expected to be fully utilized. **The proposed outlay for 2008-2009 is Rs.125.00 Lakhs.**

9.4.2 Programmes for 2008-09:-

9.4.3 **Mobile Fair Price Shop** – This is a continuing scheme which envisages distribution of Essential Commodities through Vans in the Rural areas and far - flung areas under the supervision/control of the Deputy Commissioners/ Sub-Divisional Officers. The vans are also used for transportation of **TPDS** Commodities from the Wholesale Centres to the Fair Price Shops. At present 9 Vans are in running condition. For the maintenance of the existing Vans and meeting the expenses in connection with Salaries etc. of Drivers etc an amount of Rs. 12.00 Lakhs is proposed for 2008-2009.

9.4.4 **State Commission and District Fora-** Under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, the Department have constituted Quasi - Judicial Bodies i.e., State Commission at the State Level and the District Forum at the District Level. These Quasi - Judicial Bodies deal with Consumer Disputes / Grievances as stipulated under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The District Forum deals with Consumer Disputes, the value of which is

Rs. 1.00 Lakhs upto Rs. 20.00 Lakhs and the State Commission deals with Consumer Disputes, the value which are above Rs. 20.00 Lakhs upto Rs. 1.00 Crores. It also acts as appellate Court against the decision of the District Fora.

Funds are required for payment of Sitting Fees to the Members of the State Commission and District Forum, other Office expenses, Salaries of the Staffs etc for which an amount of Rs.7.00 Lakhs for the State Commission and Rs. 9.50 Lakhs for the District Forum is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.4.5 **Consumer Awareness Programme** - The provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, provides for constitution of the State Consumer Protection Council and Protection and Promotion of Consumer rights in the State. Consumer Awareness Programme throughout the State will be organized by the Deputy Commissioners/ Sub-Divisional Officers alongwith the Local Dorbars/ NGOs and Public Leaders. An amount of Rs. 5.00 Lakhs is proposed for Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.4.6 **Improvement/ Maintenance of Staff Quarter** – The Department have constructed a number of Official quarters in the Districts at Nongstoin/ Baghmara/ Nongpoh/ Tura and Sub - Division at Khliehriat and Resubelpara during the Ninth and Tenth Plan period. For improvement and maintenance of the quarters, funds are required to be provided for which an outlay of Rs.15.00 lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.4.7 **Computerisation** - The Department have purchased Computers and accessories in the Directorate and the Districts Offices to facilitate better maintenance of records/ accounts in the Department. Maintenance and Rectification of Computers and purchase of computer consumables etc are required from time to time for which an amount of Rs. 1.50 Lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.4.8 **Annapurna – NSAP Scheme:-** Under the Scheme, 10 Kgs. Of Rice are supplied free of cost per month to each indigent Old Age Person not covered under the National Old Age Pension Scheme.As per instruction of the Government of India, the scheme has been transferred to State Plan with effect from 2002-03. An amount of Rs.69.00 Lakhs is propose for this scheme during 2008-09.

9.4.9 **Family Identity Card :-** The Department proposes to conduct enumeration of urban households in the State for the purpose of issuing computerized Family Identity Card. The Department is presently acquiring the infrastructure for printing of computerized FI Card and is processing to frame the Guidelines / methodology for the Enumeration. For this purpose enumerators will have to be engaged and remuneration to be paid for their services. The total Number of Urban Households as per records available in the Census of India 2001 is 119210 numbers. Further, Stationeries, honorarium, and other miscellaneous expenditure will have to be incurred, therefore an amount of Rs. 6.00 Lakhs is required Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.5. WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

9.5.1. The approved outlay for the Tenth Plan period for Weights and Measures was Rs.165.00 Lakhs and the actual expenditure was Rs.157.41 Lakhs. The proposed outlay for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) is Rs.400.00 Lakhs and for the Annual Plan 2007-2008 an outlay of Rs. 50.00 Lakhs is approved which is expected to be spent in full. **An amount of Rs. 65.00 Lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.** The approved outlay for the Tenth Plan period for Weights and Measures was Rs.165.00 Lakhs and the actual expenditure was Rs.157.41 Lakhs.

9.5.2 Programmes for 2008-09:-

9.5.3 Maintenance and Strengthening of Staff:- To strengthened the Enforcement Wing and manpower in the District Offices of the State, an amount of Rs. 48.00 Lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.5.4 Procurement of Machinery: - Purchase of Machinery / Equipments/ Tools and Plants etc for the new Offices and also to equip the Laboratory at the State and Districts with modern and up to date equipments. An amount of Rs. 1.00 Lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.5.5 Purchase of Vehicles:- With the condemnation of 2(Two) Nos. of Vehicle, it is proposed to replace these vehicles for running the Enforcement Works of the Department. An amount of Rs. 9.00 Lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.5.6 Construction/Maintenance of Laboratory-cum-Office Building:- Repair works including boundary fencing of the office compounds of all the District offices which has not yet been fenced will be taken up. An amount of Rs. 4.00 Lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.5.7 Strengthen of Consumers Awareness: - For creating awareness of the general public including the Traders in both urban and rural areas for maintaining uniformity and accuracy of all weights and measures is proposed by advertising through the Media, Billboards and by conducting Seminars etc. For this purpose, an amount of Rs. 3.00 Lakhs is propose for the Annual Plan 2008-09.

9.6. AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCILS

9.6.1. The proposed Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) outlay in respect of District Councils is **Rs.4000.00** lakhs. The agreed outlay for Annual Plan 2007-08 is Rs.550.00 lakhs and the anticipated expenditure is Rs.550.00 lakhs. **The proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2008-2009 is Rs. 650.00 Lakhs.**

9.6.2. Out of the projected outlay of Rs.2500.00 lakhs, the actual expenditure during the 10th Plan (2002-2007) is Rs.810.67 lakhs in respect of District Council Affairs Department.

9.6.3. The District Councils are the Autonomous bodies constituted under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India .They have been invested with certain powers of not only for legislation and administration in respect of tribal interest, but, also with executive and judiciary powers. However, since the Autonomous District Councils have a narrow resource base, the State Government in consultation with the Planning Commission has been extending Grant-in-aid to them from time to time under the State Plan to enable them to take up rural development programmes in areas like approach roads, bridges, foot paths, drinking wells, Village markets, play grounds etc. Grant-in-aid is also given for the construction of the District Councils' administrative and functional buildings. The funds available each year is divided to the three Autonomous District Councils of Khasi Hills, Garo Hills and Jaintia Hills in the ratio of 9:8:3.

9.6.4. The broad breakup of the outlays proposed for the Annual Plan 2008-09 are indicated in the Table below:-

Sl. No.	Items	Eleventh Plan 2007-12 Proposed Outlay	Annual Plan - 2007-08		Proposed Outlay for 2008-09
			Agreed Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	
			4	5	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Financial assistance to District Council for their own Plan Scheme	3520.00	484.00	484.00	572.00
2	Construction of District Council Buildings	480.00	66.00	66.00	78.00
	Total	4000.00	550.00	550.00	650.00

9.7 LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE HIMALAYA MEGHALAYA CHAPTER

9.7.1 LIPH is a joint initiative of the Government of Meghalaya (GOM), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The project was declared effective from 23rd September 2004 with the overall objective improve the livelihood of vulnerable groups in a sustainable manner through the promotion of improved livelihood opportunities and strengthening of local institutions that relate to livelihood development. The districts in the State in which the project is implemented by the Meghalaya Rural Development Society (MRDS) are-East Khasi Hills, South Garo Hills, East Garo Hills, Jaintia Hills & Ri-Bhoi. The Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance at the Central Level and the Planning Department in Meghalaya are the nodal agencies for the project

Project Components

9.7.2. The proposed Livelihood Improvement Project for the Himalayas comprises the following four components to be implemented over a period of eight years.

- i) Empowerment and Capacity –Building of Communities and Support Organizations:
- ii) Livelihood Enhancement and Development focusing on organic agriculture/ shifting cultivation, livestock/ animal husbandry/ fisheries, forestry including: non-timber forest products, medicinal and aromatic plants, agro-forestry, and other natural products, enterprise related soil and water related activities and a number of other off-farm opportunities such as eco tourism, alternative fuels and finally establishing forward, backward and horizontal linkages.
- iii) Livelihood Support Systems Development through a SVCC that will mobilize demonstrations; arrange for the provision of rural financial services and other business development services; facilities backward and forward linkages with the wider economy; and
- iv) Project Management, including the establishment of the project management and DMUs, strategy development and addressing of policy issued and demonstrating technologies to reduce women’s drudgery.

Project Area

9.7.3 The project would cover 15 selected blocks in the five districts viz - 4 blocks in East Khasi Hills, 3 blocks in Jaintia Hills, 3 blocks in East Garo Hills, 3 blocks in South Garo Hills and 2 blocks in Ri-Bhoi district. During the eight years project, it was estimated that 570 villages in 15 blocks in all five districts will be covered.

Projects Strategy

9.7.4 The project intends to provide opportunities to create or enhance the livelihoods to the poor households by applying the principle of self-help and utilizing the self-help group (SHG) movement as the platform from which project activities will be launched. The project would be contributing towards developing a replicable model of livelihood improvement in the mountains. It would do so by developing community institutions and investing in their capacity to take livelihood decisions, and by providing a range of support services and linkages.

Project Implementation

9.7.5 This eight-year projects will be implemented in three phases. During the six month pre-implementation phase, project staff will be recruited, oriented and trained. During the first phase of three years, the project will concentrate on capacity building activities for the self-help group, other community based organizations. At the same time pilot schemes of various livelihood opportunities will be designed and demonstrated to project participants. The purpose of the demonstrations is to assist project participants in making informed choices about which livelihoods best suit their circumstances by both strengthening their capacity to understand and make choices and demonstrating a variety of potential choice opportunities; to enable the SVCC to begin data collection and analysis on various sub-sectors with potential for widespread impacts; and finally to educate formal financial institutions on the viability of investing in rural enterprises.

Project Cost and Financing

9.7.6 Total Project cost for the 8 years in US\$ 36.24 million (Approx INR 172.14 Crores) as below:

(a)	IFAD Loan	17.52M US\$	=	Rs. 83.22 crores	48.34%
(b)	Institutional Finance	9.83 M US\$	=	Rs. 46.69 crores	27.13%
(c)	Beneficiaries components	3.85 M US\$	=	Rs. 18.29 crores	10.62 %
(d)	State Govt. contribution	5.04 M US\$	=	Rs. 23.94 crores	13.91 %
	Total	36.24 M US\$	=	Rs.172.14 crores	

9.7.7 During 2006 -2007 the State Govt. has released **Rs.670.00 lakhs** to MRDS consisting of **Rs.570.00 lakhs** IFAD loan and **Rs.100.00 lakhs** State's share. During the 2007-08 an approved Outlay of **Rs.2950.00 lakhs** will be released to M.R.D.S. and is expected to be utilized in full. An Outlay of **Rs.11000.00 lakhs** is budgeted during the 11th Plan and **Rs.3500.00 lakhs** for the Annual Plan 2008-09 for implementation of the following schemes:-

1. Empowerment & Capacity Building of Community Organisations and their Support Organisation.
2. Livelihood Enhancement and Development.
3. Livelihood Support System.
4. Project Management.

9.8 VOLUNTARY ACTION FUND

9.8.1. The objectives of the Voluntary sector are to encourage and promote voluntary institutions for development, reducing dependence on Government, promotion of self-reliance and accelerated rural and tribal development through Voluntary action. Eligible VAs/NGOs are extended financial assistance for organising / conducting training programmes, workshops, seminars of public importance, etc., for motivating workers / beneficiaries. The District Planning Officer recommends VAs/NGOs for provision of financial assistance and oversees the implementation of the scheme at the district level.

9.8.2. **The proposed outlay for the Voluntary sector during the Eleventh Plan, 2007-2012 is Rs. 600.00 Lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2007-08 is Rs. 50.00 Lakhs and the entire amount is expected to be utilized in full. The proposed outlay for Annual Plan 2008-09 is Rs. 65.00 Lakhs.**

9.8.3. **The approved outlay for the Voluntary Action Fund during the Tenth Plan is Rs. 150.00 Lakhs and the actual expenditure incurred during the Plan period is Rs. 190.00 Lakhs.**

9.8.4. The Table below indicates the financial and physical achievements in respect of Voluntary Action Fund since its inception till date:-

YEAR	FINANCIAL ACHIEVEMENT (RS. LAKHS)	PHYSICAL ACHIEVEMENT (NOS. OF VAs /NGOs ASSISTED)
1995-96	10.00	23
1996-97	15.00	42
1997-98	21.00	64
1998-99	19.00	89
1999-2000	20.00	163
2000-2001	27.75	270
2001-2002	35.00	363
2002-2003	30.00	264
2003-2004	30.00	297
2004-2005	30.00	353
2005-2006	50.00	489
2006-2007	50.00	407
2007-2008	65.00(Budgetted)	Not yet finalised

9.8.5. With the increasing numbers of registered VAs / NGOs , it is essential that a serious thought be given to strengthening of the machinery role of the Voluntary Action Unit under the Planning Department for better coordination with the VAs / NGOs at the State and District levels. Moreover, the Voluntary Action Unit also needs strong supervision and monitoring on the implementation of the schemes / projects undertaken by VAs / NGOs so as ensure full participation at the greater interest of the general public.