

CHAPTER – VII

TRANSPORT

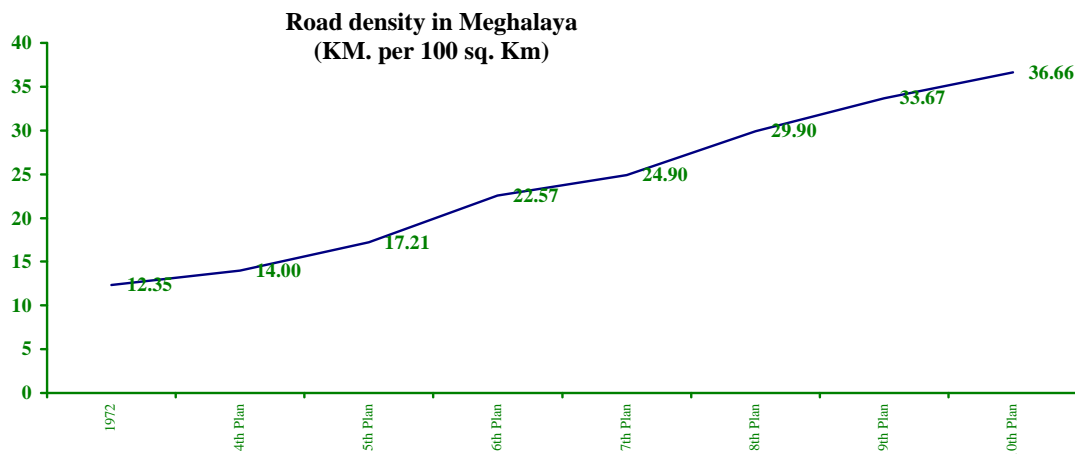
7.1. ROADS AND BRIDGES

7.1.1 Being a hilly state, road transport is the only viable mode of communication in Meghalaya. The development of road infrastructure is pivotal for the growth of the State's economy along with the other constituents of infrastructure such as power, water supply, health care etc. Road connectivity ensures accessibility to markets, health care, educational institutions, etc. besides being a catalyst for varied socio-economic activities which results in all round development of the surrounding area.

7.1.2. Inheriting a road length of 2786.68 Kms with a road density of 12.42 Km/100 sq. Km. from Assam in 1970, the State today has a road density of 36.66 Km/100 sq. Km. at the end of the Tenth Plan period with a total road length of 8221.68 Kms. The road density is anticipated to further improve to 36.93 Km./100 sq. Km at the end of the first year of the 11th Plan, i.e. 2007-08. Out of the existing road, more than 59 % of the road network consists of Other District Road (ODR) and Village Road (VR). Further, the length of the graveled and kutcha constitutes about 37.24% of the total length of the roads. Presently there are 14130 rm. of semi-permanent timber bridges in the State.

Achievements Under Road Sector

Sl. No.	Plan period ending	Total road length achieved [cum.]	Of which		Road Density [Km/100 sq. Km]
			Blacktopped Road	Gravelled Road.	
1.	Eighth Plan (1992-97)	6707	3004	3703	29.90
2.	Ninth Plan (1997-2002)	7553	3571	3982	33.67
3.	Tenth Plan (2002-07)	8221.68	5159.65	3062.03	36.66



7.1.3. **During the Eleventh Plan period, an outlay of Rs. 1586.62 crores had been projected under the State Plan for 'Roads & Bridges' sector** which includes of Rs. 12.00 crores for Construction of Rural Roads Programme (CRRP). During the Eleventh Five Year Plan, priority will be accorded to completion of the spill over schemes, village connectivity, upgradation of the Road Research Laboratory, Computerisation, E-governance and capacity building.

7.1.4. **Annual Plan 2007-08** :- As against the approved outlay of Rs. 13000.00 lakhs for Roads & Bridges sector during Annual Plan 2007-08, the revised outlay is Rs. 13853.00 lakhs. The revised outlay of Rs. 13853.00 lakhs includes provisions of Rs. 2800.00 lakhs of NABARD Loan under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Rs. 757.00 lakhs of ACA for Roads & Bridges, Rs. 500.00 lakhs of HUDCO Loan, Rs. 240.00 lakhs for Community Rural Roads Programme, Rs. 2500.00 lakhs for completion of critical ongoing/ spill-over schemes, Rs. 353.00 lakhs of Special Plan Assistance for Construction of an Intermediate Bye Pass at Jowai and Rs. 6703.00 lakhs of Other Programmes.

7.1.5. **Annual Plan 2008-09** :- A tentative Plan Budget of Rs. 16000.00 lakhs is earmarked for Roads & Bridges sector during 2008-09. The break up of this tentative budgetary provision of Rs. 16000.00 lakhs is as indicated below :-

Name of Scheme/ Programme	Amount [Rs. lakhs]
i) NABARD Loan under RIDF	2500.00
ii) C.A. for Roads & Bridges	757.00
iii) HUDCO Loan	500.00
iv) Channelised to C&RD Deptt.	280.00
v) One-Time ACA - Completion of critical on-going road projects	3353.00
vi) Central Assistance for EAP - ADB	1500.00
vi) Other Programmes	7110.00
Total	16000.00

7.1.6. The physical targets during the 11th Plan and during 2008-09 including anticipated achievement during 2007-08 are indicated in the table below :-

Physical targets during the Eleventh Plan period

Items	Units	11 th Plan target	Annual Plan 2007-08		Annual Plan 2008-09 Target
			Target	Anti Achieve- ment	
New Construction	Km	759	100	62	91
Upgradation	Km	403	50	33	48
Metalling & Blacktopping	Km	1494	180	122	179
Bridges	Rm	5381	650	439	644
Village connectivity (PMGSY)	Nos.	458	42	42	38

7.2 ROAD TRANSPORT

7.2.1 The Road Transport sector in the State of Meghalaya is very essential in view of the fact, that, the State is not linked with any railway lines and water transport facilities. The only Airport at Umroi near Shillong is not feasible for the landing of big aircrafts and as such, it is not serving the State and its people as desired. The State has, therefore, to depend solely on the road transport system only. The State Government is operating bus transport services between different destinations to carry goods and passengers through the Meghalaya Transport Corporation which gets financial assistance from the Government in the form of Capital Contribution, which is constantly running at a loss. The main reason for loss are (i) Overstaffing, (ii) Non- replacement of old fleet and (iii) Running on un-economic routes for providing services to the rural population etc. During 2004–2005 the Meghalaya Transport Corporation with the approval of the State Govt. has implemented the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in which 206 employees have accepted VRS.

The projected outlay for Road Transport for the Eleventh Plan period 2007-2012 is Rs. 3200.00 lakhs which is proposed to release to Meghalaya Transport Corporation as Capital Contribution and the approved outlay for the year 2008-2009 is Rs. 375.00 lakhs for purchase of 20 (twenty) new vehicles to replace some of the old buses and to provide service in the existing routes which has been suspended temporarily due to shortage of good running buses. The schematic expenditure / anticipated expenditure and proposed outlay for 2008-2009 is shown below:-

Name of the Scheme	Actual Expenditure 2006-2007	Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) Projected Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure 2007-2008	Annual Plan 2008-2009 Proposed Outlay	
1. Rationalisation of Operation (Acquisition of Fleet)	300.00		250.00	325.00	
2. Workshop Facilities			10.00	5.00	
3. Additional Facilities and Amenities to Existing Depots, Workshop and Store		300.00	3200.00	10.00	10.00
4. Bus Body Renovation				5.00	5.00
5. Replacement of Engines				5.00	5.00
6. Depot at Jowai				10.00	10.00
7. Computerisation				5.00	5.00
8. Depot cum Maintenance Centre at Nongstoin				5.00	5.00
9. Depot at Baghmara				Nil	5.00
Total	300.00	3200.00	300.00	375.00	

7.3 OTHER TRANSPORT SERVICES

7.3.1 Under the Other Transport Services sector, important Projects taken up are – Upgradation of Umroi Airport and construction / upgradation of Airport at Baljek. The other schemes proposed for implementation are Motor Driving Schools, Financial Assistance to Un-employed Educated Youth of the State, Construction of Check gates, Pollution Testing Control besides Computerisation.

7.3.2 The projected outlay for the Eleventh Plan period (2007-2012) is Rs. 500.00 lakhs and the proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2008-2009 are indicated below:-

Name of the Scheme	Actual Expenditure 2006-07	Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) Projected Outlay	Annual Plan 2007-2008		Annual Plan 2008-09 Proposed Outlay
			Approved Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure 2007-08	
1. Mass Transport System		20.00	Nil	Nil	4.00
2. Motor Driving School		30.00	4.00	4.00	5.00
3. Computerisation of Office of the Commissioner of Transport and All District Offices of the Department		30.00	7.00	7.00	5.00
4. Financial Assistance to Un-Employed Educated Youth to run Transport Services		40.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
5. Construction of Checkgates		30.00	7.00	7.00	5.00
6. RC Construction of retaining walls and renovation for District Offices and Head Quarters		20.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
7. Purchase of Testing Equipments		30.00	5.00	5.00	4.00
8. Construction of Baljek Airport, Tura		50.00	7.00	7.00	8.00
9. Subsidy to Private Airlines		50.00	Nil	Nil	6.00
10. Upgradation of Umroi Airport		150.00	5.00	5.00	10.00
11. Construction of Helipad at Shillong		50.00	5.00	5.00	8.00
12. Special Plan Assistance for land acquisition for upgradation of Umroi Airport		-	-	2038.00	-
Total		500.00	50.00	2088.00	65.00