

CHAPTER – VII

TRANSPORT

7.1 ROADS & BRIDGES

7.1.1 Road communication is the only mode of transport in the state of Meghalaya. Good road network is therefore vital role for the socio- economic development of the State. Rural population comprising of about 70% of total population of the State. Upgradation of existing roads and construction of new roads is essential for facilitating effective implementation of various developmental activities, maintenance of law and order and security, promoting trade and commerce within the State, neighboring States and Bangladesh. Except for National Highways, all roads are of single lane standard.

7.1.2 When Meghalaya was carved out of Assam in 1972 it inherited an area of 22,429 Sq. Kms with a total road length of 2786.68 Km (including 174 Km of National Highway) and a road density of 12.42 Kms/100 Sq. Km. Considerable achievement had been made after attainment of the Statehood and as on 01-04-2011, the total road length constructed in Meghalaya is 9437.279 Kms. The roads density comes to about 42.08Kms/100 Sq. Km which is very much below the average national road density of about 75 Kms/100 Sq. Km. The Table below shows the categories of road in the State:-

Sl. No	Road Category	Surfaced (Km)	Un-surfaced (Km)	Total Length (Km)
1	National Highway (NH)	794.598	-	794.598
2	State Highway (SH)	1110.175	24.050	1134.225
3	Major District Road (MDR)	895.182	326.00	1221.182
4	Other District Road (ODR)	2167.793	1332.357	3500.100
5	Urban Road (UR)	194.100	-	194.100
6	Village Road (VR)	912.936	1157.238	2070.174
7	Rural Road (PMGSY)	49.120	473.730	522.850
	Total	6123.904	3313.375	9437.279

7.1.3. **Outlay and Expenditure during the 11th Plan Period is as indicated in the table below:-.**

[` Crore]			
Annual Plan	Approved	Revised	Expenditure
2007-08	130.00	138.53	138.53
2008-09	162.32	160.32	160.68
2009-10	103.04	180.00	178.43
2010-11	274.83	274.80	254.83
2011-12	278.30	281.24	281.24
Total	948.49	1034.89	1013.71

7.1.4 **Annual Plan 2011-12:-** As against the Revised outlay of ` 281.24 crore during the Annual Plan 2011-12, the anticipated expenditure is ` 281.24 crore which includes

` 32.76 crore of NABARD loan, an EAP component of ` 30.00 crore and ` 20.00 crore of Award under 13th Finance Commission.

Physical Targets & Achievements during the 11th Plan.

Items	Units	Target	Anticipated Achievement
New Construction	Km	861	672.92
Metalling & Blacktopping	Km	1693	1062.006
Widening & Improvement	Km	457	706.28
Major/Minor Bridges	Rm	6099	3654.34
Village Connectivity	Nos.	25	20

7.1.5. **Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) and Annual Plan 2012-13:-** The proposed outlay for 'Roads & Bridges' Sector during the 12th Plan is ` 1900.00 crore. Priority will be accorded to completion of the spillover schemes, village connectivity, improvement of the existing road at the districts and block headquarters, improvement and strengthening of existing State Highways (SH), Major District Roads (MDR) and other District Roads (ODR, conversion of Semi Permanent Timber (SPT) Bridges in to Permanent RCC Bridges, improvement and strengthening of existing Urban Roads including providing of footpaths, up-gradation of the existing kutcha road to all weather road, etc. The bank of sanction of sanctioned schemes as on 01-04-2012 is ` 735.34 crore.

7.1.6. The breakup of the proposed State Plan Outlay for Roads & Bridges Sector for the 12th Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 2012-13 is as indicated below:-

(`in crore)

Sl. No	Items	12 th Plan Proposed outlay	Annual Plan 2012-13 Proposed outlay
1	NABARD	1900.00	32.00
2	C.A. for Roads & Bridges		15.15
3	Completion of critical on-going roads & bridges projects under Article 275(I)		11.50
4	Central Assistance for EAP-ADB		120.00
5	TFC Award for construction of bridges		20.00
6	General Schemes including Common Outlay		80.00
	Total	1900.00	278.65

7.1.7. With this outlay, a target of 397 Km of new roads will be constructed, 1572 Km of road will be metalled & blacktopped and 5676 Rm of bridges will be constructed during the 12th Plan period. **The proposed outlay for this sector during Annual Plan 2012-13 is ` 278.65 crore** which includes ` 32.00crore of NABARD loan, an EAP component of ` 120.00

crore and ` 20.00 crores of Award under the Thirteenth Finance Commission. The Table below shows the physical targets for the 12th Plan and Annual Plan 2012-13.

Physical targets during the 12th Plan Period and Annual Plan 2012-13.

Items	Units	12 th Five Year Plan (2012-71)	Annual Plan 2012-13
New construction	Km	397	74
Metalling & Blacktopping	Km	1572	351
Up-gradation	Km	570	184
Bridges	Rm	5676	1363
Village connectivity (PMGSY)	Nos.	60	5

7.1.8. If this target is achieved, the road density at the end of the 12th Five Year Plan will be about 51.00 Km/100 sq.km which includes 1625 kms of rural roads proposed to be constructed under PMGSY programme.

7.1.9. In addition to the State Plan, the PWD has also taken up schemes for new construction as well as up-gradation under different programmes of the Central Government namely Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), North Eastern Council (NEC), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Central Road Fund (CRF), Inter-State Connectivity (ISC), Roads of Economic Importance (E&I), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, etc. Details of the schemes are indicated below:-

7.1.10 **Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (N.L.C.P.R):-**

Under N.L.C.P.R of the Ministry of DONER, 27 Nos. of schemes have been sanctioned during the 11th Plan period covering 181.235 Km of road length including 25 Nos. of bridges of total span of 1053.700 Rm for an amount of ` 216.96 crore. Out of which 2 Nos. of schemes have been completed in all respect and another 7 Nos. of schemes have been physically completed. Further, the Ministry of DONER has recently sanctioned 2 more schemes @ ` 35.32 crore which includes 6.125 kms road works and 242.51 Rms of bridges. Further, another 15 schemes covering a total road length of 162.27 Km and bridge/culverts length of 1995.41 Rm costing ` 26.43 crore have been retained and sanctions are awaited. These schemes will be implemented during the 12th Five Year Plan.

7.1.11 **North Eastern Council (N.E.C):-**

Under the N.E.C. programme, first priority is attached to construction and up-gradation of roads for Inter-State Connectivity. Conversion of SPT Bridges into Permanent RCC Bridges and up gradation / improvement of State Highways and Major District Roads of socio economic importance are considered and selected. During the 11th Plan Period, improvement/upgradation of 200.00 Km of existing roads including 25 Nos. of bridges at a tentative outlay of ` 304.33 crore has been taken up. During the Twelfth Five Year Plan, improvement/upgradation of 450.00 Km of the existing roads including 10 Nos. of bridges are proposed to be taken up at a projected outlay of ` 906.66 crore.

7.1.12 **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana:-**

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is implemented under the Central Sector and it is one of the programmes falling under the Bharat Nirman Programme (BNP). This programme provides road connectivity to all the unconnected habitations with population of above 250 for the hill areas. During the 11th Plan Period, a total of 191 road works from Phase-II to Phase-V, covering a length of 645.29 Km and target of connecting 186 habitations are under implementation @ `272.88 crore. Out of which a total of 148 road works covering a length of 518.262 Km and connecting 144 habitations at an expenditure of `186.74 crore have been achieved during the plan period. The remaining works are targeted to be completed by December, 2013. Further, under World Bank Funding, 18 road works at a cost of `94.81 crore have been sanctioned under Phase-VI. These road works will connect about 25 habitations involving about 106 Kms of road length. Road connectivity to the remaining 490 eligible habitations is proposed to be taken up during the 12th Plan with financial implication of approximately `975.19 crore

As per 2001 census, there are 5782 Nos. of villages in Meghalaya, of which 2992 Nos. have been connected by road as on 31-03-11 and 5 Nos. of villages are proposed to be connected during 2011-12. Hence, at the end of the 5th year of the 11th Plan, the total no. of villages anticipated to be connected will be 2997. The remaining no. of villages that are yet to be connected also comprise of small, isolated and remotely situated villages, having population of 250 Nos. and below. These villages are targeted to be connected. However, habitations with 250 and above population will be connected under PMGSY and Bharat Nirman in phases. A total outlay of `30.00 crore is proposed during the 12th Plan Period to meet the expenditure to be borne by the State Government.

7.1.13 **Central Road Fund (CRF):-**

Under this programme, 11 (eleven) Nos. of schemes involving a total length of 69.215 Km for Other District Road (MDR)/Major District Road (MDR) and minor bridges have been sanctioned for an amount of `68.27 crore during the 11th Plan. Further 6 (six) more schemes covering a total length of 57.60 Km at the cost of `70.10 crore have been proposed for sanction during the 11th plan. The approval of the Ministry is awaited. During the 12th Five Year Plan it is expected to upgrade about 60.00 Kms of road length with the proposed outlay of of `35.00 crore.

7.1.14 **Inter-State Connectivity & Economic Importance:-**

During the 10th Plan, 1(one) bridge was sanctioned under Inter-State Connectivity which was targeted to be completed during the 11th Plan. During the 11th Five Year Plan 2(two) schemes covering a total length of 29.026 Km was accorded for an amount of `33.64 crore. For the Twelfth Five Plan, 2(two) schemes for a total length of about 35.00 Km and at a projected cost of `44.89 crore is proposed.

Under the Economic Importance Programme of the Central Government, 3(three) nos. of schemes covering a total length of 65.20 Km for an amount of `57.00 crore

were submitted for consideration during the 11th Five Year Plan. Sanction for the same is still awaited. If sanctioned, these schemes will be implemented during the 12th Five Year Plan.

7.1.15 Ministry of Tribal affairs:-

During the 11th Plan, 3 (three) schemes for a total amount of ` 31.83 crore have been sanctioned. These works are in progress. The projected outlay for the 12th Five Year Plan is ` 50.00 crore

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 (MTC), 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. In spite of this effort, the MTC is running at a loss due to the fact that it is overstaffed. Recently, a committee was formed for Revitalisation of the MTC and as per the perspective Business Plan, the Govt. lands at Police Bazar, Jowai Station, Nartiang, Tura and Williamnagar measuring 361138 Sq.m will be used for commercial, parking and office complexes which will bring a total income of about Rs 3.30 crore.

7.2.2 The approved outlay for the Eleventh Plan is Rs.3200.00 lakh. The amount released for the Meghalaya Transport Corporation during the first four years of the Plan is Rs.1275.00 lakh. The Plan Outlay for the year 2011-2012 of Rs.300.00lakh will be released to the Meghalaya Transport Corporation as share capital contribution. Purchase of new buses for replacement of the old and unserviceable vehicles is also necessary to augment the already existing fleet of the Corporation for smooth functioning of the Corporation. At present the Corporation is having a total of 69 buses operating on 24 routes covering in total a route length of 3468 Kms. Fencing of the Corporation offices is also very much required for upkeep of the Government property. **An outlay of Rs.2400.00 lakh is proposed for the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012–2017) for the Road Transport Sector in Meghalaya, which is proposed to be released to the Meghalaya Transport Corporation as Capital Contribution. Pending finalisation of the Annual Plan 2012-13, a tentative budget allocation of Rs.350.00 lakh has been provided.**

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 of Airport at Baljek. The other schemes

proposed for implementation are Motor Driving Schools, Financial Assistance to Unemployed Educated Youth of the State, Construction of Check gates, Pollution Testing Control besides upgradation of the process of computerisation. This is required in order to achieve the optimum utility in e-governance so that implementation of smart card in Driving Licence, High Security Registration Plate, Issue of Permits, etc. can be achieved.

7.3.2 The projected outlay for the Eleventh Plan period 2012–2017 is Rs.500.00lakh. The expenditure during the first four years of the Eleventh Plan period was Rs.5176.44 lakh and the anticipated expenditure during 2011–2012 is Rs.1402.00 lakh which includes i) Rs 35.00 lakh for Ropeways, ii) Rs 800.00 lakh under SCA for Truck / Bus Terminus, iii) Rs 100.00 lakh under SCA for Inland Waterways and iv) Rs.302.00 lakh for acquisition of land for upgradation of Baljek Airport. **An outlay of Rs. 12100.00 lakh is proposed for the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The tentative outlay for 2012–2013 is Rs.1850.00 lakh**, which includes i) Rs 500.00 lakh for Ropeways ii) Rs 1000.00 lakh for Truck / Bus Terminus iii) Rs 115.00 lakh for Inland Waterways and iv) Rs 50.00 lakh for Cable Cars. The main programmes are briefly highlighted in the following:-

A. Upgradation of Umroi Airport:

It was felt necessary that the existing Umroi Airport be upgraded and facilities for landing of bigger aircrafts be provided. Accordingly, in March 1991, Airport Authority of India inspected the site and recommended the additional land be made available for expansion of the runway and other infrastructure. However, nothing could be done during the Tenth Five Year Plan. Airport Authority officials recommended the following:

1. Acquisition of land for extension of runway from 6000 ft to 8500 ft.
2. Development and grading of runway strip.
3. Extension of runway and associated pavements.
4. Extension and modification of terminal building complex.
5. Provision of V.O.R. /R.M.E. and PAPI.
6. Cutting of hills and construction of boundary walls.

During the Eleventh Plan, every effort was made for upgradation of Umroi Airport. The Central Govt. provided and released funds amounting to over **Rs.50.38 crore** in the form of SPA and ACA for upgradation of Umroi Airport as indicated below:-

Sl. No.	Year of Sanction	Amount (Rs in lakhs)	Mode of funding
1	2007-2008	2038.00	SPA
2	2009-2010	3000.00	ACA
3	-DO-	24.00	State Plan
4	2010-2011	0.32146	-do-
	Total	5062.32146	

The above amount has been placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Nongpoh. 224.16 acres of land has been duly acquired by the DC, Nongpoh and handed over to AAI. **An amount of Rs.290.00 lakh has been proposed for the 12th year Plan.**

B. Construction / Upgradation of Baljek Airport:

The Baljek Airport was constructed in 1995 and was initially planned and designed for operating flight of smaller Aircraft of the STOL category. The State Govt. is taking necessary steps to expand the runway. An amount of Rs. 12.54 crore was release for land acquisition for the airport and the process of land acquisition for expanding the runway of the Airport is in progress. The Airport was inaugurated by Her Excellency Smti. Pratibha Patil, President of India on 22.10.2008. The Detailed Project Report for Operationalisation of Baljek Airport for ATR-72 has been received from RITES. Hence, **Rs 2400.00 lakh is proposed for the 12th Five Year Plan 2012 – 2017.**

Other pending works for completion of Baljek Airport are :- (i) Electrification at the cost of **Rs.6,30,992/-** which is being funded from the MPLAD Scheme through the initiative of Shri P.A.Sangma, M.P. (ii) Construction of water connection by P.H.E. Department at the cost of **Rs.24,81,400/-** which is still under process.

It is also to be noted that Government of Meghalaya is approaching for assistance from **Private Airlines such as Jet Airways / Spice Jet** for the trial flight/ landing and full time **operations at Baljek Airport**. In this regard, the proposal will take shape **provided subsidy is being extended to these Airlines**. As such, it is proposed that a sum of **Rs.540.00 lakh** be earmarked in the **Twelfth Five Year Plan 2007-2012** for the purpose to facilitate a quick response from these Private Airlines for the benefit of the people of the State and the North East as a whole.

C. Construction of Helipads:

The Department has introduced the helicopter service during the end of 10th Five Year Plan period, which is being looked after by Meghalaya Transport Corporation. Till date the Department has got no Helipad of its own. Working permission for utilization of Indian Airforce / Ministry of Defence land at ALG, Upper Shillong measuring around 2750 sq.m to construct a permanent helipad was obtained from the Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India. The proposal for construction of the airport is now under process. An amount of **Rs.300.00lakhs** is proposed during the **Twelfth Plan** period.

Proposal for construction of **Additional 6 (six) Helipads in the respective District Headquarters** is also being examined. The necessary infrastructure is being worked out.

D. Motor Driving Schools:

It is proposed to continue the scheme of assistance to the existing Motor Driving Schools and increase the existing 3 (three) schools to at least 5 (five) in the State in order to develop, impart as well as improve driving skills. The necessity of continuing the scheme is the fact that Meghalaya being a hilly State special skills are required for safe driving in hilly terrain roads in order to minimize occurrence of accidents, which is not uncommon besides other safety measure scheme. Hence, an outlay of **Rs.90.00 lakh is proposed for the scheme.**

E. Construction of Motor Driving Institute: This is a new scheme. In the Eleventh Plan, the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India through the Planning Commission revived the scheme for setting up Model Driving Training Institute in the State and it will be set up under this Five Year Plan. Hence the proposed outlay for the **12th Year Plan for grant-in-aid is Rs. 350.00 lakh.**

F. Financial Assistance to Unemployed Educated Youth of the State:

The proposal is also a continuing scheme. In the wake of growing unemployment among the Educated youth of the State, the existing scheme is proposed to be carried over to the Eleventh Plan period with a view to create more and more employment opportunities in the Transport service sector. The Department provides 25% subsidy from the total cost of the vehicles, where the rest is a loan component, to the Educated Unemployed Youths to run transport services. An outlay of **Rs.150.00 lakhs proposed for the 12th Plan.**

G. Construction of Check gates:

In order to check vehicles, service as well as goods transport plying without valid permits and without compulsory weighment, it is proposed that several Departments, including Police, Forest, Mining & Geology, Excise etc. put up joint check gates at strategic locations, particularly on National Highways and State Highways. The proposal will control movement of goods and commodities as well as check loss of Government revenue. The proposed outlay for the scheme is **Rs.2280.00lakh** for the **Twelfth Plan** period.

H. Pollution Testing Control:

There has been a steady increase in the number of Motor Vehicles in the State, both transport and non-transport. This has subsequently led to a higher level of air pollution due to vehicular smoke emissions. The Government has initiated the Public Private Partnership (PPP) by setting up the Private Vehicular Emission Testing Stations in the various parts of the Districts of the State. This however is an experimental measure and the State Government is keen to have Central Financial Support for its up-gradation. Though the work for pollution testing and control has been entrusted to the private parties, it is necessary that the personnel of the department are trained and acquire skill to handle the machines, so that they can counter check the vehicles certified as **Pollution free** by the Private Pollution Testing Stations. Hence, there is a need for the department to procure new machines for distribution to District Offices of the State for the purpose. The proposed outlay for the scheme is **Rs.25.00lakh under the Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-2017** to be spent in purchasing Pollution Testing Machines and place them at the disposal of the DTO.

I. Computerisation:

The Department proposes to upgrade the process of computerization which have already started during the 9th and 10th Plan. Shillong and the other 6 (six) district capitals of the State have been fully computerised which helped decrease the workload capacity in these district offices. Computerisation also helps to achieve the optimum utility in **e-governance** so that implementation of smart card in Driving Licence, High Security Registration Plate, Issues of Permits etc. can be achieved. The department will seek the assistance of NIC to prepare plan and estimate for the scheme. The proposal is estimated at **Rs.270.00lakh** during the entire **Plan** period.

J. Mass Transport System:

Meghalaya is a small State with a population of around **23,18,822** people, 70% of whom live in the rural areas. Population in the Urban areas of the State is increasing rapidly and accelerating day by day. There are sixteen Urban centres in the State, the largest being the capital city of Shillong with a population of around 5(five) lakh people. The speed of urbanization has strained the existing infrastructure of Shillong, which is coupled by the increasing volume of passenger traffic leading to traffic congestion during the peak hours of office and schools timings.

In order to ease the traffic problems an innovative scheme under the Mass Transport System is being mooted out for the grant of **subsidized school bus** during the **Twelfth Five Year Plan**.

Under this scheme, a **subsidy @50%** of the cost of chassis will be extended to the selected schools per year. An outlay of **Rs.75.00lakh** is proposed for the **Twelfth Five Year Plan**.

K. Construction of Retaining Walls and renovation for District Offices and Head Quarter :

The scheme is essential for the upkeep and safety of the Government property and also to prevent encroachment of the existing land by the public. Complete revamping and renovation of office buildings is necessary besides annual repairs. Hence, an amount of **Rs.730.00lakh** is being proposed for the **Twelfth Five Year Plan**.

L. Construction of Inter State Bus/ Truck Terminus: In order to ease the traffic congestion, the State Govt. has proposed for construction of Inter State Bus/ Truck Terminus at Mawlai Mawiong. The proposal for construction of ISBT/ ISTT was projected by NEC during 2008 in the North East Region and has earmarked Rs 7786.81 lakh during the year 2010-11 and the 11th Plan 2007-2012. During the NEC meeting held on 16.07.2010, construction of ISTT at Umbang, Jowai and Tura and ISBT at Tura and Shillong are the new project for inclusion in the 12th Plan (2012-2017) of NEC An amount of Rs.800.00 lakh has been agreed for land acquisition. **The proposed outlay for the 12th Plan (2012-2017) is Rs.3550.00 lakh.**

M. Cable Car / Ropeways: The Govt. is contemplating to provide additional transport system by setting up Cable cars like Shillong, Tura and Jowai. Apart from tourism and economic point of view, demand for this mode of transport is taken into consideration. **The proposed outlay for the 12th Plan period is Rs.500.00 lakh.**

N. Railway Connectivity in Meghalaya: Railway connectivity in Meghalaya is in active consideration. Proposal for establishment of Railway Line in the State to link with the other Railway networks in the country have been initiated and taken up by the Transport Department with the concerned Railway Authorities (Northern Frontier Railway) about a decade ago. **The proposed outlay for the 12th Plan (2012-2017) is Rs 170.00 lakh.**

7.3.3 The picture of proposal in respect of Annual Plan 2012-2013, and for the Twelfth Plan (2012 – 2017) in respect of Other Transport Services are indicated in the Table below:

Rs. In Lakh						
Sl. No	Name of Schemes	Eleventh Plan 2007-12	Actual Expenditu	Annual Plan 2011-12	12 th 2012-2017	Tentative Budget

		Projected Outlay at 2006-07 prices	re during the 1 st 4 years of the 11 th Plan	Agreed Outlay	Anti. Expdr.	Plan Projected outlay	Provision 2012-13
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1	Upgradation of Umroi Airport	500.00	5176.44	1402.00	1402.00	290.00	35.00
2	Construction / Upgradation of Baljek Airport					2400.00	21.00
3	Subsidy to Private Airlines					540.00	0
4	Construction of Helipads					300.00	60.00
5	Motor Driving Schools					90.00	3.00
6	Motor Driving Institute					350.00	0
7	Financial Assistance to Un-employed Educated Youth of the State					150.00	3.00
8	Construction of Checkgates					2260.00	35.00
9	Pollution Testing Control/ Purchase of Testing Equipment					25.00	1.00
9	Computerisation					270.00	2.00
10	Mass Transport System					75.00	0
12	Construction of Retaining walls and Renovation for District Offices and Head Quarters					730.00	25.00
13	Construction of Truck/ Bus Terminus					3500.00	1000.00
14	Construction of Ropeways					500.00	500.00
15	Construction of Cable Cars					50.00	50.00
16	Inland Waterways					400.00	115.00
17	Railway connectivity					170.00	0
	TOTAL	500.00	5176.44	1402.00	1402.00	12100.00	1850.00