

CHAPTER – X

GENERAL ECONOMIC SERVICES

10.1. SECRETARIAT ECONOMIC SERVICES

1.1.1. The approved Tenth Plan (2002-2007) outlay for the Secretariat Economic Services is **Rs.870.00 lakhs**. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2002-2003 is Rs.175.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure is Rs.144.40 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2003-2004 is Rs.227.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure is Rs.184.67 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2004-2005 is Rs.193.00 lakhs and later on revised to Rs.197.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure is Rs.153.53 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2005-2006 is Rs.250.00 lakhs and the anticipated expenditure is Rs.250.00 lakhs. **The proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2006-2007 is Rs.275.00 lakhs.**

1.1.2. The Planning Organization of the State is the major component of Secretariat Economic Services. The Planning Organisation is the machinery which is responsible for the formulation of the Five Year Plans, Annual Plans and all allied matters in the State. The Organisation 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 formed a part of Planning Organisation at the headquarter and is actively involved in Plan formulation and reviewing of the implementation of Plan Schemes. At the district level, the District Planning and Development Councils formulate the District Plans and also monitoring and reviewing the developmental activities in the State.

1.1.3. The Programme Implementation Department consists of (a) Research Wing, (b) Computer Cell, (c) Public Enterprise Unit and (d) Evaluation Unit. The Programme Implementation Department is also a nodal Department in respect of Public Sector Undertaking in the State. It is also the nodal Department in respect of MPs' Local Area Development Programme.

1.1.4. Besides the above Organisations, the State Government has also set up the following Councils/Commission:-

- I Meghalaya Resource and Employment Generation Council:**
- II Meghalaya Economic Development Council:**
- III State Development Reforms Commission :**
- IV Regional Planning & Development Councils**

1.1.5 **Proposals for the 2006-2007** -The Planning Machinery at all levels need to be strengthened on need based consideration so as to cope with the increase volume of works in all these organisations. It has now become necessary to strengthen and upgrade the machinery to improve the efficiency. In view of this, the following additional posts are required to be created during 2006-2007.

1. Planning Machinery at the Headquarters :

- (i). One post of Secretary, Plan Co-ordination in the Planning Department in the Meghalaya Planning Service Cadre.
- (ii). One Post of Research Officers for manning the Voluntary Action Unit, one post for handling the works of the Employment Generation Council and the Meghalaya Economic Development Council, etc., one post for co-ordination of Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes and one post for General Plan Co-ordination.
- (iii). Seven posts of Assistant Research Officers – one each for the six districts of West Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills, Ri Bhoi, East Garo Hills, West Garo Hills, South Garo Hills Districts and two posts at the Headquarter for filling up the administrative gap and coping with the increase volume of work.
- (iv). One post of Asstt. Engineer (Computer) and one post of Programming Assistant are required for dealing with the Computer works.
- (v). Four posts of peons for the Research Officers, Assistant Research Officers, Computer Cell and Research Assistants for each category.
- (vi). **Manpower Cell :-** During 2006-2007, it is proposed to revive the Manpower Cell of Planning Department by creation of one post of Manpower Officer of the rank of Deputy Secretary. The Manpower Cell will look after the various aspects of the demand and supply of manpower in the State's economy and provide advise to the Government on the matter from time to time.

1.1.6. Computerisation of Planning Administration in Meghalaya:

During 2006-2007, procurement of 10 Nos. Desktop PCs and accessories will be taken so as to provide to each and every officer and staff of Planning Department with one Desktop PC and accessories. The cost of the Desktop PCs as per Information Technology Department approved rate is **Rs.38,314/-** each inclusive of all taxes. It is also proposed that wireless networking should also be taken up. The financial implication for this purpose is around **Rs.7.00 lakhs.**

1.1.7. The broad break-up of the proposed outlay of Rs. 275.00 lakhs for Secretariat Economic Services during the Annual Plan 2006-2007 are indicated below :-

Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Items	Approved Tenth Plan Outlay (2002-07)	Approved Annual Plan Outlay(2005-06)	Proposed Annual Plan Outlay(2006-07)
1.	2.	3.	5.	
1.	Planning Machinery at the State & District Headquarters including Computerisation and the Office of Chairmen of the District Planning and Development Council under the sub-head 102 District Planning Machinery but excluding State Planning Board .	250.00	114.00	124.00
2.	Regional Planning & Development Council	-	-	15.00
3.	State Planning Board	225.00	50.00	55.00
4.	State Development Reforms Commission	100.00	13.00	22.00
5.	Programme Implementation & Evaluation Organisation	225.00	60.00	44.00
6.	Meghalaya Economic Development Council	25.00	3.00	7.00
7.	Meghalaya Resource and Employment Generation Council	25.00	4.00	4.00
8.	NEC & Other Regional Meetings and Conferences	20.00	4.00	4.00
	Total	870.00	250.00	275.00

10.2. TOURISM

The Approved outlay for the Tenth Plan (2002-07) is Rs.1650.00 Lakhs. The actual expenditure during the first three years of the Tenth Plan is Rs.404.32 Lakhs. The approved outlay for 2005-06 is Rs.236.00 Lakhs and the entire amount is anticipated to be utilized in full. **The Proposed Outlay for 2006-07 is Rs.260.00 Lakhs.**

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 picture postcard landscapes, salubrious climate, sparkling waterfalls, rich traditional culture and warm and hospitable people. The state has a high tourism potential because of it's geo-ecological and cultural settings. Cherrapunjee is distinct and renowned for receiving the highest rainfall in the world.

The thrust areas for tapping the tourism potentials available in the state are: Nature Tourism, Cultural Heritage, Health Tourism, Adventure/Sports Tourism, Cave Tourism, Rural Tourism and Legend Tourism.

10.2.4 Proposals for the Annual Plan 2006-07 :-

1. **Development of Tourist Spots:-** The Department have undertaken a number of beautification programme on the main tourist frequented spots. A lot more is required to be done in the area and efforts are being made to identify, accommodate and exploit fresh new areas to make Tourist visiting our State a memorable one. For this purpose, an amount of Rs.44.00 Lakhs is proposed for 2006-2007 and an amount of Rs. 2.50 Lakhs is earmarked for development of Cherrapunjee as No.1 Tourist destination (Nohsngithiang Complex).
2. **Direction and Administration & Training facilities:-** To strengthen the administrative structure for smooth functioning of the growing tourism industry, and for imparting training to the Office/Staff of the Directorate and Meghalaya Tourism Department Corporation to undergo training in Tourism related Courses an amount of Rs.17.60 lakhs has been proposed during the year 2006-2007.
3. **Hospitality Scheme:-** This is a very important scheme and it has been experienced that many travel writers and other experts in the field of Tourism Industry visit the State. In this connection, it is expected that the expenditure involved with their travel, board and lodging has to be incurred by the Tourism Department. The visit of those people would help in giving full exposure to the tourism prospect of the State and also benefit the Government for which an amount of Rs.2.20 lakhs is proposed for 2006-2007.
4. **Tourism Promotion Subsidy :** For an effective promotion of Tourism in the State, a package of incentives is granted to the prospective investors. Accordingly, an amount of Rs. 2.20 lakhs is proposed during the year.
5. **Financial Assistance to M.T.D.C. Ltd.:** The Corporation as an agency of the Govt. is implementing schemes and managing the properties belonging to the Government. Since tourism is as of now seasonal in nature and the State is yet to acquire a reputation as an all year through active tourist area, certain properties an units therefore suffer operational losses on account of low business turnout. To offset such loss and avoid retrenchment of trained man power which may not be available during peak seasons and also considering the contribution of tourism in the State, a financial assistance is considered justified. For this purposed a provision of Rs.22.00 lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan during 2006-07.
6. **Publicity/Tourist Fairs & Festival:-** To highlight tourism feature, the State is participating in a numbers of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions in the state and also outside the State and extending financial assistance to local festival. In addition, printing of brochures, posters, Information directory is also taken up. A documentary film on Meghalaya is proposed to be produced which will be distributed through leading T.V. Channels of the country. For dissemination of Information of the tourism assets that the State possesses and to widen the publicity campaign, a Tourist Information Centre is proposed to be set up in all District Head Quarters. For this purpose, an amount of Rs.91.30 lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2006-07.

7. **Promotion of Adventure Tourism:** For the development of Adventure Tourism, a number of schemes such as rock climbing, hand gliding development, development of trekking trails, promotion of Caving etc. will be taken up during the year. In addition, development of infrastructure for water sport facilities and creation of onshore facilities like introduction of children park with waterslides and other water-rides for the children is proposed to be taken up. A total provision of Rs. 6.00 Lakhs is proposed for 2006-07.

8. **Travel circuit/Golf Course Development/Grant-in-aid to Shillong Golf Course:** For improvement of the Golf Course an amount of Rs.27.50 lakhs is proposed for 2006-07.

9. **Project Formulation/Preparation of Master Plan:** To employ architects, designers, consultants etc. to formulate new projects for which local expertise may not be available, Consultants from outside are required to be engaged before scheme/proposal to the Govt. are submitted in a professional and convincing manner. For payment of consultancy fees, formulation of project report, presentation of model and necessary travel expenses an amount of Rs.1.10 lakhs is proposed during the year.

10. **Tourist Transport Services:-** The proposal for provision of tourist transportation has taken cognizance of the need to upgrade and replace the old fleet and make transport services to tourist efficient, functional and viable. For this purpose new coaches is proposed to be acquired and a proposal for Rs.11.00 lakh is proposed during 2006-07.

11. **Tourist Accommodations:-** In order to provide better accommodation and recreation facilities to the visiting tourists it is proposed for Improvement, Upgradation & Expansion of existing Tourist Bungalows, Lodges, Yatri Niwases, Wayside Amenities etc especially Pinewood Hotel, Orchid Hotel, Orchid Inn at Thadlaskein, Orchid Lake Resort at Umiam, Tourist Lodge at Baghmara, Tourist lodge at Siju etc. In addition construction of new Tourist accommodation and Infrastructure in the tourist destination areas will also be taken up during this Plan period. For this purpose an amount of Rs 27.50 lakhs is proposed during 2006-07.

12. **Completion of Hotel Crowborough Shillong :-** For completion of the Hotel Crowborough an amount of Rs. 10.00 lakhs is required during the year.

13. **Construction of paryatan Bhavan-cum-Tourist Office at Shillong:-** Construction of a Paryatan Bhavan cum Tourism Office in the form of Multi-purpose complex in the vacant plot of land at Ward's Lake is proposed for providing information to the visiting tourist for which an amount of Rs.5.50 lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 2006-07.

14. **Land Acquisition for creation of Tourist Infrastructure:-** An amount of Rs.1.20 lakhs have been proposed for this purpose during the year.

10.2.5 The broad schematic outlays proposed for 2006-07 are shown in the Table below :-

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of Scheme/ Programme	10 th Plan Outlay	Expenditure		Outlay 2005-06	Propose Outlay 2006-07
			2003-04	2004-05		
1	2	3	5		6	7
1.	Tourist Centres	200.00	41.59	75.02	42.00	46.50
2.	Tourist Accomodation	60.00	2.35	5.85	10.00	11.00
3.	Direction & Administration	100.00	10.78	18.03	18.00	19.80
4.	Tourist Transport Service	5.00	-	-	10.00	11.00
5.	Assistance to Public Sector & other Undertakings & Private Sector	280.00	20.00	20.00	22.00	24.20
6.	Promotion & Publicity	270.00	37.68	52.12	83.00	91.30
7.	Tourism Infrastructure-Other Expenditure	295.00	2.86	1.28	31.00	34.20
8.	Capital Outlay on Tourism	100.00	-	11.36	5.00	5.50
9.	Investment in Public Sector Undertakings	200.00	9.95	8.19	10.00	11.00
10.	Other Expenditure	140.00	-	-	5.00	5.50
Total		1650.00	125.21	191.85	236.00	260.00

10.3. SURVEY AND STATISTICS

10.3.1. The Tenth Plan outlay for the Survey and Statistics sector is **Rs. 470.00** lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2002-03 is Rs. 85.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure is Rs.71.49 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2003-04 is Rs. 90.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure is Rs.88.60 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2004-2005 is Rs.94.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure is Rs.66.62 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2005-06 is Rs 144.00 lakhs and the anticipated expenditure is Rs. 144.00 lakhs. **The proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2006-07 is Rs 150.00 lakhs.**

10.3.2. The Directorate also has implemented 2 (two) Central Schemes viz. (i) Fifth Economics Census, sanctioned of Rs. 29.28 lakhs (ii) Human Development Report, sanctioned of Rs. 25.00 lakhs during the year 2004-2005.

The Directorate of Economics and Statistics is responsible for Official Statistics in Planning process of the State as well as to monitor and evaluate the different programmes . The State Statistical System is to take up the responsibility to generate and disseminate reliable and timely data covering various facets of the economy, society and the polity. The schemes/ programmes proposed to be taken up during 2006-07 are continuing schemes/ programmes from 2005-2006 and are stated below:

(i) **Crop Estimation Survey** – To provide estimate of the yield rate for each selected and notified Crop Cutting Experiment which are proposed to be conducted for 13 crops and out of which 7 crops are covered under the *National Agricultural Insurance Scheme* of the Government of India. The number of experiments to be conducted is for 2650 experimental plots covering 1325 sample villages.

(ii) **National Sample Survey** – National Sample Survey is a multi subject of the integrated survey system operating continuously by means of rounds and sub-rounds. During 2006-07, 61st Round of the NSS will be conducted and the subject coverage under the 61st Round will be Household Consumer Expenditure, Employment and Unemployment situation. It is also proposed to take up electronic data processing of the NSS 59th Round during 2006-2007.

(iii) **Cross Domestic Product** – To assess in monetary terms for goods and services produced, the estimate are taken up for different Sectors both at constant and current prices. The programme includes analysis of budget to measure the mobilization of saving, capital formation and social growth out of State Government budgetary operation.

(iv) Strengthening of Statistical Organisation at the Directorate Headquarter and District levels.

(v) To analyze and prepare statistical report on Price Statistics, Census of Government Employees, Agricultural Statistics, National Sample Survey – electronics data processing of the 59th Round.

(vi) Publication of Statistical reports on Social Statistics, Housing Statistics and other Statistical information of common interest.

(vii) A programme on Census of Government Employees during 2005-2006 will be continuing scheme during 2006-2007.

Sl No	Name of the Scheme	Tenth Plan Outlay	Expenditure			Annual Plan 2005-2006		Annual Plan 2006-07 Proposed Outlay
			2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Approved Outlay	Anti-cipated Expendi-ture	
1.	(01) State Statistical Organisation	130.00	28.84	36.74	35.54	48.00	48.00	53.27
2.	(04) Annual Survey Industries	20.00	1.97	3.20	1.56	4.20	4.20	4.80
3.	(05) National Income Estimation	45.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	(06) Bulletin, Handbook, Abstract etc.	5.00	0.49	0.45	-	0.65	0.65	0.80
5.	(09) Economic Census	2.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	(10) Capital Formation	3.00	-	-	-	-	-	-

7.	(12) Training Unit	5.00	0.20	0.18	-	0.30	0.30	0.35
8.	(13) Strengthening of Price Section	10.00	0.30	0.27	-	0.40	0.40	0.48
9.	(16) Crop Insurance Scheme	130.00	29.32	34.00	24.16	56.90	56.90	63.00
10.	(17) Agricultural Statistic Division	20.00	2.33	2.20	2.25	4.50	4.50	5.00
11.	(18) National Sample Survey Division	40.00	3.97	7.34	3.11	12.00	12.00	14.00
12.	(20) Establishment of Modern Data Processing Facility	20.00	1.47	1.19	-	2.05	2.05	2.30
13.	(21) Collection of Housing Statistics	5.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	(22) Strengthening Of Publication & Reference Division	2.00	0.60	3.03	-	5.00	5.00	6.00
15.	Construction of Office Building/ Quarters	33.00	2.00	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Upgradation of the Standard of Administration by the 12 th Finance Commission.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	470.00	71.49	88.60	66.62	144.00	144.00	150.00

10.4 CIVIL SUPPLIES

10.4.1 The Tenth Plan outlay for this sector is Rs. 165.00 lakhs. The actual expenditure during the first three years of the Tenth Plan period is Rs.216.84 Lakhs. The approved outlay for 2005-06 is Rs.110.00 Lakhs and the amount is expected to be fully utilised. **The proposed outlay for 2006-07 is Rs.150.00 Lakhs.**

10.4.2 The schemes proposed to be implemented during the Annual Plan 2006-07 are as follows :-

1). **Mobile Fair Price Shop** - The Scheme have been implemented prior to the Ninth Plan and involved distribution of Essential Commodities through Vans in the interior and far flung areas under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioners/ Sub - Divisional Officers. For the maintenance of the existing 11 Vans and for meeting the expenses in connection with salaries of drivers etc., an amount of Rs. 16.00 Lakhs is required for the year 2006-07.

2). **State Commission And District Forum-** As required under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, the State Commission at the State level and the District Forum at the seven districts of the State have been set up, these deals with Consumer Disputes / Grievances. The proposed outlay for 2006-07 is Rs.10.00 Lakhs for the State level and Rs.14.00 Lakhs for the District Forum.

3). **Consumer Awareness Programmes:-** are being conducted from time to time at the State level and the District/Sub-Division and Block level by the Department and with the help of NGOs to create awareness among the consumers about their rights as specified in the Consumer Act 1986. Hoardings/advertisements is proposed to be set up within the premises of the Office of the Deputy Commissioners showing basic informations to the consumers on existence and functioning of Consumer Courts and for this an amount of Rs.10.00 lakhs is required during 2006-2007.

4). **Computerisation** - The Department have a number of Computers and these are utilized for storing of important records/ data, printing and running administration work. For maintenance and rectification of computers and purchase of computer consumables are required from time to time for which an amount of Rs. 2.00 Lakhs is proposed for 2005-06.

5) **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. The Scheme has been implemented with effect from January, 2002 by utilizing the amount of Rs. 77,62,489/- released by Government of India in 2000-01. As per instruction of Government of India, the scheme has been transferred to State Plan with effect from 2002-03 and during 2006-07 an amount of Rs.69.00 Lakhs is propose for this scheme.

6). **Antyodaya Anna Yojna:-** This is a new Scheme and the aims and objectives of the scheme is to covers the poorest families in the State. Under the scheme rice is supplied to identified family at the scale of **35** Kgs per family per month at the price of Rs. **3.00** P per Kg. Rice is supplied by the Govt. of India through the FCI at Rs. **300/-** per quintal. To ensure that rice is supplied at Rs. **3.00** per Kg to the beneficiaries under the Scheme, Govt. of India has indicated that transport cost and other incidental charges have to be borne by State Govt. Hence, the need to provide a transport subsidy of Rs. **50/-** per quintal under the Scheme. Implementation of Annapurna and Antyodaya Anna Yojna is closely monitored by the Supreme Court. The Honble Court has ordered that State Govt. should ensure continuation of both the Schemes. The total requirement for implementation of this scheme during **2006 - 2007** comes to Rs. **147.00** Lakhs and pending receipt of clear decision from Planning Commission, a token provision of Rs.10.00 Lakh only is provided for the Scheme for 2006-07.

10.4.3. **The broad schematic outlays proposed for 2006-07 are shown in the Table below :-**

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of Scheme/ Programme	10 th Plan Outlay	Expenditure		Outlay 2005-06	Proposed Outlay 2006-07
			2003-04	2004-05		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Mobile Fair Price Shop on Van	50.00	9.15	12.00	14.00	16.00

Sl. No	Name of Scheme/ Programme	10 th Plan Outlay	Expenditure		Outlay 2005-06	Proposed Outlay 2006-07
			2003-04	2004-05		
2.	State Commission	30.00	4.38	4.38	8.00	10.00
3.	District Forum	35.00	6.16	6.48	11.00	14.00
4.	Consumer Awareness Programme	20.00	-	4.00	7.00	10.00
5.	Improvement/ Maintenance of Staff Quarters	15.00	1.25	0.53	-	15.00
6.	Computerisation	15.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00
7.	Annapurna	-	77.78	66.12	69.00	69.00
8.	Xerox Machine	-	-	-	-	2.00
9.	Family Identity Card	-	-	-	-	2.00
8.	Antyodaya Anna Yojana	-	-		-	10.00
	Total	165.00	99.72	94.51	110.00	150.00

10 . 5. WEIGHT AND MEASURES

10.5.1. The Tenth Plan approved outlay for this sector is Rs. 165.00 lakhs. The actual expenditure for the first three years of the Tenth Plan is Rs. 81.38 Lakhs. The approved outlay for 2005-06 is Rs. 46.00 Lakhs which is expected to be utilized in full. **The proposed outlay for 2006-07 is Rs.48.00 Lakhs.**

10.5.2. The main functions of the Department is to maintain Uniformity and Accuracy in respect of all Weights and Measures, Weighing and Measuring Instruments used by the traders in all Hats and Trading Centers in the State. To enable the Department to enforce and to implement the various provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act and Rules along with Packaged Commodities Rules, 1977.

Programmes for the Annual Plan 2006-07:-

1. **Strengthening of Staff:** - The Department is having Offices at all Districts Headquarters in the State with one office in the Sub-Division at Sohra. With a view to strictly implement the Weights and Measures Laws in the State, it is necessary to strengthen the administration in all the District/ Sub-division Offices in the State

2. **Procurement of Machinery equipment/Tools & Plant:** Most of the Standards of Weights & Measures used in the District Offices of this Department are very old and the Department tends to replace some of the Standards by new ones to enable the Inspector of Weights & Measures to work more effectively. Further, the Department tends to procure at least 1 (One) more Computer for the Directorate in the 2006-07.

3. **Procurement of Vehicles for enforcement works** - The Department needs a number of good running vehicles for use by the field officers for their enforcement works like inspection, raid and seizure and especially for verification, re-verification and stamping works.

4. **Constructions/ Repairs and maintenance of Laboratory-cum-Office Building:**For years the office of the Inspector of Weights & Measures, Shillong, Jowai and Baghmara was accommodated in rented house and lakhs of rupees had to be spent by the office in the form of House Rent. To lessen the expenditure involved in this respect, construction of the Office of the Inspector of Weights & Measures at Baghmara, South Garo Hills District is proposed during 2006-07.

10.5.3. The broad schematic outlays proposed for 2006-07 are shown in the Table below:-

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of Scheme/ Programme	10 th Plan Outlay	Expenditure		Outlay 2005-06	Proposed Outlay 2006-07
			2003-04	2004-05		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Maintenance & Strengthening of Staff	100.00	23.90	23.74	33.30	38.00
2.	Procurement of Machinery/ Equipments/ Tools & Plants	15.00	0.94	1.50	2.50	3.00
3.	Procurement of Vehicles for Enforcement Works	15.00	0.32	0.05	5.50	0.50
4.	Construction of Laboratory- cum-Office Buildings/ Maintenance & Repairs	35.00	3.40	4.75	4.70	6.50
Total		165.00	28.56	30.04	46.00	48.00

10.6. AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCILS

10.6.1. The approved Tenth Plan (2002-2007) outlay in respect of District Councils is **Rs.2500.00** lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2002-2003 is Rs.500.00 lakhs, but this amount could be utilized by the State Government for the implementation of the approved schemes during 2003-04 only since the sanction/ approval from the Government of India was received during the month of April, 2003. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2003-2004 is **Rs.500.00** lakhs but no fund has been received so far since the Ministry of Tribal Affairs had not cleared the proposals from the State Government The approved outlay for Annual Plan 2004-2005 is Rs.550.00 lakhs and the expenditure is Rs.305.25 lakhs. The approved outlay for Annual Plan 2005-06 is Rs.550.00 lakhs and the anticipate expenditure is Rs.550.00 lakhs. **The proposed outlay for Annual Plan 2006-07 is Rs.605.00 lakhs.** Normally funds provided to the three Autonomous District Councils include mostly funds received from the Government of India under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution.

10.6.2. The District Councils are 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 the executive and judicial powers. The Autonomous District Councils have a narrow resource base, so the State Government in consultation with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs 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 for the welfare of tribal in areas like approach roads, bridges, footpaths, drinking wells, village markets, play grounds etc. Grant-in-aid is also given for construction of the District Councils administrative and functional buildings.

10.7 VOLUNTARY ACTION FUND

10.7.1. 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 with 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 oversee the implementation of the scheme at the district level.

10.7.2. . **The approved outlay for the Voluntary Action Fund during the Tenth Plan is Rs. 150.00 Lakhs. The actual expenditure during 2004-05 is Rs.30.00 Lakhs. The approved outlay for Annual Plan, 2005-06 is Rs. 50.00 Lakhs, which is expected to be utilized in full. The number of beneficiaries VAs/NGOs to be benefited depends on the number of eligible applications to be received. The proposed outlay for the Voluntary sector during Annual Plan, 2006-07 is Rs. 50.00 Lakhs.**

10.7.3. 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.

10.7.4. 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 (Budgeted)	Not yet finalized
2006-2007	50.00 (Proposed)	Not yet finalised

10.8. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

10.8.1 The Information Technology Department came into being in May, 2001 with a role and function to facilitate e-Governance, I.T. Industry, I.T. Human Resource Development, development of Micro-electronics and all matters related to I.T. policies.

10.8.2 The approved Outlay for the Annual Plan 2003-2004 is Rs.75.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure incurred during that year is Rs.74.71 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2004-2005 is Rs.171.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure is Rs.82.96 lakhs. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2005-2006 is Rs.200.00 lakhs and the anticipated expenditure is Rs. 200.00 lakhs. **The proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2006-2007 is Rs. 500.00 lakhs**

10.8.3 During 2003-2004, the Department focused on the basic infrastructure and programmes to propel future activities of the Department. This includes I.T. infrastructure for I.T. Department, furnishing of the newly allotted space of I.T. Department, development of road map for I.T. in the State, a partial contribution for setting up of I.T. Park to S.T.P.I., development of basic G.I.S. infrastructure, conducting of seminars etc.

10.8.4 During 2004-2005, schemes like establishment of Computer Learning Centre, Tura, participation of IT entrepreneurs in IITF- 2004, contribution to NESAC for development of natural resources Information System, LAN cabling in Secretariat Building's, Yojana Bhavan, Training of Govt. employees, Feasibility Study in Planning Department, I.T. Infrastructure for field officers like DCs, SDOs, establishment of computers cluster in MATI etc. were implemented by the Department. Besides, an amount of Rs. 88.00 lakhs under ACA was utilized for implementation of National e-governance Plan (NEGP).

10.8.5 During 2005-2006, many schemes initiated in the previous years are being continued by way of strengthening, adding more components and replicating the schemes to cover additional Districts. Besides, an amount of Rs. 90.00 lakhs will be utilized as a contribution towards establishment of I.T. Park. In response to the Government of India's initiative to set up a State wide Area Network (SWAN), the Department is projecting an amount of Rs. 4.13 crores as ACA for initial works related to SWAN project. The anticipated revised allocation for I.T. Sector is likely to be approximately to the tune of (Rs. 200.00 lakhs + 90.00 lakhs + Rs. 413.70 lakhs) i.e about Rs. 7.00 crores.

10.8.6 During 2006-07, it is anticipated that an amount of Rs. 110.00 lakhs would be required for continuing schemes by way of augmentation, replication etc., (excluding TFCA & NeGP).

10.8.7 As the Master Plan/ IT Vision 2020 (blueprint for IT in the State) work undertaken by Price Water House would be completed during 2005-06, it is anticipated that a number of initiatives would have to be taken up urgently during 2006-07. Most of the components would be related to the development of IT in the State, IT business activities etc. which would require a substantial amount to give a kick start to serious IT business activities in the State. Apart from this development, there is also another development which is the setting up of the IT Park. This would require a substantial amount as well in the form of IT incentives to entrepreneurs in the State as well as for the new scheme of providing incentives to meritorious students of Class X and XII by awarding computers and educational software kit to them. It is estimated that a minimum functional amount of Rs. 5.00 lakhs would be required for these activities, which are of utmost importance in the IT Arena.

10.8.8 During 2005-06, there are a lot of activities related to NeGP, CSC (Common Service Centres) and SWAN. However, these are the initial investments required for these entirely new projects and schemes. It is estimated that the main works would only begin in 2006-07 and the financial implication is about Rs. 390.00 lakhs based on the 60:40 Central: State Share.

10.8.9 The Schemes/ programmes proposed to be taken up during 2006-07 are as follows:

1. Conducting of seminars, conferences, IT related awareness programmes. The financial implication is **Rs.3.00 lakhs**.
2. Participation in fairs, conferences etc. including entrepreneurs participation. In view of the need to promote out IT entrepreneurs, the Department is proposing scheme in 2005-06 and also felt the need to continue the scheme in 2006-07. The financial implication is **Rs.5.00 lakhs**.
3. IT training for state Govt. Employees. The Department is targeting to train up about 1000 more Government employees at the Secretariat level during 2005-06 and 2006-07. This shall include the incentives to be given to the prospective employees undergoing training etc. The financial implication is **Rs.7.00 lakhs**.
4. Strengthening of IT Infrastructure including networking. With the growth of the computing resources all across the Secretariat Building, the need to augment the computer network and the related IT infrastructures is needed.. The Department with an objective to achieve online connectivity is proposing for the implementation of the scheme during 2006-07. The financial implication is **Rs.15.00 lakhs**.
5. Procurement of IT related publications etc. The Department has implemented this scheme since 2003-04 and would continue to implement the scheme in 2006-07. The financial implication is **Rs.1.00 lakhs**.

6. Printing and publishing of IT publications and materials. The Department proposed to implement this scheme during 2005-06 and would continue to implement during 2006-07. The financial implication is **Rs.2.00 lakhs**.
7. GIS infrastructures/ RSA and services. The Department has procured the basic GIS infrastructure during 2003-04 and proposed to strengthen the GIS infrastructure and to take up remote sensing applications during 2006-07. The financial implication is **Rs.15.00 lakhs**.
8. Front line ICT application/ e-governance implementation. The financial implication is **Rs.30.00 lakhs**.
9. Infrastructure for field officers such as providing computers to DCs, SDOs etc. The Department started this scheme in 2004-05, continues in 2005-06 and would continue in 2006-07. The financial implication is **Rs.3.00 lakhs**.
10. Provision for implementation of IT policy. Incentives etc. for entrepreneurs under IT Policy. The financial implication is **Rs.2.00 lakhs**.
11. Implementation of IT related process reengineering. The financial implication is **Rs.1.00 lakh**.
12. Support to other ICT promotional activities such as IT forums etc. The financial implication is **Rs.1.00 lakh**.
13. Assistance to ICT Institutions. The financial implication is **Rs.5.00 lakhs**.
14. Creation of technical posts in IT Department. The financial implication is **Rs.10.00 lakhs**.
15. Incentives to Meritorious students & educational kits. The financial implication is **Rs.5.00 lakhs**.
16. NeGP (under ACA) including establishment of Data Centers, establishment of State Wide Area Network (SWAN) and Common Service Centers (CSCs) across the State. The financial implication is **Rs.390.00 lakhs**.
17. Development of Infrastructure for IT Park to augment the hardware and software availability in the IT Park so as to meet the demand of the IT entrepreneurs. The financial implication is **Rs.10.00 lakhs**.

10.9 LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE HIMALAYA – MEGHALAYA CHAPTER

10.9.1 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

10.9.2. 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

10.9.3 The project would cover selected blocks in the five districts-East Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills, East Garo Hills, South Garo Hills and Ri-Bhoi district. A tentative list of 9 blocks have been selected for extending project coverage in the first 2 years. (**Shella Bholagani in East Khasi, Laskein, Khliehriat, Saipung in Jaintia Hill, Resubelpara, Sangsak, Samanda in East Garo Hills, Gasupara in South Garo Hills and Jirang in Ri-Bhoi**). An estimated 570 villages, involving, approximately 30% of the total each block, with an estimated 29,300 households would be covered by the project at its completion

Projects Strategy

10.9.4 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

10.9.5 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

10.9.6 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)	StateGovt. contribution	5.04 M US\$	=	Rs. 23.94 crores	13.91 %
	Total	36.24 M US\$	=	Rs.172.14 crores	

10.9.7 During 2004-2005 the State has released Rs. 225 lakhs

10.9.8 For the year 2005-2006 the State has proposed Rs. 1300.00 lakhs as Plan outlay consisting of Rs. 1200.00 lakhs IFAD Loan and Rs. 100.00 lakhs as State Government Share. As the amount received for the financial year 2004-2005 is not fully utilized in view of the facts that recruitment process is going on and all the key staffs are yet to be in position, the unutilized fund of 2004-2005 is carried over to the corresponding fiscal year 2005-2006.

10.9.9 The anticipated flow of fund during the Annual Plan 2006-2007 from all sources is as below:

Sl No.	Source of Fund	Amount Rs. in lakhs	%
1	Contribution by Govt of Meghalaya	100.00	7.69%
2.	IFAD loan component	1200.00	92.31%
3	Community contribution	-	-
	Total	1300.00	