

## CHAPTER IV

### IRRIGATION & FLOOD CONTROL

#### 4.1 MEDIUM IRRIGATION

**4.1.1** During the 8<sup>th</sup> plan, the Department took up for execution of Rongai Valley Medium Irrigation Project at an estimated cost of Rs1630.00Lakhs. The Department also referred 4(four) more projects to Central Water Commission for necessary investigation as given below:-

1. Pynthorwah Irrigation Project in Jaintia Hills District
2. Pynthornein Irrigation Project in Jaintia Hills District
3. Mawramhah Valley Irrigation Project in West Khasi Hills

District

4. Kodaldhowa Medium Irrigation Project in West Garo Hills

District.

**4.1.2** **Rongai Valley Medium Irrigation Project:-** The project provides for construction of 10.50m high barrage across river Rongai and 17 Km length Canal. The work is in progress and the construction of barrage is almost completed (95%).The progress of work is hampered due to land dispute and because of this there is cost and time overrun for which the estimate needs revision. The Revised estimate has been submitted to the Central Water Commission for an amount of Rs13171.52 Lakhs for necessary approval. On approval and sanction of the revised estimate, the remaining works for barrage and canals can be completed.

The salient features of the project as per the revised estimate are:-

1. Cultivable Command area = 4775hect
2. Net Irrigable area = 3490hect
3. Crop intensity to be raised = 78% to 147.20%
4. Cost benefit ratio = 1.57

Apart from irrigation, the project on completion will also help reduce the adverse effect of flood in the area.

**4.1.3** As for the remaining four projects, survey and investigation works has been taken up by WAPCOS, India, Ltd .Detail Project Reports of all the four schemes are under process

The plan size for 2006-07 is Rs.22.00 Lakhs which has been proposed based on the Time schedule of the revised estimate of the Rongai Valley Medium Irrigation Project.

## **4.2. MINOR IRRIGATION**

4.2.1. Meghalaya is basically an agrarian State with about 80 percent of its population depending on agriculture and allied activities. The State is however deficit in food grain production. One of the major requirements for increasing food grain production in the State is to provide assured irrigation so as to enable the farmers to take double/ triple cropping.

4.2.2. The approved outlay for the Tenth Plan (2002-07) is Rs 6000.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure during the first three years of the Tenth Plan, i.e. during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 were Rs. 650.45 lakhs, Rs. 529.24 lakhs and Rs. 719.08 lakhs respectively. The approved outlay for the Annual Plan 2005-06 is Rs. 900.00 Lakhs, which is expected to be utilized in full. During 2005-06, an additional 1803 hectares is targeted to be created both under A.I.B.P. and Normal State Plan programmes. The proposed outlay for Annual Plan 2006-07 is Rs. 1000.00 lakhs which includes Rs. 100.00 lakhs of NABARD Loan and Rs. 350.00 lakhs of C.L.A. under A.I.B.P. With this proposed outlay, it is targetted that an additional 2561.00 Ha will be achieved during 2006-07.

4.2.3. There are 12 on-going schemes being implemented under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for which Central Loan Assistance is provided by the Central Government. Most of these A.I.B.P. schemes are in an advanced stage of completion which on completion will have a total command area of 2302.48 hectares. Besides the above, there are 15 ongoing schemes implemented under Normal State Plan which have a total command area of 745.11 hectares.

4.2.4. As per the present available records, the ultimate irrigation potential of the State from all sources is of the order of 2.18 lakhs Hectares. The irrigation potential created up to 2004-05 is only 25,712.91 hectares, which is only 12% of the ultimate potential. Out of the created potential of 25,712.91 hectares, 23,799.43 hectares is under Surface water and 1913.45 hectares is under Ground water.

## **4.3. COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT**

4.3.1. A gap exists between the irrigation potential created and the potential utilized. This is due to various reasons like inadequate provision of field channels, necessity for land shaping / land leveling, etc. In order to bridge this gap, the State Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, viz. Command Area Development which is funded on 50:50 (Central share : State share) basis.

4.3.2. The approved outlay for the Tenth Plan (2002-07) in respect of Command Area Development is Rs 165.00 lakhs. The actual expenditure during 2002-2003, 2003-04 and 2004-05 were Rs. 14.99 lakhs, Rs.20.00 lakhs and Rs. 21.97 lakhs respectively. The approved outlay of Rs. 26.00 lakhs for 2005-06 is expected to be utilized in full. An outlay of Rs 29.00 lakhs is proposed for 2006-2007 which is anticipated to cover an additional coverage of 622 Hectares.

## **4.4 FLOOD CONTROL**

**4.4.1** Every year during monsoon, flood creates havoc especially in different parts of the state including Garo Hills, Khasi Hills and Jaintia Hills. The flash flood damages the standing crops by inundating vast areas of paddy fields, snaps road communication by washing away the road formation and semi permanent timber bridges. Due to this, the state Government has to incur heavy non plan expenditure for repairing of roads and bridges every year. To counteract the flood menace, permanent measures for protecting paddy fields, cultivation lands and habitats are necessary. As such enhanced allocation is required for flood control projects.

**4.4.2** During the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year of 10<sup>th</sup> plan only Rs739.00Lakhs has been allocated for flood control works. An outlay of Rs. 250.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2006-2007.