

CHAPTER – IX

GENERAL ECONOMICS SERVICES

9. 1. SECRETARIAT ECONOMIC SERVICES

9.1.1 The Outlay for the 12th Five Year Plan is ₹ 60000.00 lakh. The Actual Expenditure during 2014-15 was ₹ 613.48 lakh. The Available Outlay for Annual Plan 2015-16 is ₹ 1116.00 lakh is expected to be fully utilised. **The Budgeted Outlay for the Annual Plan 2016-17 is ₹ 2600.00 lakh.**

9.1.2 The Planning Organisation of the State is the major component of Secretariat Economic Services which is the machinery responsible for the formulation of the Five Year Plans, Annual Plans and all allied matters in the State. The Department is providing thrust in the areas-of developing connectivity, creation of infrastructure and livelihood promotion programmes. In order to ensure requisite resource support for this purpose, steps has been taken to mobilize additional resources through Externally Aided Projects (EAPs). Asian Development Bank supported Human Development Project and IFAD supported Meghalaya Livelihood and Access to Market Project (Megha-LAMP) have already been rolled out.

9.1.3 Under Planning Organization, the State Government has also set up the following Board/Councils/ Commissions:-

- State Planning Board.
- Programme Implementation and Evaluation including State Dev. Reforms Commission.
- Meghalaya Resource and Employment Generation Council.
- Meghalaya Economic Development Council.
- Regional Planning & Development Council.
- Meghalaya Resource & Employment Council.
- Meghalaya Basin Development Authority
- Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship.
- Meghalaya Institute of Governance
- Meghalaya Skill Development Society

9.1.4 A provision of ₹ 500.00 lakh has been earmarked during 2016-17 for Capacity Building of State Government officials especially in respect of preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of projects/ proposals seeking assistance from foreign donors under Externally Aided Project (EAP) and other funding agencies/ programmes of the Govt. of India. Another provision of ₹ 800.00 lakh is earmarked for Studies/Consultancy Services in respect of gathering knowledge of the natural, human and infrastructural resources available in the State.

9.2 SURVEY AND STATISTICS

9.2.1 The Directorate of Economics and Statistics is primarily engaged in the field of collection, tabulation, compilation, analysis, processing and interpretation of Statistical information pertaining to various sectors of the economy and disseminating of the same to user agencies. The Objective is to coordinate Statistical activities of all Departments of the state, monitoring and liaison with various agencies of Government and supplying statistical data to Planners, Administrators in the form of reports to cater the needs of effective Planning Processes and administration of the State.

9.2.2 In the 12th Five year Plan Period, the following ongoing schemes are being taken up by the Directorate:

State Plan :

- (i) National Sample Survey
- (ii) Data Rank & Electronic Data Processing (Crop Insurance Scheme)
- (iii) Modern Data Processing Unit
- (iv) Agricultural Statistics Division .

Centrally Sponsored Scheme:

- (i) India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP).
- (ii) Basic Statistics for Local Level Development.

Central Sector Scheme:

- (i) Urban Statistics for HR & Assessments(USHA).
- (ii) Sixth Economic Census.
- (iii) Grants in Aid under 13th Finance Commission.

9.2.3 The Outlay for the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) is ₹ 1500.00 lakh. The Actual Expenditure during 2014-15 is ₹ 76.99 lakh. The Available Outlay for Annual Plan 2015-16 is ₹ 76.00 lakh and the Anticipated Expenditure for the year 2015-16 is ₹ 76.00 lakh. **The Budgeted Outlay for the Annual Plan 2016-17 is ₹ 85.00 lakh.**

9.3. VOLUNTARY ACTION FUND

9.3.1 The objectives of Voluntary Action Fund is to encourage and promote voluntary institutions for socio economic 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., at the International, National, Regional and District level.

9.3.2 The Outlay for the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) is ₹ 2500.00 lakh. The Actual Expenditure during Annual Plan 2013-14 was ₹ 500.00 lakh. However, during 2014-15 no expenditure was incurred. The Available Outlay for 2015-16 is ₹ 400.00 lakh and the entire amount is expected to be utilized. **The Budgeted Outlay for 2016-17 is ₹ 400.00 lakh.**

9.4 FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES

9.4.1 The Outlay for the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017) is ₹ 850.00 lakh. The Actual expenditure during 2014-15 was ₹ 1731.99 lakh. The Available Outlay during 2015-16 is ₹ 7170.00 lakh and is expected to be fully utilized. **The tentative Budgeted Outlay during 2016-17 is ₹ 8500.00 lakh.** The important schemes are Annapurna, Family Identity Card, Consumer Protection / Awareness Programme, State Commission, Computerization, Maintenance / Improvement of Staff quarters, End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations, Subsidy for procurement of PDS Sugar, Consumer Welfare Fund, Strengthening of Consumer Disputes Redressal Agencies, National Food Security Act, 2013 and Meghalaya State Food Commission.

9.5. AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCILS

9.5.1 The Twelfth Plan (2012-2017) Outlay for District Council Affairs Department is ₹ 2800.00 lakh and the actual expenditure during 2014-15 is Nil. The Available outlay for the Annual Plan 2015-16 is ₹ 285.00 lakh and the amount is anticipated to be utilized in full. **The Tentative Budgeted Outlay for the Annual Plan 2016-17 is ₹ 10000.00 Lakh.**

9.5.2 The District Councils are the Autonomous bodies constituted under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India. They have been invested with certain powers 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 have 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 between the three Autonomous District Councils of Khasi Hills, Garo Hills and Jaintia Hills in the ratio of 9:8:3.

9.6 LEGAL METROLOGY

9.6.1 The Department of Legal Metrology is responsible for maintaining accuracy and Uniformity of all weights & measures, weighing and measuring instruments used by the Government, Semi Government, Factories, Industries, Traders etc. in hats, markets and other trading centre etc. in the State. To enable the Department to implement and enforce effectively the various provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009, the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, the Legal Metrology (General) Rules, 2011 and the Meghalaya Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Rules, 2011 the Department proposed to implement the following Schemes during the Annual Plan 2016-2017, where an amount of **₹ 70.00 lakh is the tentative Budgeted Outlay during 2016-17.** The 12th Five Year Plan Outlay is ₹ 550.00 lakh. The actual expenditure during 2014-15 was ₹ 52.69 lakh. The Available Outlay during 2015-16 is ₹ 67.00 lakh which is expected to be fully utilized.

9.7. TOURISM

9.7.1 Tourism is a multi faceted activity-an amalgamation of transport, accommodation, cuisine, entertainment and other related industries. Meghalaya has a high tourism potential blessed with picturesque landscapes, salubrious climate, sparkling waterfalls, rich traditional culture and warm and hospitable people.

9.7.2 The Twelfth Plan (2012-17) Outlay for Tourism Sector is ₹ 15000.00 lakh. The actual expenditure during 2014-15 was ₹ 1368.02 lakh. The Available Outlay during 2015-16 is ₹ 1330.00 lakh which is expected to be utilized in full. **The Tentative Budgeted outlay for 2016 -17 is ₹ 3560.00 lakh.**

9.7.3 During 2014-15, various schemes for promotion of Tourism in the State have been taken up under this sector. Some of the important schemes include Development of tourist spots, Provision of Wayside Amenities, provision of financial assistance to different NGOs for holding of festivals in the State, participation of the Department at the Travel and Tourist Marts at the national and international level, Publicity Campaigns, Training Facilities, Hospitality Schemes, Financial Assistance to MTDC Ltd, Other Tourist Information Centre, Food Craft Institute, etc. The Department also undertake projects under SPA, SCA, ACA, ACR, etc.

9.7.4 During the current financial year Food Craft Institute (FCI), Tura has trained 325 youths under the Hunar Se Rozgar Tak programme and 90 youths with funds received from NEC in different hospitality trades like Food & Beverage production, Bakery & Confectionary, Housekeeping etc. Publicity to promote tourism has been undertaken through print media and through participation in fairs and festivals like International Tourism Mart (ITM) Gangtok, South Asia Travel and Tourism Exchange (SATTE) fair at Delhi, Destination North East at Delhi which was organized by the Ministry of Development for North Eastern Region. Adventure tourism activities are being encouraged and a number of adventure destinations providing activities like Zip Lining, scuba diving, trekking, mountain-hiking, camping etc., have come up in the State. All these efforts will bring in sustainable tourism with livelihood opportunities for the local communities.

9.7.5 The Department has decided to earmark for the financial year 2016-17 an amount of ₹ 500.00 lakh for Facilitation Centres, ₹ 300.00 lakh for CSS, and ₹ 300.00 lakh under Article 375(I).