

CHAPTER – II

The Ninth Five Year Plan – A Retrospective

- 2.1. The size of the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) of Meghalaya was fixed at Rs. 2500.62 crores at 1996-97 prices. The Plan was launched on the 1st of April, 1997 and will end on the 31st of March, 2002. The main aim of the Ninth Plan of Meghalaya were – (i) generation of adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty; (ii) provision of the basic minimum services like safe drinking water supply, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, connectivity of rural villages, provision of shelter to the shelterless poor and nutrition; (iii) stepping up of food grains production; (iv) horticulture development and (v) proper land use. As the State closes the Ninth Five Year Plan period, it is essential to assess the achievements in the light of the above aims and objectives of the Plan.
- 2.2. Implementation of the Ninth Plan of Meghalaya faced serious handicaps due to a number of factors, particularly resource constraints. The poor resource-base compelled the State to be largely dependent on Central Assistance sanctioned by the Planning Commission on the pattern of 90 percent grant and 10 percent loan which is the existing pattern of funding in respect of the Special Category States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.
- 2.3. During the course of the Ninth Plan, substantial commercial loan components had been provided in the scheme to finance the State Plan. These includes Loans from financial institutions like the LIC, GIC, IDBI, REC, NABARD and HUDCO. The State Govt. has availed substantial Loans from NABARD during the course of the Ninth Plan for funding of rural infrastructural programmes in sectors like Roads & Bridges, Minor Irrigation, Watershed Development, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary and Dairy Development. During the period from 1997-2001, the total NABARD Loan availed so far is Rs. 37.88 Crores, out of which Rs. 3.39 Crores (approx.) is for RIDF-I, Rs. 6.35 Crores (approx.) for RIDF-III, Rs. 6.68 Crores (approx.) for RIDF-IV, Rs. 12.46 Crores (approx.) for RIDF-V, Rs. 6.23 Crores (approx.) for RIDF-VI and Rs. 2.77 Crores (approx.) for RIDF-VII. NABARD loan funding of development projects is expected to be more predominant during the course of the Tenth Plan period. The GIC has also extended Loans to the State Govt. for implementation of schemes in the Housing sector. Beside these, the Loans from other financial institutions could not be availed of as envisaged for plan funding during the course of the Ninth Plan. The financial institutions like the LIC and REC refused to advance Loans to the State in view of the inability of the State's Electricity Board to service the loans availed by them earlier. Another source of funding of the State Plan during the Ninth Plan period was the Externally Aided Funds for the Externally Aided Projects (EAP). Although a number of projects were initiated for funding by external assistance, yet one scheme only, viz., Renovation and Modernization of the Umiam Hydro Electric Power Houses Stage- I could materialize with assistance from JBIC and implementation of the same is under progress and is expected to be completed by 2002-2003. On the whole, implementation of the Ninth Plan of Meghalaya has been by and large offsetted by resource constraint.
- 2.4. In view of the facts stated above, the Ninth Plan expenditure in real terms fell far short of the approved plan size of Rs. 2500.62 crores. The expenditure during the first

four years of the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) at current prices is of the order of Rs. 1354.80 crores only which works out to Rs. 1130.44 crores at 1996-97 prices. The expenditure during 2001-02 is anticipated to be at the level of the approved outlay of Rs. 487.00 crores which works out to Rs. 361.30 crores at 1996-97 prices. As such, the total anticipated expenditure during the Ninth Plan in real terms is Rs. 1491.74 crores which could be even lower, if the actual expenditure during 2001-02 falls short of the anticipated level in view of resource constraint. **This implies that the anticipated gap of investment in real terms during the course of the Ninth Plan is of the order of Rs. 1008.88 crores**

- 2.5. **Basic Minimum Services/ Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana/ Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana** : The Basic Minimum Services was implemented during the first three years of the Ninth Plan period. The Programme consisted of the seven programmes, viz., **Universal Primary Education, Primary Health Care, Connectivity of rural villages, Safe Drinking Water Supply, Housing for the Shelterless Poor, Nutrition/ Mid Day Meal Programme and Public Distribution System**. During 2000-01 (i.e. fourth year of the Ninth Plan), the Government of India introduced some changes in the Basic Minimum Services Programme and splitted the Programme into two parts, i.e. the **Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY)** which included five programmes, viz., universal primary education, primary health care, safe drinking water supply, housing for the shelterless poor and nutrition/ mid day meal programme and the **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)** which is meant for road connectivity to unconnected villages. **A further change was made in 2001-02 when Rural Electrification was included as one of the programmes under PMGY. The Public Distribution System was taken out of the Programme.**

- 5.1. The investment in the State of Meghalaya in respect of BMS/PMGY and PMGSY during the Ninth Plan period is as indicated in the Table – A below :-

Table - A

(Rs. lakhs)

Sl. No.	Programme	Expenditure during 1997-2001 (at current prices)	Anti. Expenditure during 2001-02 (at current prices)	Total Anti. Expenditure 1997-2002 (at current prices)
	<u>BMS/PMGY</u>			
1.	Universal Primary Education	11965.02	3400.00	15365.02
2.	Primary Health Care	8033.57	2600.00	10633.57
3.	Safe Drinking Water Supply	9233.71	2200.00	11433.71
4.	Housing for the Shelterless poor	1875.00	925.00	2800.00
5.	Nutrition/ Mid Day Meal	950.13	682.00	1632.13
6.	Public Distribution System	112.65	0.00	112.65
7.	Rural Electrification	0.00	600.00	600.00
	Total	32170.08	10407.00	42577.08
	<u>P.M.G.S.Y.</u>			
	Rural Connectivity	11502.42	3500.00	15002.42
	Grand Total – BMS/PMGY/PMGSY	43672.50	13907.00	57579.50

The outlay earmarked for BMS/PMGY and PMGSY based on Annual Plan allocations during the Ninth Plan period, at 1996-97 prices, is Rs. 477.44 crores against

which the anticipated expenditure during the period at 1996-97 prices is about Rs. 471.84 crores.

6. **Investment pattern during the Ninth Plan :-**

The pattern of investment during the Ninth Plan period in the State of Meghalaya may be seen from Table – ‘B’ and Table – ‘C’ below :-

Table – B

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sectoral Groups	9 th Plan 1997- 2002 Approved Outlay (at 1996- 97 prices)	9 th Plan Outlay based on Annual Plan allocations (at current prices)	Expenditure 1997-2001 (at current prices)	Anticipated expenditure during 2001-02 (at current prices)	Total anticipated expenditure during 9 th Plan 1997-2002 (at current prices)
1	2	3	4	5	6
I. Agriculture & Allied Services	39170.00 [15.66]	19214.00 [10.29]	13774.90 [10.17]	4456.00 [9.15]	18230.90 [9.90]
II. Rural Development	13350.00 [5.34]	14228.00 [7.62]	9572.05 [7.07]	3836.00 [7.88]	13408.05 [7.28]
III. Special Area Programme	1200.00 [0.48]	3349.00 [1.79]	2554.24 [1.89]	812.00 [1.67]	3366.24 [1.83]
IV. Irrigation & Flood Control	9800.00 [3.92]	6350.00 [3.40]	4465.49 [3.30]	1680.00 [3.45]	6145.49 [3.34]
V. Energy	32400.00 [12.96]	12901.00 [6.91]	9221.58 [6.81]	6211.00 [12.75]	15432.58 [8.38]
VI. Industry & Minerals	10200.00 [4.08]	8506.00 [4.56]	5939.74 [4.38]	2375.00 [4.84]	8296.74 [4.50]
VII. Transport	48100.00 [19.24]	42518.00 [22.78]	32837.84 [24.24]	9780.00 [20.08]	42617.84 [23.14]
VIII. S & T & Environment	730.00 [0.29]	687.00 [0.37]	580.35 [0.43]	143.00 [0.29]	723.35 [0.39]
IX. General Economic Services	5092.00 [2.04]	5720.00 [3.06]	3905.71 [2.88]	1590.00 [3.26]	5495.71 [2.98]
X. Social Services	84620.00 [33.84]	67877.00 [36.37]	49941.31 [36.86]	17050.00 [35.01]	66991.31 [36.37]
XI. General Services	5400.00 [2.16]	5300.00 [2.84]	2686.65 [1.98]	785.00 [1.61]	3471.65 [1.88]
Total	250062.00 [100.00]	186650.00 [100.00]	135479.86 [100.00]	48700.00 [100.00]	184179.86 [100.00]

N.B. Figures in brackets indicate percentage to total.

TABLE – C

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sectoral Groups	9 th Plan Outlay based on Annual Plan allocations (at 1996-97 prices)	Actual Expenditure 1997-2001 (at 1996-97 prices)	Anticipated expenditure during 2001-02 (at 1996-97 prices)	Total anticipated expenditure during 9 th Plan (at 1996-97 prices)
I. Agriculture & Allied Services	15792.11 [10.38]	11776.71 [10.42]	3305.88 [9.15]	15082.59 [10.11]
II. Rural Development	11512.61 [7.56]	7772.25 [6.88]	2845.91 [7.88]	10618.16 [7.12]
III. Special Area Programme	2715.03 [1.78]	2572.42 [2.28]	602.42 [1.67]	3174.84 [2.13]
IV. Irrigation & Flood Control	5196.42 [3.41]	4094.81 [3.62]	1246.38 [3.45]	5341.19 [3.58]
V. Energy	10136.52 [6.66]	6356.87 [5.62]	4607.91 [12.75]	10964.78 [7.35]
VI. Industry & Minerals	6855.27 [4.50]	4777.99 [4.23]	1748.65 [4.84]	6526.64 [4.38]
VII. Transport	34916.63 [22.94]	27780.74 [24.58]	7255.73 [20.08]	35036.47 [23.49]
VIII. S & T & Environment	564.04 [0.37]	485.99 [0.43]	106.09 [0.29]	592.08 [0.40]
IX. General Economic Services	4638.54 [3.05]	3167.66 [2.80]	1179.61 [3.26]	4347.27 [2.91]
X. Social Services	55514.00 [36.48]	41977.31 [37.13]	12649.31 [35.01]	54626.62 [36.62]
XI. General Services	4348.55 [2.86]	2281.41 [2.02]	582.39 [1.61]	2863.80 [1.92]
Total	152189.72 [100.00]	113044.16 [100.00]	36130.28 [100.00]	149174.23 [100.00]

N.B. Figures in brackets indicate percentage to total.**7. Performance in physical terms :-**

- (i) As against the actual production of 178.37 thousand tonnes of foodgrains during the terminal year of the Eighth Plan, (i.e. 1996-97), the target fixed for foodgrains production by the terminal year of the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) period, i.e. 2001-2002 is 233.34 thousand tonnes. As against this, the production of foodgrain during the second year of the Plan period, i.e. 1998-99 has gone up to 186.78 thousand tonnes and further increased to 200.15 thousand tonnes during 1999-2000 which indicates an upward trend. The production of foodgrain during 2000-01 has touched 190.25 thousand tonnes. However, in spite of an upward trend in foodgrains production, it is clear that the target fixed for the Ninth Plan will not be achieved. The Ninth Plan target for production of potato is 239.86 thousand tonnes. The production of potato in the State has made a marginal increase from 200.75 thousand tonnes in 1996-97 to

201.06 thousand tonnes during 1998-99 but the production dropped to 143.00 thousand tonnes during 1999-2000. It has improved to 210.00 thousand tonnes in 2000-01. The Ninth Plan target for the production of pineapple is 192.83 thousand tonnes while the target for production of ginger was 77.03 thousand tonnes. As against this, the production of pineapple and ginger at 1999-2000 level is 82.46 thousand tonnes and 44.71 thousand tonnes respectively. The Ninth Plan target for banana production is 88.07 thousand tonnes while the target for orange production is 44.9 thousand tonnes. However, the production of banana has shown a declining trend from 63.97 thousand tonnes in 1996-97 to 63.38 thousand tonnes in 1999-2000. . As against a production of citrus at 32.98 thousand tonnes in 1996-97, the production has gone up marginally to 33.96 thousand tonnes in 1999-2000. The above position indicates that our effort and thrust in the development of horticulture in the State has actually not taken off the ground and needs to be looked into very closely. The yield rate in respect of rice has improved from 1.35 tonnes per hectare in 1996-97 to 1.42 tonnes per hectare in 1998-99. It is expected that the yield rate of rice would further improve to 1.51 tonnes per hectare during 2000-01. The yield rate in respect of potato has dropped from 10.72 tonnes per hectare in 1996-97 to 9.68 tonnes per hectare in 1998-99 and further to 7.81 tonnes per hectare in 1999-2000. The yield rate in respect of ginger has indicated a downward trend from 6.15 tonnes per hectare in 1997-98 to 5.88 tonnes per hectare in 1998-99 and further to 5.75 tonnes per hectare in 2000-01. As against the Ninth Plan target of 90 million numbers of eggs, the production of eggs has indicated an upward trend during the course of the Ninth Plan from 82.6 million numbers in 1998-99 to 84.7 million in 1999-2000 and 87.0 million in 2000-01.

- (ii). As against the target for production of 26 thousand tonnes of meat by the terminal year of the Ninth Plan, the production of meat during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 has already reached a figure of 29.6 thousand tonnes and 31.6 thousand tonnes respectively during these years. As against the target of 83 thousand tonnes of milk production during the Ninth Plan, the production of milk during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 were 60.7 thousand tonnes, 61.6 thousand tonnes and 64.0 thousand tonnes respectively which indicate that much remains to be done in dairy development.
- (iii). In the industrial and mining sector, the picture during the Ninth Plan did not show any significant improvement. However, the number of registered small-scale units had increased from 2765 in 1996-97 to 3270 during 1998-99 and the number of persons employed in these industries has also increased from 16,104 in 1996-97 to 18,585 in 1998-99 showing a mild upward trend. There is no marked improvement in the number of registered factories during the Ninth Plan period. The production of cement indicates a figure of 99 thousand tonnes in 1997, 103 thousand tonnes in 1998 and 134 thousand tonnes in 1999. The production of coal during 1997-98 and 1998-99 indicates a figure of 32.34 lakh tonnes and 42.38 lakh tonnes respectively whereas the production of limestone is staggering at around 400 thousand tonnes annually. The installed capacity of power projects in the State was 188.76 M.W. up to 1998-99 and the generation of Electricity was 555.79 MKWH in 1998-99. As regards electrification of villages, only 2510 were electrified up to 1998-99 constituting to about 46 % of the total villages in the State. The population covered under electrified villages is about 54.40 %.
- (iii) In the transport sector, the Ninth Plan target is to construct 850 Kms of new roads but it is evident that this target will not be achieved primarily due to resource constraint.

However, the State has already achieved 621 Kms during the first four years of the Plan period and it is anticipated that 160 Kms of new roads will be constructed during 2001-02. The original Ninth Plan target for surfacing of roads was 805 Kms. but this is also unlikely to be achieved. By the end of the fourth year of the Plan, the State could surface 409 Kms. only of existing roads and the anticipated achievement during 2001-2002 is 110 Kms. The target for village connectivity during the Ninth Plan is 315 habitations. At the end of the fourth year of the Plan, 229 villages have been connected and during 2001-02, it is anticipated that another 60 villages will be connected. The road density which stood at 29.90 km/100 sq. kms at the beginning of the Ninth Plan had gone up to 32.67 km/100 sq. km as at the end of 2000-01 and is expected to reach 33.38 km/ 100 sq. km by the end of the Ninth Plan period as against a national figure of around 60 Kms./100 Sq.Kms. The development in the Roads sector has made a marked impact in the Tertiary Sector of the economy by way of improving the transport and communication facilities. Supplementarily, there is a significant increase in the number of registered vehicles during the last decade as may be seen from the figure of 29,908 as at the end of the Seventh Plan to 53,960 during 1998-99. The improvement in road communication is the principal factor leading to an increase in the share of the tertiary sector in the State's economy working to around 55 % of NSDP during 2000-01.

- (iv). There has been some improvement in the Social Services sector with special reference to Education, Health and Water Supply. As against the Ninth Plan target for enrolment in Primary, Upper Primary and Secondary levels of 3.95 lakhs, 1.70 lakhs and 0.64 lakh respectively, the enrolment up to the year 2000-01 is 3.73 lakhs, 1.12 lakhs and 1.06 lakhs respectively. While there has been no increase in the number of Primary and Upper Primary schools, the number of Secondary schools had increased from 234 in 1996-97 to 334 in 2000-01. 25 nos. of Secondary Schools have been upgraded to Higher Secondary levels during the first four years of the Ninth Plan and the no. of Govt. Aided Colleges have increased from 20 in 1996-97 to 25 in 2000-01. By the way, the literacy rate has also increased by 14.21 percentage points over a period of ten years, i.e. from 49.10 in 1991 to 63.31 in 2001. There is no increase in the number of hospitals but the number of functional Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and Sub-Centres has increased from 81, 10 and 379 respectively in 1996-97 to 82, 16 and 413 respectively in 2000-01. In the matter of provision of water supply to the habitations, the State has covered an additional of 1034 habitations during the first four years of the Ninth Plan making the total number of habitations covered at 8399 and the anticipated coverage during the last year of the Plan (i.e. 2001-02) is 455 habitations.