

CHAPTER : IV

IRRIGATION & FLOOD CONTROL

4.1. MEDIUM IRRIGATION

4.1.1. The approved outlay for Medium Irrigation for the Ninth Plan period (1997-2002) is Rs. 1500.00 lakhs. The expenditure incurred during the first four years of the Plan (i.e. 1997-2001) is Rs. 848.00 lakhs. The approved outlay for the year 2001-2002 is Rs. 495.00 lakhs. **The proposed outlay for the Tenth Plan(2002-2007) is Rs.2475.00 Lakhs and the proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2002-2003 is Rs.495.00 Lakhs.**

4.1.2. **Rongai Valley Irrigation Project:** The Rongai Valley Medium Irrigation Project in West Garo Hills was taken up since the Eighth Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 1630.00 lakhs. The project consists of construction of a 10.50 m high barrage across river Rongai and 17 Km. canal. The progress of work is hampered due to land dispute. The salient features of the project are :-

1. Cultivable Command Area = 3880 hect.
2. Net Irrigation area = 3490 hect.
3. Crop intensity to be raised from 78% to 147.2 %.
4. Cost benefit ratio = 2.18

Apart from irrigation purpose, the Project will also help reducing the adverse effect of flood in the area. The Project is expected to be completed by 2003. The Project was also approved for AIBP assistance during 2000-2001.

4.1.3. Four more schemes named below have also been referred to the Central Water Commission for investigation:-

1. Pynthorwah Irrigation Project in Jaintia Hills.
2. Pynthornein Irrigation Project in Jaintia Hills.
3. Mawramhah Valley Irrigation Project in West Khasi Hills.
4. Kodaldhowa Medium Irrigation Project in West Garo Hills.

4.2. MINOR IRRIGATION

4.2.1 Based on the existing topography and the hilly terrain of the State of Meghalaya there is practically no scope for Major Irrigation and scope for Medium Irrigation is very limited. The State is however blessed with ample scope for Minor Irrigation. Due to the nature of topography and terrain, land available for cultivation is very limited. Thus, the

only alternative for increased foodgrain production in the State is by way of increasing the crop intensity and productivity with assured irrigation.

4.2.2. 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 by the end of the fourth year of the Ninth Plan is about 24000 Hectares which is hardly 11% of the ultimate potential. Hitherto the State of Meghalaya, has not made much headway in the development of irrigation. Under the present level of development it will take more than 200 years to cover the known irrigation potential. Considering the need to accelerate the development of irrigation, the State Government has recently taken steps to strengthen the Irrigation machinery.

4.2.3. Review of the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)

A. Financial Achievement :-

The Approved Outlay for the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) is Rs. 6000.00 Lakhs for Minor Irrigation. The Approved and Revised Outlay with expenditure for the first four years (1997-2001) and the approved outlay for the last year of the Ninth Plan (2001-2002) are given below :-

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Annual Plan	Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay	Actual Expenditure	% of Expenditure
1997-98	1200.00	550.00	606.04	110.19
1998-99	1000.00	645.00	650.54	100.86
1999-2000	1000.00	700.00	556.60	79.54
2000-2001	1200.00	710.00	719.77	101.38
2001-2002	1000.00	-	1000.00 (Anticipated)	100.00

B. Physical Achievement :-

The Physical target for the Ninth Plan in respect of Minor Irrigation is 7600 Hectares. The actual achievement during the first four years (1997-2001) and the target for the last year of the Ninth Plan (2001-02) are indicated below :-

Annual Plan	Target	Achievement	% Achievement
1997-98	1750 Hectares	415 Hectares	23.71
1998-99	1524 Hectares	613 Hectares	40.22
1999-2000	1490 Hectares	828 Hectares	55.57
2000-2001	1327 Hectares	850 Hectares	64.05
2001-2002	1655 Hectares	1655 Hectares (Anticipated)	100.00

From the above statement it is seen that the actual physical achievement fell far too short of the target. This is due to resource constraint.

4.2.4. **Priorities of the Tenth Plan (2002-07) :-**

With a view to achieving a desired level of development of irrigation covering at least 40% of the ultimate potential in the next 20 years, it has been proposed that the outlay under Irrigation sector needs to be enhanced suitably .

The special areas of emphasis of the Tenth Plan includes:-

1. Creating of more irrigation potential both from surface and ground water sources through surface diversion schemes, shallow tube wells and deep tube wells.
2. To take up drip and sprinkler irrigation for sustainable development of horticultural crops and plantations where other systems of irrigation are not feasible. This will also help to minimise jhum cultivation.

4.2.5 In view of what has been stated above, **the proposed outlay for the Tenth Plan (2002-07) and the Annual Plan (2002-2003) is Rs. 6000.00 Lakhs and Rs. 1100.00 Lakhs respectively against which the physical target is fixed at 6500 Ha and 1300 Ha respectively.**

4.3. COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT

4.3.1. **The approved outlay for the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) for Command Area Development is Rs. 500.00 Lakhs. The year wise approved outlay, revised outlay and the expenditure are as indicated below :**

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Annual Plan	Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay	Actual Expenditure	% of Expenditure
1997-98	70.00	25.00	25.29	101.16
1998-99	100.00	30.00	22.95	72.20
1999-2000	100.00	30.00	21.40	71.30
2000-2001	200.00	30.00	8.91	29.70
2001-2002	30.00	-	30.00	100.00
			(Anticipated)	

4.3.2. The Physical target for the Ninth Plan in respect of Command Area Development is 3500 Hectares. The actual achievement during the first four years (1997-2001) and the anticipated achievement for 2001-02 are as shown below :

(Unit in Ha)

Annual Plan	Target	Achievement	% Achievement
1997-98	180 Hectares	NIL	NIL
1998-99	125 Hectares	90 Hectares	72.00
1999-2000	225 Hectares	75 Hectares	33.33
2000-2001	263 Hectares	140 Hectares	53.23
2001-2002	123 Hectares	123 Hectares	100.00
		(Anticipated)	

4.3.3. **Priority of the Tenth Plan (2002-07):**

1. To bridge the gap between potential created and utilized under the Centrally Sponsored CAD Programme for optimising productivity in the area under command.
2. To fully tap the irrigation benefit from the completed irrigation projects

4.3.4 **The proposed outlay for the Tenth Plan (2002-07) and Annual Plan (2002-03) in respect of CAD is Rs. 165.00 Lakhs and Rs. 35.00 Lakhs respectively with the physical targets of 2000 Hectares and 500 Hectares respectively**

4.4. FLOOD CONTROL

4.4.1. The approved outlay for the Ninth Plan is Rs. 1800.00 lakhs. The expenditure during the first four years of the Plan is Rs. 1306.00 lakhs. The approved outlay during 2002-2003 is Rs.200.00 Lakhs which is expected to be utilized in full. An outlay of Rs.1100.00 Lakhs is proposed for the Tenth Plan (2002-2007) and the proposed outlay for the Annual Plan 2002-2003 is Rs.220.00 Lakhs. The proposed outlay for the Tenth Plan includes an outlay of Rs. 50.00 lakhs for new schemes and Rs. 1050.00 Lakhs is proposed for the completion of spill- over schemes of the Ninth Plan.

4.4.2. Every year during the monsoon, flood creates havoc in Meghalaya specially in Garo Hills, southern part of Jaintia Hills and in some parts of Khasi Hills. The flood damaged standing crops by inundating vast areas of the paddy fields, snaps road communication by washing away embankments and semi-permanent timber bridges. Due to this, Government has to incur huge non-plan expenditure for repairing of roads and bridges every year. To counteract the menace of flood every year permanent measures for protecting the paddy fields and habitats are essential.

4.4.3. **Ninth Plan Physical Achievements :-**

Up the end of the fourth year of the Ninth Plan, the following physical achievements were made:-

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| 1. Construction of embankment | = 2.4 Km. |
| 2. Protection works | = 38 nos. |

The anticipated achievement during the year 2001-2002 is 10 nos. of protection works.

4.4.4. **The physical targets for Tenth Plan are as follows :-**

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|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Construction of embankment | = - |
| 2. Protection works | = 20 nos. |