

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STATE PLANNING BOARD HELD IN  
THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE MEGHALAYA SECRETARIAT (MAIN  
BUILDING) ON 8.3.2005 AT 11.30 A.M TO DISCUSS THE TENTATIVE SECTORAL  
ALLOCATION FOR THE ANNUAL PLAN 2005-2006.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Members and Officials Present at Annexure – I**

The meeting was presided over by the Chairman, State Planning Board, Shri S.C. Marak, who welcomed all the Members of the State Planning Board to the meeting. The Chairman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to apprise the Board of the Tentative Sectoral Allocation for the Annual Plan 2005-2006 and to have a short discussion on related matters. He requested the Chief Secretary to open the discussion.

The Chief Secretary, Shri P.J.Bazeley expressed his gratefulness to the Chairman, State Planning Board for convening the Board Meeting to examine the allocation of sectoral outlays which is a good indication of the vibrant approach of the State Planning Board. The State Government on the basis of its own resources, had proposed a Plan Size of Rs.765.00 crores to the Planning Commission for Annual Plan 2005-2006. However the Planning Commission has fixed the size of the Annual Plan at Rs.800.00 crores. An amount of Rs.51.00 crores has been allocated as Additional Central Assistance for special schemes which the state would take up.

Under the Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) Component, a minimum outlay of Rs. 178.59 crore has been allotted for 2005-2006. Additional Central Assistance is given at the discretion of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

It was noted that a token allocation of Rs.10.00 crores has been awarded by the 12<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission during 2005-2006 for Upgradation of the Standards of Administration.

The meeting also discussed briefly on the loan component of Annual Plan 2005-2006 as per break-up shown below :-

1.	NABARD Loan	-	Rs.	26.00 crores
2.	LIC Loan	-	Rs.	16.00 crores
3.	REC Loan	-	Rs.	60.00 crores
4.	Other/HUDCO/NCDC	-	Rs.	30.00 crores

**Contd .....p/2**

Further, an amount of Rs.57.66 crores has been allotted for Externally Aided Projects for the following schemes :-

- |    |   |     |                    |
|----|---|-----|--------------------|
| 1. | Renovation and Modernisation of Umiam Stage II Power    | Rs. | 36.36 crores       |
| 2. | Upgradation of Polytechnics                             | Rs. | 20.00 crores       |
| 3. | IFAD's Livelihood Improvement Project for the Himalayas | Rs. | <u>1.30 crores</u> |
|    |   | Rs. | 57.66 crores       |

While discussing the IFAD's Project for the Himalayas, the Chief Secretary, explained that it is an on-going project covering N.E.States and cover 6 Districts in N.E. including West Khasi Hills and West Garo Hills. The Project is implemented by the Project Authority and the fund is placed at their disposal through the Govt. of India.

On the question of Aus-Aid, it was clarified that being a self funding agency it has come on its own and has drawn up various programmes to analyse and study the problem in selected sectors e.g. Environment/Sanitation. Pilot Projects have also been taken up e.g. construction of footpaths, water tanks etc.

Shri A.H.Scott Lyngdoh, made a few observations at the trend of expenditure in the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan. He pointed out that every year there is a difference in the approved and revised outlay. During 2004-2005 the approved outlay was Rs.716.34 crores and the revised outlay was Rs.679.00 crores. The shortfall is because some of the loans did not fructify. Hence it must be ensured that loan components be used fully by the Departments. It would take a special effort to reach a target of Rs.800.00 crores during 2005-2006. He felt that the Departments should be invited for a dialogue and suggest to frame up schemes to utilize the loan, to generate more fund and an additional increase in revenue.

It was observed that in the Education Sector, the entire Plan allocation is on salaries only. It was suggested that special assistance should be given for Educational buildings.

The Chief Secretary emphasized that money is to be spent to generate returns. It is important for all Departments to take loans for development projects, for instance in Horticulture there is a significant success in Mushroom/Flowers/Strawberry Cultivation

**Contd .....p/3**

The Chairman, made a point that soon after the Budget is passed the State Planning Board will hold discussion with all Departments.

The Government of Meghalaya had so far received an allocation of Rs.144.75 crores from the Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources. The Detailed Project Reports submitted by the State Government are selected based on the viability of the project.

The Chief Executive Member, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council informed that the budgeted outlay for Annual Plan 2004-2005 is Rs.550.00 lakhs, and that schemes have already been submitted to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The expenditure is subject to timely clearance/release of funds by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs based on the availability of Utilisation Certificates. The Chief Executive Member pointed out that fund is usually received late by November and December hence it is not possible to submit Utilisation Certificates in time. The Chief Executive Member stressed for enhancement of the allocation for more development.

The Chairman suggested to have discussions with Planning and Finance Departments to see that funds earmarked for District Council could be released earlier.

In conclusion, the Chairman, expressed happiness in meeting the Members of the Board in the first meeting of the year which would enable the Board to chalk out other programmes. He welcomed innovative ideas from the Members for rejuvenation of the planning process in the state for the benefit of the public at large.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the Chair.

Sd/-  
**(S.C. Marak),**  
**Chairman,**  
**State Planning Board**