

**MINUTES OF THE REVIEW MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP 'C' OF
STATE PLANNING BOARD ON THE 5TH DECEMBER, 2006 HELD IN THE
COMMITTEE ROOM, YOJANA BHAVAN.**

List of Members and Officers at Annexure –A

The Co-Chairman, State Planning Board, Shri Sayeedullah Nongrum welcomed the Members of the Working Group and the Officers of the respective Department.

The review of schemes of the following Departments were taken up :-

1. Health & Family Welfare :- The Working Group had a brief discussion on the problems faced by the Department in matters of construction of CHCs and PHCs. The Co-Chairman referred to the Bhaitbari Construction Work and wanted to know the latest position/achievement. The Department informed that it is an going scheme and the construction of quarters had already started. The Co-Chairman sought information from the Department as to why the main building had not been started. It was, however, assured by the Department to take it up as a priority.

It was brought to the notice of the Working Group regarding requirement of more fund for medicines, equipments etc. The Co-Chairman suggested the Department to project the actual requirement of fund for Health in such a way that there will be no cut. Under construction works, the requirement of fund is Rs.37 crore including on going schemes.

The original Plan outlay for 2005-2006 for Renovation and improvement of Pasteur Institute, Shillong is Rs.24.00 lakhs and the expenditure was Rs.19.87 lakhs.

The Department informed that infant mortality rate in the State have come down and controlling of diseases like T.B. Malaria, Blindness etc., have been taken up. Malaria is of much concern to the Department and they had decided to take on a warfooting to tackle the problem.

On the query regarding preventive measures of Malaria, the Department informed that it has taken steps to prevent breeding by spraying at the right time, providing medicines and organizing Awareness Campaigns. It was also informed that the highest incidence of Malaria in the State is in East and West Garo Hills.

The Co-Chairman suggested the Department to start again the Hydrophobia injection as before and to examine the possibility of manufacture of Tissue Culture Anti Rabies Vaccine. The Department informed that presently, setting up of a laboratory building is not feasible due to technical problems. The Institute has prepared a project for the manufacture of Tissue Culture Anti Rabies Vaccine and the total estimated cost involved is Rs.25 crore. It was informed that the Pasteur Institute is still manufacturing Tetanus Toxoid vaccine. Blood Bank is also attached to Pasteur Institute.

2. Education :- The Department informed that the total outlay is Rs.7000.00 lakhs and there is a shortfall of Rs.140.24 lakhs for salaries. The Working Group recommended additional requirement of fund under salaries component.

On Midday Meal Scheme, the Co-Chairman wanted to have a clear picture on the implementation of the programme especially in Garo Hills. It was informed that previously the conversion cost per child per day sanctioned by Govt. of India was Re.1 and the State Contribution is Re.0.13p. Since July last year, the conversion cost has been enhanced to Rs.2 per child per day (The Govt. of India is to sanction Rs.1.80 and the State Govt. Re.0.20P per child per day) The Department informed that out of Re.0.20P per child per day, a decision has been taken to employ a cook at a minimum wage. It was also brought to the notice of the Working Group that an amount of Rs.2500 was given by DONER to all schools for purchase of utensils. The Scheme is monitored by the District Authority under the Supervision of the School Management Committee.

On the enhancement of grant to Upper Primary and Secondary Schools, the Department proposed to enhance Science grant from Rs.4000 to Rs.6000, and for Hindi grant from Rs.1500 to Rs.1700.

The Co-Chairman suggested upgradation of Lower Primary to Upper Primary Schools. It was informed that 500 Nos. have been proposed under SSA. It was also brought to the notice of the Working Group regarding shortage of Deputy Inspectors of Schools in the State.

The Co-Chairman informed of the irregularities in setting up schools in Garo Hills and advised the Department to take a serious note on the matter and strict vigilance should be maintained. Regarding creation of Lecturer Posts in Nongstoin, Nongpoh, Nongtalang, Mendipathar etc. the Department assured to take up in the 11th Plan.

The Working Group felt that proposals of Health and Education should be recommended in to as they are not earning bodies.

Under Research and Training, the Plan outlay for 2006-2007 is Rs.20.00 lakhs. The Department is conducting Eligibility Test for appointment of L.P.School teachers. The minimum qualification is 10 +2 and the eligibility test which is entrusted to Principal DIET is mandatory to all. The Govt. decided to have proper recruitment system and short term training is given to teachers.

3. Printing & Stationery & Assembly Press :- The Department informed that out of the Revised Plan Outlay of Rs.120.00 lakhs during 2005-2006, an amount of Rs.99.31 lakhs had been spent. An additional amount of Rs.20.00 lakhs was spent for purchase of Automatic folding machine.

On the query regarding Revenue/total earning of the Press, the Department informed that it is doing only Govt. works. The Co-Chairman wanted a Status note on the activities of the Department including Salary Component.

The Department felt that for Assembly Press, up gradation of machinery is necessary to modernise the Press. It was suggested that the Budget allocation of Rs.20.00 lakhs has to be enhanced if it is to be modernized in full form. For strengthening of manpower, the Department was advised to see to the requirement of the Assembly Press.

During discussion, it was informed that Printing & Stationery & Assembly Press are sharing from the same Budget Head of Account. As such, the Co-Chairman advised Assembly Press to take up the proposals through the Parent Department i.e. Printing & Stationery. However, a separate discussion will be taken by the State Planning Board on the matter to get a clear picture as to how the Assembly Press which is not under the direct control of Printing & Stationery is sharing the same Budget Provision.

4. Weight & Measures :- The Department informed that an amount of Rs.33.29 lakhs had been incurred during 2005-2006 including purchase of two equipments @ Rs.1.17 lakhs. For conducting periodical inspections, the Department had proposed for procurement of vehicles but it was turned down and the amount surrendered.

Under the 10th Plan, 1(one) vehicle was procured and during the 11th Plan the Department had proposed to procure another 2 vehicles. Since the proposal was turned down, the Co-Chairman, however advised them to furnish a vehicle condemnation certificate justified by a Survey Report alongwith the proposal Surprise checks of the Petrol Pumps was suggested for quality control. The Working Group expects more activities even though it is a Small Department.

Sd/-
(S. Nongrum)
Co-Chairman,
State Planning Board.