

**PROCEEDINGS OF REVIEW MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP'D' OF STATE
PLANNING BOARD HELD ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2006 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM,
YOJANA BHAVAN TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION/ ACHIEVEMENT OF PLAN
SCHEMES DURING 2005-2006.**

Members and Officers present at Annexure – A.

At the outset Dr. F. Lyngdoh, Co-Chairman, State Planning Board welcomed the Members of the Working Group and Officers of Urban Affairs and Forest & Environment Departments. He stated that the purpose of this meeting was to review the implementation/achievements of Plan schemes during 2005-2006.

1. Urban Affairs :- During 2005-2006, the Department has incurred an expenditure of Rs.807.30 lakhs (98%) against the Revised Plan Outlay of Rs.825 lakhs. The Department stated that during 2006-2007, the allocation is Rs.40 crores. The Working Group expressed its hope that the Department will be able to spend the said amount. The Co-Chairman expressed his happiness that the Department have prepared a note on its activities during 2005-2006.

The Commissioner & Secretary, Urban Affairs stated that the note is a gist of the activities of the Department. He also informed that Shillong is one of the 63 cities in India identified under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for improvement and Development of the city. The City Development Plan (CDP) to be prepared by BCEOM India Private Ltd. which will be considered by Government by mid January, 2007 and by end of January the CDP is expected to be completed. The Vision Document will be prepared by the same Company and it is expected to be completed by the end of January,2007. This Vision Document will be for the 7(seven) towns of the State in all District Headquarters including Resubelpara. Under JNNURM, Rs.2000 crores is for Meghalaya and for the current year, the Department is trying to get Rs.130 crores on the DPR submitted.

To a query by the hon'ble Member, Shri A.H.Scott Lyngdoh on the main components of the City Development Plan, the Department stated that CDP focus on investment required for the next 25 years. The components are (i) Water Supply (ii) Sanitation (iii) Drainage (iv) Urban Transport (v) Solid Waste Management, and (vi) Urban Renewal Programmes. As per guidelines of Govt. of India the CDP is to cover Municipal areas only. The Department is taking up with the Govt. of India for inclusion of suburbs also.

Regarding the issue in which some localities are not willing to associate themselves with the Shillong Municipality the Hon'ble Member, Shri A.H. Scott Lyngdoh suggested for a two tier Authority. The 1st Tier to include all Municipal areas and the 2nd Tier to include all areas of Greater Shillong. The Two Tier Authority may be called the Greater Shillong Authority. Under this system the areas which are outside the Municipal can also benefit form the schemes of the JNNURM. At present it was informed that Shillong Municipality looks after only 30% of population of Shillong.

The Working Group advised the Department to convene a meeting with all the Headmen of Shillong Municipality and other localities outside the Municipality to obtain their views on the issue of restructuring the Municipality, and the Working Group may be informed of the outcome of the meeting.

The Co-Chairman enquired about 2(two) Projects viz., Sanitation Programme of Wahumkhrah of Rs.84 crores and Motphran Project of Rs.23 crores. The Department stated that at present, this has to be included under JNNURM. On Shopping Complex at Polo, the Department stated that the original estimate was Rs.328 lakhs. The money available with Department is Rs.171.60 lakhs. The project is for a 2 storeyed Parking and Shopping Block. The Working Group asked the Department to look into those shops at the back that have no access to customers.

The Department informed of 2(two) new schemes viz., Urban Infrastructure Development Schemes for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) and Integrated Housing for Slum Development Programme (IHSDP)

2. **Forest and Environment** :- The 10th Plan projected outlay for the Department is Rs.86.50 crores. During 2005-2006, the expenditure incurred was Rs.10.19 crores against the revised Plan Outlay of Rs.14.32 crores. During 2006-2007, the likely expenditure is Rs.23.80 crores which include the Twelfth Finance Commission Award for the State Zoo. The overall likely expenditure during the 10th Plan is Rs.58.13 crores which is well below the 10th Plan projected outlay.

The Department stated that nothing so far has been spent for the State Zoo whose location is at Umtrew with an area of 25 hectares. There is no problem with respect to water facilities. During the current year, the fencing works will be taken up. The Working Group expressed desire to visit the proposed State Zoo sometime in January, 2007.

On query the Department stated that the density of Forest Cover is 70% in Meghalaya. On a 1996 Supreme Court Ruling on Timber felling, the Department stated that the Working Scheme for Jaintial Hills areas have been approved. The Department is to monitor the Working Scheme including District Council areas. Some officers are deputed to the District Councils for looking after forestry related activities.

While discussing the Act for Protection of Catchment Areas certain loopholes of the Act was pointed out by the Department.

1. The consent of the landowners need to be obtained for protection of Catchment Areas.
2. No activity is allowed on land declared as Catchment Area.

On the Catchment Areas of Mawphlang, it was learnt that it is in danger due to extraction of sand-stone. The Department is of the opinion that the best way to protect Catchment Areas is to acquire such land.

On Bio-Research Centre, the same has been processed to Planning Department amounting to Rs.115 crores. Rs.11 crores is for acquisition of land.

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

Sd/-
(Dr.F. Lyngdoh)
Co-Chairman,
State Planning Board.