

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REVIEW MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP 'B'  
OF STATE PLANNING BOARD HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2006 IN THE  
OFFICE CHAMBER OF THE CO-CHAIRMAN, STATE PLANNING BOARD,  
TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION/ACHIEVEMENT OF PLAN SCHEMES  
DURING 2005-2006.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Members and Officers present at Annexure – A.

The meeting was chaired by the Co-Chairman, State Planning Board, Dr. F.A. Khonglam who welcomed the Members of the Working Group and all the Officers present in the meeting. Thereafter, discussions on the following Departments was taken up.

1. **Industries** :- At the outset, the Department informed that its primary objective is for promotion and development of Industries and Industrial activities in the State. The schemes of the Department constitute establishment cost for maintenance of the Office establishment viz., the District Industries Centres, Cottage Industries and Vocational Training Centres. Schemes under the Large and Medium Scale Industries are implemented by MIDC and the Small Scale Industries by the Directorate as per the allocation of funds. A separate fund allocation is allotted for the Industrial estates at Nongstoin, Jowai, Tura and Williamnagar. "Awareness Programmes" have been organized regularly by the District Industries Centres regarding grants for motivation of local entrepreneurs, for setting up Small Scale Industries to create an atmosphere of Industrial climate and also to participate in the Trade Fair inside the state and also at the national level. MIDC is the nodal agency to encourage Large and Medium Industries.

The Package Scheme of incentives is for extending financial benefits to the Industrial Units with the objective to motivate and attract entrepreneurship amongst the local people. On the scheme KTCE (Knitting Tailoring Cum Embroidery) the Department informed that the fund requirement is for meeting the establishment cost of the Units at Baghmara and Khliehriat. The intake of students is 15 Nos. every year. On the problems faced by the people in getting Bank Loans, the Department has taken up with Banks in the DCC meeting and advised local entrepreneurs to take up projects which are feasible to a particular area.

On the query of the Co-Chairman, regarding Food Park which was projected in the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan but not yet implemented, the Department clarified that land has been acquired for this purpose but later the scheme was dropped as there are not sufficient food items to sustain a Food Park. In small states, Food Park is not feasible. Govt. of India have in fact suggested for a Food Park consisting of all N.E. States.

On the question of financial assistance to revitalize sick Industrial Units, the Department informed that Government feel that this is not judicious, as it is the responsibility of the private industries to improve themselves. However, grant is provided only to MCCL i.e. Rs.7 crore, for the year 2006-2007. The land problem for the Growth Centre at Mendipathar has been settled and work is expected to be taken up in full swing next year. It is proposed to acquire land near Byrnihat for new Industrial areas. Under Feasibility Studies, Consultancy is engaged for preparation of Project Reports for setting

up new industries. In view of power shortage the Department is trying to encourage more power producing investments e.g. Power Plants. On the query about the outcome after Corporatisation of the MSEB the Department informed that cost of power would be higher and therefore they are thinking of shifting to Coal based thermal plants.

In view of the national trend towards agro-based industries the Department has come up with new incentives to shift from power based to agro based industries. It proposes to give thrust to potential cultivation like tea, ginger, cashew nuts etc. and to invite companies from outside with local franchise. The Department feel that enhancement of its Plan allocation is required to enable to take up these new projects.

**2. Mining & Geology :-** The main functions of the Directorate of Mineral Resources are geological exploration of mineral deposits of the State, administration of mines and collection of revenue in the form of Royalty and Cess on major minerals. The total Budget provision of the Directorate during 2005-2006 is Rs.1.77 crores.

The Department informed that collection of Royalty from Mines and Minerals during 2006-2007 up to October,2006 is Rs.16.10 crores. The total number of checkgates is 14 and the Department is collecting royalty from loaded trucks. Coal Sale is maximum from Jaintia hills. On coal alone the sale is , Rs.94 crores during 2005-2006, and the target for 2006-2007 is Rs.100 crore.

In Gasuapara, one weigh bridge has been constructed in 2001 but due to mechanical defect it could not function. It was informed that Dabo checkgates give good revenue. Regarding checking of overloading trucks, the Department expressed difficulty unless there is collaboration with the District Administration.

In view of the Supreme Court Ruling on Environmental Litigation the Department hopes to streamline and regularize the mining policy in the State as the present rat hole system of mining is becoming an environmental threat. The Department is facing acute shortage of manpower and logistic supports such as vehicles and trucks. A proposal to Govt. for creation of posts was submitted and hoped that this will come through. Construction of office/residential buildings in the Districts is very much necessary as the Department presently is functioning in rented houses. It requested for enhancement of the Annual Plan allocation to be able to take up these works which the Working Group endorses.

**3. MATI :-** The Department informed that the proposed outlay for 2005-2006 is Rs.5.00 lakhs but the approved outlay is only Rs.2.00 lakh. About 5 acres of land has been recently acquired at Mawdiangdiang for construction of MATI Office/Training Institute. Fencing of boundary has already started.

**PETC :-** It was informed that the Training Centre is located in Shillong only, and 40 seats only can be accommodated due to paucity of seating arrangement. In 2004, 2 candidates have qualified for IAS, one from Manipur and one from Nagaland. Since

inception i.e. from 1975-1976 till date, about 72 candidates mostly from N.E. have qualified for the IAS Examination and the Department is requested to submit a list of qualified students since inception.

The Department would like to conduct training for other services also but till date this has not yet materialized. The teaching staff are taken from the University and Colleges according to requirement. There is no permanent appointee. The Working Group suggested for engaging visiting Professors from outside the state for better exposure.

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

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