

**F.No.3/3/2009-PP-I**  
**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

MINUTES OF THE 14<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EMPOWERED COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MULTI-SECTORAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR MINORITY CONCENTRATION DISTRICTS HELD AT 10.30 A.M. ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2009 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

A list of members and officials present in the meeting is annexed.

2. The Chairman of the Empowered Committee explained the background for identification of minority concentration districts (MCDs) and the scheme of a multi-sectoral development programme (MsDP) designed to address the development deficits of such districts. The Chairman pointed out that the baseline survey not only brought out the updated position in respect of the relevant parameters used for identification of such districts, but also ranked the deficits in order of the extent of deprivation in the districts. It was expected that the plans submitted by the State Governments would address the deficits in order of priority. In case a deficit, ranked higher in the order of deprivation, was not proposed to be addressed by the plan, it would be incumbent on the part of the District Level Committee and the State Level Committee to bring out the reasons for not doing so. The Chairman stressed that the primary objective of this programme was to address the identified development deficits, so that the various interventions would result in the improvement of the backwardness parameters of a minority concentration district and bring it at par with the national average.

3. The Chairman stated that the fact that these districts were not just MCDs, having a substantial minority population, but were also districts comprising of other communities who suffer from the same backwardness and deprivation should not be lost sight of. It was important to keep in mind that the large presence of minorities may have resulted in the identification of such districts for appropriate developmental intervention, but the scheme, while giving priority to villages/areas having a substantial minority population, was intended to benefit the district as a whole. Improving the relevant backwardness indices upto national averages was the primary mandate of the scheme for social inclusion. The scheme provides additionality to the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) as there were many existing schemes already addressing national concerns with time-tested guidelines and implementation mechanism, especially those included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities, for saturating them in MCDs. However, sufficient funds for certain programmes in these districts were required. It was crucial that basic requirements like primary and secondary education, skill development, safe drinking water, housing etc. were addressed first. As envisaged in the scheme,

the States/UTs were advised to ensure that topping up Centrally Sponsored Schemes wherever appropriate, could be proposed as these were established schemes and could be implemented with ease without setting up new structures for implementing them. The Chairman emphasized that deviations from the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes was not permitted under the MsDP scheme. It was pointed out that funds were provided as additionality and that the normal annual flow of fund to the district should not be reduced, and that the responsibility for eliminating duplication of schemes and avoiding double counting of a scheme under two funding sources vested with both the district authority and the State Government. The Chairman stressed that accounts under MsD programme should be maintained separately. The provision in para 19 of the scheme of MsDP was pointed out with special emphasis on the requirement for display of a board containing information of the date of sanction of the project, likely date of completion, estimated cost of the project, source of funding i.e. MsDP (Government of India), contractor(s) name and the physical target. After completion of projects, a permanent display shall be put up. The provision in para 15.1 of the scheme of MsDP was pointed out once the proposal was approved for implementation by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, the first instalment would be released. The release would be subject to fulfillment of the eight conditions mentioned in para 15.1 from the State Government/UT Administration. The State Govt. of Assam has already given their commitment to fulfill the eight conditions mentioned in para 15.1 of the scheme of MsDP.

4. The Empowered Committee considered the multi-sectoral development plans for the districts of **Karimganj, Nagaon, Morigaon, Cachar, Dhubri and Hailakandi (Assam)**. The conclusions that emerged, after a power point presentation by the Deputy Commissioner concerned, clarifications and confirmation of the status and fulfillment of conditions of the guidelines by the Joint Secretary of the State Government of Assam comments/clarifications from the members of the Empowered Committee and the representatives of Ministry/Department, were as follows:-

**Item No.1: Karimganj (Assam)**

The fund tentatively allocated for Karimganj district under the MsDP was Rs.49.50 crore for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period. A power point presentation of the MsDP plan of the district was made by the Deputy Commissioner. The district has 5 revenue circle, 7 development blocks and 915 inhabited villages. According to 2001 census Karimganj has a population of 10,07,976 people out of which 5,35,960 (53.22%) belongs to the minority communities. Karimganj is a category 'A' district i.e., it has socio-economic and basic amenities parameters below the national average.

**(i) Projects approved**

**Indira Awas Yojana (IAY):** Households having pucca walls were ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the order of deficit in the baseline survey. The waiting list for IAY houses was 73455 number of BPL

families. Out of this list, 26677 families have been given IAY houses from the year 2002 to year 2006-07. The allocation of IAY houses from Ministry of Rural Development was 5586 for 2008-09 and 5000 for 2009-10 for this district. With an annual flow of this range a critical gap of 30020 houses is likely scenario at the end of 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan. The Deputy Commissioner clarified that villages were categorized in three groups. Villages with 70% and above minority population as group A, 50%-70% as group B and 30%-50% as group C. However as, proposal was for construction of an additional 8017 houses, it was felt that villages having a large proportion of minority population could be considered first for selecting beneficiaries under MsDP. It was further clarified by the Deputy Commissioner that the approved unit cost of the Ministry of Rural Development i.e. Rs.38,500/- would be followed.

The Empowered Committee approved the construction of 8017 IAY houses for a total cost of Rs.3086.55 lakh. Central contribution from MsDP would be Rs.2777.90 lakh and Rs.308.65 lakh as State share as per the funding pattern of IAY between Centre and State in the ratio of 90:10. The approval was given on the assurance that the State Government would ensure that the IAY houses would be constructed in villages with the highest minority concentration, BPL families would be selected from the approved waiting list, even if they belonged to communities other than the minority communities, strictly in order of their ranking in the list as per the IAY guidelines. It was stressed that no deviation from the guidelines was permitted. The list of the villages, indicating the number of houses to be constructed would be provided. State share would be provided. To prevent duplication, the Government of Assam would ensure that the IAY units funded under MsDP were reflected in the State Action Plan of the scheme and information also sent to the Ministry concerned. It was agreed to release 50% of the central share as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment.

**(ii) Proposals requiring project details/profile for appraisal and comments of the Ministry/Department concerned in case the State Government desire to pursue the proposal:**

- (a) Installation of hand pumps and construction of ring wells:** The representative from the Deptt. of Drinking Water Supply stated that they had sufficient fund to cater to the entire requirement of the district. The State Government was however advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of the revised guideline of ARWSP containing details of unit cost for each type of schemes, status of population intended to be served, existing water supply and deficit demand due to projected/increased population and depleting sources/system, recharging measures for ensuring sustainability, O &M arrangement, number of beneficiaries in terms of design population likely to be served and why proposed areas were not covered under scheme of Department of Drinking Water Supply, so that it may be referred to them for appraisal.

- (b) **Irrigation through shallow tube wells:** The proposal was for installation of 50 shallow tube wells for irrigation facilities but details regarding criteria for selection of beneficiaries, operation and management of asset, adherence of the proposal with the AIBP scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources were not provided. Hence, State Govt. was advised to prepare a detailed project profile/(DPR) based on Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme of the Ministry of Water Resources, so that it may be referred to them for appraisal.
- (c) **Infrastructure development of college/junior colleges/B. Ed. college/Student hostel:** These educational institutes were stated to be provincialised educational institutions. It was clarified that they are similar to aided institutions. The State Government was advised to furnish status of provincialised colleges/schools as to whether these were Govt. owned and managed, existing number of class rooms, students, number of classes, subjects taught in a detailed project profile/DPR, prepared as per the specification, design, norms laid down for the appropriate level of educational institutions under the relevant scheme of the M/o Human Resource Development. The State Govt. should also indicate their commitment to provide land, state share, staff, recurring expenditure etc. in the DPR. This was required for referring the proposal to the Ministry concerned for approval/advice.
- (d) **In-plant training and supply of tool kits:** Proposal was for in-plant training and supply of tool kits. It was informed that the proposal was not clear and did not have details. State Govt. was advised to provide detailed project profile/DPR indicating method of training, institute where the training is to be provided and the type of certificate that would be issued to successful candidates. It was suggested that survey of skill requirement of local/adjacent labour market need to be done to ensure that the youth were trained in these courses/trades which could give them employment in the locality itself. It is further suggested that they may follow the standards of NCVT in terms of courses content and certificates issued for increasing employability and labour mobility of the trained youth.

**(iii) Summary of projects of Karimganj (Assam) district approved by the Empowered Committee:**

Sl. no	Name of the project for Karimganj district (Assam)	Sharing ratio	No. of units	Unit cost	Central share	State share	Total cost	1 <sup>st</sup> instalment amount to be released
<b>Rupee in lakh</b>								
<b>Administrative Approval</b>								
	Construction of IAY houses	90:10	8017	0.385	2777.90	308.65	3086.55	1388.95

- (iv) **General observations of the Empowered Committee:** The Empowered Committee noted that the remaining proposals could not be considered as there were insufficient details and justification. The State Government was advised to make out a revised plan for the balance fund available in accordance with the guidelines of the MsDP keeping in view the proposals which have already been approved under MsDP for Assam and other States/UTs. The State Govt.

would set up an IT enabled cell for monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the programme and submit their proposal based on the type of hardware and configuration which would be advised by this Ministry shortly. The Empowered Committee advised that the revised plan may focus on a few proposals that address the deficits which could be easily funded in the areas of drinking water, skill development, education, income generating activities, and health, including saturating the schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities. State Government was also advised to prepare a revised plan in such a manner that the various development deficits identified by the baseline survey were addressed in order of their priority.

### **Item No.2: Nagaon (Assam)**

The fund tentatively allocated for Nagaon district under the MsDP was Rs.70.30 crore for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period. A power point presentation of the MsDP plan of the district was made by the Deputy Commissioner, Nagaon. The district has 3 sub divisions, 10 revenue circles, 18 development blocks, and 1420 villages. The population of the district was 2,315,387 as per 2001 census. The minority population is 52.10% of the total population of the district. Nagon is a category 'A' district ie. it has socio-economic and basic amenities parameters below the national average.

#### **(i) Projects approved**

**Indira Awas Yojana (IAY):** Households having pucca walls was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the order of deficit in the baseline survey. It was submitted that on the basis of household survey in 2005-06 the permanent wait list of BPL families was 1,86,980 in the district. 44,250 houses have been constructed or under construction from regular IAY fund so far. Target for the construction of IAY houses in the 2009-10 from IAY fund is 20185 and another 46626 houses were expected during 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan, leaving a gap of around 90,000 houses in this district. The proposal was for constructing an additional 4820 houses at the approved unit cost of the Ministry of Rural Development i.e. Rs.38,500/-.

The Empowered Committee approved the construction of 4820 IAY houses for a total cost of Rs.1855.70 lakh. Central contribution from MsDP would be Rs.1670.13 lakh and Rs.185.57 lakh as State share as per the funding pattern of IAY between Centre and State in the ratio of 90:10. The approval was given on the assurance that the State Government would ensure that the IAY houses would be constructed in villages with the highest minority concentration, BPL families would be selected from the approved waiting list, even if they belonged to communities other than the minority communities, strictly in order of their ranking in the list as per the IAY guidelines. It was stressed that no deviation from the guidelines was permitted. The list of the villages, indicating the number of houses to be constructed would be provided. State share would be provided. To prevent duplication, the Government of Assam would ensure that the IAY units funded under MsDP were reflected in the State Action Plan of the scheme and

information also sent to the Ministry concerned. It was agreed to release 50% of the central share as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment.

**(ii) Projects approved in-principle:**

**Upgradation of existing ITI at Nagaon and introduction of new trades:** Total work participation and female work participation have been ranked as 7<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively in the baseline survey of the district. Proposal was for the upgradation of an existing ITI at Nagaon and introduction of new trades at a cost of Rs.445.00 lakh. The State Government representative confirmed that this ITI was functional and land, trainers, staff and recurring cost were available. Representative from Ministry of Labour & Employment stated that ITI Nagaon is covered under World Bank Assisted Vocational Training Improvement Project (VTIP) and is conducting training courses in 12 trades. This ITI has also availed the scheme of Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Information Technology sector. The M/o Labour & Employment had been recommending that the building design, specification, etc should be as per the standards of the 'National Council for Vocational Training' (NCVT) as it would facilitate NCVT recognition and provide better employment prospect to the students. The proposal could be considered provided that the items of strengthening and the new trades to be introduced were not covered by the scheme already implemented and the scheme of VTIP.

The Empowered Committee accorded in-principle approval for the upgradation of existing ITI at Nagaon and introduction of new trades at a cost of Rs.445.00 lakh. This would, however, be subject to the condition that the State Government would provide a detailed project report giving details of the items of work taken up under the scheme of upgradation of existing ITI into COE and the item which would be implemented under the VTIP scheme of the World Bank and ensuring that the proposal was prepared as per the specification, design, norms, modern courses/trades and standard laid down by the 'National Council for Vocational Training' (NCVT); locally relevant, modern trades and trades suitable for women should be included and DPR submitted for obtaining the advice of the Ministry of Labour & Employment. Also the State Government would be required to provide details in respect of the numbers and type of courses, numbers of students enrolled and its capacity. It was agreed that 50% of the Central share would be released as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment after obtaining the advice of the M/o Labour & Employment on receipt of DPR.

**(iii) Proposals requiring project details/profile for appraisal and comments of the Ministry/Department concerned in case the State Government desire to pursue the proposal:**

- (a) Installation of hand pumps and construction of ring wells:** The State Government was advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of the modified scheme of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) guidelines containing details of unit cost for each type of schemes, status of population intended to be served, existing water supply and deficit demand due to projected/increased population and depleting sources/system,

recharging measures for ensuring sustainability, O &M arrangement, number of beneficiaries in terms of design population likely to be served, information as to why proposed areas were not covered under scheme of Department of Drinking Water Supply. These details are required so that the proposal may be referred to the Deptt. of Drinking Water Supply for appraisal/advice.

- (b) **Establishment of a 100 bedded Maternity Home under PPP at Samaguri including infrastructure and equipment:** State Govt. was advised to prepare a detailed project profile/DPR based on the National Rural Health Mission of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and justify establishment of 100 bedded maternity home, requirement of MRI and accessories, incinerator and development of HMIS. State Govt. may also like to respond as to why these requirements, have not been proposed under NRHM for 2009-10.
- (c) **Infrastructure of school building:** The State Government was advised to prepare a detailed Project Report (DPR)/profile containing details about the kind of infrastructure to be created, clarify the status of provincialised colleges/schools as to whether it is Govt. owned and managed, number of existing class rooms, students, classes, available subject taught, detailed estimate prepared as per the specification, design, norms laid down under the relevant scheme of the M/o Human Resource Development. DPR/profile should also contain information on the commitment to provide land, state share, staff, recurring expenditure etc. This was required for referring the proposal to the Ministry concerned for appraisal/advice.
- (d) **Construction of boys and girls hostels:** The State Government was advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of Navodaya Vidyalaya hostel for boys and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya for girls hostel, containing details of hostel specification, kitchen, toilets, warden's quarter, security arrangement, availability of land, non-recurring costs, requirement of furniture, the memorandum of understanding (MOU) to be signed between the department concerned and the village education committee or the hostel management committee, the estimated range of hostel fees including cost of food to be charged etc. for obtaining the advice of the Ministry concerned. It was indicated that the Empowered Committee would give priority to girls hostel for girl schools to promote girls education.

(iv) **Summary of projects of Nagaon (Assam) district approved by the Empowered Committee:**

Sl. no	Name of the project for Nagaon district (Assam)	Sharing ratio	No. of units	Unit cost	Central share	State share	Total cost	1 <sup>st</sup> instalment amount to be released
<b>Rupee in lakh</b>								
<b>Administrative Approval</b>								
a	Construction of IAY houses	90:10	4820	0.385	1670.13	185.57	1855.70	835.07
<b>In-principle approval</b>								
b	Upgradation of ITI at Nagaon	100:00	1	445.00	445.00	--	445.00	222.50
<b>Grand total</b>					<b>2115.13</b>	<b>185.57</b>	<b>2300.70</b>	<b>1057.57</b>

- (v) **General observations of the Empowered Committee:** The Empowered Committee noted that the rest of the proposals could not be considered as there were insufficient details and justification. The State Government was advised to make out a revised plan for the balance fund available in accordance with the guidelines of the MsDP keeping in view the proposals which have already been approved under MsDP for Assam and other States/UTs. The State Govt. would set up an IT enabled cell for monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the programme and submit their proposal based on the type of hardware and configuration which would be advised by this Ministry shortly. The Empowered Committee advised that the revised plan may focus on a few proposals that address the deficits which could be easily funded in the areas of drinking water, skill development, education, income generating activities, and health, including saturating the schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities. State Government was also advised to prepare a revised plan in such a manner that the various development deficits identified by the baseline survey were addressed in order of their priority.

**Item No.3: Morigaon (Assam)**

The fund tentatively allocated for Morigaon district under the MsDP was Rs.59.00 crore for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period. A power point presentation of the MsDP plan of the district was made by the Deputy Commissioner, Morigaon. The district has 5 revenue circles, 5 development blocks, 85 Gram Panchayat and 629 revenue villages. The population of the district was 776256 as per 2001 census. The minority population was 47.7% of the total population of the district. Morigaon is a district of 'A' category ie., it has socio-economic and basic parameters below the national average.

(i) **Projects approved**

**Indira Awas Yojana (IAY):** Households having pucca walls was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the order of deficit in the baseline survey. It was submitted that the number of BPL families in the permanent wait list was 59,519 in the district. 5776 houses was constructed from regular IAY fund in the year 2008-09. Target for the construction of IAY houses in the 2009-10 from IAY fund was 6493 and another 21000 houses was expected during 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan, leaving a gap of around 32,000 houses in this district. The proposal was for constructing an additional 5193 houses in 236 villages having more than 60% minority population at the approved unit cost of the Ministry of Rural Development i.e. Rs.38,500/-.

The Empowered Committee approved the construction of 5193 IAY houses for a total cost of Rs.1999.31 lakh. Central contribution from MsDP would be Rs.1799.38 lakh and Rs.199.93 lakh as State share as per the funding pattern of IAY between Centre and State in the ratio of 90:10. The approval was given on the assurance that the State Government would ensure that the IAY houses would be constructed in villages with the highest minority concentration,



BPL families would be selected from the approved waiting list, even if they belonged to communities other than the minority communities, strictly in order of their ranking in the list as per the IAY guidelines. It was stressed that no deviation from the guidelines was permitted. The list of the villages, indicating the number of houses to be constructed would be provided. State share would be provided. To prevent duplication, the Government of Assam would ensure that the units funded under MsDP were reflected in the State Action Plan of the scheme and information also sent to the Ministry concerned. It was agreed to release 50% of the central share as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment.

**(ii) Projects approved in-principle:**

**Providing science equipment in high schools:** Proposal was for providing lab equipment in all 3 high schools @ Rs.0.50 lakh per unit at a total cost of Rs.1.50 lakh. It was clarified by the DC that these were provincialised high schools. There were lab rooms in these high schools but they lacked lab equipments. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has a scheme called Rastriya Madhaymik Siksha Abhiyan (RMSA) for secondary schools having provision for funding laboratory equipments for physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics. The approved funding pattern between Centre and State is in the ratio of 90:10 for NE region. This proposal could therefore be funded as provided in the RMSA scheme.

Empowered Committee accorded in-principle approval to the proposal for providing lab equipments in 3 provincialised high schools @ Rs.0.50 lakh per high school for a total cost of Rs.1.50 lakh. Central share from MsDP would be Rs.1.35 lakh and Rs.0.15 lakh as State share as per the funding pattern of the RMSA between Centre and State in the ratio of 90:10. The in-principle approval was given on the assurance that the State Government would clarify the status of provincialised schools and ensure that the norms of RMSA would be followed. A list of laboratory equipments to be purchased will be furnished and Government approved procedures for procurement will be followed.

**(iii) Proposals requiring project details/profile for appraisal and comments of the Ministry/Department concerned in case the State Government desire to pursue the proposal:**

- (a) Installation of hand pumps and construction of ring wells:** The State Government was advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of the revised guideline of ARWSP containing details of unit cost for each type of schemes, Status of population intended to be served, existing water supply and deficit demand due to projected/increased population and depleting sources/system, recharging measures for ensuring sustainability, O &M arrangement, number of beneficiaries in terms of design population likely to be served why proposed areas are not covered under scheme of Department of Drinking Water Supply etc.

(b) **Training with exposure visit of minority students:** For promoting skill training, the State Govt. was advised to avail and utilize already existing fund from the M/o Labour and Employment under Skill Development Initiative Scheme (SDIS) based on Modular Employable Skills for which Ministry of Labour and Employment has a target to provide training to one million unemployed youth. The State Govt. may examine the scheme of the Ministry of Labour and Employment and consider if any attractive initiative for supporting youth for skill training would be required from MsDP to make the training courses of the Ministry of Labour and Employment more attractive and to enhance the opportunities for youth from the minority community to secure employment in industries.

(iv) **Summary of projects of Morigaon (Assam) district approved by the Empowered Committee:**

Sl. no	Name of the project for Morigaon district (Assam)	Sharing ratio	No. of units	Unit cost	Central share	State share	Total cost	1 <sup>st</sup> instalment amount to be released
<b>Rupee in lakh</b>								
<b>Administrative Approval</b>								
	Construction of IAY houses	90:10	5193	0.385	1799.38	199.93	1999.31	899.69
<b>In-principle approval</b>								
	Science equipment in high schools	90:10	03	0.50	1.35	0.15	1.50	0.68
	<b>Total</b>				<b>1800.73</b>	<b>200.08</b>	<b>2000.81</b>	<b>900.37</b>

(v) **General observations of the Empowered Committee:** The Empowered Committee noted that the rest of the proposals could not be considered as there was insufficient justification. The State Government was advised to make out a revised plan for the balance fund available in accordance with the guidelines of the MsDP keeping in view the proposals which have already been approved under MsDP for Assam and other States/UTs. The State Govt. would set up an IT enabled cell for monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the programme and submit their proposal based on the type of hardware and configuration which would be advised by this Ministry shortly. The Empowered Committee advised that the revised plan may focus on a few proposals that address the deficits which could be easily funded in the areas of drinking water, skill development, education, income generating activities, and health, including saturating the schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities. State Government was also advised to prepare a revised plan in such a manner that the various development deficits identified by the baseline survey were addressed in order of their priority.

#### **Item No.4: Cachar (Assam)**

The fund tentatively allocated for Cachar district under the MsDP was Rs.40.50 crore for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period. A power point presentation of the MsDP plan of the district was made by the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar. The district has 5 revenue circles, 15 development blocks, 163 Gram Panchayat, 15 Anchalik Panchayat and 895 revenue villages. The population of the district was 14,42,141 as per 2001 census. The minority population was 38.39% of the total population of the district. Cachar is a category 'A' district i.e., it has socio-economic and basic amenities parameters below the national average.

**(i) Projects approved:**

**Indira Awas Yojana (IAY):** Households having pucca walls was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the order of deficit in the baseline survey. It was submitted that 7860 houses have been constructed from regular IAY fund in the year 2008-09. Target for the construction of IAY houses in the 2009-10 from IAY fund was 12563. The proposal was for constructing an additional 1500 houses in minority concentration villages at the approved unit cost of the Ministry of Rural Development i.e. Rs.38,500/-.

The Empowered Committee approved the construction of 1500 IAY houses for a total cost of Rs.577.50 lakh. Central contribution from MsDP would be Rs.519.75 lakh and Rs.57.75 lakh as State share as per the funding pattern of IAY between Centre and State in the ratio of 90:10. This would, however, be subject to the condition that the State Government should provide number of BPL wait list in the district, number of IAY houses expected from Ministry of Rural Development and deficiency at the end of 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan. The State Government would ensure that the IAY houses would be constructed in villages with the highest minority concentration, BPL families would be selected from the approved waiting list, even if they belonged to communities other than the minority communities, strictly in order of their ranking in the list as per the IAY guidelines. It was stressed that no deviation from the guidelines was permitted. The list of the villages, indicating the number of houses to be constructed would be provided. State share would be provided. To prevent duplication, the Government of Assam would ensure that the units funded under MsDP were reflected in the State Action Plan of the scheme and information also sent to the Ministry concerned. It was agreed to release 50% of the central share as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment.

**(ii) Proposals requiring project details/profile for appraisal and comments of the Ministry/Department concerned in case the State Government desire to pursue the proposal:**

- (a) Building grant for junior colleges/M.E./M.E.M., L.P. schools:** These educational institutes were stated to be provincialised educational institutions. It was clarified that they are similar to aided institutions. The State Government was advised to furnish details about the status of provincialised colleges/schools as to whether it was Govt. owned and managed, existing number

of class rooms, students, number of classes, subjects taught in a detailed project profile/DPR, prepared as per the specification, design, norms laid down for the appropriate level of educational institutions under the relevant scheme of the M/o Human Resource Development. The State Govt. should also indicate their commitment to provide land, state share, staff, recurring expenditure etc. in the DPR. This was required for referring the proposal to the Ministry concerned for approval/advice.

- (b) **Construction of students hostels:** The State Government was advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of Navodaya Vidyalaya hostel for boys and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya for girls hostel, containing details of hostel specification, kitchen, toilets, warden’s quarter, security arrangement, availability of land, non-recurring costs, requirement of furniture, the memorandum of understanding (MOU) to be signed between the department concerned and the village education committee and the hostel management committee, the estimated range of hostel fees including cost of food to be charged etc. for obtaining the advice of the Ministry concerned. It was indicated that the Empowered Committee would give priority to girls hostel for girl schools to promote girls education.
- (c) **Installation of hand pumps and construction of ring wells:** The representative from the Deptt. of Drinking Water Supply stated that they had sufficient fund to cater to the entire requirement of the district. The State Government was however advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of the revised guidelines of ARWSP containing details of unit cost for each type of schemes, Status of population intended to be served, existing water supply and deficit demand due to projected/increased population and depleting sources/system, recharging measures for ensuring sustainability, O &M arrangement, number of beneficiaries in terms of design population likely to be served and why proposed areas are not covered under scheme of Department of Drinking Water Supply, so that it may be referred to them for appraisal.
- (d) **Solar street light:** The State Government officials were advised by the representative of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (NRE) that the proposal should be prepared as per approved unit cost, subsidy and contribution ratio of the scheme of that Ministry. The proposal should be sent only after it was cleared by the Assam Renewable Energy Development Agency.
- (iii) **Summary of projects of Cachar (Assam) district approved by the Empowered Committee:**

Sl. no	Name of the project for Cachar district (Assam)	Sharing ratio	No. of units	Unit cost	Central share	State share	Total cost	1 <sup>st</sup> instalment amount to be released
<b>Rupee in lakh</b>								
<b>Administrative Approval</b>								
	Construction of IAY houses	90:10	1500	0.385	519.75	57.75	577.50	259.88

(iv) **General observations of the Empowered Committee:** The Empowered Committee noted that the rest of the proposals could not be considered as there were insufficient details and justification. The State Government was advised to make out a revised plan for the balance fund available in accordance with the guidelines of the MsDP keeping in view the proposals which have already been approved under MsDP for Assam and other States/UTs. The State Govt. would set up an IT enabled cell for monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the programme and submit their proposal based on the type of hardware and configuration which would be advised by this Ministry shortly. The Empowered Committee advised that the revised plan may focus on a few proposals that address the deficits which could be easily funded in the areas of drinking water, skill development, education, income generating activities, and health, including saturating the schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities. State Government was also advised to prepare a revised plan in such a manner that the various development deficits identified by the baseline survey were addressed in order of their priority.

**Item No.5: Dhubri (Assam)**

The fund tentatively allocated for Dhubri district under the MsDP was Rs.84.30 crore for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period. A power point presentation of the MsDP plan of the district was made by the Deputy Commissioner, Dhubri. The district has 8 revenue circles, 15 development blocks, 168 gram panchayat and 15 anchalik panchayat. The population of the district was 16,37,344 as per 2001 census. The minority population was 75.08% of the total population of the district. Dhubri is a category 'A' district i.e., it has socio-economic and basic amenities parameters below the national average.

**(i) Projects approved**

(a) **Indira Awas Yojana (IAY):** Households having pucca walls was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the order of deficit in the baseline survey. It was submitted that on the basis of household survey in the permanent wait list of BPL families in 2002 were 198687 in the district out of which 10,666 houses constructed by 31/03/08. Target for the construction of IAY houses in the 2009-10 from IAY fund was 6,298 and another 12,596 houses were expected during 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan, leaving a gap of around 169,127 houses in this district. The proposal was for constructing an additional 8978 houses in minority concentration villages at the approved unit cost of the Ministry of Rural Development i.e. Rs.38,500/-.

The Empowered Committee approved the construction of 8978 IAY houses for a total cost of Rs.3456.53 lakh. Central contribution from MsDP would be Rs.3110.88 lakh and Rs.345.65 lakh as State share as per the funding pattern of IAY between Centre and State in the ratio of 90:10. The approval was given on the assurance that the State Government would ensure that the IAY houses would be constructed in villages with the highest minority concentration, BPL families would be selected from the approved waiting list, even if they belonged to

communities other than the minority communities, strictly in order of their ranking in the list as per the IAY guidelines. It was stressed that no deviation from the guidelines was permitted. The list of the villages, indicating the number of houses to be constructed would be provided. State share would be provided. To prevent duplication, the Government of Assam would ensure that the units funded under MsDP were reflected in the State Action Plan of the scheme and information also sent to the Ministry concerned. It was agreed to release 50% of the central share as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment.

**(ii) Projects approved in-principle:**

- (a) Upgradation of an existing ITI at Panbari:** Total work participation and female work participation have been ranked as 8<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively in the baseline survey of the district. Proposal was for the upgradation of an existing ITI at Panbari for a total cost of Rs.287.24 lakh. The State Government representative confirmed that this ITI was functional and land, trainers, staff and recurring cost were available. Representative from Ministry of Labour & Employment stated that ITI Panbari has already been upgraded under the scheme of the Ministry of Labour and Employment. The M/o Labour & Employment had been recommending that the building design, specification, etc should be as per the standards of the 'National Council for Vocational Training' (NCVT) as it would facilitate NCVT recognition and provide better employment prospect to the students. The proposal could be considered provided that the items of upgradation are not covered by the scheme already implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

The Empowered Committee accorded in-principle approval for the upgradation of existing ITI at Panbari for a total cost of Rs.287.24 lakh. This would, however, be subject to the condition that the State Government would provide a detailed project report giving details of the items of work taken up under the scheme of upgradation of existing ITI by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and ensuring that the proposal is prepared as per the specification, design, norms, modern courses/trades and standard laid down by the 'National Council for Vocational Training' (NCVT); locally relevant, modern trades and trades suitable for women should be included and DPR submitted for obtaining the advice of the Ministry of Labour & Employment. Also the State Government would be required to provide details in respect of the numbers and type of courses, numbers of students enrolled and its capacity. It was agreed that 50% of the Central share would be released as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment after obtaining the advice of the M/o Labour & Employment on receipt of DPR.

**(iii) Proposals requiring project details/profile for appraisal and comments of the Ministry/Department concerned in case the State Government desire to pursue the proposal:**

- (a) Strengthening of junior colleges and high schools, strengthening of girls education and special intervention in some Govt. provincialised HS schools and additional class rooms in colleges:** These educational institutes were stated to be provincialised educational institutions. It was clarified that they are similar to aided institutions. The State Government was advised to

furnish the status of provincialised colleges/schools as to whether it was Govt. owned and managed, existing number of class rooms, students, number of classes, subjects taught in a detailed project profile/DPR, prepared as per the specification, design, norms laid down for the appropriate level of educational institutions under the relevant scheme of the M/o Human Resource Development. The State Govt. should also indicate their commitment to provide land, state share, staff, recurring expenditure etc. in the DPR. This was required for referring the proposal to the Ministry concerned for approval/advice.

- (b) **Construction of boys students hostel for B.N. College Dhubri:** The State Government was advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of Navodaya Vidyalaya hostel for boys, containing details of hostel specification, kitchen, toilets, warden's quarter, security arrangement, availability of land, non-recurring costs, requirement of furniture, the memorandum of understanding (MOU) to be signed between the department concerned and the village education committee or the hostel management committee, the estimated range of hostel fees including cost of food to be charged etc. for obtaining the advice of the Ministry concerned.
- (c) **Irrigation through shallow tube wells:** The proposal was for installation of 50 shallow tube wells for irrigation facilities but details regarding criteria for selection of beneficiaries, operation and management of asset, adherence of the proposal with the AIBP scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources were not provided. Hence, State Govt. was advised to prepare a detailed project profile/(DPR) based on Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme of the Ministry of Water Resources, so that it may be referred to them for appraisal.
- (d) **Construction of building for primary health centres:** The State Government was advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per NRHM construction norms, design, specification and standards. Letter of approval of the cost of construction by State Government or State NRHM mission director, commitment of State Govt. to provide staff salary and other recurring cost should be provided. State Govt. should also provide information as to whether proposed primary health centres were functional and land and staff were available for these centres. The proposal for having four members of Grade III (lab tech & ANM), and Grade-IV personnel, was not permissible under MsDP and should be accessed under NRHM. It was also advised that the water supply could be taken up under drinking water supply scheme of the D/o Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development.
- (e) **Providing solar lantern to minority girls students of middle and high schools:** The State Government was advised to prepare a detailed project report/profile as per the specification, funding pattern and Central Government subsidy ceiling, design, norms and standard laid down by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. The proposal should be sent only after it was cleared by the State Renewable Energy Development Authority.

(iv) **Summary of projects of Dhubri (Assam) district approved by the Empowered Committee:**

Sl. no	Name of the project for Dhubri district (Assam)	Sharing ratio	No. of units	Unit cost	Central share	State share	Total cost	1 <sup>st</sup> instalment amount to be released
<b>Rupee in lakh</b>								
<b>Administrative Approval</b>								
a	Construction of IAY houses	90:10	8978	0.385	3110.88	345.65	3456.53	1555.44
<b>In-principle approval</b>								
b	Upgradation of ITI at Panbari	100:00	1	287.24	287.24	-	287.24	143.62
<b>Total</b>					<b>3398.12</b>	<b>345.65</b>	<b>3743.77</b>	<b>1699.06</b>

- (v) **General observations of the Empowered Committee:** The Empowered Committee noted that the rest of the proposals could not be considered as there were insufficient details and justification. The State Government was advised to make out a revised plan for the balance fund available in accordance with the guidelines of the MsDP keeping in view the proposals which have already been approved under MsDP for Assam and other States/UTs. The State Govt. would set up an IT enabled cell for monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the programme and submit their proposal based on the type of hardware and configuration which would be advised by this Ministry shortly. The Empowered Committee advised that the revised plan may focus on a few proposals that address the deficits which could be easily funded in the areas of drinking water, skill development, education, income generating activities, and health, including saturating the schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities. State Government was also advised to prepare a revised plan in such a manner that the various development deficits identified by the baseline survey were addressed in order of their priority.

**Item No.6: Hailakandi (Assam)**

The fund tentatively allocated for Hailakandi district under the MsDP was Rs.44.50 crore for the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period. A power point presentation of the MsDP plan of the district was made by the Deputy Commissioner, Hailakandi. The district has one sub division, 4 revenue circles, 5 development blocks and 327 inhabited villages. The population of the district was 542872 as per 2001 census. The minority population was 58.74% of the total population of the district. Hailakandi is a category 'A' district ie. it has socio-economic and basic amenities parameters below the national average.

(i) **Project approved**

**Indira Awas Yojana (IAY):** Households having pucca walls was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the order of deficit in the baseline survey. It was submitted that in 2008-09 number of IAY houses were constructed 1969. Target for the construction of IAY houses in the 2009-10 from IAY fund was 5206 and another 12015 houses was expected during 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan. The proposal was for



constructing an additional 7140 houses (90 houses for urban areas which is not envisaged in MsDP) in minority concentration villages at the approved unit cost of the Ministry of Rural Development i.e. Rs.38,500/-. However, for ensuring equitable distribution to other sector, it was decided that the amount to be sanctioned may be limited to 50% of the tentative allocation. Hence, number of proposed houses was reduced and this was agreed to by the Joint Secretary, Govt. of Assam. It was stated by the DC that there were around 150 villages having more than 70% minority population and the beneficiaries under MsDP would be selected from such villages.

The Empowered Committee approved the construction of 6357 IAY houses for a total cost of Rs.2447.45 lakh. Central contribution from MsDP would be Rs.2202.71 lakh and Rs.244.74 lakh as State share as per the funding pattern of IAY between Centre and State in the ratio of 90:10. The approval was given on the assurance that the State Government would ensure that the IAY houses would be constructed in villages with the highest minority concentration, BPL families would be selected from the approved waiting list, even if they belonged to communities other than the minority communities, strictly in order of their ranking in the list as per the IAY guidelines. It was stressed that no deviation from the guidelines was permitted. The list of the villages, indicating the number of houses to be constructed would be provided. State share would be provided. To prevent duplication, the Government of Assam would ensure that the units funded under MsDP were reflected in the State Action Plan of the scheme and information also sent to the Ministry concerned. It was agreed to release 50% of the central share as 1<sup>st</sup> instalment.

**(ii) Proposals requiring project details/profile for appraisal and comments of the Ministry/Department concerned in case the State Government desire to pursue the proposal:**

- (a) Installation of hand pumps:** The representative from the Deptt. of Drinking Water Supply stated that they had sufficient fund to cater to the entire requirement of the district. The State Government was however advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR as per the specification and cost of the revised guideline of ARWSP containing details of unit cost for each type of schemes, Status of population intended to be served, existing water supply and deficit demand due to projected/increased population and depleting sources/system, recharging measures for ensuring sustainability, O &M arrangement, number of beneficiaries in terms of design population likely to be served and why proposed areas are not covered under scheme of Department of Drinking Water Supply, so that it may be referred to them for appraisal.
- (b) Additional class rooms in high/higher secondary/madarsa schools:** These educational institutes were stated to be provincialised educational institutions. It was clarified that they are similar to aided institutions. The State Government was advised to furnish details about the status of provincialised colleges/schools as to whether it was Govt. owned and managed, existing

number of class rooms, students, number of classes, subjects taught in a detailed project profile/DPR, prepared as per the specification, design, norms laid down for the appropriate level of educational institutions under the relevant scheme of the M/o Human Resource Development. The State Govt. should also indicate their commitment to provide land, state share, staff, recurring expenditure etc. in the DPR. This was required for referring the proposal to the Ministry concerned for approval/advice. In respect of madarsas, it was pointed out that the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) of the M/o Human Resource Development could be accessed by the Govt. of Assam. To do this the madarsas schools would need to fulfill the conditions required under the scheme. In case there were some items which could not be availed from the scheme of SPQEM of the M/o HRD and were needed to be covered by MsDP, it would be important that proposal was made only after the conditions of the M/o HRD was fulfilled and funds under that Ministry were accessed before it was proposed under MsDP.

- (c) **Computer education infrastructure in schools:** State Govt. was proposed 90 units of computer education infrastructure at a total cost of Rs.270.00 lakh @ Rs. 3.00 lakh per unit for providing computer training to the students during school hours and for vocational training during holidays and non school hours. The State Government was advised to prepare detailed project profile/DPR with details regarding criteria for selection of student, earmarking for girls, details of course content, duration of course, information on the employability prospects after successful completion of training, the approved rates for the courses as contained in the MOU between State Governments and training providing institution (like NIIT) etc. State Education Department should indicate that they have no objection to the use of school premises for the said training.

**(iii) Proposals declined by the Empowered Committee as they were declined/not identified as priority items in the baseline survey/not envisaged in the programme:**

- (a) **Construction of boundary walls of health centres and dispensaries:** construction of boundary walls were not considered a priority item and State Govt. was advised that it may be taken up under State plan resources and MsDP funds could be utilized for the construction of building for the health centres and dispensaries which was functional and do not have their own building or for creation of infrastructure in any other identified priority areas.
- (b) **Construction of toilets in schools & madarsas:** Representative from D/o Drinking Water and Supply stated that the toilets are being provided to all the schools, madarsas and anganwadi centres under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) and sufficient fund is available. State Govt. was advised to send their proposal directly to the D/o Drinking Water Supply.

**(iv) Summary of projects of Hailakandi (Assam) district approved by the Empowered Committee:**

Sl. no	Name of the project for Hailakandi district (Assam)	Sharing ratio	No. of units	Unit cost	Central share	State share	Total cost	1 <sup>st</sup> instalment amount to be released
<b>Rupee in lakh</b>								
<b>Administrative Approval</b>								
a	Construction of IAY houses	90:10	6357	0.385	2202.71	244.74	2447.45	1101.36

- (v) General observations of the Empowered Committee:** The Empowered Committee noted that the rest of the proposals could not be considered as there were insufficient details and justification. The State Government was advised to make out a revised plan for the balance fund available in accordance with the guidelines of the MsDP keeping in view the proposals which have already been approved under MsDP for Assam and other States/UTs. The State Govt. would set up an IT enabled cell for monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the programme and submit their proposal based on the type of hardware and configuration which would be advised by this Ministry shortly. The Empowered Committee advised that the revised plan may focus on a few proposals that address the deficits which could be easily funded in the areas of drinking water, skill development, education, income generating activities, and health, including saturating the schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities. State Government was also advised to prepare a revised plan in such a manner that the various development deficits identified by the baseline survey were addressed in order of their priority.

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