

Highlights of the review of Flagship Programme in Tripura

1. National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS):

- The number of job card holders increased from 4.65 lakh in 2007-08 to 5.99 lakh in 2009 (August). The number of households provided employment increased from 4.16 in 2007-08 to 5.49 in 2008-09.
- The average annual persondays of employment increased from 43 in 2007-08 to 64 in 2008-09. The State proposes to achieve 100 days of employment in 2009-10. Utilisation of funds has been consistent at 95%.
- Innovative projects like development of fish pond have helped poor tribal families in increasing their income. Rubber plantations and brick soled roads are other popular projects.
- Payment through banks increased from 0% in 2007-08 to 50% in 2009(October). Social audit is a continuous process which has detected some anomalies.

2. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY):

- This is one of the most popular schemes. The targets for 2008-09 have been fully achieved. Rs. 38,500 per house provided under the scheme is not adequate.
- Programme implementation is transparent. The permanent IAY lists are displayed in the Gram Panchayat offices and being followed category-wise and ward-wise.
- Convergence of programmes with TSC and smokeless chulahs is gradually picking up

3. National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP):

- There has been 100% utilisation of funds for Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme. 80% payments are being made through banks/post offices.
- Indira Gandhi Widow Pension Scheme and Indira Gandhi Disability Pension Scheme have not yet taken off. The State Government has their own widow pension and disability pension schemes. State proposed to avail the central scheme to reduce the state's burden

4. Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY):

- Progress in connecting habitations of 1000+ population is about 75 out of a total of 166. Roads constructed appeared well maintained
- There is need to expedite implementation under 500-999 population category of habitations

5. National Rural Health Mission (NRHM):

- Infrastructure created under NRHM was greatly appreciated by the public. Funds for maintenance and untied activities under the programme have helped the state government to a great extent.
- The number of institutional deliveries has gone up significantly(73% in 2008-09). According to NFHS, the total full immunisation coverage is only 49.8%. However, according to service statistics, DPT and polio coverage is 89%, BCG is 95%, and measles is 88%. “Ashas” contributed a lot

6. Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS):

- During 2008-09, 2527 new AWCs have been sanctioned. The process of recruitment is underway and would become functional by March 2010.
- This programme is doing quite well. The pre-school component to be delivering results. Detailed manuals are available for AWWs as a guide. New instructions for maintaining only 4 registers have not reached them.
- The AWC cost norm needs revision. Convergence with NREGA for labour component and TSC for latrines may help to some extent.

7. Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP):

- There are a large number of slipped back villages – which is more than the total target for Bharat Nirman. This is due to drying up of the original sources. This could also be due to faulty planning
- Quality affected(high iron presence) habitations are very large in number(7031), which is 91 % of the total habitations.
- Main reasons for slow progress are (i) lack of contractors and (ii) Lack of rigs for drilling.

8. Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC):

- Individual household latrines achievement is 184% in 2007-08, in 2008-09 achievement is 95%. As regard latrines in schools and Anganwari Centres progress is slow.

9. Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):

- Performance of SSA in Tripura, according to the indicators is very good. The ratio of primary to upper primary schools at 2:1 is ideal. All indicators are showing improvement, notably gross enrolment rates at primary level (especially for STs) and dropout rates.
- Infrastructure (*classrooms, computer rooms, drinking water facilities and separate latrines for girls and boys*)are satisfactory.

- There are a large number of untrained teachers. State Government has approached IGNOU for short term training. Quality of the teacher training as well as the academic levels of the students is a cause for concern.

10. Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDM):

- The scheme has been very well received in the state. Providing MDMs to upper primary school children started in phases.
- Weekly menu is uniform throughout the state. Food is mostly being cooked by women SHGs. There are requests for upward revision in the cooking costs.
- Anecdotal evidence show increase in the enrolment and attendance, decline in the dropout rate and increased nutrition. An impact study is recommended to ascertain this.

11. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM):

- Agartala is the only mission city and has 2 projects sanctioned under JNNURM; (a) water supply under UIG sub-mission and (b) Basic Services for the Urban Poor (low cost houses for slum dwellers). Progress is satisfactory
- Late release of funds causes delays which in turn lead to cost over runs. This is a genuine problem and needs attention.
- There are pending proposals for the last 2 years for consideration by the GoI. The major being the “sewerage project for Agartala”.

12. Technology Mission for Horticulture in the North East (TMNE):

- This is one of the most successful and most appreciated CSS in the north-east. There has been some slippage on the ‘On farm water management sector schemes’ due to late release of funds in 2008-09.
- Floriculture is picking up in the state. Orchids and anthurium are being grown. The green houses are very well maintained. SHGs who have taken up farm-based floriculture are doing very well.
- No activities have been taken up under the 3 other sub-missions for Research, Marketing and Food Processing.
- State Government has suggested for revision of Cost norms of all the components as well as subsidy. Transport costs are extremely high and need to be subsidised.

13. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP):

- Financial progress under this scheme in 2007-08 looks good but the physical progress doesn’t match and falls far short of the targets.

- Timely release of funds is essential as the working season is very short. The cost norms need revision.

14. Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY):

- Physical progress under this scheme in 2007-08 and 2008-09 has been slow. In 2009-10 not much progress expected. Survey of unelectrified villages and electrified villages needing intensification is almost complete.
- This programme needs a push, especially in view of the importance of electricity connectivity for development and the quality of life.

15. Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme:

- The APDRP has in fact been closed with effect from 31 March 2009. Feeder metering to the extent of 100% and consumer metering to the extent of 94.80% has been achieved.
- The Revised APDRP has started and the State will soon be submitting 16 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all their eligible projects.

Common problems/suggestions made by the State Government on the Flagship programmes

- Late release of funds by central ministries.
- Need to permit states to provide more than 100 days employment a year under NREGA and raise the daily wage rate to Rs.100.
- Need to revise the unit cost norms especially for the north-east.
- Increasing the target under IAY for Tripura due to re-grouping of villages
- Availability of raw materials especially stones, bricks and bitumen is a big constraint.
- Lack of contractors is another big constraint.
- Under PMGSY, a large number approvals of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are pending at Delhi
- Acute shortage of doctors and para-medics

SUMMARY
REVIEW OF FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES AND OTHER KEY ISSUES IN TRIPURA

(By Firoza Mehrotra, Special Consultant (NE, WCD, VAC, H&H) Planning Commission)

This is part of a continuous process and the first in the series of visits and reviews of national flagship programmes in Tripura, as directed by the Prime Minister of India. This report is based on desk review of data of the central ministries, meetings with staff of the Government of Tripura, field visits and interaction with field officers and recipients and non-recipients of government programmes¹.

Important issues raised with Chief Minister of Government of Tripura during Annual Plan 2009-10 discussions in Planning Commission.

1. The State was complimented for their commitment to good governance through transparency, vibrant democratic decentralization, initiatives under public private partnership in medical education & latex rubber Plant and effective financial management system Planned Development by the state is helping in improving the quality of life of the people living below the poverty line and the state is giving specific attention to their needs, for inclusive growth. The State was also appreciated for various health indicators - birth rate, death rate, infant morality rate and total fertility rate which are 17.1, 5.7, 32 and 2.2 respectively and better than the all India indicators of 26, 8.7, 58 and 2.9 and for doing so well in agriculture, horticulture and fisheries.
2. The State needs to address the problem of the 1700 untrained teachers as well as the issue of out of school children whose number is 2000 at present. The Chief Minister later clarified that 70% of the teachers have been trained and 30% are expected to be trained in next two years. The State was appreciated for improving nutrition of the children by providing eggs under the mid-day meal scheme.
3. The State has agreed to fulfill its commitment made to the Planning Commission that it would complete the three medium irrigation projects namely Khowai by March 2009 and Gumti and Manuwhich by March 2010.
4. In the power sector, the T&D losses of the State which were 33% during 2008-09 have been projected to be about 37% for 2009-10 and need the immediate attention of the State. The gap between average cost of generation which is Rs. 2.81 per unit as against the cost of supply of Rs. 3.29 per unit, is of 48 paise which needs to be covered.
5. The State Government was advised to ensure that the Baramura Gas Power Project, Palatana Power Project and Monarchak Power Plant are completed expeditiously. The necessary transmission and distribution lines for these projects should also be provided and if necessary the existing lines should be upgraded.

¹ Meetings with State Government officers and field trips (details at Annex 1), on 28th & 29th July and from 26th to 28th October 2009 to Subalsinghcherra, Baikunthapur, Hezamara, Kambukcherra, Mohanpur, Lambucherra, Bagma, Jalema, Atharabola, Udaipur, Killa, Amrongpathar, Gamaria, Amarpur and Agartala to visit flagship programmes.

6. The Planning Commission expressed concern about the degraded forest area which is 50% of the total 3000 sq. kms of forest area. Concern was also expressed about the untreated sewage from about 1300 households in Agartala town which is flowing into the Howrah River.

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES:

15. National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)

The number of job card holders has been steadily increasing from 4.65 lakh in 2007-08 to 5.99 lakh upto August 2009 and so have the number of households provided employment from 4.16 in 2007-08 to 5.49 in 2008-09. The average annual persondays of employment generated per household increased from 43 in 2007-08 to 64 in 2008-09. The State proposes to provide 100 days of employment in 2009-10. The average wage rate is presently Rs.100 per day, which is the same as the minimum wage in the state. Since Government of India is only providing Rs.80 per day, the State is bearing the remaining Rs.20 per day. It was good to see some innovative projects like development of a 10 ha. fish pond reclaimed from marshy lands of 27 Jamatia tribal families, who have now formed 2 SHGs who are harvesting the fish and sharing the profits. Each family is earning about Rs 2000 per month from this. Rubber plantations and brick soled roads are other very popular projects that I visited. Payment through banks has increased from 0% in 2007-08 to hopefully 50% by the end of October 2009. However there are some delays in payments. Social audit is a continuous process which has detected some anomalies. Utilisation of funds has been consistent at 95%. Convergence with other departments is being encouraged and promoted.

16. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)

This is one of the most popular schemes. In the field there is a constant clamour for IAY houses. The targets for 2008-09 have been fully achieved by mid 2009-10. The Rs. 38,500 per house provided under the scheme is not adequate. Credit under DRI (at 4% interest) was not being tracked and it is doubtful if anyone was availing of it. The permanent IAY lists, based on the 1997 BPL surveys are displayed in the Gram Panchayat offices. The lists are being followed, category-wise and ward-wise. Convergence between latrines built under the TSC and smokeless chulahs with IAY houses is happening to some extent and is being promoted. The houses are being built by the beneficiaries themselves according to a specified design made by the department who is also procuring and supplying GI sheets to the beneficiaries for the roofing.

17. National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

While there has been 100% utilisation of funds for Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, the other 2 pension schemes, ie. Indira Gandhi Widow Pension Scheme and Indira Gandhi Disability Pension Scheme had not yet taken off. The State Government has their own widow pension and disability pension schemes under which they give Rs. 400 per month to the beneficiaries. They will soon be availing of the central scheme to the extent of Rs.200 per beneficiary and reducing the state's burden to that extent. The State Government is contributing Rs. 200 per month to the Gol amount of Rs.200 for old age pension. Pensions are paid monthly according to

officials. Some beneficiaries that I talked to admitted the receipt of Rs.400 per month, more or less regularly. According to the State Government, 80% payments are being made through banks/post offices. All reports are being sent on-line and creation of beneficiary data-base is also complete.

18. Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

This programme is being implemented by the National Building and Construction Company (NBCC) and HLCL. Though progress in connecting habitations of 1000+ population, appears to be only 75 out of a total of 166, it may be noted that 79 roads are under construction, leaving a balance of only 12. Similarly in the 500-999 population category of habitations, 220 and 318 habitations have been connected and are 'in progress' respectively, leaving a balance of 47. The Planning Commission in its 2009-10 Annual Plan meeting with the Chief Minister of Tripura pointed out the need to expedite action on this programme. More visible progress is expected this year and 95% achievement is expected by March 2011 for habitations of over 500 population. During the field visits many boards indicating roads were PMGSY roads were visible. Some of the roads visited, appeared well maintained.

19. National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)

Infrastructure created under NRHM was greatly appreciated and welcomed. Staff were also very appreciative of the funds for maintenance and untied activities. This has made the surroundings much neater and cleaner and made the service delivery more responsive. The number of institutional deliveries has gone up significantly and was 73% in 2008-09. Though according to NFHS, the total full immunisation coverage is only 49.8%; according to service statistics, DPT and polio coverage is 89%, BCG is 95%, and measles is 88%. Much of the credit for this goes to the Ashas who seem to be doing a good job. They also appear well trained and motivated. They were requesting to be given an honorarium, instead of incentives.

20. Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS)

During 2008-09, 2527 new AWCs have been sanctioned for the State. The process of recruitment is presently underway and they should become functional by March 2010. Visits to the field revealed that this programme is doing quite well.

- The pre-school component appears to be delivering. There is a detailed manual that all AWWs use as a guide and all the AWCs I visited had teaching learning aids / pre-school kits. The quality was quite poor but at least they existed.
- Supplementary nutrition in the form of khichri is being supplied regularly, and without a break. During last year, SNP was provided for 295 days (300 days is the norm). The beneficiaries are given only khichri. Sometimes a few vegetables are mixed in. All beneficiaries from 6 months to lactating mothers get khichri. Variety in the menu is suggested as eating the same thing all 6 days a week can become monotonous and coming to the AWC everyday could also be difficult for many mothers and pregnant women. Perhaps there can be a different fare for children between 6 months and one year who may have difficulty chewing certain foods.

- AWW still maintains 13 to 18 registers. New instructions regarding maintaining only 4 registers do not seem to have reached them.
- Both the AWCs I visited had a main room, a kitchen, a store room and a toilet. The cost of construction is about Rs 3 lakh, whereas the MWCD provides only Rs. 1.75 lakh. The cost norm needs to be revised. However they were also advised to converge with NREGA for labour component and TSC for latrines.
- Construction of AWCs should be made permissible under NREGA.
- The State Government has issued strict instructions making AWWs responsible for getting all the 6 year olds enrolled in primary schools.
- Five pairs of chappals have been provided to each AWC from state resources to teach the children to use them while going to the toilet. Basic hygiene and sanitation are given prime importance.
- All AWCs have to ensure that 5 plants are planted each year, in their surroundings.
- Out of 7,979 AWCs, 5139 (64.40%) have their own buildings or they are under construction.

21. Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)

In Tripura all the habitations have some kind of rural water supply, and therefore there are no uncovered habitations. However there are a large number of slipped back villages – even more than the total target for Bharat Nirman. According to the State Government, this is due to the original sources drying up. It is not clear if this is due to faulty planning at the first stage itself or something else. It requires further analysis and can be used as a learning for future.

Quality affected habitations are also a very large number – 7031, which is 91 % of the total habitations. The main problem is iron in the water. Progress in this regard in the last two years has been 58% in 2007-08 and 67% in 08-09. Utilisation of funds has also been only 58% in 2007-08 and 76% in 2008-09.

Performance of this programme has been slow for two main reasons – (i) lack of contractors (ii) Lack of rigs for drilling.

A new department of Drinking Water and Sanitation has been created just last year to give special focus to drinking water and sanitation. It is therefore hoped that things will improve this year.

22. Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)

While this programme is doing well as far as individual household latrines is concerned, having achieved 184% in 2007-08, 95% in 2008-09 and so far this year already 50% of the targets; progress regarding the other components, namely latrines in schools and anganwari centres was quite slow in 2008-09. The main reason for this was cited to be late release of funds and that the unit costs are too low and not realistic. As against the approved norm of Rs.5000 for a AWC toilet, the actual cost works out to Rs. 12,000. Similarly for the school toilet blocks, the approved unit cost is Rs. 20,000 whereas the actual cost comes to about Rs.62,000. Besides moving Gol for revision in the cost norms, for AWC toilets, they were advised to build half doors, install smaller size bowls, and lower the height of the structure, to suit children and also lower costs.

The individual household latrines that I saw in the field appeared to have been constructed as best they could, within the constraints of resources. Many

beneficiaries had contributed their own resources and built bamboo mat walls or just use plastic sheets as walls and doors. The beneficiaries, especially the women, I spoke to were very happy with the latrines which they were using.

23. Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

- Performance of SSA in Tripura, according to the indicators can be considered very good.
- The ratio of primary to upper primary schools at 2:1 is ideal.
- All indicators are showing improvement, notably gross enrolment rates at primary level especially for schedule tribes and drop out rates.
- Infrastructure by way of classrooms, computer rooms, drinking water facilities and separate latrines for girls and boys are satisfactory. All sanctions for additionalities have been operationalised/implemented in a timely manner.
- There are a large number of untrained teachers and so the State Government has approached IGNOU to conduct some short term training through distance mode.
- Activity based learning has been introduced in a few schools. Tripura is perhaps the second state after Tamil Nadu to have taken this up.
- I visited a number of schools. They were neat and clean and the children looked happy. Separate toilets existed for girls and boys but some were kept locked.
- A vocational training centre for tailoring in Gamaria that I visited was very popular including with some boys. These are additional classes conducted during recess and on week-ends.
- The State is conducting regular reviews of text books and curriculum through SCERT.
- Lack of trained personnel and other facilities especially aids for children with special needs was a challenge being faced by the State.
- Quality of the teacher training as well as the academic levels of the students is a cause for concern.

24. Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDM)

- This scheme has been very well received in the state and is greatly appreciated both by the students, teachers and administration.
- Providing MDMs to upper primary school children started in phases with Independent Upper primary schools being taken up first, accounting for the low achievement in 2008-09. However from this year all upper primary schools will be providing MDMs.
- There is a decline in the number of students approved by PAB/GoI at the primary level. However the State Government clarified that this is a mistake and GoI has assured that it will be revised.
- Weekly menu is uniform throughout the state – 2 days – khichri; 2 days – egg curry rice; and 2 days – rice dal and mixed vegetables including soya chunks. When asked how they manage to provide eggs, they mentioned that the high cost of eggs, is off set by the low cost of khichri. Children I spoke to, during my visits, were very satisfied with the food and variety.

- Food is mostly being cooked by women Self Help Groups. One group I met, requested for upward revision in the cooking costs.
- The State Government is contributing 50 paisa per child per day as cooking costs as against the minimum contribution required according to GoI norms, of 20 paisa. This shows the commitment of the State Government.
- On the basis of anecdotal evidence, it has been held that enrolment and attendance has increased, drop out rate has declined and nutrition has increased. However, in the absence of empirical evidence this can not be fully accepted. An impact study is recommended to ascertain this.
- The State made a strong plea for revision in the cost norms both for cooking cost and cost of cooking sheds and provision for a dining room.
- The community is quite vigilant and acts as a watch dog for this and other such schemes.

25. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM)

- Agartala is the only mission city and has 2 projects sanctioned under JNNURM, one for water supply under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) sub-mission and one for basic services for the urban poor (low cost houses for slum dwellers), which are detailed above. They are both going according to schedule.
- Late release of funds causes delays which in turn leads to cost over runs. This is a genuine problem and needs attention.
- The state Government requested early decision on their proposal for a sewerage project for Agartala which is pending with the GoI for the last 2 years. Back queries are being made in piece-meal causing further delays.
- I visited the Housing complex at Agartala for rehabilitating the slum dwellers. It was very well designed – a 25 sq mts unit of 2 rooms, a kitchen, a latrine-bath, and a small balcony. Common facilities included street lighting, garden and a community centre. The location was also very central and well located. Work should be completed within 5 months of getting the last instalment.

The State has 4 projects under the sub-mission Urban Infrastructure Development for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) - Roads & Storm Water Drains at Belonia N.P.; Covered Drain of Ranirbazar N.P.; Roads & Storm Water Drains at Kailashahar N.P and Improvement of Roads at Kamalpur N.P. All 4 projects are being implemented by NBCC and work has started on all 4.

Under Sub-mission – Integrated Housing and Slum Development (IHSDP), the state has 3 sanctioned projects - IHSDP Project at Teliamura, West District; IHSDP Project at Belonia, South Dist and IHSDP Project at Ranirbazar, West District. For 400, 447 and 587 houses respectively. These projects are being implemented by the individual Nagar Panchayats. Work on the Teliamura project has started. The delay in sanctioning of projects not only causes a lot of uncertainty but also leads to large cost overruns. The State Government suggested that when sanctions are delayed, they should be allowed to use current Schedule of Rates (SOR).

The State Government is quite responsive to the needs and requirements in urban areas as well and especially towards the weaker sections of society.

26. Technology Mission for Horticulture in the North East (TMNE)

This is one of the most successful and also one of the most appreciated centrally sponsored schemes. It is most appropriate for the north-east. Almost all the physical performance targets have been achieved over the years. There has been some slippage on the 'On farm water management sector schemes' due to late release of funds in 2008-09. I visited some green houses where orchids and anthuriums were being grown. The green houses in Raghunathpur and Laxmibil Gram Panchayats were very well maintained and the plants looked very healthy. I also interacted with some women of the 30 Self help Groups of Laxmibil G.P., 20 of which had taken up farm-based floriculture and were doing very well. To support these SHGs the district administration has converged services under NREGA and SGSY.

No activities have been taken up under the 3 other sub-missions for Research, Marketing and Food Processing. There is no research station in Tripura and in the absence of private entrepreneurship, marketing and processing is not taking off. These should be necessary next steps and are very essential if the momentum created has to be maintained.

Some observations / suggestions made by the State Government are:

- Besides cultivation of anthurium and orchids for markets outside the state, they want permission to support cultivation of roses, tube-roses, gladiolis and marigolds which are the varieties much in demand in the state itself.
- Cost norms of all the components as well as subsidy needs to be revised. Transport costs are extremely high and need to be subsidised. They were fixed 9 years ago.
- Under the programme at present, only winter vegetables and that too only cabbage, cauliflower, tomato and capsicum are permitted. The State requested that they be allowed to cultivate summer vegetables as well and also leave the choice of vegetables (both winter and summer) to the state.
- Potato seed production should also be allowed as potato is an essential crop for the north-east.
- Release of funds should be timely especially under this programme as planting etc. depends on seasons which can not wait for releases. Once a particular season is missed, one has to wait another full year.

27. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)

Financial progress under this scheme in 2007-08 looks good but the physical progress doesn't match and falls far short of the targets. For 2008-09, it appears that funds were released only in the last week of March 2009. Timely release of funds is very essential as the working season in the north-east is very short. This year also the working season is shortly going to start but no funds have been released as yet. Besides, the cost norms need revision. The Lift Irrigation Scheme at Amrongpathar that I visited was running very well and farmers were now taking 3 crops a year compared to 1 crop (rain fed) before the irrigation waters became available. However, no water / user charges were being realised. In fact, in Tripura, if the cost of operation is more than Rs.5,000, the PWD Water Resources Wing has to bear the cost and only if it is less than Rs.5,000 does the panchayat pick up the cost.

28. Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY)

Physical progress under this scheme in 2007-08 and 2008-09 has been zilch. Even in 2009-10 not too much progress can be expected. Survey of unelectrified villages and electrified villages needing intensification (sr. no: 2 and 3) is almost complete and work in this regard will be completed only by December 2010. It is only after this is complete that connectivity can be given to BPL households (sr. no: 1). This programme needs a push, especially in view of the importance of electricity connectivity for development and the quality of life.

15. Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme

The APDRP has in fact been closed with effect from 31 March 2009. Feeder metering to the extent of 100% and consumer metering to the extent of 94.80% has been achieved. The Revised APDRP has started and the State will soon be submitting 16 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all their eligible projects.

Some common problems / suggestions made by the State Government regarding the Flagship programmes are :

- Late release of funds by central ministries.
- Need to permit states to provide more than 100 days employment a year under NREGA and raise the daily wage rate to Rs.100.
- Need to revise the unit cost norms especially for the north-east.
- Target under IAY for Tripura should be increased since they have a special problem of re-grouped villages (new group of houses of earlier isolated forest dwellers) and families living partly on the other side of the border.
- Availability of raw materials especially stones, bricks and bitumen is a big constraint.
- Lack of contractors is another big constraint. In Dhalia district, there are instances when tenders had to be invited 5 times in order to be able to allot work to a credible party.
- Under PMGSY, a large number approvals of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are pending at Delhi – 11 DPRs for habitations of 500+ population and 114 DPRs for upgradation
- Acute shortage of doctors and para-medics – there being 763 (51.5%) vacancies of doctors, and 1111 (55.5%) vacancies of Multi Purpose Workers. However Ashas, who are recruited locally are nearly all in position (7347 in position) with only 20 vacancies. Special training of para-medics using facilities within and outside the state was suggested.
- Slow progress and absorptive capacity for new constructions was cited as a constraint.
- Difficulty in connectivity and extremist activity was another acute problem.

Special issues of importance

Connectivity to the North-East and within it, is one of the most salient pre-requisites for development, peace and prosperity. Some special issues with regard to connectivity that need attention are as follows:

1. The new railway line upto Agartala has been completed. Agartala Sabroom railway line, has been identified as a national project and needs to be taken up on priority.
2. Conversion of the railway line from meter gauge to broad gauge from Lumding, Badalpur, Kumarghat is most crucial for movement of food grains and other raw material and needs to be expedited. There appears to be a law and order problem in North Cachar Hills Areas of Assam, for which Tripura being at the end of the railway line, is being made to suffer. This matter needs attention.
3. The 4 laning of NH - 44, up to Agartala connecting East West corridor was announced by the Prime Minister in October 2005, during his visit to Tripura. Since nothing has started on the ground, there is much discontentment. National Highways Authority of India is preparing the DPRs. This needs to be expedited.
4. Presently NH-44 is the life line of the State. Adverse topography, high rainfall and civic unrest could disrupt this life line. There is therefore urgent need to have an alternate to National Highway 44, by way of a 2 lane Highway from Kukital (Assam border) to Sabroom, via Dharamnagr, Kailashahar, Manikbhandar, Teliamura, Amarpur and Rupaichari.
5. The State Government has also been pressing for more direct air connectivity to Delhi from Agartala and better cargo handling facilities at Agartala airport. Early operationalisation of Kailashahar and Manikbhandar (Kamalpur) airports is another constant request. Feasibility study has perhaps been conducted for Kamalpur and Kailashahar airports for ATR operation.
6. The issue of trade ties with Bangladesh needs special attention of the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, so that trade with Bangladesh improves which will help in the economic development of North Eastern Region. Presently, the State of Tripura has to import bricks and stones slabs from Bangladesh to carryout construction activities. DCH has asked the Chief Minister to submit a paper so that he can forward it to the Ministry of Commerce for its consideration.
7. The flow of funds from banks and other financial institution is very poor. There is no private investment. The CD ratio of the state is 35% as compared to All India 75%

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This is part of a continuous process and the first in the series of visits and reviews of national flagship programmes in Tripura, as directed by the Prime Minister of India. This report is based on desk review of data provided by the central ministries, meetings with staff of the Government of Tripura, field visits and interaction with field officers and recipients and non-recipients of government programmes².

To set the background, some key statistics regarding Tripura, especially in relation to some other states in the north-east are given below:

Sr	Indicator	Assam	Manipur	Tripura	All India
1	Area (sq km)*	78,438	22,237	10,486	31,66,414
2	No: of districts*	23	9	4	593
3	No: of blocks*	214	34	38	5,550
4	No: of towns*	125	33	23	5,161
5	No: of villages*	26,312	2,391	870	6,38,588
6	Total Population (lakhs) *	266.38	23.88	31.91	102,70.15
7	Rural Population*	232.49	18.18	26.48	74,16.60
8	ST Population*	33.08	7.41	9.93	8,43.26
9	Population density*	339.83	97.05	305.07	324.85
10	Sex ratio*	935.00	978.00	948.00	933.00
11	Total fertility rate	3.00	NA	2.2	2.9
12	Infant mortality rate	66.00	14.00	32.00	58.00
13	Maternal mortality rate	490.00	NA	NA	301.00
14	Crude birth rate	27.00	18.60	17.00	26.00
15	Crude death rate	9.70	5.40	5.70	8.70
16	Total population below poverty	36.09	28.54	34.44	26.02
17	Total literacy rate	63.3	70.5	73.2	64.8
18	Female literacy rate	54.6	60.5	64.9	53.7
19	Male literacy rate	71.3	80.3	81.0	75.3

* for 2001

Important issues raised with Chief Minister of Government of Tripura during Annual Plan 2009-10 discussions in Planning Commission.

7. The State was complimented for their commitment to good governance through transparency, vibrant democratic decentralization, initiatives under public private partnership in medical education & latex rubber Plant and effective financial management system Planned Development by the state is helping in improving the quality of life of the people living below the poverty line and the state is giving

² Meetings with State Government officers and field trips (details at Annex 1), on 28th & 29th July and from 26th to 28th October 2009 to Subalsinghcherra, Baikunthapur, Hezamara, Kambucherra, Mohanpur, Lambucherra, Bagma, Jalema, Atharabola, Udaipur, Killa, Amrongpathar, Gamaria, Amarpur and Agartala to visit flagship programmes.

specific attention to their needs, for inclusive growth. The State was also appreciated for various health indicators - birth rate, death rate, infant mortality rate and total fertility rate which are 17.1, 5.7, 32 and 2.2 respectively and better than the all India indicators of 26, 8.7, 58 and 2.9 and for doing so well in agriculture, horticulture and fisheries.

8. The Deputy Chairman Planning Commission advised the State to utilise funds under NLCPR, RSVY, BADP, PMGSY, Bharat Nirman and Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways for meeting the demands for replacement of SPT bridges, development of State Highway and major district roads.
9. The State needs to address the problem of the 1700 untrained teachers as well as the issue of out of school children whose number is 2000 at present. The Chief Minister later clarified that 70% of the teachers have been trained and 30% are expected to be trained in next two years. The State was appreciated for improving nutrition of the children by providing eggs under the mid-day meal scheme.
10. The State has agreed to fulfill its commitment made to the Planning Commission that it would complete the three medium irrigation projects namely Khowai by March 2009 and Gumti and Manuwhich by March 2010.
11. In the power sector, the T&D losses of the State which were 33% during 2008-09 have been projected to be about 37% for 2009-10 and need the immediate attention of the State. The gap between average cost of generation which is Rs. 2.81 per unit as against the cost of supply of Rs. 3.29 per unit, is of 48 paise which needs to be covered.
12. The State Government was advised to ensure that the Baramura Gas Power Project, Palatana Power Project and Monarchak Power Plant are completed expeditiously. The necessary transmission and distribution lines for these projects should also be provided and if necessary the existing lines should be upgraded.
13. The Planning Commission expressed concern about the degraded forest area which is 50% of the total 3000 sq. kms of forest area. Concern was also expressed about the untreated sewage from about 1300 households in Agartala town which is flowing into the Howrah River.
14. It was pointed out that the State has been doing very well in sericulture, handloom and handcrafts and should develop tourist spots to attract domestic and foreign tourists to the State.
15. The State needs to take a holistic view in respect of bamboo, which should be used for commercial and industrial purposes like making roofs and doors of houses etc.

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES:

29. National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)

		PHYSICAL		(in Lakh Number)	
Sl.No.	Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto August,09)	Total
1	No. of job cards issued(in lakh nos.)	4.658	6.006	5.999	16.663
2	No.of household provided employment	4.167	5.49	4.031	13.688
3	Persondays (in lakhs)	181.05	351.115	124.041	656.206
4	Average persondays (per HH)	43	64	30.77	137.77
5	Average wage rate	Rs. 80/=	Rs. 85/=	RS.100/=	
6	Mode of payment (cash/ through bank in %)	100% in cash	93% in cash and rest through bank/Post	86% in cash and rest through bank/post	Planning for 50% in cash by October 09
7	Periodicity of payment	within 15 days			
8	Kind of works taken up	1.Water conservation & water harvesting 2. Drought proofing 3. Micro-irrigation works 4. Provision of irrigation facility to land owned 5. Renovation of traditional waterbodies 6. Land development 7. Flood control and protection 8. Rural connectivity 9. Other activities			
		FINANCIAL		Rs. In lakhs	
Sl.No.	Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto August,09)	Total
1	Funds released by Gol (in lakhs)	16965.96	45493.48	32545.7	95005.14
2	Funds released by State (in lakhs)	2229.79	4808.128	3803.199	10841.117
3	Total funds available including opening balance (in lakhs)	21904.89	51400.27	39198.545	112503.705
4	Expenditure(in %)	95	95	42	

The number of job card holders has been steadily increasing from 4.65 lakh in 2007-08 to 5.99 lakh upto August 2009 and so have the number of households provided employment from 4.16 in 2007-08 to 5.49 in 2008-09. The average annual persondays of employment generated per household increased from 43 in 2007-08 to 64 in 2008-09. The State proposes to provide 100 days of employment in 2009-

10. The average wage rate is presently Rs.100 per day, which is the same as the minimum wage in the state. Since Government of India is only providing Rs.80 per day, the State is bearing the remaining Rs.20 per day. It was good to see some innovative projects like development of a 10 ha. fish pond reclaimed from marshy lands of 27 Jamatia tribal families, who have now formed 2 SHGs who are harvesting the fish and sharing the profits. Each family is earning about Rs 2000 per month from this. Rubber plantations and brick soled roads are other very popular projects that I visited. Payment through banks has increased from 0% in 2007-08 to hopefully 50% by the end of October 2009. However there are some delays in payments. Social audit is a continuous process which has detected some anomalies. Utilisation of funds has been consistent at 95%. Convergence with other departments is being encouraged and promoted.

Some problems / suggestions made by the State Government are:

- Late release of funds by MoRD New Delhi
- Need to permit states to provide more than 100 days employment a year
- Daily wage rate should be raised to Rs.100.
- Centre should pay the 2% charges that bank correspondents are asking for in view of lack of banking facilities in the north-east.
- Increase in the material component to over 40%, especially in hilly areas near cities, where land is scarce.

30. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)

Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)

YEAR	2007-08		2008 -09		2009-10 (Up to Sept'09)	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
No of House constructed	12,870	8,518	24,871	15,319 (24,871 completed in 2009-10)	21,227	3,584 (14,767 in progress)

FINANCIAL

(Rs.in lakhs)

	2007-08	2008 -09	2009-10
Central Allocation	26,54.44	86,17.8	73,55.74
Central funds released	23,99.06 (90.38%)	61,47.02 (71.32%)	22,87.39 (31.10%)
State Contribution	8,15.4	10,17.238	4,04.12
Total Funds available	32,14.46	71,64.25	26,91.51
Utilisation of Funds(%)	2843.19 (88.45%)	6113.26 (85.33 %)	(59.07%)

This is one of the most popular schemes. In the field there is a constant clamour for IAY houses. The targets for 2008-09 have been fully achieved by mid 2009-10. The Rs. 38,500 per house provided under the scheme is not adequate. Credit under DRI (at 4% interest) was not being tracked and it is doubtful if anyone was availing of it.

The permanent IAY lists, based on the 1997 BPL surveys are displayed in the Gram Panchayat offices. The lists are being followed, category-wise and ward-wise. Convergence between latrines built under the TSC and smokeless chulahs with IAY houses is happening to some extent and is being promoted. The houses are being built by the beneficiaries themselves according to a specified design made by the department who is also procuring and supplying GI sheets to the beneficiaries for the roofing.

Some problems / suggestions made by the State Government are:

- Need to revise the unit cost from Rs.38,500 to Rs.60,000 plus Rs.25,000 for making them earth quake resistant since Tripura falls in zone 5.
- Availability of raw materials especially bricks is a big constraint.
- Target for Tripura should be increased since they have a special problem of re-grouped villages (new group of houses of earlier isolated forest dwellers) and families living partly on the other side of the border.

31. National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

(Rs.in lakhs))

Financial Status	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto Sept'09)	TOTAL
Allocation by GOI	26,16.96	37,30.09	46,05	109,52.05
Released by GOI	26,48.32	32,70.62	11,87	71,05.94
Opening Balance	5,72.76	6,04.26	0	11,77.02
Funds available	32,21.08	38,74.88	11,87	82,82.96
Expenditure	26,16.82	38,74.88	9,79.80	74,71.5
Utilization of funds (in %)	98.81%	118.47 %	82.54%	90.21%

Physical Achievement	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (up to Sept'09)	Total
No of Beneficiaries under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme	1,36,592	1,36,592	1,36,592	Same persons
No of Beneficiaries under National Family Benefit Scheme	2,498	843	1,024	4,365
No of Beneficiaries under Indira Gandhi Widow Pension Scheme	0	0	0	0
No of Beneficiaries under Indira Gandhi Disability Pension Scheme	0	0	0	0

While there has been 100% utilisation of funds for Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, the other 2 pension schemes, ie. Indira Gandhi Widow Pension Scheme

and Indira Gandhi Disability Pension Scheme had not yet taken off. The State Government has their own widow pension and disability pension schemes under which they give Rs. 400 per month to the beneficiaries. They will soon be availing of the central scheme to the extent of Rs.200 per beneficiary and reducing the state's burden to that extent. The State Government is contributing Rs. 200 per month to the Gol amount of Rs.200 for old age pension. Pensions are paid monthly according to officials. Some beneficiaries that I talked to admitted the receipt of Rs.400 per month, more or less regularly. According to the State Government, 80% payments are being made through banks/post offices. All reports are being sent on-line and creation of beneficiary data-base is also complete.

32. Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

	With Population of			New Connectivity (Length in Km)	Upgradation (Length in Km) [60% Ug & 40% Renewal]
	1000+	500-999	250-499		
No of Eligible un-connected habitations (as on April 2005)	166	585	1127		
Connected habitations (as on 31st August 09)	75	220	219		
Balance (from eligible habitations)	91	365	908		
	1000+	500-999	250-499		
Target 2005-09					
2005-06					
Target	not specified				
Achievement	4	2	6	15.80	
2006-07					
Target	not specified				
Achievement	9	35	36	175.605	
2007-08					
Target	21	50		188.972	
Achievement	19	33	23	59.507	
2008-09					
Target	85	215		600	100
Achievement	34	130	137	361.275	0
2009-10					
Target	67	234		803.297	300
Achievement (upto Aug-09)	9	20	17	51.995	1.108
In progress as on Aug-	79	318	582	1432.66	512.07

2009					
Cumulative Achievement (1st April 05 to August-09)	75	220	219	664.182	1.108
Cumulative Percentage Achieved (1st April 05 to August-09)	45.18%	37.61%	19.43%	26.15%	0.06%

This programme is being implemented by the National Building and Construction Company (NBCC) and HLCL. Though progress in connecting habitations of 1000+ population, appears to be only 75 out of a total of 166, it may be noted that 79 roads are under construction, leaving a balance of only 12. Similarly in the 500-999 population category of habitations, 220 and 318 habitations have been connected and are 'in progress' respectively, leaving a balance of 47. The Planning Commission in its 2009-10 Annual Plan meeting with the Chief Minister of Tripura pointed out the need to expedite action on this programme. More visible progress is expected this year and 95% achievement is expected by March 2011 for habitations of over 500 population. During the field visits many boards indicating roads were PMGSY roads were visible. Some of the roads visited, appeared well maintained.

Some problems / suggestions made by the State Government are:

- Availability of raw materials especially stones, bricks and bitumen is a big constraint. Bricks and stones are being imported from Bangladesh now. Bitumen has to come from Haldia and its transportation is a big problem.
- Lack of contractors is another big constraint. In Dhalia district, there are instances when tenders had to be invited 5 times in order to be able to allot work to a credible party.
- Shifting of service utilities (electric poles telephone lines and water supply infrastructure) delays project completion.
- Large number approvals of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are pending at Delhi – 11 DPRs for habitations of 500+ population and 114 DPRs for upgradation.

33. National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)

NRHM Status in Tripura as on 31st August 2009				
SL. No.	Action Point		Status	
1	Number of Rogi Kalyan Samitis registered	District Hospitals (DH)	2 (100%)	
		SDHs	11 (100%)	
		CHCs	11 (100%)	
		PHCs	77 (100%)	
		Other Health facilities above SC but below block level (may include APHC etc.)		
2	Number of ASHA selected during		2005-06	
			2006-07	1224
			2007-08	4044
			2008-09	1871
			2009-10	208
			Total	7347

3	Number of ASHAs who have received training	1st module	7149
		2nd module	7081
		3rd module	7080
		4th module	6988
		5th module	2770
4	Number of ASHAs in position with drug kits		7215
5	Number of Village Health & Sanitation Committee (VHSC)	Constituted	1040 (100%)
		Operational Joint Account (Pradhan & ANM)	930
6	Number of SCs (as per RHS 2007)		579
7	Number of SCs which are functional	In Govt. Building (RHS 2007)	250
		with one ANM (RHS 2007)	488
		without ANM (RHS 2007)	69
		with Second ANMs	115
		Total contractual ANMs recruited for all levels including SC	32
8	Number of PHCs (as per RHS 2007)		77
9	Total Number of PHCs functioning as 24x7 basis	at start of NRHM 31/3/2005	52
		as on 31/3/2009	54
		as on date	56
10	Number of PHCs	without a Doctor (RHS 2007)	0
		where three Staff Nurses have been posted	42
11	Number of Community Health Centre as per RHS 2007		
12	Total Number of CHCs functioning as 24x7 basis	at start of NRHM 31/3/2005	
		as on 31/3/2009	11
		as on date	11
13	Total Number of specialists at CHCs	Required (RHS 2007)	30
		Sanctioned (RHS 2007)	40
		In Position (RHS 2007)	40
		Appointed on contract under NRHM	0
14	Number of District Hospitals		2
15	Total Number of centres operational as FRUs as on date	DH	2
		SDH	3
		CHC and others level	0
		Total	5
16	Number of Institutional Deliveries	05-06	29247
		06-07	30867
		07-08	30908 (67.79%)
		08-09	31557

				(73.29%)
			09- 10	13282
			Total	135861
17	Number of beneficiaries of JSY		05-06	204
			06-07	21279
			07- 08	15547
			08- 09	18350
			09- 10	6650
			Total	62030
18	Number of Children vaccinated	BCG	During 1 April, 2008 to 31st March, 2009	54677
			since April 09	20847
			During last month	4176
		DPT3	During 1 April, 2008 to 31st March, 2009	51726
			since April 09	20296
			During last month	4209
		Measles	During 1 April, 2008 to 31st March, 2009	51865
			since April 09	18680
			During last month	3428
		Full immunization	During 1 April, 2008 to 31st March, 2009	45036
			since April 09	16704
			During last month	3223
19	Number of Districts where Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) are working			4
20	Number of beneficiaries of Male Sterilizations during		2005-06	0
			2006-07	2
			2007-08	5
			2008-09	1048
			2009-10	480
21	Number of beneficiaries of Female Sterilizations during		2005-06	
			2006-07	3149
			2007-08	3064
			2008-09	6074
			2009-10	1040

Infrastructure created under NRHM was greatly appreciated and welcomed. Staff were also very appreciative of the funds for maintenance and untied activities. This has made the surroundings much neater and cleaner and made the service delivery more responsive. The number of institutional deliveries has gone up significantly and was 73% in 2008-09. Though according to NFHS, the total full immunisation coverage is only 49.8%; according to service statistics, DPT and polio coverage is 89%, BCG is 95%, and measles is 88%. Much of the credit for this goes to the Ashas who seem to be doing a good job. They also appear well trained and motivated. They were requesting to be given an honorarium, instead of incentives.

Some problems / suggestions made by the State Government are:

- Acute shortage of doctors and para-medics – there being 763 (51.5%) vacancies of doctors, and 1111 (55.5%) vacancies of Multi Purpose Workers. However Ashas, who are recruited locally are nearly all in position (7347 in position) with only 20 vacancies. Special training of para-medics using facilities within and outside the state was suggested.
- Slow progress and absorptive capacity for new constructions was cited as a constraint.
- Difficulty in connectivity and extremist activity was another acute problem.
- Problems of getting land released from forest department for construction, especially in remote tribal areas.

34. Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS)

Financial		(Rs. in lakhs)					
Sl. No		For ICDS (General)			For Supplementary nutrition		
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 upto Aug/Sept,2009	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 upto Aug/Sept,2009
1	Funds released by GOI	2040.09	2975.26	1194.84	759.54	774.40	1358.17
2	Fund released by State	Nil	Nil	Nil	759.54	1200.00	173.90
3	Total available fund	2040.09	2975.26	1194.84	1519.08	1974.40	1532.07
4	Expenditure (%)	2107.77 (103.31)	2808.1 (94.38)	1199.1 (100.35)	1487.29 (97.90)	1906.42 (96.56)	803.50 (52.44)

Physical		2007-08 as on 31-3-2008	2008-09 as on 31-3-2009	2009-10 upto August 2009.
1	No. of ICDS Projects			
a)	Sanctioned	56	56	56
b)	Operational	56	56	56
2	No. of Angan wari Centres (AWC)			
a)	Sanctioned	7979	9906 (2527 new)	9906
b)	Operational	7342	7377	7377
3	Beneficiaries of Supplementary Nutrition (SNP)			
a)	Children of (6m to 6yrs)	271789	254919	256762
b)	Pregnant & Lactating Mothers	56886	63914	69346

4	Beneficiaries of Pre-School Education			
a)	Boys (3-6 yrs)	75936	77690	81567
b)	Girls (3-6 yrs)	70433	68895	66736
c)	Total (3-6 yrs)	146369	146585	148303

During 2008-09, 2527 new AWCs have been sanctioned for the State. The process of recruitment is presently underway and they should become functional by March 2010. Visits to the field revealed that this programme is doing quite well.

- The pre-school component appears to be delivering. There is a detailed manual that all AWWs use as a guide and all the AWCs I visited had teaching learning aids / pre-school kits. The quality was quite poor but at least they existed.
- Supplementary nutrition in the form of khichri is being supplied regularly, and without a break. During last year, SNP was provided for 295 days (300 days is the norm). During the first 6 months of this year it has been provided for 135 and 171 days in Amarpur and Killa blocks respectively. AWC remains open from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. 6 days a week. The beneficiaries are given only khichri. Sometimes a few vegetables are mixed in. The rice and dal is bought at the state and block levels respectively and mixed together at the block level and then issued to AWWs. The AWWs buy the spices, vegetables and oil on credit, locally. As soon as the children come to the AWC, they get 2 biscuits each and the severely malnourished get 1 more while leaving. In between they are all served khichri. All beneficiaries from 6 months to lactating mothers get khichri. Variety in the menu is suggested as eating the same thing all 6 days a week can become monotonous and coming to the AWC everyday could also be difficult for many mothers and pregnant women. Perhaps there can be a different fare for children between 6 months and one year who may have difficulty chewing certain foods.
- AWW still maintains 13 to 18 registers. New instructions regarding maintaining only 4 registers do not seem to have reached them.
- Both the AWCs I visited had a main room, a kitchen, a store room and a toilet. The cost of construction is about Rs 3 lakh, whereas the MWCD provides only Rs. 1.75 lakh. The cost norm needs to be revised. However they were also advised to converge with NREGA for labour component and TSC for latrines.
- Construction of AWCs should be made permissible under NREGA.
- The State Government has issued strict instructions making AWWs responsible for getting all the 6 year olds enrolled in primary schools.
- Five pairs of chappals have been provided to each AWC from state resources to teach the children to use them while going to the toilet. Basic hygiene and sanitation are given prime importance.
- All AWCs have to ensure that 5 plants are planted each year, in their surroundings.
- Out of 7,979 AWCs, 5139 (64.40%) have their own buildings or they are under construction.

35. Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)

SI	Habitation	Total	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto
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S. No.	s	Target under Bharat Nirman					September,2009)	
			Target	Achievement(%)	Target	Achievement(%)	Target	Achievement(%)
1.	(a) Uncovered	Nil	--	--	--	--	--	--
	(b) Slipped Back	651	250	100%	579	44.04%	908	7.37%
	(c) Quality Affected	7031	308	58.11%	450	66.67%	564	9.39%
	(d) Total	7682	558	76.88%	1029	53.93%	1472	8.15%
Financial Component		(Rs. In lacs)						
		2007-08	2008-09		2009-10 (upto September,2009)			
1.	GOI Allocation	52,47.24	51,25.00		62,40.00			
2.	Opening Balance	14,46.41	34,13.52		17,90.85			
3	Release by GOI	67,77.55	41,81.08		18,98.00			
4.	Total Available fund	82,23.96	75,94.60		36,88.85			
5.	Expenditure in % (5/4)*100	58.49%	76.42%		44.55%			

Release by GOI- ARWSP Normal, Submission , NRDWQM&SP & Jalmani

In Tripura all the habitations have some kind of rural water supply, and therefore there are no uncovered habitations. However there are a large number of slipped back villages – even more than the total target for Bharat Nirman. According to the State Government, this is due to the original sources drying up. It is not clear if this is due to faulty planning at the first stage itself or something else. It requires further analysis and can be used as a learning for future.

Quality affected habitations are also a very large number – 7031, which is 91 % of the total habitations. The main problem is iron in the water. Progress in this regard in the last two years has been 58% in 2007-08 and 67% in 08-09. Utilisation of funds has also been only 58% in 2007-08 and 76% in 2008-09.

Performance of this programme has been slow for two main reasons – (i) lack of contractors (ii) Lack of rigs for drilling.

A new department of Drinking Water and Sanitation has been created just last year to give special focus to drinking water and sanitation. It is therefore hoped that things will improve this year.

36. Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)

Sl.	Financial	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Total
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No.	Components				
1	Gol allocation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Released by Gol	882.41	158.76	0.00	1041.17
3	Expenditure	58.82	740.63	117.13	916.58

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Target	Achieved (In %)	Target	Achieved (In %)	Target	Achieved (In %)
1	Individual Households with Toilet facilities (IHHL)	1600	183.81%	67807	95.36%	39293	49.91%
2	School with Toilet facilities	50	62.00%	1042	10.46%	1201	27.56%
3	AWC with Toilet facilities	350	113.43%	1861	7.09%	1169	18.65%

While this programme is doing well as far as individual household latrines is concerned, having achieved 184% in 2007-08, 95% in 2008-09 and so far this year already 50% of the targets; progress regarding the other components, namely latrines in schools and anganwari centres was quite slow in 2008-09. The main reason for this was cited to be late release of funds and that the unit costs are too low and not realistic. As against the approved norm of Rs.5000 for a AWC toilet, the actual cost works out to Rs. 12,000. Similarly for the school toilet blocks, the approved unit cost is Rs. 20,000 whereas the actual cost comes to about Rs.62,000. Besides moving Gol for revision in the cost norms, for AWC toilets, they were advised to build half doors, install smaller size bowls, and lower the height of the structure, to suit children and also lower costs.

The individual household latrines that I saw in the field appeared to have been constructed as best they could, within the constraints of resources. Many beneficiaries had contributed their own resources and built bamboo mat walls or just use plastic sheets as walls and doors. The beneficiaries, especially the women, I spoke to were very happy with the latrines which they were using.

37. Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl. No	Year	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto Aug / Sept. 2009)	Total
1	Approved Outlay	4832.34	7468.92	11172.5	23473.76
2	Opening Balance	196.44	286.56	753.62	1236.62
3	Central Share released	4178.49	6464.12	4273.00	14915.61
4	State Share released	241.62	940.84	498.20	1680.66
5	Other Receipts	0.00	0.00	230.00	230.00
6	Total Funds Available (2+3+4+5)	4616.55	7691.52	5754.82	18062.89

7	Total Expenditure	4327.58	6937.9	4706.29	15971.77
8	Percentage of Expenditure	93.74	90.20	81.78	

Sl. No	Physical Features	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Total
1	No. of Primary Schools				
(a)	Sanctioned	0	376	69	445
(b)	Made operational	0	376	To be started from January, 2010	376
2	No. of Upper Primary Schools				
(a)	Sanctioned	38	118	167	323
(b)	Made operational	38	118	To be started from January, 2010	156
3	Ratio of Primary to Upper Primary Schools	2.2	2.1	Data under collection	
4	No. of New Schools building constructed				
(a)	Sanctioned (Primary)	0	253	170	423
(b)	Made operational (Primary)	0	245	In Progress	245
(c)	Sanctioned (Upper Primary)	38		70	108
(d)	Made operational (Upper Primary)	38		In Progress	38
(e)	Addl. Class Rooms				
(f)	Sanctioned	257	170	286	713
(g)	Made operational	257	162	In Progress	419
5	Drop out Rate				
(a)	Primary	7.81	6.77	Data under collection	
(b)	Upper Primary	14.79	12.62	Data under collection	
6	No. of Schools with adequate Drinking Water facilities				
(a)	Sanctioned				1184
(b)	Made operational				1184
7	No. of Schools with adequate toilets (separate for girls & boys)				
(a)	Sanctioned	620	361	50	1031
(b)	Made operational	620	361	In Progress	981
8	Pupil Teacher Ratio				
(a)	Primary	23.89	24.88	Data under collection	
(b)	Upper Primary	18.52	19.56	Data under collection	
9	No. of Teachers sanctioned				
(a)	Primary	0	752	138	890

(b)	Upper Primary	114	354	1301	1769
10	No. of Teachers Recruited				
(a)	Primary	0	752	By November, 2009	752
(b)	Upper Primary	114	354	By November, 2009	468
11	Gross Enrollment Ratio at Primary level				
(a)	For Girls	103.97	105.69	Data collection under	
(b)	For Boys	103.33	106.46	Data collection under	
(c)	For Scheduled Tribes	106.27	113.67	Data collection under	
(d)	For Scheduled Castes	104.09	108.77	Data collection under	
12	Gross Enrollment Ratio at Upper Primary Level				
(a)	For Girls	102.87	103.54	Data collection under	
(b)	For Boys	100.46	106.17	Data collection under	
(c)	For Scheduled Tribes	93.89	99.62	Data collection under	
(d)	For Scheduled Castes	110.07	108.78	Data collection under	

- Performance of SSA in Tripura, according to the indicators mentioned above can be considered very good.
- The ratio of primary to upper primary schools at 2:1 is ideal.
- All indicators are showing improvement, notably gross enrolment rates at primary level especially for schedule tribes and drop out rates.
- Infrastructure by way of classrooms, computer rooms, drinking water facilities and separate latrines for girls and boys are satisfactory. All sanctions for additionalities have been operationalised/implemented in a timely manner.
- There are a large number of untrained teachers and so the State Government has approached IGNOU to conduct some short term training through distance mode.
- Activity based learning has been introduced in a few schools. Tripura is perhaps the second state after Tamil Nadu to have taken this up.
- I visited a number of schools. They were neat and clean and the children looked happy. Separate toilets existed for girls and boys but some were kept locked.
- A vocational training centre for tailoring in Gamaria that I visited was very popular including with some boys. These are additional classes conducted during recess and on week-ends.
- The State is conducting regular reviews of text books and curriculum through SCERT.

- Lack of trained personnel and other facilities especially aids for children with special needs was a challenge being faced by the State.
- Quality of the teacher training as well as the academic levels of the students is a cause for concern.
- Lack of contractors and building materials for completion of school infrastructure is a problem.

38. Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDM)

(Rs. In lakhs)

Financial progress	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto Aug.,09)	Total
Central Assistance Admissible	21,28.80	32,15.71	15,85.09	69,29.60
Central Assistance Released	21,28.80	32,15.71	3,96.27	57,40.78
States Share Released	260.00	4,72.64	91.56	8,24.20
Opening Balance			4,33.80	4,33.80
Total Funds Available(2+3)	2388.80	3688.35	9,21.63	69,98.78
Expenditure (%)	82.71	66.26	70.26	

Physical Features	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto Aug.'09)	Total
No. of Students approved by PAB / GOI				
At Primary level	4,35,348	3,48,020	2,76,096	10,59,464
At Upper Primary level	0	1,63,299	56,834	2,20,133
Total Students (a+b)	4,35,348	5,11,319	3,32,930	12,79,597
No. of Students provided MDM				
At Primary level	4,35,348	3,45,120	3,14,547	10,95,015
At Upper Primary level	0	56,834	1,46,541	2,03,375
Total Students (a+b)	4,35,348	4,01,954	4,61,088	12,98,390
No. of Working days approved by PAB/GOI	220	220	220	660
No. of Working days provided by MDM	220	220	93	533

- This scheme has been very well received in the state and is greatly appreciated both by the students, teachers and administration.
- Providing MDMs to upper primary school children started in phases with Independent Upper primary schools being taken up first, accounting for the low achievement in 2008-09. However from this year all upper primary schools will be providing MDMs.
- There is a decline in the number of students approved by PAB/GOI at the primary level. However the State Government clarified that this is a mistake and GOI has assured that it will be revised.
- Weekly menu is uniform throughout the state – 2 days – khichri; 2 days – egg curry rice; and 2 days – rice dal and mixed vegetables including soya chunks. When asked

how they manage to provide eggs, they mentioned that the high cost of eggs, is off set by the low cost of khichri. Children I spoke to, during my visits, were very satisfied with the food and variety.

- Food is mostly being cooked by women Self Help Groups. One group I met, requested for upward revision in the cooking costs.
- The State Government is contributing 50 paisa per child per day as cooking costs as against the minimum contribution required according to Gol norms, of 20 paisa. This shows the commitment of the State Government.
- On the basis of anecdotal evidence, it has been held that enrolment and attendance has increased, drop out rate has declined and nutrition has increased. However, in the absence of empirical evidence this can not be fully accepted. An impact study is recommended to ascertain this.
- The State made a strong plea for revision in the cost norms both for cooking cost and cost of cooking sheds and provision for a dining room.
- The community is quite vigilant and acts as a watch dog for this and other such schemes.

39. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM)

Sub-missions - Basic Services for the Urban Poor (BSUP) and Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG)

(Progress upto September,2009) (Rs. In lakhs)

Sl. No.		Project 1 (Name of Project)	Project 2 (Name of Project)
1.	Under Sub-Mission (UIG/UIDSSMT/BSUP/IHSDP)	Construction of 256 dwelling unit in Kunjaban Mouja, Agartala under BSUP	Water Supply Project in north zone of Agartala, under UIG
2.	Approved cost and Date of Approval	1673.00 (5.5.2007)	7826.00 1-10-2008
3.	Cost Sharing		
a)	ACA Committed	1396.00	7044.00
b)	State Share	277.00	782.00
c)	ULB Share	--	--
d)	Total	1673.00	7826.00
4.	Funds Released		
a)	ACA Released	697.98	1760.00
b)	State Share	207.00	--
c)	ULB Share	--	--
d)	Total Released	904.98	1760.00
5.	Expenditure		
a)	ACA Spent	697.98	40.00
b)	State Share	207.00	--
c)	ULB Share	--	--
d)	Total Expenditure	904.98	40.00

6.	Description of Project		
a)	Describe Project	Construction of 256 dwelling unit in Kunjaban Mouja under BSUP.	Water Supply Project for North Zone
b)	Components of work	256 dwelling units	Major Components of Works : (a) Overhead Tank : 12 (b) Deep Tube Well : (i) New : 12 (ii) Rejuvenation : 23 (c) Water treatment Plant : 4 Nos.
c)	Status	256 houses under construction	i) Work for construction of over Head Tanks has been awarded iii) Survey has been completed

- Agartala is the only mission city and has 2 projects sanctioned under JNNURM, one for water supply and one for basic services for the urban poor (low cost houses for slum dwellers), which are detailed above. They are both going according to schedule.
- Late release of funds causes delays which in turn leads to cost over runs. This is a genuine problem and needs attention.
- The state Government requested early decision on their proposal for a sewerage project for Agartala which is pending with the Gol for the last 2 years. Back queries are being made in piece-meal causing further delays.
- I visited the Housing complex at Agartala for rehabilitating the slum dwellers. It was very well designed – a 25 sq mts unit of 2 rooms, a kitchen, a latrine-bath, and a small balcony. Common facilities included street lighting, garden and a community centre. The location was also very central and well located. Work should be completed within 5 months of getting the last instalment.

Sub-mission – Urban Infrastructure Development for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT)

(Progress upto September,2009) (Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No.		Project 1 (Name of Project)	Project 2 (Name of Project)	Project 3 (Name of Project)	Project 4 (Name of Project)	Total
1.	Under Sub-Mission UIDSSMT	Roads & Storm Water Drains at Belonia	Covered Drain of Ranirbazar N.P.	Roads & Storm Water Drains at Kailashah	Improvement of Roads at Kamalpur N.P.	

		N.P.		ar N.P		
2.	Approved cost and Date of Approval	3880.00 (20.12.2007)	1217.00 (31.03.2009)	1511.28 (31.03.2009)	777.00 (31.03.2009)	7385.28
3.	Cost Sharing					
a)	ACA Committed	3492.00	1095.30	1360.15	700.00	6647.45
b)	State Share	388.00	121.70	151.13	77.00	737.83
c)	ULB Share	0	0	0	0	0
d)	Total	3880.00	1217.00	1511.28	777.00	7385.28
4.	Funds Released					
a)	ACA Released	2005.00	547.65	680.08	349.65	3582.38
b)	State Share	0	0	0	0	0
c)	ULB Share	0	0	0	0	0
d)	Total Released	2005.00	547.65	680.08	349.65	3582.38
5.	Expenditure					
a)	ACA Spent	1000.00	0	0	0	1000.00
b)	State Share	0	0	0	0	0
c)	ULB Share	0	0	0	0	0
d)	Total Expenditure	1000.00	0	0	0	1000.00
6.	Description of Project					
a)	Describe Project	Improvement of 23.392 Kms (17 Nos) road and storm water drain including land acquisition.	Construction of 2573 metres covered drains.	Improvement of 18.70 Kms (9 Nos) road and storm water drain.	Improvement of 9.8 Kms (15 Nos) roads.	
b)	Unit of Roads & Drains.	17 Nos. (23.392 Km.)	3 Nos. (2573 Mtr.)	9 Nos. (18.7 Km.)	15 Nos. (9.8 Km.)	
c)	Status of work	Land acquisition completed	Work just Started	Work just Started	Work just Started	

All 4 projects are being implemented by NBCC. Work on all 4 has started.
Sub-mission – Integrated Housing and Slum Development (IHSDP)

(Progress upto September,2009) (Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No.		Project 1 (Name of Project)	Project 2 (Name of Project)	Project 3 (Name of Project)
1.	Under Sub-Mission IHSDP	IHSDP Project at Teliamura, West District	IHSDP Project at Belonia, South Dist/	IHSDP Project at Ranirbazar, West District
2.	Approved cost and Date of Approval	719.18 (29.10.2007)	874.26 (11.02.2009)	1126.65 (11.02.2009)
3.	Cost Sharing			
a)	ACA Committed	647.28	786.80	1014.05
b)	State Share	71.90	87.40	112.60
c)	ULB Share	--	--	--
d)	Total	719.18	874.26	1126.65
4.	Funds Released			
a)	ACA Released	315.00	383.70	496.50
b)	State Share	--	--	--
c)	ULB Share	--	--	--
d)	Total Released	315.00	383.70	496.50
5.	Expenditure			
a)	ACA Spent	224.83	Fund released just by GOI.	Fund released just by GOI.
b)	State Share	--		
c)	ULB Share	--		
d)	Total Expenditure	224.83		
6.	Description of Project			
a)	Describe Project	Construction of dwelling units along with other infrastructure facilities in the slum areas.	Construction of dwelling units along with other infrastructure facilities in the slum areas.	Construction of dwelling units along with other infrastructure facilities in the slum areas.
b)	No. of Houses sanctioned	400	447	587
c)	No. of Houses completed/ under construction	125 houses under construction	-	-

These projects are being implemented by the individual Nagar Panchayats. Work on the Teliamura project has started. The delay in sanctioning of projects not only

causes a lot of uncertainty but also leads to large cost overruns. The State Government suggested that when sanctions are delayed, they should be allowed to use current Schedule of Rates (SOR).

The State Government is quite responsive to the needs and requirements in urban areas as well and especially towards the weaker sections of society.

40. Technology Mission for Horticulture in the North East (TMNE)

S. No	Item	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Total
1	Opening Balance		866.67	738.5	1605.17
2	Allocation by GOI	2400.00	2200.00	2500.00	7100.00
3	Released by GOI	2400.00	1600.00	900.00	4900.00
4	State Share released				
5	Total funds available (3+4)	2400.00	2466.67	1638.50	6505.17
6	Expenditure	1533.33	1728.17	377.50	3639.00
	(%)	63	71	23	56

Physical Targets & achievements of Horticulture Technology Mission

S. No	Component	Unit	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		Total	
			Tar	Ach.	Tar	Ach.	Tar	Ach.	Tar	Ach.
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1	Area Expansion	Ha								
A	Fruits	Ha								
	i. Banana	Ha	475	475	505	505	620		1600	980
	ii. Pineapple	Ha	785	785	400	400			1185	1185
	iii. Mango	Ha	350	350	550	550	620	498	1520	1398
	iv. Papaya	Ha	170	170	240	240	290	84	700	494
	v. Rejuvenation (pineapple)	Ha	800	800	875	875	700		2375	1675
	Total of Fruits	Ha	2580	2580	2570	2570	2230	582	7380	5732
B	VEGETABLE CROPS	Ha								
	Total of vegetables	Ha	2685	2685	2710	2710	5800		11195	5395
C	SPICES	Ha								
	i. Chillies	Ha	200	200	395	395	450		1045	595
	ii. Ginger	Ha	475	475	360	360	230		1065	835
	Total of spices	Ha	675	675	755	755	680		2110	1430
D	Plantation Crops	Ha								
	1. Cashewnut	Ha	170	8	150	668			320	676
	Total of Plantation crop	Ha	170	8	150	668			320	676
E	FLORICULTURE									
	1. Model	Nos	1						1	0

	Floriculture Centre									
	2. Flower Crops	0.2ha.	1501	1501	776		1270		3547	1501
	Total of Area Expansion		7612	7449	6961	6703	9980	582	24553	14734
2	Bee Keeping									
	1.Hives/ Colony		300	100	2000	2000			2300	2100
	2.Development of bee breeder									
3	Creation of Water Sources									
	1. Community Tank	Nos	355	355	153	153	165		673	508
	2. Tubewells	Nos	690	690	200		360		1250	690
4	On farm Water management									
	1. Drip Irrigation	Nos	185	185	45		100		330	185
	2. Low Cost Green House(500 sqm)	Nos	57	57	68		500		625	57
	3. Hi- Tech Green House(500sqm)	Nos	23	23	33		60		116	23
	4. Shade nets(500 sqm)	Nos	195	195	700		1		896	195
	5. On farm handling units	Nos	53	53	86	86	58		197	139
5	Organic farming									
	1. Earth worm unit	Nos	300	300	380	380	470		1150	680
	2.Incentive for organic farming	Ha	550		300		290		1140	0
	3. Certification		4		1		4		9	0
6	INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT									
	1. Adoption of IPM	Ha	950	950	1205	1205	800		2955	2155
7	Agricultural Equipments									
	1. Manually Operated	Nos.	900	900	1060	1060	2600		4560	1960
	2. Power tiller	Nos.	257	257	60	60			317	317
	3. Diesel Engine	Nos.	55	55	175	175			230	230
	4. Power Operated	Nos.	365	365	360	360			725	725
8	Production of Planting materials									

A	Private Sector									
	1. Big Nursery	Nos.	1	1	2	1	2		5	2
	2. Small Nursery	Nos.	13	13	8	8	10		31	21
B	Public Sector									
	1. Big Nursery	Nos.			2	2			2	2
	2. Small Nursery	Nos.	3	3	11	11	2		16	14
9	Transfer of Technology									
A	Training									
	1. Training of farmers (7 days)	Nos.	4400	4400	5000	5000	4100		13500	9400
	2. Training outside State	Nos.	1000	1000	1120	1120	820		2940	2120
	3. Training of Trainers	Nos.	40	40	30		40		110	40
B	Training Centres									
	Supervisor's Trg Centres	Nos.	1	1	1	1			2	2
C	Women development									
	1. Training of Women	Nos.	2800	2800	4000	4000	2050		8850	6800
	2. Women SHG	Nos.	650	650	100	100	110		860	750
	3. Training of Trainers		40		4				44	0

This is one of the most successful and also one of the most appreciated centrally sponsored schemes. It is most appropriate for the north-east. Almost all the physical performance targets have been achieved over the years. There has been some slippage on the 'On farm water management sector schemes' due to late release of funds in 2008-09. I visited some green houses where orchids and anthuriums were being grown. The green houses in Raghunathpur and Laxmibil Gram Panchayats were very well maintained and the plants looked very healthy. I also interacted with some women of the 30 Self help Groups of Laxmibil G.P., 20 of which had taken up farm-based floriculture and were doing very well. To support these SHGs the district administration has converged services under NREGA and SGSY.

No activities have been taken up under the 3 other sub-missions for Research, Marketing and Food Processing. There is no research station in Tripura and in the absence of private entrepreneurship, marketing and processing is not taking off. These should be necessary next steps and are very essential if the momentum created has to be maintained.

Some observations / suggestions made by the State Government are:

- Besides cultivation of anthurium and orchids for markets outside the state, they want permission to support cultivation of roses, tube-roses, gladiolis and marigolds which are the varieties much in demand in the state itself.

- Cost norms of all the components as well as subsidy needs to be revised. Transport costs are extremely high and need to be subsidised. They were fixed 9 years ago.
- Under the programme at present, only winter vegetables and that too only cabbage, cauliflower, tomato and capsicum are permitted. The State requested that they be allowed to cultivate summer vegetables as well and also leave the choice of vegetables (both winter and summer) to the state.
- Potato seed production should also be allowed as potato is an essential crop for the north-east.
- Release of funds should be timely especially under this programme as planting etc. depends on seasons which can not wait for releases. Once a particular season is missed, one has to wait another full year.

41. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)

Sl. No	Physical Features		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Upto Aug/Sep, 09)	Total	Grand Total
1	No of Projects Approved	Minor	127	30	37	194	194
		Medium					
2	No of Projects Completed	Minor	35	45	13	93	93
		Medium					
3	Irrigation Potential targeted	Minor	6000	4000	8800	18800	31367
		Medium	2000	3827	6740	12567	
4	Irrigation Potential created	Minor	2198	1829	231	4258	5396
		Medium	508	630	0	1138	

ACCELERATED IRRIGATION BENEFIT PROGRAMME (FINANCIAL) (in Lakhs)

Sl. No			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Upto Sep 09)	Total
1	Total Funds Released by GOI		810.00	5127.50	0	5937.50
2	Expenditure		2012.22	2409.76	503.42	4925.40
3	Unspent Balance		1202.22	2717.74	-503.42	1012.10
4	% Utilization		248.42	47.00		

Financial progress under this scheme in 2007-08 looks good but the physical progress doesn't match and falls far short of the targets. For 2008-09, it appears that funds were released only in the last week of March 2009. Timely release of funds is very essential as the working season in the north-east is very short. This year also the working season is shortly going to start but no funds have been released as yet. Besides, the cost norms need revision. The Lift Irrigation Scheme at Amrongpather that I visited was running very well and farmers were now taking 3 crops a year compared to 1 crop (rain fed) before the irrigation waters became available.

However, no water / user charges were being realised. In fact, in Tripura, if the cost of operation is more than Rs.5,000, the PWD Water Resources Wing has to bear the cost and only if it is less than Rs.5,000 does the panchayat pick up the cost.

42. Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY)

Sl. No.		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Target	Achievement (%)	Target	Achievement (%)	Target	Achievement (%)
1	BPL Household given connectivity		Nil	1800	Nil	97500	602
2	Unelectrified Villages electrified		Nil	8	Nil	52	Nil
3	Intensification of electrified villages		Nil	12	Nil	200	Nil
Financial Component (Rs. In lakhs)							
		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
1	Fund released by GOI	Nil		Rs.2445.23**		B/F of 2008-09 = Rs.2294.48 lacs, 2009-10 = Rs.1061.49 lacs Total Rs.3355.97***	
2	Funds utilised	Nil		Rs.150.75 lacs		Rs.1565.34 lacs	
3	Percentage of utilised	Nil		6.17%		46.64%	
**	Fund received Rs.2445.23 lacs for Dhalai, West & South District RGGVY Scheme and fund utilised only for Dhalai District Project (March'2009). PGCIL has been entrusted for doing work of West & South Tripura District RGGVY schemes.						
***	Fund received Rs.1061.49 lacs on Sept.'2009 for North District RGGVY Scheme but fund utilised only for Dhalai, West & South District Project (September'2009).since the LOA of the balance North Tripura Dist.was given onJuly'2009 for which the fund, as placed is yet to be utilised.						

Physical progress under this scheme in 2007-08 and 2008-09 has been zilch. Even in 2009-10 not too much progress can be expected. Survey of unelectrified villages and electrified villages needing intensification (sr. no: 2 and 3) is almost complete and work in this regard will be completed only by December 2010. It is only after this is complete that connectivity can be given to BPL households (sr. no: 1). This programme needs a push, especially in view of the importance of electricity connectivity for development and the quality of life.

15. Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme

Sl.		2007 – 08	2008 – 09	2009 – 10	Total
1.	No. of projects sanctioned	7 nos.	-	-	7 nos.
2.	Value of project	Rs.146.74	-	-	Rs.146.74

	sanctioned	crore			crore
3.	No. of projects completed	-	-	7 nos.	7 nos.
4.	Value of project completed	Rs.80.9619 crore (Upto March 2008)	Rs.62.7981 crore	-	Rs.143.76 Crore
5.	AT & C Losses (%)	24.25%	24.08%	-	
6.	T & D loss (%)	23.37%	23.27%	-	
	Commercial losses (%)	0.88%	0.81%		
7.	Feeder metering (%)	100%	-	-	100%
8.	Consumer metering (%)	299370 nos. (80.10%) (Upto March 2008)	378866 nos. (94.80%) (Upto March 2009)	-	378866 nos. (94.80%) (Upto 3/2009)
9.	Amount released (in cr)				
	a) Loan	Rs.4.26	0		Rs.4.26
	b) Grant	Rs.77.58	Rs.21.17 (Govt. of India) Rs.10.41 (Govt Tripura)	Rs.30.34	Rs.139.50
	c) Total	Rs.81.84	Rs.31.58	Rs.30.34	Rs.143.76
10.	Date of closure	31.03.2009			

The APDRP has in fact been closed with effect from 31 March 2009. Feeder metering to the extent of 100% and consumer metering to the extent of 94.80% has been achieved. The Revised APDRP has started and the State will soon be submitting 16 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all their eligible projects.

Special issues of importance

Connectivity to the North-East and within it, is one of the most salient pre-requisites for development, peace and prosperity. Some special issues with regard to connectivity that need attention are as follows:

1. The new railway line upto Agartala has been completed. Agartala Sabroom railway line, has been identified as a national project and needs to be taken up on priority.

2. Conversion of the railway line from meter gauge to broad gauge from Lumding, Badalpur, Kumarghat is most crucial for movement of food grains and other raw material and needs to be expedited. There appears to be a law and order problem in North Cachar Hills Areas of Assam, for which Tripura being at the end of the railway line, is being made to suffer. This matter needs attention.
3. The 4 laning of NH - 44, up to Agartala connecting East West corridor was announced by the Prime Minister in October 2005, during his visit to Tripura. Since nothing has started on the ground, there is much discontentment. National Highways Authority of India is preparing the DPRs. This needs to be expedited.
4. Presently NH-44 is the life line of the State. Adverse topography, high rainfall and civic unrest could disrupt this life line. There is therefore urgent need to have an alternate to National Highway 44, by way of a 2 lane Highway from Kukital (Assam border) to Sabroom, via Dharamnagr, Kailashahar, Manikbhandar, Teliamura, Amarpur and Rupaichari.
5. The State Government has also been pressing for more direct air connectivity to Delhi from Agartala and better cargo handling facilities at Agartala airport. Early operationalisation of Kailashahar and Manikbhandar (Kamalpur) airports is another constant request. Feasibility study has perhaps been conducted for Kamalpur and Kailashahar airports for ATR operation.
6. The issue of trade ties with Bangladesh needs special attention of the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, so that trade with Bangladesh improves which will help in the economic development of North Eastern Region. Presently, the State of Tripura has to import bricks and stones slabs from Bangladesh to carryout construction activities. DCH has asked the Chief Minister to submit a paper so that he can forward it to the Ministry of Commerce for its consideration.
7. The flow of funds from banks and other financial institution is very poor. There is no private investment. The CD ratio of the state is 35% as compared to All India 75%

Annexure-1

Places visited by Ms. Firoza Mehrotra, Special Consultant, Planning Commission in Tripura during 28th to 29th July, 2009 and 26th to 28th October, 2009:

SL.NO.	LOCATION	UTILITY / PROGRAMME VISITED
1.	Bagma	Samatal para H/S School (Primary Unit) to see the Midday Meal Programme (MDM).
2.	-do-	Daria Bagma Health Sub-Centre (NRHM)
3.	-do-	Dhijapada para Anganwadi Centre at Bagma village (ICDS).
4.	-do-	Rubber plantation (NREGA).
5.	Jalema	Brick Soled road from the house of Maha Chandra Jamatia to Jalema bazaar under Jalema ADC village (NREGA).
6.	Atharabola	Atharabola PHC (NRHM).
7.	Killa	Water Treatment Plant (ARWSP).
8.	-do-	Amrongpather LI Scheme (AIBP).
9.	Gamaria	Vocational Training Centre (SSA).
10.	New Bampur	Big water body (NREGA).
11.	Amarpur	CDPO Office (ICDS).
12.	Subalsinghcherra under Baikunthapur ADC Village.	NREGA Dam.
13.	Hezamara	Growth Centre.
14.	-do-	Block Office.
15.	Baikunthapur ADC Village	IAY Houses belonging to ST community and BPL category (IAY).
16.	Kambuk Cherra	Road connecting Kambuk Cherra with Harefater (PMGSY)
17.	Agartala Simna	Road connecting Agartala Simna to Khowai

		Chowmuhani Via Debarpur Arakata (PMGSY)
18.	Mohnapur	Community Health Centre being upgraded to a IPHS (NRHM).
19.	Agartala	Construction of Housing Project of 256 dwelling units for slum dwellers (JNNURM).
20.	-do-	New Secretariat and Assembly Complex under construction through NLCPR funds.
21.	Lambucherra	Agriculture College being constructed with ACA funding.