

## **BORDER AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

### **HIMACHAL PRADESH**

#### **Introduction:**

1. In view of persistent demands and considering the overall situation in the border areas of Himachal Pradesh, the Planning Commission, Govt. of India decided to extend Border Area Development Programme to Himachal Pradesh for the three blocks viz. Kalpa and Pooh Blocks of Kinnaur District and Spiti Block of Lahaul-Spiti Districts having borders with China from 1998-99. The basic objective of the scheme is to meet the special needs of the people living in remote, inaccessible areas situated near the border. The emphasis is to be laid on schemes for employment promotion, production oriented activities and schemes which provide critical inputs to the social sectors. As per guidelines, the funds under Special Central Assistance has been made available to border blocks of the State considering the length of the border area and population of the bordering blocks. The Planning Commission Govt. of India and Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India has provided Rs. 3547.00 lakh during the period of 9th Five Year Plan beginning from 1998-99 to 2001-02 and Rs.4573.86 lakh during 10th Five Year Plan 2002-2007 as Special Central Assistance under this programme. An outlay of Rs. 18675.62 lakh is proposed for comprehensive development plan for Himachal Pradesh during 11th Five Year Plan 2007-12 under Border Area Development Programme for these three Blocks. Out of above proposed outlays, Rs. 1119.00 lakh is being utilized during current financial year 2007-08 for various infrastructural developments relevant to these border blocks. These funds are additive to normal Central Assistance and has been allocated for meeting the special

problems faced by the people of the border areas. Hence these funds are not to be used to replace normal State Plan flows.

### **Area & Population:**

2. The area and population of the BADP blocks having border with China is as under: -

<b>District</b>	<b>BADP Block</b>	<b>Geographical area (sq.km.)</b>	<b>Population as per 2001 census</b>
1. Kinnaur	i) Kalpa	1674	29361
	ii) Pooh	3378	22343
2. Lahaul & Spiti	i) Spiti	7591	10679
<b>Total: Border Blocks</b>		<b>12643</b>	<b>62383</b>
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>		<b>55673</b>	<b>6077900</b>

### **Plan Allocations:**

(Rs. in lakh)

<b>District</b>	<b>Border Block</b>	<b>Allocations under BADP</b>		
		<b>During 9th Plan</b>	<b>During 10th Plan</b>	<b>During 11th Plan (Proposed)</b>
1. Kinnaur	i) Kalpa	1129.00	1447.43	5772.28
	ii) Pooh	1144.63	1326.21	5944.09
2. Lahaul & Spiti	i) Spiti	1273.37	1744.22	6959.25
<b>Total:</b>		<b>3547.00</b>	<b>4573.86</b>	<b>18675.62</b>

The above allocation of funds among the three blocks has been made 60% on the basis of population and 40% on area as general principle adopted by the Tribal Development Department of State for the allocation of funds under decentralized planning programmes. The Border areas constitute about 23% of the geographical area of the State inhabited by about 1% of the total State population.

3. The Kalpa and Pooh Blocks of the District Kinnaur and Spiti Block of the District Lahaul & Spiti constitute the parts of the tribal areas (Scheduled Area) in Himachal Pradesh. These parts of tribal areas of the State is situated between north latitude  $31^{\circ} 05' 50''$  and  $32^{\circ} 59' 57''$  and east longitude  $77^{\circ} 45' 00''$  and  $79^{\circ} 00' 35''$ . It is bounded by Tibet in the east and Ladakh District of Jammu & Kashmir in the north. These areas are amongst the remotest and most inaccessible areas in Himachal Pradesh with average altitude being 3281 meter above the mean sea level. The most distinguishing mark of these tribal areas is that they are very vast in area but extremely small in population with the result per unit cost of infrastructure is very exorbitant.

4. The Border areas of Himachal Pradesh fall in the outer Himalayas and hence the terrain and the climatic conditions are highly inhospitable. Border Blocks are high altitude cold condense having scanty rainfall. The agriculture activities are possible under assured irrigation conditions. The villages are located in remote and far-flung area requiring huge network of roads to connect them. Hence the cost of development of infrastructure is enormous and within the limited resources available in the State Plan, we are unable to keep pace to meet the desired objective within a reasonable time frame. Needless to say that the core infrastructure line roads, irrigation, agriculture, electrification and institutional infrastructural development lead to sustainable development in the long run and hence these sectors require speedy development by way of mobilizing additional resources. In addition to develop educated manpower to generate indigenous entrepreneurship, it is also imperative to improve the quality of schools and college infrastructure including the hostels. Hence under the Border Area Development Programme major focus is proposed to

be given in the infrastructure like roads, irrigation, agriculture/horticulture, electrification, education and health sectors.

### Statistical Profile:

5. The statistical profile of these areas vis-à-vis Himachal Pradesh as per 2001 Census is as under:

Item	Unit	Kalpa Block	Pooh Block	Spiti Block	Tribal area	H.P.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>1. Literacy</b>						
Persons	%age	77.95	70.46	74.10	70.37	76.50
Male	%age	86.94	79.42	86.40	81.00	85.00
Female	%age	67.54	60.63	58.70	62.28	67.00
<b>2. Villages</b>						
In habited	Nos.	66	80	95	681	17495
Un-inhabited	Nos.	128	198	136	858	2623
Total	Nos.	194	278	231	1539	20118
<b>3. Panchayats</b>	Nos.	23	24	13	148	3243
<b>4. House Holds</b>	Nos.	6922	5178	7999	38066	1221589
<b>5. Educational Institutions</b>						
Primary Schools	Nos.	52	63	69	581	10824
Middle schools	Nos.	9	12	13	108	4449
High Schools	Nos.	7	7	5	51	856
Senior Sec. Schools	Nos.	9	9	6	42	1208
College	Nos.	1	-	-	4	68
<b>6. Health Institutions</b>						
Civil Hospitals	Nos.	1	1	-	3	91
P.H.Cs	Nos.	7	12	3	33	303
C.H.C.	Nos.	1	1	1	9	65
Civil Dispensary	Nos.	-	-	2	4	173
Sub-Centres	Nos.	7	13	10	102	
<b>7. Ayurveda Institutions</b>						
Hospital	Nos.	2	-	-	3	24
Ayurvedic Health Centres	Nos.	7	10	7	85	1110
<b>8. Veterinary Institutions</b>						
Hospital	Nos.	5	8	5	45	303
Dispensaries	Nos.	13	14	19	112	1721
Mobile Dispensary	Nos.	1	-	-	2	14
<b>9. Road and Bridges</b>						
Single lane	KM	135.910	213.95	468.796	1618	25210
Jeepable	KM	18	15.225	23.130	284	381
Tracks	KM	27	1.747	-	261	2299
10. Bank Institutions	Nos.	12	12	4	62	830

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11. Post Office/sub-Post Office/Branch Offices	Nos.	22	29	18	167	2779
12. Cropped area	000Hect.	3212	3027	4056	17387	955540
13. Intensity of cropping	%age	115	123	100	120	173.8
14. Gross irrigated area	000Hect.	2189	2124	2141.21	10556	180966

### **Objectives:**

6. As the main objective of the programme is to meet the special needs of the people living in remote, inaccessible areas situated near the border and the emphasis is to be laid on the schemes for employment promotion, production oriented activities and schemes which provide critical inputs to the social sectors, as such the infrastructure and economic development activities will be the main focus of the development strategy of the Border Area Development Programme in Kalpa and Pooh Blocks of the Kinnaur district and Spiti Block of the District Lahaul & Spiti.

### **Administrative Framework for Programme Implementation:**

7. All the three Border Blocks in Himachal fall in the Scheduled Area. For development of Scheduled Area, the concept of Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) is in operation. Pooh and Kalpa Blocks of Kinnaur District, comprising of total of three Blocks, form part of ITDP Kinnaur and Spiti Block is an independent ITDP. For the administration of Scheduled Area, there is Single Line Administration, which has three components as under: -

**i) Single Line Reporting System:** - The ITDP Kinnaur is headed by Deputy Commissioner Kinnaur and ITDP Spiti is headed by Additional Deputy Commissioner Spiti. All the District/ITDP level officers report to the Single Line Administrator i.e. Deputy Commissioner/Additional

Deputy Commissioner, who are vested with the administrative, technical and financial powers of Heads of Departments of the State. There is single file system between the concerned head of office in the ITDP and the single line administrator. The single line administrator directly reports to Commissioner Tribal Development, who is the controlling officer for the Tribal Development Department for the entire Scheduled Area of the State vested with full powers of all the Departments.

**ii) Single Consolidated Budget Demand:** - 9% of the total State Plan allocation is placed at the disposal of Tribal Development Department in a single consolidated demand and this demand is fully controlled by Commissioner Tribal Development. Funds are allocated to respective ITDPs on the basis of fixed parameters and funds cannot be diverted neither from one ITDP to another ITDP nor from Scheduled Area to Non Scheduled Area in any other demand.

**iii) Decentralized Planning:** Plans are formulated at the ITDP level by Project Advisory Committee, which is headed by local Minister/MLA representing the area and is comprised of members of Tribes Advisory Council, representative of PRIs at all three levels apart from District/ITDP level officers. The Plans prepared at ITDP level is integrated/consolidated by Commissioner Tribal Development and reflected as a separate Sub Plan under single consolidated demand within the overall State Plan.

Since all the 3 Border Blocks are part of Scheduled Area of the State, BADP is also implemented by Tribal Development Department under the single line administration as mentioned above. The BADP provisions are part of Tribal Sub Plan and Tribal Development Department incurs expenditure without awaiting releases from Ministry of Home Affairs as per the quarterly norm of expenditure prescribed for Tribal Sub Plan. However, it is the responsibility of

Tribal Development Department to ensure releases from Government of India as per allocations made by Government of India. This system has worked very well and utilization of funds under BADP had been satisfactory within the guidelines of the program and as a result State had been able to get additional allocations from Ministry from year to year.

The State Level Screening Committee headed by Chief Secretary is already in place and the Committee meets from time to time for approval of Plan as well as monitoring and as a result, State have been able to submit the annual proposals to the Ministry with the prescribed schedule.

### **Weaknesses and Challenges:**

8. From statistical profile of Border Blocks as detailed in para-5 above, it is apparent that the status of infrastructure and social development is satisfactory viz-a-viz national parameters but still the tribal areas/border blocks are much behind in various indices in the State.

The Border Blocks suffer from the following weaknesses those pose serious challenges in development:

- a) Geographical Remoteness:- All the Border Blocks are remotely located in high altitude, mostly cold deserts.
- b) Climatic Extremities:- The areas remain snow bound during winters and the temperature goes down as much as minus 30 degree centigrade.
- c) Un-reliable Infrastructure: - Due to remoteness and climatic extremities, the infrastructure network like roads, water supply, telecommunication, electricity is not reliable during winters. During summer time when farm surpluses are required to be exported and which is also the tourist season, the roads get blocked due to landslides and flash floods during rainy season.

- d) Capacity Constraints: - Working season is limited. Due to remoteness the Government officials avoid postings in these areas leading to staff shortages.
- e) Poor Quality of Services:- Poor quality of life due to limited access to services. High cost of living necessitated due to remoteness from markets and weather conditions.
- f) Distant Markets:- Appropriate value of farm produce and other local products do not reach the producers and there is wastage also.
- g) High Capital and Maintenance Cost.
- h) Un-employment:- About 7%.
- i) Absence of Skills:- In spite of adequate literacy, skill levels are low/absent and as a result youth unable to avail employment opportunities in the private and government sector.

#### **9. Strengths and Opportunities:**

- i) Better Literacy-about 74%.
- ii) Low poverty ratios (about 25%) and better per capita incomes about 34000 against State average of Rs. 25000/- 2003-04).
- iii) 100% electrified (one village electrified by Solar Power)
- iv) 100% piped drinking water. Better potential of land-high value crops.
- v) A good network of rivers/streams-High Hydro power potential.
- vi) Cultural and adventure tourism potential.

#### **10. Development Strategies:**

##### **a) Resources Partnership-Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes:**

##### **i) PMGSY:**

All habitations above 500 population covered/sanctioned under PMGSY. Process for sanctioning connectivity to 250 to 500 habitation population in process and targeted to be completed/sanctioned during 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.



ii) RIDF:

For improvement of existing Rural Roads and Major District Roads and for construction of bridges, projects under RIDF are proposed/being proposed to NABARD.

iii) APDRP:

Part cost of augmentation of Transmission System approved under APDRP.

iv) MNES:

Augmentation/remodeling of local Micro Project at Rongtong in Spiti Block posed to MNES and balance cost beyond MNES norms proposed to be met under BADP.

v) BSNL/Telecom Service Providers:

OFC network approved for entire border area and in progress. Concessional reinstatement charges of roads (free Right of Way has been given) allowed to Telecom Service Providers. Augmentation of capacity of exchanges of WLL/Mobile network being pursued.

vi) MORD schemes and other centrally sponsored schemes like drinking water, irrigation, handlooms.

vii) Border Infrastructure Development Program of MHA.

vii) BADP:

To fill the critical gap in development resources. Seek additional resources under BADP by better implementation of BADP.

**b) Thrust Sectors Focus:-**

Farm sector, Service sector and conservation of culture and environment have been identified as thrust sectors.

**11. Farm Sector:**

Farm sector needs not only sector development but also consolidation of sectors supporting the farm i.e. (i) Irrigation facilities

(ii) Reliable and quality road network (iii) Reliable and quality power supply.

**a) Enhancing Farm Productivity:**

- (i) Farm production and productivity by land development improving existing fallow and uncultivated land for horticulture.
- (ii) Land distribution by way of land grants and implementation of Central Act i.e. vesting of forest rights to tribals.
- (iii) Better production technologies.
- (iv) Better cultivars, import of plant and root stocks from USA.
- (v) Diversification to cash crops and cultivation of non forest produce/herbs- off season vegetables, apples and other fruits.
- (vi) Harnessing the irrigation potential.
- (vii) Better irrigation technologies like drip irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, storage tanks for piped irrigation.
- (viii) Value addition by way of better harvesting techniques and post harvesting and processing, organic farming.
- (ix) Marketing strategies and facilities, including Geographical Indications.

**b) Harnessing Irrigation Potential:**

Presently cropping intensity is about 120 and net irrigation is about 60% in the Border areas. Irrigation is only through flow irrigation channels originating from perennial streams/rivulets, which require construction of long channels by cutting the mountain slopes to bring water through gravity and is cost intensive and also requires heavy maintenance cost because most of the channels get damaged during winter snow. The existing easy sources have already been tapped by the local communities and community investment in construction of long channels is not feasible. Hence, substantial investment is required for construction of flow irrigation schemes to increase the areas under irrigation so as to enhance farm production

and productivity. The resource gap is proposed to be addressed through allocations under BADP.

**c) Reliable Road Network:**

The main road connecting the Border area passes along the banks of river Sutlej and river Spiti and hence are prone to damages due to avalanches, landslides and flash floods during rainy season or when rate of snow/glacier melting is very high during peak summer/rainy season. In order to export the marketable farm surpluses, mainly peas, potatoes and apples during the months of July to October, reliable network is required. Accordingly, the following strategy is being adopted:-

- (i) All the habitations above 500 population have already been linked or projects are already sanctioned under Bharat Nirman (PMGSY) and are under execution. Spiti Block has universal connectivity whereas Kalpa and Pooh Blocks have more than 75% connectivity. Hence, it is proposed to obtain sanctions of all balance habitations between population of 250 to 500 during 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period, including metalling/tarring and up gradation of Through Routes under PMGSY.
- (ii) 5 roads have been approved under Border Infrastructure Development Program along Indo-China Border by Department of Border Management, MHA, which will be implemented speedily.
- (iii) In order to provide a reliable connectivity throughout the year, the proposal for revival and upgradation of Old Hindustan Tibet Trade Route has already been approved, which is being funded under BADP. It is proposed to continue the funding to complete the upgradation of Old Hindustan Tibet Road i.e. Karchham-Pe-o-Pangi-Thopan-Rarang-Jangi-Kirang Khad bypassing the NH between Karchham and Kirang Khad as a parallel arterial road.
- (iv) In order to provide a shorter and reliable bypass to main highway passing through Malling slide, a bypass road called Malling bypass from Leo to Chango has already been approved and being funded under BADP,

which is proposed to be continued and completed during 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

- (v) In addition, a few terminal villages along the border like Tashigang is proposed to be executed under BADP.
- (vi) Essential left out bridges to be constructed under BADP

## **12. Development of Service Sector:**

- a) Modernization and diversification of farm sector will promote service sector where the educated youths can undertake the operation like harvest operation, post harvest operation, maintenance operation, processing operation, marketing operation, transportation operation etc.
- b) To create a pool of skilled personnel in construction and maintenance of buildings for placement in Hydro Power Projects during implementation and maintenance stage.
- c) Promotion of Tourism and related sectors.

## **13. Conservation of Culture and Environment:**

- a) Restoration of heritage community assets like temples and monasteries and promote them as tourist attraction in addition to their local needs for social culture cohesion. In the first phase, priority to Panchayats closer to border with average of Rs. 20.00 lacs per Panchayat.
- b) Construction of Community centers which are used as cultural, social and production centers. Priority to panchayats located closer to border with average investment of Rs. 20.00 lacs each, excluding those already covered under model village projects sanctioned.
- c) Preservation and promotion of local art and culture like costumes, folk songs and dances, paintings etc for conservation and tourism promotion.
- d) Conservation of environment and promotion of eco-tourism/adventure tourism etc.

### **11th Five Year Plan Projections:**

14. During the balance period of 11th Plan it is proposed to avail maximum allocations under BADP against projected amount of Rs. 186.75 crore to meet the critical gaps for implementation of identified schemes detailed in the subsequent pages.

### **Preparation of Micro Plan and Capacity building:**

15. Micro level plans required to be prepared as recommended by Task Force could not be prepared because due to Elections Model Code of Conduct remained in operation from October to December during 2007. After December till April the areas are snow bound and also capacity buildings of PRIs and implementing agencies is required for preparation of Micro Plans. Accordingly provisions for capacity building have been made.

### **Investment Priority for habitations located along the Border:**

16. In the mountains the criteria of distances of habitations from the Border for investment prioritization is not wholly objective hence. Combination of proximity to border in terms of distance and geographical delineation by natural boundary has been taken into account. The Indo-China border is towards the east of Border Blocks and hence the areas located on left bank of River Spiti and River Sutlej has been identified for priority investment, particularly for Community Centres and conservation of heritage monuments. Maps and the listing of priority habitations have been detailed in the subsequent pages.