

STATE PLAN PROPOSALS

EIGHTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

(1992-97)

AND

ANNUAL PLAN (1992-93)

Volume—1



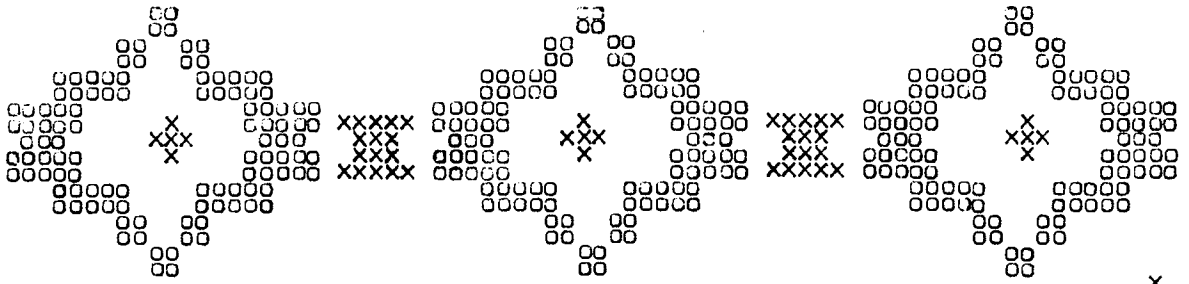
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GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Development and Planning Department

NOVEMBER, 1991

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EIGHTH FIVE YEAR PLAN 1992-97

A N D

ANNUAL PLAN 1992-93

V O L U M E = I

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING DEPARTMENT
RAJ BHAVAN, CALCUTTA

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DOC. No. D-6763
Date 30/3/92

V O L U M E - I

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FOREWORD

After an exercise undertaken in the last year, we are now once again working out the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) including the Annual Plan (1992-93). An important occasion such as this allows us to reflect on the outstanding problems confronting our economy, the approach so long adopted in redressing these problems, and also the consideration of an alternative approach to planning with a view to a better lessening of the problems.

2. Major problems confronting the Indian economy are :
- (a) Severe balance of payments crisis with mounting external debt and a threat to economic sovereignty,
 - (b) Domestic fiscal imbalance,
 - (c) Unemployment and low purchasing power of the common people,
 - (d) Inflation, and
 - (e) Imbalance in Centre-State relations with a tendency towards over-centralisation, and alienation of the common people from the process of planning.

These problems are not isolated from one another, but are strongly interrelated. They are, in fact, a collective consequence of the approach to planning so long followed at the national level. A critical analysis of this past strategy of planning - its priorities as well as organisation - is therefore required. On the basis of this analysis and also from experience, it is possible to suggest an alternative approach to planning which may provide a better relief to the common people even within the existing socio-economic framework.

3. In the past planning strategy, followed at the national level, no serious attempts have been made to alter the existing unequal distribution of production assets. The effective decision, it seems, has always been to accept the existing unequal distribution of these assets, particularly of land in agriculture and capital in industry, and then plan for production in the respective spheres. In consequence, for the country as a whole, land reform measures have not been pursued. The persisting inequality in the ownership of land has also been admitted in the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Seventh Plan by the Planning Commission.

It has been noted, for instance, that according to the latest National Sample Survey data, for the country as a whole, only about 29 per cent of land is under the ownership of small and marginal farmers, i.e., the remaining 71 per cent of land is cornered by the bigger farmers. As a result, the main benefits of agricultural production have not reached the vast majority of common people. Their purchasing power, therefore, has remained inadequate. Similarly, planning for production in industry has been viewed through the eyes of big industrialists. As a result, given their interests, there has been a tendency to adopt technology which is overly capital-biased and import-intensive -- more than what is socially desirable -- with inadequate absorption of labour force in production, causing widespread unemployment. The stalled land reforms and widespread unemployment have been major factors behind inadequate purchasing power of the common people. But, at the same time, due to non-implementation of land reforms and adoption of overly capital-biased technology, there has been a selective increase in incomes of upper income classes both in rural and urban areas.

Domestic Fiscal Imbalance

4. This bias in favour of the upper income groups and neglect of the poorer sections is again reflected in terms of the pattern of financing the budget. For instance, relatively speaking, the tax burden on the poorer sections has been significantly more than the richer sections. This is indicated by the fact that the share of indirect taxes in the total taxes has increased from 71% in 1960-61 to 85% in recent years. But, unfortunately, no serious attempts have been made at direct taxation of the upper income groups or unearthing of black money. This lack of political will for direct taxation of the rich and unearthing of their black money has been the single most important factor behind the domestic fiscal imbalance. After creating this imbalance, the budgetary deficit has then been sought to be met by increasing borrowing, deficit financing and frequent increases in administered prices of essential commodities and basic industrial inputs.

Inflation

5. It is these recourses to administered price hikes and deficit financing, along with a conspicuous absence of a comprehensive national public distribution system, that have become

the major factors behind the inflationary spiral. Purchasing power of the common people in the process have gotten further eroded.

Unemployment

6. This erosion in purchasing power of the vast majority of common people coupled with selective income increase of the minority of upper income groups have distorted the entire scenario of industrial growth. On the one hand, there has been a growth in the consumer durables industry to meet the sumptuary aspirations of the upper income groups. But, on the other hand, there has been due to the fall in purchasing power in the common people, a relative stagnation in vast number of mass consumption goods industries and also industries indirectly related to production of mass consumption goods. As a result of this stagnation, there has been a significant increase in industrial sickness -- from a total figure of about 24 thousands of sick units in the country in 1980 to nearly 2.5 lakhs at present. Since the mass consumption goods industries are, relatively speaking, more labour-using, there has been, as a consequence, an alarming increase in unemployment. The number of registered unemployed alone has increased from about 1 crore in 1976 to nearly 3.5 crores for the country as a whole in recent years. On the other hand, the consumer durables industry has tended to be specially capital-biased and also import-intensive. As a result, small employment generation due to the growth of consumer durables industry has failed to compensate in any significant sense for the massive unemployment resulting from the stagnation in mass consumption goods and related industries. This unemployment and lack of purchasing power of the masses have severely restricted the domestic market and acted as a major bottleneck on the overall industrial expansion in the country.

Balance of Payments problems and external debt

7. Confronted with this situation of limited domestic market, salvation has been sought by the Central Government in terms of exports. The data on foreign trade, however, indicate that exports have not increased in a significant manner. But due to adoption of capital-biased and import-intensive technology, particularly to meet the sumptuary aspirations of the upper income groups, there

has been a massive increase in imports. This ever-increasing gap between the imports and the exports made the deficit in our balance of payments cross the critical level, and the Central Government went in for external loan of about Rs.5000 crores from the IMF and under conditionalities which were not made public. Although the conditionalities were not revealed, the course of actions adopted seemed to be as follows. The administered prices of essential items (such as, petrol, diesel, coal, iron etc.) began to be jacked up, followed by increase in interest rate on bank loans, relaxation of monopoly restrictions and then further liberalisation of imports. Finally, there has also been, during the years 1985 - 86 to 1989 - 90, an effective devaluation of the rupee to the tune of 31 per cent.

8. It may also be mentioned that the objective of national self-reliance has not been seriously pursued in the sphere of oil exploration. From the experience of West Bengal, it has been noted, for instance, that communications even at the highest level regarding oil-exploration possibilities in the State have been left unattended at the Centre. It seems that dependence on petroleum imports has been left to linger petroleum imports - amounting to nearly 25% of the import bill. Capital goods imports have also been allowed to increase, accounting again for more than 20% of the import bill. And a significant part of these imports are related to production of consumption goods of the upper classes. Even what can be produced within the country has not been produced. Domestic fertilizer plants, for instance, have been allowed to lie closed or underutilised while the imports of fertilizers continuously increased, reaching almost 3% of the import bill. There has indeed been an indiscriminate rush towards import liberalisations.

9. This IMF loan and the related measures, instead of reducing the external deficit, in fact, made, in the end, the balance of payments position even worse. This is because the devaluation of rupee, combined with the policy of import liberalisation, led to an increase in the total import bill. On the other hand, administered price-hikes, increase in interest rates and weakening of competition in the domestic market resulted in a higher rate of inflation, which then effectively discouraged exports. In consequence, not only was the crisis in balance of payments aggravated, but the entire burden of this crisis got passed on, through higher

inflation and widespread unemployment, to the common people.

10. The severity of this balance of payments crisis, caused as it has been by the wrong policies of the Centre, is demonstrated by the fact that the external debt of the country which stood at around Rs.18,400 crores in early eighties has sharply increased to around Rs.1.5 lakh crores about six months back from now. Since then the crisis has deepened further, and the Central Government, by repeating its performance of 1981, has again gone in for the IMF loan. Even at the time of writing this foreword, the conditionalities of this IMF loan have not been revealed by the Central Government. But, the course of events suggests that many of these conditionalities are same as the steps or "conditionalities" adopted after the 1981 IMF loan. There has been, as in the past, a sharp increase in administered prices of essential non-ferrous metals, steep increase in the bank rate of interest, removal of the MTP ceiling, liberalisation of imports and then devaluation of rupee. The process of inviting foreign capital had already started earlier. Now, in the New Industrial Policy, foreign investors, for the first time since Independence, have been allowed the majority share in equity ownership, including 100% ownership in certain cases. The large industries, again for the first time, have been allowed to enter the domain of the small-scale sector. Industrial licensing has been abolished except for certain specified industries. Statements have been made on the significance of privatisation of the economy and on the exit policy relating to closed and sick units. But no concrete steps have yet been announced for revival of the viable units or protection of interests of workers. Nor any step has yet been taken for the benefit of the small-scale sector or the self-employed.

11. There are reasons to be worried about these "conditionalities" as already observed. To the extent they are repetitions of the 1981 IMF loan conditionalities, their counter-productive role has already been noted and analysed. The additional conditionalities (they surprisingly keep getting added) need a closer analysis.

12. Any blanket characterisation of viability or sickness, efficiency or inefficiency of any unit in terms of its public or private ownership is often an exercise in superficial oversimplification. When 75% of the GDP in our economy is obtained

from the private sector and when sickness has been observed to be at least as frequent in the private as in the public sector, the proper course is not an indiscriminate transfer of ownership but to introduce adequate convexity or sharpness in the social incentive-penalty mix in both public and private sector, and also in joint-sector wherever relevant. To the extent, any measure is intended to reduce bureaucratic delays, it is welcome. However, so far the proposals of this State are concerned, actual experience over the last few months after the announcement of so-called new policy has been exactly opposite. It may also be noted that for any small industrialist anywhere in India what is most important for survival and growth of his (or her) unit is the availability of credit at a reasonable interest rate from bank and financial institutions. The new policy with its credit-squeeze and high interest rate has systematically gone against the small producers. Statements are often made from the national level about the need for competition. This competition, in our view, should include domestic competition. However, by going against the interest of small-producers and by removing the MRTP limits, the new policy has in effect made the domestic economy less competitive and therefore socially less efficient.

13. No attempt has been made in this new policy to promote or even protect the employment of the common man. It is an industrial policy statement without any employment policy. At the same time, by unleashing a high interest rate regime, this policy has resulted in a sharp cost-push inflation at a rate unknown in recent years. In the process, the situation has become totally counter-productive so far as export promotion is concerned. With the IMF dictated import liberalisation, there is, in the end, a real danger of further worsening of the balance of payments crisis and the economy being forced into an external debt-trap, with a threat to country's economic sovereignty. The way that some of the IMF representatives are making dictatorial statements about our national economic policy makes one wonder whether this threat to our sovereignty has unfortunately already started becoming a reality!-

Centre-State relations -- a tendency towards over-centralisation

14. This entire approach to national economic policy - acceptance of unequal distribution of assets, worsening of the unemployment situation, burden of inflation and threat to self-reliance --

has been one of staying away from the aspirations of the vast majority of people. There has accordingly been an inherent tendency in this strategy to rule out the true decentralised and democratic participation of people in the process of planning, and to centralise powers in the hands of the Central Government, away from the States and the people. Over and above the pre-existing centralising tendency, there has been, over the last one year, further intrusion into the already limited resource base of the States. The small savings accretion has always been a significant source of revenue for all the States. However, due to certain unilateral decisions taken by the Central Government and the Reserve Bank of India, mutual funds schemes of the banks have suddenly been allowed to be floated with more attractive interest rate and tax exemption offers than the small saving schemes, resulting in a significant transfer of savings from the small saving schemes from which primarily the States get their resources to the mutual fund schemes under the control of the Central Government. Moreover, for several States, including West Bengal, there have been significant deductions from even the committed Central Plan Assistance. Similarly, there is an apprehension that recent suggestions of transfer of some of the centrally sponsored schemes to the States may be financially counter-productive to the States if the suggested transfer of the erstwhile central share of grants takes place with 70% of the grants being replaced by loans. The States, in that case, will be financially net loser.

15. It may also be noted that true decentralisation by involving the people through regularly elected local bodies, like the Panchayats, will be meaningful only when a situation of more equal-access to production assets (e.g. land) has been created through land reforms. Otherwise, the Panchayats will be left dominated by the vested interests. Unfortunately, as in the past, no effective step has been taken in the new policy in favour of land reforms.

An Alternative Approach

16. Confronted with this critical situation, there is a need for an alternative approach to planning at the national level, particularly in the context of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97). This alternative approach for a vast country like India should be primarily based on self-reliance and on the development of domestic

market on the basis of growth of purchasing power of the common people. Given the abundance of natural resources, including untapped potential, and manpower, we should analyse to what extent the basic needs of the common people, relating to agricultural and industrial products, infrastructure and services can indeed be satisfied socially efficiently through domestic production, and to what extent through foreign trade. Self-reliance does not mean exclusion of trade. On the contrary, it means trade (and its growth) in areas of comparative advantage (including dynamic advantage) of the country. It means trade from a position of strength and self-respect.

17. Regarding foreign capital, rather than indiscriminate and uncontrolled entry, there may be selective entry, in keeping with the norm of comparative advantage and national priority. Regarding foreign technology, we may certainly keep ourselves open to new ideas, but adopt or accept them suiting local social conditions.

18. Regarding imports, there may have to be a sharp curtailment of socially unnecessary imports of luxury consumption goods, or capital-goods related to production of such consumption goods. To promote exports as well as protect the interests of the common people as such, there is an urgent need to contain inflation domestically. To this end, steps should be taken which are deficit-reducing and, at the same time, non-inflationary. Rather than increasing the administered prices of essential items or the burden of indirect taxes, emphasis should be placed on significant increase in direct taxes, and also on comprehensive provision of public distribution system (as a net-budget-deficit-reducing measure).

19. In the interest of efficiency, as well as employment generation and price reduction, forces of competition should be strengthened domestically. This requires more equal access to production assets, such as land in agriculture and capital in industry. For this reason, a special emphasis has to be given to land reforms in agriculture, keeping in mind that the highest record of production and employment-generation per hectare is obtained from the land of smaller farmers, and keeping also in mind that land reforms can form the basis of growth of purchasing power of the vast majority of rural population and therefore also of growth of domestic market in our country. In agriculture and allied sectors, land reform measures are to be supported by provision of non-land inputs, where emphasis has to be placed on choice of technology

which has to be modern and, at the same time, local-resource-using and employment-intensive. This implies a special challenge for R & D activities in our country.

20. In industry, keeping again the importance of employment-generation and competition in mind, small-scale sector has to be given a special place in the industrial matrix with possible linkages with the large and small scale sectors.

21. Planning in this alternative approach, with preconditions of more equal access to production assets (e.g. land reforms and importance of the small scale industrial sector), can indeed be decentralised with involvement of local people through democratically elected bodies such as the Panchayats in rural areas and the municipalities in urban areas.

22. In the alternative approach it is indeed possible to provide a better solution to the five major problems mentioned at the outset (para. 2).

Experience in West Bengal

23. With modesty it may be mentioned that the State Government has some background to suggest this alternative approach, for, the relevant parts of this approach, which are applicable at the level of a state, have in fact been pursued in West Bengal over the last fourteen years or so. We shall give a brief outline of this approach as adopted at the State level, along with the past experience. On the basis of that, and within this framework, we shall then concentrate, as specific objective for the Eighth Plan, on the maximisation of employment generation subject to the existing constraints, together with steps taken towards self-sufficiency, as relevant at the State level (for instance, in foodgrains production). For achieving these two objectives, targets for each sector will have to be accordingly specified with priority clearly set in favour of the interests of the common people. In formulating and implementing plan schemes in each sector, a thoroughly decentralised approach will also be adopted by involving the common people through the elected Panchayats and Municipalities.

24. To give a pithy review, the alternative approach in West Bengal has started with land reforms. With the implementation

of land reforms, a position has now been reached in West Bengal which is very different from the all-India situation. While according to the National Sample Survey data (as mentioned before) the small and marginal farmers at the national level own only 29 per cent of land, in West Bengal, after land reforms, the small and marginal farmers have come to own nearly 60 per cent of the total land. If now, the land under the recorded share-croppers is added, the proportion of land over which the poor working farmers have certain operational control may exceed 70 per cent, which is a record at the national level.

25. In this new situation, planning for agriculture could be viewed through the eyes of the working farmers. As a result, in their interests, an emphasis has been placed, while providing other inputs, such as irrigation and fertilizers, on a technology which can make fuller use of labour and local resources. To give an example, in the sphere of irrigation, a special attention has been given to the extension of minor irrigation facilities. In large irrigation projects, along with stress on completion of on-going projects and initiation of some new projects, particular emphasis has been placed on extension of field channels. As a result of these efforts, on an average, more than 40 per cent of the gross cropped area of the State has now come to be covered under gross irrigation potential. The Planning Commission in its recent assessment has noted that in planning for agro-climatic zone system, West Bengal has now reached the best position in the entire country. It may be mentioned in this context that the total foodgrains production in the State which was about 74 lakh tonnes in 1976-77 has reached an all-time record of 118 lakh tonnes in 1989-90. Along with that, per hectare yields of the major crops have also increased. In the production of rice, West Bengal's position is now first among all the States. In the production of potato, average production data for the five years show that West Bengal has come up to the second position among all the States. According to the latest data on the State-wise performance of agricultural production, as presented recently in the Economic Survey (1991-92), West Bengal has come to occupy the first position among all the States in the rate of growth of foodgrains production in the Seventh Plan period (1985-90). This rate of growth for West Bengal has been 34 per cent, followed by Haryana (24 per cent) and Punjab (23 per cent). Since this approach to agricultural planning at the State level has been based on land reforms and on the choice of appropriate

technology, therefore, along with increase in overall agricultural production, there has also been an accompanying improvement in the economic condition of the poorer sections in rural areas. This has been reflected in the increase in average wage rate of agricultural workers. The average daily wage rate in the State which in cash and kind together was about Rs.5.60 in 1976-77 has now crossed Rs.20, in 1990-91 and this wage rate in some of the districts has even exceeded Rs.25. It is equally important that along with this increase in the wage rate, there has also been, on average, a systematic increase in employment generation over the years. There has been progress in other sectors allied to agriculture, such as forestry, fisheries and animal resource development. In forestry, to cite an example, additional plantations have been raised in about 4.59 lakh hectares during the ten years between 1980-81 and 1989-90. As a result, over this period, an additional 5 per cent (approx.) of the total area of the State has been brought under forest cover. Of this new plantations, about 70 per cent has been raised under the social forestry programme. In this sphere of social forestry, West Bengal now occupies a front-ranking position in the country. This has been made possible by the active involvement of the local rural people through the Panchayats.

26. Since increase in agricultural production has taken place on the basis of land reforms with an accompanying improvement in the economic condition of the rural poor, there has been in consequence, a related growth of cottage and small-scale industries, particularly which produce mass consumption goods, such as handlooms. In fact, in the handloom sector, the total production has increased from the level of 200 million metres in 1976-77 to a level which has now crossed 430 million metres. That apart, the number of registered small-scale industrial units, which was less than 1 lakh in 1976-77, has now reached 3.40 lakhs. It may be mentioned, on the basis of all-India figures, that in the growth of registered small industrial units, even after allowing for adjustments due to sick units, West Bengal has occupied the highest position among all the States.

27. It may also be mentioned that in large and medium industries, the overall index of industrial production in the State (with new Base : 1980 = 100) has shown a rising trend in recent years. From a figure of 108.4 in 1987, it has reached 117.4 in 1990 and has increased further to 122.7 in the first quarter of 1991. Positive steps have been initiated in the opening up of the closed and sick industrial units in the State. Because of these steps, it has been possible to protect employment of about 60,000 workers in the concerned units. Some of these assisted units, it should be emphasised, have turned the corner and coming also to viability point.

28. While describing the recent positive changes in the sphere of large and medium industries, it is, however, relevant to keep in mind the acts of deprivation of the State by the Centre. For instance, despite recommendations by the Pandey Committee several years back, the policy of freight equalisation has still not been withdrawn by the Central Government. The credit-deposit ratio of the banks in the State has still not exceeded 55 per cent, while the all-India average is 65 per cent and that for the comparable industrial States is above 80 per cent. The ratio of Central investment in West Bengal is less than half of the corresponding figure for the industrial States comparable with West Bengal. It is difficult to forget that the clearance of the Haldia Project was stalled by the Central Government for about a decade. In spite of all these, the main reason for the recent progress in the sphere of industrial investment in West Bengal is the confidence among the industrialists about the stability and positive industrial climate in the State. In addition, green signals were also obtained for some of the very important, but long held-up, projects of the State during the year 1990-91, such as the Haldia Project.

29. In 1990-91, effective steps towards the clearance of the Haldia Project were taken. The much important expanded Letter of Intent was obtained. Along with obtaining the expanded Letter of Intent, clearance about the availability of Naptha, the main feed stock of the Project, was also obtained. A significant part of the loan component of the project cost has already been sanctioned, subject to certain conditions, by the domestic financial institutions. The process of selection of the most crucial technology has also been complete. The site-level work has started, and the State Government along with the co-promoter has worked out the detailed plan at the site level. After commissioning,

this Project will be net import-saver for the country. If, therefore, foreign exchange issue for the gestation period is resolved, then the full-scale activities can begin. This Haldia Project is being planned in a manner so as to forge a linkage and coordination between the large-scale part of the project and numerous downstream small-scale units. As a result, not only will the industrial production increase, but there will also be new employment generation to the tune of 1.5 lakhs. In a similar manner, for the Polyester Filament Yarn joint sector project in Bankura, which is expected to be commissioned within two years, an integration will be forged between the main project and the handloom sector, resulting in generation of employment potential of more than one lakh. The industrial development which is being planned in the State is thus of a distinct type. With a social perspective, embedded in the joint sector framework, this industrial planning, by coordinating the small-scale units with the large-scale complex, upholds in a significant manner the objective of employment generation.

30. Regarding the problem of inflation, it may be pointed out that since inflation is taking place continuously in all the States, the problem is not specific to any particular State, but it relates to the country as a whole. The main reason behind the problem therefore has to lie in the policy pursued in this regard at the national level itself, as has been indicated earlier in the relevant context. The analysis of the entire situation suggests that in order to protect the common people from the onslaught of inflation it is essential that the public distribution system should be made strongly and extensively adopted at the national level. This has been the repeated plea of the State Government before the Centre. However, no such decision for comprehensive public distribution system has yet been taken at the national level. Confronted with this situation, even with limited powers, the State Government decided, along with running the usual public distribution system at the State level, to adopt a programme of distribution of rice at a specially subsidised rate for a month (chosen in the lean period) to the landless agricultural labourers. This programme has been implemented for the last two years, benefiting in each year more than one crore of people in rural areas.

31. With the highest priority assigned to employment generation, the State Government has taken special steps to implement the self-employment programmes. The total number of registered unemployed in the State has crossed 40 lakhs, and in each year there is an addition of about 4.5 lakhs of such unemployed. This again may be taken as a minimum figure of additional job-seekers in the State. Confronted with this situation, the State Government took a decision that employment potential of more than 5 lakhs of people would have to be created in 1990-91 through the various self-employment schemes such as the IRDP, SESRU, SSEP etc. According to the latest available figures, the number of people helped with employment potential in 1990-91 has exceeded the original target and reached a figure of 5.59 lakhs. It has been estimated that apart from these specific schemes, a further self-employment potential of 1.30 lakhs has been created through the development schemes of the concerned departments. Apart from creation of employment potentialities through self-employment activities, wage-based employment has also been generated through such schemes as the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana and the departmental activities of the State Government. The sum total of wage employment generated from only these activities alone in 1990-91 has been estimated to be around 767 lakh mandays. In addition, what is most important is that through the increase in agricultural production itself about 249 lakh mandays have been created. If this trend continues and be improved upon, then addition to the employment potential generated in a year may exceed the addition to the number of job-seekers, so that attempts in this manner may be made in every year to reduce the backlog of existing unemployed, providing in the process a relief to some extent to the burning problem of unemployment.

32. Along with these steps, a special importance has been attached to the total literacy campaign. In this massive drive, together with the Panchayats, municipalities and district administration, several mass organisations and voluntary organisations have also been involved. With the oath taken to achieve full literacy, this campaign was initiated at the district of Midnapore in the month of September, 1990, and was soon adopted in seven other districts. Among all these districts, Burdwan has earned the distinction of being the first district to achieve the norm of full literacy and has obtained the U.N. Award for the year 1991. In this campaign, all other districts are also ^{moving ahead} with enthusiasm. Along with

eradication of illiteracy, a special attention is being paid so that the neo-literates can make social use of their newly acquired knowledge.

33. Since this alternative approach to planning of the State Government has as its target group the common people, decision has been taken from the very beginning to involve the local people through the Panchayats in rural areas and the municipalities in urban areas in the formulation and implementation of all the planning activities -- from land reforms and agriculture to employment and literacy programmes. This process of decentralised planning has now been more coordinated through the working of the district and the block-level planning set-up. Through this process of decentralised planning, it has now been possible to allocate more than 50 per cent of the State Plan expenditure in a year to the district-level and below for decision-making and then spending. With priorities in favour of the common people, and on the strength of land reforms and the resulting pro-poor class character of the Panchayats, this experiment in decentralised planning, carried on in the State over the last fourteen years, by involving the local people through the Panchayats at the grass-root level is an inseparable part of the entire alternative approach of the Left Front Government.

The Eighth Plan : Looking Ahead

34. After taking these steps, it has been decided, on the basis of experience, that along with advancing these steps further, new initiatives will be taken in a time-bound manner in every year within the Eighth Plan period. In the interests of the common people, along with increasing production, special efforts, to the maximum extent possible and within the limited powers of the State Government, will be given to increase employment opportunities in rural and urban areas. At the same time, considering the overall situation of the country, steps will be taken, to the extent possible at the level of a State, towards achieving self-reliance. Employment generation and self-reliance will provide the main direction of planning at the State level.

35. With these objectives in view, along with land reforms, special emphasis will be placed on extension of irrigation facilities. This will not only mean speedier completion of the large irrigation projects (such as the Teesta Project, the Subarnarekha Project or the Kangsabati Modernisation Project) by rightfully

obtaining the Central support, where necessary, but will also mean paying special attention to the surface-water-based as well as the ground-water-based minor irrigation projects. To this end, for purpose of extension of projects relating to Deep, Mini-Deep and Shallow tubewells, detailed information on ground-water position has already been obtained and communicated to the District Planning Committees. Special efforts will be made so that the share of total irrigated area in the gross cropped area of the State may increase from the present figure of about 40 per cent to 60 per cent within the next five years.

36. At the same time, keeping the geographical characteristics in mind, there is a need for planning for the cropping pattern in the different regions and districts in the State so that production can be encouraged for those crops (such as, oilseeds) where there is a deficit in the State. If production of these crops is further enhanced on the basis of land reforms and irrigation support, then not only will there be a move towards self-reliance but, because of the employment-intensity of these crops, there will also be significant generation of employment in rural areas.

37. For increasing the crop yield, there is also a need for use of the improved variety of seeds suiting local conditions. To this end, the Government agricultural farms at the district and the block levels as well as the specific project areas may be more adequately utilised so that the State can be closer to attaining self-sufficiency regarding the supply of improved seeds. At the same time, rather than using only import-dependent chemical fertilisers, it is important to combine chemical fertilisers with local-resource-based bio-fertilisers so that per hectare yield of the crops can be increased and also fertility of the soil protected. In certain regions of the State, higher parts of land, not usually suited for crop-rusbandry, can be better used for fodder cultivation. Here, coordination between fodder cultivation and social forestry will add to forest cover and also help animal resource development. Similarly, if a more improved use can be made of the tanks (more than 11 lakhs in numbers), and other water bodies, brackish water and sewage-fed fisheries and coastal areas, then the rising curve of fish production can be pushed up further, and the gap between the needs of the State and internal supply narrowed down.

38. In order that the benefits of enhanced production in agriculture and all these sectors may reach the common consumer as well as the common producer, it is essential that the marketing structure should be adequately and socially organised. It is in this context that organisations of actual producers, or cooperatives formed by the

actual producers can play a significant role. The cooperative sector will be given a special attention, keeping in mind that the relevant cooperative societies may play the role of banks for the common people of the State.

39. Industry often grows out of the womb of agriculture. Agriculture in West Bengal is now about to cross a new threshold. As a result, an altogether new possibility has emerged for the growth of those industries which process agricultural produce and also those which supply inputs to agriculture (such as seeds, tubewells etc.). At the same time, new industries have also started growing up in the State by using the forest-based products and minor minerals (such as, stone chips). The demand for these industrial products is also being created within the State itself. For instance, the growth of demand for tubewell parts is related to the spread of minor irrigation programme, and that for stone chips to various construction programmes (such as road schemes etc.). In future, keeping the objectives of employment generation and self-reliance in view, special encouragement will be given to these types of industries and, whenever possible, necessary coordination between the local demand and internal supply will be forged through the district and the block planning set-up.

40. In the sphere of industry, mention has been made about the need for coordination between the large-scale and the small-scale sectors, so that along with enhancement in production there may also be substantial generation of employment. There is, at the same time, a similar need of forging a coordination between such growth of small-scale industrial sector and advancement of self-employment schemes. Simultaneously, growth of production in agriculture and allied sectors, and the related development of trade, should also be coordinated, whenever possible, with the self-employment schemes. It is only through such a coordinated approach, and not in isolation, that the self-employment schemes will become more viable at the field level, and as a result, the entire planning for employment will also become a more realisable concept.

41. For the progress of self-employment schemes, there is also a concurrent need for advancement of training facilities as well as technical and vocational education. To this end, not only will training facilities, technical and vocational education be better integrated with the formal educational structure; they will also be an inseparable part of the programme on mass literacy. Along with bringing the entire educational sphere closer in this way to the sphere of production activities, a special attention will also be given to the needs of improving quality of education at each level.

42. In the sphere of public health, together with more effective decentralisation of institutional health care facilities, more attention will be given to the preventive aspect of public health. It is for this reason that primary knowledge and methods of preventive health care will also be made a part of mass literacy campaign.

43. In the infrastructural sphere, a continuous attention will be given towards improving the roads and transport facilities and power supply. In transport, social significance of the State sector will increase in all the districts, but with a built-in competition among different State Transport Corporations. Planning for road development will be more coordinated with mass transport facilities, trading centre and other aspects of social infrastructure. Road planning, thus, will be a more integral part of the District and the State Plan.

44. In the sphere of power, continuous monitoring will be made to improve generation, transmission and distribution. Due to installation of the two units (2 X 210 MW) at Kolaghat and augmentation of capacity at the Southern Generating Station of CESC, there has been an addition of 555 MW installed capacity over the last one year or so. Still then, problems relating to the stability of generation and also to transmission and distribution have remained. In the immediate future, a very special attention will be given to the transmission and distribution of power. To ensure stability in generation, there is a need for improving the system of regular plant-level monitoring. If the problem relating to the credit line for the Bakreswar Power Project is resolved, then there should be a significant augmentation of capacity. Along with that, a new attention is being given to modernise some of the existing plants so that the overall Plant Load Factor of the State is enhanced.

45. In consequence of developments in agriculture, growth of trading centres and setting up of small-scale industries, several areas of the districts are now emerging as new urban centres. Keeping this trend in view, special significance has been attached to the concept of decentralised urban development in the overall structure of the State Plan. Furthermore, urban development planning in the State has been taken to signify not simply provisioning of civic facilities; it will also include, as its integral part, planning for production, including employment generation.

46. Reference has already been made to the process of involvement of people through the Panchayats in the district and the block planning set up. This decentralised planning set-up will now be extended to Calcutta as well as to all the urban areas of the districts. In addition,

the sphere of this planning set-up in rural areas of the districts will also be extended, so much so that the process of coordinated planning will now be taken down from the level of blocks to the level of village. And in every village, beneficiary committees involving the local people will be set up for each important schemes so that the local common people can participate more directly through the Panchayats in the formulation and implementation of plan schemes.

Regarding this formulation and implementation of plan schemes, two open mass meetings have been made mandatory at the level of each Gram Panchayat - one for deciding on the priorities of the schemes and the other for presentation of accounts of expenditure on each of the schemes. These are the grass-root level democratic checks on the functioning of entire system of decentralised planning.

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bsg/-

I N T R O D U C T I O N

The 1991-92 Annual Plan proposals were prepared as part of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1990-95). Subsequently, the Planning Commission treated 1990-91 and 1991-92 as annual plan periods and asked the States to prepare the Eighth Plan for the period 1992-97 including the 1992-93 Annual Plan proposals. In the preceeding Eighth Plan and 1991-92 Annual Plan proposals a broad review of the targets and achievement, physical and financial, for the Seventh Five Year Plan was made. Besides, the proposals broadly indicated the envisaged rate of growth, the outlay limit, as also the plan methodology to be followed in the State. The shifting of the period of Eighth Five Year Plan from 1990-95 to 1992-97 will not however effect any change in plan methodology which the State of West Bengal has been following since the beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan and which has been a unique and successful experiment in the State in taking the formulation and implementation of plan to the people. There will however necessarily be certain changes in plan proposals and outlay size for change in the time frame of the plan. Since this is a document for the Eighth Five Year Plan beginning from 1992, this incorporates the review of the Seventh Plan, the analysis of the targets and achievements of the 1990-91 plan year and indicates the objectives of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

SECTION - I

1. Review of the Seventh Plan and 1990-91 Annual Plan

The review will begin with discussion on demographic feature in the State which has assumed a new dimension after the 1991 provisional census report. The S.D.P. series for the latest two years for which information are available will also be analysed. As components of this analysis, performance of the major sectors of the State economy relating to Agriculture and allied sectors, industry, power and a few important Social Services will also be reviewed. It is, however, mentioned that since the second half of the 1990-91 plan, the whole nation has been undergoing a severe financial crunch due to heavy external and internal debt burden and West Bengal is no exception. This aspect will also be dealt with in appropriate place of the document.

1.1 Demographic Feature

1.1.1. The population of West Bengal, according to 1981 Census, was 54.6 million. A provisional report of 1991 Census has come out which shows that the population figure for the State in 1991 stands at 68.00 million. The overall rate of growth of population for the State as a whole during the decade of 1981-91 was thus 24.55 percent which is slightly higher than the corresponding growth rate of 23.17 percent during the preceeding decade

The Mid-year estimates published by the Registrar General, India. Sample Registration system reveals that all the important vital rates, i.e., birth, death rate and infant mortality rate have steadily declined in the state since 1981 census. But 1991 census speaks of a reversal in so far as growth rate of population is concerned. This instant reversal in the declining trend of decadal growth rate merits a probing study. Prima-facie this could imply among other things a fresh spurt in the in-migration process both from the adjoining states and also from across the country.

1.1.2. The vital rates of India and West Bengal as estimated by the Expert Body of the Government of India are given in the following table.

Table - 1.1

Vital rates in West Bengal and India
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Year	Birth rate		Death rate		Infant mortality rate	
	India	W.Bengal	India	W.Bengal	India	W.Bengal
1985	32.7	29.4	11.7	9.6	97	74
1986	32.4	29.5	11.1	8.8	96	71
1987	32.2	30.7	10.9	8.8	95	71
1988	31.3	28.4	10.9	8.3	94	69

Source : Registrar General, India
Sample Registration System.

1.1.3. There has been in general, a declining trend in birth rates, death rates and infant mortality rates both for India and West Bengal. But all these rates have been systemically lower in West Bengal in comparison with India. As already indicated above the decadal rate of growth of population has nothing to do with the birth rate in the State. The table 1.1 shows that there has been a decline of birth rate by 2.3 points between 1987 and 1988 and this decline has been possible for effective implementation of Family Welfare Programme. The number of acceptors of different family planning methods increased gradually over time, which will be clear from table 1.2.

Table - 1.2

Progress of Family Welfare Programme in West Bengal

	M E T H O D S			
	I, U, D.	Sterilisation	(C.C. Users)	OP Users (Total)
1986-87	75,473	3,01,171	1,54,096	85,002 6,15,74
1987-88	94,994	3,24,575	1,97,732	81,084 6,98,38
1988-89	1,16,864	3,35,873	2,52,470	83,572 7,88,79
1989-90	1,31,126	3,20,212	3,19,860	99,700 8,70,89
1990-91	1,45,610	3,30,434	2,70,237	1,04,866 8,51,14

Source : Department of Health & Family Welfare,
Government of West Bengal.

1.1.4. The sustained increase in the number of acceptors has simultaneously increased the couple protection rates during the last few years as will be evident from the following table.

Table - 1.3
Couple protection rate in West Bengal
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Year	Couple protection rates
1986	28.49
1987	30.10
1988	31.13
1989	32.51
1990	35.14

Source : Demographic & Evaluation Cell,
Department of Health & Family Welfare,
Government of West Bengal

(Reproduced from Economic Review : Government
of West Bengal, 1990-91).

1.1.5. The literacy rates of acceptors for both husband and wife have been found to be always higher than that of the general population. This is shown in table 1.4.

Table - 1.4
Percentage of literates among Acceptors of Family Welfare
.....
Programme
.....

Acceptor Group	Percentage of literates among acceptors (Vasectomy, IUD, Tubectomy)			
	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Husbands	53.88	69.15	65.56	62.27
Wives	46.35	54.24	58.98	51.98

Source : Department of Health & Family Welfare,
Government of West Bengal.

1.1.6. The table above reveals that spread of education among couples, specially women, is a necessary condition for effective implementation of family welfare programmes. The general economic development is also necessarily an important factor in this regard. Therefore, with a view to achieving desired result in population control, the State Government has given much importance on the co-ordination among the family welfare programme, the extension of adult and non-formal education and general economic development through the active participation of the Panchayats, municipalities and local administration in the entire process. Family Welfare Programme in this state is not therefore a mechanical and isolated exercise to reach a pre-determined target but a more comprehensive package of Socio-economic programme aiming at overall improvement of the common people. It is in the context that the recent innovative programme for literacy which is being carried out with the active involvement of the

common people through the Panchayats as well as the administration in the districts of Midnapore, Burdwan, Hooghly, Birbhum etc. assumes special significance.

1.1.7. West Bengal has already brought down the infant mortality rate below the national target. The successful implementation of immunisation of children programme coupled with general economic progress and development of awareness through spontaneous participation of Panchayats and common people has enabled the State to achieve such results.

1.2. Behaviour of Nature.

1.2.1 In the State plan proposals for Eighth Five Year Plan (1990-95) and Annual Plan (1991-92) (Volume-I) details of natural calamities afflicting the state during the period of Seventh Five Year Plan were delineated. The year 1990-91 was fortunately free from the occurrence of any major natural calamity. But in 1991-92, i.e., in the current year the State again reeled under heavy floods. The floods occurred due to rise in the level of the river Ganga, incessant and heavy rainfall in the upper reaches of the rivers of North Bengal and flooding of rivers due to inflow of water from adjacent States and countries. West Bengal being a state in the tail end of the river system has always got to carry a burden of floods even when there is normal rainfall in the State.

1.2.2. Intense rainfall occurred in North Bengal for a number of days with Jalpaiguri alone recording a staggering 66 mm. between 8.9.91 and 10.9.91. Owing to such continuous rainfall in the three North Bengal districts, namely, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and Cooch Behar, all the rivers like Teesta, Jaldhaka, Raichak, Mahananda, rose sharply and caused damage to bank Protection works, spurs and other river training works in different vulnerable locations including the towns of Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar. The rivers in West Dinajpur district recorded a sharp rise in level due to large volume of run off generated in upper catchment in Bangladesh and North Bengal districts. The rivers Atrai, Purnarbhava, Tangon, Kulik, Nagar etc. have all overflowed their banks causing breaches in embankments at several places. Large areas of agricultural land have been inundated. The district town of Balurghat remained under water for more than a month. Other towns like Gangarampur and Raiganj were also flooded. Owing to sustained high level of Ganga above extreme danger level, severe erosion had taken place on the right bank between Farakka and Akherigonj. As a result protection works in the form of spurs and revertments have suffered severe damage. Bhutni Diara island in the district of Malda is protected by a circuit embankment which developed multiple breaches overflowing the entire island measuring 45 sq.k.m. thereby endangering human lives and causing extensive damage of the rich crops cultivated there. Other parts of the districts were also affected in varying degree. In several parts of other three districts viz., Hooghly, Howrah and Midnapur floods occurred due to high release from D.V.C. Reservoirs with the synchronised

of high level of river Hooghly and spring tide.

1.2.3. On account of three floods there had been a large scale inundation of populated pockets, loss of human lives, damage of embankments and roads, extensive damage of crops etc. The number of districts affected was 7 and the number of Municipalities and Blocks affected were 5 and 6 respectively. About 50 lakh persons had been affected in the state. The severity of flood was such in the districts of West Dinajpur, Malda and Murshidabad that the assistance of the Army and Air Force was obtained for rescue operations and for reaching relief materials.

1.2.4. Detailed assessment of losses sustained on account of flood amounted to more than Rs. 150.00 crores. The loss in the Irrigation and Flood Control and Road sectors alone, as documented by the concerned Departments exceeded Rs.80.00 crores. The State Government has spent more than the limit prescribed for the calamity relief fund and approached the Government of India for rendering financial assistance to the State to enable it to properly tackle the situation.

1.2.5. The flood takes the form of catastrophe almost every year in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad due to non-execution of protective measures as recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Farakka Barrage Project. In every plan proposal and also through other relevant forum, the Government of West Bengal continues to propose that the Central Government should implement the measures necessitated due to Farakka Barrage construction. But Government of India is maintaining stoic silence on this issue.

1.2.6. A review of performance of the Seventh Plan reveals that despite natural calamities in successive years and lack of adequate support from the Central Government on restoration account, the state has more than reached the financial target and continued to make significant progress in most of the sectors of the economy. In 1990-91, however, the state had to bear the major impact of the implementation of the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. Secondly, the State Government urged upon the Central Government to rephase the loan repayment in suitable terms. But the Central Government in spite of initial assurance ultimately turned down the request and the State at the fag end of 1990-91 had to repay huge amount of loan due to the centre. These two resulted in shortfall of plan expenditure in 1990-91. The plan outlay and expenditure for the Seventh Five Year Plan period and also for 1990-91 are presented in the table below.

Table - 1.5

Plan Outlay and Expenditure

		(Rs. in lakhs)	
Agreed outlay	Expenditure	Percentage of expenditure over agreed outlay	
7th Plan	412500.00	437888.90	106.15
1990-91	1328.22	108658.57	81.82

Source : Dev. & Plng. Deptt., Government of West Bengal.

1.2.7. Since the Second Year of the Seventh Five Year Plan, i.e., 1987-1988 the Government of West Bengal had been maintaining Zero deficit balance budget without drawing upon overdraft facility even for a single day. At the same time, notwithstanding the natural calamities afflicting the state and gradual reduction in plan assistance from the Central Government, the plan expenditure had been 106.15 percent of the Seventh Plan agreed outlay as may be seen from Table 1.5. It is the prudent financial management coupled with sustained effort for maximum mobilisation of internal resources, particularly Small Savings which enabled the State Government to achieve such spectacular financial performance during the Seventh Plan period. The net small savings collection in the state rose from Rs.36200.00 lakhs in 1987-88 to Rs.96100.00 lakhs in 1990-91. As already mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the plan expenditure suffered a shortfall in 1990-91 on account of implementation of the recommendation of the Third Pay Commission and also for refusal by the Central Government to act upon the proposal of the State Government for rephasing of loan repayment in suitable terms. In 1991-92 i.e., in the current year, the plan expenditure may suffer a big slash down for a variety of reasons. First, there have been certain structural changes in the fiduciary system of the country like containment of fiscal deficit within 6.5 percent of the GDP, devaluation of Indian rupee with consequent inflationary spurt and heavily increasing the non-plan obligation. Secondly, there has been the increase in rates of interest of Commercial Banks vis-a-vis the interest rates for various small savings schemes. Owing to such rise in Bank rate, the Small Savings Schemes are no longer lucrative consequently there may be an erosion of Rs.400 to Rs.500.00 in Small savings collection and it is likely that the State will fail to reach even 60% of the last year's mobilisation level. Thirdly, the Central Government has indicated that it would not release the promised Central plan assistance of Rs.215.00 crores. This is a dishonour of the firm commitment made by the Planning Commission in concurrence with the Ministry of Finance. Fourthly, the flow of fund against the Externally Aided Projects as was anticipated at the time of formulation of 1991-92 Annual Plan is likely to face severe reduction for reasons beyond the control of the State Government. In fact the financial position for the nation as a whole is extremely grim and it has been made worse for the State Government for Central policies as mentioned above.

1.3. State domestic product (SDP)

1.3.1. The estimate for SDP for 1990-91 is yet to be made available. The quick estimate for 1989-90 reveals that the State Domestic Product at constant (1980-81) prices, increased by 4.8 percent in 1989-90. The per capita SDP at constant prices also registered a 3 percent growth rate in 1989-90. The component-wise change in SDP is shown in the table below.

Table - 1.6

Estimate of Net State Domestic Product of West Bengal by industry of origin (at constant 1980-81 prices) for the years 1988-89 and 1989-90.

Industry	(Rs. in crores)	
	1988-89 (P)	1989-90 (Q)
1. Agriculture	4090.63	4244.73
2. Forestry	39.77	42.12
3. Fishery	352.18	397.79
4. Mining and Quarrying	48.10	35.96
5. Manufacturing - Registered	1564.96	1618.00
6. Manufacturing - unregistered	1116.42	1160.25
7. Construction	495.32	603.14
8. Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	122.79	136.17
9. Transport/Communication	419.90	459.18
a) Railways	80.71	83.13
b) Transport by other means & storage	278.48	314.13
c) Communication	60.71	61.92
10. Trade, Hotel and Restaurants	1219.61	1256.83
11. Banking and Insurance	616.60	659.76
12. Real Estates, Ownership of Dwelling and Business services	774.12	784.34
13. Public Administration	320.21	325.49
14. Other Services	667.34	695.65
Total (in Rs. crores)	11847.95	12419.41
Per capital (in Rs.)	1841	1897

P - Provisional ; Q - Quick Estimate

Source : Bureau of Applied Economics & Statistics, Government of West Bengal.

1.3.2. The subsequent paragraphs on Agriculture reveal that West Bengal has maintained a steady progress in food production. In potato production it is the second highest source in the country. In oilseed production also, the State is steadily catching up. Again, it may be seen from paragraph 3.1.4 that West Bengal had the third highest per capita rural income in India for the average of the period 1985-86 to 1987-88, Haryana and Punjab being the only two States in India which had higher per capita rural income than West Bengal. All these indicate that West Bengal is now at the threshold of major break-through in agriculture.

1.3.2. This development in agriculture is related to certain important policy decisions taken in the rural sector in the State. These are the land reforms through redistribution of ceiling surplus land among the land-poor farmers, and securing tenurial right to sharecroppers, supporting these land reforms measures by supply of non-land inputs, such as irrigation, seeds and fertiliser to the beneficiaries of land reforms and common working

farmers. These policies have been implemented through decentralised planning process in which the rural poor through the Panchayats effectively participate in formulation and implementation of plans and projects.

1.3.3. Another area where the State has achieved a near break-through is oilseeds production. In 1970-71 total oilseed production was .59 lakh tonnes from which it rose to 5.06 lakh tonnes in 1987-88. This enormous increase in 1987-88 was due to a bumper crop in Til. In the subsequent years however, the oilseed production stabilised around 4.25 lakh tonnes. This phenomenal growth in oilseed production has not only contributed considerably to State domestic product but has also partially reduced the dependence on external sources.

1.3.4. The SDP from the forestry sector, at constant 1980-81 prices, increased slightly from Rs. 39.77 crores in 1988-89 to Rs.42.12 crores in 1989-90. The slight increase was because, the production of fire wood and other minor forest produce increased significantly in 1989-90 though the production of timber declined due to the Government's policy of reducing clear felling on ecological ground.

1.3.5. In the fishery sector, the S.D.P. at constant prices increased from Rs. 352.18 crores in 1988-89 to Rs. 397.79 crores in 1989-90. This increase was because of the increase in fish production in the State from 5.23 lakh tonnes in 1988-89 to 6.01 lakh tonnes in 1989-90.

1.3.6. In the manufacturing (Registered) sector, the S.D.P. at constant prices increased from Rs. 1564.96 crores in 1988-89 to Rs.1618.00 crores in 1989-90. This increase was due to overall increase in industrial production in the State even though the production of steel, coal, tea and cotton cloth declined in 1989. This indicates that the significant growth of new industries in the State, specially in the registered small scale sectors, in recent years, have started having a significant impact on the industrial production profile of the State. In manufacturing (unregistered) the S.D.P. has grown from Rs. 1116.42 crores in 1988-89 to Rs.1160.25 crores in 1989-90. This significant increase has been possible because of the impressive growth of Cottage and (tiny) Small Scale Industrial Units specially under I.R.D.P. In village and small scale industry sector also, each year about 16000 to 17000 small scale units are set-up in the State excluding the units set up under I.R.D.P. At present West Bengal has the largest number of registered small scale units among the States in India.

1.3.7. The S.D.P. from construction sector rose from Rs.495.32 crores in 1988-89 to Rs. 603.14 crores in 1989-90, thus registering a remarkable growth rate of 21.8 percent. This increase is related to the extensive construction activities that have taken place under JRY and under

District Plan Schemes in the rural areas as also to the construction activities in urban and semi-urban areas under housing, urban renewal and other programmes.

1.3.8. In the electricity, gas and water supply sector, the S.D.P. increased from Rs. 122.79 crores in 1988-89 to Rs. 136.17 crores in 1989-90 mainly because electricity generated by all the Power Agencies in the State in 1989-90 was higher than the generation level achieved in 1988-89.

1.3.9. The S.D.P. from the Transport sector increased from Rs. 419.90 crores in 1988-89 to Rs. 459.18 crores in 1989-90. This increase is related to the increase in economic activities in different sectors and reflects the general buoyancy in the economy.

1.4. Plan Methodology

1.4.1. The plan methodology as was followed in the Seventh Five Year Plan will also continue to be followed in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

The State Government is of the opinion that no growth in industry is possible without the increase in purchasing power of the common people. The foundation for that is laid by land reforms. On this understanding the State Government has been carrying out land reforms right from late sixties and has now reached a position where, according to National Sample Survey nearly 60% of the total land is owned by the small and marginal farmers as against the corresponding national figure of about 29%. Alongside land reforms, Panchayat elections are held regularly and it was found on every occasion that an overwhelming majority of elected members come from the rural poor. The decentralised district planning set up namely District Planning Committee and Block Planning Committee are formed mainly of the elected Panchayat members. Thus the Panchayats have been involved in the formulation and implementation of the major rural development programmes and through them the poorer section in the rural area come to participate in the entire process.

1.4.2 It has been mentioned time and again that the introduction of decentralised planning has brought radical change in the methodology of plan formulation and implementation in the State. Within the overall priorities, the plan budget of each concerned Department is broken down into state level items and the district level items. Budgetary provisions of the different departments for district level items are disaggregated and communicated to the District Planning Committees and significant parts of these provisions are then taken down to block planning committees. Within these budgetary parameters, block plans are formulated by the Block Planning Committees starting the exercise from the level of Gram Panchayats. These block plans are then integrated at the level of District Planning Committee and incorporating the district specific and Municipal specific schemes/projects into its the District Plan is formulated. District Plan prepared at each district forms an integral part of the State Plan. Through this process of decentralised planning, it has now been possible to devolve nearly 50% of the entire plan budget of the State to the command of the District and Block Planning Committees. The chart below shows the gradual increase in percentage of disaggregated outlay over the years.

Table - 1.7

Sl. No.	Name of the District	(Rs. in lakhs)				
		Disaggregated outlay chart				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
1.	Coochbehar	743.38	1587.31	1913.66	1877.75	2442.76
2.	Jalpaiguri	789.17	2060.81	2475.56	2621.48	4781.95
3.	Darjeeling	608.07	1764.18	1438.40	1974.32	3010.50
4.	West Dinajpur	1194.10	2428.66	3741.47	3634.43	4183.61
5.	M a l d a	934.36	1573.36	1692.81	1829.69	2539.89
6.	Murshidabad	1453.84	2180.25	2392.60	2752.02	4963.15
7.	N a d i a	1024.28	1484.58	1743.09	2246.03	2690.15
8.	24-Parganas (N)	-	1956.74	2349.93	-	4510.03
9.	24-Parganas (S)	3072.29	3053.85	3562.07	7837.76	5527.90
10.	H o w r a h	812.79	1106.12	1385.24	2177.05	2544.70
11.	Hooghly	1350.52	1848.19	2211.31	3239.09	3691.24
12.	Midnapore	2901.80	5002.26	6519.39	8292.43	8770.24
13.	Bankura	1032.66	1807.97	2442.41	3121.33	3779.15
14.	Purulia	1122.62	1919.07	2176.51	2939.49	3431.26
15.	Burdwan	1672.18	2832.51	3339.70	4115.86	4639.64
16.	Birbhum	1165.40	1656.53	2050.16	2115.93	2632.74
		<u>19884.46</u>	<u>34262.39</u>	<u>41495.39</u>	<u>50774.66</u>	<u>64711.49</u>
		<u>1986-87</u>	<u>1987-88</u>	<u>1988-89</u>	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
Distribution of outlay					2210.00	1350.00
Grand Total		19884.46	34262.39	41495.31	52984.66	66061.00
Approved Plan Outlay		77600.00	86200.00	95088.90	111500.00	1328.00
Percentage (%)		25.62	39.74	43.64	47.51	49.74

Source : Development & Planning Department,
Government of West Bengal.

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1.4.3 Apart from disaggregation of a high percentage of outlay from the budget provision of concerned Departments, a separate budget head is being operated since 1985-86 namely "District Plan Schemes Fund" (D.P.S.) and funds from this budget head are placed entirely at the disposal of the District Planning Committees. The District planning Committee has been advised to utilise these funds to meet the critical gap between their fund requirements (according to the district plan) and the available funds from diverse sources. The schemes implemented under this fund cover almost all the sectors of the economy. The year-wise allotment and expenditure on account of District Plan Schemes fund is tabulated below :

Table - 1.8

Y e a r	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	Outlay	Expenditure
1985-86	2000.00	1744.66
1986-87	2400.00	819.13
1987-88	2400.00	2179.33
1988-89	2100.00	3335.50
1989-90	2100.00	6597.72
1990-91	2326.00	5277.62

Source : Development & Planning Department
Government of West Bengal.

1.4.4 Owing to effective implementation of decentralised planning, plans are being prepared according to the choice and perception of local populace. In implementation also, the participation of common people through the Panchayats are ensured. This has resulted in efficient utilisation of funds, generation of maximum employment, flow of goods & services to the most deserving section of the people and better co-ordination among activities. The duplication of efforts is also largely lessened.

1.4.5 Monitoring and evaluation of the plan schemes/projects are done by the District Planning and Co-ordination Council at the district level. The Chief Minister and other concerned Ministers also visit the districts and attend the meeting of the DiCC. Monitoring at the district level by the highest authorities of the Government indicates the emphasis placed by the State Government on the District Plan.

2. Review of main sectors of the economy.

2.1 Land Reforms.

2.1.1 The plan in West Bengal starts with land reforms which thus occupy the centre-piece of the development strategy in the State. It is a package of programme comprising vesting of ceiling surplus land, distribution of vested land among the landless and the sub-marginal farmers, providing tenurial security to the share croppers, awarding homestead land to homeless and updating of records of right. The achievement of the state on this sector is given below :

Table - 2.1

Achievement in Land Reforms Programme

Item	1990-91	Cumulative till 31.3.1991
1. Vesting of ceiling surplus land(acres)	2098.85	12,62,777.12
2. Distribution of ceiling surplus land (acres)	20,705	9,13,989
3. No.of share croppers recorded.	27,548	14,34,260
4. No.of mouzas for which records finally published.	1633	23,966

Source : Department of Land and Land Reforms,
Government of West Bengal.

2.1.2 Till 31st March, 1991, 12.63 lakh ^(acre) hectares have vested in the state. Out of this 12.63 lakh acres, 9.13 lakh acres have been distributed among around 18.25 lakh beneficiaries 56% of whom belong to scheduled cast and scheduled tribe as against 27% of the total SC/ST population in the State. The state has till 31.3.1991 provided tenurial security to 14.34 lakh share croppers. Being brought on the village record of right, the share croppers in the state have secured legal access to Government loan and institutional finance, consequently, the production in the land under Barga cultivation has increased at the same pace at which it has increased in ordinary farms.

2.1.3 Another important plan programme in land reform is to provide house sites to the homeless poor belonging to the categories of fisherman, agricultural labourers and rural artisans. The programme was started from the beginning of the Sixth Five Year Plan and by 31.3.1991 as many as 3.54 lakh persons mostly belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community have been vested with title under the above provision. They are also provided financial assistance for construction of houses on the acquired land under Indira Awas Yojana and other rural housing schemes.

2.2 - Rural Development.

2.2.1 The two centrally sponsored rural development programmes like IRDP and JRY attempt to directly attack the rural poverty. As these are poverty alleviation programmes beneficiaries of land reforms, rural artisans and landless agricultural labourers are largely benefitted from the Panchayat Raj bodies are in full charge of the programme and the action plans prepared by District Rural Development Agencies form an integral part of the District Plan and Block Plan in the State's decentralised frame.

2.2.2 IRDP - It may be reiterated that the main objective of the scheme is to raise the income of the poor above the poverty line through income generating activities with Government subsidy and Bank loans. The performances of IRDP in the State has been quite encouraging and in all the years of the Seventh Plan, the State has surpassed the annual physical targets.

tp/-

The progress under IRDP, in the proceeding two years is given below :

Table - 2.2

I. R. D. P. Performance		
I t e m s	1989-90	1990-91
1. Physical targets (families)	2,39,639	1,95,663
2. Physical Achievement (Families assisted)	2,91,947	2,26,603
3.(a) Achievement of SC/ST	1,19,784	95,574
(b) Women assisted	1,12,340	96,069
4. <u>Sectoral coverage</u> :		
a) Primary	24.93%	25.24%
b) Secondary	44.19%	43.53%
c) Tertiary	30.58%	31.23%
5. Funds released (Centre & State)Rs. in lakhs	6,799.85	6,335.70
6. Total credit mobilised (Rs. in lakhs)	12,932.59	10,142.90
7. Total investment (All sources)Rs. in lakhs.	19,316.47	16,047.40
8. Per capita investment (in rupees)	5,625.37	7,079.07

Source : Rural Development Department
Government of West Bengal.

2.2.3 The table above indicates that there has been systematic shift in investment from primary sector to secondary and tertiary sector resulting in rehabilitation of the beneficiaries in small manufacturing and trades by lessening their dependence on agriculture. In primary sector, investment is made mainly for creation of minor irrigation potential in the land of small and marginal farmers which is undoubtedly, the single most important non-land input in agriculture. Per capita investment in agriculture is also being automatically increased from Rs.3286.00 in 1985-86 to Rs.7079.00 in 1990-91 in order to make the units viable and sustainable.

2.2.4 As supporting services to the IRDP, two programmes are being implemented; TRYSEM and DWCRA. Initially DWCRA was being operated in two districts namely Bankura and Purulia and from 1986-87, a few more districts have brought to the fold of the programme. The progress in TRYSEM is tabulated below :

Table - 2.3

T R Y S E M		
I t e m	1989-90	1990-91
1. Number trained	12,689	14,916
a) SC/ST	4,297	5,801
b) Women	4,430	6,702
2. Number self employed	5,891	8,095
3. Number wage employed	2,229	2,193

Source : Rural Development Department
Government of West Bengal.

2.3 Rural employment

2.3.1 Prior to 1989-90, the two major employment generation programmes were N.R.E.P. in plans sector and R.L.E.G.P. in non-plan sector. In 1989-90, the two programmes were merged and a new programme namely Jajhar Rojgar Yojana was launched with Central and State share in the ratio of 80:20. In 1989-90 the total allocation (State share) on account of J.R.Y. was Rs.43.22 crores and actual plan expenditure amounted to Rs.43.22 crores. With utilisation of this outlay, employment generation to the tune of 551.81 lakh mandays could be achieved. In 1990-91, the revised outlay (State share) for JRY was Rs.43.57 crores and the target for employment generation was fixed at 649.16 lakh mandays. The entire outlay was utilised and 516.85 lakh mandays were created. Alongwith high level of employment generation, there has been greater emphasis on social forestry and creation of durable and productive assets. A wide variety of schemes like social forestry, creation of drinking water sources, excavation of village tanks, group housing for rural homeless, minor irrigation works including those relating to flood protection, soil and water conservation, land reclamation, rural roads, construction of school buildings etc. are implemented under this programme. The year-wise performance of the programme is presented below :

Table - 2.4

J.R.Y. Performance

I t e m	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	1989-90	1990-91
1. Budgetary release (including Central share)	11,610.16	19,821.15
2. Utilisation of resources (including value of foodgrains)	19,975.37	17,019.09
3. Employment generation in lakh mandays -		
a) Target	572.75	643.16
b) Achievement	558.81	516.85

Source : Rural Development Department,
Government of West Bengal

3. Agriculture

3.1 Agriculture Production

3.1.1 In 1989-90, the agriculture produce reached a new height in the state by surpassing all previous records. The total foodgrains production reached 118.56 lakh tonnes from the previous year's production of 115.14 lakh tonnes. The Seventh Plan target of 105 lakh tonnes was comfortably surpassed. In 1990-91, the adverse weather condition, particularly the erratic rainfall in almost all the agro climatic zones of the State has led to the fall of total foodgrains production to 112.69 lakh tp/-

tonnes. The onset of monsoon rains in 1990 was almost in time. During the early part of the monsoon season a greater part of the state received normal to excess rainfall excepting in some part of gangetic and terai region. High rainfall caused large scale inundation in the coastal region during this period. As a result, seedlings of winter rice in seed-beds and vegetables were adversely affected and transplantation of winter rice was delayed. Prolonged water-logged condition in the coastal region caused soil toxicity which adversely affected both production and productivity of winter rice.

During the latter part of the monsoon season some of the North Bengal Districts like Coochbehar and Malda experienced deficit in rainfall as a result of which winter rice in its peak ~~silting~~^{tillering} stage and also in P.I. stage suffered. Normal to deficit rainfall was recorded in most part of the state during September and October. Even then the total foodgrains production reached 112.69 lakh tonnes which indicates that the agriculture in the state has attained resilience and the foodgrains production has comfortably stabilised around 110 lakh tonnes. The account of major crop production for the last three years are given below :

Table - 3.1

Estimates of production in major agriculture crops

(in lakh hectares/tonnes)

C r o p s	1989-90		1990-91	
	A r e a	Production	A r e a	Production
1. R i c e	54.50	109.24	58.12	104.36
2. W h e a t	4.00	5.69	2.69	5.30
3. P u l s e s	4.50	2.22	3.13	1.92
4. Other cereals	1.50	1.51	1.00	1.10
5. Total Foodgrains	64.50	118.56		112.68
6. Oil Seed	4.88	4.88	5.09	4.53
7. Jute & Mesta	4.26	50.03	5.00	55.00
8. P o t a t o	2.06	45.32	1.94	44.81

Source : Department of Agriculture,
Government of West Bengal.

It is however mentioned that even though the total foodgrains production in 1990-91 has fallen by about 6 lakh tonnes over the production of 1989-90, but the target of producing 109.69 lakh tonnes has been surpassed.

3.1.2 The all round growth in agriculture that has taken place in the State has been possible for combination of (1) accelerated expansion in irrigation and (2) increased use of fertiliser per hectare. While the aspect of irrigation will be discussed later on, the position of distribution of minikits among the beneficiaries of land reforms and marginal farmers is given below. Each minikit contains quality seed and necessary doses of N P K.

Table - 3.2

Year / Number of Minikits

	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91 (No. in lakhs)</u>
Minikit	14.52	11.25

3.1.3 Beside minikits, the Government also extend subsidy on seed and input loan. As the small and marginal farmers are found to have superiority in per acre production performance over the big and medium farmers, the State follows the policy of supplying the bulk of non-land inputs to them and it is this policy which has led to the rising agricultural production in the State.

3.1.4 As stated earlier, the improvement in agriculture production in the state has resulted in significant growth of state income from the agriculture sector. It was shown in the 1990-91 annual plan proposals that taking the average for 1984-85 to 1986-87, West Bengal stood third in term of per capita rural income from agriculture after Punjab and Haryana. It can be seen from table below that West Bengal continued to hold the third place in terms of per capita income from agriculture in the average of the period 1985-86 to 1987-88. The estimation of per capita rural income takes into account rural population, gross cropped area and state income from agriculture. A glance down column 2 of ~~the~~ table 3.6 will show that gross cropped area of West Bengal was much smaller than that of states like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh. Yet its income from agriculture was higher than those stated and was the third highest among the major states in India. Thus West Bengal which was backward in agriculture is now at the threshold of major break-through in this sector.

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Table - 3.3

Per capita (rural) income (net value added) from Agriculture:

Average of 1985-86 to 1987 - 1988

S t a t e	Rural Popula- tion 1981 (lakhs)	Grosscro- pped area 1986-87 (lakh hectares)	State in- come from agriculture 1985-88 (Rs. crores at current prices)	Per capita (Rural) Gross cropped area (Hec.) (2+1)	Per hec. average value added (Rs.) (3+ 2)	Per capita (Rural) income from agri- culture (Rs.) (4 x 5)
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<u>Major States</u>						
Punjab	121	72.2	4,144	0.60	5,740	3,444
Haryana	101	56.6	2,331(a)	0.56	4,118	2,306
West Bengal	401	82.1	5,998	0.20	7,306	1,461
Maharashtra	408	198.4	5,876	0.49	2,962	1,451
Karnataka	264	118.2	3,775	0.45	3,177	1,450
Rajasthan	270	176.4	3,855	0.65	2,185	1,420
Orissa	233	92.7	3,083	0.40	3,326	1,130
Madhya Pradesh	416	222.1	5,133	0.53	2,311	1,225
Assam	178	36.4	2,124	0.20	5,835	1,167
Andhrapradesh	410	116.3	4,717(a)	0.28	4,056	1,136
Gujrat	234	109.6	2,554	0.47	2,330	1,095
Kerala	207	28.7	2,183(a)	0.14	7,606	1,065
Uttarpradesh	910	252.0	9,157(1)	0.28	3,634	1,017
Bihar	612	104.3	6,235	0.17	5,978	1,016
Tamilnadu	326	65.1	2,243	0.20	3,598	720
<u>Other States</u>						
Manipur	11	1.9	207	0.17	10,895	1,852
Jammu & Kashmir	47	10.3	657(a)	0.22	6,379	1,403
Sikkim	3	1.3	39(c)	0.43	3,000	1,290
Tripura	18	4.1	225(a)	0.23	5,488	1,262
Hinachal Pradesh	40	9.8	433(a)	0.25	4,464	1,116
G o a	7	1.3	75(a)	0.18	5,769	1,038
Arunachal Pradesh	6	2.0	61(b)	0.33	3,050	1,007
Meghalaya	11	2.1	106(a)	0.19	5,048	959
Nagaland	7	1.9	49(b)	0.27	2,579	696
Mizoram	4	0.7	22(c)	0.18	3,143	566
All India	5,255	1,769.2	74,457	0.34	4,209	1,431

(a) Average of 1984-87

(b) Average of 1984-86

(c) Average of 1982-84

Source : Basic Statistic Relating to Economy,
Vol. - II States, 1990, CMIE, Bombay.

Note : States are ranked according
to the last column.

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3.1.5 The special Foodgrain production programme coupled with land reforms and supply of inputs led to record production of rice and significant increase in per capita rural income from agriculture. And what is the most significant is that the increase in the production of rice was mainly due to increase in the yield rate from 1506 Kg per hectare in 1987-88 to 1832 Kg. per hectare in 1989-90. In 1990-91, however the yield rate slightly fell due to the reasons stated in paragraph 3.1.1. However, there has been some breakthrough in yield rate for Aman and if this trend continues with reasonable variation, an exciting possibility will be opened in the State's agriculture sector.

3.1.6 Oil Seeds - There has been phenomenal growth in oil seed production in the State. In 1970-71 total oil seed production was .59 lakh tonnes from which it rose to 2.33 lakh tonnes in 1985-86. In 1987-88 it rose to a new height of 5.06 lakh tonnes mainly due to an unusual bumper crop of 'Til'. In the subsequent years however, the production was found to have stabilised around 4.25 lakh tonnes. In 1990-91, however, due to increase in area, the production has gone up to 4.54 lakhs. The state now produces 40% of its requirement and in the Eighth Plan, the State will strive to improve production so that around 50% of its need is met internally.

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3.2 Horticulture

3.2.1. Alongside the main agricultural crops, the development of horticulture has not been neglected in the state. In this sector, the approach has been to introduce improved varieties as also scientific agr. techniques through field demonstration and supply of inputs and training. Demonstration are conducted for improvement of productivity of existing orchards of major fruit crops like mango, lichi, banana, pineapple etc. Technology has been developed to cultivate, pineapple round the year so that fruit processing industries based on pineapples can be sustained round the year. The production of major horticultural crops for the year 1989-90 and 1990-91 is tabulated below.

Table 3.4
Production of major agricultural crops

C r o p	Achievement	
	1989-90	1990-91
1. Banana	153.60	171.68
2. Orange & other fruits	21.80	305.34
3. Mango	175.00	180.00
4. Pineapple	239.00	205.00
	<u>589.40</u>	<u>862.02</u>

Source : Department of Agriculture,
Govt. of West Bengal.

3.2.2. Apart from normal horticultural activities, the Forest Department under its Social Forestry programme, have been raising and distributing saplings of fruit bearing trees which in course of time will give an appreciable boost in fruit production. The Panchayats have also taken up this programme seriously for easy and cheap supply of nutrition in rural areas and mainly among rural poor.

3.3. Agricultural inputs.

3.3.1. One of the crucial inputs in development of agriculture in the use of quality seed. For stepping up supply of quality seeds to the farmers, the State Government has set up State Seed Corporation in 1980 and has also entrusted the West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation with the task of increasing seed production in its project areas. The Agricultural farms under the State Government are also trying to maximise production of seeds and the individual farmers equipped with expertise of modern farming are also being encouraged to produce seeds. The production of quality seeds has a slightly increased in 1990-91 over 1989-90. Apart from production of seeds within the state, the Government

The production and distribution of seeds are shown in table 3.5.

Table - 3.5

('000 tonnes)

Production and distribution of seeds.

	1989-90	1990-91
1. Production of seeds		
A. Cereals	14.800	16.260
B. Pulses	0.200	0.300
C. Oilseeds	1.560	0.800
D. Jute	0.800	0.020
E. Total	17.360	17.380
2. Distribution of seeds		
A. Cereals	24.552	23.916
B. Pulses	1.800	0.881
C. Oilseed	.920	1.581
D. Jute	1.573	1.800
E. Total		28.178

Source : Department of Agriculture
Government of West Bengal.

3.3.2. The table above indicates that the state does not produce more than 25% of its total requirement. For a break-through in Aman which alone can bring richness in agriculture production a detailed plan has been prepared for production and distribution of location specific variety of quality seeds in rice during Eighth Plan period.

3.3.3. The increase in irrigation facilities and distribution of improved seeds have been supplemented by increased fertiliser consumption in the State. The consumption of chemical fertiliser is shown in table 3.6.

Table - 3.6

Consumption of Chemical fertiliser

(in lakh tonnes)

Item	1989-90	1990-91
1. Nitrogen (N)	3.82	4.12
2. Phosphate (P)	1.76	2.07
3. Potash (K)	1.74	1.34
(N + P + K)	6.72	7.53

Source : Department of Agriculture,
Government of West Bengal.

3.4. Irrigation

3.4.1. The scope for significant increase in irrigated area under major and medium irrigation is rather limited. Apart from Teesta barrage project there is no major irrigation project except Subarnarekha which is a multi state programme. Secondly, with the present pace of funding, it is not known how long the Teesta Project will take to be completed. This is a national project and the State Government reasonably expects that the central Govt. will come forward in a big way to fund the project for its early completion. Finding the scope for major and medium irrigation limited, the State emphasised on expansion of irrigation through minor irrigation projects which are holding specific and cost effective. The irrigation potential created and the potential utilised till the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan and those in 1990-91 are shown in the table below.

Table - 3.7
Irrigation potential and utilisation

	Potential created till 1989-90	Potential created during 1990-91	Total	Utilised till 1989-90	1990-91 potential utilised	Total
1) Major & Medium Irrigation	1244.98	14.92	1259.90	1132.38	31.64	1164.02
2) Minor Irrigation	2496.45	68.95	2565.40	1844.00	N.A.	1844.00
	3741.43	83.87	3825.30	2976.38	31.64	3008.02

3.4.2. The IDA assisted West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project will be completed within March 1994. For this purpose, its outlay has been stepped up. The irrigation sources being created under this project are being handed over to the Panchayats for operation and maintenance.

3.4.3. The Irrigation potential created during 1990-91 through Major, Medium and Minor irrigation does not however, include the potential created through JRY, IRDP, District Plan Schemes Fund, and Special Area Programmes. All these sources taken together have created irrigation potential of around 10,000 Hectares.

3.4.4. Protection from flood and erosion is as important as the creation of irrigation potential. The flood ravages and menace of erosion takes heavy toll of life and property. The State of West Bengal being in the tail end of the river system, floods and erosion have become a recurring phenomenon. A considerable percentage of budgetary outlay of irrigation and rural development sectors is spent for protective measures against flood and erosion. In 1990-91, the State Irrigation and Waterways Department constructed protective embankments for coverage of .60 lakh hectares and save 3.10 lakh hectares from erosion.

3.5. Agricultural credit

3.5.1. Apart from the supply of seeds and fertilisers efforts are made by the State Government to persuade the commercial Banks to provide credit to the small and marginal farmers and share croppers. The credit provided to the farmers by the commercial Banks as well as co-operative institutions is shown in Table 3.8.

Table - 3.8.
Credit disbursed to share croppers, small & marginal farmers.

	(Rs. in crores)	
	1989-90	1990-91
1. Commercial Banks	28.00	25.00
2. Co-operative Banks	60.00	54.60

In 1989-90, the short term lending to the above category of farmers was to the tune of Rs.83.50 crores in co-operative sector and Rs.52.00 crores in Banking sector. But due to introduction of A R D R scheme, collection sharply fell due to which flow of loan also shrank. However, the position is gradually improving and expectedly, the lending will also increase in the current financial year.

3.6. Agriculture wage

3.6.1. As a result of pro-poor bias in entire development plan in the State, the agriculture wage in the state has registered consistent rise. This is shown in table 3.9.

Table - 3.9.
Average daily wage rate of agricultural labourers in West Bengal

District	1984-85	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-
1. Darjeeling	9.00	18.69	17.43	18.54	N.A.
2. Jalpaiguri	8.75	13.34	13.73	N.A.	16.45
3. Cooch Behar	7.83	10.00	11.36	14.09	15.80
4. West Dinajpur	7.45	11.18	10.63	11.56	13.85
5. Malda	N.A.	N.A.	14.43	17.76	17.82
6. Murshidabad	11.50	14.72	14.17	19.05	19.00
7. Nadia	N.A.	15.24	14.98	17.24	18.74
8. 24-Parganas (North)	9.00	13.98	15.78	17.36	18.47
9. 24-Parganas (South)	N.A.	N.A.	21.42	21.52	24.21
10. Howrah	N.A.	-	-	22.58	20.76
11. Hooghly	11.00	16.36	18.37	20.28	24.00
12. Burdwan	10.50	15.40	17.86	18.18	19.35
13. Birbhum	N.A.	11.62	14.80	16.47	17.70
14. Bankura	N.A.	12.97	14.82	17.83	21.77
15. Purulia	N.A.	12.25	14.00	9.23	10.28
16. Midnapore (West)	N.A.	11.07	13.50	16.32	19.53
17. Midnapore (East)	N.A.	16.01	19.33	-	23.37
State : Average :	9.37	13.78	15.41	17.20	18.82
Percentage :		* 14.45	* 11.82		

Source : Socio-Economic Evaluation Branch,
Department of Agriculture, Govt. of W.B.

Increase of CPI between 1981-82 to 1985-86 is 25.4 per cent while money wage rate has increased during the period by 67.7%.

4. Fisheries

4.1. General progress

4.1.1 West Bengal has made substantial progress in development of fisheries. In the Seventh Five Year Plan, the State could exceed target on almost all the items. In fact in the Development of the rural economy of the State, implementation of various fisheries schemes have played a vital role. It has not only stepped up production of fish, it has also considerably contributed to the S D P and continued to be a comparatively cheap source of protein.

4.1.2 Fish is produced in almost all the Zones of the State. Open co system in inland areas comprising rivers, reservoirs, canals, beels (Ox-bow lakes) form potential fisheries. Pond fisheries of the State deserve a special mention. Sewage fed fisheries in the suburbs of Calcutta is latent latent with immense potential. Brackish water pisci-culture potential along the coast line is the largest in the country. Marine fishery resource of the state encompass s a large variety of commercially important species of fish and prawns. The resource wise account of achievement is given below :-

Table - 4.1

Achievement in fish/fish seed production

I t e m	U n i t	1989-90		1990-91	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1. Fish production					
a. Inland	1000 tonnes	520.00	512.34	557	555
b. Marine	-do-	80.00	88.49	85	125
		600.00	601.33	642	680
2. Fishseed pro- duction	Million number	7,250	7400	7500	7552

Source : Fisheries Department,
Government of West Bengal.

4.2 Inland Fishery

4.2.1 The table above indicates that the production in inland fishery has been increasing at an increasing rate. This steady rise has been possible due to (1) increasing productivity of the water bodies already under pisci-culture by application of modern technology (2) by bringing semi derilict and hitherto un-utilised water areas under pisci-culture and (3) by stepping up the flow of assistance to fish farmers through Fish Farmers Development Agency and through Co-operative Societies. In each of the last two years that is in 1989-90 and 1990-91 around 8000 ha could be brought under intensive Pisciculture coverage.

4.2.2 In fish seed production, the state is setting new record every year. It will not be out of place to mention that West Bengal supplies 75% of India's fish seed requirement in the inland sector. Over a few successive years the state has received the highest productivity award in fish seed production.

4.3. Brackish Water Aquaculture

4.3.1. Recently the State has taken steps for considerably increasing the area of Brackish Water fishery which has a great potential in the coastal region of Midnapore, North 24-Parganas and South 24-Parganas. Within the Plan Year 1988-89, Brackish Water Development Agencies have been formed and tagged with respective F.F.D.As in the Coastal districts. Though the achievement in this item is yet to be very significant, but the steps taken have already generated a dynamics and will start giving result very soon.

5. Forest

5.1. Area and production.

5.1.1 West Bengal with a geographical area of 88752 Sq. K.M. (2.7% of the total geographical area of India) supports a population of 68 million (as per 1991 census) average density of population being 766 per Sq.K.M. The recorded forest lands total 11879 Sq.K.M. (13.4% of the geographical area) leading to a per capita forest area of 0.02 ha which is very unfavourable compared to the national average of 0.12 ha. Owing to competitive demand of land by various development sectors, the scope for expansion of traditional type of forestry is rather limited. Consequently, the State has taken the social forestry including strip plantation as also the farm forestry as priority areas. The re-afforestation of the degraded forest area is also equally emphasised. At the same time, there has been an optimum emphasis on economic and commercial plantation and fuel wood plantation.

5.1.2. Another area where the State of West Bengal is in a difficult position is production and supply of fodder. From 1992-93, the I D A assisted project namely West Bengal Forestry Project will take off and one important component of it is production of quality fodder in the forest area. Besides, to support the livelihood of the people in the fringe of the traditional forest areas, a scheme for economic development of the fringe population is being implemented since the Seventh Five Year Plan. The Scheme serves the twin purposes of providing some benefit to the fringe population and to ensure co-operation from them in developing and

protecting the forests. The achievement of forestry sector during 1989-90 and 1990-91 is given below :-

Table - 5.1

Achievement in forestry sector ('000 ha)

Item	1989-90		1990-91	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1. Soil Conservation area covered under forest	0.940	0.940	1.490	1.904
2. Plantation of Quick growing specie	1.240	1.240	1.000	2.293
3. Economic & Commercial Plantation	1.234	1.234	1.000	1.137
4. Social Forestry (IDA)	20.865	45.090	31.975	63.553
5. West Bengal Forestry Project (IDA)	-	-	-	-
6. Rural fuel wood plantation (State Component)	1.695	1.298	-	-
7. Production of some selected forest products ('000 C.M.)				
a) Timber extraction	62.00	37.400	48.00	40.00
b) Fuel wood stacks	159.258	99.713	6.00	55.00

Source : Department of Forest
Government of West Bengal.

In tree plantation, the performance of the State Government has all along been excellent. The performance of the last two years is given below.

Year	(In lakh number)	
	Target	Achievement
1989-90	1000	1376
1990-91	650	1203

5.2 Role of other organisation in Forestry

5.2.1. Apart from the area covered by the States' Forest Department, large area is also covered under Social Forestry under such programme as J R Y and District Plan Scheme Fund. The Panchayats in West Bengal have also social forestry programme of their own. The most important achievement of the Government in this sphere of activity has been the creation of awareness among the people about the utility of trees. Recently, a forest protection force has been raised by engaging people from around the forest area on payment of a consolidated salary. Since they have a sense of belonging, they protect the forest even risking their own life and illegal felling has been largely checked.

6. Animal Resource Development.

6.1. Animal husbandry.

6.1.1. Livestock is one of the very important components in rural development and in supply of protein to the state's population. Its contribution to state domestic product is substantial. The live-stock figure in West Bengal as per 1982 census is given below.

Table - 6.1
Number of different Livestock

Type of animal	Total population 1972	Total population, 1982.	Percentage increase (annual)	Density per Sq.K.M. in 1982
Cattle	11,878,083	15,802,501	3.30	176.4
Buffalaw	824,161	984,000	1.94	11.1
Sheep	793,369	1,860,457	7.15	15.4
Goats	5,211,445	10,996,394	11.10	123.00
Pigs	361,822	768,409	11.24	8.7
Horses & Ponies	14,548	21,849	5.02	0.3
Poultry	15,491,905	29,132,191	8.60	323.0

6.1.2. The basic policy in this sector during the seventh plan was and will continue to be during the period of Eighth Plan, the qualitative improvement of livestock through better breeding, feeding, management disease control and marketing link up. Owing to correct policy planning there has been steady increase in production of milk, meat, eggs and wool as may be seen from table 6.2.

Table - 6.2
Production in animal resource sector

Item	Achievement in 1989-90	Achievement in 1990-91
1. Milk (Lakh tonnes)	27.01	29.12
2. Eggs (million no.)	2208	2279
3. Wool	5.96	6.23

Source : Department of Animal Resource Development, Government of West Bengal.

The seventh plan target for milk was 30 lakh tonnes. Efforts were made to increase the cross bred animals and to produce enough fodder for maintaining necessary supply of feed. Despite all these target could not be reached within the seventh plan period. However, the steps taken during the seventh plan have started giving result and in 1990-91, the

milk production has jacked up to 29.12 lakh tonnes. Expectedly this rising trend will continue. In eggs and wool the target could be reached and the pace of growth has been maintained in 1990-91 also.

6.1.3. Sheep, goats and pigs are mainly reared for meat. Though reliable data are not available, the following table will give a rough idea about supply position of meat in the state.

Table:6.3
Supply of meat

Year	(000 tonnes)			
	Goat meat (M.T.)	Mutton (M.T.)	Pork (M.T.)	Total
1985-86	66.389	3.279	24.154	94.272
1988-89	81.283	3.912	28.347	113.542
1989-90	86.957	3.975	29.900	120.83
1990-91	91.457	4.025	31.390	126.972

Source : Department of Animal Resources
Development, Government of
West Bengal.

Besides, around 200 lakh poultry (broiler) birds are raised and supplied to market year. All these indicate that rising trend in supply of meat has been maintained to cope with increased demand in protein food for general development in economy and growth of population at nearly 2 percent per annum.

6.1.4. For improving livestock with a view to maintaining rising trend in milk supply position, continued effort has been made for inducting more indigenous animals under the fold of artificial insemination coverage. Performance in this regard is indicated below.

Table 6.4.
Artificial insemination cases done

Year	(in lakh number)	
	Target	Achievement
1985-86	5.75	5.65
1989-90	7.28	7.25
1990-91	7.00	6.30

Source : Animal Resources Development
Department, Government of
West Bengal.

6.2. Veterinary services.

6.2.1. Veterinary services occupy the centre piece in the entire gamut of Animal Resource Development Activities. Apart from maintaining the existing veterinary hospitals, dispensaries, Aid centres and Mobile Animal Health Centres, new units are set up every year in the places where there is gap. Besides, the existing units are upgraded also. There are investigational and clinical laboratories. The institutional treatment apart, the veterinary Directorate organises Animal Health Camp for spot diagnosis and treatment and also to make the people aware of various aspects of animal diseases. To quickly meet the need for primary health coverage which is extremely essential for actual improvement in this sector, a programme was taken requiring the veterinary doctors to train up people in batches and encourage them to take to custom services. In 1990-91, 17 youths were trained who would work as resource persons in the field.

6.3. Fodder production.

6.3.1. At present 6.25 lakh hectares are under fodder cultivation. The present requirement of the existing cattle stock comes to around 3,31,64,288 tonnes out of which only 1,56,84,000 M.T. are produced and supplied. The huge deficit of 1,74,80,288 M.T. is made up from 70% of the monocropped area available for grazing during the lean months, unculvitated land during Kharif, road sides, forest, orchard areas, homesteads, canal banks, lake and tank sides etc. But with the increase of crop intensity, the fodder scarcity is being gradually intensified. The state has, therefore, thought of taking up of a massive programme for augmentation of supply of fodder during the Eighth Plan. In the IDA assisted project taken up by the Forest Department fodder production constitutes an important component. The Animal Resource Development Department in collaboration with the Forest Department is striving for boosting up fodder production so as to avoid any disaster in this front.

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7. P O W E R

7.1. Installed Capacity and Generation

7.1.1. The power situation in the Sixth Plan was extremely grim. But the performance in respect of execution of the power projects in the State started improving considerably. The installed capacity for power generation under agencies of the state aggregated to 2238 M.W. in 1984-86. By the end of the second year of the Seventh Plan the capacity figures reached a total of 2558 M.W.

7.1.2. The improved performance of the State Government, prompted the Planning Commission to revise the target upward to 222.5 M.W. for the Seventh Plan. But the progress of work of the power projects in the state suffered a serious set back because of the closure of M/s. ABL who were to supply two out of the four boilers for Kolaghat Thermal Power Units. However, M/s. ABL reopened in 1988-89 and thereafter KJPP units started to be operationalised one by one.

Stage -I : (i) Unit No. 1 Check synchronisation done on 13th August, 1990.
(ii) Unit No. 1 Commercial operation started from 9.9.90.

State-II : (i) Unit No. 5 boiler light up done on 10th July, 1990.
(ii) Unit No. 5 check synchronisation of the unit done on 19th March, 1991.

Maximum load of 210 M.W. has been attained. But unit stabilisation is still under process. Anticipated synchronisation date of other units are given below :

<u>Unit No.</u>	<u>Anticipated synchronisation date</u>
IV	May, 1992
VI	May, 1992

The work of 2x67.5 M.W. Southern Generating Project have been completed and synchronised for commercial operation. Therefore, in 1990-91, there has been an addition of (2x210+2x67.5) MW, i.e., 555 M.W. It is worth mentioning here that the Kolaghat Thermal Power Station has been awarded Meritorious Productivity Award by Government of India.

7.2. Generation

7.2.1. Generation by the State Power agencies increased remarkably during the first three years of the 7th Plan; total generation rising from 6766 M.W. in 1984-85 to 8851 M.W. in 1987-88. But in 1988-89, the generation fell to 8301 MU due to accidents in Santaldih and a serious earth fault in the starter of 110 MWTC sets at DPL. Position continued to remain bad in 1989-90. But in 1990-91, the generation has again improved and risen to 8711 M.W. The generation position is shown in table 7.1.

Table - 7.1.

Generation of Electricity in West Bengal

Name of Organisation	1984-85	1987-88	1988-89	1990-91
	Achievement PLF %	Achievement PLF %	Achievement PLF %	Achievement PLF %
W.B.S.E.B.	3386 (36.5)	3790 (40.0)	3260 (33.0)	2755 (33.9)
Thermal Hydel & Others	135	111	101	81
	3521	3901	3361	2836
W.B.P.D.C.L.	226	1156 (31.6)	1813 (49.0)	2480 (57.3)
Sub-total	3747 (36.5)	5057 (38.8)	5174 (39.0)	5316 (N.A.)
D.O.L.	705 (28.7)	1030 (30.1)	736 (22.0)	836 (24.5)
C.E.S.C.	2314 (54.0)	2553 (56.5)	2391 (53.0)	2727 (60.8)
Grand Total	6766 (40.0)	8640 (40.47)	8301 (40.53)	8711 (39.6)

The fall in generation on W.B.S.E.B. account is mainly for the reason of derating of 4 Bendel units which are about 30 years old. Total renovation of such units is necessary, if they are to be somewhat rejuvenated.

7.3. Rural Electrification

7.3.1. The pace of extension of electricity in the rural areas increased during the Seventh Plan, although it fell short of targets set by the Planning Commission. The number of villages electrified increased from 19,201 in 1984-85 to 26,650 in 1989-90. The number of pumps energised increased from 39,431 to 88,832 during the same period registering about 100% increase in one plan. In 1990-91 against the target of electrifying 1415 mouzas, 1192 mouzas were electrified. In energisation of pumps, against the target of 10,000, 9275 pumps were energised thus almost achieving the target.

7.4. Position in providing connection to consumers

7.4.1. The table 7.2. below shows the growth of category-wise consumers in W.B.S.E.B. system since 1985-86 and cumulative total as on 31.3.91.

Table - 7.2.

Growth of Category-wise consumer in W.B.S.E.B. system

Year	Industrial	Domestic / Commercial	Agriculture	Total
Total as on 31.3.85	40,507	7,62,598	39,492	8,42,597
Increase in 1985-86	2,315	53,776	677	56,718
1986-87	2,501	90,665	2,205	95,361
1987-88	3,000	1,47,000	6,000	1,56,000
1988-89	2,000	1,14,000	8,000	1,24,000
1989-90	3,447	1,03,971	626	1,08,044
1990-91	417	1,26,605	6,806	1,33,978
Total as on 31.3.91	54,187	13,98,605	63,886	15,16,678

The table above indicates that every year around 1,20,000 new consumers are being provided with service connection.

8. I N D U S T R Y

8.1. Large and medium Industry

8.1.1. Today West Bengal's climate for investment and industrial growth is propitious in every way. The people of West Bengal representing a wide spectrum of religious faith, language and creed, cherish a deep rooted sense of security, living in an environment of harmony and unity. West Bengal remains an epitome of communal accord. Political stability, the essential element for economic growth is assured in the State. On the labour front, the organised trade unions have displayed commendable restraint and maturity in safe-guarding the interest of the industry without, however, in any way compromising the legitimate and genuine demands of the workers.

8.1.2. Despite the prevalence of a very favourable industrial environment as stated above there has been a very sluggish rate of growth in large and medium industry over the last two decades. The primary responsibility for the development of large and medium industry in the country is that of the Central Government. The role of State Government is only promotional. There is no denying the fact that the state-level factors play a role in influencing industrial investment and growth, but it is the general economic situation in the country on which the purchasing power of the people is dependant that determines primarily the rate of industrial investment. Similarly, source of industrial input, be it credit or raw material transgresses the State boundaries. Further, the critical factors in the industrial environment like the policies relating to freight equalisation, industrial licensing, financial institutions etc. are all in the hands of the Central Government with the State Government having little or no say in the matter. Even within this frame-work, the State Government has tried to play its role with all seriousness in formulation and implementing its own policy relating to incentives to industries, provision of infrastructural facilities and also formation of joint sector enterprises in crucial areas. The result of these efforts has been reflected in upward movement of the general index of industrial production. The index is given below :

Table - 8.1.

Index number of Industrial production (1980 base)

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Mining and Quarrying	110.40	107.55
Manufacturing	111.70 (R)	118.46
Electricity	195.21	213.37
General	115.65 (R)	122.71

R = Registered

Source - Economic Review, 1991

Government of West Bengal.

As is evident from the table above, the overall performance of the state in industry sector has turned to be discouraging. But a better appreciation of the industrial scene in the State can now be obtained by an analysis of some of the major industries in the State as well as the other important developments that took place in the industrial sector in the State.

8.1.3. The Jute Industry is primarily dependent on the domestic demand for jute goods. While in the sixties, the industry exported nearly 70% of its production from the early seventies, the trend has been reversed with internal consumption accounting for nearly 80% of the production of jute industry and exports accounting for the rest. As can be seen from the table below, this trend has continued in recent years.

Table - 8.2.

Internal consumption and exports of Jute Goods ('000 T.)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Internal consumption</u>
1987-88	240.0	990.0
1988-89	223.5	1149.1
1989-90	235.6	1108.8

8.1.4 The discouraging factors in the jute industry is that there has been a rising trend in recent years in the internal demand for jute goods and there has also arisen a strong likelihood of revival of the export market with the possibility of developed countries switching over to jute packaging on ecological grounds. Moreover, new demand is strongly showing up in the sphere of diversified jute items. But it is doubtful how far the jute industry can respond to the stimuli with its oligopolistic ownership structure. The lack of competition and the slow growth of market have led to the total neglect of the modernisation by the Mill owners. The progress of modernisation under the Jute Modernisation Fund scheme has not been very impressive. The total number of applications under the scheme has been 36 out of which, the number of sanctioned cases has been 14. The jute industry will have to make a realistic assessment of the ground condition and modernise quickly if it is to survive and grow.

8.2. Tee-Industry

8.2.1. Production of tea in the State suffers fluctuation. Production figures are tabulated below :

Table - 8.3.

Production of tea (in Million Kgs.)

<u>Year</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>
Tea	152.22	150.93	146.94	149.18

A recent development in the tea industry has been the unprecedented rise in tea prices. The table above shows that while production per annum has not been steady, domestic demand has increased by 15 Million Kgs. per

Unless production of tea increases at a rate sufficient to cater to the export and domestic market, the rise in tea prices will continue.

8.2.2. The basic malady of the tea industry in the state has been the utter neglect by the private tea garden owners in reinvesting their profits in tea gardens, so that replantation of tea gardens which is essential for increasing the productivity of tea gardens, has not been at the required level. The result has been that tea bushes over 50 years covered 57.97 percent of the total area under tea bushes in 1987. This is shown in table 8.4. In 1986, 52.84 percent of the area was under tea bushes over 50 years old, that is, in one year the percentage has increased by 5 percentage points.

Table - 8.4.

Age structure of the Tea bushes in West Bengal

	Below 5 years	5 to 10 years	11 to 20 years	21 to 30 years	31 to 40 years	41 to 50 years	Over 50 Years	(Total)
Hectare	5063	6549	8309	11605	5766	6197	48715	92204
Percentage	5.49	7.10	9.01	12.59	6.25	6.72	52.84	100

Source - Tea Board.

More recent data are not available, but there are no reasons to believe that the situation has changed significantly in recent years.

8.2.3. In this context NABARD has drawn up a special scheme to revitalise the ailing tea gardens in the Darjeeling district of the State. This special scheme primarily offers subsidy on interest. About 38 tea gardens have so far availed of this scheme. However, progress under the scheme has not been impressive. In the 38 cases, the total Bank loan involved comes to Rs. 1135.01 lakhs of which only Rs. 467.37 lakhs have been disbursed so far.

8.2.4. The neglect of replanting, rejuvenation etc. by the private tea garden owners has turned a number of tea-gardens in the State sick. The West Bengal Tea Development Corporation has taken five such sick tea gardens. It also manages two other gardens in Darjeeling district. The total area owned and managed by the WBTDCC is 2,872 hectares, out of which 1,373 hectares are presently under tea plantation.

8.3. Cotton Industry

8.3.1. It can be seen from table below that the production of cotton yarn in the state in 1989 was 508.69 lakh kgs. which was slightly higher than the production of 505.54 lakh kgs. in 1988. There has, therefore, been a stagnation in production fluctuating around a secular level.

Table - 8.5

Production of Cotton Textile in West Bengal

	1987	1988	1989
Yarn (lakh kgs.)	610.80	505.54	508.69
Cloth (lakh mtrs.)	953.30	771.12	644.22

8.3.2. Apart from the structural imbalance which afflicts the cotton textile industry in the country, with total capacity of looms in three sectors, organised, decentralised and co-operative, being about 23,400 Million metres of cloth and total cloth requirement being in the region of 14,000 Million metres and in spinning the total installed spindleage being far excess of the actual requirement; the Mills in the eastern regions have another debilitating factor with respect to Railway freight. This is a direct consequence of the unfortunate policy of Central Government on selective freight equalisation for certain important inputs but without such policy for other raw materials such as cotton. Such a biased policy of selective freight equalisation has particularly destroyed the previous natural locational advantage of industries in West Bengal. The freight rate on raw cotton, as may be seen from the table below has been progressively increasing for the distance slab relevant to the state (i.e. 1500 k.m.) thus further eroding the viability of Mills in eastern region.

Table - 8.6.
Railway freight rates on raw cotton.

Distance	Freight rate (Rs. per tonnes.)			
	1982	1987 January	1988 June	1989 June
100	43.30	53.87	54.90	60.40
200	65.30	89.25	90.60	100.00
300	85.40	124.95	126.10	140.00
500	123.10	198.56	200.90	222.50
750	200.40	278.62	283.90	334.60
1000	251.00	385.04	389.10	435.50
1500	343.90	548.94	554.70	615.10
2000	423.40	673.16	680.10	754.30
2500	485.60	769.13	777.00	861.90

Source : Economic Review, 1989-90,
Government of West Bengal.

The existence of the cotton textile industry in the State is threatened unless urgent measures are taken to lower the burden of freight on raw cotton and assistance is provided to appropriately modernise the Mills in the State.

8.4. Investment

8.4.1. The investment climate in West Bengal has significantly improved in recent years. Compared to 706 projects approved during the five years of the Sixth Plan (1980-85) envisaging an investment of Rs. 562.65 crores 916 industrial approvals involving an investment of Rs. 2166.60 crores were received during the five years of the Seventh Plan (1985-90), recording an increase of 129.74 percent in terms of number and 385 percent

in terms of investment. The industrial approvals received in 1989 and 1990 are given below :

Table - 8.7:

Industrial approval and investment involved.

	1989	1990
1. Approval in number	91	126
2. Investment in crores of rupees	439.22	3969.74

Source - A review of the Industrial Scene in West Bengal, Annual Report 1993 - 91.

8.4.2. In the Falta Export Processing Zone (FEPZ) Seventy investment proposals have been cleared so far. Till November, 1990, eight units in the FEPZ have made export to the tune of Rs. 36.51 crores since inception. Ten new units are expected to start production shortly in the FEPZ.

8.4.3. This improvement in the industrial climate in the State is related to the State Government's efforts to provide incentives, finances and adequate infrastructural facilities to entrepreneurs in the State. In the financial year 1989-90, a new State Incentive Scheme was announced by the Government. The new incentive scheme substantially raised the rate of subsidy varying from 15 percent to 30 percent depending on location against a subsidy of 10 to 15 percent offered under the previous (now defunct) Central subsidy scheme. Other major aspects of the new state incentive schemes are (i) deferral of sales tax for new units as well as for expansion of existing units; (ii) incentive for pioneer units in new growth centres; (iii) incentive for anti-pollution measures; (iv) Special incentive for bio-technology units, solar energy harnessing equipment manufacturing units etc. The state incentive scheme has been further liberalised in 1990-91.

8.4.4. Apart from providing incentives to entrepreneurs for setting up new industries in the state, the State Government through the West Bengal Industrial Infra-structure Development Corporation (WBIIDC) constructs industrial estates in the state. WBIIDC has already set up growth centres in Haldia, Kalyani, Kharagpur, Durgam (Jalpaiguri). It has also completed the construction of industrial estates at Uluberia (Howrah), Raninagar (Jalpaiguri) and Falta (South 24-Parganas) and allotment of land to these newly constructed estates has already started. Work is in progress for construction of industrial estates at Bishnupur, Cooch Behar, Kalyani Phase-II, Bagdogra and Malda.

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DOC. No. D. 6763
Date. 31/3/92

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8.4.5. The State Government also provides financial assistance for setting up industries in the State. West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation is the nodal agency for providing financial assistance to industries in the State. The assistance includes loans and subsidy in various forms. The financial assistance sanctioned and disbursed by WBIDC are shown in 8.8.

Table - 8.8.

Disbursement of assistance & share participation by WBIDC

Particular	(Rs. lakhs)		
	1988-89	1989-90	1990 - 91
1. Loan	1829.53	869.52	1815.18
2. Share participation	260.15	782.57	533.49
	<u>2089.68</u>	<u>1652.09</u>	<u>2348.67</u>

Source - A Review of the Industrial Scene in West Bengal, Annual Report 1990-91 Commerce & Industries Department.

8.4.6. The decline in the assistance sanctioned by WBIDC in 1989-90 was primarily because of the withdrawal of the Central investment subsidy and the introduction of the new State incentive scheme only in the later part of 1989-90 and also because of the change in the location policy of Government of India related to the stringent condition imposed on units to be set up within 50 K.Ms. of standard urban areas.

8.5. Electronics Industry

8.5.1. The West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation is the nodal state level agency for promoting electronics industries. The Corporation has promoted 15 companies in the electronic industry in the State. A new company Wabal Telematik Ltd. was promoted by WBEIDC in 1989-90 in the joint sector with Siemens, for production of tele-printers. During 1990-91 WBEIDC has received a letter of intent for manufacture of Electronic Power Supply Equipment.

8.6. The WBEIDC is setting up jointly with Department of Electronics, Government of India, one of the four national R. & D. centres in Salt Lake Electronic Complex. The WBEIDC is also setting up industrial estates. Taratala Electronic complex has already been completed. A major industrial estate of electronic units has been set up in Salt Lake. The Salt Lake. The Salt Lake complex covering 40 acres (Phase-I) and 93 acres (Phase-II) is complete. In both the complexes large number of electronic units have already come up.

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8.7. Promotion of industries in the joint sectors.

8.7.1. Right from the beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan, the State Government has adopted the policy of promoting industries in the joint sectors. Both the WBIDC and the WFIDC are promoting industries in the joint sector. In the 7th Plan period 5 such projects were completed and at present 7 big projects are in the process of completion.

8.7.2. The most important project in the industrial sector that is being implemented in the state is the Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex. The main Naptha Cracker Plant and some of the major down-stream units are to be set up in the joint sector with Tatra Tea Ltd. The State Government is also considering the formation of other joint sector companies to set up other down stream units. Advance planning for setting up second and third generation down-streams units mostly in the medium, small and cottage sector is on. It is expected that the total employment to be generated from the project would be about 1.5 lakhs.

8.8. Revival of closed and sick industries.

8.8.1. While on the one hand setting up of new industries is progressing slowly, a large number of existing industries have joined the ranks of closed and sick industries. Revival of closed and sick industries is primarily the responsibility of the Central Government but in view of the inconsiderate attitude of the Central Government, the State Government has taken upon itself a major responsibility of reviving and assisting closed and sick units in the State. The State Government has taken over the managerial and ownership control over 13 sick units, 5 Government companies and one departmental undertaking, involving total employment of 13000 persons. Further, the State Government had participated in the reconstruction of 52 units involving employment of 52000 workers by declaring them as Relief Undertaking. The financial burden of assisting sick units by the State Government has been enormous. During the period of 7th Plan the State Government had to spend around Rs.80.00 crores for the purpose.

8.8.2. The State Government is also exploring ways to re-open or revive a number of units like Bengal Pottery (closed down by the Central Government), India Paper Pulp, Titagarh Mills, Bengal Paper Mills etc.

8.9. Inflow of financial institutions.

8.9.1. The Financial assistance received from all financial institutions comprising of IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, UTI, GIC, SFCS and SIDCS is tabulated below.

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Table 8.9

All Financial Institutions - Statewise (Major states) disbursement

All India & Major States	Rs. in crores	
	Disbursement 1989-90	Cumulative upto the end of March, 1990
All India	9305.52	5,46,28.55 (100.00)
Gujrat	1004.04	6,650.22 (12.17)
U.P.	811.72	5,326.77 (9.75)
Maharashtra	2153.02	1,02,52.30 (13.76)
Tamilnadu	905.19	5,262.84 (9.63)
West Bengal	478.95	3,077.54 (5.63)

Figures in bracket indicate the percentage of share of the respective states. Source :- A Review of the Industrial scene in West Bengal, Annual Report 1990-91 Commerce & Industry Department.

8.9.2. The requirement of financial credit for even moderate growth of large and medium industry is enormous. But the flow of institutional finance as may be seen from table 8.9 is the lowest in West Bengal. Effort has been made to supplement the flow of institutional finance by raising the share capital of the West Bengal Financial Corporation. The share Capital participation of the Government of West Bengal to the WBFC rose from Rs.325 lakh to Rs.411.19 lakhs.

8.9.3. The WBFC gets resources from (1) Refinance from IDBI, (2) ISSUE of Bonds, (3) Recovery of principal (plough back) and (4) Revenue surplus (Profit after tax). The authorised share capital of WBFC has been augmented from Rs.25.00 crores to Rs.50.00 crores.

8.10. Cottage and Small Scale Industry.

8.10.1 . The basic policy of the Government of West Bengal during the period of 7th plan has been to set up as many industrial units as possible by optimum utilisation of the growth achieved in primary sector as well as the development of rural infra-structure. This also provides very substantial employment to the unemployed youth. The units set up by the Cottage and Small Scale Industries Departments during the year 1989-90 and 1990-91 are given below.

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Table 8.10

Small Scale Units set up and employment generated

	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
1. New Units set up excluding IRDP & SESRU (Number)	17665	18005
2. Institutional Finance to SSI Units (excluding SEP funding) Rs. in lakhs.	8212.94	6102.77
3. Employment generated	39,180	43,586

Source :- Department of Cottage & Small Scale Industries, Government of West Bengal.

8.10.2. Apart from margin money loan to SSI Units, the State Government provides incentive for fixed capital in backward areas as also for varied other items like electricity, captive power generating sets, bank-interest, octroi duty etc. over and above providing incentives, the State Government also helps the units in obtaining institutional finance through District Industries Centre. Large number of units are also helped through IRDP for which 50 percent of the project cost is borne by the State and the Centre on 50 : 50 basis and the balance fund is obtained from Banks through the DRDA. The table 8.11 shows flow of institutional finance to IRDP units in the last two years.

Table 8.11

Flow of institutional Finance to SSI Units in West Bengal.

IRDP

	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
Flow of institutional Finance to IRDP Units in Secondary sector		
1. Sanctioned cases	1,80,693	1,39,910
2. Amount of Project cost (Rs. in lakhs)	8,076.62	5,668.57

Source :- Rural Development Department, Government of West Bengal.

8.10.3. Self-employment scheme for Registered unemployed

For Self-employment of the registered unemployed youths, the Government of West Bengal introduced the Self-employment scheme for Registered unemployed from the first year of the 7th plan, Some details of the progress made under this scheme is presented in table 8.12.

Table 8.12

Progress under SESRU schemes			
	<u>1988-89</u>	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
1. No. of projects for Self-employment subscribed to Bank.	52,794	65,300	64,967
2. No. of projects sanctioned by Bank.	22,751	23,251	24,162
3. No. of Projects utilising bank loans.	23,077 (Rs.4260.50 lakhs)	21,989 (Rs.36.70 crores)	19,634 (34.71 crores)

Source :- Directorate of National employment Service, Department of Labour, Government of West Bengal.

8.10.4. In this programme, the state provides upto 25 percent of the Project cost as margin money and the remaining part of the cost is financed as loans by Commercial Banks. Projects ranging from manufacturing, assemblage, trade, transport etc. are financed under the scheme. It is pointed out that under all kinds of employment scheme under the Cottage and Small Scale Sector including KVI and SESRU about 5 lakh of youths were provided self-employment. This has in fact been the major plank in partially solving the serious unemployment problem in the state. In 1990-91 a target of providing self-employment to 8 lakhs of people has been set. But abnormal increase of bank rate to around 20% for Working Capital loan may adversely affect the small industries.

8.11. Handloom

8.11.1. The steady development in agriculture and stepping up of activities in rural sector, has increased the average wage rate of agricultural workers from Rs.5.60 in 1986-87 to Rs.18 in 1990-91. Consequent rise in purchasing power of the common people in rural areas has immediately shown itself in terms of demand for mass consumption goods such as handloom products. The basic policy of the State Government in the handloom industry is to bring the economically weak individual handloom weaver under the cooperative fold and provide them with financial, technical and marketing assistance. Production of handloom cloth and number of viable societies are

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shown in the table below :

Table 8.13

<u>Production of handloom cloth and number of co-operatives</u>		
	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
1. Total production of handloom fabrics (Million Mtrs.)	413.50	432
2. Total number of handloom weavers' co-operative Society	1722 as on 31. 3. 90	1814 as on 31. 3. 91
3. Number of viable societies	1329 as on 31.3. 90	1388 as on 31. 3. 90

Source :- Directorate of Handloom and Textile, Cottage & Small Scale Industries Department, Government of West Bengal.

8.11.2. The inadequate availability of yarn at competitive prices to the weavers has been a major problem in the handloom industry in the state. In order to mitigate this problem, the State Government has organised the supply of yarn to co-operative societies through the West Bengal Handloom & Powerloom Development Corporation Ltd.

8.12. Sericultures

8.12.1. Sericulture is a very old and important agro based economic activity in West Bengal. But until the 7th Plan. Sericulture used to be practised in some traditional areas. But since the Seventh Five Year Plan the State Government has been making concentrated effort to develop sericulture not only in traditional districts but also in districts which hitherto did not have any sericulture industry. The emphasis in this sector has been mainly for extension of acreage under mulberry, plantation of high yielding varieties of mulberry, production of disease free layings in required number, improvement of reeling system, training of new sericulturists, providing of marketing assistance etc. The approach has been mainly to encourage the beneficiaries of land reform to take to sericulture as this is a high profit pursuit. The assistance provided include arrangement for irrigation, supply of cutting, provision of land and access to improved rearing facilities at the collective rearing centre. The achievement in this sub-sector is shown in table 8.14.

Table 8.14

<u>Progress of Sericulture</u>		
	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
1. Total average ^{acreage} (area in acres) Mulberry	40,370	42,918
2. Production of raw (Mulberry silk (lakh K.G.s.)	9.26	8.29
3. Employment 1000	322	343.34

Source :- Sericulture Directorate, Cottage & Small Industries Department, Government of West Bengal. Contd....

The production in 1990-91 slightly fell due to erratic rainfall. Recently one IDA assisted sericulture project is under implementation. The sub-sector has tremendous potentiality and provides substantial employment to the rural people.

9. Social Services

9.1 Education.

9.1.1. The objective of the education policy of the State Government during the Seventh Five Year Plan was one of reaching the common man, in as wide a manner, as possible, with an education to help him understand the production structure and the socio-economic environment surrounding it. Give this objective, emphasis was placed on universalisation of elementary education, content of education and spread of non-formal and adult education.

9.1.2. There has been progress towards the universalisation of elementary education in the State, so that the enrolment in primary schools of the relevant age group has reached 8820 thousand mark in 1989-90. This has further risen to 9205 thousand in 1990-91. The significant rise in enrolment is partly due to literacy drive being made in the State. The extent of universalisation of primary education in the state is further reflected in the fact that in 97 percent of the villages, there is now a primary school within a radius of 2 kilometers. The position of enrolment is shown in table 9.1.

Table 91.

Enrolment and other related figures

	7th Plan target	1989-90 Achieved	1990-91 Achieved
1. Primary stage			
a. (class I to V)			
i) Enrolment as 1000	8820	8820	9205
ii) Enrolment as percentage of age group (6-10)	101.35	101.05	98.82
iii) No. of Schools (cum)		51942	51942
iv) No. of teachers(cum)		226694	226694
2. Secondary stage Class (VI to VIII)			
i) Enrolment (1000)	3767	3767	4356
ii) Enrolment in VI to VIII as percentage of age group (11-13)	70.04	70.04	97.43

Source :- Department of School Education, Government of West Bengal.

Target of percentage coverage was wrongly fixed in the Seventh Plan as the projection of population made by the Department was less than the actual population. Percentage in 1990-91 has been calculated on the basis of actual population. Since the year 1990-91, special drive has been made to enrol the children of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe family mainly through the

literacy campaign. Consequently, against enrolment of 1459 thousand of Scheduled Caste children in 1989-90, in 1990-91 2161 thousand of this category of children have been enrolled. Similarly, against the enrolment of 421 thousand children of Scheduled Tribes families in 1989-90, in 1990-91 553 Scheduled Tribes children have been brought to enrolment.

9.1.3. To universalise primary education, the Government has undertaken a number of incentive schemes also. These include abolition of tuition fees, distribution of free text books, distribution of school dress to 50% students and rural girls, etc. In the programme of providing mid-day meals to the students to prevent drop-outs which may also serve to improve the health of school going children, around 28 lakhs children were covered per annum during the period of 7th Five Year Plan. In 1990-91, this figure rose to 30 lakhs.

9.1.4. The formal education system in the state has been supplemented by non-formal and adult education. For intensive drive in this programme, Department of Mass Education extension was created in 1987-88. The importance that the State Government has placed on the activities of this Department is well reflected in the fact that the outlay for the programmes has increased from around Rs.150.00 lakhs in 1988-89 to Rs.700.00 lakhs in 1989-90 and then to Rs.1120.00 lakhs in 1990-91.

9.1.5. Until 1990, the Adult Education has been conducted in the State by 35 Rural Functional literacy projects and 300 Jana Siksha Nilayams. A new feature has been added in 1990 when a massive programme for complete eradication of illiteracy from the district of Midnapur was taken up. In this programme illiterates identified on house to house survey belonging to the age group 9 to 50 years are being imparted literacy under IPCL technique and substantial improvement in the literacy position of the state has been achieved. Afterwards, in addition to Midnapur six other districts namely, Burdwan, Hooghly, Birbhum, Bankura, Coochbehar and North 24-Parganas have taken up the total literacy programme in respect of the illiterates in the identical age group i.e. 9 to 50 years. All these programme are taken up under the national literacy Mission and the expenditure is borne by the Central and the State Government on 2 : 1 basis. This literacy programme covers both the adult and non-formal education. After the initial literacy campaign is over, post literacy programme is taken up with which is tied up with primary health programme, vocational training and self-employment programme.

Performance in the literacy programme

	1989-90 Achieved	1990-91 Achieved
1. State's conventional programme('000)	650	209
2. Total literacy programme('000)	-	1509
3. Number of centres	19387	231250

contd....

Out of the 17 lakh illiterate people made literate during 1990-91 a very high percentage belongs to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Community.

9.1.6. A move has also been made to make reading material easily available to the common men by opening Government sponsored and Govt. libraries specially in rural areas. The position of different types of libraries in the State is shown in table 9.3.

Table 9.3

<u>No. of Govt. sponsored and Govt. libraries in the State</u>	
	<u>Upto 1990-91</u>
1. District Libraries (Nos.)	23
2. Sub-divisional/Town Libraries (Nos.)	234
3. Rural/Primary Unit/Area Library (Nos.)	2262

Source :- Department of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal.

9.1.7. In higher education, attempts have been made to expand the scope of College education mainly by augmenting facilities in the existing colleges. There has been gradual shift towards vocational education so as to make the education more socially useful. A new Engineering College under Jadavpur University has been set up in Salt Lake and the Classes and research work have started from 1990-91. For modernisation and expansion of polytechnique education one World Bank Project has started which is likely to bring about a big change in polytechnique education. The engineering and technical education in the State will soon expand scope for courses on Computer Technology practical usage of solar energy, petro-chemicals etc.

9.2. Health

9.2.1. In health sector, the approach of the Seventh Plan was to raise the activities to a required level so as to reach the goal of "Health for ALL" by 2000 A.D. As a result, the provision of health care facilities for rural areas keeping in view the population projection has been the thrust area. The priority has been placed on immunisation of children with a view to effectively bringing down the under five mortality rate (U5 MR). In Calcutta Corporation area also, this programme has been highly successful. In this programme, the strategy was to utilise the full range of Society's organised resources particularly the Panchayat Raj Bodies and Calcutta Corporation. In family welfare programme also effort has been made for effective control of population. The achievement on these two items are shown in table 9.4.

Table 9.4

<u>Achievement in immunisation of children & family welfare programme</u>		
	<u>1989-90</u>	<u>1990-91</u>
1. Immunisation of Children (DPT, Polio and BCG)	8.19	13.71
2. Sterilisation (lakh number)	3.15	3.10

Source :- Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal.

9.2.2. Over the last few years, a large number of persons have come to accept different types of population control measure. The achievement in other population control measures is given below :-

1989-90	5,01,000
1990-91	5,05,000.

The above mentioned activities have yielded good results in respect of reduction in birth rate and infant mortality rate as may be seen in the analysis on demography.

9.2.3. Special effort has been made in the State to take institutional health care services even to the Gram Panchayat level. There are 41,732 number of trained Health Guides operating in village level who provide guidance to people in health care and prevention of diseases. Besides, in 1990-91, 18 primary Health Centres have been upgraded and 5 Community Health Centres were set up. Systematic improvement is being made in reducing the imbalances in the ratio between the doctors and the nurses. The ratio of beds to nurses in the Government hospitals is also being improved. The situation is still not ideal as the present ratio is 4:1 which is below the ideal ratio of 3 : 1.

9.3. Water Supply

9.3.1. Provision for supply of clean drinking water constitutes a fundamental health care measure. The policy of the State has been to ensure supply of clean drinking water in every village. In 1987-88 plan year against 1807 number of uncovered villages, 4118 villages were covered with spot sources. Thus since the beginning of 1980-89 there was no problem village as such in the State. Since then, the policy has been to augment the drinking water availability by creation of additional spot sources in big villagers. The year-wise creation of spot sources since 1988-89 is given below :-

1988-89	-	2403
1989-90	--	2224
1990-91	-	1784

In case dry spell continuous for a long time in peak summer period, and the spot sources in any area become dry due to draw down, the nearby minor irrigation installations are used to meet the pressing need of drinking water. It is also mentioned that most of the urban/semi-urban areas are being covered with piped water supply.

9.4. Nutrition

9.4.1. In order to supply nutritious food to children and expectant mothers of the poor rural households, two nutritious programmes are being carried out in the State. The Relief and Welfare (Welfare) Department and the Department of School Educational are implementing the programmes. The Relief & Welfare (Welfare) Department provide nutritious food to on an average 10 lakhs of persons per annum and the School Department covers 26 lakhs of primary school children per annum under its mid-day meal programme.

9.4.2. The State Government believes that to sustain the nutrition programme, the state economy in general and economic position of the poorer section in particular must grow at a desired rate. The redistributive land reforms and steady supply of non-land inputs to the category of vested land assignees and share croppers have led to appreciable increase in food grain production and cropping intensity in the State. This together with huge volume of rural development work and growth of cottage and small scale industry is gradually raising the nutrition level of the poorer people.

9.5. Rural Roads

9.5.1. For proper and timely marketing of agricultural and other produce and to avoid distress sale main link roads and network of rural roads are given importance. Besides, the systematic improvement of socio-economic life in rural areas needs steady improvement in communication system. In the Seventh Plan period 221 kilometers of rural road were constructed upto black top. In 1990-91 further 31 kilometers of main link roads and rural roads were constructed. Under JRY around 10,000 kilometers of rural interior roads are being constructed and improved every year, a percentage of it upto jhama consolidation. Rural roads, culverts and small bridges are constructed by the District/Block Planning Committees with the untied fund placed at their disposal under the nomenclature of District Plan schemes Fund.

10. Externally Aided Projects

10.1. Part of State Plan

10.1.1. Externally Aided Projects from an integral part of the State Plan. A few of the projects like CUIP-III, West Bengal Social Forestry Project etc. have been completed within the Seventh Five Year Plan. Other projects have spilled over to the Eighth Plan. Besides, during the period of Eighth Plan a few more new projects will be taken up for which negotiation is going on. The status of various projects is given in the table

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below.

Table 10.1

Externally Aided Project		(Rs. in lakhs)			
S1. No.	Name of the Project	Source	Cumulative expenditure in the 7th Plan	Outlay for 8th Plan	Outlay for 1992-93
1.	<u>Agriculture Department</u> North Bengal Dutch Assisted Project. Phase I & II.	Dutch Government	745.32	900.00	292.00
2.	<u>Animal Resource Development Department.</u> World Bank Forestry Development (Fodder Dev.)	World Bank New Scheme. At the stage of finalisation.	-	-	135.24
3.	<u>Fisheries Department</u> World Bank Shrimps & Fish Culture Project	New Project worth Rs.87.45 crores. Negotiation with World Bank is at the final stage.		870.00	-
4.	<u>Forest Department</u> West Bengal Forestry Project.	World Bank. New Scheme.	-	8923.00 + 1100.00	1449.00 +220.00
	(+) Additional requirement to be met by augmentation or otherwise if need arisen.				
5.	<u>Irrigation & Waterways Deptt.</u> Modernisation of Kangsabati Project (World Bank)	World Bank New Scheme under negotiation.		29000.00	2200.00
6.	<u>Minor Irrigation Deptt.</u> West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project.	World Bank	9599.20	15699.25	4634.60
7.	<u>Power Department</u>				
	a) Teesta Canal Fall H.E. Project.	OECF	2107.42	10895.11	9689.00
	b) Purulia Pump Storage Scheme.	OECF	95.60	390.86	120.00
8.	<u>Public Works (Roads) Deptt.</u> Improvement of Panagarh-Morgram Road in Burdwan-Birbhum.	ADE		80.00	1000.00 +1000.00
	(+) Additional requirement may be made by augmentation or otherwise if need arises.				
9.	<u>Health & Family Welfare Deptt.</u>	iv IPP Project.	5757.37	5764.68	2024.68
10.	<u>Composite Water Supply & Sanitation Scheme.</u>	-		300.00	40.00
11.	<u>Cottage & Small Scale Industries Department.</u> National Sericulture Project, N.B. Integrated Development of Sericulture.	World Bank	150.00	1120.00	200.00
12.	<u>Education Department</u> Modernisation & Expansion of Polytechnique Education	World Bank	-	30.00	

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10.1.2. The Sunderban (IFAD) Project has been completed in 1990-91. The German Govt. has shown interest in implementing a Project for development of Sunderban area. Negotiation is going on. A team from Germany has recently visited the state for Project Appraisal.

10.1.3. The main thrust of the World Bank tube-well Project being implemented by the Minor Irrigation Department is sinking of tube-wells and construction of channels in CAD area. The Project is progressing steadily and it is likely to be completed by March, 1994.

S E C T I O N - II

2. Estimate of Growth of Employment during 1991-96 in West Bengal

2.1. Unemployment is one of the most pressing economic problems of West Bengal. Besides the dimension of the problem which has been increasing over years, its structural difference in the rural and urban sector also merits serious consideration and requires separate policy measures to tackle them. An attempt has been made here to derive an estimate for a single dimensional magnitude of unemployment at the beginning of March '91 in West Bengal and to project on its basis its probable size in the foreseeable future. An exercise of this sort is no doubt fraught with risks of error mainly arising out of limitations on availability of requisite data. Yet time series estimates on usual status unemployment help us a lot in understanding the problem in broad terms. This provides the requisite rationale for this exercise. Needless to say such an exercise involves consideration of variables like Population, Labour force, Work force and finally Unemployment. These have been discussed seriatim in the paragraph below.

2.2. Population : According to census '81, there were 545.81 lakh people in West Bengal which rose to 679.82 lakhs in 1991 when another census was taken in the State. The decadal growth rate of population which diminished to 2.31 p.c. during 71-81 from 2.69 p.c. during 61-71 again increased to 2.45 p.c. during 81-91. Results of different censuses have been presented in the table below.

Table-I
Population of West Bengal

(In lakhs)			
Year	Total population	Estimated population of Age 5 years & above.	Decaded Growth rate
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1971	443.12	389.95	2.69
1981	545.18	479.76	2.31
1991	679.82	598.24	2.45

2.3. Labour Force : Census does not directly collect data on Labour Force. So estimates for Labour Force in West Bengal, have been derived through application of an average LFP rates

of different rounds of the NSS to the estimated population of West Bengal of age group 5 years and above. A study of the age structure of West Bengal in different census years reveals that around 12 p.c. of the population of this State belong to the age group between 0 and 4 years. Moreover the LFP rates of different rounds of the NSS do not reveal any significant changes over time. The ratio of Labour Force to total population roughly comes to 43.3 p.c. This looks somewhat plausible as 55 p.c. of the population belong to critical age group of 15 to 59 years and nearly 50 p.c. of the remaining engaged in some gainful economic activities and another 20 p.c. either actively seek employment or are made available for work.

A rough idea of the estimated Labour Force in West Bengal can be obtained from the table below.

Estimated Labour Force in West Bengal

Y e a r	Estimated Population of Age 5 years & above	Estimated Labour Force
1981	468.56	202.93
1991	598.24	259.03

In this connection it may be mentioned that in our earlier estimates presented in the State Plan Proposal, the Labour Force for the year 1991 was calculated as 247.19 lakhs. This was based on the projected population of West Bengal which differed from the census '91 figures due to rise in the decadal growth rate from 2.31 p.c. during 1971-81 to 2.45 p.c. during 1981-91. So, it may be said that Labour Force in West Bengal was estimated to rise from 202.93 lakhs in 1981 to 259.03 lakhs in 1991, addition to Labour Force being roughly around 5.6 lakhs per annum. Actual additions to Labour Force however may be slightly less than the anticipated one as one can legitimately expect the LFPR to monotonically decline over time due to delayed entry into the employment market of a portion of the eligibles. In a nutshell under the assumption of current trend to continue in the near future 28 lakh people will enter into the job market in the 5 year period commencing from March '91.

2.4. Unemployment - On June 1990, there were 46.41 lakhs persons on the live Register of Employment Exchange in West Bengal. Using the Register data as an index of the employment without adjustment is fraught with grave risks of

error which arise out of i) non-registration of the unemployed and ii) registration of employees. According to the information collected in the 38th round of the NSS in 1983, only 25.57 p.c. of the applicants on the live registers were unemployed and only 28.64 p.c. of the unemployed got themselves registered. Using these two correction factors to the exchange data we get an adjusted figure which works out 41.46 lakhs and can be used more or less a reliable index of usual status of unemployment in the State as on March '91. So, it may be said that West Bengal has started with backlog of 41.44 lakhs unemployed and in the coming 5 years another 28 lakh persons will enter into the labour thus requiring creation of job opportunities for 70 lakh persons in the period between 92-97 for reaching the level of full employment which is a stupendous task.

2.5. Work Force : Census '81 enumerated 164.65 lakh workers for West Bengal in 1981 of which 154.25 lakhs & 10.40 lakhs were main and marginal workers, respectively. This work force is estimated to rise to 217.54 lakhs in 1991. Such estimates for Workforce for the year 1991 have been arrived at by subtracting estimated unemployment of 41.44 lakhs from the estimated Labour Force of 259.03 lakhs. Methodology of estimating Labour Force and unemployment have been already explained in the earlier sections.

In other words in West Bengal, Workforce which was 164.59 lakhs in 1961 presumably rose to 217.57 lakhs in 1991 recording thereby compound growth rate of 2.83 p.e. per annum. It is interesting to note from the annexed sheet that SDP in West Bengal at 1980-81 price grew during that period at a compound rate of 5.2 p.c. per annum. The long terms elasticity of employment indicating the ratio between the p.c. rise in employment to the p.c. rise of SDP is therefore calculated to be 0.54. It is quite interesting to note that inspite of sluggishness in the growth of employment in the organised sector with an estimated annual employment of a meagre 20 thousand and with a distinctly discernible downward trend in private sector employment having its bias towards adoption of capital intensity the Govt. has been able to create considerable employment particularly in the countryside. This has been made possible due to its measure on land Reform and Consciously sponsoring such methods as are suitable for creating an employment base with little capital. The whole thing will be taken up in a separate paragraph.

2.6. Assuming the rate of growth of GDP to remain unchanged in the foreseeable future and elasticity of employment remaining unchanged, estimated employment in different years from 1991 to 1996 will be as follows :-

Estimated Employment in West Bengal 1991-96

Year	SDP at constant price (Base 1980-81) (Rupees in crores)	Estimated Employment in lakhs	Additional Employment over the year 1991 in lakhs
1	2	3	4
1991	13,800	218	
1992	14,617	224	006
1993	15,383	230	012
1994	16,190	236	018
1995	17,038	243	025
1996	17,931	250	032

So under the trend based approach and ^{the} Ceteris Paribus assumption, allowing the economy to move in its own way and the Government confining its effort at the present level, 32 lakh persons are likely to be absorbed in the coming 5 years.

2.7. The picture, however will improve significantly if the following factors are taken into accounts. It may be stated, for instance, that the Government sensing the gravity of the problem has already started giving the economy a big push instead of allowing it to drift in its own way and remaining complacent with its measures already taken. For instance, potentially benefitted persons under Specific Self Employment Programmes like IRDP, ITDP etc. alone in 1990-91 is very likely to exceed the figure of 5 lakhs which means that only under this programme 25 lakhs person will be absorbed in remunerative self employment programme in the coming 5 years. Mandays of Employment created under JRY, Irrigation Flood Control, Forest, Public Works (Roads) in 1990-91 comes to 766.62 lakhs. Using the conversion ratio of 273 days = 1 year as recommended by the Planning Commission, assuming these programmes to proceed at the present scale there is no reason to suppose why 15 lakhs persons will not find employment under the programmes during 1991-96. Thirdly it has been found that due to land reform measures coupled with the intensification of extension efforts, supply of inputs both physical and financial, intensity of cultivation

has been steadily increasing over years. Estimates presented by Farm Management Studies show that there is an estimated additional employment generation of 249 lakhs mandays from the growth and spread of agricultural production itself in the interval between 1990-91. Man year equivalent of this additional employment roughly comes to 1 lakh. So another 5 lakh persons will be absorbed in the coming 5 years from the increased intensity of cultivation in the agriculture sector above.

Thus if the Government concentrates its efforts on self employment schemes, creating employment in the countryside during the lean seasons through such schemes as JRY and if agricultural development proceeds at the present pace, job opportunities for 45 lakh persons are likely to be created during the time frame under consideration i.e. 1991-96.

2.8 Industrial activities also are gradually picking up in the State. For instance index of industrial production, taking 1980 as the base year, rose from 105 in 1985 to 123 in 1989 through 112 and 117 on 1987 and 1988 respectively. As many as 7 Joint Sector Projects are going on. Of them Polyester Filament Yarn (P F Y) Project in Bankura deserves a special mention because the project is likely to start commercial production within two year and will create considerable number of small industries to give employment to more than 1 lakh of people during the relevant time frame. The Haldia Petro Chemical Complex will also take off within the 8th Five Year Plan. Modernisation of Steel Plant will boost up ancilliary activities in the Durgapur Asansol belt. In the Falta Export Processing zone, a total number of 70 proposals have been cleared so far. 10 units are operating and 10 new units are expected to start commercial production shortly. Under West Bengal Incentive Schemes, 50 units both new and expanding are being annually assisted. Employment potentialities under these unit in the coming 5 years are calculated to be 0.25 lakhs. A glance through status Report on growth centres indicate that infrastructural work in some of them are complete and others are going on. So we may reasonably expect the climate of industrial employment to improve considerably in the period between 1991-95 with the resultant effects of 5 lakh persons in the employment stream in the industrial sector.

In a nut shell, starting with 70 lakh unemployed persons at the beginning of 1991, West Bengal with its present level of economic effort continuing can bring down unemployment and provide significant relief to the unemployed.

Table - 1

Creation of Employment Potential under Specific
Self-employment Programmes in 1990-91

S c h e m e	Figures in numbers	
	Potentially benefitted persons out of sanctioned case, upto Feb.18, '91	Anticipated achievement upto March 31, 1991
1. Integrated Rural Development Programme (I.R.D.P.)	2,53,488	2,78,320
2. West Bengal Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribe Development & Finance Corporation.	1,11,350	1,35,000
3. Self-Employment Scheme for the Registered Unemployment in West Bengal (SESRU)	38,400	56,800
4. Small Scale Entrepreneurship Programme (SSEP)	10,000	25,000
5. Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP)	2,000	12,000
6. Scheme for Urban Micro Enterprise.	1,000	10,000
7. Self-Employment of the educated Unemployed Youth.	150	9,000
T o t a l : :	<u>4,16,388</u>	<u>5,26,120</u>

Sources : Concerned Departments,
Government of West Bengal.

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Table - 2

Sectorwise distribution of estimated employment in West Bengal

Year ended December	(Number in Lakhs)		
	Public Sector	Private Sector	T o t a l
1	2	3	4
1970	10.88	12.26	23.14
1975	13.52	11.58	25.10
1980	15.80	10.84	26.64
1983	16.68	9.95	26.63
1984	16.93	9.41	26.34
1985	17.21	9.38	26.59
1986	16.94	9.32	26.26
1987	16.99	9.30	26.29
1988 (P)	16.90	9.03	25.93
1989 (P)	16.84	8.92	25.76
1990 (March) (P)	16.92	8.87	25.79

P = Provisional

Note : Private Sector refers to Organised Private Sector.

Source : (1) National Employment Service, West Bengal.

(2) Bureau of Applied Economics and Statistics, West Bengal.

Table - 3

Employment Generation under JRY Irrigation and Flood
Control, Forest, Public Works (roads) in '90-91

(In Lakh Mandays)

Year	J R Y	Irrigation Flood Control	Forest	Public Works (Roads)
1990-91 (Anticipated)	540.00	105.89	84.73	36.00

Source : Concerned Department
Government of West Bengal.

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Table - 4

"Employment Exchange Statistics in West Bengal"

(Number in thousand)

(January to June)

	1986	1987	1988	1989 (P)	1989	1990 (P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Registration	430.7	510.4	545.5	492.9	169.6	198.3
Placed in Employment	9.0	10.2	12.1	9.9	5.4	3.8
On the register at the end of the period	4247.5	4577.0	4264.8	4522.4	4324.5	4641.4
Vacancies notified	25.7	26.1	22.0	18.9	8.3	8.8

Source : National Employment
Service, West Bengal

P = Provisional

T A B L E - 5

State Domestic product in West Bengal
at Constant price - 1988-89

Year	Constant Price	Index	From Agriculture at Constant price	Index	Remarks
1980-81	8706.34	100.00			S.D.P. at constant
1981-82	8858.90	101.75	2280.20	100.00	prices increased
1982-83	8859.43	101.77	2221.46	97.46	the rate of 5.24%
1983-84	9796.54	112.53	2926.53	128.38	the 9 year period
1984-85	9726.33	111.72	2986.95	131.00	1980-81 to 1989-90
1985-86	10380.97	119.24	3145.24	137.04	while S.D.P. from
1986-87	10918.07	125.41	3281.70	143.95	sector grew at a
1987-88	11643.51	133.75	3641.70	159.97	pound rate of 8.3
1988-89	12564.87	144.33	4034.86	176.97	annuum during the
1989-90	13799.06	158.50	4305.71	188.86	period of 1881-82

Source : State Plan Proposals and Annual Plan - 1991-92.

T A B L E - 6

Total number of Mandays estimated to be generated in
Agriculture Sector during 1988-89, 89-90 and 90-91.

Sl. No.	Crop	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
		Area (in lakh hectare)	Total Mandays (in Million)	Area (in lakh hectare)	Total Mandays (in Million)	Area (in lakh hectare)	Total Mandays (in Million)
1.	Autumn Rice	7.21	100.94	6.16	86.24	6.10	85.5
2.	Winter Rice	41.80	572.66	42.41	581.02	43.06	589.9
3.	Boro Paddy	7.20	173.52	7.57	182.44	7.57	182.4
4.	Other Cereals	0.91	11.38	0.94	11.75	0.94	11.7
5.	Wheat	3.00	52.50	3.27	57.22	3.27	57.2
6.	Pulses	3.09	21.94	3.39	24.07	3.29	24.0
7.	Oilseeds	4.92	48.71	4.89	48.41	4.89	48.4
8.	Jute & Mesta	4.23	100.75	4.34	108.50	5.09	127.2
9.	Sugarcane	0.16	10.40	0.15	9.75	0.12	7.8
10.	Potato	1.89	53.68	2.06	58.50	2.06	58.5
11.	Vegetables	5.43	135.75	5.43	135.75	5.43	135.7
12.	Fruites	1.14	17.10	1.14	17.10	1.14	17.1
13.	Misc. Crops	1.38	17.25	2.93	36.62	2.93	36.6
14.	Soil Conservation	-	0.85		0.85		0.8
Total :		82.36	1322.43	84.68	1358.22	85.89	1383.1

Source : Department of Agriculture,
Government of West Bengal.

Section - III

3. Strategy for the Eighth Five Year Plan

General

3.1 The major thrust in Indian Planning during the period of Eighth Five Year Plan as has been indicated by the Planning Commission is upholding of employment generation. This thrust is also accompanied by the objective of a growth process which would be a means of the provision of reasonable minimum living standard and essential social amenities to the common people. In the interest of employment generation, emphasis has also been placed on industrial growth both in the small scale and also in large and medium.

3.2. The State of West Bengal has been seriously pursuing, over the last thirteen years or so, some of the major issues such as decentralisation in planning, emphasis on labour intensive small scale industries etc. The state has gone further in re-ordering the ownership structure of the productive asset by vigorously carrying out the land reforms since late sixties. With the implementation of land reforms, a position has now reached where, according to the National Sample Survey data, nearly 60 percent of the total agricultural land has come to be owned by the small and marginal farmers. If the land under share croppers cultivation is now added, then the proportion of agricultural land over which the poor working farmers have certain control may exceed 70 percent. This re-ordering of productive assets in favour of poorer peasants along with supply of other non-land inputs to them is bound to - lessen inequality and, at the same time, release the forces of development. Thus, the basic plan approach that has been adopted in the state consists of agriculture with redistributive land reforms and industries with due emphasis on small scale and cottage industries with necessary support of certain crucial "mother" industrial complex. In the Eighth Plan also, this approach will continue to be followed as this is an approach in the right direction and is found to have re-oriented the plan in the state largely in favour of the common people.

3.3 In paragraphs 1.4.1 to 1.4.3 of the Review section, the plan methodology which is being followed in the state has been explained. In the eight plan this exercise of participatory decentralised planning is now being extended in the following direction.

In the first place, along with formulation of Block Plan and the District Plan, attempts are being made to integrate these plans with the credit plans of the Banks for the Blocks and the Districts. Secondly, it is also being felt that

decentralisation exercise should be taken down further below, from the level of a block to a village under each block. Then the direct participation of the common people becomes easier and more meaningful. This extension has been initiated in one of the biggest districts of the state. Thirdly, the process of urban planning has already been decentralised within each municipal or Corporation areas by forming the Corporation planning Committee and Urban Development Sub-Committee. These committees co-ordinate the activities of all the departments' function, within the Corporation/Municipal areas. In resource mobilisation also, Panchayats and Municipalities are being involved. This involvement has already paid rich dividend in collection of Small Savings, though for faulty policy of the Government of India collection of Small Savings has faced a set back.

3.4. The ultimate accountability of this decentralised planning exercise is to the people. There is first of all a regular arrangement for auditing of all expenditure incurred by the Panchayats. But, in addition, there is a direct mandatory procedure of accountability to the people. To this end, at least two public meetings are mandatory on the part of each Gram Panchayat - one to discuss with the general people the selection of schemes and the other for presentation of expenditure. It is insisted that these accounts should be shown in a public place. In addition to this display of written accounts, verbal direct communication to the common people in an open meeting is also considered essential. These are the ultimate democratic checks on the entire system and such checks will be intensified in future.

Objective in certain major sector

3.5. In Agriculture, as in the Seventh Plan, in Eighth Plan also effort will continue, within the limitation of the State Government to assist the target group of poorer farmers, consisting of the landless, the marginal and the small farmer and share croppers, through the provision of land (in terms of distribution of ceiling surplus land and recording of share croppers) as well as non-land inputs and marketing facilities. It has already been mentioned that in the matter of vesting of ceiling surplus land, the state has already reached a kind of saturation and possibility of any large vesting in the context of the existing law is not very high. However, the West Bengal Land Reform Act has been amended changing the definition of land and bringing lands of all description

within the term 'land'. The West Bengal Land Reform (3rd Amendment) Act, implementation of which has already started in full swing from the current year, is likely to bring a sizeable quantum of land to the ownership of the state. This additional ceiling surplus land will be distributed among the landless peasants thus further achieving the goal of more egalitarian distribution of productive asset. A large chunk of non-agricultural land vested under the existing ceiling laws has now been converted into agricultural land and this chunk will also be distributed among landless peasants in the Eighth Plan. In the matter of recording share croppers also, the state has already recorded 14.70 lakh of share croppers on the village record of rights. In the 8th Plan, this process will continue so that not a single bargadar is left outside record. The present policy of the co-ordination of the programmes of land reforms on the one hand and the programmes of the agriculture and allied sectors and also the target group oriented programmes, such as District Plan Schemes, IRDP, JRY etc. on the other hand will continue. The State Government considers that the remedy of the present malady of the country's economy lies in proper land reform.

3.6. In this context it will be worthwhile to mention that this emphasis on land reforms is not any exercise in charity, but is essential for higher growth in agriculture. From the well known evidence of the farm management studies it is clear that the record of production performance (taking into account cropping intensity and per acre yield of crops) is the highest for poorer farmers. The Socio-economic Research Institute, Calcutta conducted survey in two spells, one short survey in 1980-81 and another detailed survey in 1985-87 to examine if land reforms in the State have led to the growth in agricultural output in the farms of the land reforms beneficiaries. It was observed in the first report that "symptoms of improvement in cultivation and hopes for betterment have been reported both by the bargadars and vested land assignees" or in other words an encouraging trend was found to have started operating. In the second report the finding was that despite lack of necessary capital, with honest and hard labour backed by institutional finance and other non-land inputs supplied from the Government, they have been able to attain yield which in some cases was "higher than the district average". Thus, the Farm Management studies and also the independent survey conducted by the Socio-economic Research Institute, Calcutta conclusively explain the reason for

phenomenal growth in agricultural output during the Seventh Plan period. In the Eighth Plan period also the State Government will continue to support the land reforms measures with provision of non-land inputs such as irrigation, seeds, implements, manures and fertilisers and infrastructural facilities particularly those relating to marketing. In the provision of all these non-land inputs, there is a question of choice of technology. The working farmers are endowed with labour power and there is in rural areas often a relative abundance of local resources. In the Eighth Plan objectives, the socially appropriate choice of technology regarding all these non-land inputs should therefore be one which is improved and modern, and at the same time can make fuller use of labour and local resources. Such a choice of technology will not only provide greater employment but will also create more purchasing power for the common people as has been evident in the Seventh Plan period in the state. Research activities in this sphere are being encouraged towards new ideas with this orientation.

3.7. In industry sector, the policy of the state Government has been to set up small scale industries with necessary support from crucial "mother" industrial complex. During the period of the Seventh Plan around 15,000 small scale industrial units^{were} set up under IRDP and Self-employment scheme for Registered unemployed (SESRU). But in absence of any "mother" industrial complex proper linkage between the two sub-sectors could not be effected. It will be the endeavour of the state government during the period of 8th Plan to establish link between the small scale and the large scale industries. In the absence of this linkage, the small scale and the large scale units will be functioning in mutually exclusive spheres, implying a dualism or dichotomy which is undesirable in the interest of long term growth of the entire industry sector. In this connection mention may be made of the steps already taken by the State Government in setting up the Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex. The "mother" naphtha cracker plant a large scale unit, is being set up in the joint sector with the State Government as the majority partner. But, the connected down-stream units are being planned in a co-ordinated manner to be set up in the small scale sector. The cracker plant will generate employment of about three thousand people but the down-stream units will be labour intensive generating employment of about 1.5 lakhs. Here, the linkage between the large and the small scale units with some social control has

made the entire complex viable and employment generating. Thus, a special emphasis will be placed during the 8th plan in establishing such linkages in the entire industrial structure. In industry sector, the flow of private capital is encouraged subject to intervention of the State Government in the interest of industrial development in desired direction. The private entrepreneurs are also encouraged through joint sector venture with the State Government.

3.8. In the interest again of employment generation, separate attention will be given to the problems of closed and sick industrial units. For this purpose the State Government invites action at the national level. For instance, timely signals may be communicated by the financial institution before a unit becomes sick, so that preventive actions may be taken. Similarly, for revitalisation of potentially viable units, discussion at national level is required regarding the types of relief that the financial institutions and the Central Government may like to provide for rehabilitation programme, particularly when the State Government is granting corresponding relief and also providing additional accommodation, say, through sale of surplus land of the concerned sick units.

3.9. With emphasis on growth in agriculture and industry with choice of technology which is labour intensive and with due emphasis on the small scale sector, and also revival of the closed and sick units, significant dent is likely to be made on the problem of unemployment. But at the same time, it is important, in order to reinforce this employment generation process, to adopt two comprehensive special employment programme- one related to construction of social infrastructure and the other oriented towards self-employment. Both these programmes may be adopted for rural as well as urban areas. Funds for these programmes should be transferred to the States with broad guidelines after interaction with the States and after allowing for special features of each State.

3.10. In the field of social services, a few general comments may be worth-while regarding the policy objectives relating to such important sectors as education, health and housing. The basic objective of the education policy of the State Government has been, and will be, one of reaching the common men, in as wide a manner as possible, with an education to help him understand and participate better in the production structure. Given this objective, emphasis will continue on universalisation of elementary education, improving its content, spread of non-formal and adult education and widening of access,

to higher levels of education. Along with this, steps will be taken to keep strict attention to maintain and improve academic norms and quality at every stage. In order to bring education closer to the production process, so that the students get a prior exposure and training, which may later keep them in self-employment or in organised production, a new and re-oriented vocational education programme will be introduced as a part of general syllabus at the level of secondary schools. During the 8th Plan period the Government expect to eliminate illiteracy from most of the districts with the help of the Planning Committee and the Panchayat Raj bodies through the method of non-formal education. The Midnapur experiment is being applied in the other districts of the State.

3.11. Since a significant percentage of incidence of diseases is related to malnutrition, nutrition programme will be emphasised. This programme will be an important step forward in the sphere of public health. Emphasis will also be placed more on the preventive aspect of health care (including the provision of safe drinking water etc.) and then co-ordinating that with curative aspect, with more decentralisation of institutional facilities depending upon the nature of diseases.

3.12. In the sphere of housing, attention will be given to the group housing construction for the lower and middle income groups in urban areas. Such construction may be funded on the basis of institutional finance and to lower the unit cost, construction may take place on the vested land available in urban areas and then use may be made of appropriate low-cost technology. In rural areas, programme will continue for provision of building materials for construction of houses for the rural poor.

3.13. In all these spheres of activities, including the basic production sphere, special attention will continue to be given to the problems of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes other backward communities as well as those of women. The State Planning Board will monitor the progress of the programmes related to the development of women.

3.14. In energy, the State Government expects to make substantial addition to installed capacity. 2 units of Kolaghat (2x210 M.W.) 3 units of Bakreswar (3x213 M.W.), 4 Units of Ramman Hydel Power Station - Stage-II (4x12.75 M.W.) and Teesta Canal Fall 3x3.75 M.W.) are likely to be synchronised during the period of the 8th Five Year Plan. Santaldih TPS unit 1 to 4 (4x120 M.W.) and Bandel TPS unit No 1 to 4 (4x80 M.W.)

will be taken up for renovation and Modernisation for improvement of generation in those ageing units. Purulia pumped storage with four units of 225 M.W. each will also make considerably headway during the 8th Plan.

3.15. It may be noted that there are special pre-existing problems as recognised by the Correa Commission, relating to the three larger metropolitan cities - Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. These cities are of national importance and the State Government urges upon the centre to make special provisions while formulating Eighth Plan.

3.16. In order to effectively implement the above strategy, it is strongly held that a total plan outlay of Rs.1006253.00 lakhs will be required at the minimum over the five year period of the Eighth Plan including an outlay of Rs.163433.00 lakhs of the Annual Plan 1992-93. The basic argument for this essential stepping up can be better appreciated, not in aggregate terms, but in terms of the emphasis that each major sector should receive over the period of Eighth Plan.

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SECTION IV :: SECTORAL PROGRAMMES
I. AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED ACTIVITIES

CROP HUSBANDRY

1. Programme of Agriculture Department

Introduction ::

West Bengal is located between 21°31' and 27°14' North Latitude and 85°50' and 89°53' East Longitude. The tropic of cancer runs across the middle of the State passing through the districts of Nadia, Burdwan, Bankura and Purulia.

West Bengal has a high concentration of population (with 8.06 percent total population of India, as per 1991 Census report) with scarce land resources. In all 67.98 million people (1991 Census provisional) inhabit in an area of 88.75 lakh hectares.

Net cultivated area in the State is about 5.4 million hectares and as such per capita availability of net sown area comes to little less than 0.08 hectare.

Cultivated land area in West Bengal is undergoing gradual division and fragmentation and thereby creating a condition which is not very conducive to healthy growth and development in the agricultural sector.

West Bengal's agriculture is dominated by small and marginal farmers. Eighty-nine per cent small and marginal farmers operate a little over 60% of the net cultivated area in the State. Corresponding figure for 1985-86 (Provisional) are 90% and 63% respectively.

Agro-climatic Region :

For the first time the country has been divided into a number of Agro-climatic Regions by the Planning Commission for formulation of need-based Agricultural Plans for scientific management of regional resources, to meet the food, fibre, fodder and fuel wood without adversely affecting national resources and environment. West Bengal has, accordingly been divided into three Zones and each of the Zones has been included in three well defined agro-climatic regions. Districts included in each of the three agro-climatic regions are mentioned below :

<u>Agro-climatic Region</u>	<u>Number of region as given by the Planning Commission</u>	<u>Name of district in each Region</u>
Eastern Himalayan Region.	Zone- II	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar.
Lower Gangetic Plain Region.	Zone- III	West Dinejpur, Malda, Murshidebad, Nadia, Hooghly, Burdwan, North 24-Parganas, South 24-Parganas, Howrah, Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore (East) & Midnapore (West)
Eastern Plateaus and Hill Region.	Zone- VII	P u r u l i a

Each of the above mentioned Region has further been sub-divided into a number of Sub-zones on the basis of soil, topography, climate and cropping pattern characteristics.

Districts included in each Sub-Region are given below :

Agro-climatic Region	Sub-Zones / Sub-Region	Name of district in each Region/Sub-Region
Eastern Himalayan Region	a) Hills	Darjeeling
	b) Terai	Dalipour & Cooch Behar
Lower Gangetic Plain Region	a) Old Alluvium	West Dinajpur and Malda
	b) New Alluvium	Murshidabad, Nadia, Hooghly, Burdwan and North 24-Parganas
	c) Coastal Saline	South 24-Parganas, Howrah & Murshidabad (East)
	d) Lateritic	Birbhum, Bankura and Midnapore (West)
Eastern Plateau and Hill Region	-	Purulia

Soil and Climate :

Each region has predominant type of soil. Region-wise soil and climatic condition is indicated below :

I) Eastern Himalayan Region : (Zone-II)

Eastern Himalayan Region (Zone-II) comprising of hill sub-zone and Terai sub-zone.

i) Hill sub-zone : Soil of Hill sub-zones are mainly brown forest soil. Soil is acidic in nature, p^H varies from 3.5 - 5.0.

Annual normal rainfall is high, varies from 2500 mm to 3500 mm temperature, high humidity and low sunshine hours limit the crop production.

ii) Terai sub-zone : The soil of Terai sub-zones are mostly sandy to sandy loam in texture, porous, low in base content due to leaching and area poor in available plant nutrients, soil is acidic in nature, p^H varies from 4.2 to 6.2. Rainfall ranges from 2000 mm to 3500 mm. Poor soil, high humidity and low sunshine hours limit the crop production.

II) Lower Gangetic Plain Region : (Zone-III)

The lower gangetic plain region comprising of 1) Old alluvium, (2) New alluvium, (3) Coastal saline, (4) Laterite and Lateritic sub-zone.

i) Old alluvium : Soils of the old alluvium zone are lighter in higher situation and generally heavier in texture in the lower situation. Soil reaction is acidic to neutral (p^H 5.0 to 7.0). Most of the soils of this zone are fairly fertile. The average annual rainfall ranges from 1500 mm to 2000 mm.

ii)

ii) New alluvium Sub-region : This is the most fertile tract of the state. Soil is deep and mostly neutral in reaction.

Annual average rainfall ranges from 1350 mm to 1630 mm.

iii) Coastal Saline : Soils are heavy clay, rich in sodium, magnesium, calcium, potassium and organic matter in different stages of decomposition. Soil p^H ranges from 6.5 to 7.5 with electrical conductivity varying from 3.0 to 18.0 mmhos. The annual rainfall varies from 1600 mm to 1800 mm.

iv) Lateritic : Coarse textured but well drained soils with honey-comb type ferrogenous concentrations at a depth of 15 to 30 cm. Soils are moderate to strongly acidic in reaction, p^H ranges from 4.5 to 6.5. Rainfall ranges from 1100 mm to 1400 mm.

Eastern Plateau and Hill Region : (Zone-VII)

Soils are shallow, undulated gravelly, coarse textured, well drained and low water holding capacity. Upland soils are highly susceptible to erosion hazards. Soils are acidic in reaction, the p^H varies from 5.5 to 6.2. The annual rainfall varies from 1,100 to 1400 mm and is spread over only three months from mid-June to mid-September.

Review of Agricultural Production during Seventh Plan Period :

Trend of area, production and productivity of some major crops during the Seventh Plan period have been indicated in Table - 2.

As a result of implementation of various schemes by the State Govt. certain degree of stability in the total production of foodgrains has been made in the State. Phenomenal increase both in productivity and production of Potato, Rape & Mustard, total Oilseeds and total cereals has also taken place during the Seventh Plan period as compared to that of Sixth Plan period. Productivity of major crops (except Wheat) in West Bengal has been much higher over the national level which will be evident from the following table-1 :

Table - I

Productivity of major crops in India and West Bengal during 7th Plan period (1985-86 to 1989-90).

Crop	Average productivity (Kg./h)		Increase (+) or decrease (-) over India, (in percent)
	INDIA	WEST BENGAL	
1. Total Rice	1589	1738	+ 9.38
2. Wheat	2066	1931	- 6.53
3. Total Cereals	1386	1747	(+) 26.00
4. Total Pulses	541	623	+ 15.16
5. Total Foodgrains	1231	1683	+ 36.72
6. Total Oilseeds	678	771	+ 13.72
7. Jute	9.40*	10.15*	+ 7.98
8. Potato	15092	21390	+ 41.73
9. Sugarcane	61354	65694	+ 7.07

* Figures in bales of 180 Kg. each.

Table - 2

Trends in area, production and productivity of some important Crops in West Bengal during Seventh Plan Period.

A = Area in '000 hectare.
Y = Yield rate in kg. / h.
P = Production in '000 tonnes

Crop	Item	Year					Average of 7th Pl
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	
1. Autumn Rice	A	483.123	637.350	616.173	720.625	616.258	614.706
	Y	1119	1114	1064	1436	1445	1258
	P	540.670	710.100	655.300	1071.080	890.62	773.544
2. Winter Rice	A	4083.287	4059.209	4067.212	4180.877	4241.159	4126.34
	Y	1475	1403	1506	1803	1832	1607
	P	6023.150	5694.150	6127.160	7537.530	7771.80	6630.75
3. Summer Rice	A	512.333	679.355	792.164	720.477	756.923	692.250
	Y	2786	3030	3142	2708	2987	2943
	P	1427.180	2058.770	2489.290	1951.220	2261.15	2057.5
Total Rice	A	5078.743	5375.914	5475.549	5621.979	5614.340	5403.31
	Y	1573	1574	1693	1878	1946	1733
	P	7990.950	8463.020	9271.750	10559.830	10923.57	9441.8
4. Wheat	A	305.131	397.664	374.186	300.120	326.667	340.75
	Y	2421	1717	1801	2082	1742	1951
	P	738.705	682.630	673.910	624.970	569.04	657.705
5. Other cereals	A	97.430	118.547	94.250	91.499	93.906	99.11
	Y	1376	2242	1408	1332	1613	1626
	P	134.021	265.735	132.724	121.903	151.499	161.11
Total Cereals	A	5481.304	5892.125	5943.985	6013.598	6034.913	5873.11
	Y	1617	1597	1696	1880	1929	1747
	P	8863.676	9411.385	10078.384	11306.703	11644.109	10260.11
6. Total Pulses	A	420.979	353.582	362.794	308.867	338.924	357.0
	Y	628	564	626	675	627	623
	P	264.266	199.562	227.009	208.357	212.400	222.3
Total Foodgrains	A	5902.283	6245.707	6306.779	6322.465	6373.837	6230.11
	Y	1546	1539	1634	1821	1860	1683
	P	9127.942	9610.947	10305.393	11515.060	11856.509	10483.11

Contd.

Crop	Item	Year					Average of 7th Plan
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	
7. Rapeseed & Mustard	A	231.562	294.857	379.895	378.483	363.062	329.572
	Y	706	600	879	864	894	805
	P	163.360	176.940	334.030	327.060	324.740	265.025
8. Sesamum	A	74.825	86.892	165.779	69.283	87.107	96.773
	Y	588	719	830	569	718	713
	P	44.006	62.505	139.143	39.440	62.551	69.529
9. Other Oilseeds	A	64.630	41.536	44.399	44.689	38.333	46.716
	Y	406	582	736	829	802	646
	P	26.263	24.155	32.668	37.056	30.740	30.176
10. Total Oilseeds	A	371.017	423.285	590.073	492.455	488.502	473.066
	Y	630	623	857	819	856	771
	P	233.629	263.600	505.841	403.556	418.031	364.931
11. Jute	A	730.693	517.523	423.744	415.340	426.465	502.753
	Y	* 10.11	9.56	8.58	10.91	11.73	10.15
	P	**7389.830	4950.420	3637.650	4530.710	5003.30	5102.382
12. Sugar-cane	A	12.866	12.479	11.010	16.383	15.068	13.561
	Y	63120	60693	62806	70953	68422	65694
	P	812.100	757.390	691.490	1162.420	1030.99	890.878
13. Potato	A	138.369	173.071	179.925	188.773	206.226	177.273
	Y	19930	20469	21048	23033	21974	21399
	P	2757.648	3542.566	3787.016	4348.094	4531.624	3793.390

* Productivity in bales/ha.

** Production in '00 bales.

Source - Director of Agriculture, West Bengal.

Review of Crop Production During 1990 - 91

Weather Condition 1990 - 91

Pre-monsoon shower during the month of April was quite satisfactory, which helped timely sowing of Jute and broadcast Autumn Rice but incessant rains during the latter part affected timely weeding operations in June field.

The onset of Monsoon rains in 1990 started almost in time. During the early part of the Monsoon season a greater part of the State received normal to excess rainfall excepting some parts of Gangetic and Terai Regions. High rainfall caused large scale inundation in the coastal Regions during this period. As a result, seedlings of Winter Rice in seedbeds and vegetables were adversely affected and transplanting of Winter Rice was delayed.

Prolonged

Prolonged water-logged condition in the Coastal Regions caused soil toxicity which adversely affected both production and productivity of Winter Rice.

During the latter part of the Monsoon season some of the West Bengal Districts like Cooch Behar and Malda experienced deficit in rainfall as a result of which winter rice in its peak tillering stage and in P.I. stage suffered a lot. Normal to deficit rainfall was recorded in most part of the State during September and October.

Table - 3.

*Estimates of Crop production of different major crops during 1990-91. Estimates of crop production of different major crops during 1990-91 against the target are indicated below :

Sl. No.)	C r o p	T a r g e t		A c h i e v e m e n t		Re- mar- ks
		Area ('000 h.)	Production ('000 tonnes)	Area ('000 h.)	Production ('000 tonn- es)	
1.	Autum Rice	700.00	895.00	610.346	906.28	
2.	Winter Rice	4100.00	6860.00	4306.469	6865.76	
3.	Summer "	700.00	2045.00	896.091	2664.42	
	Total Rice	5500.00	9800.00	5812.906	10436.46	
4.	Wheat	345.00	755.00	269.074	530.190	
5.	Other Cereals	100.00	164.00	99.828	110.001	
	Total Cereals	5945.00	17719.00	6181.808	11076.651	
6.	Total pulses	356.00	250.00	313.556	192.812	
	Total food- grains	6301.00	10969.00	6495.364	11269.463	
7.	Rape and Mustard	370.00	330.00	378.100	336.14	
8.	Sesamum	100.00	80.00	95.936	86.905	
9.	Other Oilseed	48.00	40.00	35.787	30.503	
	Total Oilseeds	518.00	450.00	509.823	453.548	
10.	J u t e	450.00	5000.00	500.210	5496.29	
11.	Sugarcane	13.500	949.00	12.156	859.29	
12.	P o t a t o	180.00	4006.00	194.474	4481.778	

It may be seen from the above table that the actual achievement has exceeded the production target in all major crops except in wheat, pulses and Sugarcane. The fall in production of wheat, pulses and Sugarcane is due to reduction in area. The area under wheat has been diverted to area under more remunerative crop i.e. Summer Rice. However, the productivity of the wheat is higher than what we have achieved during 1989-90. Similar trend is also observed in case of sugarcane crop. The productivity of pulses is slightly lower than productivity recorded during 1989 - 90.

.....P/

PROSPECT OF CROP PRODUCTION DURING 1991-92WEATHER CONDITION 1991-92.

Delayed and scanty pre-monsoon shower adversely affected timely sowing of Jute & broadcast Autumn Rice in the State.

Monsoon started in time, but after 3-4 days dry spell continued for a considerable period. Monsoon thereafter continued in a very weak and localised manner for which variation of rainfall within the district and even within sub-divisions of a district was observed. Up to August, 1991 seven out of 17 districts of the State recorded deficit rainfall. Harvesting of Jute and transplantation of winter rice suffered badly in many areas. In the second week of September large areas of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, West Dinajpur, part of Murshidabad and Malda districts came under the grip of flood as a result of heavy rain and spilling up of rivers. Due to inundation vast areas of transplanted winter rice suffered badly.

Rabi production campaign has been launched in the State to make good the loss sustained during Kharif. Pre-positioning of inputs and gearing of extension machinery have been made. Sowing of crops during Rabi is expected to be satisfactory.

Prospect of crop production of different major crops during 1991-92 against the target is indicated in Table - 4.

TABLE 4Prospect of crop production during 1991-92.

Sl. No.	Crop	Target		Anticipated achievement	
		Area (in '000h)	Production (in '000 tonnes)	Area (in '000h)	Production (in '000 tonnes)
1.	Autumn Rice	700.00	945.00	600.00	840.00
2.	Winter Rice	4100.00	7175.00	4000.00	7135.00
3.	Summer Rice	710.00	2210.00	750.00	2325.00
	TOTAL RICE	5510.00	10321.00	5350.00	10300.00
4.	Wheat	360.00	819.00	300.00	590.00
5.	Other Cereals	100.00	167.00	100.00	160.00
	TOTAL CEREALS	5970.00	11307.00	5750.00	11050.00
6.	Total pulses	345.00	240.00	340.00	220.00
	TOTAL FOODGRAINS	6315.00	11547.00	6090.00	11270.00
7.	Rape & Mustard	390.00	363.00	390.00	363.00
8.	Sesamum	105.00	86.00	90.00	72.00
9.	Other Oilseeds	50.00	43.00	50.00	40.00
10.	TOTAL OILSEEDS	545.00	492.00	530.00	475.00
11.	Jute	435.00	5000.00	500.00	5000.00
12.	Sugarcane	14.00	1010.00	13.50	960.00
13.	potato	180.00	4166.10	180.00	4166.00

The Eighth Five Year plan (1992-1997)

The main plan objectives are indicated below :

1. Raising agricultural production and productivity through wider adoption of appropriate situation specific and cost effective technology.
2. Bringing more area under High Yielding and improved varieties of crops through increased supply of quality seeds.
3. Increasing cropping intensity in irrigated area through careful selection of crops and its varieties suiting to different soil-agro-climatic condition. Similarly, modification in crops and varieties would be carried out in rainfed areas to achieve higher production per unit area through adoption of suitable technology.
4. Small and marginal farmers who are the main entrepreneurs in agriculture in the state will be encouraged to maintain an increased production tempo by way of supplying various agricultural inputs at reasonable rates.
5. Emphasis will be laid on cultivation and extension of area of commercial and horticultural crops which are suitable for different Agro-climatic Regions.
6. Farmers would be encouraged to adopt better management practices and increase fertiliser use efficiency and also to use more of Bio-fertilisers.
7. The Training & Visit system of extension will be strengthened to establish better linkage between research scientists, extension workers and farmers.
8. Farmers will be enthused for partial mechanisation of Agriculture through the usage of Agricultural implements which are suitable for small holdings and also for post-harvest operations like threshing etc.
9. Creation of more employment in agriculture programme would be another major objective of agricultural production programme. Labour intensived programmes like Soil Conservation;
Adequate emphasis will be laid on execution of Boro bandh, Dugwell excavation etc.
10. Better ecological balance will be attempted to through scientific land use appropriately soil conservation measures and need based use of Plant protection chemicals etc. These measures are expected to improve soil health as a long term measure.
11. Agricultural Marketing and transportation system for movement of agricultural produces from various production centres will be strengthened.
12. Greater emphasis will be laid on execution of schemes benefitting the S.C. and S.T. farmers in the state.

TARGET OF PRODUCTION OF MAJOR CROPS DURING EIGHTH PLAN (1992-97)

Target of production of important crops has been formulated keeping in view the basic needs of growing population, constraints, physical resources, irrigation potentialities and other infrastructure facilities created and/or likely to be created and also the rate of growth (percent per annum, compound) in production of major crops during last decennial (triennium ending 1980-81 to triennium ending 1990-91).

Annual compound growth rate of major crops in West Bengal is indicated in Table 5.

T A B L E - 5.

Annual compound growth rate (per cent) of area, production and productivity of major crops from triennium ending 1980-81 to triennium ending 1990-91 in West Bengal.

C r o p	Growth rate (per cent) of		
	Area	productivity	production
Autumn Rice	0.04	5.47	5.52
Winter Rice	0.71	2.89	3.62
Summer Rice	8.58	0.73	9.37
TOTAL RICE	1.39	3.33	4.77
Wheat	(-) 3.73	1.19	(-) 2.58
Other Cereals	(-) 1.44	3.71	2.21
TOTAL CEREALS	1.01	3.14	4.19
Pulses	(-) 5.23	2.61	(-) 2.74
TOTAL FOODGRAINS	0.57	3.42	4.01
Rape & Mustard	12.12	5.78	18.60
Sesamum	1.37	4.53	5.96
Other Oilseeds	(-) 5.67	11.43	5.26
TOTAL OILSEEDS	6.56	6.97	13.99
Jute	(-) 2.06	4.13	1.99
Sugarcane	(-) 5.37	2.38	(-) 3.12
Potato	4.34	3.14	7.62

Cereals :

Rice is the main staple food for people in West Bengal, consumption of wheat, which comes next to Rice, is increasing year after year. Because of food habit, production and consumption of Maize and Millets still remaining very limited.

Estimated target of production and per capita net availability of cereals per day during the 8th plan are given in Table 6 and Table 7.

T A B L E - 6.

Production Target of Cereals during Eighth Plan

(A = Area in '000 Hectare), Y = Yield rate kg/h and p = production in '000 to

Crop	Item	Base (mean of last 5 Years 1986-87 to 1990-91)	T a r g e t		Average annual growth rate over the 5 years (percentage)
			1992-93	1996-97	
Autumn Rice	A	640.150	640.00	640.00	-
	Y	1323	1362	1445	1.47
	p	846.676	871.68	924.80	1.48
Winter Rice	A	4170.985	4175.00	4175.00	-
	Y	1630	1721	1918	2.75
	p	6799.280	7185.175	8007.65	2.76
Summer Rice	A	769.002	780.00	1000.00	4.47
	Y	2971	3206	3149	0.97
	p	2284.970	2360.280	3149.00	5.49
TOTAL RICE	A	5580.137	5595.00	5815.00	0.69
	Y	1780	1862	2078	2.61
	p	9930.326	10417.135	12081.450	3.32
Wheat	A	333.542	300.00	300.00	-
	Y	1847	2000	2100	2.16
	p	616.146	600	630	0.37
Other Cereals	A	99.61	100.00	100.00	-
	Y	1570	1617	1716	1.49
	p	156.372	161.70	171.600	1.56
Total Cereals	A	6013.289	5995.00	6215.00	0.55
	Y	1780	1865	2073	2.57
	p	10703.446	11178.835	12883.05	3.14

Based on the estimated production target of different cereals during 8th Plan, mentioned above, per capita per day net availability of cereals during the Plan given in Table 7.

T A B L E - 7.

Estimated net availability of Cereals per capital per day.

Year	Target of production ('000 Tonnes)	Estimated population (in Million)	Estimated net availability per capita per day (in gm.)
1992-93	11178.835	69.479 (1992)	397
1996-97	12883.050	75.795 (1996)	419

+ Estimate of population and population growth rate calculated (cumulative growth rate of 2.22%) as per provisional Census report published by Director of Census Operation, West Bengal.

* While calculating net availability 10% of gross production has been excluded for seeds and possible wastage.

Pulses :

pulse area and production have consistently been declining in West Bengal. With the increased irrigation facilities and development of HYV technology in some crops there had been a major shift of area from pulse to other crops. Pulse crops still continue to be cultivated mostly under un-irrigated condition and in marginal and sub-marginal lands with poor fertility status. As a result, whenever any new irrigation facility is created in traditional pulses growing area, the farmers switch over to cultivation of more profitable crops like potato, Summer Rice, Vegetables, Rape & Mustard etc. Practically there is no scope to increase the area under pulses. A modest growth rate of about 1.73 per cent of production over the base (1986-87 - 1990-91) has been fixed and indicated in Table - 8.

T A B L E - 8.Target of Production of pulses during Eighth plan.

I t e m	Base (Mean of last 5 years 1986-87 to 1990-91).	Target Year		Average annual compound growth rate over base (in per cent)
		1992-93	1996-97	
Area in '000 Hect.	335.545	340.00	340.00	-
Yield rate (Kg/h)	620	639.00	678.00	1.50
Production in '000 Tonnes	208.023	217.263	230.52	1.73

Foodgrains :

Target of production of foodgrains and per capita estimated availability are indicated in the following Table 9. Overall growth rate of foodgrains comes to 3.11% (over base year).

T A B L E - 9.Target of production of Foodgrains and per capita estimated availability during Eighth Plan.

I t e m	Base (Mean of last 5 years 1986-87 to 1990-91)	Target Year		Average annual compound growth rate over base (in per cent)
		1992-93	1996-97	
Area in '000 Ha.	6348.834	6335.00	6555.00	0.53
Yield rate (Kg/h)	1719	1799	2001	2.50
Production in '000 Tonnes	10911.474	11396.095	13113.570	3.11
* per Capita Net availability (in Gm. per day)		404	427	

While calculating net availability 10% of gross production has been excluded for seeds & possible wastage.

Estimates of population and growth rate of population (2.22% C.G.R.) calculated as per provisional Census Report published by the Director of Census Operation, West Bengal.

Oilseeds :

During last decade a highly satisfactory growth rate in production of 13.99 per cent for total Oilseeds could be achieved. A substantial part of this increased production of Oilseeds was achieved from increased area, particularly in Rape and Mustard. Large scale diversion of area to Rape and Mustard from other Rabi crops in recent years due to price advantage of Oilseeds in comparison to price of alternative crops like pulses, wheat and - been the prime reason for abrupt increase in area of Rape and Mustard. Since there is a limit to area expansion without jeopardizing production of other alternative crops during the particular season, a 9.37 per cent annual growth rate in total Oilseed production (over the last five years average base) during Eighth plan is envisaged. Target of production of major Oilseeds during Eighth plan is indicated in Table - 10.

T A B L E - 10.

Target of production of Oilseeds during 1992-93 and during 8th plan(1996-97)

C r o p	Item	Base average of 5 years (1986-87 to 1990-91)	Y e a r		Average annual compound growth rate over base year (per cent)
			1992-93	1996-97	
1. Rape & Mustard	A	358.880	380.00	420.00	2.66
	Y	835	940	1200	6.23
	p	299.782	357.20	504	9.04
2. Sesamum	A	101.00	110.00	130.00	4.30
	Y	773	830	950	3.50
	p	78.109	91.3	123.50	7.33
3. Groundnut	A	18.051	23.50	40.00	14.18
	Y	1275	1345	1500	2.75
	p	23.007	31.608	60.00	17.32
4. Other Oilseeds	A	22.898	24.00	25.00	1.47
	Y	350	395	500	6.12
	p	8.017	9.48	12.50	7.68
TOTAL OILSEEDS	A	500.829	537.5	615.00	3.48
	Y	816	911	1138	5.70
	p	408.915	489.586	700.00	9.37

A = Area in '000 hectare

Y = Yield rate kg/hectare

p = Production in '000 tonnes.

Jute :

Jute is the most important fibre-crop grown in the State. Though there has been a phenomenal increase in Jute area after independence, wide fluctuation in Jute in different years is noticeable due to various reasons. A real break-through in productivity of this crop, however, is yet to be achieved. Absence of a high yielding technology is primarily responsible behind this low productivity. Due to reasons as indicated above Jute farmers are now interested in growing more profitable crops like H.V.V. varieties of Autumn and Winter Rice, Summer Till & Vegetables.

Hence, it is proposed to keep the target of area under Jute at 4.5 lakh Hectare per year. The main thrust will be on increasing the productivity. A modest average annual compound growth rate of 2.51 per cent and 2.26 per cent on productivity and production have been fixed during the plan period.

The target of Jute fibre production during the 8th plan is indicated in Table - 11.

T A B L E - 11.

Target of production of Jute Fibre during
Eighth plan.

Item	Base average of last five years (1986-87 to 1990-91)	Target Year		Average annual growth rate percent over base.
		1992-93	1996-97	
Area in '000 ha.	456.656	450.00	450.00	-
Productivity in bales/ha.	10.34	11.11	12.00	2.51
Production in '000 bales.	4723.674	5000.00	5400.00	2.26

Potato :

Potato is the most important commercial crop in West Bengal during Rabi Season. At present about 28% of the total production of India is produced in the State. A sizeable quantity is being supplied to the neighbouring States after meeting the internal requirement. For storing potato there are 242 Nos. of Cold Storage in the State, although those Nos. are not adequate in comparison to the requirement. Considering all these facts an average annual production growth rate of 2.50 per cent has been envisaged and the target for 8th plan is indicated in Table - 12.

T A B L E - 12.

Target of production of potato during Eighth plan

Item	Base (average of last 5 years from 1986-87 to 1990-91)	Target Year		Average annual compound growth rate (per cent) over base
		1992-93	1996-97	
Area (in '000 Ha)	188.494	180.00	200.00	0.99
Productivity (Kg/h)	21954	23000	24000	1.50
Production (in '000 tonnes)	4138.216	4140.00	4800.00	2.50

Sugarcane :

Sugarcane being an annual crop occupying lands for at least nine months to one year, percentage share of land under this crop is gradually on the wane. Absence of remunerative price of sugarcane, preference of rural people for 'gur' over while sugar are some of the reasons behind low availability of cane to sugar Mills from existing production. Considering the above facts an average annual production growth rate of 7.3 per cent per annum has been envisaged and the target for the 8th plan is indicated in Table 13.

T A B L E - 13.

Target of Cane production during Eighth plan

Item	Base (average (Y e a r		Average annual
		of last 5 yrs. (1992-93	
	from 1986-87	()	compound growth
	to 1990-91)	()	rate (per cent)
				over base
Area (in '000 ha)	13.419	14.50	16.50	3.50
Productivity (Kg./h)	67093	74207	83292	3.67
Production (in '000 tonnes)	900.316	1076.00	1374.38	7.30

THRUST AREAS AND ACTION POINTS.

Annual compound growth rate (percent per annum) of around 3.11 has been fixed for foodgrain production during Eighth Five Year plan. To achieve this we need to identify thrust areas and various action points. Unless this is done targetted production in different crops might not be possible.

R I C E :

In Rice, additional production of 21.50 lakh tonnes (over base) is envisaged during the terminal year of Eighth plan. To achieve this several measures will be initiated which are briefly adumbrated below :

i) Expansion of Area under Summer Rice.

There is no scope of increasing area under Kharif rice in the State. Attempt will be made to increase the area under Summer Rice from 7.69 lakh hectate (average of 1986-87 to 1990-91) to 10.00 lakh hectare at the terminal year of 8th plan. It is needless to mention that much of the area expansion would occur in areas where additional irrigation potential would be created.

ii) Expansion of area under High Yielding Varieties.

During 1990-91 about 48.00 per cent area in Kharif rice is recovered with High Yielding Variety. The Eighth plan target is to cover 60 per cent of Kharif rice area with High Yielding location specific varieties. Emphasis will be laid on increasing the area at a faster rate in districts of Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, West Dinajour and Malda both in Autumn and Winter rice. Increased coverage under High Yielding and location specified varieties in the districts of South 24-Parganas, Howrah, Midnapore (East), Midnapore (West), Rankura and Pubulia is also envisaged.

iii) Distribution of quality seed.

A detailed plan has been prepared for production and distribution of location specific variety of quality seeds in Rice during 8th plan period.

iv) Increasing Fertilizer application rate.

A sizeable percentage of additional production would come through increased fertilizer (nutrient) consumption. Due to existence of a number of soil-agro-climatic constraints not only the fertiliser application rate (per ha.) is low in Kharif rice but also the fertiliser use efficiency is unsatisfactory. In order to get higher return (kg. of grain per kg. use of fertiliser nutrient) from applied fertiliser the following action points will be taken.

(a) Use of soil amendments like lime and liming materials in areas with high soil acidity. Identified districts are Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, Bankura, Purulia, parts of Birbhum, Burdwan and Midnapore (West). Application of micro-nutrients (both soil & foliar) in identified areas with specific micro-nutrients deficiency.

(b) Use of rock phosphate (citrate soluble phosphate) in highly acidic soils.

(c) Use of multi-nutrient fertiliser (NP or NPK) will be encouraged upon for increased intake from applied fertiliser.

(d) Farmers will be persuaded to test their soil through extension services for application of fertiliser based on soil test valued and also on the choice of fertiliser, its time and method of application to get high 'fertiliser use efficiency'.

(e) Use of organic manures, green manure and Blue Green Algae will also be encouraged for maintaining the soil health and fertility of paddy field. Proper water management in fields through scheduling irrigation and improvement of drainage condition in illdrained areas will increase 'fertiliser use efficiency'.

In districts where fertiliser application rate is low (i.e. North Bengal particularly in Kharif rice) emphasis will be placed for increased use of fertiliser. In districts as well as in crops where existing application rate is already high (i.e. South Bengal districts and in Summer rice) more emphasis will be placed on increasing 'fertiliser use efficiency'.

In summer rice, sizeable section of farmers will be encouraged to use fertiliser at the full rate. Since the crop is grown under controlled irrigation and satisfactory drainage higher return from applied fertiliser is ensured than in Kharif rice.

v) Irrigation and Drainage.

These are pre-requisites for getting high 'water use efficiency'. Unless water use efficiency is increased through proper water management in fields, higher rate of return from applied fertiliser cannot be ensured.

vi) pest and disease control.

Seed treatment and seed-bed treatment practices have been adopted by a very small percentage of farmers in Kharif rice during the seventh plan. In Summer rice, however, these have been adopted by around 50% farmers. Hence, considerable scope exists to adopt this low cost technology in both Kharif and Summer rice. Through Training and Visit System (T & V) the farmers will be encouraged for adoption of seed treatment and seed-bed treatment practice and also to undertake pest control measures whenever pest population exceeds the economy injury level.

viii) Improvement of Cultural Management.

Field crop management level has been low to medium during seventh Plan. This will be improved to medium to high level during the Eighth plan. Action points in this regard will be :-

- (a) Use of proper seed rate for getting optimum plant population per unit area ;
- (b) phased sowing in seed bed ;
- (c) timely sowing ;
- (d) transplanting with proper aged seedling ;
- (e) proper spacing and maintenance of plant population ;
- (f) weeding and intercultural operation ;
- (g) use of improved implements ;
- (h) adoption of water management practices and
- (i) timely harvesting.

Autumn rice is broadcast in sizeable area in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, West Dinajpur, Malda, Murshidabad and Nadia. A change from broadcast method of sowing although it may mean somewhat delayed sowing of the crop in fields, transplanting would increase the productivity to a great extent. This will, however, pose no problem in areas with assured rainfall or irrigation. Hence, through the T & V System the farmers will be educated to bring sizeable area in these districts from broadcast method of sowing to transplanting in Kharif rice. This coupled with a high level of cultural management would ensure a higher productivity in Kharif and Summer rice all over the State.

W H E A T :

In wheat an additional production of 0.14 lakh tonnes is envisaged at the end of Eighth plan (over base). Due to some obvious reasons there is practically no scope to increase the area under wheat. The additional

production will be achieved through the following measures :

- i) Increased use of quality Seed.
- ii) Increased use of fertiliser and soil amendments.
- iii) More coverage under plant protection measures.
- iv) Expansion of area under improved cultural management.

P U L S E S :

In this group, Gram, Lentil and Mashkalai commands a sizeable area. Because of some constraints pulse area and productivity are going down since last two decades. Our aim would be to arrest this trend and improve the productivity, as much as possible, during Eighth plan.

i) Stabilisation of pulse area :

Stabilisation of pulse area is the principal task before us. This can largely be achieved by improving productivity in the existing area. This would make cultivation of pulses a painful proposition although to a limited extent. In this respect there may not be much difficulty with Lentil. The present trend of declining area under Gram would be arrested mainly through supply of quality seed of improved varieties and correction of soil deficiencies.

ii) Distribution of quality seed :

One of the principal reasons of declining area under pulses is inadequate supply of quality seeds during the season. It is proposed to distribute quality seed of important pulse crops in a bigger way during 8th Plan period. A detailed programme is indicated in Chapter-IV.

iii) Increased use of fertiliser :

Traditionally pulse is grown as a rainfed crop in marginal and sub-marginal lands with very little application of fertiliser. Use of phosphatic fertiliser and seed treatment with Rhizobium culture are considered to be some of the effective steps required for increasing productivity of pulses. Accordingly it is proposed to popularise the use of Rhizobium culture and use more fertiliser during 8th plan period.

iv) Plant Protection Measures :

Pulse crop is normally effected by several insect pests and diseases. Pulse farmers generally do not take adequate preventive measures in the sphere of plant protection because of low productivity and some socio-economic reasons. A concerted effort will be made to motivate pulse farmers regarding necessity of taking adequate plant protection measures in time.

v) Improved Agronomic practices :

This is considered to be second most important step for improving productivity of pulses. Action points under this item will be :

- a) proper land preparation,
- b) Timely sowing;

- c) Sowing in line;
- d) Maintenance of optimum plant population;
- e) Timely weeding and intercultural operation;
- f) Irrigation only at the critical stage; and
- g) proper drainage in case of excessive rainfall.

OIL SEEDS

In terms of present coverage oilseed crops can be arranged in the following order :

Rape and Mustard, Sesamum, Groundnut, Linseed.

Since Mustard Oil is the first choice as cooking medium by the inhabitants of this state, our major thrust will be to increase its area and productivity during Eighth plan. Adequate emphasis will also be placed for increasing area and productivity of sesamum and groundnut.

Rape and Mustard :

Action points to increase production of Rape and Mustard during Eighth plan are detailed below :

i) Expansion of area :

Apparent stagnation in coverage of this crop, as evidenced during 60's and 70's, was broken in 80's when sudden spurt in prices of Mustard oil led to large expansion of area under this crop. There is considerable scope to increase the crop further during Eighth plan primarily through early release of more lands under Winter rice. This would be possible with expansion of area under short duration paddy varieties.

ii) Distribution of quality seed :

At present over 80 percent area is covered by a single variety named Benoy (B-9).. This variety has become immensely popular with the farmers and extensive cultivation of this variety has raised the productivity considerably during 7th plan. A target has been fixed to produce and distribute quality seeds during 8th plan and same has been indicated in Chapter-IV.

iii) Extension of Irrigation facilities to Rape & Mustard :

As per statistics provided by the Bureau of Applied Economics and Statistics around 39.9 per cent of Mustard is grown under irrigated condition. During each year of the Eighth Plan additional four thousand hectares of Rape and Mustard area, is expected to be grown under irrigation.

iv) Increased use of Fertiliser :

Rise in prices of Mustard oil in recent years has encouraged Rape and Mustard seed farmers to apply fertiliser to this crop. This trend will be maintained during Eighth plan. It is proposed to encourage farmers who will be bringing new/additional area under Rape and Mustard to apply fertiliser at the recommended dose. Rate of fertiliser application in normal area will also be increased.

v) plant protection Measures :

Aphids are a menacing pest in this crop. Other pests and diseases are also not uncommon during the season. Timely plant protection measures will surely reduce loss through pest attack. Mustard farmers will be encouraged to take need-based plant protection measures.

vi) Improved agronomic practices :

Action points in this sphere will be as follows :

- a) Proper land preparation and timely sowing;
 - b) optimum plant population;
 - c) sowing in line;
 - d) timely weeding and other intercultural operations;
 - e) irrigation at the critical stage;
- and
- f) increasing fertiliser use efficiency.

SESAMUM

All though sesamum is grown during both Kharif and Rabi Summer season, the crop grown during the latter season (popularly known as Summer Til) commands the highest area. The following action points will be taken to increase area and production of this crop during Eighth Plan.

i) Expansion of area :

Only a modest target of 9 thousand hectare in area expansion has been envisaged during Eighth Plan (over base year).

ii) Use of Quality seed :

Planned action will be initiated during Eighth Plan to have increased coverage in Summer Til with improved varieties through distribution of quality seed.

iii) Increased fertiliser Use :

Normally, Summer Til farmers use very little fertiliser even when the crop is grown in fields other than those of Potato. These farmers, particularly those growing the crop for first time, will be encouraged to use fertiliser at the recommended dose. Effort will be made to use balanced fertiliser, its timely application and also placement of fertiliser so as to derive maximum possible efficiency from fertiliser use.

iv) Plant Protection measures:

The farmers will be encouraged to adopt need based plant protection measures.

v) Improved Agronomic practices :

Action points under this item are detailed below :

- a) choice of variety ; b) proper land preparation; c) sowing in
- d) sowing in line; e) maintenance of optimum plant population;
- f) use of improved implements in intercultural operation; h) irrigation only at the critical stage; and i) timely harvesting.

GROUNDNUT

Emphasis will be laid to increase the area and production of Groundnut by adopting the measures as indicated for the other oil seed crops.

FIBRE CROPJUTE

With the increase in irrigation facilities, farmers now prefer to grow summer rice in Jute land which keeps the land engaged upto the month of May-June by which time normal sowing period of Jute is already over. Some traditional Jute lands are, at present, being used to grow Summer rice followed by High yielding varieties of Paddy during Kharif season. Because of this changing cropping pattern it is difficult to plan Jute acreage in future. Our plan is to produce 54 lakh bales of Jute fibre during 1996-97 from an average estimated area of 4.5 lakhs hectares. Thrust areas and action points to increase the productivity of raw Jute fibre to 12.00 bales per hectare from the base level of 10.34 hectares are given below :

i) Diversion of area from Capsularis to Olitorius Jute :

Traditionally North Bengal districts like Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, West Dinajpur, and Malda grow Capsularis Jute in large areas whereas growing of Olitorius is very common in South Bengal. Although productivity of Olitorius Jute is higher than Capsularis and also Olitorius fibre fetches higher price than Capsularis fibre still Jute farmers in North Bengal prefer to cultivate Capsularis Jute because of certain valid reasons. High rainfall cause accumulation of water in the field and there by in the month of July-August adversely affect the growth of plants. Capsularis varieties can stand water-logging better than Olitorius varieties. Also, Capsularis varieties are not affected by early flowering even when the crop is sown early in the season. Development of Olitorius varieties which can be sown 2 to 3 weeks earlier without occurrence of early flowering in plants have encouraged Jute farmers in North Bengal districts to switch over to cultivation of Olitorius varieties in medium to medium high lands where accumulation of standing water on fields is not a great problem. This Jute is harvested in the month of July-August and transplanted Winter Paddy is grown in the same field. Due to premature harvesting (2 to 3 weeks) although yield is little lower but because of better quality of fibre monetary return remains practically the same.

Productivity of Jute fibre in North Bengal districts is comparatively lower than in South Bengal districts. The process of switching over to growing of Olitorius Jute in place of Capsularis Jute by farmers in North Bengal will be accelerated during Eight Plan.

ii) Distribution of Quality Seed :

Seed replacement rate has been quite high in this crop during the Seventh Plan. Since Jute lands are normally double or triple cropped, Jute farmers in this state seldom go for seed production. As a result, almost entire quantity of Jute seed requirement are imported from other states through Public and Private Sector/Organisations. Replacement rate by the Public Sector/Institutions is around 40 to 50 per cent. It is proposed to increase the public Sector intervention in regard to supply of quality Jute seed during Eight Plan.

P O T A T O

Action points regarding increasing the production and productivity of Potato are detailed below :

i) Expansion of area :

Area expansion would mainly occur in non-traditional area of North Bengal and in important Potato growing districts like Hooghly, Burdwan, Midnapore(West), Midnapore(East) and Howrah through cultivation of a second crop during the season in the latter case.

ii) Distribution of quality seed :

Potato crop being vegetatively propagated, genetic deterioration normally does not occur. Potato farmers in West Bengal have now gained considerable expertise in collecting seed potato from disease-free fields during harvest. Due to existence of facilities of storage, seed potatoes are generally stored in cold storages and it meets practically a hundred percent requirement of seeds every year. Small quantity of potato seed, however, are imported every year from other states. It covers only a fraction of the total potato area in the state.

It is proposed to distribute quality potato seed by public sector Organisations. Seed distribution will be confined to districts where new areas will be brought under this crop and also in North Bengal districts where Potato cultivation is comparatively new and lacks adequate cold-storage facilities.

iii) Fertiliser use :

Fertiliser consumption is quite high in Potato crop. Still there is scope for increased use of fertiliser in North Bengal districts like Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar where considerable Potato area is unirrigated, rate of fertiliser application is low and as a result productivity is low. A target has been made to encourage Potato farmers in general and North Bengal farmers in particular to apply more fertiliser during Eight Plan.

iv) Plant Protection Measures :

Several insects pest and diseases affect the crop. Particular mention needs to be made of Early and Late Blight disease of potato which cause extensive damage to the crop whenever winter rains persist for a few days. Preventive measures like seed treatment and need-based plant protection measures will be taken particularly under adverse weather conditions to save the crop from these two diseases.

v) Improved agronomic practices :

There is a necessity to spread improved technology among Potato farmers, particularly in non traditional areas like Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar and West Dinajpur. Action points in this regard will be as follows

- a) Proper land preparation;
- b) timely sowing ; c) use of proper seed rate;
- d) gap filling; e) timely earthing up; f) proper placement of fertiliser
- g) scheduling irrigation and following scientific method of irrigation and h) timely harvesting.

SUGARCANE

There is considerable scope to improve production and productivity of the crop during Eighth Plan. Further increase in area is difficult, because of introduction of multiple cropping in irrigated areas. Farmers are interested in growing short duration crops in place of long duration crop like sugarcane

1) Distribution of quality seed cane:

Sugarcane crop being vegetatively propagated genetic deterioration normally does not occur. But, if proper care is not taken to use disease-free seed cane, it may cause serious damage.

Therefore, it is proposed to produce foundation seed cane in Jagannathpur Model Farm & Sugarcane Research Station, Bethuadahari from where after two more multiplication, it will go to the farmers for general cultivation.

2) Fertiliser use :

Although requirement of fertiliser is very high for Sugarcane crop (150:75:75 Kg. of N, P & K per ha) but consumption is not proportionate.

There is wide scope to educate and motivate the farmers for application of optimum dose of chemical fertiliser in addition to organic manure.

3) Plant Protection :

Several insect pests and diseases affect the Sugarcane crop. Particular mention needs to be made regarding red-rot which affects the crop extensively. Use of red-rot tolerant variety, disease-free seed cane, treatment of seed cane are proposed to be adopted to check the disease.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES :

The production of fruits and vegetables excluding potato are estimated to be 10.88 lakh and 41.15 lakh tonnes respectively at the terminal year of the Seventh Plan i.e. in the year 1989-90. The quantity is enough to provide for 41.4gm fruits and 135 gm vegetables per head per day, considering 30% post harvest loss in fruits and 20% in vegetables, for a population of 64.81 million from internal production. However, the maximum requirements are 60 gm. fruits and 300 gm. vegetables including potato. For a population of 75.797 million, projected at the terminal year of the Eighth Plan, the requirement according to above standards will stand at 18.2 lakh tonnes of fruits and 99.6 lakh tonnes of vegetable (including potato).

In order to raise the availability of fruits and vegetable emphasis will be laid in the Eighth Plan on expansion of area, improvement of production from existing orchards, introduction of improved varieties including hybrids, control of pest and diseases and popularisation of improved agro-techniques and training of farmers etc.

Strategy will be : Setting up of small demonstration centres on orchards in farmer's field, fertiliser demonstrations, organising plant protection and distribution of quality planting materials, seeds, plant protection equipments and training of farmers and extension workers on modern techniques of fruits and vegetable production.

Thrust areas

The thrust areas under major fruit crops will be increasing production of major fruits viz. Mango, Pineapple, Banana, Mandarin orange, lime, Guava in the present production belt by introduction of varieties and new agro-techniques. Vegetable like cabbage, cauliflower, Tomato, Brinjal, Curcubits growing early and late varieties as well as hybrid vegetable crops will be promoted in the areas suitable for commercial production.

It is pointed out that out of 5 years during VIII plan period 3 years viz. 1992-93, 94-95 and 96-97 are expected to be "Off" years of mango which cover about 50% of total fruit area. Production will be less than half in mango compared to "On" years i.e. 93-94 and 95-96. Increase in production is expected to raise availability of fruits from 38.1 gm in 1991-92 to 42.4 gm per head per day. However, this availability will be 33.67 gm in 96-97. The increase in production of vegetables will raise the availability of vegetables (excluding potato) from 146.1 gm in 1991-92 to 183.6 gm in 1996-97 per head per day.

The above mentioned production programme of fruits and vegetables will mainly be concentrated in the present production belts i.e. Mandarin orange and Temperate fruits in the Hill sub-region, Pineapple in the Terai sub-region, Mango in the Central Alluvium sub-region, Guava and Lime in the Eastern Plateau region. Vegetable development programme will be taken up in all the districts with special emphasis on areas near cities and towns. The production of quality planting materials nurseries will be strengthened inclusive for new nurseries and registration of nurseries will be attempted.

Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme :

The Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme was introduced by the Govt. of India throughout the States since the Kharif season of 1985. According to the Scheme, all farmers availing of crop loans from Co-operative Credit Institution, Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks for raising some specified crops is compulsorily covered under the scheme. The Govt. of West Bengal accepted the Scheme since the beginning and Aman Paddy during the Kharif season and Boro Paddy, Wheat, Pulses and Oilseeds during the Rabi Season were brought under the coverage of the Scheme.

During the year 1990-91, a sum of Rs.21.68 crores was insured under the Scheme in Kharif Season, covering 1,55,617 loaned farmers and 1,07,195 hectares of land and Rs.22.54 crores was insured in Rabi season covering 1,03,062 farmers and 57,924 hectares of land. Rs.3.22 crores were paid as compensation to 80,959 Nos. of farmers for crop loss during the Kharif season of 1990-91 under the provision of the Scheme.

The Scheme is in operation in the same form in 1991-92 and 336 Blocks of this State were notified for Aman Paddy during the Kharif season and 152 Blocks for Boro Paddy 156 Blocks for Wheat, 165 Blocks for Oilseeds and 4 districts for Pulses were notified for Rabi season. The insurance coverage under the Scheme is likely to cross the last year's figure.

The Scheme will continue in the year 1992-93 as well as during the next 5 years in the Eighth Five Year Plan in the same form or in the form as would be modified by the Govt. of India from time to time. Emphasis would be given to cover more farmers and more crops and also to decrease the extent of unit area.

Agricultural Research & Education

Agricultural Research during Eighth Five Year Plan period (1992-93 to 1996-97)

The Agricultural Research activities in the State of West Bengal are primarily linked with the main objective of increasing agricultural production and productivity of different crops through sustained research in the laboratory/experimented Farms as well as verification through demonstration on farmers' fields. Since agro-climatic soil condition plays a vital role in respect of performance of different crops varieties and response of different inputs and their relative efficiencies, the organisational aspects of Research activities were therefore covered through a net-work system of Research Stations covering all major agro-climatic zones of West Bengal. Five Commodity Research Stations operate on multidisciplinary basis taking into crop research (improvement) requirements and develop suitable crop varieties and appropriate management practices including plant protection measures.

The commodity Research Station are located as follows :-

- i) Rice Research Station at Chinsurah and sub-stations located at Bankura, Hatwara (Purulia dist.), Malda and Gosaba (24-Parganas North) work mainly on varietal improvement, development of plant protection measures and crop cultural techniques and breeding of varieties for high-yield, pest and disease resistance, etc. suitable for different eco-systems and land situation in the State.
- ii) Pulse and oilseeds Research Station at Berhampore has carried out considerable research work for improvement of different pulses and oilseeds. This centre advocated a number of varieties which has been widely accepted all over the State for cultivation in different areas. Further work is under progress.
- iii) The Field crop Research Station at Burdwan working on different wheat varieties and through breeding and selection has been able to identify promising wheat varieties in comparison to existing available varieties.
- iv) The Horticultural Research Station located at Krishnagar in Nadia dist. along with its sub-station located in different agro-climatic zones of the State is working on various aspect for development of different fruits and vegetables.

- v) The Sugarcane Research Station is located at Bethudhari in Nadia district and is engaged with improvement of suitable varieties and cultural practices in the State.

Beside, the Water Management Centre of Ranaghat is devoted to investigation of the improved water management practices for different crops and vegetables. The Dry Land Research Station at Bankura is engaged in development of suitable technologies for growing different crops and varieties under rainfed and dry (residual soil moisture) land condition.

The Research findings of the commodity Research Station are verified in the Six Zonal Adaptive Research Station located at Kalimpong (Hill), Majhian (old Alluvium) and Kakdwip, Mohitnagar (Terai), Nalhati (Laterite) and Krishnagar (New Alluvium). Of the six ZARS, Kalimpong, Majhian and Kakdwip (coastal saline) have been recently handed over to Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya under NARP. Sub-divisional Adaptive Research Farms distributed over the entire State undertake different trials on crop varieties and management of practices under the respective ZARS. Field demonstration are also undertaken in farmers' fields.

Besides, there are subject based and discipline-wise Research Establishments viz. :- Entomology Section at Burdwan deals with crop pests, and their management. Mycology Section at Tollygunge is concerned with different crop diseases and their appropriate management. Economic Botany-III Section at Midnapore and Singur (in Hooghly district) are engaged with work related to potato and tuber crops. The Agricultural Chemistry Section is related to studies in relation to soil chemical properties, and nutritional management of different crops by way of laboratory investigation and field trials in Govt. farms and in farmers' fields. Soil testing Laboratories located at Kalimpong, Coochbehar, Malda, Berhampur, Midnapore, Purulia, Burdwan and Tollygunge are engaged with routine soil testing works of soil samples from the farmers level.

While quality seed is a valuable input in agriculture, Seed Testing Laboratories located at Tollygunge, Burdwan and Malda are functioning to test the quality and health of seeds of different crops as per specification.

During the 8th Plan period, research activities as envisaged in preceding paragraphs will be continued no doubt but emphasis will be laid to streamline adaptive nature of research work with involvement of farming communities as far as practicable. While intensity of cropping is apt to further increase in coming years in an effort to meet the growing internal and export requirement of agricultural produce, researches on cropping sequences in different agro-climatic soil conditions will be pursued with a multidisciplinary approach so as to evolve suitable cropping patterns both under rainfed and irrigated conditions, which will be economically viable, and socially acceptable. Assessment of available micronutrient status of soils of West Bengal and yield-response studies will be further streamlined with provision of suitable staff and laboratory facilities. Bio-fertilizers

like Blue Green Algae (BGA), Azolla, Rhizobium cultures, etc. need special emphasis towards deriving multifaceted benefits including restoration of soil health, and as such a full-fledged Microbiology Section is absolutely necessary. Systematic researches on problems on organic manure production and its uses with organic fertilisers and their impact on productivity of crop vis-a-vis physico-chemical properties of different soils of West Bengal can be pursued through the establishment of Microbiology Section.

Crop researches and development of appropriate agro-technologies including cultural and nutritional management specially in the problematic acid soils of North Bengal, Coastal saline soils of South Bengal districts and laterite belts will need special emphasis to generate higher productivity, income and increasing employment opportunities of the rural communities linked with agricultural activities.

Much emphasis will be laid to verify the research innovations by way of suitable demonstration in farmers' fields taking the farmers as one of the research component. Involvement of the farmers will generate valuable information and will further extend the scope for adoption of improved technologies in shorter span of time.

Agricultural Education

The Agricultural Education in this State in the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya is being carried out with two academic faculties, viz., Agriculture and veterinary & Animal Sciences, catering for graduate and post-graduate studies in various subjects. The educational campus at the main centre has been unified and the permanent campus in the subsidiary centre has been formalised with establishment of administrative, academic and other infrastructure facilities like farms, library, hostels, staff quarters, student amenities, etc.

The intake capacity for graduate courses of the two faculties presently amount to 130 and 80 respectively, with another 20 in the Dairy Technology Stream. The plan for development of the University during the 8th Plan is ; (i) To develop preparedness for greater turn out of trained graduates in agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, (ii) establishment of new faculties/colleges/departments for fisheries, forestry, Home Science, Environmental Science, Biotechnology and Communication Technology, etc., and (iii) Improvement of facilities in the existing faculties/departments.

Agricultural Marketing & Quality Control:

The broad objective of the Directorate of Agricultural Marketing is to develop and strengthen marketing facilities to reduce exploitation by Middlemen and to project the interest of producers and consumers under the major head of A/c. 2435 Agricultural Marketing & Quality Control.

The objective for the VIIIth Five Years Plan would be to further strengthen and carry forward the development scheme initiated during the VIIth plan period and earlier.

The thrust areas in the field of Agricultural Marketing during the VIIIth five years plan period under Agricultural Marketing & Quality Control are the following :-

(1) The main thrust area is development of farm to Market link Road to cater to the absolute needs of the farmers. This will enable more and more farmers to bring their produce from farms to markets thereby greatly help minimise farm level disposal at unremunerative prices. It has been proposed to create 375 kms market link road during the VIIIth plan period.

(2) Another important Thrust area is physical development of Rural/ Primary markets which are in bad shape creating lot of operational difficulties for the producer sellers as well as the buyers and consumers also.

It has also been proposed during this plan period to cover the whole of West Bengal under the programme of Market Regulation by increasing no. of Regulated Market Committees from 41 to 62 and to develop 312 nos. markets.

(3) The other popular scheme is training is grading of Jute to the Jute farmers to make them quality conscious and to increase bargaining power so that the farmers can get better return for their produce according to their graded jute and it has been proposed to educate 21000 farmers during the VIIIth plan period.

Besides some more new schemes for development and improvement of Marketing system have been proposed to be launched during the VIIIth Plan period on the basis of Working Experience on 7th and earlier plan by proposing (1) Scheme for grant-in-aid to Regulated Market Committee for introduction of Auction, grading etc. within the market area. (2) Setting up of Horticultural produce processing and Marketing units. (3) Scheme for introduction of pledge finance through Regulated Market Committee. (4) To create the facilities for better utilisation of existing resources in the sphere of Agricultural Marketing.

2. Programme of Minor Irrigation Department.

Crop Husbandry : Under the Centrally sponsored Scheme for assisting small and marginal farmers for increasing agricultural production, an outlay of Rs.2930.00 lakhs for 8th Five Year Plan and Rs.586.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 are proposed as State share.

During the 7th Plan as per Government of India normal fund was provided @ Rs.3.50 lakhs per Block for the 335 Blocks of the State. From 1988-89, S.F.P.P. was launched and additional fund was provided for 7 districts initially (188 Blocks) and later extended to 12 districts covering 220 blocks. However, during 8th Five Year Plan normal fund of Rs.3.50 lakhs per Block has been considered. During 1990-91 expenditure amounting to Rs.372.04 lakhs was incurred and 11,000 nos. of shallow tubewells/dug wells were installed. During 1992-93, the no. of shallow tubewells/dug wells proposed to be installed is 20,000. It is mentioned that the programme is implemented through District Rural Development Agency.

3. Programme of the Cottage & Small Industries Department

Lac :

(i) Brood Lac Farms :

Under the scheme, supplementary assistance is provided to maintain/increase the actage of th Brood Lac Farms located in the Districts.

Price Support Scheme for Lac growers :

(ii) The scheme aimed at solving marketing problems of lac grower and to assist in implementation of Price Support and buffer stock operation being operated by S.T.C. Intensive field works will be required to assist the growers by providing loans, seeds etc.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

1. Programme of the Agriculture Department

Soil and water are the two major natural resources on which agricultural production mostly depends. In West Bengal, the alarming increase in population pressure on land (West Bengal shares 2.7 percent of the land area of the country while it supports eight percent of the country's population), resulting in reduction in land-man ratio, makes it imperative to launch massive developmental programme for better land use. Soil conservation is a basic tool for better land use through minimisation of the soil deterioration and maximisation of moisture conservation and sustained production is the result of all effective soil conservation measures.

In this state, a preliminary estimate reveals that an area of about 6.17 lakh hectares of land is prone to soil degradation in different ways out of the total geographical area of 87.88 lakh hectares. The different types of soil deterioration with the areas are shown below :

('000 ha)

1. Ravina erosion	- 36.0
2. Land slide, land slips	- 30.5
3. Sheet, rill and gully erosion	- 551.0
	617.5 (or 6.17 lakh ha)

Other factors resulting in soil deterioration hampering production in our State are water logging, salinity problem, sea-coastal erosion etc.

The objectives of soil and water conservation schemes are

- i) to intercept and reduce run-off and induce larger and extensive absorption in situ of available rain water in soil profile ;
- ii) to trap eroded materials and thus reduce sediment production either into the streams or the reservoirs;
- iii) to restore/reclaim degraded (gullied) lands into productive ones ;
- iv) to generate irrigation potential for mini-command in both khariff and rabi seasons ;

- v) to provide a remunerative single or double crop-based agriculture and also to generate regular and casual jobs to the people ;
- vi) to increase total production and provide a stabilised environment ;

Soil conservation means wise and right use of land to check deterioration and build up productivity on sustained basis. Deterioration of soil occurs in this state from soil erosion, soil exhaustion, water-logging, salinity etc. But soil erosion losses are most alarming and dangerous requiring immediate attention. Other types of soil deterioration has also to be looked into as far as possible. The most vulnerable areas from soil erosion point of view is the gravelly and lateritic tract of western district, the hilly areas of Darjeeling district and coarse sandy areas of torai region in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar and Darjeeling.

It is needless to mention that these areas are inhabited by the socio-economically backward communities and need special consideration to implement such community-oriented programmes like soil and water conservation, for a considerable length of time. Because of the economic weakness of the beneficiaries, it is not possible for them to adopt land development measures by themselves and on the other hand, any credit-oriented soil conservation programme could not be adopted. So, special stress has been given by the Left Front Government for conservation and utilisation of the vital, natural resources like soil and water, in an integrated manner, with full subsidy.

The main strategy is to execute the programme on micro-watershed basis. Soil and land use survey of each watershed is taken up by the soil survey branch under the soil conservation wing for appropriate planning and designing of soil conservation measures on watershed basis other than land development works like land levelling, bench terracing, gully control etc. Large scale development of water harvesting and storage structure has been taken up in the western districts which will help the farmers to combat drought and will enable them to utilise this natural resources for life-saving irrigation in critical periods. Field bunding, surface drainage scheme and sweet water ponding schemes have also been taken up in saline and drainage impeded areas.

From a low beginning in mid-sixties till 1989-90 (i.e. upto VII Plan), an area of 2.17 lakh hectares, i.e. about 35% of the total degraded area, could so far be treated by different soil and water conservation measures. Impressive physical and socio-economic gains have been possible to achieve through this programme. The measures like field bunding, land levelling, bench terracing and gully control have increased the water table in the treated areas through percolation/infiltration of rain water. Arresting the run off in situ, by constructing water harvesting structure, not only provides protective irrigation in short-spell droughts during rainy season but also increases the moisture regime of the command area thereby increasing the productivity of different crops. Secondly, the farmers owning uplands area found to change or adjust their cropping pattern by way of growing of upland crops like groundnut, arhar, millets, short-duration HYV Paddy, vegetables, etc. The soil conservation programmes are mostly employment-oriented and labour-intensive. In each year the employment potential under this programme is of the order of about eight lakh mandays.

NATIONAL WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND RAINFED AREA (NWDPRA)

1. The State Govt. decided to participate in the National Watershed Development Programme for Rain-fed Areas during the 8th Plan. Seventy five p.c. of the fund will be provided by Govt of India as grant while 25% as loan to the State Govt.
2. The Scheme envisages a multidisciplinary approach for development of the selected watershed having an area of 500-1000 ha. each in 169 blocks, spread over 15 agricultural districts in the State. Various Committees at State, District, Block and Watershed levels have been constituted for formulation, execution and monitoring of the Project activities. The watersheds are being delineated in every selected Block. The Govt. of India will approve one project as a modal in each of the six Agroclimatic Zones in the State while the remaining project will be approved by the State Govt. Three such projects have already been approved by Govt. of India. The target for coverage under the Project in different watersheds spread over 169 blocks in the State, during 8th Plan period is as follows.

<u>Targetted Area (000 ha.)</u>	
1992-93	- 6.875 ha.
1993-94 to 1996-97	- 88,375 ha.
VIII Plan total	- 95.250 ha.

3. The Central Govt. had placed Rs. 68.49 lakh under the Scheme during 1990-91. The said fund have been allotted to the respective Chief Executive Officers of the Zilla Parishads. Various developments activities will be undertaken as per provision to be made in the respective Projects.

2. Programme of the State Land Use Board of the Dev. & Plng. Deptt.

The State Government has set up the State Land Use Board to study different factors relating to Land Use, Soil and Water Conservation and flood control and to advise the Government on such issues. The matter of Land Use Planning is to ensure optimum optimum conservation of soil fertility and moisture, reduction of flood hazards and sustainable utilisation of natural resources like forest and grasing land etc. The Board functions as a co-ordinating agency between various relevant Departments.

The Board has already conducted studies in two Block (one in drought-prone laterite belt and other water surplus area of North 24-Parganas) to examine the present land use pattern. The Board is also considering scientific study and preparation of model action plan for ecological resurrection of Ranigunge Coal Field, Scientific study on management of water and integrated terrain development is also being considered by the board.

3. Programme of Forest Deptt.

Soil and Wqter Conservation Schemes.

Project on watershed basis is being formulated for executing the scheme under this programme. Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Soil Watershed Scheme Conservation is being continued. It is being supplemented by State Plan Schemes like Protective Afforestation and Conservation of Eco-sensitive Zone.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Programme of the Animal Resources Development Deptt.

The proposals for the 8th Five Year Plan and the Annual Plan for 1992-93 have been prepared keeping in view the need of the State as per projected population.

In the proposals the emphasis is on the improvement of Cattle and Buffalo. To achieve the objectives, larger investments on A. I. activities through Extension of Frozen Semen

Technology have been proposed. As such, 15% of the total 8th Plan Outlay has been earmarked for this.

The State proposes to set up 2728 A.I. Centres with Frozen Semen Technology by 1996-97, resulting in 20% A.I. Coverage from the present 11% of the breedable cattle. We expect that through this technology and there would be an increase of about 3 lakh cross-bred cows with an average milk yield of 2000 KG per lactation by 1996-97. It is expected that an equal number of male calves would be born by the end of 8th Plan period and those may be used for draught purposes.

Development and production of improved cattle calls for adequate health coverage and for this purpose provision for vaccines, medicines and equipment have been increased.

Similarly, provisions for Fodder Development have been increased from the present 15% provision to 17%.

Poultry Development is another thrust area and increased provisions have been proposed for the Annual Plan and also for 8th Plan.

In the new proposals schemes which involve creation of new posts ~~xxx~~ have been reduced to bare minimum. The implementation of the programmes will be made through Panchayats, Public bodies and Volunteers.

In respect of milk procurement, the proposal is to improve the performance by rationally locating new chilling plants or shifting the existing ones to more potential areas.

Performance :-

The break-up of the performance by the various Directorates vis-a-vis Plan Allocations are given below :-

A. Animal Resources Directorate.

There was a budget provision of Rs. 1358.30 lakhs for the Seventh Five Year Plan, out of which Rs. 1226.97 lakhs was utilised i.e. 90.33% of the provision of the total outlay.

B. Animal Health Directorate.

There was a budget provision of Rs. 1259 lakhs in the Seventh Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 903 lakhs was spent by the Direct

rate i.e. 71.6%.

C. Dairy Development Directorate.

The outlay for the Seventh Five Year Plan under the Directorate was Rs. 1,000 lakhs, out of which only 472.81 lakhs was spent. The major short-fall in expenditure was due to the reasons that proposals for procurement of certain machinery and equipment, purchase of milk tankers and delivery van could not be materialised.

Suggested total outlay for the 8th Plan is Rs. 7200.00 lakhs and for the Annual Plan of 1992-93 is Rs. 1154.50 lakhs for the Animal Resources Development Department.

Besides, the above an additional provision of Rs. 450 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs. 125 lakhs for the Annual Plan have been proposed for the World Bank Project, Fodder and Live-stock Development Project.

F I S H E R I E S

Programme of the Fisheries Department

APPROACH PAPER FOR EIGHTH 5 YEAR PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION

Fisheries Development has made significant progress over the successive five year plan in West Bengal. While the Sixth Five Year Plan was the turning point in the Development of the Fisheries in the State, the Seventh Plan has made remarkable achievements in consolidation of the gains thereof. In fact in the Development of the rural economy of the State, implementation of various fisheries schemes have played a vital role - it has not only stepped up production of fish, it has also generated substantial employment opportunities and savings for reinvestment particularly in rural areas.

2. EVALUATION OF SEVENTH 5-YEAR PLAN- IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS THEREOF.

The approved plan outlay of the 7th plan for the fisheries sector was Rs.3800.00 lakh against which budgetary allotment was made for Rs.4255.50 lakhs during five years of the 7th Plan. Actual expenditure during the 7th plan period was Rs.3916.40 lakhs, i.e. 92.03% of the allocation. Regarding Physical Programmes during the 7th plan period, it may be mentioned that -

- (a) Fish production has increased from 4.02 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 to about 6.01 lakh tonnes in 1989-90 which means that there has been an average growth of 10% per annum in table fish production.
- (b) Fish seed production also has surpassed the target of 7000 million seeds - it has been about 7400 million at the end of the 7th plan period.
- (c) The Inland Fisheries Project through the agencies of FFDA has shown substantial progress in the State. At the end of the 7th Five Year Plan about 73535 ha of water areas have been brought under improved method of pisciculture.
- (d) Under Social Fishery Scheme 3710 ha of public water bodies have been successfully utilised during the 7th plan period for productive purposes.
- (e) Many infrastructural facilities have been created for the fishermen communities in marine Coastal villages as well as in inland fishermen's hamlets during 1985-9

- (f) In marine fisheries sector, about 100 mechanised boats have been constructed and handed over to newly organised marine fishermen's coop. society with NCDC assistance. Cooperatives in the Fishery Sector have played an important role not only in culture and marine fishery, but also in arranging inputs and marketing.
- (g) In addition, various welfare schemes have been taken up for the poor fishermen who mostly belong to SC and ST. Rs.1227.63 lakhs(31.34%) has been spent for numerous schemes under SCP during the 7th Plan period while Rs.212.80 lakhs(5.43%) has been spent under TSP. Under Rural Landless Employment Generation Programme, houses with infrastructural facilities have been constructed for the poor fishermen families.
- (h) Construction work of Frasergunj Minor Fishing Harbour has been started.
- (i) Much progress has been made in the field of Brackish Water Prawn Culture. The construction work of Digha Brackish Water Fish Farm and Prawn hatchery is going on. BFDA through respective FFDA's in 24-Parganas(North) & (South) and Midnapur districts have arranged institutional finance for prawn farming in brackish water.

3. THREATS AND CHALLENGES AHEAD

3.1 During the 6th and 7th plan period the Department of Fisheries, Government of West Bengal gave leadership in India in production of seeds of major indian carps and chinese carps. There was a time when 80% of the total country's demand for carp seed were met up by production of West Bengal hatcheries. The venture was profitable and hence a large no. of entrepreneurs participated in the business of seed production. The opportunity has now turned into a major economic threats to the seed production system, because most of the Indian states have during last two decades, gradually developed their hatcheries, successfully adopted the technology of artificial breeding. Therefore, the market of carp seed for the West Bengal hatcheries are sharply reducing every year. Many of the hatcheries are now being forced to reduce their production. Some of the State Governments are also creating embargo on various grounds on import of seeds from West Bengal. It has, therefore, become necessary to expand our social fishery activity to economically utilise the surplus seed produced in West Bengal. Accordingly, this department is preparing various types of social fishery scheme for releasing fry and fingerlings in public waterbodies, in institutional waterbodies, rivers,

reservoirs as well as in borrow pits. But the real alternative to come out to the incoming threats in sector of seed production is diversification of that particular sector towards production of *macrobachium rosenbergii* seeds. This is a major thrust area identified by this department. The rest of India is still much behind in this sector and if West Bengal can succeed in large scale production of *macrobachium* seeds, it will be able to give the nation again the leadership in this particular sector at least for coming 5 years.

3.2 Keeping the said objective in mind, the Government of West Bengal has already taken up construction of mother hatchery in Canning area and planning to set up large nos. of backyard hatcheries in 40 selected blocks of South Bengal. There are about 50,000 seed collectors in West Bengal who collect, along with many types of seeds, seeds of *macrobachium rosenbergii* from the wild sources. A large portion of the said seed is exported out of the State to various parts of India upto the western boarder of India i.e. Punjab and Haryana. This activity can also be made more economically viable if no. of seed banks and rearing ponds can be developed in West Bengal, to collect the seeds from the seed collectors, segregate them species-wise rear them for sometime and make organised marketing.

3.3 The State of West Bengal inspite of producing around 39% of the total table fish of India, it is still having a substantial gap between its domestic demand and supply. Inspite of our State being quite in higher position in per ha. production of table fish in FFDA sponsored waterareas, we are much behind the contemplated national target of atleast 5 ton production of table fish in per ha. FFDA sponsored waterareas. This is only possible if we can ensure adoption of 4 crops poly culture production system i.e. 2 crops of carp and another 2 crops of bottom level species i.e. by *macrobachium rosenbergii* or magur. High rate of stocking as well as 4 crop of quick growing of fishes can be ensured only by application of aerator at the rate of 4 aerators per ha. In our demonstration farms, as well as in some private farms, the said technology has proved to be successfull and 7-8 tonn production per ha. is a normal phenomenon. One point has to be specially noted here that alongwith the abovestated package, supply of required quantum of quality feed is absolutely necessary. Keeping the abovestated issues in view the Department of Fisheries has identified a no. of specific schemes for successful implementation of the abovestated programme for 'quantum jump' in the field of table fish production. The challenges ahead are, therefore, to make a comprehensive plan and imple

the same faithfully to uphold the state as a leading state in inland fish production, quantify its shortfall in local consumption and to ensure more and more export in the internal as well as in external markets.

4. NEED TO CHANGE THE APPROACH AND STRATEGY

4.1 In the foregoing paragraphs we have discussed the threats and challenges in the existing fish and seed production system of West Bengal. We have seen that there is urgent need to change the whole approach and strategy of production both in the field of seed and table fish as well as in the field of no. of support services which are precondition for augmenting the production. It is worthwhile to mention in brief the basic conceptual changes and the programmes needed to be adopted in all the following major sectoral areas of aquaculture and support services activities :

(a) Inland waters : Introduction of poly culture, large scale production of *macrobachium rosenbergii* and magur seed, introduction of aerators, developing seed banks and rearing ponds for wild seed, introduction of modern production system in the Ox Bow Lake and reservoirs, introduction of cage culture, introduction of large scale social fishery scheme, establishment of a no. of backyard hatcheries, backyard fish feed production units, establishment of no. of Cold Storage, processing units, creation of more cooperatives for aquaculture in public waterbodies, reclamation of derelict and semi-derelict waters through FFDA scheme etc.

(b) Brackishwater sector : Introduction of semi-intensive shrimp culture in selected pilot project areas for augmenting production, introduction of developed technology and spreading of advance technology in entire 4 lakh ha. area of the State which is around 30% of the total BW area available in India, introduction of cage culture in BW area.

(c) Marine sector : Increase the no. of mechanised boats for offshore and deep sea fishing, more Coop. in the sector be set up and release of few hundreds of mechanised boats by taking loan from NCDC Project-IV Fishery Programme, development of fish landing centres, minor fishing harbour, improved marketing facilities, establishment of marine fish processing units, developing crafts and gears etc.

(d) Support services : Capture and culture fisheries can not be developed in a very large way unless it is supported by supply of various support services in production, processing, preservation, marketing and export sector. The Deptt. has prepared a no. of schemes, keeping the holistic project in view for

total upliftment of production in inland, BW and marine fisheries sector.

5. Objectives of Eighth Five-Year Plan

- (i) Augmenting production of table fish through enhancement of productivity of ongoing cultivated water areas by introduction of polyculture supported by aerators, utilisation of proteinous pellet feed.
- (ii) Poverty alleviation through active involvement of weaker section of people especially from rural sector in pisciculture as well as in capture fisheries.
- (iii) Major thrust on development of untapped potential Brackish water resources of the State especially the mudflats, charlands for Brackishwater Fish Farming, i.e. extension of semi intensive prawn farming in the under utilized Brackish water areas.
- (iv) Special drive for development of ox-bow lakes/beels/Baors of the State for pisciculture through Fishermen Cooperative Societies under the World Bank assisted ox-bow lake - Fish culture programme & other Social Fisheries Scheme.
- (v) Marine Fisheries as priority sector. Under NCDC Project another 200 mechanized boats would be inducted in the 2nd phase for more tapping of offshore resources of West Bengal. A few more Fishing harbours & Fish landing centres would be constructed/developed to cope up the development of Marine Fisheries of West Bengal.
- (vi) Welfare activities in Fisheries Sector like old age pension for Fishermen, construction of village road, sinking of tube well, community hall etc, would be taken up in a bigger way.
- (vii) Development of Fisheries in Hill areas of the State.
- (viii) Production prawn seeds through construction of backyard type of hatcheries.
- (ix) Expansion of support services to aquaculture like establishment of Feed Mills, Ice Plants, Hatcheries, Fish processing units under Private Sector with necessary infrastructural & financial support.
- (x) Expansion of Marketing network through various employment generating schemes.

6. Strategy for the Eighth Plan(1992-97)

(a) To achieve the major objective, the main emphasis has been laid on increasing production & productivity. Out of 2.76 lakh ha. of pond fishery resources in the State 0.79 lakh ha. have already been covered & during 8th Plan period additional 35000 ha. of pond area will be brought under the programme of improved methods of pisciculture through F.F.D.A. assistance.

Through technical guidance, application of improved technology & extension services, the production from Pond fishery is expected to rise from 4.1 lakh tonnes to 7.9 lakh, tonnes during 8th Five Year Plan.

(b) The present plan proposals include a major new scheme for introduction of aerators to make a direct impact on productivity. Production levels are expected to be increased from 2.85 ton to 7.00 ton per ha. per annum in a proposed area of 8000 ha. to be brought under the scheme during the present plan period.

(c) To introduce Semi intensive Shrimp culture in 4.0 lakh ha. of Brackish water area of West Bengal by phases, a pilot project has been taken up in 5 selected project areas in Midnapur & South 24-Parganas district covering an area of 1546 ha. with an involvement of 59.46 crores. In addition to that about 250 ha. of area at Nayachar Island would be taken up as a Pilot Project with N.C.D.C. assistance for the development through fishermen's cooperative Societies.

(d) The State being the richest in brackish water fishery resources in the country, brackish water aquaculture has been selected as one of the thrust areas. During the 8th 5 Year Plan about 12500 ha. of additional areas are proposed to be taken up for brackish water aquaculture under traditional methods. Thus by the end of 8th 5 year plan a total of 47000 ha. area shall be under brackish water aquaculture.

The estimated production from brackish water fisheries during the 8th five year plan is 0.27 lakh ton in the terminal year of the 8th plan.

(e) As major gap-exists in the production of prawn seeds, special emphasis has been given on setting up of low cost prawn hatcheries with Govt. assistance in the coastal district of the State. One Mother hatchery & two Demonstration hatcheries for production of *macrobrachium rosenbergii*. Seeds are being set up at Canning with DANIDA assistance.

7. Production Targets :-

(a) Total seed production targets for 8th five year plan are as follows :-

Carp Seed -- 8400 million per annum at the terminal year
Prawn Seed -- 200 million per annum at the terminal year

For details vide Table 8 of Part-III of this Budget Book.

(b) Total production of fishes estimated for the 8th five year plan is as follows :-

	<u>1991-92</u> (in lakh ton)	<u>1996-97</u> (in lakh ton)	Total % in- crease	Average Annual growth rate in
Inland Fish	6.01(Estimate)	9.78	62%	12.5%
Marine Fish	0.90(Estimate)	1.75	94%	18.8%
TOTAL :	<u>6.91(Estimate)</u>	<u>11.53</u>	<u>67%</u>	<u>13.4%</u>

The growth rate of fish production is expected to accelerate to a level of 13.4% per annum nullifying the existing gap between demand & supply. Moreover export of table fish to other States and processed fish to foreign markets will increase substantially.

8. Other sectoral activities :-

(a) In the marine fisheries sector the Fishermen's Cooperatives will be strengthened and 200 more no. mechanized boats will be introduced through such cooperatives. For this purpose financial assistance from N.C.D.C. will be available. Integrated Cooperative Fisheries Scheme now going on in Coastal districts will be extended to Howrah, Hooghly & Nadia district also. An amount of 32 crores is expected from NCDC under various schemes under project IV period which is falling within the 8th Plan period.

(b) The centrally sponsored scheme for construction of fishing harbour at Freseregung will be completed. Beside this, construction of one harbour at Khejuri under Midnapur district & two minor harbours at Diamond harbour & Kakdwip respectively under South 24-Parganas district would be taken up.

(c) Fishing community as a whole are backward both social & economically. To improve their living conditions, model villages are being constructed. This scheme will be implemented during 8th five year plan also. In addition various infrastructural facilities will be created as Welfare measure. For safeguarding active fishermen and their families against loss due to accident. Group personal Insurance Scheme is in operation. Similarly old age pension scheme for fishermen

has been introduced as social security measure. This will continue during 8th five year plan also.

(d) Under SCP & TSP programmes of fisheries development for Scheduled Castes & Tribes have been drawn up. Under SCP a total amount of Rs.3307 lakh being of 41.77% & under TSP a total amount of Rs.480 lakh which is about 6.06% of total outlay have been kept earmarked during the 8th five year plan.

10. IDENTIFICATION OF 'MAJOR' AND 'MINOR' THRUST AREAS FOR TAKING UP INTENSIFIED PROGRAMMES DURING THE EIGHTH PLAN

(a) Initiation of Semi-Intensive shrimp culture in selected Brackishwater project areas - A 59.45 crores World Bank Scheme.

(b) Initiation of large-scale production of *Macrobrachium Rosenbergii* seeds through Danish Govt.'s assisted projects in Canning & supporting establishment of backyard hatcheries in 40 selected blocks as well as setting up of seed banks to rear wild seeds.

(c) Initiation of 4 crop poly-culture production system per annum in freshwater ponds.

(d) Initiation of large-scale application of 'aerators' to support polyculture schemes.

(e) Initiation of large-scale cage culture associating the 50,000 select collectors, the poorest group of the fisher folk, for their real economic solvency.

(f) Large-scale expansion of support services to aquaculture by establishing of fish-feed mills, ice-plants, modern hatcheries to produce '*Peneaus Monodon*' seeds, fish-processing plants, etc. in the private sector under administrative and financial support.

(g) Doubling the marine catch by introducing hundreds of off-shore fishing boats, including synthetic fibre glass boats under 16 crores NCDC Project-IV schemes and supporting expansion of marine fishing by the private sector. West Bengal Marine Fisheries Regulation Bill is expected to be placed before the next seating of the State Assembly.

(h) Supporting proliferation of fish-food production by ordinary fisherfolk in their backyard fish-feed production units for production of low-cost feed for supporting large-scale inland poly-culture practices and boosting up productivity of the inland compounded water areas, particularly the small-size ponds owned by poor and marginal aquacultivists.

(i) Initiation of 'modern' aquaculture in Ox-bow lakes, beels and baors of West Bengal by taking up pilot projects in 18 selected Ox-bow lakes in 5 selected Districts from Cooch Behar to North 24-Parganas keeping in view, its demonstration effects and subsequent transfer of standardised technology - A 5 crore World Bank Assisted Project.

(j) Intensifying activities for reclamation of semi-derelict and derelict water areas under F.F.D.A. schemes - a special thrust area expected to be supported by the G.O.I. in the Eighth 5-year plan period.

(k) Large-scale expansion of 'Social Fisheries' by releasing fry and fingerlings in rivers, reserviors, pits, departmental water areas not brought under aquaculture, all ponds held by institutions - for augmentation of inland fish production and enhancing the income of fishermen capturing fish in common property water areas.

(l) Expansion of marketing network, under Cooperative sector, under self-employment oriented schemes and under grant-in-aid scheme for foot-path fish-sellers, specially the fisher women.

(m) Organising of large-scale training programmes to departmental field officers, fisherfolk, entrepreneurs coming up to provide support services to aquaculture and fish-processing, marketing and exporting of fish, printing of extension leaflets, literatures.

(n) Initiation of specific programmes in the following (minor thrust) areas :

(i) introduction of 'mahaseer' and trout culture a cold water aquaculture system in hilly rivers and rivlets.

(ii) introduction of mud-crab (*Scylla Serrata*) culture in Delta regions of South Bengal.

(iii) introducing commercial pearl culture in freshwater areas.

(iv) introducing artificial breeding of 'magur' in hatcheries for poly culture.

(v) introducing artificial breeding of 'ilish' fish for ranching in upper regions of Hooghly and other rivers for increasing catch by fisherfolk fishing in South Bengal rivers

SOCIO-ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATION OF THIS EIGHTH
5-YEAR PLAN

Employment Generation potential - The maximum socio-economic justification appears from the formulated fishery projects for the Eighth plan period relate to very high level of Employment generation potential. Around 2,34,006 no. of persons shall get direct employment or full livelihood by way of self employment and wage earning in various sectors of fisheries activities and its support services.

Even if we calculate from the angle of created mandays, we will find that around 7,05,04,300 mandays will be created per annum and divided by 300 working days on an average for full employment of an individual, we can derive nearly the same figure i.e. employment of 2,35,014 persons, getting additional employment or full livelihood per annum during the five years of the Eighth plan on an average basis. Since the total investment of Eighth 5-year plan in the fishery sector is taken to be Rs.205.26 crores i.e. an average investment of Rs.41.31 crores per annum, the figure of employment as estimated above is extremely high.

FORESTRY AND WILDLIFEProgramme of the Forest Department :

West Bengal with a geographical area of 88752 sq.km. (2.7% of the total geographical area of India), supports a population of 68 million (as per 1991 Census, which constitutes 8% of the total population of the country. The average population density works out to 766 per sq.km., with considerable interdistrict variations, Nearly 75% of the population resides in rural areas spread over nearly 42000 villages. The cattle population of the State is nearly 1.7 million. The recorded forest lands total 11879 sq.km. (13.4% of the geographical area) leading to a per capital forest area of 0.02 ha.

Forest Resources :

All agro-ecological zones, except for the Central Alluvial Tract, have important forest resources with distinctive floristic compositions. Those in North Bengal total about 3050 sq.km. (approximately 25% of the recorded State Forests, and contain the most productive forests. Forests in the lateritic tract are the most extensive in area (4500 sq.km. or 38% of recorded forests), but comprise mostly of relatively small and widely scattered blocks of degraded Sal interspersed with farm land. The most compact area is the mangrove forests of the Coastal Saline Zone which cover 4260 sq.km. (i.e. 36% of the recorded forest lands). However, approximately 40% of the forests in Coastal Saline Zone is actually made up numerous rivers and creeks that cut into the area.

Productivity :

The productivity of the man-made forest was found to be distinctly superior to that of the natural forest. In fact, growing stocks in the natural forest in the plains of North Bengal is estimated to be around 150 - 200 cu.m. per ha. whereas from man-made forest it is about 400 to 600 cu.m. Similarly, in South-West Bengal it is found only 35 to 40 cu.m. It is further reduced to the extent of 10 to 15 cu.m. in mangrove forest. However, past methods of mixture of species used to result in a single storey forest tending towards a

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near monocrop. Recent practices in artificial regeneration aim at mixed and multi-tier combinations, both for environmental reasons and for better utilisation of space.

There is no denying the fact that the degradation of forest resources has taken place over the years where tens of millions of people live within or adjacent to forest land and depend on forest resources. The socio-economic and religious and cultural traditions of these people are interwoven with the ecology of the forest. The National Commission of Agriculture in its report on forestry submitted in 1976 has held the forest dwellers responsible for the degradation of the forest. However, while forest communities are part of the deforestation problem they are also asset in finding solutions to problems. Over the years West Bengal Forest Department has developed a programme involving local people to regenerate and rejuvenate the forest with people's participation through formation of forest protection committees to guard against the unauthorised cutting and grazing to allow the forest to recover.

While on the one hand productivity of the forest has to be increased as stressed in the National Forest Policy, it is imperative to take up large scale afforestation in the hitherto degraded forest as well as on the available blanks. In West Bengal it is estimated that more than 2000 sq.km., of degraded land is available for the purpose of afforestation. It has been estimated that about 1.7 million ha. are subjected to various forms of land degradation. The nature and extent of problem varies in different regions of the State.

Very high rainfall and weak rock formations lead to frequent landslips, soil wash, gully formation in the mountains. This situation is sometime aggravated due to deforestation outside the forest areas and defective agricultural practices in steep terrains of high altitude zones. In lateritic tract mainly sheet erosion takes place and deep gully is formed. This situation becomes acute due to uncontrolled grazing and illicit hacking and felling of trees in manmade plantations. Non-utilisation of the Non-agricultural lands also add to this problems. The rivers get silted up thereby causing flash floods.

The Conservation of ecologically Fragile Zone :

It is being increasingly felt that unless the environment and its conservation is given due priority, no developmental activity can sustain in the long run. It is felt that

Conservation of Eco Fragile Zone is very much needed for which the concept of preservation of Sundarbans area has been mooted.

Wildlife Conservation :

It is needless to point out that the need for conservation and preservation of flora and fauna are of utmost importance in the context of eco-conservation and eco-restoration, and West Bengal has preserved about 1/3rd of the total Forest areas for preservation of biodiversity.

1. Wasteland Development and Afforestation :

Wastelands in West Bengal, predominately occur in the districts of Bankura, Purulia, Midnapore, Birbhum and Burdwan. These areas are frequently drought affected and percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population is more. They predominately suffer from lack of sustained employment. Unproductive land unfit for agriculture in these areas are required to be treated for the benefit of both the society and the people. Major thrust has been given on afforestation of blanks & degraded areas, where about 75% of the plan outlay is proposed to be spent.

With a view of the above, the following Forestry Development Schemes have been proposed :

A. WEST BENGAL FORESTRY PROJECT (IDA assisted) .. salient features are :-

1). Treatment of Wastelands and Degraded Forests

In this category comes the plantations in degraded forests on forest blanks in South-Western part of Bengal in districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Purulia and Midnapore. It is proposed that about 36,000 ha. of such plantations will be raised during the Eighth Plan period. These plantations will for their firewood, fodder and small timber needs. In addition to that, the industries also will be served. This will also create rural employment for the fringe people and offer opportunities participatory management. Inter-cropping is also being encouraged and wherever possible, incentive will be given to people to raise some cash crop and fodder so that some income can be generated for them. Firewood trees such as Akashmoni, Subabul, etc. will be planted.

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apart from these, a mixture of Sal, Bahara, Mahua will be tried in order to retrieve the older composition of the forests along with other indigenous trees. Among the fruit trees, mango, Jackfruit, etc. will be planted. Collection of seed will be done from seed trees, and seed stands are being created for supply of seeds in large scale. Soil testing is being done for PH value and other properties of the soil so that the site specific species can be put. A gradual shift from chemical to bio-fertilizer is being done. Experiments have been laid at several places of South Bengal and the result so far has been found to be encouraging. Nursery technique is being improved in order to produce better quality seedlings. All round stress on research for improvement of tree quality is being given so that better seedlings can be produced from which economic return will more. Need of the people living in the fringes, are being assessed. Microplans are being prepared in order to determine the species-mix for the afforestation programme to be adopted. It will be apparent that the objectives set forth in the Afforestation programme can be largely met by this planned afforestation programme.

2. Rehabilitation of degraded Sal forest of South-West Bengal

This is a new innovation which was started in the Seventh Plan Period in a small way. In the composite form indicates not only rehabilitation of Sal coppice forests but also economic rehabilitation of the people by providing some livelihood and economic benefit. The Government of West Bengal has already issued order of giving 25% of the produce from such forests to the Forest Protection Committees to enlist their co-operation and support for rehabilitation and protection of forest. Already more than 1800 such Committees have been formed and total area protected are more than 2.50 lakhs ha. Target during 8th Plan will be 1.07 lakh ha.

3. Production Forestry

In rich soil of North Bengal, 5,000 ha. of high value timber plantations are envisaged under this programme. Valuable species like Sal, Teak, Gishu, Iaka Saj, Panisaj, Gamar, Champ, etc. will be planted in conjunction with plywood species like Chillani, Luli, etc. and match-wood species Simul, Odal, etc. This will only meet the timber and firewood needs of the people but will go a long way in creating durable assets of the State for the future needs.

It is also proposed to associate the local people in the same line as in South-West Bengal for protection and preservation of such forests/plantations.

4) Strip Plantation

During the Seventh Plan period 10000 ha. of Strip plantations have been created along the roads canals, river banks and embankments. The principal species were fuel and fodder. The object was to treat such public waste lands lying fallow, not coming to any benefit of the society, but adding to soil erosion problem. These plantations have mostly been handed over to the Panchayets for management for the benefit of the local people living around these plantations. The target during the Eighth Plan Period has kept only at the level of 4,000 ha. because the Panchayets are also raising such plantations under several rural development schemes such as N.R.E.P., D.P.A.P., J.R.Y., etc. Government of India is funding such activities through the State Government and the fund is flowing directly to the Panchayets. In the Forest Department, scheme the beneficiaries will be selected by the Panchayets and the Plantations will be done through them. They will look after the upkeep till maturity. All the intermediate yields will be taken by the beneficiaries. Mainly timber, fuel, fodder and fruit trees will be planted for which soil testing will be done and on the basis of that species choice will be done after discussion with local people. This will not only create a durable asset for the community but will help in a long way in ameliorating environment.

5) Farm Forestry

This was first started during 1980's and was a tremendous success. More than 1.50 lakh ha. of such private lands which were so long lying fallow came under such plantation of forestry crop by the villagers. As an indirect benefit this programme has helped in a long way in making the people tree conscious. Mainly people raised Akashmoni, Sishu, Champ, Gamar, Teak, etc. which has developed into a valuable asset for them. During the Eighth Plan, 92,000 ha. of such plantations are proposed on private lands for which Forest Department will only raise the nurseries and distribute/sell seedlings to the people. Most of seedlings will be raised through Kishan Nurseries (decentra-

lised nurseries) where the beneficiaries will be the people drawn from the lowest economic strata with the help of local Panchayets. Polythene tube, improved seeds of different varieties of timber, fuel and fodder trees will be supplied from the Forest Department along with the cash compensation for the labour wage for raising such seedlings. Idea is to create nurseries nearest to the places at planting so that damage due to handlings of seedling will be minimum.

6. Development of Mangrove Forest

During the Eighth Plan period, 2,750 ha. of Mangrove plantation in intertidal blanks are proposed to be created. Mangrove species like Sundari, Gewa, Garan, Dhudul, Posur will be planted. Apart from this, 25,000 ha. of Mangrove forest will be rejuvenated by participatory management technique in the same line as proposed in South-West Bengal forests. In this area, most of the people live below the poverty line and no scheme worth mentioning was undertaken in the past in this scale to improve the living condition and also to create local employment. This is practically the first planned approach in this direction.

B. Economic Plantation

During the Plan period for first four years, the activity will merge with the West Bengal Forests Project. Only in the last year of the Eighth Plan, some amount has been provided for advance soil work of plantations to retain the tempo of afforestation activities.

C. Quick-growing species

Plantation of Quick-growing species for first four years of the Plan period is included in the West Bengal Forestry Project. In the last year of the Eighth Plan, some amount has been provided for the advance soil work.

D. State Social Forestry Scheme

For first four years, it will be included in the West Bengal Forestry Project. In the last year of the 8th Five-Year Plan, some amount has been provided for doing the advance soil work of the Social Forestry component such as strip plantation. Farm Forestry and Reforestation of

Degraded Forests.

E. Coastal Shelter Belt Plantation

This is mainly raised in the sea shore. In five years, about Rs.74 lakhs is proposed to be spent under this project in order to tackle the coastal lands of the State so that sea erosion can somehow be impeded.

F. Agro-Silviculture

A total amount of Rs.237 lakhs has been provided in this scheme under 8th Plan mainly to treat the forestry plantation areas more intensively by raising subsidiary agricultural crop which helps in plant growth and also gives some agricultural production from the lands which otherwise would have remained unutilised. These activities are mainly done in high rainfall areas in North Bengal in the productive forests, on taungya system not only to check the rank weed growth, but also for intensive utilisation of land.

G. Area Oriented Fuel and Fodder Project (State Share 50%)

This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with 50% State contribution which is done on watershed basis in the districts of 24-Farqanas, Birbhum, Burdwan, Midnapore and Bankura. A total amount of Rs.710 lakhs has been earmarked in the State Share during the 8th Plan. Total physical coverage will be more than 15,000 ha. in 5 years.

2. Harvesting of Forest Produce

In North Bengal, clearfelling of natural forests have been stopped. The older plantations already matured are now being felled in the planned manner followed by regeneration. This type of management are compatible to socio-economic and ecological criteria. Plantations are extracted departmentally. Total outlay for timber operation during 8th Plan is 510 crores. This scheme is generating employment amongst the Tribal and Scheduled Castes people living in the fringe areas of the forests.

3. Conservation of Eco-System and Wildlife Preservation

More than 32% of the total forest areas have been put under the total conservation measures for preservation of

ecological diversity. Sunderbans Biosphere Reserve has been formed for eco-restoration of Sunderbans areas by adopting special schemes like Mangrove and Wetland Development. In Wild life Sector apart from other State Schemes, Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Sunderbans Tiger Reserve, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Jaldapara Wildlife Sanctuary, Captive Breeding, Control of poaching, Crocodile Project, Singalila Park, Nature Education, Neora Valley Parks, Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, Wetland Development, Marine National Parks, Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary, Elephant Project have been included in the 8th Plan.

4. Economic Development of the fringe population

West Bengal Social Forestry Project has a component to this effect for the project areas only. An amount of Rs.2.49 crores has been provided for this activities for outside project areas. An amount of Rs.126 crore has been provided. It is our endeavour to see that the fringe population can be provided some benefit. Co-operation from these people is needed in all the forestry activities of the state.

5. Recreational Forestry

The need for taking care of aesthetic aspect in urban and semi-urban areas where forest practically do not exists is felt very much in the present socio economic condition. With growing industrialisation all areas are being covered by habitation. It is necessary that some areas should be kept earmarked for recreational purpose. With a view to this, Parks & Gardens Wing of West Bengal was created in 1974. Presently more than 100 such parks have been created all over West Bengal. There are three schemes in this category (a) Parks & Gardens, (b) Greening of rural areas and (c) Urban forestry. An amount of Rs.3.13 crores have been kept earmarked during the 8th Plan period for this purpose.

6. Forestry Research

To ensure maximum benefit and quick result, need for basic and applied research, is essential. Research programmes are need-based and aimed at improvement of quality of work in forest areas. An amount of Rs.61 lakhs

has been earmarked for five years time.

7. Data Base Management

For successful management of any resource, a comprehensive and informative data base is necessary. With this end in view the scheme on management information system has been introduced. A total amount of Rs.10 lakhs has been earmarked in the 8th Plan for this operation.

8. Building and Communication

The staff of Forests Deptt., mostly live in interior forest areas for protection of Forests and other eco-restoration activities. In these areas, there is no habitation, Infrastructure whatever is there, is created by the Forest Deptt. There are about 10,000 Forest Deptt. staff of different categories posted in interior forest areas for whom amenities like housing is a basic necessity where even hired houses are not available. Only above Rs.3.80 crore could be earmarked for providing housing for the staff during the plan period. Improvement of communication is a necessity. An amount of Rs.49 lakhs has been provided during 8th Plan period.

9. Forest Protection Force

Of late, due to rises in timber cost, organised vandalism in forest areas by mafias are on increase. As an imperative necessity Forest Protection Force have been formed in North Bengal to combat the mafia activities. They are helping the forest staff in their normal duty of forest protection. Wireless net work has been installed in Sundarbans and in North Bengal forests. It is necessary to extend this net work to other areas.

10. Other Miscellaneous Schemes

Other miscellaneous schemes such as Forest Resources Survey, Forest consolidation, Working Plans, Amenities to Forest Staff and labourers, Publicity-cum-Extension are very much necessary as management support.

P_L_A_N_T_A_T_I_O_NProgramme of the Commerce & Industries
Department.1.0. West Bengal Tea Development Corporation (WBTD) :

The Corporation runs seven gardens - five in Darjeeling District and two in Jalpaiguri District. Of these, five gardens are owned by the Corporation while other two are managed ones. Total area of these seven gardens is 2,872 hec. out of which 1,373 hec. is under tea plantation. There are three running factories at Pandam, Singell and Rungrock/Cedars Tea Estate and one factory has been set up at Hilla Tea Estate at Dooars which has been Commissioned in December, 1990.

1.1. In 1990-91, 41.00 lakh kgs. of made tea and 12.30 lakh kgs. of green leaf were produced in the gardens of the Corporation. Price realisation for made tea stood at Rs.281.66 lakhs and that for green leaf stood at Rs.12.30 lakhs.

1.2. The objectives of the Eighth Plan for the Corporation will be (i) to increase production through extension of plantation area and rejuvenation of the existing area under tea; (ii) to improve the quality of tea by remodelling and renovation of the existing factories and installation of new machineries where externally necessary, and (iii) to take up labour welfare programmes for upliftment of the living condition of the workers.

1.3. With the above objectives, the Corporation will be taking up a number of programmes, viz., New Plantation, Extension Plantation, Raising of Nurseries, Drainage and Irrigation Schemes, etc. in the different gardens of the Corporation. A factory is proposed to be set up at Mohua T.E. to process its green leaf. Different labour welfare programmes like construction of labour houses, supply of drinking water, etc. will also be taken up. The Corporation is exploring the possibility of tea plantation in unused Cinchona land of Darjeeling District and has taken up a pilot project on experimental basis for development of tea in Ayodhya hill of Purulia District.

2.0. Schemes of the Directorate of Cinchona and
Other Medicinal Plants :

2.1. The Directorate of Cinchona and Other Medicinal Plants is engaged in the development of cultivation of Cinchona and medicinal plants in the district of Darjeeling creating employment opportunities for a large number of people. It has also set up factories for production of medicines like quinine, diosgenin etc. by extraction of medicinal plants.

2.2. During the seventh Plan and the Annual Plans, 1990-91 and 1991-92, the Directorate extended Cinchona cultivation by 1064 acres. The Diosgenin factory was commissioned and a new factory for production of Hmetine Hydrochloride was set up at Mungpoo. Cultivation of Dioscoree was started. A scheme for production of steroids from Diosgenin was taken up. The Plant is ready for commissioning.

2.3. During the Eighth Plan, the Directorate will be taking up programmes for maintenance and harvesting of the Cinchona Plantation, expansion of Ipecac cultivation, cultivation of Dioscoree, production of Haetene Chloride, construction of labour model houses, etc. Some new schemes like (i) cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants at village level, (ii) utilization of raw materials from wild plant sources through phytochemical screening of such plants, (iii) development of plantation roads etc. are proposed to be taken up during the Eighth Plan.

Food Storage & Ware Housing.

1. Programmes of the Public Undertaking Department :

West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation.

The Plan/programmes implemented through this undertakings come under this sector and constitute the District Plan component of the Plans of this Department. The ongoing programme of the Corporation for construction of further storage capacity of 6155 M/T. in different district of West Bengal at an estimated cost of Rs.428.00 lakhs (Subject to revision) to be financed by the State Government the Central Warehousing Corporation and the West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation, is proposed for inclusion the Eighth Plan 1992-97. The Corporation has already undertaken the programme for implementation in phases.

2. Programme of the Minor Irrigation Department.

West Bengal Agro-Industries Corporation Ltd.

Programme of the Agriculture Deptt.

Storage & Warehousing

(Under Agril. Marketing Wing of Agriculture Deptt.)

Objective and programme during VIII the Five Years Plan 1992-93 to 1996-97 under Storage & Warehousing :

The broad objective is to develop and strengthen Market infrastructures to reduce exploitation by Middlemen and to protect the interest of producers and consumers under the major heads A/c. 2408 Storage and Warehousing.

The objective for the 8th Plan would be to further strengthen and carry forward the development scheme initiated during the 7th Plan and earlier.

The thrust areas in the field of Agril. Marketing during the 8th Plan under storage and warehousing are the following :-

1) The main thrust area is processing of fruits and wage-ables. It has been proposed to step up some of the existing 22 fruit processing centres under this Directorate. Setting up of additional centres in new areas etc. has been proposed.

2) Another thrust area is creation of storage provision both at Market and farm level which will be increased during the VIIIth plan period through (a) construction of 24 godown with approximately 12000 M/T. storage capacity under the National grid of Rural godown by the Regulated Market Committee to be set up (b) creation of 2125 domestic storage structure during VIIIth plan period with total approximate capacity of 500 M/T.

Some new scheme for development and improvement of Marketing system have been proposed to be launched during the 8th plan period on the basis of working experience on 7th and earlier plan by proposing -

- (1) Scheme for extension of community canning through Ex-trainees.
- (2) Scheme for creation of processed fruits Marketing Cell.
- (3) Scheme for demonstration of better packaging of fruits and vegetables.
- (4) Setting up of a quality control Laboratory for processed fruits and vegetables under storage and warehousing head to explore the facilities for better utilisation of existing resources in the field of fruits and vegetables processing.

AGRICULTURAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONProgrammes of the Finance(I.f) DepartmentRURAL BANKS IN WEST BENGAL

1. The Scheme for setting up of regional Rural Banks was introduced in 1976 under the provisions of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976. The issued capital of each Regional Rural Bank is Rs.25.00 lakhs, 15% of which is subscribed by the State Govt. whose contribution is thus Rs.3.75 lakhs in the share capital of each such bank. An outlay of Rs.50.00 lakh had been envisaged for the purpose for the entire 7th Five Year Plan period(1985-90) During the year 1986-87 five RRBs, in 1988-89 one RRB 1989-90 two RRBs and 1990-91 three RRBs increased their paid up share capital by 25 lakhs each and the State Government had to contribute at the rate of Rs.3.75 lakhs per RRB as its share of 15%. The agreed outlay for the year 1991-92 is Rs.12.00 lakhs. In expectation of increasing share capital of three RRBs an amount of Rs.13.20 lakhs has been proposed for the financial year 1992-93.
2. Till date 9(nine) Regional Rural Banks have been established in West Bengal. These are (i) Gour Gramin Bank(Covering Malda, West Dinajpur and part of Murshidabad districts), (ii) Mallabhum Gramin Bank (covering Bankura, Purulia and Midnapore districts), (iii) Mayurakshi Gramin Bank (covering Birbhum district), (iv) Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank (covering Cooh-behar, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts) (v) Sagar Gramin Bank (covering 24 Parganas North & South districts) (vi) Nadia Gramin Bank (covering Nadia district) (vii) Howrah Gramin Bank(covering Howrah and Hooghly districts), (viii) Bardhaman Gramin Bank (covering Burdwan and part of Hooghly districts) and (ix) Murshidabad Gramin Bank (covering Murshidabad district).
3. With a view to augmenting the flow of institutional credit to the poorer section of the rural population, the State Government is in favour of setting up one Regional Rural Bank for each district in West Bengal. Therefore, an outlay of Rs.85 lakhs may be made for the 8th Plan period(1992-97) keeping in view the scope of opening new RRB as well as augmenting the share capital of existing RRBs. Similarly in expectation of increasing share capital of three RRBs an amount of Rs.13.20 lakhs may be proposed for the year 1992-93.

COOPERATIONProgramme of the Cooperation DepartmentIntroduction

Cooperative Organisations are recognised as one of the most suitable mediums through which the concepts of socio-economic developments as formulated by the Planners of the country can be best realised. It has been experienced in the earlier Plan periods that the cooperatives have played a vital role in bringing about substantial changes in the agrarian economy by strengthening the hands of the farmers with investment as well as production credit, supplying agricultural inputs and arranging marketing of the agricultural produces that are most vulnerable to speculative trade practices. The Cooperatives in the urban areas have also been harnessed to serve the interests of the people in getting essential consumer goods, obtaining non-agricultural credit for economic development and in benefiting from social services like construction of dwelling houses and gainful employment of the labour forces.

The Five-year Plan and Cooperatives

The geo-hydrological status of the State requires a variety of schemes for comprehensive development of all areas. The hills of Darjeeling district, laterite terrain of the Western part of the State and the vast Gangetic plain throw challenges to the developmental organisations. In fact, the 7th Five-year Plan was prepared with a view to achieving a harmonious growth of the Cooperatives at the grass-root level. A number of new schemes were formulated in the agricultural credit, agricultural marketing and processing and consumer sectors for this purpose such as :-

- a) Strengthening of Primary Agril. Credit Societies (PACS)
- b) Integrated Cooperative Development Project.
- c) Pilot scheme for strengthening the credit delivery system.
- d) Implementation and Monitoring of Intensive Agril. Credit Development Programme.
- e) Development of processing cooperatives for sugar cane, rice bran, dal, ginger, wheat and vegetables.
- f) Assistance to A. or S. Society to be organised with cold storage and Rice Mill Societies for technical services and market intelligence.
- g) Development of Cold Storages for eggs, onions and vegetables.
- h) Development of Consumer Industries.

The Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies were expected to emerge as growth centres for all rural developmental activities. The enactment of the West Bengal Cooperative Societies Act 1983 embodied provisions conducive to the decentralised and democratic growth of the Cooperative Movement. It was visualised that the objectives of the 7th Plan for 4% annual growth in agricultural production along with implementation of Employment Oriented Programmes with particular emphasis on poverty alleviation would be effectively carried out by the Cooperatives.

The achievements are short of expectation in some major items. A close review has been made of the situation. It has been found that there are a number of reasons to account for this short-fall. Non execution or partial execution of some new schemes aimed at reorganisation of the agricultural credit cooperatives and linking up processing with marketing, legal obstacles in dispensation of investment credit in non-farm sector and unforeseen stalemate created in the recovery of loans in 1989-90 by the announcement of the Debt Relief Scheme which ate up the vital recovery period before taking final shape, are some of such reasons. The constraints in budgetary resources also account for non implementation or partial implementation of a large number of important development schemes. Withdrawal of the Central Government from participation in some major schemes like strengthening of PACS and Implementation and Monitoring of Intensive Agricultural Credit Development Programme added to the constraints. The new Act as mentioned above came into force from the 1st August, 1987 only, for which the required legal support was not also available for the growth foreseen during formulation of the 7th Five Year Plan.

7th Plan gains and the 8th Plan formulation

In spite of the low growth of the cooperatives compared to the 7th Plan projections, some basic achievements have been secured, which will go a considerable way in helping the 8th Plan realise higher annual growth rate than the actual of 1989-90 i.e. the terminal year of the 7th Plan.

The concepts of 'Total Credit' through reorganised and strengthened rural credit institutions, investment credit in non-farm sector and linking of processing cooperatives with marketing have been triggered off in the field of agricultural credit, marketing and consumer sector of the Cooperative Movement during the 7th Plan period. With the increased financial support as envisaged in the outlays below, those activities are expected to execute the central thrust of the 8th Plan.

Almost all the schemes to be implemented in various sectors of the cooperative movement during the 8th Five Year Plan period are Employment Oriented as they multiply economic activities in the field. Special emphasis has also been given in spreading cooperative education amongst women so that they can actively participate in the functioning of cooperatives in larger numbers and drive economic benefits from them. The 8th Plan Outlay will be of Rs.70.00 crores compared to Rs.42.00 crores of the 7th Plan, which will be 67% higher in nominal terms over the 7th plan outlay. The sector-wise outlays proposed are given at the end of this write up. The 8th plan has been prepared on the basis of the district plans following the bottom-up strategy adopted in the planning process.

1. Agricultural Credit Sector.

The short-term credit sector and the long term credit sector will greatly benefit from the Debt Relief Scheme in as much as overdues in these sectors will be considerably liquidated with the flow of fund from the Government. As such, there will be a spurt in investment in eligible schemes in the farm sectors as well as non-farm sector. The targets for the 8th plan period in respect of short-term credit flow and long term credit flow have been fixed at Rs.900 crores and Rs.108.00 crores respectively while the actuals for the 7th Plan in respect of long term and short term sectors were Rs.307.22 crores and Rs.57.43 crores. The membership coverage is expected to reach 30 lacs at the end of the 8th Plan period which will be 20% higher than that at the end of 7th Plan, and thus, at the terminal year of the 8th Plan 45% of agricultural farmers in the State will be covered by Agril. Credit Societies. The functional integration of the short-term credit with long-term credit at the village level through the PACS's which, is recommended by various committees set up the national level like CRAFTIC can be given a fair trial once the concerned organisations are free from resource constraints. The concept of 'Total Credit' will, thus be a reality to benefit the rural people. The vital scheme of re-organisation and strengthening of PACS's is closely related to the scheme of Implementation and Monitoring of Intensive Agril.Credit Development Programme. The first scheme although partially implemented during the 7th Plan (only 300 out of 6600 PACS's were strengthened) cannot be implemented to the desired extent (1400 PACS' are to be strengthened in 8th Plan) unless the second scheme is introduced. The second scheme entirely relates to the expansion of the supervisory infrastructure and Manpower

Development of the Cooperation Directorate at the block level, the range level and Directorate Head-Quarters level as have been explained in the following pages. The Government have to create 59 posts in various categories and bear the expenditure of Rs.98.10 lacs over the Five-Year period. The scheme will be introduced in 6 Range during the 8th Plan. In view of the advice of the Planning Commission for not creating any new post during the 8th Plan period under State Plan head, the Government have to fall back heavily upon the non-plan resources that are extremely limited. It is, therefore, suggested that the creation of posts as envisaged in the scheme during the 8th Plan period has to be allowed in the Coop. Deptt. side by side with that in the Education and Health Departments, so that the rural credit movement gets a fresh lease of life and the 8th Plan objective of giving a basic thrust towards increasing agricultural production is achieved at the grass-root level. With the experience in executing Cooperative Farmers' Service Centre Scheme, the Group Insurance Scheme and the NCDG-III Schemes for rural godowns and marketing godowns, the PACS's are poised for implementing the 8th Plan priorities diligently, provided the Monitoring and Supervision as envisaged are done through the expanded wing of the Cooperation Directorate.

THE long-term credit sector has been expected to increase diversified activities in gradually higher proportions. Besides financing rural and small scale industries, the Land Development Banks are expected to invest in Rural Housing Scheme with re finance support available from the National Housing Bank. The working of the Land Development Banks will be regulated on a realistic and compact area approach basis which has become more relevant in view of the introduction of the Service Area Approach Principles by the RBI and the NABARD. The rehabilitation of non-wilful defaulters and Rehabilitation Programme of the weak Land Development Banks will continue to be operative in the 8th Plan period in terms of the NABARD's 10-Point Action Programme. The Rehabilitation Scheme in the short-term credit sector is in operation in 8 District Central Cooperative Banks on the line of the NABARD's 12-Point Programme. 9 other weak Central Cooperative Banks will also get adequate support for rehabilitation during the 8th Plan period. A total amount of Rs.4234.09 lakhs has been proposed for the 8th Plan period for the Agricultural Sector of which Rs.674.44 lakhs has been proposed in the Annual Plan of 1992-93.

2. Consumer Sector

The much professed idea of organising some production units in cooperative sector to ensure availability of consumers good to the cooperative distribution network like Consumers Cooperatives, PMS and PACS in the right time and at reasonable prices, could not be fully materialised during the 7th Plan, because of resource constraints. It has been proposed to establish small and medium sized production units at the level of CONFED, Wholesale Consumers Cooperatives or even PMS to make a modest beginning, although in regard to mustard oil, spices etc. a beginning has already been made. The level of participation of the consumers cooperatives, PMSs and PACs in Govt. sponsored Public Distribution System is noticeably high. In the 8th Plan the same will be strengthened through execution of a number of Centrally Sponsored and State Plan Schemes. A total sum of Rs.275.00 lakhs has been proposed for the Consumers' Cooperatives during the 8th Plan period, of which Rs.46.10 lakhs has been earmarked for the Annual Plan of 1992-93.

3. Marketing and Processing Sector.

With the support of the NCDG in various schemes sponsored by them the PACSs, PMSs, Cold Storages, rice mills and some processing cooperatives will continue to stride ahead with distribution of agricultural inputs, marketing of agricultural produces, and processing them wherever possible during the 8th plan period. A large number of the new schemes of the marketing and processing sector could not be executed in the 7th Plan, which are particularly related to the processing of agricultural commodities, for resource constraints. During the 8th plan the programme of organising more processing cooperatives and linking them with the marketing channel in the cooperative sector will be attempted more effectively. This will ensure higher remunerative prices of the agricultural commodities to the growers and make some essential consumer goods available to the people at reasonable rates. The cold storages and the PMS's will also be given financial assistance so that they can also participate in this grower-consumer tie-up activities. During the 8th Plan period it is expected that the NCDG-IV IDA-Assisted Programme will be introduced and executed to create additional cold storage capacity, organise new agro-processing industries capacity in the oil processing sector and boost up operational efficiency of Cold Storage and Processing Cooperatives and to increase the total storage capacity in the rural cooperatives. Some new schemes will be introduced to benefit the growers when they

sell their produce to the Cooperative purchase centres. Similarly, the cooperatives engaged in procurement and distribution of agricultural produces will be assisted so that they can absorb the initial operational losses if any.

A total amount of Rs.1719.68 lakh has been proposed for the Marketing & Processing Sector during the 8th Plan Period of which Rs.304.40 lakhs will be for the Annual Plan of 1992-93.

4. Direction and Administration & Cooperative Training.

As have been discussed above the direction and administration system of the Cooperation Directorate has to be strengthened to oversee and guide the projected huge developmental activities in cooperative societies. Besides expanding the manpower pattern, it has been found necessary to educate the weaker sections and disadvantaged groups of the communities more effectively in cooperative principles and practices, and to train up a greater number of officials and non-official workers of the cooperative movement to ensure a more professional and democratic approach to the socio-economic problems through cooperative ventures. A total sum of Rs.411.23 lakhs has been proposed for the Direction and Administration Sector during the 8th Plan of which Rs.53.56 lakhs has been proposed for the Annual Plan of 1992-93.

5. Social Services

Since the Cooperative organisations are developed amongst the people basically for serving their own interests, it has been proposed to organise larger number of Housing Cooperatives and Labour Cooperatives so that weaker sections of the society derive direct benefit from them through joint endeavour. During the plan period the Cooperative Housing Federation of this State will organise primary Housing Cooperatives and construct houses for them at reasonable prices. A sum of Rs.60.00 lakhs has been proposed for the Housing Cooperatives and other cooperatives like Labour Cooperatives and Unemployed Engineers' Cooperatives of which Rs.11.50 lacs have been earmarked for the Annual Plan of 1992-93.

STRATEGIES OF THE 8TH FIVE YEAR PLAN

We have discussed above the main strategies of the 8th Plan in various sectors. The elaboration is given in the sector-wise discussions below. However, the Major Strategies are recapitulated for the sake of recognising them at a glance

i) In view of the limited success in implementation of some developmental programmes during the 7th Plan period for various reasons it has been proposed to reintroduced and/or reinvigorate these vital schemes during the 8th plan period in a more realistic way.

ii) Emphasis has been laid on Labour Intensive Schemes where larger number of women and people of the lower income groups and small and marginal farmers can participate.

iii) The PACSS and PAMSS have been given greater share of financial support so that they can emerge as growth centres in the rural economy.

iv) Arrangements have been made for extension of investment credit to non-farm sectors like cottage and small scale industries.

v) The chain of cooperative institutions which ensure timely supply of agricultural inputs like fertilisers, seeds, pesticides etc. and also which fetch remunerative prices of agricultural produces for the farmers have been sought to be strengthened and growers' participation in procurement programmes has been aimed at while making financial allocations for the marketing and processing sectors of the cooperative movement.

vi) The grower consumer tie-up has been proposed to be strengthened through installation of production units in the cooperative sector and liberal financial support to the cooperatives engaged in distribution of consumer good in rural as well as urban areas.

vii) An essential manpower development programme has been proposed for the Cooperation Directorate which will ensure substantial growth in the Cooperative activities during the 8th Plan period.

viii) Integrated approach to the Agricultural and Rural Development and employment generating programmes by effecting functional coordination between the cooperative and the Panchayats has also been proposed.

II. RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Programme of the Rural Development Department.
 - Special Programme for Rural Development.
 - Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

Two major Rural Development Programmes namely, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) are at present administered by the Rural Development Department. Both the programmes are financed partly by the Govt. of India and partly by the State Government.

While the objective of the IRDP is to assist the selected families of the target group in rural areas to cross the poverty line by taking up income generating economic activities with Government subsidy and institutional finance, the JRY aims at providing additional gainful employment to the unemployed and underemployed persons in rural area and creation of durable community assets for strengthening rural infrastructure.

Under IRDP, the approved outlay for the Seventh Plan period (1985-90) was Rs.100.00 crore which was subsequently revised to Rs.125.64 crore and physical target of assisted families was set at 10.93 lakh families. As against this, during the years 1985-90, the State was actually able to assist 13.98 lakh families which is 127.95% of the overall target of the Seventh Plan Period. Fund utilised under IRDP during this period out of State share of resources was Rs.121.42 crore. Of the families assisted during the Seventh Plan Period (1985-90), 37.28% were SC/ST and performance on this score was consistently above the stipulated 30%. Women coverage for the Seventh Plan as a whole was 24.35% but this represented a steady rise from a level of 10.47% in 1985-86 to 38.49% in 1989-90. In 1988-89 and 1989-90 the State has been able to exceed the stipulated level of women coverage of 30%. Efforts to increase the per capita investment for generating sufficient additional income by taking up suitable self-employment programmes have borne fruits as would be evident from the fact that the per capita investment has gone up from Rs.3206/- in 1985-86 to a level of Rs.6625/- in 1989-90 and this investment was consistently above the all-India average. Since the beginning of the financial year 1990-91, the IRDP guidelines have been revised and sectoral target of 40% coverage of women and 50% coverage of SC/ST under IRDP have been provided. For 1990-91, the approved outlay on account of IRDP (State share) was Rs.34.85 crore and the target of total assisted families was 195663. During the year, the State has been able to spend Rs.65.89 crore (Central and State share taken together) which is 105.84% of the financial target. Our physical achievement during the year 1990-91 was

2,26,603 number of assisted families which represents 115.81% of the target. During this period, coverage of women beneficiaries has been 96069 which is 42.40% of the total number of beneficiaries. Similarly, 95574 number of SC/ST families have been assisted under IRDP during the year which accounts for 42.18% of the assisted families. Per Capita investment during 1990-91 has gone up further to Rs.7079/-. A sum of Rs.38.33 crore has been proposed as total State Plan outlay for the year 1991-92 and a physical target under IRDP has been set at 185332 number of assisted families. Till September, 1991 we have been able to achieve 38.44% of financial target and 38.09% of physical target of the year under IRDP. We can confidently expect to exceed both the financial and physical targets set for the year 1991-92 under IRDP.

Physical and financial targets for the year 1992-93 and the entire eighth Five Year Plan period have been suggested keeping in view the instructions of stepping up the outlay and increasing the per capita investment gradually.

Allied Programmes of IRDP.

1. The National Scheme of Training of Rural Youth for self-employment (TRYSEM) was started in 1979 as an integral part of IRDP with the avowed objective of providing technical skills to rural youth from families below the poverty line to enable them to take up self-employment or wage employment in different economic activities. The performance of the State under TRYSEM during 1989-90 shows that 33.86% of the persons trained belonged to the SC/ST and 34.91% were women. 64% of the youth trained during 1989-90 were actually employed subsequently. Similarly 76.05% of the women trained were subsequently engaged in either self-employment or wage-employment. During 1990-91, 14916 number of youth were trained under the programme of which 5801 belong to SC/ST families and 6702 were women. Of the total youth trained during 1990-91 68.90% found employment.

2. The programme of D.C.R.A which is a sub-scheme of IRDP was being implemented in the districts of Purulia, Bankura, Jalpaiguri South 24-Parganas, North 24-Parganas and Hooghly. Two more districts namely Burdwan and Midnapore have been brought under coverage of D.C.R.A with effect from 1991-92.

2. Programme of the Agriculture Department

Drought Prone Area Programme

The Drought Prone Area Programme was started in 1973 as an integrated area development programme during Fourth Plan period. On the recommendation of a Task Force in 1982, thrust in the direction of restoration of ecological balance and optimum utilisation of the land, water, livestock and human resources were continued to mitigate the effects of drought. The major sectors of activities of the programme are (i) Promoting more productive dry land farming with suitable cropping pattern, (ii) Development and productive use of water resources through irrigation and other methods, (iii) Soil and moisture conservation and water harvesting, (iv) Afforestation, (v) Livestock development and development of pasture & fodder resources, (vi) Fisheries, Sericulture etc. and (vii) Construction of Water Harvesting Structures.

The programme is aimed towards making an impact on the environment by infrastructure development on watershed basis as well as increase in per capita income of the S.C. & S.T. inhabited backward areas.

20 blocks of Purulia district, 7 blocks each of Bankura and Midnapore districts have been brought under the purview of this programme. It has since been proposed to include a few more drought prone blocks of Birbhum district. A final decision in this regard is awaited from Government of India.

This programme is implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the allocations are shared equally by the Centre and the State. 75% of the total allocation are utilised for core sectors of development like Agriculture including moisture conservation, afforestation including pasture development and Irrigation including creation of water sources.

Total expenditure for this programme during the VIIth Plan period was Rs. 1111.56 lakhs out of the budgeted outlay of Rs. 1195.00 lakhs. Physical target under the Seventh Plan under major sectors were 1,43,600 hectare out of which 82% has been achieved. About 3.75 lakhs of small & marginal farmers were benefited through this programme.

The success of the programme depends upon close co-operation among line departments who execute the works related to them and the District Rural Development Agency who acts as coordinating agency. This has been done fruitfully. Moreover, Agriculture Department as nodal agency arranges for Monitoring, planning, implementation and coordination of all the programmes.

Many a work for drought proofing in DPAP areas are still to be done. With an object to give relief to the people of these areas and for increasing productivity, a draft plan for DPAP has been included in the VIIIth plan with the hope to achieve more success on this score during the years to come.

3. Programme of the Development & Planning Department
Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP) in Eighth Plan

The IREP Programme started in the State during 7th Plan. Development & Planning Department is the nodal department for this programme which encompasses implementation of both conventional energy inputs and non-conventional energy system in identified blocks to evolve and integrate energy environment. In the 7th Plan the programme was initiated in seven selected blocks. The minimum target for the 8th Plan is one block in each district i.e. 16 blocks. The main components of the programme in the 8th plan will be as under :

- 1) Developing institutional mechanism,
- 2) Training and demonstration,
- 3) Project preparation for the new blocks to be covered and finalisation of the projects where preliminary survey has already been taken up,
- 4) Provisional financial incentives for installation of energy devices with special emphasis on energy conservation and environment protection.

2. Stress is to be laid for devising a suitable mechanism at the State-level, District-level and Block-level to ensure people's participation for implementing IREP Programme. Priority is to be accorded to income generating activities in order to improve the quality of life of the rural people. Devices based on commercial and conventional sources of energy will have to be promoted apart from the non-conventional inputs like photovoltaic systems, solar energy thermal devices etc. in order to achieve an integrated energy rich pattern in the selected blocks which would serve as models for the other blocks in the State which will have to be covered gradually.

3. IREP Programme is fully operational in Sandushkhali-I Block in North 24-Parganas and Taldanga Block in Bankura District. The main thrust is on the installation of various energy devices including their demonstration, publicity and awareness campaign for conserving existing energy resources as much as possible and supplementing the supply and demand gap utilising alternative sources of energy. A special Pilot IREP Project of Labpur block of Birbhum District will be covered under the scheme during this financial year. To expedite implementation of this programme State-level and District-level, Back up units have been set up.

4. Necessary provision of has been proposed in the 8th Plan outlay as well as for the Annual Plan for 1992-93 for IREP Programme of the Development & Planning Department keeping in view the above points. In the event programme picks up first more than one Block in each of the 16 districts may also be incorporated in later stages during 8th Plan period.

4. Programme of the Cottage & Small Scale Industries Department.

(a) I.R.E.P.

The Scheme is intended to provide additional support to popularise of Bio-gas Plants and Solar Cooker and Solar Thermal Devices towards the use of non-conventional energy.

The proposed outlays for 8th Five Year Plan will be utilised for setting up of Bio-gas Plants and other Solar Devices.

(b) Uriagram Programme :

This scheme has been taken up as per guideline of Govt. of India and a number of villages are to be covered under this Scheme of Government of India.

Additional subsidy on Bio-gas, Solar Cooker, or other Solar Thermal Devices are to be borne under the State Plan Scheme titled 'Uriagram'.

The proposed outlays for 8th Five Year Plan are to meet up the cost of additional subsidy on the above items.

RURAL EMPLOYMENT

National Programme.

Programme of the Rural Development Deptt.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) :

J.R.Y.

For the Seventh Plan period the approved plan outlay for NREP (State share) was Rs.100 crore. In fact, the Programmes of NREP and RLEGP were terminated at the end of 1988-89 and the new Programme of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) was launched in 1989-90 with Central and State shares in the ratio 80:20. Over the period 1985-89, actual plan expenditure on account of NREP (State share) was Rs.82.62 crore and, on utilization of this and the matching Central share, total employment generation amounted to 662.16 lakh mandays. In addition, over this period an additional 604.01 lakh mandays were created on account of RLEGP. This was, of course, a Central sector programme fully centrally funded and expenditure on this account was outside the purview of State plan. For 1989-90 the total allocation (State share) on account of JRY was Rs.43.22 crore and actual plan expenditure amounted to Rs.43.14 crore. With utilization of this amount, employment generation to the tune of 551.81 lakh mandays could be achieved. The over-all employment generation during the Seventh Plan on Account of NREP and JRY taken together was 1220.97 lakh mandays as 96.68% of the over all revised Seventh Plan target. For 1990-91, the revised outlay (State share) for JRY was Rs.43.57 crore and the

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employment generation target was 643.16 lakh mandays. The total outlay was utilised and utilising this amount along with the Central Share 516.85 lakh mandays were created. For 1991-92 approved plan outlay for JRY is Rs.45.36 crores with a target of 571.34 lakh mandays which is expected to be achieved. Proposed outlay for 1992.93 and the 8th Plan target of employment generation have been proposed keeping in view instructions of the State Government regarding step up of the outlay.

LAND AND LAND REFORMS

Programme of the Land and Land Reforms Department.

The bulk of the rural population of the State being entirely dependent on land, land reforms, have come to be a major component in any scheme of rural development. The Government have, therefore, adopted an integrated approach to rural development in which land reforms play an important role. The primary objective of land reforms is to remove the structural anomalies in rural society by bringing about a publicly controlled change in the existing land ownership and to correct the skewed pattern of land tenure system so that the intermediary interest on land is eliminated and the security of the tenure of the actual tillers of the soil is ensured. The W.B. Estates Acquisition Act, 1953 and the W.B. Land Reforms Act, 1955 provide the necessary legislative infrastructure for elimination of intermediary interest, imposition of ceiling of land holding and distribution of surplus lands to the landless and the near landless. These legislative measures have been supplemented by different schemes like Institutional Finance to the allottees of ceiling surplus lands and the share croppers so that they can profitably cultivate the lands, generate some surplus and thereby contribute to the national economy.

The State Government is making all endeavour to see that beneficiaries of land reforms are also brought within the purview of different development schemes under the rural development package with this objective in mind, the W.B. Land Reforms Act has been amended recently to bring all classes of land under the ceiling limit prescribed in the Act. Hence, the ceiling limits earlier prescribed for agricultural lands only are now applicable to the aggregate of all classes of land held by a family. The recent amendment also provides for regulatory measures to check indiscriminate conversion of land from one use to another as

such conversion often impedes agricultural production and jeopardise Planned development of an area. The State Govt. have enacted a legislation for setting up of Land Tribunals under Article 323B of the Constitution for quick adjudication of the cases arising out of land reforms so that the surplus lands available may be distributed to the eligible beneficiaries. The West Bengal Land Reforms Act has been amended to provide for constitution of a Land Corporation with the objective of providing loans to the share croppers for purchase of lands under their cultivation. The State Govt. has also under consideration a proposal for distribution of Krishak Pass Book or copies of R-O-Rs which will inter-alia facilitate grant of loans from banks and other financial institutions to the raiyats and share croppers.

Another significant aspect of the Land Reforms package launched by the State Govt. is the total involvement of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the administration of all the important components of the package. Assistance and co-operations of these institutions are sought not only for the purposes of identification of the beneficiaries under the Land Reforms Schemes but also to ensure that the benefits of Land reforms are available over a sustained period of time.

The existence of upto date record of rights has been recognised universally as an essential pre-requisite for all rural development schemes including land reforms. Updating of R-O-Rs through Revisional Settlement operation under the I.R. Act currently in progress, is scheduled to be completed within the next few years. The primary objective of one process is gradual switchover to 'Raiyatwari' system of Land Reforms Administration and continuous up-dating of Records of Rights.

The State introduced a four-tire "Integrated set up of Land Reforms Administration" in 1989 to provide an administrative structure corresponding to the Panchayati Raj System in the State and to facilitate implementation of land reforms in active association with the Panchayat Bodies. In the process, contradictions and weakened interest in the earlier system were eliminated. The features of the recognition are -

i) At each District Level, the office of the District Land and Land Reforms Officer has been set up by integrating the District Settlement Office and the Land Management of the Collectorate.

ii) At each sub-division level, the office of the sub-divisional Land and Land Reforms Officer has been set up by amalgamating the Settlement charge office and the sub-divisional Land Reforms Office.

iii) At each Block Level the Office of the Block Land and Land Reforms Officer has been set up by integrating the Land Reforms Circle Office and Settlement Camps.

iv) Offices of Revenue Inspectors have been set up in each of 3305 Gram Panchayats in the State.

B. Objectives of Plan Proposals :

The VIII Five Year Plan schemes in the State will aim at -

I. Facilitating the switchover to the restructured Integrated set up of Land Reforms Administration with the objective of consolidation of the stupendous achievement made by the State in implementation of land reforms and to build on it by effective implementation of the amended provisions of the Land Reforms Act and thereby vesting considerable ceiling surplus lands in the State for distribution to the landless thus enlarging the coverage of Land reforms programmes in the State.

II. Modernisation of settlement and Survey work making the land reforms administration respond quicker to the needs of the rural populace.

III. Expediting the following schemes for which sufficient ground work, in the form of statutory provision and administrative preparation has already been laid -

1. Constitution of Land Reforms Tribunals under the U.B. Land Reforms Tribunal Act, 1955.

2. Setting up of Land Corporation and/or introduction of scheme under Government auspices for financial assistance to bargadars to become raiyats.

3. Distribution of Krishak Pass Book and/or distribution of finally published R-O-Rs to raiyats and sharecroppers.

4. Setting up a U.B. Land Reforms Analysis, Research and Training Institute at Salboni.

5. Provision of trained manpower for settlement and survey work, which has provided the basic impetus to land reforms in the State, by introduction of three year Diploma Course in Survey Engineering in Bandel Survey Institute and provision of periodic in-service training to existing manpower.

IV. Introduction of the following new schemes under the Plan Programme -

1. Assistance to Allottees of vested land.

2. Commencement of payment of compensation to raiyats from whom land vested under the Land Reforms act.

3. Pilot Schemes on consolidation to test the efficacy of consolidation of holding in the context of the State.

V. Construction Office premises for the new Offices in the integrated set-up and allied works.

C. Summary of Plan Proposals :

1. Introduction of Integrated Set-up of Land Reforms Administration :

i) Implementation of this scheme since March, 1989 has resulted in opening of 17 district level, 51 Sub-division level, 336 Block level and 3305 Gram Panchayat level offices with a total staff strength of approximately 40,000 employees. A redeeming feature of this restructuring is that the existing manpower was redistributed at the level of the supporting staff. However, 3305 new posts of Revenue Inspectors, night-Guards had to be created afresh to head the Gram Panchayat level Offices, each of which has a Bhumi-Sahayak, an Amin and two Group-D Staff.

2. Provision of basic infrastructure in the R.Is. Offices :

The newly set-up G.P. level Offices need to be provided with furniture, forms and stationery and basic survey instruments such as plain table, chains, Dividers, Optical Squares etc.

3. Construction of Revenue Inspectors' Office or Office-cum-residence :

It is difficult to procure suitable office-accommodation in the rural areas of the State. Besides, utilisation of premises of big land lords is not desirable for offices which will implement land reforms. At least 850 Revenue Inspectors' Offices will hence, need to be constructed during the 8th Plan Period. In difficult areas such office accommodation should also have residential accommodation for the Revenue Inspectors.

4. Purchase of Vehicles :

The supervision of the newly created R.Is' Offices is a stupendous task. The problem is further complicated by the fact that the public transport system in the State is not very adequate. The quality of supervision of the new Offices in the Integrated set-up will ultimately determine its effectiveness. Hence, at least 36 new vehicles require to be provided to the inspecting supervisory officers. All these vehicles will have to be purchased in 8th plan.

5. Modernisation of Settlement and Survey Work :

There is a huge trained workforce available in the Directorate of Land Records & Surveys for undertaking settlement and Survey work. However, there is also excellent potential for retraining and reorientation of this huge workforce to respond to the aspirations of the rural population quicker. Such reorientation will require capital investment for provision of the necessary hardware. This will lead to many times improvement in the output in settlement and survey work. The additional

manpower required for such modernisation will be provided by way of diversion from the existing manpower. Thus, only the capital expenditure required is proposed to be met out of the plan funds. The specific schemes proposed to be undertaken are -

1. Modernisation of Map Printing Press in the Directorate of Land Records & Surveys :

This schemes intends to maximise production of map of revenue villages (Mouzas).

2. Modernisation of Printing Press at Hugli.

3. Computerisation of Land Records and Survey Data.

The Records of Right prepared from time to time provide valuable data on the quality of land, extent and mode of cultivation, tenancy patterns, size of operational holdings etc. which are vital in planning of rural development. Ofcourse, they constitute the only source for provisions of basic frame work for planning and implementing land reforms measures. The various statutory stages in the preparation of record-of-rights necessitate of lengthy and time consuming process to utilise the electronic data processing capabilities of personal computers in the preparation and updation of Record of Rights, a pilot project was undertaken in one district in the State for experimenting with computerisation. The pilot study established the feasibility of computerisation and its effectiveness in expediting updation of land records. The State Government have, from their own resources, provided funds for computerisation of land records of second district.

However, if the computerisation programme is to make a headway and meet the expectations of the people, such computerisation should cover all districts of the State by the end of the VIII Plan period. The NIC will be collaborating with the State the Programme.

4. Procurement of modern Survey equipments :

Survey with traditional equipments is time - power but also time consuming. Hence, it is necessary to utilise modern technology to speed up completion of survey work which has accumulated over the years. Besides, computerisation of land record data and modernisation of map printing press will have to be backed by photo-copies to reach copies to the newly opened R.I. Offices expeditiously to make them operational.

III. Schemes of Land Reforms.

1. Constitution of Land Reforms Tribunals :

The implementation of land reforms in the State has been severely handicapped by the propensity of affected raiyats to obtain injunctions from the High Court and other legal fora.

It is estimated that approx. 2 lakhs acres of vested land has not been distributed to eligible persons because of their involvement in Court cases. The morale of the Land Reforms Administration and the beneficiaries is also adversely affected due to prolonged litigation. Hence, the W.B. Land Reforms Tribunal Act, 1991 has been very recently enacted to provide for constitution of a Special Land Reforms Tribunal and also Regional Tribunals as may be required. Administrative arrangements are being finalised for their constitution under Article 328B of the Constitution. It is necessary to include the Scheme as a plan scheme because of the importance attached to it by the State for quick adjudication of cases arising out of the Land Reforms Act and the Urban Land Ceiling & Regulation Act.

2. Setting up of Land Corporation or Financial Assistance to Bargadars :

The West Bengal Land Reforms Act provides for setting up of a Land Corporation for providing soft term loans to bargadars to purchase the land under their cultivation in the event of distress sale by the landowner subject to the stipulation that the bargadars should not be holding more than one standard hectare of land. The setting up of such Corporation is under the consideration of the State for the past few years. However, difficulties have been experienced in getting the other financial institutions involved in such Constitution. Besides, considerable expenditure on establishment charges of such a Corporation will have to be incurred. An alternate scheme for a Government programme for such assistance similar to agricultural input loan is also under very active consideration.

3. Distribution of Krishak Pass Book and Distribution of copies of R.O.Rs to Raiyats and Sharecroppers :

About 50% of the mouza records in the State have been finally published. The preparation and distribution of Krishak Pass Books has been under the contemplation of the State for the past few years. But, the scheme which was framed under the guidelines of Govt. of India could not be implemented as the Govt. of India are not certain about the usefulness of the Pass Book and had also indicated whether the entire funds for the purpose will be forthcoming from them.

However, the need for an authenticated document in the hands of the raiyats and sharecroppers which can be produced as conclusive evidence of their raiyats or barga status has been recognised all over the country. The State proposes to introduce the scheme dovetailing it with the programme for Computerisation of Land Records.

4. Setting up of a State Land Reforms Institute :

In spite of the proud record of the State in Land Reforms there is no State level Institute which can undertake -

- a) Analysis of data on Land Records & Survey.
- b) Research on new methods of Survey, updating of land records, preservation of maps and records, etc.
- c) Training of officers from the IAS, IPS, BJS, BCS, etc. in land reforms matters.
- d) In-service training of officers and staff in Land Reforms Administration including refreshed courses.
- e) Study of socio-economic impact of land reforms.
- f) Holding of All-India Training Programmes.
- g) Publication of papers on Settlement & Survey and Land Reforms matters, etc.

Consequently, the resources available at the IIM, Calcutta; ATI, Calcutta, the Zilla Frishad Training Institutes, etc. have been utilised wherever such resources can be spared by them. Consequently the frequency and the quality of the training of manpower available with the L.R. Administration have suffered.

A well-situated site at Salboni, Midnapore District has been selected for the Institute. Some temporary structures have also been raised recently so that the Annual Settlement Training Camp for senior trainee-officers can be held there for the first time. The manpower required for the Institute will be provided from out of existing resources. Only the capital expenditure of the project is proposed to be met from plan funds.

5. Introduction of 3 Year diploma course in Survey Engineering in Bandel Survey Institute :

As there was no educational institution offering a full fledged diploma course in Survey Engineering, the Bandel Survey Institute which is run by the Land and Land Reforms Department was upgraded as an Institute offering such a course at the flag end of the Seventh Plan.

The work relating to residual construction and provision of other basic infrastructure will be completed during the first two years of the 8th Plan.

6. In-service Training Programmes :

Till such time that the proposed State Training Institute is fully operational, it will be necessary to impart in-service and refresh training to existing manpower and new entrants for constant upgradation of their skills.

V. Miscellaneous Land Reforms Schemes.

1. Assistance to allottees of vested land :

Though more than 19 lakhs landless and near landless have been benefitted by distribution of vested land, no notable effort has been made for giving them liberal assistance to help them find their feet. Such assistance becomes all the more important in the case of the landless as they will have to be helped to prepare the land for cultivation and buy the necessary inputs including the basic equipments for cultivation during the first year. The efforts of the State to help them achieve earnings adequate to take them above the poverty line will be facilitated if a new plan scheme is introduced for offering assistance in cash at the time of distribution of the vested land. It is proposed that the scheme should envisage financial assistance at the rate of Rs.5000 per hectare.

2. Payment of Compensation under the L.R. Act.

Though the land vested under the L.R. Act and free from court orders has been distributed to eligible persons, the compensation payable to the raiyats from whom the land was taken has not been yet paid. It is proposed that the work be undertaken and completed during the 8th Plan period. The provision of all infrastructures will be arranged from existing resources. Only the compensation amount payable is proposed to be met from plan funds.

3. Consolidation of holdings :

The M.B. Land Reforms Act envisages consolidation of land holdings on a voluntary process. However, it is proposed to take up two pilot schemes in compact blocks every year so as to serve as a catalyst in voluntary consolidation of holdings.

A note of Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assignees of ceiling surplus land.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme for financial Assistance to the Assignees of Ceiling Surplus Land was implemented during the last plan period i.e. upto 1989-90. The share of Central and State Governments is 50:50.

In 1991-92, an amount of Rs.30.00 lakhs have been provided for in the budget and on the basis of the same, the scheme is being implemented during the current financial year.

The scheme will continue during Eighth Plan with an envisaged outlay of Rs.20000 lakhs.

Other Rural Development Programmes.Community Development.Programme of the Rural Development Department (C.D. Branch) :

This sector consists of three components namely (a) strengthening of Block organisation including providing vehicles to the Block, (b) state institute of Rural Development and (c) strengthening and promotion of Mahila Mandals.

a) (i) Strengthening of Block Organisation :

Staff Support :- It will be necessary during the 8th plan period to create monitoring cell of the Blocks so that they can cope with the work of monitoring of implementation of various departmental schemes. This has become essential as the Block offices are facing difficulties in monitoring the development work in the Rural areas which is progressively increasing. The provision as new one and relates to creation of post, no provision has been suggested in the 8th plan period. Bifurcation of some big blocks is also necessary.

(ii) Providing vehicles to the Block Dev. Offices :

Out of 341 Blocks in the State, 161 Blocks are yet to be provided with vehicles. All the remaining Blocks may be provided with vehicles in a phased manner. During the 8th plan period, 55 Blocks may be provided with vehicles. In 1992-93 Rs.22.27 lakh has been proposed towards the cost of 11 new vehicles. In the last financial year i.e. 1990-91, 8 new vehicles have been purchased within the budgetted outlay. This year, another 10 vehicles may be provided.

b) State Institute of Rural Development :

The orientation and study centre at Kalyani has been upgraded as State Institute of Rural Development for imparting training in Rural Development on sharing of expenditure of 50:50 between the State Govt. and Govt. of India. The Govt. of India has since discontinued the sharing of expenditure, it has been urged upon the Central Govt. to share the expenditure for such a vital aspects as Rural Dev. training Institute.

c) Strengthening and promotion of Mahila Mandals (Samities) :

This scheme envisages establishment of Mahila Samities in each Gram Panchayat area @ Rs.1410/- per Samity and revitalisation of existing weaker Samities. In 1991-91 Rs.1.36 lakhs has been spent for the purpose.

d) Administrative Buildings in C.D. Blocks :

So far administrative building have been completed in 213 Blocks and funds have been allotted for construction of Administrative building in another 30 Blocks. In the remaining 98 Block

Administrative buildings are yet to be constructed. Moreover electrifications for the completed Administrative buildings are to be done in a phased manner. In 1990-91, the entire provision of Rs.60 lakhs has already been spent for completion of construction of 10 administrative building and electrification, cost of land acquisition of new cases.

Panchayati Raj.

Programme of Panchayat Department.

1) Strengthening of implementation machinery for Panchayats :

Under this scheme the Panchayat Bodies (Zilla Parishads, Panchayat Samitis and Gram Panchayats) are assisted to strengthen their administrative machineries, so that they can effectively implement different rural development schemes assigned to them and other duties and responsibilities entrusted to them. With that and in view it is proposed to supply the Gram Panchayats with steel almirahs for safe-custody of cash and documents, vehicles for about 150 Panchayat Samitis which have no vehicles at present and for the Zilla Parishads which have inadequate number of vehicles and to help the Zilla Parishads (including Siliguri Maakuma Parishad) construct residential quarters for their Officers, particularly the Additional Executive Officers. Already 516 Gram Panchayats have been supplied with Steel Almirahs leaving 2788 Gram Panchayats to be assisted 100% of the target was achieved during 1990-91. During the 8th Plan Period 1200 Gram Panchayats and during 1992-93, 240 Gram Panchayats are proposed to be assisted. Already four Zilla Parishads have been assisted for construction of quarters for Additional Executive Officers during the 8th Plan 8 Zilla Parishads will be assisted for the purpose. It is also proposed to provide 40 Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads with vehicles.

ii) Training of Panchayat Functionaries :

Under this scheme training is to be imparted to about 60,000 functionaries and members of Panchayats during the 8th Plan period in a phased manner, so that they can participate in rural development schemes in a more effective and meaningful way. During 1990-91 training was imparted to 6040 functionaries and members of Panchayat as against a target of 12,000. During 1992-93 the proposed target is 12000.

iii) Construction of buildings for the Panchayati Raj Training Centre :

At present 3 Panchayati Raj Training Centres and 3 Regional Training Centres (one PRTC and one RTC in each Revenue Division of the State) are functioning under this Department. These are

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meant for imparting training to the functionaries of Panchayats, both Government and non-Government, in various aspects of Panchayats and rural development. These training centres are now located in hired buildings which do not provide adequate facilities for conducting training programmes satisfactorily. Construction of one F.R.T.C. at Kalyani (Presidency Division) is almost complete. Two more training centres - one at Digha (Burdwan Division) and the other at Coochbehar (Jalpaiguri Division) are proposed to be constructed during the 8th Plan.

iv) Grants-in-Aid to F.R. Bodies for augmentation of resources.

Incentive Grant:

A modified scheme for payment of Incentive Grant to selected Panchayat bodies of different tiers on the basis of their performance has been introduced since 1990-91 to replace the previous scheme under which only the Gram Panchayats were paid an amount equivalent to collection of taxes, subject to a maximum of Rs.5,000/- in each case. Under the proposed scheme the beneficiaries will be the best Gram Panchayat in the State (Rs.2 lakhs), the best Gram Panchayat under each Panchayat Samiti (Rs.10000), the best Panchayat Samiti in the State (Rs.2 lakhs), the best 3 Panchayat Samitis in each district (Rs.1 lakh + Rs.75,000/- + Rs.50,000/-), the best 3 Zilla Parishad including Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad in the State (Rs.5 lakhs + Rs.2 lakhs).

There will be Block level, District level and State level Selection Committees for selecting the Panchayat bodies on the basis of certain norms. The prize money will have to be spent by the award on remunerative scheme(s). During 1990-91, 371 Panchayat bodies have been assisted as against a target of 408. During 8th Plan Period 2040 Panchayats will be benefitted and in 1992-93 the beneficiaries will be 408 Panchayats.

v) Grants for construction of Panchayat Ghars (Office Buildings of Gram Panchayats/extension of existing Panchayat Ghars.

The scheme provides for assistance to Gram Panchayats for Construction of their Office buildings and extension of their existing Office buildings. At the beginning of the 8th plan 550 Gram Panchayats will need assistance for construction of their office buildings and about 1800 Gram Panchayats will need assistance for extension of their existing office Buildings. We have proposed to sanction a grant of Rs.60,000/- in each case for construction of a new building and Rs.30,000/- for extension of an old building for creating additional space for staff and storage facilities for materials to be used in various scheme. During

During 1990-91, 100% of the targets has been achieved. During the 8th Plan 750 Gram Panchayats and during 1992-93, 150 Gram Panchayats will be assisted for the prupose.

vi) Construction/Expansion of Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Office buildings :

Under this schemes it has been proposed to construct composite buildings for Panchayat Samiti Offices (erstwhile Block Development Officers) which are now located in rental buildings and to extend old Block Administrative Buildings and Zilla Parishad buildings to provide accommodation for elected functionaries and personnel deputed by the State Government.

At the commencement of the 8th Plan 110 Panchayat Samiti administrative buildings will have to be constructed and 80 old administrative buildings will have to be expanded. During 1990-91 100% of the targets have been achieved. The respective targets during the 8th Plan and 1992-93 are as follows :-

	1992-97	1992-93
Construction	- 50	10
Expansion	- 80	15

vii) Programmes/Schemes of visit, Visualisation, exhibition and evaluation of the working of Panchayats:

Under the scheme a total outlay of Rs.17 lakhs is proposed for study tours to be undertaken by various Panchayats functionaries and members of different committees on Panchayats to assess the working and achievement of the Panchayat Institutions in this State as well as in other States, to exchange views with their counterparts and to initiate action programmes. It is also proposed to take part in different exhibitions to high-light the activities of Panchayats and to make evaluative studies of the working of Panchayats.

III. SPECIAL AREA PROGRAMMEHill AreasProgramme of the Hill Affairs Department(a) Accelerated Development of Hill Area

With a view to accelerating the all-round development of backward hill areas of Darjeeling district, the programme for accelerated development of hill areas of this State has effectively been in operation from the beginning of the Fifth Plan period. Of late, after promulgation of Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council Act, 1988, 13 new mouzas of Siliguri Sub-Division of the district have also been included within the above area.

The programme is implemented on the basis of a sub-plan which is funded both from the special Central assistance and the State Plan budget. In the State Plan budget, apart from the flow of other departments, an additive assistance is provided for bridging the critical gaps and providing linkages between different hill development schemes taken up from State Plan outlay of other departments and the Central assistance additive.

During the seventh plan period, the agreed outlay of this additive assistance was Rs.500.00 lakhs, but the actual expenditure on the basis of annual plan amounted to Rs.569.33 lakhs. The provision for 1991-92 on this account is Rs.141.75 lakhs. The agreed outlay of Central assistance for the seventh plan period was Rs.4455.00 lakhs against which the actual allocation was Rs.6004.95 lakhs. The outlay of Central assistance for 1991-92 is yet to be finalised in consultation with the Planning Commission.

According to the provisions of Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council Act, 1988 the Council is responsible for formulation of the Integrated Development Plan in respect of the hill areas. Pending formulation of the detailed proposals for the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97, as well as Annual Plan 1992-93 by the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council, the quantum of additive assistance for the accelerated development of hill areas for the Eighth Plan period (1992-97) is proposed to be of the order of 971.50 lakhs, out of which an amount of Rs.155.92 lakhs (on the basis of 10% step up of the outlay for 1991-92) may be provided for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

In the implementation of the Development Plan of the

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hill areas, priority will be given to the schemes and programmes benefitting the rural people of the areas, ensuring utilisation of more than 50% of the proposed outlay in the rural areas in terms of the guideline of the Planning Commission. As the major thrust of the Eighth Plan will be on creation of employment opportunities, preference will be given to labour intensive schemes to maximise the use of labour with greater participation by women and other socio-economically backward groups of people. Emphasis will also be given to environment aspects, particularly maintenance of ecological balance in the hill areas of Darjeeling district.

Other Hill Areas

Programme of the Development & Planning (Town & Country Planning) Department

The Department has set up Mirik Planning Authority in the district of Darjeeling and Jaigaon Planning Authority in the district of Jalpaiguri in North Bengal. Preparation of existing land-use plan and register and their publication is nearing completion. Works of preparation of outline development plan for each of the two areas viz. Mirik and Jaigaon has also made much progress. A number of development schemes like improvement of roads, water supply and drainage, construction of hospitals, community centres, parks etc. have been completed.

OTHER SPECIAL AREA PROGRAMME

1. Programme of the Development & Planning Department

(a) Development of North Bengal

In addition to sectoral programmes under taken by the various Departments, special provision is being made in the annual Plan of the State since 1973-74 for taking up schemes relating to construction and improvement of roads, bridges, culverts, embankments and drainage facilities, excavation and renovation of tanks, provision for repairing and sinking tube wells and sanitation and other infra-structural facilities especially in the rural areas of the five backward districts of North Bengal viz. Malda, West Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar and Darjeeling. In Darjeeling District, only the area outside the hill areas of the District is taken into consideration as hill areas are covered by the accelerated

Hill Areas Development Programme. The outlay under North Bengal Development Programme is generally distributed among the five districts of North Bengal on population basis. The schemes under these programme are selected and implemented by the concerned Zilla Parishad/Mahakuma Parishad (in respect of Darjeeling District).

The agreed outlay for this programme during the Seventh Plan (1985-90), was Rs.100.00 lakhs and the Annual Plan outlay for the year 1990-91 and 1991-92 were Rs.31.50 lakhs and Rs.33.08 lakhs respectively. During the year 1990-91, a total amount of Rs.17.4397 lakh was spent for implementation of schemes like construction and improvement of roads and wooden bridge, culverts, school buildings etc.

It is proposed to continue this programme in the rural areas of these backward districts during the Eighth Five Year Plan period 1992-97 has been proposed.

The following basic points will be taken into consideration while implementing schemes under the programme during the VIIIth Five Year Plan (1992-97) and the Annual Plan 1992-93:-

- a) The entire outlay will be spent on schemes benefiting the rural people of the North Bengal Districts.
- b) ... employment generation will be one of the main objectives of the programme, labour intensive schemes in preference to capital intensive schemes will be taken up.
- c) Care will be taken to safeguard environmental needs while implementing schemes under the programme.

b) Development of Jhargram Region

The Jhargram Sub-division is decidedly one of the most backward areas in West Bengal. This sub-division of Midnapore district comprises eight blocks covering an area of 1185.29 sq.miles with a population of 7,45,118 (according to 1981 census; of which 29.4% are tribals and 14.1% belong to Scheduled Castes.

2. Special budget provision is being made by the State Govt. from year to year for integrated and accelerated development of the Specially backward Jhargram Sub-division by

filling in the critical gaps in the sectoral allotments by other Departments. Such activities are formulated and implemented through the Jhargram Development Board which is headed by the Minister of State in charge of Jhargram Affairs. Its objective is the allround socio-economic development of this especially backward area.

3. The schemes that are being implemented with the funds provided by the Government under this programme mostly aim at removal of infrastructural constraints and include Minor Irrigation Schemes like River Lift Irrigation, Construction of Bundh, Jere Bundh, Field Channel, Excavation of Canals, Improvement and construction of Roads, Bridges and culverts, Repair, Reconstruction and Renovation of School Buildings, Promotion of Village and Small Scale Industries and also promotion of different types of Socio-economic and cultural activities in the Sub-division. These Schemes are designed for better utilisation of natural resources as well as providing scope of employment for the local people. During the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) the agreed outlay for this programme was Rs.400.00 lakhs and the actual expenditure was Rs.443.80 lakhs. State Plan outlay for the Annual Plan, 1990-91 was Rs.125.90 lakhs and the actual expenditure was Rs.125.70 lakhs. Out of Rs.443.80 lakhs, Rs.246.74 lakhs and Rs.66.11 lakhs are the actual flow to T.S.F. & S.C.F. Sectors respectively during the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90). Similarly, out of Rs.125.70 lakhs, Rs.58.99 lakhs and Rs.18.79 lakhs are the actual flow to T.S.F. and S.C.F. Sectors respectively during the financial year, 1990-91. During that year (1990-91), the Schemes that were implemented under this programme ~~with this programme~~ with the funds provided by the Govt. include 10 ongoing River Lift Irrigation Schemes and 106 Minor Irrigation Schemes, 3 PWD Roads, 1 Vented Causeway through Zilla Parishad and 29 Village Link Roads, 14 Jr. High/High Schools, 6 Primary Schools and 1 Cottage, 1 Industrial Trade Shed & 1 Passenger Shed. Besides, financial assistance was sanctioned for Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) training for 25 entrepreneurs of Jhargram Sub-division, organising Jhargram Nela-O-Yuba Utsab etc.

4. In the year 1991-92, there is a Plan outlay of Rs.132.20 lakhs for this programme and it is proposed to utilize this amount in the following sectors according to allocation

indicated against each :

<u>Sectors</u>	<u>Amount (Rs. in lakhs)</u>
1. Minor Irrigation	58.80
2. Roads	53.45
3. Education	9.45
4. Industry	<u>10.50</u>
	132.20

Out of Rs.132.20 lakhs, Rs.66.10 lakhs and Rs.26.44 lakhs have been specially earmarked as the flow to the T.S.F. and S.C.F. Sectors respectively.

5. Jhargram has multifarious problems. All these problems can not be comprehensively tackled with the limited resources placed at the disposal of the Jhargram Development Board from year to year. However, in conformity with the objective and keeping the constraint of resources in view a plan outlay for the Development of Jhargram Region has been proposed for the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) as well as for the Annual Plan, 1992-93.

6. As Jhargram Sub-division has considerable number of tribal population (29.4%), 50% of the Plan Outlay will be utilised for schemes benefiting these people. Another 25% of outlay is also proposed for utilisation on schemes benefiting Scheduled Castes population (14.1%). During the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97), outlay will flow to the Tribal Sub-Plan (T.S.F.) and Special Component Plan (S.C.F.) Sectors respectively for expenditure against schemes benefitting tribal and Scheduled Caste people. Schemes are proposed to be utilised with the recommendation of Jhargram Development Board in the key sectors viz., (1) Minor Irrigation (2) Roads, (3) Education and (4) Industry etc.

7. In the matter of implementation of Development Schemes in Jhargram Region during the 8th Plan Period, the following objectives will be kept in view :-

- a) The entire outlay on this programme will be spent in the rural areas;
- b) As the major thrust of the 8th Plan will be on employment generation, labour-intensive schemes in preference to Capital-intensive schemes will

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be taken up. Care will also be taken to ensure greater participation by women and other disadvantaged groups of people in such employment-oriented schemes.

- c) With the introduction of decentralised Planning in this State during the 7th Plan period, the preparation of the development Plan of Jhargram Area as well as its implementation is being routed through the Block Planning Committees to ensure greater participation of the local people. This approach will also be followed during the 8th Plan period.
- d) The environment aspect, particularly maintenance of ecological balance, will also be kept in view at the time of preparation and implementation of development schemes in Jhargram Region.

c) Development of Sundarban :

The plan proposal of Sundarban Development Board has been prepared keeping in view the proposed Phase-II project profile of Sundarban Development Project which has been cleared by State Planning Board.

The activities undertaken by Sundarban Development Board mainly deal with Area Development Programme.

The area of operation of the Board is confined to 19 Sundarban Blocks 6 of North 24 Parganas and 13 of South 24-Parganas. The schemes of the Board are so selected that the maximum benefits of the schemes flow to weaker section.

Till December 1989 the Board executed the time-bound IFD-Assisted Sundarban Development Project in which the activities of Sundarban Development Board have been restricted to (i) creation of sweet water reservoirs through excavation and re-excavation of derelict channels/ponds and closures (ii) improvement of drainage system through construction of H.P. Sluices, Master Sluices, Maindrain etc. (iii) improvement of rural communication system through construction of B.P. Road, Culverts & Jetties and (iv) creation of brackish water fish culture, Social Forestry and agricultural support service during dry season.

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Under the Annual Plan 1990-91 in addition to the schemes enumerated above certain new programme elements under Rural Water Supply, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services and Cottage & Small Scale Industries were included. The total plan outlay for the year was Rs.864 lakhs. Despite financial constraints it has been possible to achieve more than 80% of target which is Rs.671.31 lakhs. Details of physical and financial achievements are given in Annexure-I and Annexure-II. While performance in Civil Works and Social Forestry have been above average, there has been slight fall in Rural Water Supply and Agriculture.

The approved outlay for 1991-92 is Rs.939.00 lakhs and the amount will be utilised for the programme elements as mentioned in volume II of the plan proposal.

The Phase-II Project profile of Sundarban Development Project is under active consideration of Government of India for external assistance.

d) Programmes of the West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation under the Development & Planning Department

The West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation came into existence under the WBCADC Act, 1974. The Act had the intention to provide development of the State of West Bengal through Area based development programmes with a view to increasing agricultural and allied production and ensuring maximum benefit of such production to the cultivators. Integration of economic development programme with the programmes for human resource development was introduced since 1977 to accelerate acceptance of various economic programmes. To ensure effective involvement of the people in the rural area in such integrated economic and social development, the local panchayats at the Block level and the District level are consulted at the Project level and the District level with representatives of the Panchayat Samiti, and the MLAs and MPs at the district level. Besides, the representatives of various Departments at the Block and the District levels are also involved in the process of area development in CADC both for ushering infrastructural development and beneficiary-oriented development of disadvantaged groups in the rural areas. The Corporation has its head quarters in Calcutta with the Chief Minister as

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its Chairman. The Executive Vice-Chairman is the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. 21 Projects in the district are led by the Project/Dy. Project Directors who are assisted by other officials including subject matter specialists. There is also a Krishi Vigyan Kendra functioning in collaboration with the ICAR.

2. The wide-ranging activities of the WBCA-DC include Minor Irrigation facilities, supply of agricultural input credit, storage & marketing facilities, services centres, consumer stores, pisciculture, animal husbandry, rural industry adult and non-formal education, child and women care, health and sanitation programmes—specially economic programmes for the poor women etc. For carrying out these activities, WBCA-DC incurred an expenditure of Rs.1618.16 lakhs during the 7th Plan period (1985-90). During 1990-91, the Corporation incurred an expenditure of Rs.669.24 lakhs out of the Plan outlay of Rs.616.00 lakhs. Its activities during the year included seed multiplication programmes in 369.53 acres procurement of 798.91 M.T. of certified seeds, raising of 62,000 nos. of seedlings of fruit-bearing trees, demonstration trials for different varieties of seeds in 1270 unit areas, treatment of seeds/seed beds in 40796 acres and demonstration trial of Coffee Plantation. In pisciculture, 60 lakhs of spawns, 95 lakhs of fries and 11,200 kg. of table fish were produced in 4 ha. of camp-site culture and in 9 ha. of integrated fishery. In Animal Husbandry sectors, 2,26,000 units of animals were vaccinated under special disease control programme and immunisation programmes. The Corporation also produced 13,000 eggs against the target of 10,000 and 2000 Kg. of broiler against the target of 1970. In fodder cultivation the Corporation covered 86 acres against a target of 100 acres.

The Corporation could bring 800 acres of land under irrigation during the year.

The approved Plan allocation of the Corporation for the year 1991-92 is Rs.646.80 lakhs.

3. The thrust, in terms of physical targets for the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) will be on continuing projects with emphasis on water management, agriculture, animal husbandry pisciculture and rural industries in that order. The highlights of the different programmes during the 8th Plan will be as under

i) Water Management : The Corporation proposes to

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to increase its irrigated areas by 8700 acres at the end of the 8th Five Year Plan. The size of the gross cropped areas under irrigation is presently 32000 acres. Thus at the end of 8th Five Year Plan, the total gross cropped area under irrigation will increase to 40,700 acres. To achieve this target additional energisation of 196 nos. of 3" dia shallow tubewells conversion of existing 3" dia shallow tubewells into Mini-deep tubewells and installation of 500 new Mini-deep tubewells has been proposed during the period.

ii) Civil Works : Construction of an administrative building at Salt Lake on an area measuring half acre and a few additional administrative building godown and staff quarters in the project area will be taken up during the 8th Plan.

iii) Agriculture : One of the main activities in this area is multiplication of quality seeds. Different crops for seed productions taken up by the Corporation include rice, wheat, potato, oil seeds, vegetables and jute. At the end of year 1991-92, i.e. the base year the production is around 1300 M.T. This is likely to go up to 2000 M.T. at the end of the 8th Plan. The main diversification aimed during the 8th Five Year Plan is development of horticulture in the command area. The fruit bearing plants chosen are mango, guava, citrus, papaya etc. and plantation crops like coffee, rubber and spices. The special programme of producing true-potato seeds is one of the main research and demonstration programmes during the plan period.

iv) Animal Husbandry : It is intended to double the animal health coverage programme including immunisation, during 8th Five Year Plan. Under upgradation of cattle population the target is to cover the entire command area of the Corporation with frozen semen utilisation. During the 5 year plan period trial and demonstration programmes on animal husbandry schemes will cover all the projects. The acreage under fodder is targeted to be quadrupled.

Training programme on all Animal Husbandry schemes will be intensified, specially in the tribal belts within the command area viz. Ajodhya Hills and Saharjore in Purulia district, Sonamukhi in Bankura district and Nalhati in Birbhum district.

v) Fishery: The main programmes are demonstration, trial and extension programme like Paddy-cum-Fish Culture, Poly culture using poultry litter, Duck-cum-fish culture, giant prawn mixed culture, affect of pig-dung and poultry litter in mixture on the growth of fish, affect of aeration on growth of fish, possibilities of fresh-water pearl oyster culture. The additional water area to be created for production of fish spaw is fixed at 330 units. Similarly, additional 33 ha. under will be brought under giant prawn farming.

vi) Rural Industries: The thrust areas are: (a) increased production of edible oil, (b) better capacity utilisation of the Khadi Industries like new model Charka, muslim Charka etc. (c) expansion of Wool-knitting programme at Kalimpong & Ranaghat-II Projects. All these programmes will generate employment.

Physical targets at the end of 8th Plan :- (a, 120 M.T. mustard oil (b) 1.20 lakhs hanks of yarn from new model charka & 0.4 lakh hanks of muslin yarn (c) Wollen garment valued at Rs.25 lakhs per year.

4. For carrying out these activities, outlay has been proposed for the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97), as well as for the annual plan of 1992-93.

5. During 1992-93, the areas of activities of the Corporation will be as under :-

i) Water Management : The main programme is energisation of additional 40 nos. of Shallow tubewells and 121 mini-de tubewells to bring additional 1900 acres under irrigation within the command area of the Corporation, apart from RLI schemes, construction of field channels etc.

ii) Works : Preliminary work on the administrative complex to be constructed at Salt Lake City and a few Administrative building, staff quarter and godown in the command areas.

iii) Agriculture : The highlights of Annual plan are in the area of Horticulture, special emphasis bring on mushroom cultivation, introduction of new package of practices for different crops and increased acreage under seed multiplication programme. The expected additional yield in production during the year 1992-93 is around 200 M.T.

iv) Animal Husbandry : The significant feature of annual plan programme under A.H. is special eradication programme of

fact and mouth disease by regular immunization. Special drive is also to be undertaken for eradication of all contagious diseases of animals in the command area. The targeted no. of animals to be brought under this packages of programmes is about three lakh twenty thousands animals including those to be covered under frozen semen scheme for upgradation of the cattle breed. Ten thousand beneficiaries will be brought under the Corporation training programme under A.H. within the command area. Fifty thousand number of commercial broiler chicks are to be produced in Corporation (Boinchee in Eurdwan District and Balarampur in Cocch Behar District). A duckhatchary unit is proposed to be installed at Kaliyaganj with a target of production of ten thousand K.C. ducklings.

v) Pisciculture : During the year '92- '93 additional ten hec. will be brought under Paddy-cum-Fish culture. Additional 10 hec. of water area will be created under Faly culture using Foultry litter and additional 5.5 hec. under Giant prawn mixed culture. Two unit areas are likely to be brought under fresh water Pearl Oyster culture. 3 additional units areas are to be created to study effect of aeration on the growth of fish.

vi) Rural Industries .Additional employment for 120 rural women is to be created. Target for production of Woolen garments worth Rs.20 lakhs and 1 lakh hanks of Khadi yarn have been fixed.

vii) Planning, Evaluation, Research & Coordination : The emphasis is on strengthening the rural information centre & library, field survey & mechanised tabulation.

6. Apart from the above outlay, it is also expected that W.D.C.A.D.C. will receive about Rs.617.32 crores over the 8th Plan period from other Department to implement allied programmes in its project areas.

2. Programme of the Agriculture Department

(1) Agricultural Development of North Bengal-Netherlands Govt. Aided Project :

This is a Netherlands Government aided project, being executed in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Cocch Behar and Siliguri Sub-Division of Darjeeling District. This project is divided into two phases viz. Phase-I and Phase-II. The Phase-I programme of this project has already been completed. The

Phase-II Programme is now under execution. Phase-II Programme officially started on 1.7.1988 and will continue upto 30.6.1991. The main objective of this project is to induce a better income and income distribution among the farmers by an increase of production capacity. The project's main focus is on the small marginal farmers specially those belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The major component of the project is small-scale irrigation facilities like Hand Tube wells, Deep Tubewells, Pump Dugwell, River Lift Installations and 4 Hectare Units. Besides, this Project envisage soil conservation and soil improvement in the Project Area which is subject to constant erosion because of the turbulent nature of its rivers. Further the Project has an element of training programme for extension workers, farmers and farm women in the field of irrigated agriculture and related activities which is organised by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Farm Science Centre), Ramshee. The Project also includes research study to assess its impact on the target groups as well as to provide feedback. Initially, the cost of the Project is being borne from the State Plan Budget and thereafter the Dutch Govt. reimburses the full amount through the Govt. of India on submission of the reimbursement claims. To continue this programme as Phase-III, a Master Plan is being prepared by Agricultural Finance Corporation Ltd. (A.F.C. Ltd) Final Decision as to its execution will be taken later on.

Different items of work that are proposed to be implemented during 1992-93 are indicated below :-

Items	Anticipated achievement for 1991-92.	Target 1992-93
1. Deep Tubewell(D.T.W.)	13 Nos. continued	will be completed
2. R.L.I.	5 Nos. "	" " completed
3. Hand Tubewell	4560 Nos.	4000
4. Pump Dug Well	80 Nos.	40
5. Soil Conservation	900 Ha.	-
6. 4 Ha. Units	100 Nos	100
7. Shallow Tubewell	50 Nos.	50

(2) Agricultural Development in Special Problem Areas like Kanksa, Budbud, Ausgram, Gopiballavpur and Nayagram etc. of Burdwan and Midnapore (West) & Purulia District

Certain areas like Kanksa, Budbud and Ausgram F.S. Burdwan District and Gopiballavpore and Nayagram I.S. of the

district of Midnapore (West) and some blocks of Purulia are very much under developed from the agricultural point of view and have special problems of their own. The farming community of these areas mainly belong to Scheduled Tribes. The following schemes for these special problem areas were taken up in the VIIIth Plan under Tribal Areas Sub-Plan viz.

- i) Construction of R.C.C. Ring Dugwells
- ii) Installation of hand operated water lifting device.
- iii) Development of land levelling and shaping for demonstrations in the command areas of dugwells.
- iv) Improvement of soils with basic slags
- v) Multi-crop demonstration.
- vi) Sinking of shallow tubewells fitted with pump sets
- vii) Construction of bundhs
- viii) Construction of Jore Bundhs
- ix) Construction of cross bundhs etc.
- x) In addition to the above programmes, supply of implements to the farmers on subsidy is also done.

This scheme will be continued in the Eighth Five Year Plan also. During that Plan period a Total area of 6,000 ha. will be benefited under different sub.components of the scheme mentioned above.

3. Agril. Development in Hill areas :

It has been proposed to provide Rs.200 lakhs during the 3th Five Year Plan and Rs.50 lakhs during 1992-93 for giving grant-in-aid to Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council for undertaking various agril.developmental programmes in Hill area of Darjeeling district.

IV. IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROLMAJOR AND MEDIUM IRRIGATIONProgramme of the Irrigation & Waterways Department

West Bengal having the geographical area of 88752 Sq.Km. and the population density of 766 per Sq.Km. which constitutes as the highest density of population in the country against all India average of 267 per Sq.Km. faces tremendous pressure on land. Nearly three fourths of the State's population is rural. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes account for about 22 per cent and 6 percent respectively of the State's population. Despite pressure on land being excessive the net sown area did not increase over a period of 28 years and the scope for bringing more land under cultivation is almost exhausted as evident from the Table below :

Classification	(Area in Lakhs Hectares)							
	1960-61		1970-71		1980-81		1988-89	
	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%	Area	%
1. Net sown area	54.36	61.40	54.63	61.7	56.08	63.40	53.34	60.3
2. Current fallows	3.82	4.30	3.62	4.1	0.84	0.90	3.94	4.5
3. Forests	11.02	12.50	11.88	13.4	11.86	13.40	11.88	13.4
4. Area not available for cultivation.	12.92	14.50	13.05	14.7	13.73	15.5	17.20	19.4
5. Other un-cultivated lands excluding current fallows.	6.40	7.2	5.38	6.1	5.98	6.80	2.10	2.4
Total ::	88.52	100.00	88.56	100.00	83.49	100.00	88.46	100.00

Refn. :: From Economic Review 1986-87 and 1990-91 Government of West Bengal

Under this compelling situation, West Bengal, is faced with the tremendous task of intensive foodgrain production which calls for assured irrigation system through surface water, ground water or conjunctive use of both in the available cultivable area for a multiple cropping system so as to offset the effect of erratic and uneven distribution of rainfall in the monsoon period and to ensure assured supply in other than monsoon period. The average annual rainfall with 1200 to 1800 mm in Gangetic West Bengal and 3000 mm in Sub-Himalayan West Bengal would have been sufficient for maturity of crops had it been evenly distributed. But in actual practice there is most uneven variation both in intensity and extent. An Irrigation potential of 611 million hectares (Ha.) is estimated to be ultimately created through Major, Medium and Minor Irrigation Schemes. Break-up under different categories is given below :-

	Million Hectares
A) Major and Medium Irrigation Project ..	2.31
B) Minor Irrigation Project :	
i) Surface Water 1.3 Million Ha.	
ii) Ground Water 2.5 Million Ha. ..	3.80
	<u>6.11</u>

DEVELOPMENT OF IRRIGATION.

In the pre-plan period i.e., prior to 1951, irrigation on a very limited scale was concentrated through Midnapore Canal System (49,780 hectares) which is continuing, the other having been Zoon Canal System and Damodar Canal System (122,630 hectares) which are already incorporated under the Barrage and Irrigation System of D.W.C.

Since ushering of First Five Year Plan in 1951 and the end of Seventh Five Year Plan in 1990, 41 Major and 26 Medium Irrigation Projects/Schemes have been undertaken out of which one Major (Mayurakshi Project) and 9 (nine) Medium Schemes were completed. The rest of the Schemes have spilled over to the VIII Plan period 1992-97. Due to fund constraint and delay in obtaining forest and other lands the completion of Project/Scheme is getting delayed.

ANNUAL PLAN 1992-93 VIS-A-VIS
VIII FIVE YEAR PLAN (1992-'97)

On the basis of the outlay of Rs. 109.00 crores as fixed by State Development and Planning Department for the Annual Plan of 1992-93 the irrigation sector is proposed to have an allocation of Rs. 64.00 crores, along with seeking Central Assistance of Rs. 18 crores for Trustee Barrage Project.

Top most priority about allotment of fund has been accorded to complete the major Project viz.: Kangsabati Reservoir Project within the VIII Plan 1992-'97 as well as all on-going 17 Nos. of Medium Irrigation Schemes. The order of priority for new schemes come next. Total allocation of fund for VIII Five Year Plan amounts to Rs. 679 crores out of which Rs. 393 crores for irrigation sector aggregates to Rs. 393 crores.

Among the on-going Major Projects, Trustee Barrage Project Sub-Stage-I, having international water implications, is a Scheme of National importance and warrants speedy completion. The financial resources of the State being inadequate to meet this essential requirement, it has been proposed to lay special stress on the speedy completion of this project with Special Central Assistance to the tune of Rs. 18.00 crores for 1992-93 from Government of India as outright grant. Assistance of the Central Government is also sought for on the issue of getting speedy possession of forest lands needed for speedy execution of the project. As per Inter-State Agreement, Bihar will share proportionate cost for getting irrigation water from Mahanandi barrage of Trustee Barrage Project. During VIII Five Year Plan (1992-'97), Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 130 crores has been sought for Trustee Barrage Project for realizing greater irrigation potential during VIII Plan period from the Project.

Suparnakha barrage Project, a new major Irrigation Project included in Eighth Five Year Plan for implementation at an estimated cost of Rs. 227.00 crores is designed to create an ultimate irrigation potential of 130 thousand hectares in the district of Midnapore. Clearance from the
 nag/-

Ministry of Environment, Government of India, which is yet to be obtained is required to be expedited by the same since the Annual Plan provision to the tune of Rs. 10.00 crores for 1992-93 being made for this Project. No headway is possible without obtaining environmental clearance from the Government of India.

Aimed at maximising benefits from the existing Major Projects, the scheme for Modernisation of Kangsabati Project estimated to cost Rs.311.00 crores is in advanced stage of approval and is most likely to be funded by World Bank. The formulation of Modernisation Schemes for other existing Major Irrigation Projects in the State are underway.

There are other important new Major Projects likely to be taken up within the Eighth Plan period 1992-'97 such as Dwarakaswar-Gandhahari Project, Ajoy Reservoir Project, Upper Kangsabati Project, Siddhahari Noonbeal Reservoir Project, Delang Irrigation Scheme and Teest B barrage Project 2nd Sub-stage.

The existing Major Irrigation Projects based on 40 hectares block as Water Management Unit has to be intensified by lowering the block into 5-8 hectares block for better utilisation of Irrigation Water. So fund provision is made under this head to the tune of Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 10.00 lakhs in Eighth Plan (1992-'97) and Annual Plan (1992-93) respectively.

PILOT PROJECT ON COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT

In view of the existing gap between the irrigation potential created and utilised the concept of water management is gaining importance in the field of optimisation of yield from multiple cropping. We have identified 5.60 thousand hectares of command area in the Karctowa-Talma Barrage Irrigation System of P.S. Nidigunj, District Jalpaiguri for the execution of a Pilot Project for Comprehensive Area Development. Since the work calls for people's participation on a large scale, it is anticipated that some time will be necessary to have dialogues at various levels to finalise the programme. Consequently it is expected that it will take at least one year to develop the momentum for execution of the work. The work is, therefore, likely to commence in full swing from the year 1992-93 and is expected to be completed within Eighth Five Year Plan period 1992-97.

During the course of execution of the Pilot Project the work will be monitored and the experiences gained therefrom could be advantageously utilised in the formulation and execution of similar projects in other irrigation command areas in collaboration with the Comprehensive Area Development Directorate under the Minor Irrigation Department of the State.

TARGET OF IRRIGATION POTENTIAL IN 1992-93 VIS-A-VIS EIGHTH FIVE YEAR PLAN (1992-'97)

	All figures in '000 ha.		
	Potential created	Potential utilised	
i) Upto the end of VII Five Year Plan.	1244.98	1132.88	
ii) Actual achievement (1990-91)	14.92	31.64	
iii) Anticipated achievement (1991-92)	25.29	31.71	
iv) Target for 1992-93	+ 41.24	+ 40.07	
	* 61.24	* 70.07	
v) Achievement to the end of 1991-92	1285.19	1196.23	
vi) Target of additional benefits proposed during the Eighth Plan.	+ 190.53	+ 171.56	
	* 320.53	* 321.56	

MINOR IRRIGATIONProgramme of the Minor Irrigation Department1. Progress of 7th Plan :-

The potential created upto 6th Plan was 1577.85 thousand ha. out of which 621.47 thousand ha. came from ground water and 956.38 thousand ha. from surface water. The 7th Five Year Plan envisaged a financial outlay of Rs.14500.00 lakhs against a physical target of 425.00 thousand ha. The potential created upto 7th Plan was 2496.45* thousand ha. out of which 1349.32 thousand ha. came from ground water and 1147.13 thousand ha. from Surface water. An outlay of Rs.42494.00 lakhs and physical target of 450.00 thousand ha. are proposed for 8th Five Year Plan. The physical and financial targets and achievements are given below :-

Physical ('000 ha.)

Upto 7th Five Year Plan(1980-85) Achievements.	7th Five Year Plan (1985-90) Targets.	Actual achievements 7th Plan.	Actual achievements 1990-91	Target 1991-92	8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) proposed targets.	1992-93 proposed target	
Ground Water	621.47	350.00	727.85	52.60	75.00	320.00	75.00
Surface Water	956.38	75.00	190.00	16.35	25.00	130.00	25.00
	1577.85	425.00	918.60*	68.95	100.00	450.00	100.00

Financial (Rs. in lakhs)

7th Five Year Plan Approved Outlay	Actual Expenditure 7th Plan.	Anticipated expenditure 1991-92	8th Five year 1992-97	Annual Plan 1992-93 proposed.
14500.00	11156.77	6200.00	42494.00	6820.00

2. Programme for 8th Five Year Plan :

The 8th Plan outlay fixed for different programmes under minor irrigation are shown below :

	7th Plan Approved Outlay.	8th Plan(1992-97) proposed outlay.	Annual Plan 1992-93
(i) Minor Irrigation Programme under Crop Husbandry Sector.	1500.00	2930.00	586.00
(ii) Minor Irrigation Programme	12100.00	37764.00	6034.00
(iii) Command Area	900.00	1800.00	200.00
	14500.00	42494.00	6820.00

* including unreported potential created upto 1987-88 as revealed by M.I. Census (1987-88)

** An amount of Rs.2574.00 lakhs is to be provided as additionally if necessary by way of appropriation from the State budget for West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project.

The Programme are detailed below :-

(1) Crop Husbandry : Under the Centrally sponsored Scheme for assisting small and marginal farmers for increasing agricultural production, an outlay of Rs.2930.00 lakhs for 8th Five Year Plan and Rs.586.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 are proposed as State Share.

During the 7th Plan as per Government of India norms fund was provided @ Rs.3.50 lakhs per Block for the 335 Blocks of the State. From 1988-89, special Food Production Programme was launched and fund was provided for 7 districts initially (188 Blocks) and later extended to 12 districts covering 220 blocks. During 1990-91 expenditure amounting to Rs.372.04 lakhs was incurred and 11500 nos. of shallow tubewells/dugwells were installed. The proposal for 1991-92 was to instal 20,000 nos. Shallow tubewells/dugwells. During 1992-93, the No. of Shallow tubewells/dugwells proposed to be installed is 20,000. It is mentioned that the programme is implemented through District Rural Development Agency.

(ii) Minor Irrigation Programme :-

The total outlay during 8th Plan for Minor Irrigation Programme is Rs.37764.00 lakhs including both Normal Programme and West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project. The details are shown below :-

(1) NORMAL PROGRAMME :

(A) Surface Water : An outlay of Rs.10932.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.837.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 are proposed for the development of surface water. The provision has been made for :

- (a) execution of the water transmission arrangements of RLI schemes into electrically operated ones.
- (b) completion of the ongoing surface flow irrigation and drainage schemes and taking new ones, and
- (c) Boro bundhs.

The progress and programme in respect of surface lift irrigation and surface flow irrigation and drainage schemes are mentioned hereunder :-

(a) R.L.I. : The total number of R.L.I. Schemes installed upto '90-91 under Normal Programme is 3005 (excluding 274 nos. of R.L.I. Schemes sanctioned under Special Programme). Out of above 3005 sites, the number of sites where pipe lines have been completed upto '90-91' is 2388. It is anticipated that further pipe lines at 90 sites under Normal Programme and 95 sites under West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project would be completed during '91-92. Thus the number of sites which will remain without pipe line at the end of '91-92' will be 432. During 8th Plan, 100 nos. will be taken under West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project and balance 332 nos. will be taken up under Normal Programme.

About 1892 R.L.I. Schemes will remain without energisation at the end of '91-92. During 8th Plan 90 nos. will be energised under West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project and 1802 nos. will be energised under Normal Programme. During '92-93, pipe lines for 62 nos. of ongoing schemes and 40 nos. of new schemes, thus making a total of 102 nos. and energisation in 485 nos. of R.L.I. Installations will be taken up under Normal Programme.

(b) Surface Flow Irrigation & Drainage Schemes :

164 nos. of surface flow and drainage schemes have been completed in all respects upto 1990-91. It is expected to complete 5 nos. out of 14 nos. ongoing schemes and to start another 8 no. new schemes during 1991-92. The spill over cost for the ongoing and newly started schemes will be approx. Rs.30.00 lakhs. An outlay of Rs.4000.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.88.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 are proposed. About 50 nos. of new schemes are proposed to be taken up during 8th Plan specially in the districts of Purulia, Bankura and Midnapore and also Jhora Irrigation schemes in the hills of Darjeeling District. The surface flow of a number of rivers in Purulia and Bankura districts dry up during lean months. As a result R.L.Is installed on these rivers cannot irrigate during dry season. It is proposed to construct a few sub-surface dams on those rivers during 8th Plan.

(c) Boro Bundhs : In some low-lying areas of Midnapore, Hooghly and Howrah districts etc. no cultivation is possible during the rainy season. But the cultivators traditionally raise both Rabi and Boro crops in a big way by constructing Boro Bundhs across the rivers. An outlay of Rs.500.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.66.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 are proposed.

(B) Ground Water :

(a) Water Investigation : A provision of Rs.300.00 lakhs has been proposed for survey and investigation, machinery and equipment for State Water Investigation Directorate for 8th Plan and Rs.50.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93. The S.W.I.D. has completed the Minor Irrigation Census during 1988-89. The use of ground water under State Sector and also credit-linked installations under Private Sector is being made with the approval of SWID. During 8th Plan, it is proposed to carry out micro-level survey and water balance study, basin-wise as well as sub-basin-wise so as to meet the anticipated rise in demand for more water.

(b) Investigation & Planning of Surface Flow Irrigation Schemes :

An outlay of Rs.15.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.3.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 is proposed for the investigation and planning of surface flow irrigation and drainage schemes. About 50 nos. of schemes are proposed to be undertaken for planning and investigation during 8th Plan.

(c) Implementation of Ground Water Schemes :

An outlay of Rs.7700.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.15.40 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 is proposed. During 1992-93 fund will be required for the residual work of 200 DTW Programme, re-drilling of defunct D.T.Ws and revitalisation of some State-owned Shallow Tubewells.

(C) General :

An outlay of Rs.254.75 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.35.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 is proposed for Direction and Administration, Optimisation, construction of Stores, buildings and rest houses and use of non-conventional energy by installing hydrams, windmills and solar pumps etc.

(II) West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project with World Bank assistance (Credit No. 1619-IN) :

West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project envisaged installation of 1200 High capacity Deep Tubewells (HDTW), 400 Medium capacity deep tubewells (MDTW), 1800 Low capacity deep tubewells (LDTW), 5400 Shallow Tubewells (STW), 10,000 Open Dugwells (ODW) and Modernisation of 200 River Lift Irrigation Schemes (RLI) at a total cost of Rs.15600.00 lakhs approximately. Project Agreement was signed on 27th September, 1985 and became effective from 20th December, 1985. The terminal date for the project as per agreement was March, 1994. As per Development Credit Agreement available, credit for implementation of the project is 101-million SDR. The prevailing exchange rate at a time of agreement was Rs. 11 per SDR. About 70% of the expenditure on the project is eligible for credit disbursement.

Due to several reasons the work could not be started properly during the first two years of the project. The work however, started in full swing since February, 1988. The World Bank Mission visited the State for Mid-term Review of the project during 17.7.89 to 20.7.89. During the said Mid-term Review, it appeared that the exchange rate of SDR has increased to Rs.20.5 per SDR. Accordingly, the project cost was revised and estimated at Rs.29300.00 lakhs approximately. The revised estimate included the following additional components :-

- (i) 100 Additional Medium Capacity Deep Tubewells,
- (ii) 1140 Low Capacity Deep Tubewells, and
- (iii) Some additional items such as construction of Administrative buildings, Rehabilitation of 100 defunct Deep Tubewells etc.

It has been indicated in the Field Report of the last Review Mission of World Bank (June-July, 1991) that total investment now required for full drawal of credit at current exchange rate will be in the tune of Rs.45000.00 lakhs approximately.

The Project is already in one year's extension upto 31.3.1992. It has been proposed to extend the period of completion upto 31.3.94. World Bank usually gives extension of one year at a time, after reviewing the progress of implementation and compliance of covenants in each year.

It is, however, expected that extension will be available upto 31.3.94. So, there will be two more years to complete the project. On assessment of the progress of works and volume of remaining works, it is anticipated that the project components currently included can only be completed within the next two years.

As regards, possibilities of full utilisation of the available credit at current exchange rate, it may be stated that World Bank officials have categorically stated that new components cannot be taken up against the present project. Only there can be additionality in respect of the existing project components. Considering the time left for completion of the project, it is not likely that additional numbers of the item of the existing project components can be taken up and completed by 31.3.94. So, the field of activities related to the project is proposed to be kept restricted for the present within the existing framework of the project components as fixed during Mid-term Review for completion of which total fund requirement will be Rs.29300.00 lakhs.

Expenditure so far incurred under the project upto 31.3.91 stands at Rs.8413.73 lakhs of the current year's outlay provided in the budget during 1991-92 is Rs.4210.00 lakhs. An additional amount of Rs.378.16 lakhs will be booked as proportionate cost of administration of the Directorate. So, project cost i.e. anticipated to be booked during the 1991-92 will be Rs.4588.16 lakhs. The balance amount of Rs.16318.26 lakhs will have to be booked in the remaining two years, for which plan outlay that will be required for the remaining two years will be Rs.15699.25 lakhs. Out of this, Rs.7208.60 lakhs will be required in 1992-93 and Rs.8490.63 lakhs will be required in 1993-94.

A tentative revised implementation schedule has been drawn up during the discussion with the World Bank Team in June-July, 1991, considering that the project period will be extended upto 31.3.94.

During 1992-93 an amount of Rs.2110.68 lakhs will have to be paid to U.B.S.E.B for energisation of the structures.

Claims of reimbursement amounting to Rs.3061.92 lakhs have been preferred upto 31.3.91. It is anticipated that claims to the tune of Rs.3500.00 lakhs will be preferred during 1991-92. Leaving a balance of Rs.13848.10 lakhs which will be claimed in the remaining two years.

Progress and Programme of work against Revised Implementation
 Schedule - West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project (Credit No. 1619-IN)

Item of Work	Achievement up to '86-87.	Achievement upto '87-88	Achievement upto '88-89	Achievement upto '89-90	Achievement upto '90-91	Target upto '91-92	8th Five year Plan. Target proposed '92-94.	Annual Plan Target ('92-93).
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
H.O.T.W. :								
i) Drilling & Development	8	31	191	366	528	700	500	500
ii) Pumphouse	-	-	6	134	310	600	600	500
iii) Energisation	-	-	2	4	96	450	750	600
iv) Pipeline	-	-	-	2	26	400	800	500
M.O.T.W.:								
i) Drilling & Development	-	-	17	82	116	240	260	120
ii) Pumphouse	-	-	1	20	60	200	300	225
iii) Energisation	-	-	-	-	23	160	340	240
iv) Pipeline	-	-	-	-	1	110	390	270
L.O.T.W. :								
i) Drilling & Dev.	-	-	284	537	759	1500	1440	1250
ii) Pumphouse	-	-	-	174	387	1200	1740	1540
iii) Energisation	-	-	-	12	149	900	2040	1100
S.T.W. :								
i) Drilling & Dev.	-	25	397	1256	1864	3000	2400	1500
ii) Pumphouse	-	-	6	523	832	2400	3000	1600
iii) Energisation	-	-	-	-	100	1500	3900	2200
R.L.I. :								
i) Pumphouse	-	-	11	32	90	141	59	59
ii) Energisation	-	-	-	5	33	110	90	90
iii) Pipeline	-	-	-	1	5	100	100	100
Dugwell :	300	1029	1705	2436	3016	6000	4000	2000

III. Assistance to Public Sector and Other Undertakings :
West Bengal Minor Irrigation Corporation Ltd.

The State of West Bengal has fixed a uniform water rate of Rs. 500/- per ha.m. for supply of irrigation water from minor irrigation installations including those under minor Irrigation Corporation. The Corporation thus cannot realise a higher rate as required under commercial compulsions. As such, there is no other alternative but to assist the Corporation towards repayment of commercial borrowings. An outlay of Rs. 2878.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs. 462.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 is proposed for contribution to share capital and grants-in-aid. The Corporation has also undertaken the community RLI and DTWs under the programme of assistance to small and marginal farmers.

(iii) Command Area Development

Command area Development Programme in the three major irrigation commands of Kangsabati, Damodar Valley and Mayurakshi will continue. An outlay of Rs. 1800.00 lakhs (State Share) for 8th Plan and Rs. 200.00 lakhs (State Share) for annual plan 1992-93 is proposed.

The 8th Plan proposes construction of field channels covering 105.00 thousand ha. of command area and 10.00 thousand ha during 1992-93. There are certain regions in the command areas where irrigation water does not reach and cannot be covered by flow irrigation with the construction of canals and channels. In order to cover these areas, deep tubewells, shallow tubewells and shallow tubewells with hand pumps are being installed with the subsidy available under the scheme. Such subsidy has been granted to individual small and marginal farmers and West Bengal State Minor Irrigation Corporation Ltd. These activities will continue during 8th Plan also.

The progress of the scheme in West Bengal, till now, however, has been restricted due to various constraints. The area covered by field channels during the 7th Plan was 30.15 thousand ha. Some of the problems like small holdings are difficult to sort out. However, good service of Panchayats are being utilised and the Department is entrusting the work to Panchayats in preference to contractors as far as practicable. By and large, Panchayats are showing encouraging results in the matter of motivating the farmers and securing their co-operation.

3. S.C.P. and T.S.P.

Rs. 10,623.00 lakhs being 25% and Rs. 2550.00 lakhs being 6.00% of the total outlay proposed are earmarked for Special Component Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan respectively during 8th Plan.

Rs. 1738.00 lakhs being 25.50% and Rs. 422.00 lakhs being 6.20% of the outlay proposed are earmarked for S.C.P. and T.S.P. respectively during Annual Plan 1992-93.

4. Office Buildings :

Minor Irrigation Department has no office building or residential quarters for the officials. As volume of work has increased, offices have been established even at Block levels, but in rental houses only. This is causing inconvenience and litigations. So, it has been proposed to construct a few office buildings in the districts and residential quarters for Assistant Engineers at Block levels.

Similarly, Minor Irrigation Department has to store huge quantities of pumps and engines and spares, but these are stored in rental houses. It is necessary that some Stores alongwith buildings are constructed. An outlay of Rs.25.75 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.5.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1992-93 is proposed.

5. Institutional Finance :

During 8th Five Year Plan, minor irrigation potential of 200.00 thousand ha. will be created by institutional finance. Considering the cost of development @ Rs.10,000.00 per ha. the likely institutional finance is Rs.13,330.00 lakhs considering that on an average two-thirds will be loan component.

6. Energisation of Irrigation Pumpsets.

During 7th Plan all new ground water structures in the State sector were to be electrically operated. The same procedure will be continued in 8th Plan. In the private sector also all attempts are being made to energise ground water structures as far as possible. A considerable number of diesel run RLIs are proposed to be energised during 8th Plan.

7. Use of Non-conventional Energy in Minor Irrigation

Energy saving Irrigation devices like hydrams, wind mills and solar pumps have been installed on pilot basis. Areas have also been identified for the installation of sprinklers and drip irrigation. An outlay of Rs.25.50 lakhs for 8th Plan and Rs.4.00 lakhs for Annual Plan 1991-92 is proposed.

8. Cell for Minor Irrigation Statistics :

The State Government has established a separate Cell for maintaining minor irrigation statistics in the State in its totality.

Programme of the Irrigation & Waterways DepartmentFlood ControlBackground and strategy for Development

except for the Himalayan foot-hills in the north, Chhotonagpur plateau on the western fringes, the State of West Bengal is a flat plain criss-crossed with rivers and intercepted with many saucer-shaped depression or basins subjected to flood-spill and water-logging during the monsoon period. The arterial system of river network is served by the rivers Teest Jaldhaka, Torsha, Raidak and Sankosh in the north covering Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar districts which is commonly known as Brahmaputra Basin. All other rivers serving the Ganga Bhagirathi basin are almost covering the rest of West Bengal. The Ganga basin in the north is served by the Mahananda with its tributaries Balason, Muchi covering Malda and West Dinajpur districts. The districts Malda and Murshidabad lying each on either bank of the Ganga are severely affected by erosion and flood-spill by the river Ganga. The river Bhagirathi, an offshoot of the river Ganga from its right bank is served by many tributaries outfalling into it viz. Pagla, Bensloi, the Mayurakshi-system of rivers, the Ajoy, Jalangi, Churni within its non-tidal reach, serving the districts Murshidabad, Birbhum, Burdwan and Nadia. The tidal reach of the Bhagirathi in the outfall zone named as the Hooghly river is served by the river Damodar, the Rupnarayan and the Haldi river. The Damodar in turn before its outfall into the Hooghly river is served by the rivers Silabati, Durekwar and the Old Cossye. The river Haldi is served by the Kaliaghya and the New Cossye. The Hooghly river system covers the districts Nadia (partly), Hooghly, Howrah and Midnapore. The Subarnarekha basin constituted by the Subarnarekha river serves the western part of Midnapore district bordering the State of Orissa.

Almost every year, the State is ravaged by destructive floods bringing widespread disaster to the people inhabiting its flood prone areas, various problems like congestion of drainage, bank erosion complicate the flood situations. Flood problems in North Bengal, comprising the districts of Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling are due to heavy precipitation leading to severe bank erosion, land-slides in the hills, bank spilling and changes in river courses. Flood problems of Central Bengal in the districts of Malda, West Dinajpur and Murshidabad, are due to inadequacy of drainage facilities. Bank spilling occurs along the Mahananda, Ganga Bhagirathi and also severe bank erosions take place there. Problems of South Bengal originate from acute drainage congestion in the low lying areas due to heavy rainfall and the terrain being very flat, tidal ingress and drainage lockage are responsible for widespread inundation of agricultural lands. The problems are further intensified by cyclonic storms and coastal erosion.

.....P/

Flood prone areas of West Bengal are estimated to be 3,766 millions hectares. Out of this, about 1,935 million hectares have been provided with reasonable protection from floods and drainages congestion upto the end of Seventh Plan. Drainage channels and embankments constructed upto the end of Seventh Plan 6893 Km. and 16150 Km. respectively. It was possible to bring about 2750 Sq.Km. under protection from flood and drainage congestion during the Seventh Plan period. The works involved were execution of flood control and drainage schemes, bank protective works, anti-sea erosion schemes etc.

A few comprehensive Master Plans to tackle location specific (flood control-cum-drainage) problems have already been prepared by the Department some of the more important ones of which are :-

- i) Ghatal Master Plan ;
- ii) Tamruk Master Plan ;
- iii) Kendi Area Integrated Flood Control-Cum-Drainage Scheme ;
- iv) Sunderban Delta Project ;
- v) Improvement of Lower Damodar Area.

All these Master Plans involve implementation of drainage-cum-flood control works capable of rendering immediate benefits through augmentation of agricultural production. Therefore, these Master Plans deserve top most priority, but these cannot be commenced in right earnest without the availability of adequate funds. The flood control schemes are to be given special funds as recommended by the S.R. San Committee in the interest of optimising agricultural production of the eastern regional States.

Apart from these Master Plans, a list of some other important Flood Control (including drainage and Anti-erosion) schemes included in the Annual Plan is furnished below :-

- A. Drainage Schemes :
- 1) Urgent Development of Sunderbans ;
 - 2) Ghata-Kunti Basin Drainage Scheme ;
 - 3) Karalia-Nagarbala Basin Drainage Scheme ;
 - 4) Improvement of Bagjola Drainage Khal ;
 - 5) Re-excavation of River Baramashia for improvement of drainage congestion for Harishchandrapur etc. ;
 - 6) Haradaganj-Kultiganj Basin Drainage Scheme ; and
 - 7) Bhagwanpur Nandigram Drainage Scheme (Phase-I).

- B. Anti-erosion Schemes :
- 1) A group of Ganga Anti-erosion Schemes both up-stream and down-stream of Farakka barrage in the district of Malda and Murshidabad ;
 - 2) North Bengal Flood Control Scheme ;
 - 3) Protection of both banks of river Bhagirathi in district of Murshidabad ; and
 - 4) Anti-Sea-Erosion Schemes including protection to estuarine rivers.

A total provision of Rs. 45.00 crores has been made on various schemes in the Annual Plan for 1992-93. Allotment of fund during VIII Five Year Plan (1992-97) has been proposed to the tune of Rs. 286.00 crores. Central Assistance has been sought for Rs. 11.00 crores and Rs. 72.00 crores for Annual Plan 1992-93 and VIII Five Year Plan (1992-97) respectively in regard to the work Ganga Anti-erosion work and Anti-Sea erosion work. Fund under N.R.E.P. and RLGP, etc.

Funds forthcoming under the NREP, RLGP/JRY/DPS etc. are utilised to meet expenditure of labour oriented schemes both in the flood control and irrigation sectors.

Requirement of Central Assistance for Irrigation viz. Teesta Barrage Project and for Flood Control Sectors in respect of Anti-Sea-erosion scheme & Ganga Anti-erosion

Teesta Barrage project, which is one of the biggest Irrigation Projects of India, constitutes major part of this Plan proposal of the State Irrigation and Waterways Department. This Project having a vast irrigation potential of 9.19 lakh hectares, is second only to the biggest Bhakra Nangal Project in India and is, therefore, a Project of National importance.

Moreover, the international aspects associated with the project add an additional dimension of strategic importance to it. It is also an established fact that the provision of adequate fund for expeditious completion of the project is beyond the limited financial capability of our State. It is, therefore, in the fitness of things that the Government of India should provide adequate Central Assistance as outright grants to the State to safeguard the national interest associated with the Project. These aspects have already been highlighted in the Booklet on 'Some Urgent Issues and Problems relating to West Bengal' published by the Chief Minister (West Bengal)'s Secretariat in April, 1989.

Moreover, in view of strategic importance associated with this project being proximate to the international Boundary, the left embankment of both the Mahananda Main Canal (MMC) and the Teesta Nahananda Link Canal (TMLC) of the Teesta Barrage Project has to be developed into an alternative short-cut route for approaching North Bengal and the Dooars area by-passing the traffic congestion of Siliguri Town.

To achieve the desired degree of completion of Sub-stage I of first stage of Teesta Barrage Project an amount of Rs. 45.00 crores is vitally needed during the Annual Plan 1992-93 period. But the total provision cannot be met from State Plan because of its acute financial incapability. Hence, Rs. 27.00 crores has been proposed under the State Plan fund and the remaining Rs. 18.00 crores under Central Assistance to be provided by Government of India as outright grant. During VIII Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 160 crores has been provided from State Plan and Rs. 130 crores as outright Central Assistance.

Anti-Sea-Erosion Schemes

The State of West Bengal has a coastal line of about 350 kms. with a total length of embankments along the sea and the estuarine rivers of about 4000 kms. They are mostly earthen embankments and do not have adequate section to withstand the devastating effects of wave actions during cyclonic storms which is almost a regular annual feature in the Southern West Bengal. Moreover the erosive action of the sea is engulfing substantial portion of the main land areas in the coastal fringe of the State. Due to inadequate flow through the river Hooghly much below 40,000 cusecs, shoals and char lands have formed in the river for want of necessary flushing. In some places like Uluberia, Diamond Harbour etc. the sea-going vessels pass very close to these townships as per guidelines of the Calcutta Port Commissioners. In the year 1986, severe damages took place in the Uluberia, Diamond Harbour Township due to the serious destructive wave actions caused by the passing of these sea-going vessels. Adequate protective measures are required to be taken in this regard. The embankments on the sea side of vulnerable places like Digha, Sunderbans and other estuarine rivers are to be thoroughly improved and renovated with necessary protective works as Anti-Sea erosion works covering protection of area on the bank of estuarine rivers is essential the protection of Geographical Boundary of India. In view of this gravity of the problem, Central Assistance to the tune of Rs. 1.00 crore has been sought for as outright grant for 1992-93 and Rs. 7.00 crores during VIII Five Year Plan (1992-97) as the financial incapability of our State does not permit the entire cost of these schemes to be met from the State Plan.

Ganga Anti-erosion Schemes

The Farakka Barrage was constructed and commissioned in 1975 to divert the flow of the Ganga to the Bhagirathi Hooghly river system to save the Port of Calcutta, the survival of which was matter of utmost importance to the economic upliftment of the millions of people living in its vast hinterland. Like any river control structure the Farakka Barrage also had its impact on the regime condition of the river. Devastating erosion of the bank line on the Ganga, especially along the down-stream of the Barrage in Murshidabad districts has been observed after its construction. The accentuation of the erosion in many reaches of the 94.00 Km. long right bank on the down-stream of Farakka Barrage in district of Murshidabad has become a matter of serious concern.

The Ganga acts as the international boundary beyond Nimitia in the district of Murshidabad. As a natural process, the river, which is continuing erosion on the right bank, is forming extensive char lands on the opposite bank mostly on the other side of the boundary. Thus the land eroded by the Ganga is being permanently lost to the country as the new char land cannot be used by the people who have been and are being rendered landless due to the erosion.

V. E N E R G Y

P O W E R

PROGRAMME OF THE POWER DEPARTMENT

1. WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

In reference to the decision of the Central Govt., the 8th Five Years Plan will commence with effect from 1.4.1992 covering the period 1992-93 to 1996-97 and the Plans for the year 1990-91 & 1991-92 are to be treated as two separate Annual Plans.

The 8th Plan 1992-97 has been drawn with the objective to meet the demand of the power as anticipated during Plan period and emphasis has been given on the completion of the on-going projects to get its benefit as early as possible. The Plan envisages adequate benefits to both Rural and urban areas by way of providing adequate power to the agricultural, industrial commercial & Domestic consumers. The Power supply situation after acute shortage in generation for few years has considerably been improved. Attention to the improvement of the Transmission and Distribution system has been given in this Plan with equal attention to the Thermal and Hydel power generation, rural electrification irrigation and other allied fields keeping an eye to the financial constraint of the WBSEB.

Two major on-going hydel projects, Ramman H.E. Project Stage - II (4 x 12.75 MW) and Teesta Canal Fall H.E. Project (3 x 3 x 7.5 MW) are expected to be completed in this plan period. Completion of the detailed project report of Purulia Pumped Storage scheme of capacity 900 MW approx. is also expected to be completed shortly and construction work of the same will be taken during this plan period for completion in 9th Plan period. To reduce power losses and to improve poor voltage condition, adequate provision has been kept for expansion of sub-transmission system, System Improvement work and installation of capacitors.

R&M works of the existing Hydel and Thermal Power Stations of W.B.S.E.B. have also been included in this plan for achieving better performance of the plant and machinery.

A short resume on the major activities of W.B.S.E.B. to be undertaken during 8th Five Year Plan is enumerated below.

I. GENERATION :

a) On going Hydel Projects

- i) Ramman H.E. Project St-II (4 x 12.75 MW)

1. Ramman diversion weir and desilting basin :

85% of the work has been completed. Some of the drawings are yet to be received from C.W.C.

After receiving the above drgs. from C.W.C. nearly 6-8 months will be taken for completion of the construction work. Moreover, evaluation of tender for gate structures is going on and the order will be placed by November '91. The work in all respects is likely to be completed by September '92.

2. Lodhama diversion weir and desilting basin as well as Lodhama Water conductor :

Survey details which has been done during May '91 has been handed over to the Director, CWC at the time of their visiting the site on 19.9.91. Tendering for diversion work will be done on receipt of drawing from CWC. Expected time of completion of this work will be June '94.

3. Head race tunnel on Ramman river :

Till date 95% of the work has been completed. Pressure grouting work, conc. lining at tunnel and also, providing drainage holes along the tunnel are almost complete. The drawing for spill way arrangement at adit inlet is not yet received from C.W.C., which are expected very soon.

The work in all respects is likely to be completed by March '92.

4. COMMON FORBAY :

At present, 95% of the work has been completed. The drawings for Lodhama flume path connection with transition Zone of forbay and down hill protection work beneath the forbay structure are not yet received from C.W.C. The work in all respects is likely to be completed by March, 1992.

5. Anchor block foundations and saddle supports for penstock pipes :

About 45% of the total work has so far been completed. The layout details between Anchor Block-12 to Power House is yet to be received from CWC. As discussed with Director CWC on 4.10.91, the layout details was to be despatched by them to site on 7.10.91. The first stage concreting of all the Anchor Blocks with Saddle supports are expected to be completed by December '92, and the second stage concreting (after erection of penstock pipes) is expected to be completed by end of September '93.

6. Fabrication & Erection of Penstock Pipes :

Fabrication of straight pipes between Anchor Block-4 to Anchor Block-10 has been completed by M/s. Texmaco Ltd. Fabrication of different bonds have also been completed. Fabrication between AB-10 to Power House will be taken in hand by M/s. Texmaco Ltd. after receiving detailed layout drawing by CWC. Fabrication of man-hole covers and expansion joints are held up for want of higher thickness of Boiler Quality Plates for which the Material Controller has been requested to procure Erection work to

penstock pipes was scheduled to be started from October'90 but till date no work has been done due to non-supply of penstock pipes by M/s. Shalimar Works (1980) Ltd. having 8 mm and 10 mm thickness.

7. Power House Building including Tail Race Channel :

About 45% of the total work has so far been completed. Concreting of Hydro-Generator foundation will be completed by December'91. But due to non-availability of different drawings the progress could not be achieved as per programme. During meeting with the Director, CWC on 19.9.91, it was assured by him that the major drawings will be supplied between October to December'91.

8. Electro-Mechanical Works :

Delivery of Hydro-Generating equipment have almost been completed by M/s. BHEL, Bhopal, Major and heavy equipment have been stored at Board's Regional Stores at Siliguri.

11 KV Switchgears have also been supplied by M/s. Siemens India Ltd. and the same have been stored at the Regional Stores, Siliguri.

Step-up transformers will be supplied by M/s. Crompton Greaves Ltd. shortly.

Although order for EOT cranes was placed but supply of the same is getting delayed due to non-finalisation of some commercial terms. If the commercial parts are settled immediately in that case the EOT crane is expected to be supplied within April'92. Thereafter 2 months time will be required to erect the same.

9. Switchyard :

Tender for Civil foundation with galvanised structural work has been invited and is under scrutiny. If the order is placed by January'92 in that case the switch yard work may be completed by June'93 after which the electrical equipment erection in the Switchyard can be taken in hand.

TEESTA CANAL FALL HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT
(3 x 3 x 7.5 MW = 67.5 MW)

This is a foreign aided project. Loan agreement has been made with OECF, Japan amounting to 14247 million Yen to meet the cost of Plant and equipment and major part of Civil Work.

a) Orders for main Civil work have been placed for all the three power houses including by-pass channels and tail race channels in December, 1987 after completing techno-commercial negotiations, resulting in slippage of 12 months initially. The excavation work and sheet piling work at all locations are almost complete. The mud-mat work and placement of grounding mat is complete at power house-II and portion of the same is complete at Power House-I. The concreting work for raft foundation at Power House-I and II will be started at the earliest.

b) The progress of work could not be satisfactory due to non-availability of drawings from CWC, non-supply of embedded parts from M/s. Sumitomo Corporation and M/s. BHEL in time and for some contractual disputes. Non-inclusion of service bay in original excavation drawing by CWC and presence of super-charged Aquifer at PH-I has also caused delay in progress of work. Further negotiations with M/s. NPCC Ltd. on contractual commercial terms are going on and likely to be completed within a short period. The progress of work is also hampered much due to acute fund crisis. Although OECF has been disbursing regularly to Govt. of India against claims lodged by Project Authority for Civil Works and also against despatch of Equipment by M/s. Sumitomo/BHEL but WBSEB has received a very small amount against the amount already spent by them and disbursed by OECF to Govt. of India. There is further slippage of 17 months for the above reasons.

c) Contract Agreement with M/s. Sumitomo Corporation, Japan has been signed in December, 1988 for supply of T.G. and ancillary equipment inside power house.

d) Application for Import License and Foreign Exchange clearance submitted immediately afterwards in 1st week of January, 1989. Import License has been received from Govt. of India in August, 1989 resulting additional slippage of 8 months. Subsequently 5% advance payment made to M/s. Sumitomo Corporation and M/s. BHEL in August, 1989. However, M/s. Sumitomo Corporation has supplied six consignments till September '91. M/s. BHEL has supplied EOT crane for all the three power houses including embedded parts for Power House-I in full and part for Power House-II. Delay in supply of embedded parts by M/s. BHEL has also caused slippage.

e) Arrangement has been made for inviting tenders for outside Power House equipment and other common items. Additional loan has been awarded by OECF, but clearance for NIF has not yet been received from Govt. of India inspite of persuasion.

f) The revised target of commissioning as envisaged now is Nov. '93 and March, 1995 for first unit and ninth unit respectively subject to availability of drawings from CWC/CEA and matching Fund. The total slippage of the Project is now to the tune of 30 months in comparison to original schedule of completion as September, 1992.

III. FAZI AUGMENTATION SCHEME (1 x 1.2 MW)

The major Civil Works of Intake, flume, flume path desilting basin and Factory are since completed. The work of P/H Building and Fabrication and erection of penstock are at the final stage of completion. T.G. set and most of the major equipment for Power House & Switchyard equipment have been delivered. The revised target of commissioning is March, 1992.

II. TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTIONA. Transmission : 400 KV System1. Koladhat-Jaerat 400 KV. S/C line (134 KM.)

The line was put into operation at its rated voltage of 400 KV on 3.7.91.

2. Koladhat-Durgapur 400 KV. S/C Line (170 KM)

The erection Contractor - M/s. EMC have been working on this line. The up-to-date erection progress are as follows :-

- a) Stub-setting - 474 locations completed out of 474.
- b) Erection of Super Structures, completed 474.
- c) Order for bore-pile foundations at Damodar River Crossing have been awarded to M/s. AFCONS. Bore pile foundation has been completed.
- d) Stringing of Conductors for 146.41 Kms. completed.

Consequent upon dropping of construction of 400KV S/S at Bidhannagar (Durgapur), it has been decided to connect the said line with ONE Circuit of Bidhannagar-Purulia 400KV. D/C line of NTPC at Durgapur for termination of the line at Purulia S/S. The work is expected to be completed in March, 1992.

3. Koladhat-Rengali 400KV S/C inter-state line
(West Bengal Portion upto Orissa Border at Ancharkuli)

The total length within West Bengal portion of the line is about 133 KM. Order for supply and erection of the line have been divided between M/s. EMC and M/s. Tata Exports.

Upto date erection progress are as follows :-

- a) Stub setting completed - 344 nos.
- b) Erection of towers - 343 nos. completed out of 344.
- c) Stringing of 177.22 KM. Conductor completed. Foundation work at Subarnarekha river crossing location no. 148 is almost complete. The line of WBSEB portion is expected to be completed by December, 1991.

4. 400 KV/220/132KV S/S at Jaerat :

The sub-station was initially energised at 220KV. for evacuation of Farakka Power. The sub-station has been switched over to 400KV. in February, 1987. The up-to-date erection progress are as :-

- a) i) 400KV. Bay - 7 nos. commissioned out of 7.
ii) 400KV. Bay 2nd Bay for NTPC Farakka line alongwith 50 MVAR line reactor & 400KV. Bus reactor Bay-Erection contract is being finalised.
- b) 220KV Bay - 11 nos. commissioned out of 12 nos.
- c) 132KV. Bay - Out of 10 nos., 7 nos. commissioned. Balance 3 nos. bays will be completed by March, 1992.

d) 2 x 315 MVA 400/220KV. - transformer Bank and one spare single phase 105 MVA and 2 x 100 MVA 220/132KV commissioned.

5. Durgapur(Bidhannagar) 400/220KV S/S.

The scheme has been dropped. The equipment procured for this sub-station has been planned to be utilised for future extension of bays at 400KV Jeerat Sub-station and future Arambagh Sub-Station.

6. Arambagh 400/220/132KV/33KV Sub-station :

Land acquired and Infrastructural work has been started.

220 KV. System

Order for 4 nos. 160 MVA 220/132KV Transformers have been placed for installation at different 220KV. Sub-stations.

7. DPL-Durgapur(Bidhannagar) 220KV. D/C Line (10 Km) :

The construction of the line has been completed and the line has been energised at 132 KV. on 13.2.88. One Bay for the said line at Bidhannagar(Durgapur) S/S was completed but utilised for receiving power at 220KV. from Parulia(NTPC) S/Stn. The 220KV bay for Controlling DPL 220KV. D/C lines is under construction and is expected to be commissioned by December, 1991.

8. KTPS-Haldia 220KV. D/C line (59 Kms.):

Construction of this line was deferred for want of assured loan growth. Majority of the line materials have been procured under IDA credit. Order for erection of the line placed on M/s. Hirakund Industries Works. The erection of 3 Nos. stub has been completed. Target March, '93.

9. Durgapur-Rishra-Jeerat-Kasba(3rd Circuit) 220KV. S/C Line :

It has now been decided to give priority to the construction of a S/C 220KV. Rishra-Jeerat portion of the line and installation of 220/132KV Sub-station, at Rishra because of additional load coming up in that area. Survey completed. Route Survey and enroute soil testing completed. Land acquired at Rishra. The work will be taken up during 1992-93.

10. Jeerat-Lakshmikantapur 220KV. D/C line with provision of LIIO of one circuit at Kasba S/S (119 Kms.) :

Due to non-availability of land at Baruipur for installation of 220/132KV. sub-station (sanctioned in 7th Plan), it has been decided to super-impose the 220KV system at our existing Lakshmikantapur 132/33KV sub-station. The route survey and enroute soil testing for the line has been completed. The erection is expected to be taken up during 1992-93.

11. Augmentation of Howrah 220/132KV S/S by 3rd 150 MVA, 220/132KV. Transformer :

Transformer has been commissioned on '91.

12. Santalidih-Chandil 220KV Inter-State S/C Line (98 Kms.)

The line has been commissioned on 13th March, 1988.

13. Bakreswar-Gokarna 220 KV (D/C) Line :

Order for route survey and enroute soil testing has been placed.

14. LIO of Durgapur-Jeerat 220KV D/C line at Bakreswar :

Order for Route survey and enroute soil testing has been placed.

15. Haldia(New) 220/132KV. S/Stn.

Land which was takenover earlier from M/s. Haldia Petro-Chemical Ltd. has become uncertain as M/s. HPD suggested for New location of Sub-Stn. work will be taken up with the finalisation of location of Sub-Stn.

16. Rishra 220/132 KV. S/Stn.

Additional land has been acquired. Infrastructural work is expected to be taken up shortly.

17. Lakshmikantapur 220/132KV Sub-Station.

Additional land has been acquired. Sub-Station work will be taken up matching with the related Transmission Line.

18. Kasba 3rd 160 MVA, 220/132KV Tr.

Additional land acquired. Infrastructural work will be taken up shortly. Order for the transformer has been placed.

19. Midnapore (2 x 160 MVA, 220/132KV) -

Land selected and land acquisition is in progress.

20. Jeerat 3rd 160 MVA, 220/132KV.

Order for 160MVA, 220/132KV. Transformer has been placed. Work will be taken up in 1992-93.

21. Durgapur(Bidhannagar) 3rd 160 MVA, 220/132 KV.

The work is expected to be taken up in 1992-93.

22. Krishnagar 220/132KV S/Stn. :

Land acquisition is under process.

132 KV. SYSTEMa) 132 KV Lines

Upto-date erection progress of the following 132 KV lines and sub-stations are as follows :

1. Bishnupur-Hizli 132KV D/C line (111 Kms.)

Construction of the line was completed and energised on 28.1.88. At present circuit one is operated at 132KV and the other circuit is operated at 33KV for power supply to Chandrakona Road 33KV S/S from Bishnupur.

2. Joka-Falta D/C line (28 Kms.)

The line has been completed on 30.3.88. The line is energised at 33KV from Joka Sub-Station for power supply to Falta Free Trade Zone.

3. Gokarna-Katwa S/C line on D/C Tower (56.6 Kms.)

The line has been energised at rated voltage & transmitting power to Katwa.

4. Durgapur-Ukhra 132 KV D/C line (18 Kms.)

The line has been completed on 23.4.89 & charged at rated voltage & transmitting power to ECL.

5. Ramman Stage-II to NBU via Darjeeling S/Strn. 132 KV D/C line (90 Kms.)

Order for supply of Tower and erection work has been placed on M/s. EMC Work is targetted for completion is June, 1992.

6. Birpara-Alipurduar 132 KV S/C line (54 Kms.)

Construction work is in progress. Stub setting work at 72 locations out of 192 have been completed. Old erection order has been cancelled. Order placed on M/s. Hirkund Industrial Works for erection of the remaining portion. The work is expected to be completed by March, 1993.

7. Debagram-Katwa D/C line (24.5 Kms.)

The line has been completed and energised at rated voltage.

8. LLD of one circuit of Durgapur-Bandel 132 KV D/C line at Satgachia (13 Kms.)

The construction of the line has been completed. Line is in operation since March, 1991.

9. Stringing of 2nd circuit of Durgapur-Bishnupur Line (52 Kms.)

The work is complete.

10. Stringing of 2nd circuit of Malda-Dalkhola Line (130 Kms.)

Out of total 129 KM stringing work, 75 KM sanction of Malda Raiganj has already been strung in September, 1989. The section has been commissioned in 9.10.89 to evacuate power from Malda to Raiganj area at 33 KV. The balance portion is targetted for completion by December, 1992.

11. Jeerat-Barasat 132 KV D/C line (24.5 KM).

Order placed on M/s. Sunsteel Stub setting of 27 locations out of 79 nos. has been completed. Target date of completion is Dec., 1992.

12. LLD of one circuit of Bishnupur-Hizli D/C line at Chandrakona Road (3 KM).

Target date of completion of line is December, 1990.

13. LLD of Dalkhola-NBU 132 KV line at three Power Stations of Teesta Canal Fall H.E. Project (13 KM).

Survey work have been completed. Construction of the line will be taken up matching with the construction of power station.

14. Moinaguri 132/33KV Sub-station (2x12.5 MVA)

Both the Transformers commissioned and are in operation.

15. Katwa 132/33 KV S/Strn. (2 x 20 MVA)

2 Nos. Transformers commissioned. Work of installation of 2 x 10.8 MVAR capacitors and 2 x 5 MVA, 33/11KV Transformers are in progress and expected to be commissioned by 12/91.

16. Ukbra 132/33KV Sub-Station (2 x 31.5 MVA)

1st Transformer has been commissioned in December, 1989 and 2nd Transformer is expected to be commissioned by December, 1991.

17. Satgachia 132/33KV (2 x 31.5 MVA)

1st Transformer has been commissioned on 22/3/91. 2nd Transformer is expected to be commission in December, 1991. Work of installation of 2 x 5 MVA, 33/11KV Tr. is in progress.

18. Debagram 132/66/33KV (1 x 20 MVA, 132/33KV & 16 MVA, 132/66 KV.)

Erection work mostly completed. 1 x 20 MVA, 132/33KV Transformer is expected to be commissioned by December, 1991.

19. Barasat (2 x 31.5 MVA)

Order for land development and other civil works has been placed. Works is in progress. 1st Tr. is targetted for commissioning by March, '93.

20. Chandrakona Road (2 x 20 MVA)

Work for installation of 1st Transformer is almost completed. Transformer is expected to be commissioned by December, 1991.

21. Berhampore (2 x 31.5 MVA)

Work is in progress. 1 No. 31.5 MVA, 132/33 KV Transformer received at Site. 1st Transformer is targetted for commissioning by March, 1992.

22. Rishra 132/33 KV. S/Station (Augmentation by 2 x 50 MVA + 1 x 31.5 MVA in place of 3 x 31.5 MVA Tr.)

Order for 2 nos. 50 MVA 132/33 KV Tr. placed. The transformer is expected to be commissioned by March, 1992.

23. i) Construction work of the following sub-stations has been taken up and work are in progress.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| a) Falta 132/33 KV. | e) Darjeeling 132/33 KV. |
| b) Raiganj 132/33 KV. | f) Salt Lake (Aug.) 132/33 KV. |
| c) Bishnupur 132/33 KV (Aug.) | g) Purulia (Aug.) 132/33 KV. |
| d) Bankura 132/33 KV. | h) Tamluk 132/33 KV. |
| i) Lakshmikantapur 132/25 KV (Traction). | |

ii) Work of the following sub-stations will be taken up during 1992-93.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) Nagraketa 66/11 KV. | e) Uluberia 132/33 KV. |
| b) Aranghata 66/11 KV. | f) Bolepur 132/33 KV. |
| c) Mahespur 132/33 KV. | g) Sankaria 132/33 KV (Aug.) |
| d) Dhuliyani 132/33 KV. | h) Kalyani 132/33 KV (Aug.) |
| i) Liluah 132/33 KV. (Aug.) | |

B. Distribution :

The outlay of the Eighth Five Year Plan pertaining to Sub-transmission and distribution work in the areas has been envisaged keeping in view of the following aspects :

- 1) To provide more input to the basic infrastructure in wider areas covering rural as well as urban areas in the State in order to give more impetus to both agricultural sector and industrial sector with due regard to the basic need and matching transmission schemes.
- 2) To minimise energy losses (technical loss) in our sub-transmission and distribution system.
- 3) To effect electric connections to a large number of new consumers as expeditiously as possible which may help in reduction of the number of un-authorised connections and thereby reduction of commercial losses.

The scope of work including their basic object in the Eighth Plan are being described below :-

A. Super-imposition of comparatively higher voltage like 33 KV. in many areas where the load is so long being transmitted by 11 KV. voltage only so as to cater more power in these areas with a comparatively lesser line loss.

For this drawal of 3000 KM of new 33 KV. line coupled with installation of new 33/11 KV. Sub-Stn. (33/6 KV. Sub-Stn.) having total installed capacity of 1000 MVA have been envisaged during the Eighth Plan period.

Together with this there are provision for up-gradation/strengthening of 1200 KM of existing 33 KV. line and augmentation of many existing 33/11 KV. Sub-stations (or 33/6 KV. Sub-Stn.) having additional transformation capacity of 620 MVA.

Moreover, provision has been kept to draw adequate length of 11 KV. line, M.V./L.T. line, up-gradation of existing 11 KV. and L.T. lines. Our ultimate aim is to reduce the ratio between L.T. line and 11 KV line as much as possible. But this same may not be immediately possible to the desired extent because of the existing site condition.

B. At present number of existing consumers of WBSEB is to the tune of 15.48 lakhs. During the Eighth Plan period we propose to effect electric connection to about 9 lakhs of additional consumers. This will not only help in substantial reduction of pending connections but also it will help in reduction of commercial losses.

C. Our progress towards installation of 11 KV. Class Capacitor has not been satisfactory so far for various reasons. We have recently procured 18.5 MVAR 11 KV. Class Capacitor which we propose to install very soon.

During the Eighth Plan period we propose to install good number of Capacitor (11 KV. Class - both Switched as well as Fixed Capacitors) which will help in improving the power factor and also in reduction of line loss.

D. To minimise the interruption period and to restrict the interruption zone, provision for installation of 11 KV. Line Sectionalisers during the Eighth Five Year Plan period have been kept.

III. RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Out of 38024 rural mouzas in West Bengal so far 27584 mouzas have been declared electrified upto 31.3.91, the percentage being 72.54 and 89176 nos. of pump sets have been energised.

Review of performance 90-91.

Out of physical Target of electrification of 1415 mouzas and 10,000 pumpsets, 1192 nos. of mouzas and 9275 nos. of pumpsets have been electrified during 1990-91. The percentage achievement being 84.24 and 92.75 for mouza and pumpsets respectively. Out of physical target of intensification of 600 mouzas, 525 nos. of Mouza have been intensified.

dutta/18/11/91/

Programme of 1991-92.

The targets for electrification of mouzas, intensification of mouza & pumpsets during 1991-92 are 918, 800 and 7930 respectively.

Kutirjyoti-Lokedeep Programme :

The Nos. of connection released upto 31.3.91, is 30727. There has been slippage in the achievement of the target 40,000 during 1990-91 due to various reasons. The target for 1991-92 is 40,000 nos. of connection.

S.P.V. Panels

623 sets of S.P.V. Panel have been installed at various sites of West Bengal on the basis of social needs. Out of 623 sets of Panel, 207 sets of Panel have been installed in 71 nos. of Health Centre.

IV. SURVEY AND INVESTIGATION OF HYDEL PROJECTS

a) Purulia Pumped Storage :

Pre-feasibility Report of the scheme of capacity 900 MW was submitted to CEA in 1980. Further investigation and field studies like collection of hydrological data, Preparation of topographical survey maps, construction material investigation and detailed geological investigations are being conducted by W.B.S.E.B. as per requirement for the project.

The Hydro-meteorological observation is being carried out since 1982-83 and is continuing as per present requirement. First phase of drilling works for sub-surface exploration has been completed on February'90, Second phase of drilling works are in progress and the total meterage drilled including the first phase of drilling of 570 M is around 1340 Nos. The depth of drilled holes varies from 10m to 260m. The work for exploratory drill (short tunnel for investigation) is in progress.

M/s. WAP COS in association with CMC and EEA has been engaged by the Board on September, 1988 to act as local consultant.

M/S. Electric Power Development Co. Ltd. (EPDC), Japan has been engaged as foreign consultant on 31st May, 1990 for preparation of detailed Project (D.P.R.) alongwith M/s. WAPCOS, the local consultant. M/s. EPDC has finalised the layout of the scheme along with the dimensions of various structures and submitted an interim report (3rd interim report on 15th month) on Oct.'91 for study. M/s. EPDC have also submitted the perusal report to W.B.S.E.B. with their comments on October,'91 for different tasks carried out by Indian consultants.

The 4th Technical meeting held at Tokyo between 28th Oct.'91 and 5th November,'91 finalised all the modifications suggested in the 3rd Technical meeting and earliest. The 5th and final meeting will be held in India prior to submission of DPR in middle of March 1992. The final DPR for Purulia Pumped storage scheme with four units of 225 MW. capacity is expected to be completed in March 1992 as per schedule.

On Feb.'88, a loan agreement between Govt. of India and OECF, Govt. of Japan was made for preparation of detailed Project report including supplemental field investigation and studies. Amount of loan is 628 MY. An amount of 163.88 MY has been received till August, 1991.

b) Hydel Schemes in North Bengal

1. Ranman Hydro Electric Project Stage-I (3 x 12 MW)

The resolution of the inter-state aspect of this scheme was finalised in November, 1990. Clearance towards Environment angle from the MOEF obtained. The forest clearance from the Govt. of West Bengal and Govt. of Sikkim is on the anvil. Up-dated estimated cost of this scheme amounting to Rs. 78 crores approximately to the DPR under advance stage of scrutiny of C.E.A. for obtaining the Techno-Economic clearance of this Project.

2. Ranman Stage-III & IV (integrated) - 60 MW (revised).

A draft project report of this scheme has been submitted very recently by our Consultant M/s. WAPCOS envisaging installation of 3 units of 20 MW which is under scrutiny. Action has already been taken to resolve inter-state aspect between the Govt. of West Bengal & Sikkim.

3. Balson Stage-I - 12 MW

The original project report is being up-dated through our consultant M/S WAPCOS. Measurement of lean period discharge was held up for some time due to disturbance in the hills. The updated cost estimate and the revised project report is expected to be submitted within this year at the latest.

4. Lochama-Dilpa H.E. Scheme - 4 MW.

Mongpoo H.E. Scheme - 5 MW.

The work of updating and revision of project report of Lochama-Dilpa and Mongpoo H.E. Scheme is under process and expected to be completed by 31st December, 1991. For the Mongpoo Scheme, Medicinal plantation authorities, has given necessary land (20 acres) for further payment.

The work of preparation of project report of Jaldhaka Hydel Project State-II/3rd unit (4 MW) is still in progress.

5. Hydro Electric Schemes in the Foot Hills of Dist. of Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar.

One Divisional Office has started functioning in Jalpaiguri very recently. This Division is primarily meant for investigation work of Hydro-Electric Schemes in the Dist. of Jalpaiguri & Cooch Behar. Two such schemes Raidak & Torsha has been taken up on priority basis for investigation as well as preparation of Project Report.

Survey of India has been appointed to take up topographical survey work of these two schemes.

2. DURGAPUR PROJECTS LIMITED

1. On-going programme of R & M Phase-I.

The Renovation & Modernisation Programme of DPL was taken up for implementation in April '85 with a view to revitalise Power Plant Units which have been deteriorated due to ageing and lack of maintenance for a long time. The CEA under the Ministry of Energy, Govt. of India approved a R&M programme under 7th Plan covering 63 activities at a total cost of Rs. 2166 lakhs. Similarly from the State Sector approval of Rs. 1386 lakhs covering 6 activities was obtained under 7th Plan. Out of 63 Central Sector activities we have so far implemented in full 45 activities. Work in the rest of the activities are going on like :

- i) Renovation of Coal Mills of Units 3,4 & 5 (almost at completion stage at present).
- ii) Replacement of coal carrier pipes & nems of units, 2 & 5.
- iii) Ash Handling & disposal system of units 3,4 & 5.
- iv) Coal conveyor System of Units 3,4 & 5.
- v) Installation of a new chain of D.M. Plant,
- vi) Overhauling of Generator No. 5.
- vii) C.T. Fan and gear boxes etc. (almost at the completion stage at present).

In the State Sector only 3 activities could be completed. One of the major activity, viz. Installation of new ESPs of Units 3,4 & 5 has not been taken up for paucity of fund. The matter has been referred to CEA/PFCL for providing funds to implement the activity. No positive assurance has yet been obtained for this activity, per them this involves World Bank loan.

On the basis of out flow of funds, the percentage progress are as under :

- 1) For Central activities ... 75.49%
- 2) For State Sector activities- 11.6%

2) 8th Plan programme (Phase-II).

After execution of R&M programme in the 7th Plan, it is felt that some more areas still remained uncovered to be revitalised. Such areas/activities are taken into consideration under

Renovation and Modernisation programme 8th Plan. The Planning Commission has been very kind to approve the scheme of R & M Phase-II of DPPS/DPL at a total cost of Rs.2412 lakhs. As the process for each and every items of activities under R&M Phase-II, has undergone tremendous/ upward revision, the matter has been taken up with the CBA for approval of revised estimate for the R&M Phase-II.

Besides the above, some more activities which we feel has to be implemented either out of own resources or out of State Plan funds. As the DPL is not capable of generating a huge sum of required money, the programme of Revitalisation of the Power Station will suffer a jolt. To overcome this onslaught the whole programme implementation has to be executed out of State Plan funds and necessary approval in this regard is solicited. Further more, the spill over activities of the Seventh Plan will cost about Rs. 2600.00 lakhs.

3. WEST BENGAL POWER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

(a) Kolaghat Thermal Power Project.

Stage-I.

- i) Unit HI check synchronisation done on 13th August, 1990.
- ii) Unit HI commercial operation started from 09th Sept. '90.
- iii) Oil consumption rate in 1990-91 is 6.65 ml/kwhr. It has further improved. In 1991-92 till September the oil consumption rate is 5.72 ml/kwhr.
- iv) Auxiliary consumption rate in 1990-91 is 10.80% and in 1991-92 the consumption rate has improved and is 9.99%.
- v) For better performance in 1990, Kolaghat Thermal Power Station has been awarded Meritorious Productivity Award by Government of India.

Stage-II.

- i) Unit HV boiler light up done on 10th July 1990.
- ii) Unit HV check synchronisation of the Unit has done on 19th March 1991. Trial operation of continuous 72 hours running with 2 Coal mills was completed on 22nd March 1991. Maximum load of 210 MW has been attained. But, until stabilisation is yet under process.

Unit No.	Anticipated synchronisation date
IV	May 1992
VI	May 1992

400 KV Substation

Substation erection and commissioning has been almost completed.

(b) Bakreswar Thermal Power Station.

1. Foundations of main column and ESP of Unit +I has been completed and M/s. AEL has started work of main column erection. Two columns have been erected.
2. Soviet assistance is yet to finalise.

Projection for future units

Unit No.	Anticipated Commercial Commissioning date
I	1996-97
II	1996-97
III	1996-97

(c) New Projects.A. Murshidabad Thermal Power Project.

1. Revised project report of 4 x 500 MW has been submitted to Central Electricity Authority, Govt. of India with updated cost of Rs. 3360 crores on 13th January 1991.
2. Govt. of India has already accorded the environmental clearance for the project for 1000 MW.
3. Formal techno-economic clearance is awaited from Central Electricity Authority/Planning Commission of Government of India.
4. Initial infrastructure work is to begin in the 8th Plan in order to bring the project in 9th Plan.

B. Balagarh Thermal Power Project.

1. Revised Project Report of 3 x 250 MW has been submitted to Central Electricity Authority, Govt. of India with an updated cost of Rs. 1462.29 crores on 16th March 1991.
2. A team from Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India has already visited the site regarding environmental clearance. It is expected to be cleared soon.
3. The project is scheduled for the 9th Plan.

C. Kolaghat Thermal Power Station fly-ash UtilisationEngineering Service :

The drafts of letter of invitation (LOI), evaluation criteria for offer and short list of consultants have been approved by Ministry of Urban Development and Department of Economic affairs, Govt. of India and OECF. The LOI has been floated on 16th August 1991. Pre-bid Conference has been successfully completed on 24th & 25th September 1991 at Calcutta, Tender evaluation is under process.

4. Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation. (CESC Ltd.)

Both the units of Southern Generation Station Replacement projects (67.5 x 2) MW have already been commissioned on 25-1-91 and 10-6-91 respectively and units are in operation.

NON CONVENTIONAL SOURCES OF ENERGY.1. Programme of the Science & Technology Deptt.

INTRODUCTION :- In West Bengal activities related to Non-Conventional Energy started during 7th Plan period. Significant achievements were made in the areas of Bio-gas programme, Smokeless Chulla programme and Solar Thermal Programme. Some progress was also made on Solar Photovoltaic Programme. There was a fund provision of Rs. 9.00 lakhs during 7th Plan under Non-Conventional Energy Programme and the entire amount was spent. In addition the State also received a substantial fund from D.N.E.S. to implement various National level programmes on Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

1992-93 Plan and the Eighth 5 Year Plan Proposal.

Bio-gas Programme :- The following programme in the State under this head during the eighth 5 year plan and annual plan 1992-93 period, have been taken up.

i) Family size Bio-gas Plant (2 cu.m) :- In West Bengal the Standard estimated cost of a family size bio-gas plant varies from Rs.5,000.00 to Rs. 6,000.00 depending on the size and location of the Plant.

ii) Latrine Linked Plants :- In order to construct Latrine Linked Bio-gas plants an additional amount of Rs. 5,000.00 is required. The programme is very important particularly in the context of improving sanitation.

iii) Additional Subsidy towards National Project on Bio-Gas Programme :-

It is proposed to provide an additional subsidy of Rs. 1,000 for beneficiaries belonging to the weaker section.

iv) It has been proposed to launch a capital maintenance programme during 8th Five Year Plan on 50 : 50 financial sharing basis with the beneficiaries. It is proposed to take up 2,000 plants and 37,000 plants for capital maintenance during the 8th Plan and the year 1992-93. The average maintenance cost per plant works out to be Rs. 2,000.00 Out of Rs. 2,000.00 the State Govt. share will be Rs. 1,000.00.

vi) Masons & users training programme :- This is a continuing programme. 8 number of training programmes for masons and 10 number of training programmes for users are proposed to be

undertaken per year from annual plan 1992-93.

vii) It has been proposed to set up five Institutional Bio-gas plants in the State during 8th 5 year plan. One plant at Haringhata Milk Dairy, Nadia District is proposed to be set up during the annual plan period 1992-93.

(B) Improved Chulla Programme :

1. Construction Programme :- It is proposed to install 2000 number ^{and 20000 number} of fixed model chullas during the year 1992-93 and the 8th plan.

2. Training Programme :- 50 (fifty) Training Programmes has been proposed to be undertaken during the 8th Five Year Plan. Out of fifty training programmes it is proposed to organise 6 training programmes during the year 1992-93.

(C) I. Solar Hot Water (Low Temperature) :- It is proposed to install per year 10,000 litres solar hot water systems per day in the State in addition to programme of D.N.E.S.

II. Solar Drier :- It is proposed to install fifty and five solar driers during the 8th Plan and annual plan 1992-93 respectively.

III. Solar Still/Desalination Systems :- It is proposed to install 3000 and 500 number of solar stills of 3 L.P.M. capacity per day during the 8th plan and the annual plan 1992-93 respectively.

IV. Solar Cooker Programme :- It is proposed to subsidise 2000 and 500 number of Solar Cookers during 8th plan and annual plan 1992-93 respectively. Accordingly an amount of Rs. 2.0 lakhs has been provided in the plan budget for 1992-93.

(D) Solar Photovoltaic Programme :- The programmes proposed during annual plan 1992-93 are -

a) Solar Photovoltaic Pumping :- It is proposed to install one deepwell Solar PV Pump for driving water supply during the plan period 1992-93. It is also proposed to install ten numbers shallow well pumps during the year 1992-93 in West Bengal. The corresponding figures for the 8th Plan are 15 and 25.

b) Solar PV Community Lighting System :- A PV system of capacity 150 Watt or so can very easily supply power to

lights and small portable TV sets. 20 (twenty) such units are proposed to be installed in the state during the 8th plan per year.

- c) Village Electrification Programme :- Under this programme 5 (five) remote villages are proposed to be covered with electricity during 1992-93. The micro power houses of capacity 1 K.W.- 5 K.W. would be installed. The corresponding figure for 8th plan is 50 villages.
- d) Other Solar Photovoltaic Programme :- The Photovoltaic Cells could now be conveniently utilised for powering vaccine preserver, Police Wireless sets, other communication sets, safety lights in Sunderban areas.
- (E) Wind Energy Programme :- It is proposed to take up and continue the following programmes on Wind Energy in the State of West Bengal during the plan period 1992-93.
- i) Wind Mapping Project :- This is a joint effort of Government of India and the State Government. The erection of mast and installation of anemometers are in progress.
 - ii) Wind Pumping Units :- It is proposed to install two deep well wind pump and five ordinary wind pump during the plan 1992-93.
 - iii) Small Wind Generator for Battery Charging :- It is proposed to install two such wind Battery charging systems during the year 1992-93 at South 24-Parganas district.
 - iv) Wind Farm Project :- It is proposed to take up the preliminary activities in respect of putting up 2 MW Wind Farm at Sagar and Dighe during 8th Five Year Plan. The estimated cost of the project would be 600.0 lacs.
- (F) Bio-mass Programme :-
- i) Energy Plantation Programme :- It is proposed to take up the energy plantation programme in 10 hectares area per year during the 8th plan.
 - ii) Bio-mass Gassifier :- It is proposed to install four bio-mass gassifier based on different raw materials during the year 1992-93. The corresponding figure for 8th plan is 25
- (G) Urjagram Project : It is proposed to take up urjagram programme in five villages during the plan period 1992-93 and accordingly provision has been made. 16 villages i.e. an village in each district at the end of the 8th plan are expected to be covered.

- (H) Micro/Mini Hydel Development : It has been proposed to generate 3 MW micro hydel statics of composite capacity during 8th Five Year Plan.
- (I) Research and Development : It is proposed to take up R & D activities on development of bio-gas, bio-mass, wind energy, utilisation of city waste etc. One Regional Text Laboratory for Renewable Energy Devices to be set up during the 8th plan.
- (J) Information and Public Education :- It has been proposed to launch a mass awareness programme during State Plan in the field of Renewable Energy Sources. Mobile Exhibition vans, publication of posters, setting up of rural energy parks are some of the ideas in this direction.
- (K) Energy Conservation : Appropriate steps should be taken up for energy conservation for preserving energy sources for the future and provision of Rs. 27.00 lakhs has been made in this regard in the 8th plan.
- (L) Direction and Administration : An amount of Rs. 4.0 lacs and Rs. 15 lacs have been proposed under the head Direction and Administration during the plan period 1992-93 and 8th plan respectively.
- (M) Setting up of West Bengal Renewable and Non-Conventional Energy Development Authority :

It has been felt that all activities of Renewable and Non-Conventional Energy Sources should be directed and operated under one umbrella. This methodology has already been adopted in almost all the States of the country. Government of West Bengal has already accepted in principle to form such an agency. It is proposed to launch such an agency by 1992-93 with a proposed outlay of Rs. 8.00 lakh and Rs. 61.00 lakhs for the 8th Plan.

(N) Financial Outlay :

Altogether an amount of Rs. 85.00 lakhs has been proposed under the Major Head-Non-Conventional Energy Sources during the year 1992-93 and 700 lacs during the 8th plan.

2. Programme of the Cottage & Small Scale Industries Deptt.

a) Integrated Rural Energy Programme

This Scheme is intended to provide additional support to the popularisation of Bio-Gas Plant and Solar Cooker and Solar Thermal Devices towards the use of Non Conventional Sources of Energy.

b) Urjagran Programme

This Scheme has been taken up as per guidelines of the Government of India. Additional subsidy on Bio-gas, Solar cooker and other solar thermal devices are to be borne under this programme.

VI. INDUSTRY AND MINERALSVillage & Small Scale Industries.Programmes of the Cottage & Small Industries Department.Small Scale Industries :

It is well known that Cottage & Small Scale Industries Department plays a vital role in the economy of the country towards solving the unemployment problem faced by the country. The recently announced policy of the Central Government for the SSI Sector has not yet been followed by detailed schemes and as such, the policy has remained mere as emulication of some hopes and aspirations. However, there is serious apprehension that provision made in the new policy enables the Multi-Nationals and big industries to participate in the share capital of SSI units will facilitate entry of large scale industries in areas marked for SSI and others create serious handicap for the new SSI entrepreneurs. Another factor which is likely to impede serious growth of SSI sector, is the abnormal rise in the rate of interest of borrowed capital from banks and financial institutions. The framing of the 8th Plan proposals and Annual Plan for 1992-93 have been gratefully affected by these aspects. The main objectives and schemes are briefly described below :-

A. S.S.I. Sector :

1) Promotion of decentralised C.& S.S. Industrial units for generation of viable additional employment.

2) Setting up of new S.S.I. Cottage units generating employment opportunities.

3) Promotion of entrepreneurship and modernisation of S.S.I. units.

4) A State level Institute will be set up at Salt Lake which will meet the special requirement of C.& S.S.I. Sector in regard to the technical managerial groups of the entrepreneurs, hosiery sector and research and development.

5) It has been proposed to set up branch Institutes at the district level to look after training, pre-investment support and technological needs of the entrepreneurs and S.S.I. units located in the districts.

6) In rural areas individual entrepreneurs will be provided with soft loan of composite nature upto Rs.10,000/-.

7) The State Incentive Scheme has been liberalised to cover greater number of tiny units. It is also proposed to extend a liberal package of incentive to entrepreneurs intending to set up pioneer industries in the state including growth centres and identified clusters covering industry groups like plastics and polymers,

agrobased items/agro inputs, leather goods and leather goods components including footwear and industries proposed to be set up for utilisation of down stream products of Petrochem, BOP and Acrylic fibre etc. projects of the State.

3) Setting up of Industrial Estates through J.B.S.I.C. Ltd

B. Handloom Sector :

- 1) To sustain and create avenue of employment.
- 2) To improve the socio-economic structures of the handloom weavers.
- 3) To improve productivity, quality and cost competitiveness of handloom products.
- 4) To diversify products and strengthen marketing avenues.
- 5) To bring more and more weavers under different welfare schemes.
- 6) Organisation of powerloom cooperatives with powerloom workers or members.
- 7) Cooperativisation with hosiery workers.
- 8) Organisation of more and more readymade garment cooperatives.
- 9) Adoption of welfare schemes like Provident Fund, Pension Insurance, benefits, construction of house-cum-worksheds, providing spectacles to the handloom weavers.

C. Sericulture Sector :

- 1) Special thrust in the non-mulberry sector specially for the development of tassar cultivation in the tribal dominated belts of the state.
- 2) Stress to be given on an integrated development of the industry covering both expansion of the area under mulberry as well as technological improvement leading to improvement in quality and quantity of silk.
- 3) Implementation of National Sericulture Project under this project an additional 7200 ha. will be brought under mulberry besides replacement of the local varieties by HYV in another 1500 ha. A chain of infrastructure such as grainage buildings, seed cocoon markets, silk exchange will be created at the completion of the project. The silk production of the state will be doubled and additional 1 lakh employment will be generated. Special emphasis has been given on development of women who constitutes more than 60% of the work force in the sericulture sector.
- 4) Providing institutional finance to the rearers.

During the 7th Five Year Plan (1985-90) as against an outlay of Rs.83.05 crores a sum of Rs.82.49 crores was spent by this department representing 99% of the total outlay. During 1990-91 as against approved outlay of Rs.30 crores a sum of Rs.29. crores approximately was released and a sum of Rs.29.26 crores

was spent by this department. During the current year i.e. 1991-92 there is a provision of Rs.33 crores. If the entire sum is available it will be possible for this department to spend the entire amount.

An outlay of Rs.226.15 crores has been proposed for 8th Plan and a sum of Rs.36.35 crores approximately has been proposed for 1992-93. Keeping in view the performance of this Department the proposed sum will be inadequate for implementation of various promotional schemes benefitting a large number of S.S.I. units, cottage artisans, handloom weavers and sericulturists.

Some of the new schemes which have been considered essential for early implementation could not be accommodated in the next year's Plan Proposals due to inadequate allocation to this department. It is hoped that plan allocation will be substantially increased in the coming year to enable this department to take out these projects. The salient features of the said schemes and the fund required for the 8th Plan period are described below :-

As General Engineering Industries and Foundries which form an old group of industries in West Bengal are suffering from technological obsolescence and have thus become incompetent in regard to economic scale of operation and cost of production and as such they need modernisation. It has, therefore, been proposed to set up one Process-cum-Product Development Centre for transformers and switch gears at Barasat. A sum of Rs.5 crores has been estimated to be required for the scheme during the next three years.

Keeping in view the future requirement consequent on setting up of Haldia Petrochem, it has been proposed to set up one Process-cum-Product Development Centre at Haldia with an estimated cost of Rs.6 crores which will be spent during the next three years.

For implementing the Fly Ash Brick Project at Bandel, an additional fund to the extent of Rs.1.47 crores will be required in addition to the fund proposed in the plan for 1992-93.

Due to liberalisation of State Incentive Scheme, a larger number of units will be eligible for incentives. Due to paucity of fund it is not possible to provide more funds in the budget as other development schemes are to be accommodated within the limited ceiling of outlay. Naturally, more fund amounting to Rs.6 to 8 crores will be required.

A Central Footwear Training Centre is being set up at Kalipur Budge Budge I with a view to imparting training in leather industry in modern technique of shoe and other leather products. Additional fund of Rs.38 lakhs will be required for.

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recurring costs in the next year as the fund proposed in the plan for 1992-93 is inadequate.

There is large concentration of tanners in East Calcutta. In order to keep the area free from pollution it has been decided to set up a Effluent Treatment Plant near East Calcutta with UNDP assistance. The cost of land and building and the cost of maintenance of the plant are required to be borne by the State Govt. and the users. For this purposes sum of Rs.10 crores will be required during the next three years.

This Department has taken up a scheme for setting up Industrial Estates through West Bengal Small Industries Corporation Ltd. an undertaking under this Department with assistance from OECF (Japan). According to the stipulation by the Govt. of India fund will be available on reimbursement basis after the actual cost is incurred by the State Govt. or the agency. For this purpose a sum of Rs.6 crores will be required during the next three years.

Important achievement made during 1990-91 and target for 1991-92 and 1992-93 are given below :-

I t e m.	1990-91.	1991-92.	1992-93.
1. New Units set up	18,005	19000	20,500
2. Biogas plants set up	7,222	10000	11,000
3. State incentive scheme No. of units benefitted	Rs. 681.38 1,027	Rs.528.60	Rs.580.00
4. Extension of Area under Mulberry plantation.	1019 Ha.	1400 Ha.	1500
5. Raw Silk Production	8.29 lakh	10.00 lakh	10.80 lakhs
6. Extension of Area under Non-Mulberry plantation.	185 Ha.	125 Ha.	600 Ha.

Tassar Department :

Tassar culture has a special relevance with respect to Tribal development since it is an avocation being practised by the tribals living around the forest areas where the Tassar food plants are available. Tassar food plants are mainly raised on the soil which is not suitable for any other agricultural crops. Large tracts of degraded land is available in the districts of Purulia, Bankura, Midnapore, Birbhum and also in Burdwan. These barren areas may be economically utilised by growing Arjun plantation and allowing the tribals for tassar culture on them and thereby providing an avenue for economic upliftment of the tribals.

An area of 2500 ha. is proposed to be brought under Arjun plantation in VIII plan period which will benefit 2500 tribal families. The families will be given usufructuary right at the rate of one hectare per family. This one ha. of plantation is expected to ensure an average income of about Rs.2200.00 to Rs.3500.00 per crop per family. Sericulture Directorate will extend assistance by (a) supplying D.F.Ls. at the subsidised rate, (b) providing technical training and guidance, (c) arranging marketing of cocoons and other products and (d) developing post-cocoon technology.

Apart from raising economic plantation of Arjun in 2500 ha., 5 No. PPC and 15 No. grainages will be set up for production of adequate numbers of basic seeds and commercial seeds to meet the increased requirement. It may be mentioned that hardly any seed is produced in Private Sector and the entire requirement is normally met from Government Sector. Four marketing complexes will be established in four districts for arranging proper marketing of tasar cocoons and other products.

Since creation of this Directorate nothing could be done as yet for development of post-cocoon technology. Hence special emphasis will have to be given on this sector of Tasar culture which will go along way in improving the economy of the poor and backward farmers and 400 weaver families will be provided financial assistance and one Yern-cum-fabric processing unit will also be set up under Government control. Necessary provisions have also been kept in the project for imparting training to the entrepreneurs in different aspects of tasar culture.

Additional outlay over and above the provisional outlay in Eighth plan and Annual Plan (1992-93) will be required to the tune of Rs.1069.00 lakhs spreading over five year.

I N D U S T R I E S

(OTHER THAN VILLAGE AND SMALL INDUSTRIES)

1. Programme of the Commerce & Industries Department

1.0 Dispersal and diversification of industries, encouraging investment through participation in the joint sector, establishment and development of modern industries like petro-chemicals and electronics and offering of liberal incentives for attracting investments in the State were the 'thrust areas' during the Seventh Plan. The principal agencies through which such programme was to be executed were West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation, West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation and West Bengal Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation who, taken together, stood responsible for about 75% of the approved outlay of Rs.180.00 crores for the Commerce and Industries Department as a whole.

1.1. Against the approved outlay of Rs.180.00 crores, the Seventh Plan expenditure of the Commerce and Industries Department was Rs.200.61 crores approx. Thus the financial performance was highly satisfactory and exceeded the target by 11.45%.

1.2. The Annual Plan outlay for the Department during 1990-91 stood at Rs.87.82 crores. However, because of resource crunch, the expenditure was low and kept restricted to Rs.31.37 crores only.

1.3. For the year 1991-92 the Annual Plan outlay for the Department has been fixed at Rs.124.66 crores approx.

2.0 On the basis of the experience gained through the performance during the Seventh Plan period, emphasis during the Eighth Plan will be placed on development of industries in areas having downstream opportunity and employment, with special emphasis on chemicals, petro-chemicals, electronics and export linked industrial unit. Another area having good industrial potential is the Agro-based Food Processing Industries. A new Department named Food Processing Industry Department has been set up in January '91. General Infrastructural facilities are to be further developed. However, critical review of the existing facilities in the growth centres will be undertaken to identify their shortcomings in attracting investments and efforts will be made to plug those loopholes. The strategy will, in principle, be to optimise the benefits out of the existing and ongoing project

2.1. In the National front, there has been a Sea-change in the industrial policy, Industrial licencing has been abolished for all projects except for a short list of industries related to security and stratagic concerns, social reasons, hazardous chemical and overriding environmental reasons and items of elitist consumption. In the new industrial policy, the Central Government stresses upon liberalisation. The real impact of liberalisation can not be achieved in isolation in industrial development in a state in the absence of adequate devolution of financial resources from the Central Government to the State Government. In any case, to cope with the changed circumstances, the State Government has constituted twenty Task Forces to study the role of the State Government in specified areas of industrial activity and to suggest appropriate measures. The main objective of this exercise is to take advantage of the benefits of liberalisation accruing from the new policies announced by the Government of India relating to large, medium and small scale industries. The recommendation of those Task Forces, when available, will surely have impact on the State's Eighth Five Year Plan outlay for the industrial sector.

3.0 Keeping in view of what has been stated above, the Commerce and Industries Department would propose the outlays for the Eighth Five Year (1992-97) Plan and Annual Plan 1992-93 at Rs.69,585.00 lakhs and Rs.13,713 lakhs respectively.

3.1 A brief description of the proposed programme of the Department are given as follows :

(a) WEST BENGAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD(WBIDC)

The Corporation's principal activities include promoting industrial projects in the medium and large scale and providing financial assistance to such projects by way of term loan and equity support and to provide escort service to the industries in general.

The Corporation has estimated that during the Eighth Plan (1992-97) period, the total term loan disbursement under the IDBI's Re-finance Scheme, with growth rate 10-12% through out the plan, will be around Rs.209.00 crores. The margin money requirement @ 35% of disbursement plus operational cost has been estimated at Rs.69.49 crores during the Eighth Plan and Rs.13.40 crores during the Annual Plan 1992-93.

During the Seventh Plan the Corporation implemented a number of joint sector projects, namely, Slurry Explosive Project, Aluminium Rolled Products Projects, Maleic Anhydride Project, Jelly-filled Telecommunication Equipment Project and Slag Cement Project. Since then, the project for manufacture of BOPP Film in joint sector has already commenced trial production and the amusement Park project at Salt Lake has been completed. These apart, the Corporation has currently been implementing a number of joint sector projects namely Polyester Filament Yarn (PFY), Acrylic Fibre, Toilet Soap and toiletries project, carbon Black Project and pig-iron project.

To take advantage of the benefits of liberalisation accruing from the new Industrial Policy announced by the Govt. of India, the State Government has set up a number of Task Forces for the purpose of encouragement to NRI Foreign Investments within the State, encouragement to industries in backward areas like Purulia district and North Bengal, exploration of export market for State based industries etc. The State Government had earlier set up an Operational Group on Industrialisation of North Bengal. The report of the Operational Group suggesting setting up of various industrial projects in North Bengal is now under consideration of the State Government. Investment on these accounts are to be channelised through the WBIDC.

(B) SETTING UP OF A PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPLEX AT HALDIA

The Project is being implemented in joint sector with 24.99% equity participation by Tata Tea Limited and its Associates, 26% by WBIDC and the balance 49.01% by the Public. Considerable progress has been achieved in Project Planning and in the areas of technology selection. Availability of feed-stock has been ensured and arrangements for Rupee term loan from financial institutions and banks and foreign exchange loan are on the way of finalisation. Acquisition of land, land development and arrangements for various infrastructures like power, water etc. are almost complete.

The cost of the project at pre-Gulf War price, was estimated at Rs.3000.00 crores, requiring equity contribution from the WBIDC to the extent of Rs.195.00 crores. A sum of Rs.18.00 crores has already been released leaving a balance of Rs.177.00 crores. As the project is to be completed by 1994-95, the entire sum of Rs.177.00 crores has to be provided within

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1993-94 to meet WBIDC's equity commitment. Taking into account the current year's provision of Rs.42.80 crores, an outlay of Rs.134.20 crores has been suggested for the Project during the Eighth Plan. For the Annual Plan 1992-93, an outlay of Rs.49.44 crores has been suggested for the project. But this provision is open-ended and if a larger fund is required for the project during 1992-93, the same will be provided by the State Government by reappropriation from other State schemes.

(C) WEST BENGAL ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (WBEIDC LTD.)

The West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited has so far established 18 companies, either as subsidiary company or joint sector company. 15 Companies promoted by the Corporation are already under production, the product range covering different sectors of electronics. During the Seventh Plan, the Corporation achieved production of various electronic items valued about Rs.130.90 crores. The Corporation developed a 40 acres electronic complex at Salt Lake, a completely integrated 93 acres electronics estate and also an electronic estate at Jalpaiguri covering 9.63 acres of land during the Seventh Plan.

The Corporation has taken up 2 major expansion- and diversification programme for two of its units- namely Webel Electronics Ltd., and Webel Video Devices Ltd., Two projects, one for manufacture of Fibre Optic Instruments in joint sector with NRI and the other for manufacture of Solar FV Cells, Modules and Systems etc., are under implementation.

During the Eighth Plan (1992-97), the Corporation will lay major emphasis on the Telecommunication Sector and a major project for establishing one Digital Public Switching equipment factory which will have large spin-off effects in many other areas and will go a long way in the electronic industrialisation of the State has been proposed to be included in the Eighth Plan. Keeping in view, the new industrial policy announced by the Government of India special attention will be given to promotion of export-oriented manufacturing units and export marketing, spreading of electronics services in rural areas, entrepreneurial development programme, manpower development in specialised areas setting up of a technology park, etc. Some important projects envisaged are : Cellular radio, transmission equipment, facsimile, fibre optic

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communication, railway electronics, microprocessor based industrial control and automation, SMDs, active and passive components. Rehabilitation and diversification of the existing units of the Corporation are also proposed during the Eighth Plan for economic running. The Corporation has set up a production target of Weibel Promoted Units at the terminal year of the Eighth Plan, i.e. During 1996-97 at Rs.600 crores.

The State Government has also set up a Task Force for promotion of electronics industry in the State which will review inter-alia market penetration potential of WBEIDC and State based electronics units in the electronics market and will identify new areas of activities by WBEIDC.

West Bengal Pharmaceutical & Phytochemical Development Corporation Ltd. (W.B.P.P.D.C.)

The Corporation is engaged in promotion of drugs and pharmaceutical industries in the State. It has set up 8-Hydroxyquinoline/Di-iodohydroxyquinoline manufacturing and Aspirin manufacturing plants at Kalyani. The modernisation programmes to achieve better utilisation of installed capacity of these plants are nearing completion. Due to lack of demand of Crystallise Aspirin in the market a granulator has been installed for manufacture of aspirin in powder and granular form. The Corporation is setting up a Phytochemical Complex at Tarolpara in Jalpaiguri District on 33 acres of land. Development of infrastructural facilities in this complex is partly completed. A formulation unit is proposed to be set up in this Complex. The Corporation is engaged in cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants, like Lemoh grass, Citronella etc. on experimental basis at Talipara also in Jalpaiguri district. A fractionation unit with one hydrogenator is located at Talipara for conversion of Citronellal to produce geraniol citronellol etc. which have a good market. The Corporation is setting up a bulk Drug Estate at Kalyani. It is producing household utility products like phyto-fresh (room refreshner), Phytospray etc. The Corporation is managing the affairs of M/s. Infusion India Ltd. which is engaged in production of Duxtrose, Saline and other transfusional fluids. The production capacity of this unit is proposed to be stepped up.

During the 8th Plan period the Corporation proposed some new schemes viz. investment in assisted sector for growth of Pharmaceutical Industries, setting up of pharmaceutical formulation unit, expansion of phytochemical complex in North Bengal, setting up of production units for phytochemical in North Bengal setting up of R & D units-cum-Drug Testing Laboratories etc.

The West Bengal Sugar Industries Development Corporation Limited. (W.B.S.I.D.C.)

The Corporation is running a Sugar Mill at Ahmedpur in Birbhum district.

On the recommendation of an expert team from the National Sugar Institute, Kanpur, a phased programme for installation of some modern balancing equipments for achieving higher capacity utilisation was undertaken. This programme is to continue during the Eighth Plan.

The Greater Calcutta Gas Supply Corporation Ltd.(GCGSC)

Considerable progress has been achieved towards implementation of the project. Replacement of old Mains is nearing completion. About 21.50 km. of Industrial Main out of project target of 40 km., about 30.80 km. of ERW Main out of 40 km., 6 nos. of PRS Buildings out of 9 & 7 sets of PRS equipments out of 14 sets have been completed.

Keeping in view the heavy interest burden of I.D.B.I. loan, the Corporation has suggested not to go for I.D.B.I. loan and to meet the additional cost from the State Government sources by increasing the authorised capital of the Corporation from Rs.18.00 crores to Rs. 30.00 crores.

The State Government has made a plan loan provision of Rs. 3.00 crores for the Corporation during 1991-92. An additional outlay of Rs. 9.00 crores for the project during the Eighth Plan and the outlay for the 1992-93 is suggested at Rs. 5.00 crores.

West Bengal Industrial Infrastructure Development Corpn. (W.B.I.I.D.C.)..

The Corporation is engaged in development of growth centres in the State providing necessary infra-structure facilities and supporting services of growth of industries in the State particularly in the backward regions. Prior to the Seventh Plan, the Corporation had set up only three growth centres at Haldia, Kharagpur and Kalyani. During the Seventh Plan period, the Corporation geared up its activities and took up development of the following growth centres - (i) Dabgram Growth Centre in Jalpaiguri district; (ii) Uluberia Growth Centre in Howrah district; (iii) Falta Growth Centre in South 24-Parganas district; (iv) Kalyani Phase-II Growth Centre in Nadia district; (v) Raninagar Growth Centre in Jalpaiguri district;

(iv) Cooch Behar Growth Centre in Cooch Behar district; (vii) Bishnupur Growth Centre in Bankura district, and (viii) Malda Growth Centre in Malda district. The last four projects were taken up under the scheme for development of growth centres in 'No-Industry' districts. As per norms laid down by the Central Government, such projects in 'No-Industry' districts were to be financed by the Central Government, the State Government and the I.D.B.I. in equal shares, with a total ceiling limit of Rs.6.00 lakhs for each project.

7.2 Of the Growth Centres taken up for development during the 7th plan period, works for Debagram Growth Centre, Uluberia Growth Centre, Flata Growth Centre and Raninagar Growth Centre have been completed except some certain minor works. Kalyani Phase-II Growth Centre is nearing completion. 50% works of Cooch Behar Growth Centre and the infra-structural works of Bishnupur Growth Centre have been completed. Development works are in progress in Malda Growth Centre.

7.3. During the Eighth Plan, the Corporation proposes to emphasis on early completion of the remaining growth centres taken up for development during the 7th plan. As for new Schemes, the Corporation will take up the works for development of three Mega Growth Centres in Jalpaiguri, Malda and Birbhum districts. The sites for location of the sites for these three growth centres have been finalised with the approval of the Government of India and project reports are under preparation. Apart from these Mega Growth Centres, the Corporation proposes to take up development of growth centres at Khanyan in Hooghly district, at Raigunj in West Dinajpur district and some other growth centres in other backward district of the State.

Falta Export Processing Zone (FEPZ)

The Zone was set up by the Government of India as a modern growth centre with various facilities for growth of export oriented units. The State Government and its agencies supplemented the efforts of the Central Government by providing various social and infra-structural facilities to ensure successful operation of FEPZ. A new growth centre outside

the zone has been established with developed land, internal roads, water supply and drainage facilities as also housing, educational, health, recreational and commercial facilities.

Despite these efforts, the response from entrepreneurs has not been adequate so far. With recent policy changes, the position is likely to improve. During the Eighth Plan, facilities of road communication to the zone are proposed to be improved in cooperation with the Central Government. A Task Force has been set up by the State Government to make an in-depth study inter alia to review the infrastructure (within and outside) provided in the FEPZ for suggesting improvements needed for better performance of the zone.

An outlay of Rs. 800 lakhs has therefore been suggested during the Eighth Plan for improvement of infra-structural facilities in relation to this Zone and a token outlay of Rs. 100 lakhs has been suggested for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

Others

Schemes of the Directorate of Industries.

A total provision of Rs. 100.00 lakhs during the Eighth Plan and an outlay of Rs. 30 lakhs have been suggested for different schemes under implementation by the State Directorate of Industries in connection with monitoring of industrial projects, maintenance of industrial and commercial statistics, assistance, guidance and information service, seminars on industrial promotion, help to entrepreneurs to obtain various clearances for setting up project etc., publicity/press advertisements to attract investments etc.

Other Schemes

The new Industrial Policy of the Government of India which has been announced recently, provides a further impetus to investors, particularly in the private sector. To take advantage of the benefits of liberalisation accruing from the new industrial policy announced by the Government of India, the State Government has set up a number of Task Forces to evolve various schemes for encouragement to entrepreneurs to invest in existing units and in new industries, to attract investment from foreign companies and NRI's identification of promising

locations for new industrial units, for encouragement of R&D efforts in industrial sector etc. A Technology Information Exchange Centre and an Industrial Extension Centre are proposed to be set up during the Eighth Plan. A consultant firm has approached the State Government for setting up a World Trade Centre in joint-sector and the same is under consideration. Installation of Telephone Exchanges in the districts for betterment of telecommunication services is under consideration. A proposal for setting up of an Extension Centre of the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Tools (CIPET) to provide adequate training facilities in the Plastic Processing Industry is under consideration of the State Government. The State Government also proposes to prepare Export potential survey reports, self of project report etc. to assist the entrepreneurs. Activities of the different Central Govt. promotional agencies/councils like polytechnology Transfer Centre (CSIR), Calcutta Productivity Council, various Export Promotional councils are proposed to be encouraged by the State Government.

An outlay of Rs. 800.00 lakhs for Eighth Plan and an outlay for Rs. 200.00 lakhs for the Annual Plan 1992-93 have been suggested for the above schemes.

Modernisation-cum-Rehabilitation of Sick Jute and Textile Units in the State.

The State Government purchased the assets of Mayurakshi Cotton Mills Ltd. in Birbhum district. The mill was lying closed and the State Government has taken steps to run the mill as State Undertaking. The modernisation and renovation programmes of the Mill have been taken up in phases. The scheme is likely to continue during the Eighth Plan.

At the instance of the E.I.F.R., the State Government has contributed about Rs.4.00 crores in the equity of the New Central Jute Mill where the workers of the mill agreed to run the mill forming a Co-operative society.

The State Government has set up Task Forces for indepth study of the problems and prospects of the jute industry and textile industry.

The State Government has, therefore, suggested an outlay of Rs.31.50 crores for the Eighth Plan and Rs.2.50 crores in the Annual Plan 1992-93 in connection with modernisation and assistance programme for sick jute and textiles units in the State.

2. Programme of the Public Undertaking Department

In order to improve the working of the Undertakings the Eighth Five Plan 1992-97 and the Annual Plan 1992-93 of the Department of Public Undertakings have been prepared with Special Stress on the programmes of rehabilitation/modernisation of the existing plants and machinery of the undertakings. The Plan/programmes proposed for inclusion in the Eighth Plan 1992-97 and the Annual Plan 1992-93 of this Department are discussed as follows :

Industry & Minerals Sector

1. DURGAPUR CHEMICALS LIMITED.

The company has only one project viz. expansion/modification/rectification of the existing plants and diversification of its product range for inclusion in the Eighth Plan 1992-97 and the Annual Plan 1992-93. The project has been continuing from the Sixth Plan Period. The total cost of the project as assessed is around Rs. 5000.00 lakhs. The project is being implemented in phases against yearly allocations made in the State Plan Budget.

The programme envisages, inter-alia, A. Completion of modification of (a) Caustic Chlorine plant (b) Monochlorobenzene Plant and (c) Pentachloro Phenol Plant B. Completion of modification and expansion of capacity for Phthalic Anhydride Plant, the expansion in capacity being from 3300 MT. to 7000 MT. and C. Participating in a joint sector venture for P.N.C.B./O.N.C.B. factory.

Some progress in implementation of the Programme has been achieved in caustic Chlorine Plant, Phthalic Anhydride Plant, M.C.B. Plant and utilities. Certain Safety measures are being taken in phases. Upto the end of the Seventh Plan period a total sum of Rs. 737.88 lakhs was released from the State Plan Budget for the programme .

2. Sundarban Sugarbeet Processing Co. Ltd.

The company has undertaken during the 7th Plan Period the project for production of industrial Alcohol and other Chemical derivatives from Sugarbeet. Main distillation plant along with Sugarbeet processing plant has been set-up and experimental, production has been started. To achieve viability the company has proposed to undertake a diversification project for production of bottled potable liquor and for installation of the Effluent Treatment plant at a total estimated cost of Rs. 176.25 lakhs. The project has already been cleared by S.A.C.

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3. Westinghouse Saxby Farmer Ltd. :

Most of the plants and machinery of the company are old, have outlived their normal life and require immediate replacement. In the light of the recommendation made by RITES the company has already undertaken a rehabilitation cum modernisation programme at an estimated cost of Rs. 250.00 lakhs for implementation in phases. A sum of Rs. 20.00 lakhs was released from the State Budget in 1990-91 and an outlay of Rs. 30.00 lakhs is earmarked for the programme for 1991-92. Hence the balance amount of Rs. 200.00 lakhs is sought for 1992-97 including a sum of Rs. 30.00 lakhs earmarked for 1992-93.

4. Electro-Medical & Allied Industries Ltd.

The company started its operation in 1961. Since the Technology of X-Ray equipments has considerably improved throughout the world and hence, the company is required to upgrade its technology and to improve the quality of X-ray equipments manufactured by it so that it can compete in the market with other manufactures. Besides, most of the plants and machinery of the company installed about two decades back, have outlived their normal life and require immediate replacement.

In view of above the company has already undertaken a rehabilitation package which includes, inter-alia up-gradation of technology, replacement of wornout plants and machinery and diversification of its product range. Pending finalisation of D.P.R., it has been assessed that the total cost of the project will be to the tune of Rs. 250.00 lakhs.

5. West Bengal Agro-Textile Corporation Ltd.

The project for production of Caplon Blankets at an estimated cost of Rs. 113.20 lakhs which has since been cleared by S.A.C., is proposed for inclusion in the 8th Plan (1992-97) and the Annual Plan 1992-93. Out of the total project cost a sum of Rs. 40.00 lakhs only is to be provided from the State Plan Budget and the balance will be met by Institutional Finance.

6. West Dinajpur Spinning Mills Ltd.

The company set-up a Spinning Mills with 25000 Spindles along with staff quarters at Raygunge, West Dinajpur during the 7th Plan Period. The Mill is yet to achieve viability. The Company is contemplating to expand its activities and diversify its product range in order to achieve viability. Pending preparation of detailed project report the company has assessed that the likely expenditure to be involved for the programme will be to the tune of Rs. 100.00 lakhs.

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7. KALYANI SPINNING MILLS LTD.

The rehabilitation-cum-modernisation programme undertaken by the company in the last part of the Seventh Plan, is nearing completion. In order to derive full benefits of the said programme the implementing undertaking has contemplated to undertake a supplement programme during the Eighth Plan period, details of which are yet to be worked out. Hence, pending finalisation of the programme taken provisions of Rs. 25.00 lakhs and Rs. 1.00 lakh are suggested for 8th Plan 1992-97 and Annual Plan 1992-93 respectively.

8. Toesta Fruit & Vegetable Processing Ltd.

The company has been set up for implementation of the project for processing and packaging of fruits and vegetable. As advised by S.A.C. the detailed project report prepared earlier, is being recast.

3. Programme of the Industrial Reconstruction

Nursing of sick industrial units, both in the Public and the Private Sector, is the principal task of this Department. In the 8th Five Year Plan emphasis will be given for replacement and renovation of some old plant and machinery and buying some balancing equipments. Our attention will proceed under the two major groups (a) Industrial units, taken over or nationalised by the Government, (b) Private Sector unit who require nursing by this Deptt. Regarding units at group (a) we would like to assist them suitably to reduce their dependence on non-plan assistance. From the experience of the Seventh plan we can divide the units into three groups :-

- i) The units who have reached a near viable position.
- ii) Units which are still incurring loss but can be taken to the break-even point with financial, technical and managerial assistance; &
- iii) The units which are inherently sick so far as the viability is concerned.

We propose to give highest priority to the units at i) above. These units can be made viable by good management and replacing old plant and machinery. We are taking assistance of the Consultancy Firms to study viability of these units. We are also taking help of the Standing Advisory Committee on Govt. Corporations set up by the Government.

For the units in the second groups we are examining the causes of their weakness. Some points have been identified of which we have to take care of. They will require to be fed continually for the present. It is in this back-ground that we propose to formulate our proposal for the VIII Five Year Plan.

This Department helps sick industrial units in the private Sector in various ways. Subject to the award of the BIFR, a sick unit gets soft loan against the arrear Sales Tax.

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Provisions have also been made to cover pre-takeover dues and also for nationalisation of the remaining taken over units.

Our allocation for the 7th Plan was Rs. 25 Crores, out of which Rs. 24.29 Crores was spent. The objectives of the Seventh Five Year Plan as well as annual plan 1990-91 was to provide funds for sick units and to nurse them to improve their condition i.e. the units should minimise their cash losses and reduce their dependence on State Exchequer for non-plan assistance. The objective was fulfilled partially. At least three units are on the way to viability.

Nursing of sick Industrial units both in Public Sector and in Private Sector will continue to be the principal business of this Deptt. During the Eighth Five Year Plan we hope to do it in a better way.

4. Programme of the Power Department (Industry Component)

1. Rebuilding of Coke-Oven Battery Nos.1 & 2, of DURGAPUR PROJECTS LTD.(DPL)

The estimates of the scheme prepared in June, 1981 is Rs.1359 lakhs. The amount of expenditure incurred upto 31-3-91 stands at Rs.2500 lakhs. Battery No.2 has been commissioned on June'91. It is expected that Battery No.1 will be lighted up and commissioned by March'92 if coal availability is ensured.

2. Renovation of coal/coke handling plant at Coke-Oven, DPL.

Coal and coke handling plant built in early sixties have undergone extensive deterioration which can hardly cater the needs of 40 ovens of Battery No.5. In order to cope with the future production of Battery No.5 of 40 ovens and sixty (60) ovens of Battery Nos.1 & 2 total renovation and revamping work was felt necessary. Due to paucity of fund the selective renovation/revamping of coke/coal handling plant was considered to take up the minimum requirement of coal feeding to the Battery Nos.1 & 2 & 5. The ultimate cost of the accepted Tender of M/s. Beardsell Engineering worked out to be Rs.677 lakhs excluding the price of spares (Rs.20 lakhs), consultancy fee of M/s. M.N.Dastur (Rs.23 lakhs), Escalation and other expenses (Rs.30 lakhs), thus total cost of 1st phase renovation/revamping of coal/coke handling plant stands Rs.750 lakhs. The work is in progress and is likely to be completed by 1992. The amount of expenditure incurred upto 31-3-91 stands at Rs.450 lakhs. Expected expenses in that head for the year 1992-93 would be Rs.300 lakhs (approx.).

3. Renovation of By-product plant, DPL.

Built in early sixties, By-product plant has also undergone extensive deterioration. In order to cope with the future production of 100 Ovens of Battery Nos.1, 2 & 5, extensive renovation of By-product plant was felt necessary. However to keep the expenditure to the irreducible minimum the work of replacement of 1 No. E.T.P. and 2 Nos. Final/Secondary Gas Coller and damaged portion of the processed water pipe line at Coke-Oven is being taken up for a total expenditure of Rs.130 lakhs. The works are on the verge of commencement and expected date of completion is by 1992.

Total project cost for Renovation of By-product plant is Rs.2298 lakhs.

4. Effluent treatment plant.

The setting up of necessary effluent treatment plant for waste emanating from Coke-Ovens is a statutory obligation as per the relevant Pollution Control Act. Effective work could not be undertaken as yet due to paucity of fund. An estimate of Rs. 995 lakhs was framed as early as 1985-'86 for setting up the required plant.

RENOVATION OF D.P.LTD. COAL WASHERY. (Item No.4)

Coal washing plant of DPL was commissioned in 1967 for feeding washed coal to the Company's Coke Oven and middlings (sinks coal) to the boilers of Company's Power Plant. After 13/14 years of service, steps were taken for renovation/modernisation of Coal Washery in 1980 and by 1982 a detailed Project Report involving a cost of Rs.11.54 crores was prepared by engaging M/s. M.A.M.C. as consultant. However, due to non-availability of funds, the Project Report could not be implemented.

With the commissioning of new Coke Oven Batteries of the Company, coal required for Coke Oven got increased, but availability of Coking Coal for direct feeding to Coke Oven got substantially decreased. It has become imperative to revive the Company's Coal Washery to produce coking coal of required, quality to maximum quantity possible with minimum investment for renovation of Coal Washery. As such, M/s. M.N.M.C. was again engaged for preparation of Project Reports involving minimum requirements of renovation for obtaining optimum output of washed coal from Coal Washery. They have submitted the Project Report whose estimated cost is Rs.718.7 lacs of which about Rs.540lacs will required in 1992-93.

Based on the above technical operating details, the through put of Raw Coal to Washery will be 9,72,000 M.T. per annum. The Washed coal produced would be 4,86,000 M.T. per annum. Although estimated capacity is 9,72,000 M.T. per annum, it is expected that in first year 50% of estimated capacity and in following years 100% of the estimated capacity can be achieved.

The above 1st phase of Renovation project will take care of two streams of Coal Washing circuits. The 2nd phase of Renovation projects will be necessary for renovation of the 3rd. stream Coal Washing circuit and the entire raw coal unloading handling and crushing circuits which is set for taken up during the subsequent years starting from 1992 to 93 - 97 (8th five year plan) with a financial implication of Rs.1500 lacs.

Total project cost = 9 crores.
during 8th plan period (92-97)

1992-93	-	4 crores.
1993-94	-	2½ crores.
1994-95	-	2½ crores.

1. Rebuilding of Battery 3 & 4 :

Due to ageing, Battery No.3 & 4 have been out of operation since Oct.1987. To meet the requirement of coke mainly for pig Iron Industries in near future, it is necessary to rebuild Batt. No.3 & 4 within 4 years time. The estimated cost for Battery No.3 & 4 including procurement/Repair of Oven machineries will be 60 crores. Each Battery will have 30 Ovens and coal throughput will be 450 M.T. per day for each battery and coke output will be 564 M.T. The yearwise requirement of fund for the Project are given below :-

<u>Requirement of fund</u> <u>in 8th plan period.</u>	<u>Year-wise requirement</u>
Rs. 60 crores.	1993-94 - 12 Crores
	1994-95 - 8.1 "
	1995-96 - 15.5 "
	1996-97 - 24.4 "

The project is expected to be commissioned within 8th plan period depending upon the availability of fund.

2. The renovation of coal and coke handling plant (2nd phase).

To meet the requirement of coal for Battery Nos. 3 & 4 i.e. 1500 M.T. per day and to handle the coke output of about 1100 M.T. per day it is necessary for renovation and augmentation of the existing coal and coke handling plant of DPL. The estimated cost of the Project will be Rs.20 crores.

<u>Requirement of fund</u> <u>in 8th plan period.</u>	<u>Yearwise requirement</u>
Rs.20 crores.	1994-95 - 8 crores.
	1995-96 - 8 crores.
	1996-97 - 4 crores.

The Project is expected to be commissioned within in the Plan period.

By product.

Through renovation and augmentation of By-product and condensation plant will be required to be handled gas generated and By-product produced from all the 5 Batteries. This will include renovation of primary & secondary cooler, Scrubber Tar Separator & Precipitator gas compressor, gas holder, cooling tower blower fans, Storage tanks including replacement of wornout pipe lines for gas as also steam.

<u>Requirement of Fund in 8th plan period.</u>	<u>Year wise requirement</u>	
Rs. 15 crores.	92-93 - 4.5 crores.	Total in
	93-94 - 4 "	8th plan
	94-95 - 4 "	15 crores.
	95-96 - 2.5 "	

The Project is expected to be completed within 8th plan period if fund flows remain normal.

5. Programme of the Food Processing Industry.

A separate Department, named, the Food Processing Industries Deptt. has been created by the Government to deal with exclusively the Food Processing and allied matter in the state.

It has been decided that the total expenditure of the Deptt. which will be divided into two parts viz. cost of establishment of the Secretariat set-up and grant/loans to be given for the schemes to be implemented by the Department.

The role of this Deptt. will be promotional in nature and endeavour will be made to develop schemes so that educated unemployed youth from the families engaged in agricultural and horticultural activities who provide the main materials for the F.P.I. may be drawn into the activities leading to the setting up of Food Processing Industries. Similarly, in other sectors, main stress will be provided towards giving incentives and other required facilities so that Food Processing Industries come up in the Districts where the required raw materials and other facilities are abundantly available. For this purpose, necessary arrangements for training of the personnel/entrepreneurs engaged in food processing, will be made both in Calcutta and in District preferably in Malda District.

An Authority or a Company is proposed to be set up to channelise fund and undertake promotional role. The Authority will function as a link between the farmers, processors and banker to create an environment for setting up food processing industries in selected locations.

The Deptt. will also create facilities for research alongwith a laboratory and thereby develop low cost technology for utilising under utilised raw materials for the aforesaid industries.

It is also expected that assistance from the Govt. of India in the Concerned Ministry of Food Processing Industries, will be available as matching grant for the aforesaid industries.

Keeping all the above facts in view, it has been suggested that the plan outlay for the year 1992-93 be fixed at Rs.88.00 lakhs and the total plan outlay for this Deptt. for the Eighth plan(1992-97) be fixed at Rs.500 lakhs.

MININGProgramme of the Commerce & Industries DepartmentNon-Ferrous Mining and Metallurgical Industries-
Industries-Regulation and Development of Mines.

The Directorate of Mines and Minerals carries out prospecting work in different areas of the State in accordance with the programme set by the State Geological Programming Advisory Board. During the Seventh Plan, the Directorate completed detailed geological prospecting work for china clay at Ramnagar and Manipur in Bankura district and for dolomite in Khariduar at Purulia district. Currently prospecting work for clay, gold and base metal has been taken up in Purulia district. The scheme is to continue during the Eighth Plan. Prospecting of other minerals in the area may also be taken up depending on the data to be available on the basis of reconnaissance survey in the region. Detailed prospecting of base-metal in between Samtha and Garubathan in North Bengal is proposed to be undertaken. Assessments on the availability of boulders from different rivers of North Bengal will be undertaken with a view to ensuring adequate supply of building materials for various State Govt. projects. During the Seventh Plan the prospecting work of the Directorate in Bankura district included clay in Manipur, Ramgerh, Gourbazar and Tipan areas and also sampling of old Tungsten Mines in Chhendapathar in order to explore the possibility of re-opening of these old mines. During the Eighth Plan prospecting of gold, iron and clay is proposed to be undertaken in Bankura district with gradual expansion of such activities to Midnapore and Birbhum districts.

A Petrological, Geophysical, Geochemical and ore dressing Laboratory was proposed to be set up at Purulia during the Seventh Plan. But this could not be implemented due to resource crunch. The proposal is proposed to be taken up during the Eighth Plan. The Directorate proposes for replacement of old and worn out drilling machines and accessories, vehicles etc. during the Eighth Plan to ensure prospecting efficiency. Keeping in view of the scarcity of residential accommodation in and around the mining zones, the Directorate has proposed construction of staff quarters for the staff of the Geological Prospecting Wing of the Directorate in Purulia district. Construction of a Godown and office building, construction of staff quarters for the

Institute of Mining at Ranigunj have been proposed to be included in the Eighth Plan. The existing laboratories/workshop of the Institute of Mining are also proposed to be expanded and modernised.

Keeping in view of the programmes of the Directorate of Mines & Minerals, an outlay of Rs. 685.00 lakhs for the Eighth Plan and an outlay of Rs. 110.00 lakhs have been suggested for inclusion in the 1992-'93 Annual Plan.

MINING CORPORATION

West Bengal Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Ltd. (WBMDC.)

The Corporation has been engaged in the development, exploration and trading of industrial minerals in the State. The on-going projects of the Corpn. are - (i) Quarrying, Crushing and marketing of Stone materials in the districts of Birbhum & Bankura, (ii) Mining processing and Marketing of Purulia Phos (Phosphatic, Fertiliser) in the district of Purulia, (iii) Mining and processing of Granite in the district of Purulia and Bankura, (iv) Mining of Sillominate & Corrumdum in the district of Purulia and (v) Mining and Trading of High Alumina Fire clay (for refractory use) in the district of Purulia.

The Corporation has set up targets of quarrying stone materials at 1,80,000 M³, mining of 196,000 M.T. of Purulia Phos, production of 10,000 M³ of rough-cut and 8,000 M³ of granite, 19,000 tonnes of Silliminate and 1900 tonnes of corrumdum and 31,000 tonnes of high-alumina fire clay during the Eighth Plan period.

In addition to the above on-going projects the Corporation proposes mining of low grade lime-stone in Purulia district by open case mining and beneficiation of such minerals for use in the manufacture of pozzolana cement. The Corporation also proposes mining of copper or by open case mining operation in Tamakhun area of Purulia district and production of copper concentrate therefrom for supply to Hindusthan Coppers Ltd.

Considering the programmes of the Corporation an outlay of Rs. 970.00 lakhs and an outlay of Rs. 255.00 lakhs have been suggested for the Eighth Plan and the Annual Plan 1992-'93 respectively.

Programme of the Finance (Institutional Finance) Department

West Bengal Financial Corporation

The West Bengal Financial Corporation is a premier lending institution in the State. The paid-up capital of the West Bengal Financial Corporation mainly consists of the contribution from the Government of West Bengal and the Industrial Development Bank of India. The authorised capital of West Bengal Financial Corporation has been enhanced from Rs.25.00 crores to Rs.50.00 crore.

2. The WBFC is the only term lending institution for the Small and Medium Scale Industrial units. The WBFC gets the resources from (i) Refinance by IDBI (ii) Issue of Bonds (iii) Recovery of Principal (Ploughback) and (iv) Revenue Surplus (Profit after Tax). Generally 55% of the disbursements in a year comes from I.D.B.I. as refinance and 30% from market borrowing by issue of bonds. The recovery rate being more or less static at 38% due to various factors the resources availability from own generation is too limited. The dependence on additional share capital therefore gradually increased. A plan outlay of Rs.508.00 lakhs is therefore requested for the financial year 1992-93.

3. During the 7th Plan period an amount of Rs.82 lakhs was spent for share capital in WBFC in 85-86, Rs.95 lakhs in 86-87 and Rs.155 lakhs in 87-88, Rs.325 lakhs for 88-89 and Rs.325 lakhs for 89-90. Till the end of the 7th Plan period an amount of Rs.982 lakhs have been utilised. During the Annual Plan period 1991-92 Rs.400 lakhs have been utilised. The approved outlay for the year 1991-92 is Rs.462 lakhs. Therefore Rs.508.20 lakhs may be provided as outlay for the year 1992-93, the first year of the 8th Plan period (1992-97).

4. The total plan outlay of Rs.3170 lakhs may be suggested for the 8th Plan period (1992-97) including Rs.508.20 lakhs for the first year (1992-93) of the 8th plan period. As the cost of equity is high, Rs.375.00 lakhs have been sanctioned in favour of WBFC as loan in lieu of share capital. An amount of Rs.25 lakhs had also been sanctioned during the financial year 1990-91 to the WBFC as special share capital. In consideration of the above, Rs.462 lakhs was proposed for WBFC for the financial year (1991-92).

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VII : TRANSPORT

CIVIL AVIATION

Programme of the Transport Department

Other Aeronautical Services - CIVIL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT
OF FLYING TRAINING INSTITUTE, BEHALA

There will be need for many more pilots in India in the next few years, which can be gauged by the fact that the Govt. of India had decided last year to invest as much as Rs.20,000 crores in the next decade on Civil Aviation. West Bengal has fallen far behind other states of the country in producing pilots and must catch up quickly.

New Administrative Buildings have to be constructed in the F.T.I. Complex. This is estimated to cost Rs.40 lakhs. Further development of the land of the complex and raising of the boundary wall around it funds for part of which has been already sanctioned will cost another Rs. 10 lakhs. Construction of an annexe to the hanger, with air conditioned room for simulator, rooms for officers, and essential repairs to the hanger, will cost Rs.20 lakhs. A hostel for the trainees necessary, both because the flying should be done in the early morning, and because the State Govt. is trying its best to obtain selection of the F.T.I. as Regional Flying Training Centre, and the hostel is required for trainees from other states - will cost Rs. 25 lakhs. For purchase of two more training aircrafts Rs.40 lakhs should be provided and for modernisation of equipment (including purchase of simulator) Rs.27.88 lakhs.

The air strip has to be extended by about 300 metres, to permit its use by sophisticated aircraft like AVROS, FOKKER FRIENDSHIP or KINGAIR. Electrical installations are necessary, including runway lighting. The road between the hanger and air strip has to be made black top. Arrangement has to be made for area drainage. An estimate for the above work has been prepared by a firm much experienced in the construction of airports, amounting to Rs.3 crores of which Rs.96 lakhs is proposed to be spent during the 8th Plan period.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

1. Programme of the Public Works Department and Public Works (Roads) Department.

INTRODUCTION :

Road construction in West Bengal under the Plan Programme started in the year 1952 with the launching of the 1st Five Year Plan. West Bengal inherited a peculiar situation

with the partition of Bengal, thereby lacking in coherent communication system. During the early years of the Plans, the concept of road construction receiving priority was to extend the road net-work as quickly as possible. As a result the roads that were constructed and improved remained deficient in standard width and crust thickness. On the otherhand, the mid-sixties ushered in the Green Revolution in the country and saw hectic activities in agricultural production marketing in the rural areas. The mid-seventies brought in tremendous impact on transportation system in the country with the introduction of heavy axle load, articulated trucks and container services. Moreover, the growing population started putting pressure on passenger movement by road. There has been a phenomenal growth of freight movement and passenger traffic movement by road in the last 10 years and this is likely to grow 8% to 10% annually. The road sector presently appears to bear about 60% of freight movement and 80% of passenger movement.

A review of the Plan Programme will indicate that plan allocation for road sector in this State was appropriate about 12% of the total plan outlay during the 1st 5-year Plan. During the 2nd 5-year Plan period, it was reduced to 9.39% and in the subsequent Five Year Plans, the plan allocation dwindled and came down to as low as 1.8% upto the 6th 5-year Plan period. This did not however improve in the 7th 5-year Plan too. As a result the roads which were constructed earlier on a war-footing basis could neither be improved and strengthened further to cater to the increase in traffic, nor there had been any appreciable addition to the target of road network. In fact, during the last three 5-year plans, the work is being continued on spill-over on-going road projects and backlog works of earlier plans.

STRATEGY OF PLAN :

Roads in this stage, in conformity with the National strategy, are classified in 4 (four) categories, namely, National Highway (NH), State Highway (SH), Major District Roads (MDR) and Rural Roads (RR) comprising other district roads and village roads.

Comparative figures of achievement of surfaced roads during the middle of the 7th 5-year Plan period, i.e., as on

31.3.87, are as follows :

Category	Target as per all India average (1960-81) Kms.	Achievement as on 31.3.87 (Kms.)	Remarks
S.H.	2121	3230	Almost all the roads are of single lane having width of 2.4 mtr. to 3.6 mtr.
M.D.R.	6850	3240	
R.R.(DDR & VR)	19832	9840	
	<u>28803 (Kms.)</u>	<u>16310 (Kms.)</u>	

Rural Roads have been given special emphasis during the 5th 5-year Plan period and now are under MIP category including Tribal Area Sub-Plan and Special Component Plan. As per recommendations of the Planning Commission, Government of India, for rural development, all villages with the population of 1500 and above and 50% of villages in plain areas and for hill areas all villages with population of 500 and above, are to be connected with all weather roads within 1990. However, assessment made at the end of 7th 5-year Plan period indicates that out of 38,074 villages in this State, 21,118 villages have been left unconnected and an additional 21,500 Kms. of roads are required to be constructed to achieve the target of rural roads. Of this, only about 3,000 Kms. of roads are under construction as ongoing project under the Rural Road Plan Programme since the 5th 5-year Plan period.

Road Administration in West Bengal is looked after by P.W. Department and P.W. (Roads) Department. Category-wise upto date road length under P.W. Department and P.W. (Roads) Department are as follows :

Department	Category of roads (in Kms.)			Total
	S.H.	M.D.R.	R.R.	
P.W.D.	2213	1998	1442	5653
P.W. (Roads)	1069	1502	8213	10784

As already stated, the existing State Highways and District Roads are of single lane having width varying from 2.4 mtrs. to 3.6 mtrs. Few Stretches of roads have been widened or provided with hard shoulder on either side of the black top through periodical maintenance and repair works. And insignificant stretches of different State Highways have been widened to 5.5 mtrs. width under upgradation Scheme of the 7th 5-year Plan period. The inadequate width and road

crust thickness force vehicles to constantly ride on the flank to give way to those coming from the opposite direction and this leads to severe damage to the earthen shoulder, as also to accidents and dislocation of traffic. The carrying capacity on a single lane road is also limited. The present day traffic in most of the stretches of State Highway and District Roads is too high to be catered on single lane roads and the average speed of the vehicle is also limited to 20 to 30 kms. per hour. Low speed and congestion of traffic increase fuel consumption as well as running cost thereon including maintenance and repairs of the vehicles. Substantial economy in fuel and reduction in maintenance cost of vehicles could be made if the riding surface of the road is kept in proper condition and the width of the road is made adequate to cater to the intensity of traffic.

PLAN PROPOSAL :

In the present plan proposal, as such, priority has been to removing the existing deficiencies in the roads to meet up the growing intensity of traffic. Selected stretches of State Highways and District Roads have been proposed to be widened to minimum of 5.5 mtrs. width (SSL) and also the crust thickness to be strengthened 1500 to 2000 commercial vehicles per day. Further, there is necessity of replacing existing weak and narrow bridges with RCC constructions to suit to the loading standard of the traffic, there is also the necessity of building bridges on important State Highways particularly to cross the river Ajoy at Natunhat (Mangalkot) in the district of Burdwan, Siltorsa on abandoned NH-31 alignment in the district of Coochbehar and Anodar at Jairambati in Bakura etc. There is also the necessity of providing Road over Bridges at Bondel Gate and Lake Gardens in Calcutta and at Liluah in Howrah. Besides these, provisions have been made also for completion of the ongoing projects, i.e., spill over works of the earlier plans particularly in the Rural Road Sector.

The proposed allocation for PW (Roads) Department stands at Rs.153.09 crores (+ 106 crores for ADB Scheme) during 8th 5-year Plan period. It has been contemplated to take up the widening, strengthening of the existing State Roads, to complete the spill over ongoing schemes and to bridge some of the critical gaps on the existing road network with the funds to be made available during this plan period.

Amongst the major important bridges a bridge over Thagirathi at Raghunathganj in the District of Murshidabad has been identified. It will not only connect the separated parts of a Sub-Divisional Township but also act as an alternative route to North Bengal.

WIDENING AND STRENGTHENING OF EXISTING ROADS :

Our plan fund is too inadequate to run the projects already in progress. As such, no fund can be apportioned for widening and strengthening. As such, such an important factor got neglected in the past plan periods.

Conditions of roads are getting deteriorated for lack of widening and strengthening, as, both numbers and capacity of transport vehicles have increased manifold.

Some important roads in the districts have been selected for widening and strengthening in the Annual Plan 1992-93. The fund earmarked for this purpose is Rs.20.00 crores and it has been suggested that some of the important roads are to be taken up for widening and strengthening in stretches under this scheme. It includes among other STKK Road, Chanditala-Champadang Road, Calcutta-Basanti Road, Kachuberia-Gangasagar Road, Bagnan-Amta Road and Burdwan-Mongalkot Road.

This Deptt. have so long been executing some of its schemes out of the Central Road Fund (CRF) allocation. A few years back a resolution formulating a new guideline for road development was passed by the parliament on 13.5.88. It was decided that the C.R.F. would be augmented and according to a preliminary assessment, a sum of Rs.150000 lakhs was likely to accrue annually to the State of West Bengal (vide MOST's letter no.NH-28012/3/88-Policy(OR) dt.3.1.89). The amount as assessed in the preliminary study may go up to a considerable extent as the price as well as consumption of petrol has been enhanced substantially. This deptt. have sent to the MOST proposal for 33 schemes costing Rs.1,03,57.18 lakhs for taking up under C.R.F. allocation. Unfortunately no fund, not even the normal allocation, has been released since 1988-89.

There are a good number of State Highways viz., Siliguri-Jalpaiguri Road-Ranigunge-Midnapore Road, Nandakumar-Digha Road etc. which are almost used as N.Hs demand maintenance alike NHs. Owing to paucity of fund proper attention could not be given to them. It is suggested that alongwith proper up-gradation of those roads, construction of some bridges are to be taken up with the loan assistance from the Financial

Institutions. During 8th Plan period, an amount to the tune of Rs.5395.18 lakhs will be required in this account, of which Rs.10.00 crores is needed in 1992-93.

The loan agreement for the scheme for improvement of Panagar to Moregram Road under the loan assistance of the Asian Development Bank at an estimating cost of Rs.106.00 crores has already been signed between the Bank Authority and the Govt. of India. The yearwise fundings for the scheme are indicated below.

Fin. Year	Special allotment to be made (Rs. in crore)
1990-91	2.00
1991-92	12.00
1992-93	20.00
1993-94	25.00
1994-95	25.00
1995-96	22.00
Total	Rs.106.00 crores

So, a special allotment for Rs.20.00 crores is to be made for A.D.B. project during 1992-93.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPTT. (P.W.D.)

Demand of accommodation in the State Guest House at Kyd Street has been increased considerably. Hence, it has been proposed to arrange for its extension and outlay for the purpose for 1992-93 has been suggested at Rs.28.00 lakhs. For office accommodation a total sum of Rs.102.00 lakhs has been proposed on realistic basis.

For widening and strengthening of Roads as per present norms a sum of Rs.15.00 lakhs per Kilometer is required. The outlay for Road sector has been suggested accordingly.

2, Programme of the Urban Development DepartmentHOOGLY RIVER BRIDGE COMMISSIONER.
SECOND HOOGLY RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT

The Government of India agreed to provide Rs.150 crore as non-plan loan assistance for the Second Hooghly River Bridge Project in 1983 on the assumption that the project would be completed by December, 1987. In May, 1987 the cost estimate of the project amount rose to Rs.250.36 crore assuming the date of completion to be August, 1991. The Government of India agreed to bear an amount of Rs.230 crore of the estimate as loan assistance and the balance amount of Rs.20 crore was borne by the State Government on the principle that the cost overrun of Rs.100 crore would be borne by the Government of India and the State Government in 80:20 basis. Apart from this amount, the Agency charges, rehabilitation costs and organisational expenses of H.R.B.C. amounting to Rs.27.9 crore was agreed to be borne by the State Government. The Project has been subjected to delay due to various reasons and the Bridge could not be completed by August, 1991. The revised estimate prepared in January, 1991 fix the cost at Rs.414.95 crore for the Project and includes Rs.36.37 crore for additional roads requested for diversification of traffic. Approval of the Government of India to the revised cost estimate has been sought for in M.D's letter No. 573-MD/P-10/87 dt.18.2.91.

The expenditure for the construction of the Bridge and interchanges and bridge viaduct for 1990-91 was Rs.2750 lakhs as against the budget provision of Rs.2740 lakhs. Out of this, the State Government's share of the cost overrun was Rs.55 lakhs. The expenditure on account of Agency Charges etc. for 1990-91 was Rs.150 lakhs as against the budget provision of Rs.250 lakhs. The budget provision for 1991-92 on account of Agency Charges is Rs.202 lakhs on the assumption that the bridge would be completed by August, 1991. But due to time overrun there is further increase in cost. The revised estimate for 1991-92 will come to Rs.284.96 lakhs towards agency charges and Rs.1524.54 lakhs for meeting State's share of cost overrun.

The budget provision for a sum of Rs.1570.79 lakhs will have to be made for State Government's share of the cost overrun and Rs.1896.20 lakhs for Agency Charges and cost of rehabilitation etc. for the year 1992-93. The Bridge is now in the final stage of its completion and huge payments are being

demanding by different implementing agencies in view of B.I.C.P.'s recommendation of the cost escalation of Rs.5940 lakhs. The import of grouting materials and purchase of steel materials for the main Bridge Span also accounts for the phenomenal rise of the estimated expenditure for 1991-92 and 1992-93.

ROAD TRANSPORT

Programme of the Transport Department

The Annual Plan Outlay in the transport sector during 1991-92 was kept at Rs.43 crores. The total outlay in the transport sector during the 8th Five Year Plan has been suggested at Rs.295.14 crores, as per policy guidelines framed by the Planning Commission. The Annual Plan Outlay during 1992-93 has been shown at Rs.47.30 crores, which is 10% over that of 1991-92.

The highlights of the different activities, leading to important policy decisions, are indicated below :-

- (1) Privatisation of the transport sector vis-a-vis State sector :

There is a strong lobby in favour of privatisation of the entire transport sector, and allowing the private sector to operate as per market forces, with only limited restrictions. In fact, Calcutta is one of the very few metropolitan cities in the country where private operators still play a dominant role in the transport sector. The share of private operators, which was as high as 90% in the public transport sector in the State only a few years back, has now been reduced to about 75%. The State sector operates to the extent of about 25% in providing transport facilities to commuters in the State as a whole. It has been our experience in the State that the private sector cannot absorb the repeated and unforeseen increases in the cost of different inputs required for transport operation, such as fuel, spare parts, replacement of vehicles, etc. As a result, the private sector operators are gradually withdrawing buses. The State Government has to achieve a balance between the capacity of commuters to pay fares and the demand of private operators for periodic rises in fares. Hence, the role of State Transport Corporation in providing transport facilities in the State assumes greater importance, since they continue to operate and fulfil the social objective of maintaining public transport services even by incurring losses.

(2) Existence of healthy competition in the transport sector :

There exists healthy competition between the different State Transport Corporations in the State. There is no restricted/reserved area of operation given to any particular S.T.C. at present. As a result, the different S.T.Cs are competing with one another to get optimum operational and revenue returns. Apart from this, there is the obvious competition between the private sector and State sector operation in transport.

(3) Remarkable improvement in the performance of various S.T.Cs :

There has been a remarkable improvement in the performance of the S.T.Cs in the State.

(a) CALCUTTA STATE TRANSPORT CORPORATION :

The main thrust of the Corporation's plan programme would be on replacement of aged vehicles from the fleet to make it more efficient. It is estimated that a total no. of 652 vehicles would require replacement at the end of the eighth five year plan. With the investment proposed it may be possible to replace these buses at a total cost of Rs.32.60 crores and to augment the fleet by 332 vehicles.

During the plan period CSTC will also undertake various Civil Construction works including the Territibazar Complex and Telinipara Depot.

(b) NORTH BENGAL STATE TRANSPORT CORPORATION :

During the Eighth Five Year Plan period, stress would be given on consolidation of the gains already made. Towards that goal the Corporation will be required to incur substantial expenditure on account of (a) purchase of Plant & Machinery for Central Workshop, construction of Central Bus Terminal at Cooch Behar and construction of Central Workshop at Cooch Behar. The Corporation also proposes to acquire 700 bus chassis during the period for augmentation of fleet. About 315 buses will be replaced during the period. It is also proposed to set up modern depots with maximum facilities for the travelling public.

(c) SOUTH BENGAL STATE TRANSPORT CORPORATION :

With the avowed objective of providing adequate and economic transport specially in the hitherto undeveloped and remote areas of the State considerable expansion in the operation of SBSTC has been contemplated during the eighth

five year plan. The Corporation at present, besides providing services in the Industrial Complex of Durgapur and thirteen districts of West Bengal also operates inter state routes connecting Durgapur with Jamshedpur and Dumka in Bihar. The Corporation at present operates its services from different points viz. Durgapur city, Durgapur Depot-cum-Maintenance garage, Purulia, Bankura and Digha, Howrah, Haldia, Midnapur, Belgharia and Habra. Projects have already been undertaken to complete construction of modern Depots with passenger facilities at Burdwan, Digha, Bankura, Purulia, Midnapore, Howrah, Barasat, Arambagh, Belgharia and Asansol at an estimated cost of Rs.1419.25 lacs. New Depots at Burnpur and Asansol (West End Salt Lake, Dihibhursoot, Amta Bolpur, Barrackpore Titagarh and Haldia are proposed to be taken up under the 8th Plan.

The Corporation also plans to acquire 1480 new buses during the plan period for augmenting its fleet.

With the expansion of its services it will be necessary to develop Central workshop and other facilities. Adequate fund will also be provided for plant, Machinery and Tools and equipments to facilitate maintenance and repairing.

Purchase of DCM Toyota Midi Buses by SBSTC

The SBSTC broke a new path by entering into an agreement with DCM-Toyota for purchase of 150 midi buses. The Planning Commission described the agreement struck by SBSTC as a novel idea and a meeting of the Public and Private Sectors. The State Transport Corporators of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya and Andhra Pradesh subsequently contacted SBSTC for information regarding the scheme.

The salient features of the scheme are that no security or Govt. guarantee had to be provided by SBSTC. 20% down payment was made by SBSTC and the buses procured on hire purchase basis. No collateral had to be provided. The rate of interest charged was 13.5% on a reducing balance basis. The overall interest rate was therefore less than that charged by IDBI. The repayment terms were Rs.484 per bus per day for a period of 18 months.

SBSTC have been repaying their dues against the loan.

d) Setting up of new State Transport Corporation.

It is felt that the existing 3 STCs will not be able to run passenger transport services through the length and breadth of the State even with augmentation of their fleet strength up to reasonable limit. This, in fact, will be a very difficult task for them organisationally to operate in a vast geographical area. As a result, it was conceptualised that 3 new State Transport Corporations be constituted under the R.T.C. Act 1951 as shown below :

i) A new State Transport Corporation to be constituted for Midnapore district.

ii) A new State Transport Corporation to be constituted for Howrah and Hooghly districts.

iii) A new State Transport Corporation to be constituted for Murshidabad and Nadia districts.

It is proposed that the entire scheme for setting up of the three new Road Transport Corporations should be financed from the Annual Plan budget outlay of the department during the 8th Five Year Plan. The initial capital investment to be incurred by each of these new Corporations for a fleet strength of 50 new buses has been worked out as below :-

a) Cost of procuring 50 new single deck buses.	Rs.2.50 crores.
b) Creating necessary infra-structural facilities etc. depot, terminus, office.	Rs.2.00 crores.
	<u>Rs.4.50 crores.</u>

It is expected that the revenue expenditure of these new State Transport Corporations would be met from their daily traffic earnings. Out of the proposed capital outlay of Rs.4.50 crores for each of these corporations, the State Govt.'s share will be Rs.3.00 crores taking into account Central Govt.'s participation @ 2 : 1.

4. Role of Financial Institutions :

During the last few years, the S.T.Cs in the State are depending heavily on various financial institutions like IDBI, LIC, the State Cooperative Bank etc., for capital loans for procurement of buses and creation of other infrastructural facilities. This has introduced better financial discipline amongst the S.T.Cs., in making timely repayment of loans. An unique experiment in mobilising private capital in the nationalised sector has also been undertaken in the SBSTC which has resulted in effect, in better social control and deployment of

5. Multiple Options in Fare Structure :

The State Government has prescribed different fare structures for different categories of users according to their income levels, and has given them a choice between different kinds of services priced according to their paying capacity. There are ordinary buses, limited stop buses, express buses, special buses, de luxe midi buses and super-de luxe air-conditioned buses in the State sector. Private operators, too, have been allowed to operate express buses, de luxe buses, ordinary buses and mini buses. The fare structure of these buses varies from a minimum of 0.70 paise to a minimum of Rs.2/- per passenger for the first stage. This has provided considerable flexibility to the commuters in choosing between the different options. Since alternative modes are provided, this has reduced the pressure on a particular category of public transport.

6. Development of water transport facilities :

The State Government had set up the BIWTC in 1989 for the first time to ensure speedy development of transport facilities in the riverine areas of the State. The Corporation has started functioning in a significant manner and is covering far flung interior areas in the riverine part of South Bengal. In the Calcutta system, the Corporation is providing riverine transport facilities/ferry services between the twin cities of Howrah and Calcutta, and has thereby eased the pressure to some extent on other surface transport modes.

While formulating detailed schemes for the 8th Five Year Plan, the basic objective of providing maximum benefit to the rural people and generation of maximum employment potential has been kept in view. The Schemes proposed to be implemented during the 8th Five Year Plan are as follows :

- 1) Augmentation and improvement of the existing ferry service across and along the river Hooghly.
- 2) Construction of Jetties with terminal facilities.
- 3) Acquisition of passenger ferry vessels.
- 4) Providing Cargo-cum-Passenger ferry service between Shalimar Yard and Posta.
- 5) Construction of jetties and providing ferry service in Sundarban Area.
- 6) Setting up Dockyard with workshop facilities for vessel repair and Construction.
- 7) Connecting Ferry service with Surface Transport specially in the remote and hither to unconnected areas.
- 8) Dredging and desilting operation and other river safety measures.
- 9) Feasibility studies.

7. Computerisation :

The State Government has taken a bold step in introducing computers to increase the operational efficiency in different areas. For the first time in the country, an on-line computer system was introduced in the Motor Vehicles office for collection of taxes/issue of registration certificates/issue of driving licences etc. in July, 1990. This is being extended to all district offices in phases.

The S.T.Cs are also introducing computers in different areas like materials management, reservation of seats/issue of tickets, personnel management, vehicles management etc.

8. Overseas Assistance :

The State Government had submitted a project proposal titled "Transport Infrastructure Development Project, Calcutta" before the Japanese Government in 1989. The project proposal envisages construction of 14 flyovers, 11 pedestrian walkovers, and 2 multi-storied/underground car parking plazas.

PUBLIC VEHICLES DEPARTMENT

Public vehicles Department is mainly responsible for the transport administration through M.V. Act, Tax Act and Rules made thereunder. This department also administers the drivers and looks after safety aspects of the vehicles and their safe operation. It is also the main agency for revenue collection from M.V. Tax in Calcutta. With the phenomenal increase in the Motor Vehicles population of the State, the existing location of the P.V.D. office in South Calcutta has proved completely inadequate to deal with its multifarious responsibilities. It has also not been possible to maintain data scientifically, which is of prime importance both in the matter of vehicle administration and revenue collection.

With this end in view it has been proposed to construct a new PVD building at Salt Lake. According to the estimates proposed by M/s. Mackintosh Burr Ltd., a Govt. undertaking, the first phase of the construction which aims at shifting of the functions of the PVD office to the new premises will cost about 340 lacs. It may be necessary to allocate additional funds under this head depending on the approval of the project.

There are also proposals for executing within the 8th Five Year Plan schemes such as modernisation and reorganisation of the work regarding vehicle registration, taxation and licensing system.

contd....

Creation of Transport Directorate and Additional Border Checkpost :

At present there is no Enforcement Directorate under the Transport Department. There are district level R.T.O. Offices in the Districts and the office of the Public Vehicles Directorate at Calcutta. The Enforcement activities under the provisions of M.V. Act and Rules are carried out by the R.T.Os in the districts and the P.V.D. in Calcutta. In the absence of a Transport Directorate it is not possible to effectively supervise the functioning of different enforcement machineries at district level and in Calcutta.

Similarly, there is only one Border Checkpost in the entire State which is situated at Banitabla under P.S. Uluberia District Howrah. No Border Checkpost could be set up so far at different important entry points like Asansol, Bagdogra, Cooch Behar etc. and as a result, it is apprehended that large number of vehicles are avoiding payment of M.V. Tax.

A proposal for creation of two Border Checkposts and a Transport Directorate along with two regional offices and also for strengthening the enforcement machinery has been contemplated.

Road Safety Programme :

Approved outlay during 1991-92 Rs.27 lakhs and total outlay suggested for the Eighth Five Year Plan Rs.185 lakhs.

With the increase in traffic volume, both vehicular and pedestrian, the need for road safety has assumed a significant importance. If the current state of affairs continues, road accidents are likely to increase at a faster rate with the increase in traffic volume. It, therefore, becomes essential to launch Road Safety Programmes vigorously in a systematic manner.

Computerisation of Motor Vehicles Data :

An attempt for the first time was taken in this State to computerise motor vehicles data and to set up on-line computer system for collection of motor vehicles tax in 1989-90. Computers were installed in the office of P.V.D., Calcutta, and motor vehicles tax in respect of about 30,000 tracks are being collected through on-line computer system in the office of P.V.D., Calcutta from July, 1990. The department incurred an expenditure of about Rs.20 lakhs in installing on-line computer system. It is expected that the on-line system will be extended to different categories of vehicles by the end of this financial year (1991-92).

If the on-line computer system is introduced, this will help greatly in close monitoring of tax collection and to identify the defaulting vehicle owners and to force them to pay the M.V. Tax regularly. In addition, a number of other important

work can be done through computers in an effective manner like issue of permits, collection of permit fees in respect of Inter-State permit holders, issue of driving licences etc. During the 8th Five Year Plan, efforts will be made to set up on-line computer system in seven R.T.O. Offices.

The motor vehicles data in all remaining districts are also being computerised and complete data base in respect of all motor vehicles in the entire state is being prepared in Off-line operation.

It is expected that by the end of the 8th Five Year Plan period it will be possible to have a complete computerised motor vehicles data base in respect of categories of vehicles in the State and also to run on-line computer system in important district headquarter as well as in Calcutta.

Reorganisation and Strengthening of Pool Car Infrastructure :

The Pool Car under the Transport Department is responsible for the maintenance of the following vehicles and Deployment of drivers thereon.

1. Ambassador Car.	.. 150 (Approximate).
2. Fiat Car.	.. 2 ("")
3. Other vehicles.	.. 5 ("")

No capital investments could be made during the last few years towards purchase of Plant & Machineries, erection of new shed etc. in the Pool Car Office. As a result, the maintenance work has suffered considerably. It has been proposed to allocate a total amount of Rupees 34 lakhs during the 8th Five Year Plan period towards purchase of plant & Machinery, Erection of sheds, Ramps, purchase of recker etc. in the Pool Car Office. The investment proposed during 1991-92 under this head is Rupees 5 lakhs.

Setting up of Transfer and Transit Depots in Calcutta, and District Headquarters :

Transport Department has been responsible for setting up of transfer and transit depots in different district of the State. With a view to allow passenger amenities in rural area, the department attaches special importance to these schemes, which are mainly implemented through Zilla Parishads/Municipalities etc.

Construction of Bus stands at Coochbehar, Gangarampur, Jhargram Bolpur (Phase-III), Malda, Nabadwip (Extension scheme) is progressing satisfactorily.

Expansion and Strengthening of the Transportation Planning and Traffic Engineering Directorate :

The Improvement and management of transportation services and facilities and their inter model and inter systems co-ordination require continuous professional input in terms of planning services. The Planning Services include regular monitoring of the system/sub-system performances, changing patterns of traffic demand and supply both locationwise and time wise, regular policy analysis and preparation of a large number of plans, physical/operational management and policy related. Transportation Planning and Traffic Engineering Directorate under the Transport Department was established during the Seventh Five Year Plan to provide these services to the Transport Department and to the Govt. of West Bengal. But during the Seventh Five Year Plan this Directorate could not be adequately expanded and strengthened due to various reasons. Steps have generally been taken for such expansion and strengthening, now because it is very difficult to sustain the current level of development and management works of the Transport Department without expansion and strengthening of this Directorate.

The Calcutta Tramways Co. (1978) Ltd.

The following will be the major items of expenditure which are proposed to be taken up under Plan outlay during the 8th Five Year Plan period :

a) Acquisition of Rolling Stock.

The present fleet strength of CTC after taking into account the new purchase of 45 tram cars is 394 as on 1st September, 1991. The total outlay on normal renovation work during the 8th Five Year Plan period would be Rs.10.00 crores.

b) Maintenance of track :

The total cost of such track renewal/replacement will be around Rs.10.00 crores at the current prices.

c) Introduction of Pantograph/G.T.O. Chopper system :

The proposal for replacement of the existing current collection system by way of introducing pantograph is under active consideration. This will be the first step towards up-gradation of technology. It is proposed to spend a sum of Rs.5.00 crores on this head during the 8th Five Year Plan period.

d) Civil Construction :

It is proposed to earmark at least Rs.5.00 crores under this head.

e) Purchase of Rolled Steel Tyres, Compressor Motor and other important Components of tram cars, plants and equipments for Workshop, replacement of Overhead and cable equipments.

Traffic Operation Improvement Programme :

In the context ever increasing traffic both vehicular and pedestrian, it is imperative that the existing transport infrastructure should be utilised to the full with this budget in view of the Transportation Operation Improvement Programme was adopted during the 7th Five Year Plan in Calcutta.

Rs.1994.5 lakhs proposed during the 8th Five Year Plan will be utilised for physical improvement where necessary and feasible additional and alteration of physical facilities, improvement of installation of traffic management system on the existing transport infrastructure.

Flyovers Improvement Schemes and Second Hooghly Bridge :

State Government is considering the issue of traffic circulation planning for the approaches and inter-changes on both sides of the Second River Hooghly Bridge and to prepare a comprehensive plan for traffic circulation in the area. It is expected that the Second Hooghly River Bridge will be commissioned by March,1992. The total expenditure required for execution of different traffic circulation schemes connected with the Second Hooghly River Bridge has been calculated to be around Rs.113.21 crores by the said committee.

VIII. C O M M U N I C A T I O N

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IX. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

OTHER SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH :

1. Programme of the Science & Technology Department,

1. Science and Technology Department came into existence in 1988 along with the State Council of Science and Technology which performs the role of the apex advisory body in determining policies of the Science and Technology Department.
2. Keeping in view the socio-economic objectives of the State of West Bengal both continuing the programmes of the erstwhile W.S. & T. Committee and functioning denove on newer and newer fronts, this department has taken programmes which may cumulatively be discussed in a few broad categories:
 - a) Science and Technology Promotion :- This department has so far financed need-based applied research and development projects in universities, research laboratories and other institutions of State. For some of the projects, successful attempt have been made to transfer the results of research from laboratory to the fields of applications while, for the rest, results are awaited.
 - b) Science Popularisation :- With a view to transmitting scientific mind of thought and rational logical system in contrast to age-old superstitions and related indices of backwardness amongst the people, this department has taken up programmes both on large and small scales throughout the State. Observance of National Science Day, 1991 was taken up by way of extending financial assistance to a large number of voluntary organisations. The department has also helped activities of science clubs, organisations of workshops, production and exhibition of films etc. A new scheme entitled "School Level Science Survey and Research Project" has also been successfully launched.
 - c) Entrepreneurship Development :- The department has also helped a number of organisations in conducting EDP, EAC etc. in financial collaboration with the Govt. of India. Moreover, assistance has also been extended in establishing a Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park (STEP) at I.I.T., Kharagpur.
 - d) Science and Society Related Programme :- In this area the department has taken up field level projects to demonstrate technologies that may help the economy and people of rural West Bengal. This includes low cost housing, promotion of appropriate rural technology, setting up of rural technology centre for demonstration of technology and training of rural artisans etc.
 - e) Remote Sensing :- The department has set up with effect from 10.12.90 a Remote Sensing Centre. This will help in land use mapping and, in general, in the management of natural resources for the purpose of planning and development in West Bengal.

- f) Non-Conventional Sources of Energy :- It has come to this Department only in July, 1990 and shown under ENERGY SECTOR.

FINANCIAL OUTLAY

1. The approved outlay corresponding to 1990-91 and 1991-92 annual plan of this department were Rs.1.68 crore and Rs.2.2275 crore, respectively. Suggested outlay for annual plan 1992-93 is Rs.3.30 crore. This includes estimates for Non-Conventional Sources of Energy (Rs.2.45 crores for S & T and Rs.0.85 crore for NSE)
2. In fixing plan outlay for this department it may kindly be noted that 8th five year plan for this department is not naturally a continuation of the 7th plan because the full-fledged department has come into existence in very recent past and it is augmenting regularly and by leaps and bounds its infrastructural strength, as well as, functional area. Hence, the percentage increase in the 7th plan outlay (for S&T sector) should not at all be a criterion in assessing the outlay to be fixed for the 8th plan period.
3. The proposed outlay the 8th five year plan (1992-97) proposal of this department is Rs.22.85 crores (including those for Non-Conventional Sources of Energy).

PROGRAMMES PROPOSED FOR 1992-93 - ANNUAL PLAN

This is covered under a number of categories and sub-categories adumbrated below :-

1. Science Promotion - Proposed outlay are Rs.40 lakhs and Rs.225 lakhs respectively for annual plan 1992-93 and the 8th plan 1992-97.
 - a) Research and Development :- This is a continuing scheme to support need-based applied research to be implemented mainly by Universities, Research Laboratories and Colleges of the State.
 - b) Seminar/Workshop/Symposium :- Objectives is to organise Seminars/Workshop etc. preferably on pin-pointed local or regional problems related to Science and Technology.
 - c) College Science Project :- Objective is to encourage college teacher students to hold small projects related to scientific problems of the society.
2. Science popularisation -
 - a) Field Projects :- This covers field level science communication programmes generally implemented through Science Clubs and other voluntary organisations. In detail, it includes Science Exhibition, Science Lecture Science Film/Slide Shows, Science Drama, Science Quiz, Creative Writing in Science which will be taken up throughout the year in addition to observance of National Science Day. A sum of Rs.16.5 lakhs and Rs.108.5 lakhs are being proposed under this sub-category, in 1992-93 annual plan and eighth plan respectively.

- b) District Science Centre :- During the 8th plan period, the department has proposed to extend partial financial assistance for setting up 4 District Science Centres in Districts. An outlay of Rs.20.00 lakhs is proposed for this purpose in 1992-93 annual plan. This would be implemented in collaboration with National Council of Science Museums. Outlay for eighth plan proposed is Rs.95 lakhs.
- c) Mobile Planetoria :- This has been devised by the National Council of Science Museums. The department aims at providing 17 Mobile planetoria one in each district of West Bengal in 8th plan period. An outlay of Rs.5.0 lakhs and Rs. 16 lakhs are proposed for this purpose in 1992-93 plan and eighth plan respectively.
- d) Training on low cost toys/kits :- This will be implemented through Science Clubs. An outlay of Rs.1.00 lakh and Rs. 14 lakhs are proposed for this purpose, in 1992-93 plan and eighth plan respectively.
- e) Preparation of Film :- The department aims at producing 7 films on science in the 8th five year plan. Work of preparing a film on "Superstition and its explanation" has already been taken up. An outlay of Rs.5.0 lakhs and Rs.35.0 lakhs are being proposed for 1992-93 annual plan and 8th plan respectively.
3. Entrepreneurship Development - Rs.5 lakhs and Rs.35.00 lakhs for 1992-93 annual plan and eighth plan respectively are proposed in different institutions.
- a) Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps :
- a n d
- b) Entrepreneurship Development Programme :
4. Science and Technology Programme for Socio-Economic Development -
- a) Housing :- With variations according to climatic conditions, one low cost house with a plinth area of 350 sq.ft. along with a kitchen and a low cost latrine would cost Rs.10,000/- at present. The department generally bears 50% of this cost, the remaining 50% being borne by beneficiaries/implementing organisations. An outlay of Rs.10 lakhs and Rs.100 lakhs are proposed for this purpose in this annual plan and eighth plan respectively.
- b) Pilot plan for Paper Pulp and Fibre from Sisal and pineapple Leaves and Water Hyacinth :-
- There are proposals for setting up such pilot plants in districts of West Bengal in 8th plan period. An amount of Rs.5.00 lakhs and Rs.20 lakhs are proposed for this in 1992-93 annual plan and eighth plan respectively.

c) Rural Technology Demonstration Centre :- The department has already taken up the task of setting such a centre in Birbhum District. In 8th plan period, 6 more such centres are proposed to be set up in West Bengal. With the objective of setting up one centre in 1992-93 an outlay of Rs.5.00 lakhs is proposed. Rs.61 lakhs are proposed for the eighth plan.

5. Science and Technology inputs for Waste Management programme - This is proposed for the city of Calcutta in 8th plan period. The department proposes to give partial financial support to three units which may be set up to process garbage into fuel pellets. An outlay of Rs.10.00 lakhs has been proposed for this annual plan and Rs.60 lakhs for the eighth plan.
6. State Remote Sensing Centre - Proposed outlay for 1991-92 is Rs.15 lakhs. For the eighth plan the proposal is for Rs.86 lakhs.

OTHER PROGRAMMES :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Proposed outlay for 1992-93 (Rs. in lakh)</u>	<u>Eighth plan (Rs.in lakh)</u>
7. Provision for 35 point action plan/ technology mission programme	3.00	19.00
8. S & T Manpower and other infrastructure study	15.00	100.00
9. Special S & T programme for Darjeeling Dist.	3.00	38.00
10. S & T for Women	2.00	15.00
11. S & T for Scheduled Castes & Tribes	4.00	30.00
12. Natural Resource Management	15.00	91.50
13. Institute of Wetland Management and Ecological Designs (IWEMED) Programme	7.00	63.00
14. Disaster Management programme	10.00	62.00
15. S & T in Water Resources	8.50	61.00
16. Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha '92	10.00	-
17. District S & T Programme	5.00	50.00

Some details are -

35 point Action plan :- Attempts will be made to initiate and implement specific time bound action plans for poverty alleviation, water management and land use for the benefits of the rural people.

S&T manpower and other infrastructure studies :- A complete S&T manpower infrastructure system would be developed with the help of NIC and the amount is for both hardware and software requirement.

Institute of Wetland Management & Ecological Design (IWMED) is an Institute which has come under the administrative control of this Department in Sept., 1991 after its transfer from the Fisheries Department. It will be fruitfully utilised for wetland projects. It has got a fairly good laboratory at Bantala.

Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha :- It has been incorporated at the request of Director, National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC) Department of Science and Technology, Government of India in his letter No. Co/FP/G12/91 dt.15.10.91.

Natural Resource Management :- Two schemes one relating to Teesta Basin and the other for Damodar Valley are being examined and submitted to the Government of India.

Disaster Management Programme :- 5 Centres are being proposed to be set up in coastal areas of West Bengal. There will be flood prone and cyclone prone building with disaster warning systems.

Science and Technology in Water Resources :- Programme for rain water harvesting in high lands with necessary training to masses, studies for water evaporation control, introduction of water economy taps, assessment of water quality and water treatment - these are proposed to be taken up.

District Science and Technology Programmes :- So far this Department had no unit or branch in the district, shortly towards the end of the present year (1991-92) or the beginning of the year 1992-93, this Department will have one Science and Technology Committee in each of the 5 districts and by the end of the eighth plan, each district will have one Science and Technology Committee. Each Science and Technology Committee will have one District Scientific Advisor who will make and co-ordinate scientific programmes with approval of Science and Technology Committee and District Planning Committee.

18. Direction and Administration :- Although creation of new posts is not proposed here, but emphasis is given on filling up of the existing vacant posts of scientific and technical officers which are essential for carrying out various important programmes of this department like Remote Sensing, Non-Conventional Sources of Energy etc. It is estimated that an amount of Rs.25.00 lakhs will be required during the Annual plan period 1992-93 and Rs. 230 lakhs for the entire eighth plan.

2. Programme of the Dev. & Plang. Department.(a) National Informatic Centre Net Work (NICNET)

Under the joint venture of National Informatic Centre, Government of India and state Government (Development & Planning Department) NICNET Programme is under implementation in this State in order to create a computer information system in Calcutta and Districts. A memo has been signed between State Government and Government of India to implement the programme. A committee known as National Informatic Centre, State Co-ordination Committee, NSCC has also been formed for recommending measures for implementing the programme. Guidelines in this regard have also been circulated to districts, Computer Centres have also been set up in different districts in order to carry out this programme in Calcutta and Districts and allocation of 1.05 lakhs have been earmarked in 1991-92. Provision for Rs.1.11 lakhs has been proposed for 1992-93. Accordingly, 8th plan outlay for this programme has been proposed at Rs.6.50 lakhs.

(b) Ocean Development.

A Committee on setting up of the Centre for management of Estuarine coastal zone of West Bengal was formed. The Committee furnished detailed project proposals and the same were sent to the Government of India, Deptt. of Ocean Development. After review in the matter, Government of India asked for more specific proposals in specific areas. Specific proposals were already forwarded to the Government of India, decision on which is still awaited. Government of India do not, however, favour creation of any centre for management estuarine zone in West Bengal. Meanwhile, Department of Ocean Development, Government of India have constituted a Steering Committee with Chairman, Calcutta Port Trust as Chairperson and representatives of different Govt. Departments and Institutes concerned with Ocean Development. Department of Ocean Development, Govt. of India are also considering proposal for setting up a complete oceanography. Laboratory in Jadavpur University under the aegis of school of Oceanographic. Several meetings of the Steering Committee has taken place and a good number of project proposals are under consideration of the Committee.

In view of the above position, a provision of Rs.2.00 lakhs has been made in the Annual Plan for 1991-92 and an amount of Rs.2.30 lakhs has been proposed for the Annual Plan for 1992-93. 8th plan outlay has been provisionally fixed at Rs.14.32 lakhs.

(c) Natural Resource Data Based Management System (NRDMS).

NRDMS is a computer based decision support system capable of storing and analysing special data on natural resources in conjunction with other relevant collateral data for Planning and management of natural resources at the micro level. The methodology has been developed by the department of Science & Technology, Government of India.

Bankura Christian College has been made the Centre for NRDMs studies. The project is being financed by equally by the National Technological Mission on Drinking Water (Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India) and Deptt. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India. Govt. of India in the Science & Technology Deptt. will provide two scientists and computer operators for three years. The State Government would thereafter take over the project. In such time State Government would have to bear watch & ward expenditure. The District level NRDMs co-ordination committee has also been set up with the Sabhadhivati, Bankura Zilla Parishad as its Chairman to monitor the implementation of the Project.

The NRDMs Project has made steady progress since the installation of a Computer in September last year. Given the potential and utility of the existing data base Centre it may be upgraded and developed as a Regional Centre covering West Midnapore, Purulia and Bankura. Since the topological features and socio-economic condition of these contiguous areas are more or less similar. In fact, these three districts may be called linked districts for they form a link between West Bengal, on the one hand, Bihar and Orissa on the other. Bankura, Purulia and part of Western portion of Midnapore districts are rocky and undulating. Geohydrologically a major area of these three districts belong to the hard rock terrain. These three districts also share a common heritage with respect to various social, cultural and economic aspects of life. Special mention of the fact that due to continuous and long drought prevailing for years in the two districts of Bankura and Purulia the eco-system of both these districts and the adjoining West-Midnapore had undergone drastic change with denudation of hill ranges, heavy soil erosion, water level receding down, large areas of land remaining fallow for years and acute shortages of drinking water and fodder for animals. Considering all these common features, it can be safely predicted that upgradation of the Centre will increase its effectiveness. Benefits may then be reaped in terms of maximising returns from the investment already made.

Keeping above consideration in view, the NRDMs Implementation Committee at Bankura in its meeting on 26.4.91 decided for upgradation of the existing Centre into a regional one.

Considering the fact that project will have to be taken over by the State Government in 1993-94 and proposal for upgradation of the Centre into a regional one is under active consideration of the Govt. Plan outlay during the 8th plan period has been stepped up considerably. Thus, against a plan allocation of only Rs.20 thousand during the current year, provision has been made to an allotment of Rs.50 thousand in 1992-93. For the entire 8th Five-year plan provision has been made for an allocation of Rs.9.84 lakhs.

ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTProgramme of Environment Department.

The Department of Environment is responsible for direction and co-ordination of measures for abating environmental pollution, environmental protection and for promoting development consistent with environmental preservation. This Department has under its control the following organisations

1. Zoological Garden, Alipore, Calcutta.
2. Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling.
3. Lloyd Botanic Garden, Darjeeling.
4. West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Calcutta.

The proposals include improvement and development in these organisations.

This Department also acts as NODAL Department in respect of Ganga Action Plan which is being executed by the C.M.D.A., P.H.E. Department, Irrigation & Waterways Department, Calcutta Municipal Corporation, Howrah Municipal Corporation and some other Municipalities.

A short note in the activities of this Department is given below :-

I. ZOOLOGICAL PARKS(a) Alipore Zoo

It is proposed to make a provision of Rs.85.67 lakhs for the 8th five-Year Plan period and of Rs.13.75 lakhs for the Annual plan 1992-93 for development of the Zoological Garden, Alipore in various fields to attract visitors.

(b) Extension of the Zoo Garden

The Alipore Zoo is now located in a very over-crowded area of the City. The Garden has no scope for its expansion. The animals of the Zoo are much strained by the din and bustle of the city. It was, therefore, felt necessary to establish another zoo in any place near about Calcutta. A site at Sonarpur in 24-Parganas (South) has been tentatively selected after a joint inspection by Chief Secretary, District Magistrate, 24-Parganas (South) and Director, Alipore Zoo. The cost of the proposed Zoo has been estimated at Rs.20 crores. A sum of Rs.100 lakhs has been proposed for provision for the 8th Five-Year plan (1992-97) and a sum of Rs.5 lakhs for the Annual Plan (1992-93) for meeting the preliminary expenses like land acquisition fencing and development of the site.

(c) Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling.

The Zoological Park needs improvement and development in different areas. Since it is Centrally Sponsored Scheme fund being provided 50% by the Central Government and 50% by the State Government. It is proposed to make a provision of Rs.276.00 lakhs for the 8th five-Year Plan period out of which Rs.35.00 lakhs for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

PUBLIC GARDENSLloyd Botanic Garden, Darjeeling.

This Garden is the only high altitude facility of its kind in the country. This garden is a tourist attraction in Darjeeling and is intended to provide research and conservation facilities to students of Botany and scholars.

Provision of Rs.36 lakhs have been proposed in the 8th plan (1992-97) and Rs.7 lakhs for the Annual plan (1992-93).

II. ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH & ECOLOGICAL REGENERATIONEnvironmental Education/Training/Extension(a) Documentation

Establishment of a documentation centre was in the consideration of the Board for a long time. This documentation Centre may help a long way for imparting training of the operators of industries as well as to those of different departments and Boards. This may also help the State Govt. to build up a data base of the state of environment.

The activities of the demonstration unit will not be limited within Calcutta and should be spread throughout the State. Through vehicles and other necessary apparantances.

A Video Camera is essential for recording. It is necessary to record the status of pollution at the spot and for prepare of films regarding the control programme. The films available in cassette in different agencies may be duplicated and may be retained in videw cassette library for demonstration in fairs, exhibitions and different platforms to raise public awareness.

(b) Training

As the officials of the Board have to tackle various problems related to control and abtement of pollution for protection of environment, it is essential that they should be properly trained and have to be aware of latest technology, and use of modern pollution control equipments.

(c) Public AwarenessEnvironmental Awareness Programme

The long history of environmental degradation calls for all round efforts towards protection and improvement of environment. In the first instance it was felt necessary to arouse public interest about environmental awareness. For this purpose, grants are paid to non-Govt. institutions for organising seminars, exhibitions and other awareness programmes etc. This Deptt. in collaboration with West Bengal Pollution Control Board brings out posters, leaflets etc. on Environmental guideline is being published.

Provisions of Rs.21 lakhs for 8th Five-Year plan(1992-97) and Only Rs.4 lakhs for the Annual plan (1992-93) have been suggested in the plan proposal of this Department for the above purposes.

Conservation Programme

Common Effluent Treatment plan

There are about four hundred tanneries in Tangra, Topsia and Tiljala areas in Calcutta. These tanneries discharge their effluents into open drains causing stagnation and pollution problem. It has been felt necessary to combat this problem by establishing a Common Effluent Treatment plant. Govt. of India have a scheme for promotion of Common Effluent Treatment plants in clusters of small scale industrial units.

Central Leather Institute, Madras have been asked to prepare a project report for setting up of the Common Effluent Treatment plant as referred to above. Pending receipt of the project Report we propose to make provision of fund as follows :-

8th Plan	Rs.131 lakhs.
Annual Plan (1992-93)	Rs. 22 lakhs.

Environmental Planning and Co-ordination

(a) Management of Hazardous Chemical and Wastes

Govt. of India has formulated Rules for controlling, environmental hazards arising out of handling, storage and transportation of hazardous chemicals. It is desirable that a hazardous chemicals cell with scientific and technical staff be set up immediately to monitor both effluent and emission from such industries to regulate them, and to ensure undertaking of adequate treatment measures by the industries. So as to avoid occurrence of any hazardous event like gas leakage etc. a Technical Committee has already been set up by the Board to suggest infrastructure etc. for the purpose.

A sum of Rs.35 lakhs is suggested for allocation for the purpose for 8th Plan period out of which 5 lakhs may be provided in 1992-93.

(b) Noise Pollution Survey and Environmental Park

Noise has been recognised as an air pollutant under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (amended) and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Noise levels in urban sector has increased beyond tolerance limit. Recently State Govt. has identified certain areas in Calcutta as "Silence Zone". Regular survey is required to be conducted to monitor the sound level in different sensitive areas.

A sum of Rs.7 lakhs is proposed for allocation for the entire 8th Plan period out of which Rs.1 lakh may be provided for 1992-93.

(c) Environmental Park-cum-Ecological Museum at Mourigram, at Howrah.

The initial idea was to make feasibility study for preservation of Padmapukur Jala on grounds of ecology and its economic utilisation for pisciculture through sewage fed fisheries of using waste water of Howrah Municipal Corporation. For this purpose a provision of Rs.5 lakhs was made in the State Annual plan 1991-92. It was not found suitable and it was decided later that an Environmental Park-cum-Ecological Museum would be development on a land measuring about 77.6 acres near Mourigram Rly. Stn. in the district of Howrah.

A project report is also under preparation. pending finalisation of the project report and financing pattern, it is proposed to make a provision of Rs.60 lakhs for the 8th plan period out of which Rs.15 lakhs is proposed for the Annual plan 1992-93.

Research and Ecological Regeneration

Research and Development

The programme of Environmental Research and Studies is another major responsibility of this Department. There are serious environmental problems in different areas. For this purpose grants are given to different institutions and University professors for undertaking research and studies in various fields wherever there is technological gap and data base is not up-to-date.

Provision of Rs.33 lakhs for 8th plan (1992-97) and Rs.6 lakhs for Annual plan (1992-93) have been suggested.

International Co-operation

Under different international co-operation programme, Environmental experts from different countries often visit State Pollution Control Board at the instance of either Central Pollution Control Board or Deptt. of Environment, Govt. of India. During their visit to this state, officials of the Board are involved in their tour programme. Although the cost of their visit etc. is borne by the Central Government, a token sum of Rs.4 lakhs is proposed for allocation in the 8th Plan period out of which .50 lakh is proposed for the year 1992-93 to meet the incidental expenditure.

Prevention of Pollution of Ganga

(a) Ganga Action Plan

For execution of the schemes under phase II of Ganga Action Plan, about 35 crores will be needed. On the State Govt.'s insistence on sharing the cent percent cost by Central Govt., the latter has agreed to bear 50% cost. The State Govt. is contemplating to take up the issue again with the Central Govt. In the meantime ad-hoc provision of Rs.105 lakhs be made in the 8th plan period and of Rs.5.50 lakhs in the Annual plan 1992-93.

(b) Ganga Water Monitoring in Four Stations.

To ascertain the quality of water of river Ganga, water samples are collected from four different stations on the river Hooghly and monitored regularly. For this purpose, a sum of Rs.10 lakhs is proposed for allocation during the entire 8th plan period of which a sum of Rs.2 lakhs may be provided for 1992-93.

Prevention of Air and Water Pollution

(a) Ambient Air Quality Monitoring.

In order to study the quality of ambient air in industrial, commercial and residential areas of this state, the Board have identified 23 stations in highly industrialised areas of both sides of river Hooghly, the commercial and residential areas of Calcutta city and the coal mine areas of Durgapur-Ranigunge belt.

The State Govt. has already released Rs.17.08 lakhs during the last plan period to meet the non-recurring expenses, out of which a number of instruments have already been procured. It has now been decided that project will be executed through three recognised academic and research institutions. In order to meet the recurring expenditure for the project a sum of Rs.90 lakhs is proposed for allocation during the entire 8th plan period out of Rs.18 lakhs is proposed to be provided in 1992-93.

(b) Monitoring of Water Quality in important rivers.

The Board is at present engaged in monitoring of water quality of river Ganga only. It is necessary to start monitoring of other major rivers in the state viz. Damodar, Rupnarayan, Churni etc.; Monitoring of water quality of river Churni assumes special significance because of reported death of fish in the river due to some industrial discharge at the border of Bangladesh at Gade. A sum of Rs.7 lakhs is sought for allocation in the eighth plan out of which the proposed outlay for 1992-93 is Rs.1 lakh.

For prevention of pollution of river Damodar pending preparation of detailed Project a token provision of Rs.30 lakhs may be kept for the 8th plan period out of which Rs.5 lakhs may be for the proposed provision for 1992-93. This amount may be obtained from the Central Pollution Control Board.

(c) Strengthening of Technical and Scientific Wing and Upgrading of Laboratory

In view of increased responsibility of the Board in central and abatement of pollution, it is necessary to strengthen the Scientific, legal and technical wing of the Board, the Board laboratories at the Head Office and Regional offices are to be equipped with more instruments. Further a few more Regional Offices have to be set up in different areas for de-centralising the activities of the Board. For this, a sum of Rs.7 lakhs is proposed for allocation in the 8th plan, out of which the proposed outlay for 1992-93 will be Rs.1 lakh.

Impact Assessment

Strengthening of Environmental Impact Assessment Cell (Technical Cell).

Presently Technical Cell is composed of one each of Sr. Environment Officer, Environment Officer, U.D.Asstt., Steno-typist. The Cell could not be set up on the lines indicated by Govt. of India mainly for want of accommodation. It is proposed to enlarge the Cell with additional Technical Personnel almost to the parallel set up suggested by the Govt. of India so as to activate the Department. Proposal to make provision for Rs.34 lakhs for 8th Five Year Plan and Rs.5.50 lakhs for Annual plan 1992-93 has been suggested.

Other Expenditure

Land and Building

With a view to locating Department of Environment, as well as Board's offices and laboratory etc. in a compact area for better co-ordination it is proposed to construct a building in the Salt Lake area of Calcutta. For this, a sum of Rs.35 lakhs is suggested for allocation in the 8th Plan out of including Rs.5 lakhs for the Annual plan 1992-93.

X. GENERAL ECONOMIC SERVICESSECRETARIAT ECONOMIC SERVICESSecretariat : 1. Development & Planning Department(a) State Planning Board

The Development & Planning Department of the Government of West Bengal is the nodal Department in all matters relating to formulation and monitoring of the State's Annual and Five Year Plan including the District Plan. It maintain liaison with the Planning Commission and other Ministeries of the Government of India. For the purpose of continuous evaluation and monitoring of the State's Plan Schemes a Evaluation & Monitoring branch is also functioning in this Department. This Department is also functioning as nodal agency in respect of the Revised Twenty Point Programmes which are the integral part of Planning of the State. The Department also administers the decentralised planning system introduced in the state since beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

2. With a view to formulating a comprehensive plan for the State and for this purpose co-ordinating and helping in the formulation of individual departmental plans, both five year and annual plans, District Plans and devising means for monitoring and follow up actions a Board named as State Planning Board has been functioning under the administrative control of the Development & Planning Department. The Board also conducts studies and surveys and takes action on other relevant matters in those connections. The Board has also been entrusted with the responsibility of publishing Economic Review of the State which is presented before the West Bengal Legislative Assembly every year during its Budget Session. The Board also maintains a reference library.

3. Outlay has been proposed for both the Annual Plan 1992-93 and Five Year Plan 1992-97 under the head State Planning Organisation for meeting various expenditure relating to plan exercise of the Department.

(b) District Planning Machinery.

District Planning : Decentralised Planning System has been introduced in West Bengal since the inception of the Seventh Five Year Plan. The decentralised planning is implemented through the Planning Committees at the Block and District Level.

2. The aspect of Planning in the urban areas was no long being looked into by the District Level Planning bodies. But considering the complicity of the problems in the urban areas, a separate Sub-committee for urban planning, namely, Urban Planning Sub-Committee under District Planning Committee has been constituted.

3. On the basis of experience in The District Planning separate Planning Bodies, namely, the Calcutta Planning Committee and the Calcutta Corporation Planning & Co-ordination Council for the Calcutta Municipal Corporation have been constituted.

4. The District Planning Bodies have been given full power in the matter of formulation of Plans and Implementation and monitoring the same in the respective district.

5. A separate untied fund namely, District Plan Scheme Fund has been implemented in the State's Plan budget to meet the critical gap between the felt need of the local people and the total availability of fund from various sources Departmental and Institutional, in the respective districts.

(c) Public Enterprise Cell.

There is a standing Advisory Committee on Government Corporations as well as Standing Selection Board on Government Corporations, In order to provide certain essential infrastructural facilities to the Public Enterprise Cell of the Development & Planning Department who deals with the Secretariat matters relating to these Advisory Bodies outlay has been proposed for both the Annual Plan 1992-93 and Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97).

TOURISM

Programme of Tourism Department

A system of tourist information and assistance, tourist transport and package tours, and tourist accommodation has been built over the year but, due to extreme paucity of resources, it has not been possible to achieve any major breakthrough in the sphere of tourism. Therefore, we have been obtaining sanction of important tourism schemes from the Government of India under the Central Plan and in the State Plan providing for the construction-sites and ancillaries that, under rules for Central Tourism Projects, have to be met by the State Government. Also, within the limited funds available, we shall try to make a headway regarding certain important schemes of development of new tourist destinations. The major thrust will be in respect of development of tourist facilities in Calcutta, development of Satellite Tourist Resort around Calcutta, and, most important, tourism development of the Sunderbans.

Provision in lakhs of Rupees

	<u>Eighth Plan</u>	<u>Annual Plan 1992-93</u>
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A.1. Spill-over Liabilities for Completed Schemes as on 31.3.1990.

(i) <u>Tourist Transport Service :</u>	15.00	8.00
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1 Tourist Launch, M.V.Chitrarekha was constructed at a cost of Rs.60 lakhs. Construction was completed in January, 1990. It was commissioned in 1990-91. The provision is on account of pending arrear bills for construction.

Total :-	15.00	8.00
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A.2. Spill-over Liabilities for Schemes completed during 1990-91/likely to be completed during 1991-92

(i) <u>Tourist Resort at Gadiara :</u>	3.00	1.00
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(ii) <u>Wayside Facilities at National Highways :</u>	6.00	2.50
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The Central Sector Projects for additional tourist accommodation at Gadiara (24 beds) and a Wayside Facility at Durgapur are likely to be completed within 1991-92. The provisions are on account of water and electricity connections, furniture and furnishings, equipment, crockery, cutlery and utensils, construction of staff quarters, etc., that are the responsibilities of the State Government.

Total :-	9.00	3.50
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A.3. Critical Ongoing Schemes as on 31.3.1992.

(i) <u>Wayside Facilities at National Highway :</u>	13.00	3.00
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(ii) <u>Transit Camp near Bagdogra Airport :</u>	6.00	0.50
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The Government of India has sanctioned construction of Wayside Facilities at Mecheda and Krishnagar, and a Transit Camp for tourists, near Bagdogra Airport. The provisions shown are on account of site for the construction, water, electric and sanitary connections, approach road furniture and furnishings, equipment, crockery, cutlery and utensils, staff quarters, etc.

(iii) <u>Tourist Complexes at Bankura etc. :</u>	4.00	0.50
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(xi) <u>Tourist Accommodation in the Dooars, etc. :</u>	12.00	1.00
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The Government of India has prioritised schemes for a Tourist Lodge, Bankura, a Tourist Lodge at Chalsa under the Plan Central Sector, and sanction is likely to be received within 1991-92. The provisions are on account of the usual ancillaries to be provided by the State Government.

(iv) Development of Tourist Facilities in the Sunderbans including Tourist Complex at Piyali Closure and <u>Tourist Complex at Kaikhali :</u>	46.00	14.00
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Work orders for construction of 1 Tourist Lodge at Piyali and 1 Tourist Lodge at Kaikhali, sanctioned by the Government of India under the Plan Central Sector have been issued. Construction of 1 Tourist Launch similarly sanctioned has been nearing completion. Construction of 1 more Tourist Launch, that has been sanctioned by the Government of India, is likely to commence. The provision is on account of ancillaries that are the responsibility of the State Government, maintenance of the assets created, etc.

(v) <u>Construction of a Tourist Lodge at Digha, etc. :</u>	55.00	28.00
(ix) <u>Construction of additional Tourist Accommodation at Santiniketan :</u>	65.00	18.00

Construction of 1 Tourist Lodge at Digha and additional Tourist Accommodation at Santiniketan, sanctioned by the Government of India under the Central Plan, and being jointly financed by the State Government have been proceeding. The provision is on account of the State Government's participation in the construction and provision of the usual ancillaries.

(vi) <u>Construction of a Tourist Lodge at Sagar Island, etc. :</u>	8.00	1.00
(vii) <u>Tourist Accommodation at Gooch Behar :</u>	9.00	0.50

The provision is on account of ancillaries for the Tourist Lodge at Sagar Island; the Tourist Lodge at Cooch Behar, etc., sanctioned by the Government of India under the Plan Central Sector.

(viii) <u>Tourist Accommodation/Trekkers' Facilities in the Western Tracts of Midnapore and Bankura :</u>	10.00	1.00
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Construction of Tourist Centres at Mukutnanipur and Kankrajhore, sanctioned by the Government of India under the Central Plan has commenced. The amounts shown hereunder are on account of provision of the usual ancillaries by the State Government.

(x) <u>Tourist Cottages at Ajodhya Hills :</u>	1.00	0.50
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The Central Project is likely to be completed within the current financial year. The usual ancillaries have to be provided by the State Government. Hence the provision.

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(xii) <u>Tourist Transport, etc. including replacement of Tourist Coaches :</u>	75.00	8.00
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The provision is on account of replacement of very old and worn out tourist coaches.

(xiii) <u>Tourist Publicity :</u>	10.00	6.00
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The provision is on account of on-going schemes of Tourist Publicity.

(xiv) <u>Facilities for Adventure Tourism :</u>	3.00	1.00
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Arrangements for execution of the schemes for Kayaking and Canoeing, parasailing and tent accommodation, sanctioned by the Government of India under the Central Plan and being made. The amount shown is on account of ancillaries to be provided by the State Government.

Total :-	317.00	83.00
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B. Maximisation of Benefits of Completed Programmes/Projects (as on 31.3.1992)

(i) <u>Expansion and Improvement of Tourist Lodges :</u>	70.00	8.00
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The provision is on account of expansion and improvement of the existing Tourist Lodges.

Total :-	70.00	8.00
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C. New Schemes

(i) <u>New Wayside Facilities at National Highways :</u>	10.00	0.50
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It is proposed to build new Wayside Facilities at Sonakhali and other places. If Central assistance be available, the sites and ancillaries would be provided.

(ii) <u>Development of Tourist Facilities in and around Calcutta :</u>	50.00	3.00
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It is necessary to provide accommodation for middle-budget and low-budget tourists in Calcutta. It is also proposed to open up new satellite resorts in the periphery of Calcutta. These tourist resorts would also serve as weekend and short holiday outlets for the residents of Calcutta.

(iii) <u>Further development of Tourist Facilities in the Sunderbans :</u>	75.00	5.00
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Tourist Development of the Sunderbans, along with that of Calcutta and its Satellite Resorts, will be the major thrust of the tourism activities of the State during the 8th Plan. Only a beginning has been made. 1 Tourist Lodge at Sajnekhali and 2 Tourist Launches have been in operation, and numerous popular tours are being conducted. 2 more Tourist Launches are being built, and 1 more has been sanctioned by the Government of India.

It is proposed to begin development of new destinations in the Sunderbans and expand the water transport facilities, especially smaller crafts for negotiating the creeks in the interior of the forest.

(iv) <u>Further development of Tourist Facilities in the Dooars :</u>	31.00	4.00
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It is proposed to begin developing a new tourist resort at Teesta Barrage site at Oodlabari in the Dooars, etc.

(v) <u>Further development of Tourist Facilities in Southern West Bengal:</u>	40.46	2.00
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This is a lump provision for development of a new beach resort at Shankarpur, more tourist facilities at Maithon, etc.

(vii) <u>Further development of Tourist Transport Services :</u>	65.00	7.00
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The provision is among other things for strengthening the tourist coach fleets in Calcutta and Siliguri.

(viii) <u>Tourist Organisation, etc. :</u>	25.00	2.00
<u>Organisation of Planning & Plan Monitoring Cell :</u>	10.00	1.00

(x) <u>Training :</u>	2.50	0.40
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(xi) <u>Further promotional and publicity measures :</u>	104.00	14.50
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(xii) <u>Tourist activities of local authorities, etc. :</u>	2.50	0.50
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These programmes aim at reorganisation of the tourist information and assistance services, organisation of a Planning Cell, training of tourism personnel, new promotional campaigns, travel grants for school students etc.

(ix) <u>Grant-in-aid to Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council for implementation of Plan Schemes in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District :</u>	60.00	10.00
<u>Equity Participation in the West Bengal Tourism Development Corpn. Ltd. and Joint Sector Projects :</u>	60.00	10.00

These provisions are meant to provide funds for implementation of Plan Schemes in the Darjeeling Hill Areas, and to the public sector undertaking, WBTDG to strengthen its equity base.

(xiii) <u>Further Development of Adventure Tourism :</u>	50.00	3.00
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It is proposed to execute adventure tourism schemes like river rafting, tenting, etc. and for expansion of boating, kayaking and canoeing at new centres like Mathura Beel.

(xiv) Creation of further infras- tructure etc. :	50.00	4.00
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This provision is for creation of minor infrastructure like roads, etc., so that tourist schemes can operate.

A supplementary Note on Additional
Requirement of Funds for Building
Infrastructure

One major bottleneck in realising benefits from tourism schemes is the lack of infrastructure like roads to tourist spots, lack of jetties for water crafts, want of drinking water, etc. One typical example is provided by Piyali. Besides being a nice spot by itself, it is a convenient transit centre and embarkation point that would enable tourists to reach the Sunderbans in a much shorter time. But this benefit of a short haul to the Sunderbans cannot be realised till there is a road from Piyali to the Matla river, and a jetty on the Matla. The budgets of PWD and other Departments do not provide for roads and other infrastructure at tourists spots,. Therefore, there can be no appreciable progress in tourism, unless the essential tourism infrastructure is provided for in the Tourism Plan.

It is therefore proposed that the following additional funds be - - provided in the State Annual Plan, 1992-93, for building access roads, jetties and ramps, illumination of access roads, provision of water-supply, beautification, etc.

(In lakhs of Rupees)

(i) Piyali (especially improvement & Up-gradation of road from Dosa to Piyali, construction road from Piyali to Matla, building of jetty at Matla)	175.00
(ii) Development of access roads and other infrastructure necessary for developing Mathura Beel as a Centre for Boating, Kayaking, Canoeing.	25.00
(iii) Development of access roads and other infrastructure at the proposed Tourist Resort at Teesta Barrage site at Oodlabari, Jalpaiguri District.	75.00
(iv) Provision of water-supply and boats for communication at the tourist spots in the Sunderbans.	100.00
(v) Development of infrastructure at other tourist spots including pontoon jetty for Tourist Launch on the river bank in Calcutta.	125.00
Total :-	<u>500.00</u>

SURVEYS & STATISTICSEconomic Advice and Statistics/Computer Services

The strengthening of the District Statistical Offices of the Bureau of Applied Economics & Statistics has been accepted as a Scheme for implementation during the Plan period 1990-95 and allocation of fund to that effect has been made in the budget for 1991-92. The scheme envisages installation of a personal computer and provision for a plain paper copier in each of the 17 district Statistical offices of the Bureau. In this connection it may be stated that towards the end of the last year of the 7th Plan period (1989-90) a computer had been installed in the Bureau and it is just ready to start functioning. Naturally, the Bureau is yet to develop any expertise in making the best use of a computer installation. Besides, the District Statistical Offices (DSO) of the Bureau are also not qualitatively strong enough to utilise any personal computer fruitfully at this stage. Accordingly, the 8th Plan Scheme for strengthening of the District Statistical Offices is proposed to be modified to suit best the present necessity and future requirement.

1(a) The District Statistical Offices had some primary compilation staff, i.e. Assistant Computers without any superior compilation staff to supervise their work and assist the DSOs regarding analytical work. To strengthen the compilation and analytical wing of the District Statistical Offices, one post of Computer is, thus, proposed to be created in each district statistical office by upgrading one post of Asstt. Computer sanctioned and posted in the D.S. Office under RLS Scheme. Further strengthening by way of induction of one computation Inspector at each District Office may be considered for the next Five Year Plan.

1(b) With the constitution of the District Planning Committee in West Bengal the creation of a firm data base at the Village level has become imperative. The Planning Commission has also proposed to build up a system for preparing a data base on selected village level development indicators in each State. Moreover, to expedite the release of the District Statistical Handbooks, scrutiny and editing of the same should be done at the District Statistical Offices. It is also observed that with the existing manpower (field) of the Bureau it may be possible to augment the size of the State sample of N.S.S. so as to obtain reliable estimates at the regional level, provided the work could be entrusted to the District Statistical Officers. In view of the increase in responsibility of the District Statistical Officers, it is felt that the posts of DSO should be manned by the Officers belonging to West Bengal Statistical Service. Accordingly, it is proposed that barring the post at Jhargram, which covers only a part

of Midnapore district, the remaining 16 & posts of DSO should be upgraded and manned by Officers of WBSS. The Bureau has already 2 posts of WBSS Officers (Assistant Directors) in the districts - one at Jalpaiguri and the other at Burdwan. One of these posts of Asstt. Director may be transferred to Calcutta to assist Additional Director in controlling the activities of the district offices from Headquarter. The other post may be retained in the district as one of the 16 District Statistical Officers. Thus, 15 posts of DSOs belonging to WBJSS are required to be upgraded and converted to WBSS.

2. For the first year (1992-93) of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) the total estimated expenditure is Rs.5.8 lakhs. In 5 years of the 8th Plan (1992-97) the total estimated cost of the Scheme is of the order of Rs.18.00 lakhs approximately.

CIVIL SUPPLIES

Programme of the Food & supplies Department.

1. Modernisation of Inspection and Quality Control Directorate Laboratory and installation of two zonal laboratories at Bardhaman and Siliguri :

Food & Supplies Department has a Quality Control Laboratory under the Directorate of Inspection and Quality Control. This laboratory was set up in pre-partition days and the analysis was limited to rice and wheat only. But of late its use have been increased in manifold works covering analysis of various food articles such as wheat, edible oil, oilseed, wheat products, break, pulses etc. As such the laboratory requires up-to-date instruments as a step to its modernisation and efficient functioning. Besides, two zonal laboratories (one at Bardhaman in South Bengal and other at Siliguri in North Bengal) have been decided to be set up for analysis of food articles duly equipped with modern instruments. A sum of Rs.25 lakhs has been proposed as an outlay in the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) for purchase of equipment etc. A sum of Rs.3.00 lakhs have been earmarked for the Annual Plan 1992-93 in respect of the aforesaid scheme.

2. Implementation of Consumer Protection Act, 1986 :

For protection of interest of consumers the Government of India enacted the Consumer Protection Act in 1986 and as per provision of the Act the State Government will have to constitute State Commission at the State Level and one District Forum in each district. Necessary rules have been framed by the State Government. There will be paid members in the Commission and Forums. Appointment of staff will also be required in the Commission and Forums. The State Commission and all the District Forums have already started functioning.

The estimated recurring cost for the bodies in the entire state along with non-recurring expenditure including that for purchase of vehicle and fuel would be considerably high. An outlay of 55 lakhs has been suggested for the 8th Five Year Plan 1992-97 for setting up of the State Commission and District Forums, including a sum of Rs.9 lakhs earmarked for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

3. Huller Subsidy Scheme :

This is a centrally sponsored scheme. Under this scheme conventional type hullers will be modernised for getting more quantities of good rice and by products. 50% of the cost, upto a certain ceiling, will be given to the owners of the mills as subsidy. 50% of the subsidy will be borne by the Central Government and the balance 50% will be borne by the State Government. The State's share of subsidy is being provided by the Central Government as loan which will have to be repaid in five equal annual instalment with interests. This Department, as such, proposed an outlay of Rs.10 lakhs in the 8th Plan out of which Rs.2.00 lakhs will be provided in the Annual Plan 1992-93.

OTHER GENERAL ECONOMIC SERVICES

Programme of the Commerce & Industries Department

Regulation of Weights & Measures - Change over to the Metric System of Weights & Measures.

1.0 The Weights & Measures Organisation is entrusted with the task of consumer protection by periodical verification and stamping of weights, measures, weighing and measuring instruments. The Government of India has promulgated the Standards of Weights & Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1985, which encompasses much larger field of activities to ensure greater consumer protection.

1.1 During the Seventh Plan on different programmes of the organisation mainly related strengthening of the Directorate and purchase of standards of weights and measures, balances, etc.

1.2 During the Eighth Plan, the following programmes viz. (i) setting up of a calibration unit with workshop facilities for calibration of vehicle tanks, taxi metres, electricity meters, electronic weighing instruments, clinical thermometers; accommodation of training centres, (ii) establishment of Regional Secondary Standards Laboratories, (iii) strengthening of the organisation to cope with the additional load of work and (iv) purchase of additional equipments for enforcement work, will be continued.

1.3 An outlay of Rs.270.00 lakhs for the 8th Plan and an outlay of Rs.44 lakhs for the Annual Plan 1992-93 have been suggested respectively for the implementation of the above programmes of the Weights & Measures Organisation.

XI. SOCIAL SERVICES

EDUCATION

GENERAL EDUCATION

Elementary Education

primary & Secondary Education.

(a) programme of School Education Deptt.

During the 7th Five Year plan and the two years thereafter, because of resource constraints, it was not possible for the school Education Deptt. to set up as many schools - primary, secondary and higher secondary, in the urban and rural areas as was necessary with an eye to the increased enrolment targets for achievement of universalisation of primary and elementary education. Nor was it possible to augment the number of teachers adequately during the period. In formulating the draft 8th Five Year plan and the Annual plan 1992-93 we have taken into account the likely increase in enrolments consequent on Mass Literacy Campaign, the resource position, the areas claiming priority and the incentives. Pertinent in this connection are the following data of expected population of different age groups as in :

1991-92 (Figures in thousand) 1996-97

Age Group	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
5 yrs. - 11 yrs.	5956	5707	11662	5466	5243	10709
11 yrs. - 14 yrs.	2610	2481	5091	3991	3800	7791
14 yrs. - 16 yrs.	1693	1604	3297	1870	1772	3642
16 yrs. - 18 yrs.	1360	1257	2617	1501	1383	2884

Expected Additionality of Enrolment upto 14 year age group during the entire 8th Five Year Plan period has been worked out as under :-

Age Group	Additionality of Enrolment		
	Boys	Girls	Total
5 yrs. - 11 yrs.	1107	990	1997
11 yrs. - 14 yrs.	323	299	622
14 yrs. - 16 yrs.	109	95	204
16 yrs. - 18 yrs.	81	68	149

Incidentally, the minimum age for admission in Class I has recently been reduced from 6 years to 5 years; in consequence, in 1996, the primary age group will be from 5 years to 10 years.

The reduction of minimum age for admission in Class I has spelt the need for making provision for one additional age group population in the primary area for the first four years of the 8th plan period and in the upper primary area for the last year of the same period. This will be

clear from the following yearwise age group matrix for class I - V.

<u>Year/Class</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
91-92	5 + 6	7	8	9	10
92-93	5	6 + 7	8	9	10
93-94	5	6	7 + 8	9	10
94-95	5	6	7	8 + 9	10
95-96	5	6	7	8	9 + 10
96-97	5	6	7	8	9

It is a policy decision that the children of extra age group will be accommodated in existing primary schools and the new schools which will be set up during the plan period by raising the teacher pupil ratio beyond 1:40 which is the desired norm of the state. This rise in the teacher-pupil ratio will come down appreciably in the last year of the plan period (1996-97) when the additional age group population will go beyond the primary stage. This year will, however, witness a spurt in the age group population of the upper primary stage when the additional age group cohort will enter this stage. This additionality will, as, stated in case of primary stage, be accommodated in the existing upper primary schools stages and the new ones opened during the plan period.

Additionality has also crept in the total age group population (projected) in view of the fact that the decinial growth rate of population during the decade 1981-91 has become 24.55% against 23.17% during the previous decade, 1971-81.

To cover the target which is proposed 40 per cent of the additional enrolment may be accommodated in new schools and 60 per cent in the existing schools augmenting the number of teachers suitably and constructing additional class rooms with provision for teaching and learning materials and increasing the teacher pupil ratio. Keeping in view the resources position the number of new schools to be established and the number of additional posts of teachers to be created in existing schools are calculated as under

New Schools

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Primary	1350	450	490	650	480
Jr. High	-	-	40	40	70
High School	-	-	140	40	40
Higher Secondary	-	-	10	15	20
<u>Additional Teachers</u>					
Primary	-	-	-	-	-
Jr. High	880	690	-	-	-
High School	1350	600	-	-	-
Higher Secondary	600	200	40	-	50

The State Govt. has taken the policy decision that the medium of instruction of the small learners should be their mother tongue. The State Government, therefore, publishes and distributes, free of charge, text books in five regional languages, namely Bengali, Hindi, Urdu, Nepali, Santhali (Alchiki Scripts). The provision of Rs.1255 lakh is proposed to be earmarked for the purpose in the 8th plan period. The other incentive items are the supply of school dress to Girls - Students in rural areas, the Annual Primary Sports Meet and purchase of Sports equipments from block level to state level and maintenance of Ashram Type Hostels. It is proposed to extend the scheme of distribution of school dress to urban Girl-Students in Primary Schools.

The need for library and science laboratory equipments in Jr. High, High and Higher Secondary Schools have also been kept in view and provisions have been proposed for the purpose.

Continuance of the Students in these stages, particularly in the Jr. High area, is sought to be encouraged through incentive programmes like supply of free school dress to the Girls-students of Jr. High stage, establishment of text book banks, provision for text book grants and maintenance of Ashram type hostels. The provision proposed for Jt. Tech. Schools is intended to cover the expenditure for gradual introductive of I.T.I. courses there.

To provide fillup for excellence the State Govt. proposes to provide for awarding special prize to specially meritorious students and their schools on the basis of results. Needless to say that the following five indicators have been considered for ascertaining the inter district disparity in educational coverage and removing the same through judicious plan allocations :

- 1) Literacy Rate
- 2) Schooling facilities available per 1000 population
- 3) Percentage of children of the age group not enrolled
- 4) Teacher Pupil Ratio
- 5) Enrolment rate per school

The new schools will be set up and new teachers in existing schools will be employed on the basis of the said five consideration.

The West Bengal Board of Primary Education at the State Level and the District Primary School Councils have already been set up in the interest of better management, coordination and supervision of primary Education in the State.

(b) programme of the Higher Education Department.The Universities in West Bengal

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Courses in some modern science subjects like Computer Sciences, Electronics, Molecular Biology, Sociology, etc. with new infrastructure have been already started in some Government colleges and these faculties require strengthening during the 8th plan period.

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Library Services

For consolidation of the network of the Government and Government Sponsored libraries comprising the State Central Library, District Libraries, Sub-Divisional and Two Libraries, Rural and Primary Unit Libraries numbering more than 2500 in the State and for qualitation improvement of public library service all over the state emphasis has been laid on strengthening and streamlining of the administrative and development infrastructure. Development and improvement of bibliographic services and preparation and maintenance of Union Catalogue of books and other resources available in the component libraries under the public library system have also been kept in view.

Conclusion work of building of the State Central Library Calcutta has been undertaken by the State Government along with construction work of the building of North 24-Parganas District Library at Barasat and Murshidabad District Library at Berhampore.

Besides for promotion, and development private libraries run by voluntary organisations, grants are sanctioned for purchase of books, furnitures, buildings repair etc. for their improvement.

(d) Programme of the Technical Education Department.

The Government of West Bengal propose to expand Technical and Engineering education during the 8th 5-year plan. A new Engineering College which will incorporate courses in the new and emerging trends of technological development such as -

- (1) Computer Technology,
- (2) Practical usage of solar energy, and
- (3) petrochemicals, etc.

would be among the dominant disciplines. A possible site for locating this college could be Haldia where a major petro-chemical Complex will be coming up. The emphasis or thrust of the curriculum would be in areas where technical personnel would be required in the field in the near future. This will also help mitigate the unemployment problem.

Engineering and Technological Colleges :

There is also a proposal for setting up new laboratories for (1) Environmental Engineering, (2) power Electronics, (3) Water Resource Engineering etc. at the Bengal Engineering College (Howrah) and at the Jalpaiguri Engineering College (Jalpaiguri) during the financial year 1992-93. Besides for introducing Degree and Post-graduate Degree Courses on emerging areas of Engineering education at both these Engineering Colleges during the Eighth Five Year plan is also planned. Construction of buildings for workshops at the

(i) Bengal Engineering College and at the (ii) Jalpaiguri Government Engineering College and expansion of some of the existing buildings of both these Engineering Colleges will be continued during the first-half of the Eighth Plan.

A proposal for granting the status of a deemed University under the U.G.C. Act to the Bengal Engineering College, Howrah is under way, and a provision has been made in the proposal of the 8th plan for the said purpose. Necessary provisions have also been made during the 8th Plan period for completing the remaining construction works of the 2nd Campus of Jadavpur University at Salt Lake City, Calcutta and also for purchasing laboratory, equipment, machinery and furniture.

World Bank Project and polytechnique in the State

There are 28 Polytechnics in the State under the Department of Technical Education out of which 25 are Government polytechnics and the remaining 3 (three) are Government sponsored polytechnics. Provisions have been made in the World Bank Project for allocation of 86 crores of Rupees for development of these polytechnics and also for setting up of three new polytechnics at Chandernagore (for women), at Siliguri in North Bengal (a residential polytechnic for women) and at Haldia. It has been also proposed to update the existing Junior Technical School at Rupnarayanpur into a Polytechnic with the World Bank assistance. Moreover, new Diploma and Post-diploma courses covering areas of technology like Automobile Engineering, Electronics, Marine Engineering, Computer Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Foundry Technology, Compute Application, etc. will be introduced in these polytechnics. Adequate importance is being given to Computer Education at the Diploma and Post-diploma level.

The emphasis or thrust is proposed to be geared towards vocational training in need-based job-oriented courses so that a sizeable section of students can be diverted into channels where they will find gainful employment. This will involve creation of number of teaching and non-teaching staff. The recurring expenditures for Five years for this purpose can be met from the provision under World Bank assistance.

Trade Courses in Junior Polytechnics

There are 3 Junior Polytechnics at Fulia, district - Nadia, Asansol, District - Burdwan (attached to Asansol polytechnic) and at Sibpur, District - Howrah (attached to B.E. College) for running Trade Courses. The existing Trade Courses will be improved, new Trade Courses will be introduced and for this, provisions have been made in the Eighth Plan period.

Strengthening of the Directorate of Technical Education and State Council.

The Directorate of Technical Education, West Bengal will have to be strengthened for meeting the requirement of Technical Education as well as for efficient functioning of Technical Education system in the State. For this, adequate fund provision, has been made in the proposals of the Eighth Plan period. The State Council for Engineering and Technical Education, West Bengal will be an Autonomous Body and necessary infra-structural facilities will be provided including man-power. For this, provisions have been made in the proposals of Eighth Plan period. There will be a curriculum development Centre.

Social Education.

As in the previous years the Higher Education Department will be giving financial assistance to various voluntary organisations for expanding and upgrading their activities in cultural, aesthetic and educational spheres. Grants are given to Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Institute-do-Chandernagar, Centre for Studies in Social Science etc. In the ensuing financial years, there are some schemes to be implemented viz., repair and renovation of the house of Raja Rammohan Roy, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Rabindra Nath Tagore, acquisition of the house of Moulana Abul Kalam Azad in Calcutta and setting up of a Research Centre therein. The West Bengal Urdu Academy and the Paschim Banga Hindi Academy would be maintained in the extended manner. The construction of the building for the Urdu Academy at Hazi Mohammed Mohasin Square is in progress for which provision of fund has to be made in the ensuing years.

1. Programme of the Sports & Youth Services (Sports) Department

In the approach of framing Eighth Plan for the Sports Wing, this Department aims at constructing Sports complexes at the very Block level within the State as well as improving and developing various Sports activities even at the grass-root level in the rural areas. Special emphasis has been given to the evoking of interest in Games and Sports of village people. With this object in view, a greater allocation has been proposed against the following existing schemes :-

1. Improvement of Sports & Games :

Instead of providing grants to West Bengal State Council of Sports and different Sports organisations in the State for organising various coaching camps, tournaments, State, Inter-State and National Championships, greater emphasis has been given to Sports coaching and talent hunting in rural areas of the State. The State Government proposes to conduct bigger number of coaching camps in the rural areas where intensive Sports coaching in different disciplines will be given

to the promising boys and girls of different schools in the districts so that the boys and the girls can achieve position of merit in various State and National level meets. This programme has already started from 1.8.1989 with 33 selected schools.

2. Expansion of Games & Sports for Women :

Emphasis has been laid down on the development of Sports and Games for women within the State. This provision includes sanction of financial assistance to individual sports woman and to women's Sports organisations for participation in and holding various National and Inter-National meets in the country and abroad respectively.

3. Stadium Complex at Bidhannagar :

During the Eighth Plan period the State Government aims at repaying loan of Rs.6.41 crores taken from various nationalised Banks on Government Guarantee by the Society for Sports & Stadium for construction of Yuba Bharati Krirangan at Salt Lake. The Principal alongwith interest accrued on the capital loan of Rs.6.41 crores has now accumulated upto Rs.20.00 crores. Necessary steps have been taken with the Finance Department of this Government for providing extra budgetary allocation in order to meet up the capital loan and the interest thereon without any further delay. Parallely, attempts have been made for waiving interest of the capital loan.

Besides, the I.P.S. work around the Stadium which needs immediate take-up about the estimated cost of Rs.78.00 lakhs and other outstanding bills need payment for about Rs.22.00 lakhs.

For meeting the excess expenditure of Rs.1.09 crores above Government of India's grant of Rs.10.00 crores towards construction of IInd Phase work of Yuba Bharati Krirangan for which Government of India was moved severally, necessary clearance has been obtained from the Government India. In the first instalment, Government of India is releasing Rs.30.00 lakhs out of the total demand of Rs.1.09 crores.

4. Campus Works, Stadium, Play-grounds etc. :

Apart from providing infrastructural facilities in the districts and sub-division towns during the Seventh Plan period, the State Government envisages constructing Sports complexes and improving Sports consciousness at the very block level within the State during the Eighth Plan period. Government of India has sanctioned setting up Sports Project Development Area (SPDA) as was proposed earlier in the district of Burdwan. As reiterated previously, there should be a contribution of Rs.50.00 lakhs each from the Central and the State Government in implementing the scheme for such S.P.D.A. units.

5. Other Schemes :

This category includes the schemes (i) Development and Maintenance of Kshudiran and Ranji Stadium, (ii) Development and Maintenance of Netaji Indoor Stadium, (iii) Rabindra Sarobar Stadium and Subhas Sarobar Swimming Pool, (iv) District Sports Council etc. Majority of these schemes include sanction of grants for maintaining and developing these infrastructure. In respect of District Sports Council various developmental activities for Sports and Games have been the objective thrust throughout the Eighth Plan period. As a result greater provision of fund has been suggested under these schemes.

2. Programme of the Department of Sports and Youth Services (Youth Service)

In order to bring out the best in the youth of the country who constitute its prime human resource, a holistic approach has to be taken for their all round development. Such an approach would take into account the betterment of their physical mental and economic environment. Providing them with avenues for employment, providing opportunities for participation in sporting events, inculcation of a scientific temper would be the more important ingredients of such an approach.

The Youth Services Wing of the Sports and Youth Services Department aims, at providing all round development of the Youth by way of implementation of various schemes through a network of 335 Block Youth Offices and 40 Municipal Youth Offices of this State. A Directorate of Youth Services with 17 District Youth Offices under it has been overseeing the activities of the Youth Offices.

An account of some of the important programmes undertaken by the Youth Services Wing of this Department is given hereunder

Youth Welfare Programme for Students

Youth Centre Scheme :-

The Sports & Youth Services Department has set up Block Youth Offices in 335 Blocks of the State. Different Schemes of this Department are implemented through these offices. Besides 40 Municipal Youth Offices have already been established during the 7th Plan period. This Department intends to cover the remaining Municipalities by establishing Municipal Youth Office during the 8th Plan period to cater to the needs of the youths of these Municipal areas. To meet the cost of establishment of offices, pay etc of the officers, a provision of Rs.172 lakhs has been made in the 8th Plan period. For 1992-93 an outlay of Rs.28.50 lakhs has been suggested.

2. Setting up of a Library and Information-cum-Employment Bureau at State Youth Centre

The nine storied Building at State Youth Centre, Moulali is an ideal Plan for dissemination of useful information to the youths. The total plan provision suggested for 8th Plan period is Rs.14.00 lakhs and that of 1992-93 is Rs.2.00 lakhs.

3. Development of Rural Sports :

This scheme aims at development of football ground by phases in each block in the rural areas. Sports equipments such as Footballs and volleyballs are also distributed to the deserving rural clubs.

4. Youth Centre at Block level with Information-cum-Employment Assistance Bureau, Library, Reading Room, Science Centre etc. :

The purpose of the scheme is to disseminate information, useful to the rural youths. A provision of Rs.5.00 lakhs has been suggested for during 1992-93.

5. Construction of Gymnasium in Block Youth Centre :

This is mainly a scheme of purchase and distribution of Gymnastic equipments for the benefit of the Youths. A provision of Rs.7.00 lakhs has been suggested for the year 1992-93.

6. Rural Sports Coaching Centre :

The aim of the scheme is to train large number of youths in different sports disciplines in order to spot young talents.

7. Setting up of Youth hostels inside and outside the State :

The purpose of the scheme is to establish youth hostels in different places of the country to cater to the needs of the travelling youths. A provision of Rs.15.00 lakhs has been suggested for 1992-93.

8. Multipurpose District Youth Centre :

This will be an ideal meeting place for the youth of the district to provide opportunity to them for organising different activities.

9. Annual Youth Festival at State Level :

Every year youth festival is held at the Block, District and State levels to encourage the youths to participate in different cultural activities..A sum of Rs.5.00 lakhs has been asked for on this account during 1992-93.

10- Schemes of ailing youths :

The purpose of the scheme is to provide some financial assistance among the students who are suffering from serious diseases.

103. YOUTH WELFARE PROGRAMME FOR NON-STUDENTS1. Open Air Stage :

The purpose of the scheme is to promote cultural activities.

2. Monitoring and data Collection :

This scheme is for evaluation of different youth welfare schemes.

3. Vocational training and Provision for purchase of raw materials for implementation of self-employment schemes:

Vocational training has been organised among unemployed different areas.

4. Construction of permanent office buildings of District Youth Offices and Block Youth Offices :

This Department likes to have own office buildings at District and Block level by phases.

5. Scheme aiming at National Integration :

This scheme aims at promoting national integration.

6. Promotion of Mountaineering including formation and working of West Bengal Mountaineering Foundation :

The object of the scheme is to promote mountaineering and adventure among the youths.

7. Promotion of Science Club activities :

The scheme aims at creating Scientific awareness among the rural youths.

8. Promotion of Socio-Economic activities of youth club

This scheme has been formulated to develop and encourage Socio-economic activities of the youth club

Besides, provision of Rs.85.00 lakhs and Rs.16.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Annual Plan 1992-93 respectively have been kept under the Tribal Area Sub Plan for implementing different programmes for the promotion of youth of Scheduled Tribes.

Under the Spl. Component Plan, provision of Rs.100.00 lakh and 20.00 lakhs for 8th Plan and Annual Plan 1992-93 have been made for the benefit of the Scheduled Caste.

New Schemes to be implemented during
8th Five Year Plan as discussed.

Y.S. WING :

The Youth Services Department has been implementing

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various schemes for promotion of Youth Welfare through the following offices :

- i. 335 Block Youth Offices and 40 Municipal Youth Offices.
- ii. 16 District Youth Offices.

In addition to the above, there are 17 Youth Hostels including one in Salt Lake Stadium with accommodation of 900. There is also a multi-storied building State Youth Centre at Moulali at Calcutta.

In order that all these infrastructural facilities can be fully utilised and properly maintained, a minimum amount of fund is necessary under the plan head of this department.

Accordingly in addition to the existing plan schemes it is proposed that the following new schemes may be taken up during the 8th Plan period. The main objective of taking up these scheme is to enlarge mass base for improving physical well-being and to promote excellence.

Rural Coaching Centre: Each Coaching Centre will involve cost of rupee five thousand. In blocks and municipalities, each year the following amount will be necessary.

$$450 \times \text{Rs.}5,000 = \text{Rs.}22.5 \text{ lakhs}$$

Distribution of Sports equipments:Rs.10,000 per year,per Block
Each Year this will come to: $450 \times \text{Rs.}10,000 = \text{Rs.}45 \text{ lakhs.}$

Distribution of Gymnastic equipments:Rs.1 Lakh per year per district and 3 lakhs at the divisional level - Rs.19 lakhs

Youth Festival : Rs.10,000 per block per year i.e.Rs.45 lakhs per year.

SPORTS WING :

A Divisional Level Stadium intermediate between District & State Level Stadium is proposed during the 8th Plan Period. For these such Stadium, are in each of the three divisions an annual sum of Rs.75 lakhs is proposed to be kept in the 8th Five Year Plan period. The total will be Rs.75 lakhs x 5 = Rs.375 lakhs.

ART AND CULTURE

1. Programme of the Information & Cultural Affairs Department :A. Archaeology :

(a) Exploration and Excavation :

During the eighth five year plan period the Archaeology Directorate under I & C.A. Department will carry out some exploration and excavation programme in the district of North 24 Parganas, Midnapore, Malda, Howrah and Darjeeling for which a provision of Rs.4.60 lakhs may be made during the Eighth Plan period. Other programmes are

(b) Grants in aid to Archaeological Museums :

(c) Preservation of monuments :

(d) Publications :

During the 8th Five year plan period the publication of at least four prakriti books, proceedings of the Seminar on Archaeology and Excavation Report of Pandu Rajar Dhibi will be undertaken. For all these works a sum of Rs.6.50 lakhs may be provided during 8th Plan period.

B. Archives and Museums :Setting up of Regional Museums in West Bengal

1. The state Government has decided to set up at least five District Museums and two site Museums in West Bengal in order to preserve the regional cultural treasures, spread over different districts in West Bengal in the Eighth plan period, of these five District Museums two are going to be set up in the district of Malda & Murshidabad, and the rest in the districts of Bankura, Furulia and West Dinajpur.

2. State Archaeological Museums :

The State Archaeological Museum, West Bengal has offered to the nation new aspects of history of art and culture of West Bengal in its rich collection of antiquities and archaeological objects. In order to transform the museum into a viable and dynamic institution capable of disseminating education and culture among the mass a new building is proposed to be constructed in the vacant place adjacent to the present museum. Moreover arrangements for Museum Display Study Collection, Conservation Laboratory, Photographi Laboratory and Camera Equipments, Modelling Unit, Museum pu

lication etc. will be made.

Moreover Government proposes to take over some museums and museum like institutions which have the potentiality to grow into district Museums.

Government also proposes to set up two site Museums at Fakbira and Chadraketugarh having prolific antiquities.

Under this project a total provision of Rs.126.57 lakhs may be made during the 8th Plan period.

3. Other programmes are :

1) Construction and Renovation of Public Halls :

2) Nepali Academy :

3) Financial assistance to the distressed persons in the field of culture :

4) Financial assistance to the cultural Institute :

5) Awards for Drama & Music :

6) Printing of publications :

The scheme may be continued during the 8th Plan period for giving grants in aid to the Writers and meeting other expenditures like printing of Fictorial Juvenile Dictionary, Children Literary Anthology, Paintings Album etc. A sum of Rs.100.35 lakhs may be provided under this scheme during 8th Plan period.

7) Institute of Folk Culture :

To meet the cost of staff salary and to pay other expenditure for different activities in connection with the Folk Culture a total provision of Rs.150/- lakhs may be made during the 8th plan period.

8) Tribal Cultural Centres :

Two Tribal Cultural Centres at Jhargram Suri, Ali-purduar and Furulia have already been set up. To promote and disseminate tribal culture a provision of Rs.35 lakhs may be provided during the 8th Plan period.

9) Setting up of an Art Gallery and Exhibition Hall :
This is a continuing scheme.

10) Construction and Developments of Rabindra Bhawans :

11) State Academy of Music :

A State Music Academy has been set up in the previous

plan. To promote the activities of this Academy a total provision of Rs.109.60 lakhs may be made during the 8th plan period.

12) Popular Theatres :

Under this Scheme Girish Mancha has been set up and opened during the 7th plan period. Madhusudan Mancha is under construction. It is proposed to set up another Mancha "Sarat Sadan" at Howrah. 'Calcutta University Institute Hall' and 'Mahajati Sadan' will also be modernised during the 8th plan period. Under this scheme a total provision of Rs.400 lakhs may be made during the 8th Plan period.

13. Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre :

A centre under the scheme has been set up at Bolepur in West Bengal. State Government provided corpus money under this scheme.

14. Setting up of Bangla Academy :

Bangla Academy has been set up during the 7th Plan period which is now housed in a room at Calcutta Information Centre. This will be developed during 8th Plan.

15. Natya Academy :

A Theatre Academy styled as Paschim Banga Natya Academy was set up in the year 1987. Now it is functioning in a room at Girish Mancha. Growing activities of the Natya Academy demand a suitable accommodation. A plot of land for the construction of building for Natya Academy has already been purchased contiguous to Girish Mancha. During the 8th Plan period a total amount of Rs.135/- lakhs may be provided for construction of a building and to meet the running cost of the Academy.

16. Sanskriti Bhawan at New Delhi :

It has been decided to construct a building jointly with Bengal Association, New Delhi for carrying on cultural activities at National level. For this purpose 100 lakhs may be provided during 8th plan period.

17. Setting up of a Children Complex :

It has been decided departmentally that a Children Cultural Complex will be set up on a plot of land owned by this department in the Manicktola Area at Calcutta. This complex first of its kind in Calcutta will include an Air conditioned

Auditorium, Children Library, Art objects for children, Articles for games etc. for this purpose a fund of Rs.50 lakhs may be provided during the 8th five year plan.

18. Group Insurance Scheme for Folk an artites :

The rural folk artistes generally come from very poor family. After passing away of the head of the family who is considered to be a folk artist, the family is no doubt thrown into a deplorable situation. It is not possible to give full financial support to all the family members of the deceased artist, but as a gesture of moral support it is proposed to bring the Folk Artistes of the Rural Sector of West Bengal under the Group Insurance Scheme.

19. Strengthening of Cultural Wing :

The activities in the culture wing of this Department has been incre sing day by day. It is therefore felt necessary to strengthen the Culture Wing of this Department to cope with the increased activities of this wing.

21. Modernisation of Rabindra Sadan including developing up a Cultural Complex :

It is proposed to modernise Rabindra Sadan and to develop its surrounding into a Cultural Complex during the 8th Plan period.

22. Setting up of a Cultural Complex at Rowdon Square :

Setting up of a Cultural Complex at Rowdon Square is now under active consideration of Government.

23. Dissimination and widning of Folk art Forum :

There is a scheme to give financial support to the distressed artistes and the organisations fully engaged in cultural activities. This scheme is quite different from that scheme. Artistes in general are very eager to expose themselves before the audience. As such this scheme will ensure scope to the individual folk artist and the organisation engaged in cultural activities to perform before different type of audience.

2. Programme of the Higher Education Department

Art and Culture - Development of State Archives

For development of State Archives a provision of fund has been made in the 8th Plan proposal for different important publications like (a) Revised addition of guide to the records ; (b) 1942 movements; (c) List of documents on Calcutta; (d) Meerut Conspiracy case, Vol-II ; (e) Bolshevik papers etc.

Moreover, fund has been provided for matching grant central assistance under Central Assistance programme, purchase of books and periodicals, purchase of imported tissue paper, acetated foil, chemicals etc. Purchase of one automatic processor and one computer with accessories has also been contemplated during the 8th Plan period. Construction of one regional records depository in North Bengal has been approved by the State Planning Board in principle and fund has been provided in the 8th Plan proposal for the same.

The present accommodation of the State Archives is not at all adequate and hence there is a proposal for construction of a five storied building in a piece of land already available from the Fisheries Department at Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta, Foundation stone has already been laid for the building and a provision of Rs. 5 crores has been made for the construction of the said building during the 8th 5-year Plan.

Art and Culture - Development of Govt. College of Art & Culture

There is a proposal for introduction of post-graduate course in Visual Art and creation of some teaching and non-teaching posts. Fund has been provided in the 8th Plan proposal for the same. Moreover, provision has been made for purchase of equipment and furniture, holding of exhibition workshops, seminars, etc. During the 8th Plan period for development of Govt. College of Art and Craft. Provision has been made for completion of construction of a building in the campus of the Government College of Art and Craft, already started in 1990-91. There is a proposal for construction of bronze casting foundry and studio shade and construction of students' hostel for which provision of fund has been proposed during the 8th Plan period.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Programme of the Health & Family Welfare Department

Provisional outlay for the Eight Five Year Plan (1992-97) and Annual Plan (1992-93) of this Department has been suggested at Rs. 28500.00 lakhs and Rs. 4600.00 lakhs respectively.

The following note summarizes briefly our targets in the 8th Plan and the Annual Plan 1992-93.

Minimum Needs Programme :

The targets under this programme for the 8th Plan and the Annual Plan (1992-93) are as below.

	<u>1991 - 92</u>	<u>8th Plan</u>	<u>1992-93</u>
1. Community Health Centre/Rural Hospitals	30	100	20
2. Primary Health Centre	20	75	15
3. Sub-Centre	900	600	600
	(Provis- ional)	(Provis- ional)	(Provis- ional)

Provision has been made for spill over from the period preceding the 8th Plan and up gradation/extension of health centre/Hospital buildings.

For the India Population Project IV (now extended upto Aug. 31 1993), the proposed outlay is Rs. 2.91 crores, of which Rs. 2.02 crores relates to the year 1992-93.

Programmes other than M.N.P. :

Hospitals and Dispensaries : (the Health & Family Welfare Department's Programme)

The North 24-Farganas District Hospital (recently converted from the Barasat Sub-divisional Hospital) will be upgraded to full fledged District Hospitals with 300 new beds. The Bangur Hospital will be provided with augmented capacity and facilitation. The Sub-divisional Hospitals at Tamluk, Arambag, Islampur, Raigunj and Siliguri will also be improved. A State General Hospital with 100 beds will be established at Gurden Reach. Provision has been made also for 500 additional beds in the existing hospitals.

Provision has been made for still over from programmes taken up earlier, upgradation of existing hospitals, establishment of Tuberculosis isolation beds in hospitals and chest O.P.D.'s in P.H.C.s, improvement of blood transfusion facilities, better facilitation for movement of patients by providing for ambulances, establishment of Cancer Detection Centres in some Districts and better cancer treatment facilities in teaching hospitals and setting up on a modern diagnostic centre at Maniktala. Payment of Grants-in-aid to non-Govt. hospitals is also in view.

The Annual targets for 1992-93 for some items are as follows :

Number of addl. hospital beds	100
New ambulances	5

Programme of the labour Department (ESI Schemes)

DIRECTORATE OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE (MEDICAL BENEFIT) SCHEME :

The E.S.I. Scheme was introduced in West Bengal in 1955. The Scheme is applicable to factories employing 20 or more persons without power and to those employing 10 or more persons with power. Hotels, Restaurants, Newspaper Establishments, cinemas including pre-view Theatres, Road Motor Transport Establishments and shops employing 20 or more persons have been brought under the purview of the Scheme. The ceiling on wages for coverage under the Scheme is going to be raised to Rs. 3000/- per month shortly.

The ESI (MB) Directorate is responsible for proper and efficient implementation of the Scheme in West Bengal.

To add to the efficiency of the Directorate the following plan schemes are proposed to be taken up during the Eighth Plan Period (1992-97) for implementation in phases :-

I. IMPROVEMENT OF ESI(MB) SCHEME :

The Scheme comprises :-

- a) Extension of ESI Scheme to new areas;
- b) Opening of new Service Dispensaries/Rajya Bima Dushadhalaya/Rajya Bima Bahirchikitsha Kendras;
- c) Extension of full benefit to areas where at present expanded benefits are being rendered;
- d) Extension of Central Medical Stores;
- e) **Setting up of a Cell for testing ESI Drugs;**
- f) Setting up of a Training Centre for Technical and Para-Medical Staff.

A sum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs is required for 1992-97 while a sum of Rs. 10.00 lakhs is proposed for 1992-93.

II. HOSPITAL COST FOR THE INSURED WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES :

This schemes includes the following sub-schemes :-

- i) Opening of Central Pathological Laboratory;
- ii) Setting up of Physiotherapy Centre;
- iii) Strengthening of the Central Blood Bank.

For implementation of the Scheme some additional posts of Officer/ staff with purchase of some modern equipments are required.

It is estimated that for the 8th Plan Period (1992-97) a sum of Rs. 128.00 lakhs will be required Rs. 22.00 lakhs is proposed for 1992-93.

III. IMPROVEMENT OF NURSES' TRAINING

CENTRE AT MANICKTALLA :

The Training Centre has been started during the 7th Five Year Plan and is running smoothly.

To ensure continuous availability of qualified nurses and to cope with the growing need for their services it is proposed to increase the capacity of the Training Centre from 30 trainees per batch to 50 trainees per batch.

For this purpose Rs. 10.00 lakhs is required for the 8th Plan period (1992-97) . A sum of Rs. 2.00 lakhs is proposed for 1992-93.

IV. STRENGTHENING OF THE FLEET OF VEHICLES UNDER E.S.I.(MB) SCHEME :

The Scheme includes -

- i) Purchase of new Ambulances;
- ii) Purchase of blood procurement vehicles for the hospitals;
- iii) Purchase of Office Cars for better management of the ESI(MB) Scheme itself;

iv) Creation of new posts of Drivers and

v) Opening of a cell for monitoring and maintenance of the vehicles.

Rs. 9.35 lakhs is estimated for the entire 8th Plan Period(1992-97) while a sum of Rs. 2.15 lakhs is proposed for 1992-93.

V. OPENING OF FAMILY WELFARE CENTRES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME :

The Directorate now functions as a model agency for implementation of programmes relating to family welfare and immunisation in so far as the workers and employees of industrial establishments are concerned. It is felt that Family Welfare Centres with Baby Immunisation Programmes should be opened at all ESI Hospitals excluding Belur T.B.Hospital. Accordingly a plan-scheme has been chalked out for implementation in phases during the 8th plan period.

Total required amount for 8th plan period is estimated to be Rs. 10.00 lakhs. Rs. 2.00 lakhs is proposed for 1992-93.

VI. OPENING OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES & REHABILITATION CENTRES :

The scheme involves opening of occupational disease centres at ESI Hospitals, Manicktala, Belur and Shyamnagar and opening of Rehabilitation Centres at ESI Hospital, Budge Budge, Shyamnagar and Bandel.

The scheme envisages creation of some additional posts of officer/staff and purchase of some modern machineries.

A sum of Rs. 12.65 lakh is required for the entire 8th plan period while a sum of Rs. 2.35 lakhs is proposed for 1992-93.

All the schemes are State-Sector Schemes.

Programme of Health and Family Welfare

I.S.M and Homeopathy : In the 8th Plan provision has been made for the improvement/acquisition of 4 Homeopathic Medical Colleges with their hospitals, establishment of a 100 bed Homeopathic College and Hospital at Cooch Behar, improvement of the existing institutions. Conducting diploma course in Homeopathy and setting up of a number of State Homeopathic Dispensaries.

The proposals cover the improvement of the State Ayurvedic Institutions, and the setting up of a hostel for Ayurvedic Students and a number of Ayurvedic Dispensaries and also the strengthening of the existing Ayurvedic Dispensaries and Ayurvedic Pharmacy Education.

A separate Unani Directorate has been proposed as also the establishment of some Unani Dispensaries.

Expansion has been proposed for the Integrated Drug Production Centre for Homeopathy and Ayurveda at Kalyani.

Medical Education : The provisions for the development of medical education are as follows :

- i) augmentation of different branches of surgery, medicine, G&C, ophthalmology, oto-rhino-laryngology and orthopaedics,

- ii) improvement of O.T. facilities,
- iii) introduction of post-doctoral courses in subjects like nephrology, urology, surgical gastroenterology as also MD and MS courses in various specializations,
- iv) development of various super-speciality disciplines in teaching hospitals,
- v) introduction of MDS course,
- vi) establishment of a nucleus of research with Research Cadre
- vii) renovation of dilapidated buildings and construction of essential new buildings,
- viii) providing, basic equipments to teaching hospitals for the improvement of medical education facilities,
- ix) provision of living quarters in teaching hospitals,
- x) augmentation of nursing education facilities, and
- xi) improvement of libraries of teaching institutions.

Training : Provision has been made for the training of doctors, nurses, para-medical personnel and various categories of medical technicians. In order to overcome the extreme dearth of para-medical staff and technicians, it is proposed to set up a School of Para-medics and Medical Technicians. The shortage of pharmacists will be met by augmenting the pharmacy education facilities.

Public Health : The proposals cover the control of communicable diseases, like malaria, tuberculosis, filaria, Kala-azar, Japanese encephalitis, gastro-enteritis, hepatitis, leprosy etc. Provision has been made for the improvement of the Drug Control Organization, P.H. laboratories and the Pasteur Institute. Provision has been made for drug testing facilities at the Central Medical Store. Improvement of mass information system and health education system is covered by these proposals as also an improvement of the prevention of food adulteration.

Augmentation of mental health facilities has been provided in the Plan, as also the State share of the drug de-addiction programme. In particular, improvement and acquisition cost of Lumbini Hospital have been provided for. Although the prevention of AIDS is a central programme, we have kept a token amount in our plan also.

Other Items : The 8th plan provisions include the establishment of a separate Directorate of Medical Education, School Health Services and the storing arrangements have been sought to be improved. The construction of leaving accommodation of officers and staff working in rural areas is also provided for. There is a long felt need of a Swasthya Bhaban, for which we have kept a provision in the 8th Plan.

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Main thrust of the 8th Plan Programmes of the Health and Family Welfare Department.

As the basic health indices of the State of West Bengal compare quite favourably with the Indian average, the Health and Family Welfare Department does not propose an expansion of the health care infrastructure which is already very developed.

Faced with the problem of a limited allocation of fund for the improvement of this very elaborate infrastructure, this department has fixed only a few priorities for the 8th Plan. The thrust are as of its proposals for this Plan are (1) Strengthening of the primary health care system, (2) removing the shortfall of nurses, pharmacists and medical technicians so as to make the curative system more effective, (3) relieving the crowding of the hospitals of Calcutta by reinforcing selected health care units in the districts, especially in North Bengal, and (4) obviating the need to journey to Madras, Vellore, Bombay and Delhi for advanced specialist treatment by creating centres of excellence in the State itself and strengthening the existing facilities.

1. Renovation and reinforcement of the primary health care system.

Of the 1245 primary health centres, 1007 date back to before 1980, 809 before 1970 and 482 before 1960. All the PHCs set up before 1970 are housed in buildings badly needing repair but those dating from before 1960 are really dilapidated. It is these 482 PHCs which the Health and Family Welfare Department intends to rebuild and strengthen in the 8th Plan.

2. Removing the shortfall of nurses, pharmacists and medical technicians.

The ratio of beds to nurses in the Government Hospitals is 4:1. In order to achieve the ideal ration of 3:1, 4½ thousand more nurses are needed in Government Hospitals alone. As for pharmacists, the shortage in Government hospitals is severe and the number in private employ is far too short to satisfy the statutory requirement of one pharmacist for each chemist shop. There is a severe dearth of all categories of medical technicians in the 8th Plan by establishing training institutions utilizing available accommodations as far as possible with very little investment in new construction.

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3. Relieving the pressure on Calcutta Hospital.

It is intended to develop the Sub-divisional hospitals at Tamruk, Arambag, Islampur, Raigange and Siliguri. The medical facilities in the West Dinajpore district being rather under-developed, it is essential to strengthen the two Sub-divisional hospitals at Islampur and Raigange. As for the Siliguri Sub-divisional, it has to be raised as near as possible to the standard of a district hospital, because in the prevalent circumstances the facilities of the Darjeeling District Hospital may no longer be available to the people of the plain areas of the district. The Hospital at Barasat, though now called a district hospital, has hardly the facilities above a Sub-divisional hospital; which it was till recently. It has to be developed suitably so as to be effective as the district hospital for the new district of North 24-Parganas. Since the SSKM Hospital and the Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research may be converted into an autonomous post-graduate institution, another hospital needs to be developed as a well-equipped Government Hospital. Since the Barasat Hospital has sufficient space for growth, the Health & Family Welfare Department intends to develop it in the 8th Plan.

4. Obviating the need for journey to other States for super-specialist treatment.

In order that the suffering public need not travel to distant places outside the State and take expensive super-specialist treatment, the Health & Family Welfare Department wants to create, in the 8th Plan, Centres of Excellence in certain fields like cardio-thoracic surgery, neuro-surgery, plastic surgery, renal transplant and ophthalmology. This will provide inexpensive super-specialist treatment within the State and will also meet the needs of all the eastern and north-eastern States.

It is worth-while to mention here that though the Lumbini Park Mental Hospital was taken over by the Government about 15 years ago, payment of the acquisition cost may have to be made in the 8th Plan. The Health and Family Welfare Department intends to develop the Lumbini Park and other mental hospitals by utilizing the fund that will be made free as a result of the reduction from 600 to 300 of the reserved beds of the Govt. of West Bengal in the Ranchi Mental Hospital, a measure which is already under process.

WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATIONPROGRAMME OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
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A total outlay of Rs.216 Crore has been suggested for the 8th Plan period while the corresponding figure for the Annual Plan 1992-93 is Rs. 34.65 crores as detailed below :

1. Direction & Administration etc.

The proposed outlays are intended to be spent for creation of absolutely minimum new establishments and strengthening the existing infrastructure of the Public Health Engineering Directorate by providing necessary orientation and training facility and carrying out Survey & Investigation.

2. Urban Water Supply

There are 78 municipal towns in non-CMD part of the State of West Bengal. Water Supply Schemes for Non-Municipal Towns are being executed at present in the Rural Water Supply Sector. This practice has to be continued as the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Water Supply to small towns has not yet been introduced. The proposed outlays in the Urban Water Supply Sector will therefore, be utilised for Municipal Schemes only.

A total of Rs. 68.00 Crores has been sought for during the 8th Plan period. Priority has been given in the following manner :

- i) Meet the spill over liability of schemes already commissioned or likely to be commissioned during 1991-92.
- ii) Commission six critical ongoing schemes.
- iii) Take up execution of schemes aimed at maximising benefits from the existing capacity.
- iv) Take up execution of New Schemes.

Out of the six critical ongoing Schemes, two (Kalna and English Bajar) will be commissioned during 1992-93.

It may be mentioned that the LIC loan assistance in the Urban Water Supply Sector is not forthcoming. The State Govt. has started negotiations with HUDCO for loan assistance for implementation of some emergent Urban Water Supply Schemes. Necessary provision has been made in the proposed outlays for State share against HUDCO assisted schemes. It is expected that it would be possible to raise piped water supply coverage of the urban population in Non-CMD Municipal towns from 50% (as at the end of 7th Plan) to 72% by end of the 8th plan and there will be no non-CMD Municipal town left at the end of 8th plan without having a piped water supply arrangement.

. Rural Water Supply

In the Rural Water Supply Sector, an outlay of Rs.144.00 Crores has been proposed in the State Plan under Minimum Needs Programme. It is

expected that the Govt. of India will continue to provide matching grants under ARWSP and also additional Central assistance for more intensive coverage of SC and ST population and Scientific Source Investigations. At the end of the 8th Plan period it is expected that 100% of 1981 Census population will be served with at least one source of water per 250 persons. Special emphasis will be given to coverage of SC and ST hamlets with the provisions made under SCP and TSP under the State Plan and earmarked fund under ARWSP.

A target has been set to raise piped water supply coverage of rural population from 9.70% (as at the end of 7th plan) to 24.46% by end of the 8th Plan period. Identical priority as has been indicated for the Urban Water Supply Sector will be followed for Rural Piped Water Supply Sector also. Construction and maintenance of Spot Sources by Zilla Parishads will continue.

Target Coverage of Rural population during 8th Plan Period

	(Population in 000)		
	Total	S/C	S/T
1. Population (1981)	40134	10512	2955
2. Cumulative Coverage upto end of 7th Plan.	27664	7187	2071
3. Coverage 1990-91 (Actual)	1024	267	77
4. Coverage 1991-92 (Anticipated)	1476	384	111
5. Cumulative Coverage 3/92	30164	7038	2259
6. Target coverage 8th Plan	9370	2674	696

Target Coverage of Villages during 8th Plan Period

	(No. of Villages)	
1. Total (1981 Census)	30024	
2. Position at end of 7th plan.	PVPC	19190
	PVFC	12701
	NPV	6053
3. Position at end of 3/91	PVPC	17026
	PVFC	14145
	NPV	6053
4. Position at end of 3/92 (i.e. at the beginning of 8th Plan)	PVPC	14975
	PVFC	16996
	NPV	6053

During the 8th Plan, those 14975 Partially Covered Problem Villages (PVPC) will be fully covered.

4.(a) Rural Sanitation

Rural Sanitation Programme is mainly promotional in nature. Fund will be provided to the Zilla Parishads for construction of Low cost latrines.

(b) Urban Sanitation

Proposed outlays will be provided to the municipalities in Non-CMD part of the State for conversion of dry latrines into sanitary ones.

5. Sewerage Services

Due to fund constraint it has been proposed not to take up any new Sewerage Scheme in Non-CMD part of the State. The proposed outlay will be utilised for completing the ongoing Sewerage Scheme at Ranaghat.

6. Externally Aided Water Supply Project

External Aid from Germany for two Water Supply Schemes one for Raghunathpur & adjoining moujas of Purulia District and the other for Bolpur & adjoining moujas of Birbhum district is in a very mature stage. A token provision under Rural Water Supply (MNP) for these schemes has been kept in 8th Plan proposed outlays. The provision is for Rs.300.00 lakh for the 8th Plan and Rs.40.00 lakh for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

7. Setting up of Laboratories

A provision of Rs.100.00 lakh for the 8th Plan and Rs.10.00 lakh for the Annual Plan 1992-93 has been kept under Rural Water Supply (MNP).

8. Tribal Sub Plan and Special Component Plan

Special emphasis will be given to proper utilisation of the earmarked funds of 10% of the outlays under Rural Water Supply (MNP) and also under Centrally Sponsored ARWSP for construction of drinking Water Sources for the population belonging to ST. The Special Component plan for Scheduled Castes extends to other Sectors of the State Plan and fund has been provided at the rate of 25% of the outlays under different sectors for benefit of SC population.

H O U S I N G**GOVERNMENT RESIDENTIAL BUILDING & URBAN HOUSING
GENERAL POOL ACCOMMODATION****1. Programme of the Housing Department**

The business of the Housing Department relates to framing and execution of various housing schemes of the State. The rental housing scheme for State Government employees, housing schemes for economically weaker section of the people as also for the Low Income and Middle Income Groups of people, rental housing schemes for working women and for the aged persons, housing (ownership) schemes for State Government employees and land acquisition - development schemes are among the major programmes undertaken by the Housing Department through the Housing Directorate. Production of bricks in one mechanised brick factory and a few manual brick fields is another programme of the Housing Department undertaken

through the Brick Production Directorate. The West Bengal Housing Board, under the administrative control of the Housing Department, executes housing schemes for all categories of the people.

2. The rental housing scheme for the State Government employees is the prime programme of the Housing Directorate. A few new schemes are taken up every year to meet the demand of the State Government employees all over the State. The amounts proposed for this scheme in the Annual Plan, 1992-93 and the Five Year Plan, 1992-97 will not be adequate for the purpose of completing the on-going projects and for taking up and executing new schemes during the period, but these amounts will be the minimum required for this scheme.

3. Enhanced priorities have been fixed for the programme of land acquisition on behalf of the Housing Department. Apart from the purpose of the usual housing schemes undertaken by the Housing Department, land acquisition may be necessary for housing schemes that may be undertaken in the Joint sector and it is felt that there is scope for such activities in the housing front.

4. It has been the experience of the Housing Department that it is very difficult to dislodge the superannuated government employees from their rental accommodations as most of them have no place to shift to. With a view to overcoming the embarrassment of forcibly evicting them we have taken up a scheme for construction of ownership flats for State Government employees and provisions have been proposed for the Annual Plan as well as the 8th Plan period.

5. The provision of accommodation for single working women and for the aged persons has been engaging the attention of the State Govt. and the Plan proposal as well as the proposal for the Annual Plan include some amounts against these schemes.

6. The proposals also include some amounts against the schemes for renovation and replacement in the existing housing estates and for construction and improvement of office buildings of the Housing Department located at different places of the State.

7. It has already been decided by the State Government to discontinue the scheme for providing house building loans to Middle Income and Low Income Groups of people in the present framework of the existing scheme as the system appeared to be outdated on the face of the system introduced by different housing finance institutions. The State Government has, however, contemplated to introduce a fresh Cash Loan Scheme in a new system and fund provisions have been proposed for the 1992-93 Annual Plan period as also for the Five Year Plan period. But provisions against the existing schemes of L.I.G. and M.I.G. loans have been proposed as this new Cash Loan Scheme could not yet be finalized by the State Government.

8. The amount proposed for 1992-93 against the scheme of modernization of the brick factories is actually far in excess of the prescriptions of the Development and Planning Department of this Government in this respect. But this provision is mainly for installing a new set of machineries at the Palta Mechanised Brick Factory. The existing two sets of machinery have outlived their economic life after serving for more than 25 years and it is apprehended that the two sets of machinery now in operation may totally break down at any moment causing total stoppage of production at the factory. The limping sets have also been the main cause for the mounting loss in the factory. Installation of the third set of machinery will mean reduction of the loss to a great extent and it is expected that the new set of machinery alongwith the old sets may help us reach a break-even point, if not a profit-earning point at this factory. The expenditure proposed will be an one-time affair and we propose to complete the process in 1992-93. The balance provision on this count in the entire Plan period is for establishing a Mechahised Brick Factory at Akra where a manual brick field is in operation.

9. Suitable amounts have been proposed in the Annual Plan as well as 5th Plan period against the scheme of market borrowing by the West Bengal Housing Board. Amounts against some minor items of programme to be undertaken by the Housing Department have also been proposed in the provisions for the Annual Plan as well as for the 8th Plan period. Provisions against housing schemes for economically weaker sections and the low income and middle income groups of people have been kept low in the proposals as the West Bengal Housing Board has been assigned the task of undertaking those schemes with HUDCO loan. The small amounts proposed against the subsidised housing scheme for plantation workers are for meeting only the committed expenditure during the period as the scheme has already been wound up by the Government of India.

10. Housing Department through Housing Board and with the help of financial institutions like HUDCO propose to act as facilitators by way of providing finance and low cost technology to the people belonging mainly to MIG, LIG and EWS categories in the districts. Government also intend to involve local bodies like Zilla Parishads in executing such a massive programme.

A proposal has been made in the Annual Plan and the Eighth Plan for establishment of Building Assistance Cells at various locations with a view to impart training and transfer of low cost technology in the building industry among the people in general.

P O L I C E H O U S I N G

2. Programme of the Home (Police) Department

The projects under police housing are as follows :

i) Quarters for Superior Officers

The superior ranks comprise of officers, of and above the rank of Inspectors. There are about 1600 superior officers in the State Police. But the number of departmental quarters is only 550. That means 1050 officers (66%) of the superior ranks have to be provided with accommodation. Though it is desirable to build up quarters for all of them, the monetary constraints have also to be taken into account. It is, therefore, being targetted that during the Eighth Plan period at least 100 quarters should be built up. Having regard to the latest estimates of the P.W.D., the cost of construction for a superior officer will be at least Rs. 4.50 lakh per unit. An amount of Rs. 445.50 lakh is, therefore, suggested for construction of 100 quarters for Superior Officers during the Eighth Plan (1992-97) including Rs. 71.50 lakh for the Annual Plan, 1992-93.

(ii) Quarters for Sub-ordinate Ranks

The total strength of the sub-ordinate ranks (S.Is to down-words) in the State Police is about 72000. It has been estimated that the total departmental accommodation (including barracks) is available to only 45% of the staff. That means that departmental accommodation for 55% of the staff and men are not available. The Ninth Finance Commission has not awarded any amount under the Upgradation Programme for the purpose for the Eighth Plan period (1992-97).

Having regard to the latest estimates of P.W.D., an amount ranging from Rs. 2.50 lakh to Rs. 2.75 lakh is required for the construction of one staff quarters. An amount of Rs. 780.30 lakh is accordingly suggested to be provided in the Eighth Plan (1992-97) for construction of 300 staff quarters including Rs. 126.50 lakh for Annual Plan, 1992-93.

(iii) Barracks

Barracks are attached to Police Stations and Outposts in addition to barracks at Battalion Head Quarters. Though the National Police Commission has laid stress on residential accommodation for all in preference to barracks, on practical compulsion, the State will have to continue with barracks for many more years to come. No money is likely to be available during Eighth Plan period for construction of barracks under the recommendations of the 9th Finance Commission (The 8th Finance Commission did not give any). Therefore, the State will have to create some barrack accommodation where it is essential. On a most modest scale, 1000 units should be created during the next five years.

(iv) Accommodation for Battalions

We are short of accommodation for six battalions - one in Calcutta Police (5th Bn.) and five in West Bengal (7th, 10th, 11th, 12th & 13th Bns.). Additional Bns. are likely to be created in near future. We have already sanctioned Rs. 5.00 crore out of the Special funds of Rs. 5.4 crore awarded by the 9th Finance Commission for restoration of damaged

assets in Darjeeling due to G.M.F. agitation, for construction of barracks etc. at Dubgram, Jalpaiguri and also at Chharra, Purulia for the accommodation of the 10th and 12th Bns. at the former and for the 11th and 13th Bns. at the latter sites. It is roughly estimated that at least Rs. 8.00 crore will be required to complete the two projects. Hence, at least Rs. 3.00 crore are required to supplement the expenditure on the said two on-going schemes. Keeping in view this and also the cost of building accommodation for at least one more battalion @ Rs. 3.50 crore to Rs. 3.75 crore per unit, a provision of Rs.657.90 lakh would be necessary for this purpose during the Eighth Plan (1992-97) including Rs.105.60 lakh in 1992-93.

(v) Inspection Bungalows/Officers' mess/Other schemes

With the growth of population the law and order machinery is being strengthened and new police stations are being sanctioned every year. For maintaining proper supervision over these police establishments, some inspection Bungalows are required to be created in outlying areas of the State. Similarly, Officers' mess for senior police officers is essential. The Director General and Inspector General of Police, West Bengal, has to call the district police officers for conference/discussion from time to time. For their stay in the city, a departmental mess is essential. It has also been found that officers transferred from Calcutta Police take time to vacate the quarters occupied by them. In consequence, the officers posted to Calcutta Police in their place go without accommodation. To alleviate this problem, one mess for police officers was sanctioned during the Seventh Plan period which has since been completed. But it is felt that one mess will fall short of the requirement. A lump provision of Rs. 75.28 lakh has been sought in the Eighth Plan for the construction of 3 officers' mess/Inspection Bungalows, etc. @ Rs. 25.00 lakh per unit including an amount of Rs. 12.10 lakh for the Annual Plan, 1992-93.

3. Programme of the Judicial Department

Approved outlay for the 7th Five Year Plan concerning the Judicial Department was for Rs. 300.00 lakh for the period of 1984-90. Out of which Rs. 102.20 lakh was approved for Residential quarters.

During the Annual Plan periods 1990-91 and 1991-92 Rs.60.00 lakh and Rs. 66.00 lakhs respectively were approved of. Out of which Rs.20.00 lakh for 1990-91 and Rs.21.00 lakh for 1991-92 were allocated for residential quarters.

During the last two annual plan periods only few low budgeted schemes were taken up due to meagre plan allocation.

The shortage of residential accommodation for Judicial and Registration Officers are also posing serious problem as the concerned officers on their transfer from one station to another find it very

difficult to procure there residential accommodation. Though during the 7th Plan period 72 residential quarters for Judicial Officers have already been constructed in different stations, more quarters are required to be constructed in different stations.

Due to meagre allocation sufficient funds could not be provided for financing the schemes concerning residential quarters for Judicial and Registration Officers. Only one ongoing schemes have been included in the 8th Plan. Only a sum of Rs.15.11 lakh has been proposed to be spent for new schemes during the 8th Plan, for construction of quarters.

The Department has suggested the barest minimum fund for the 8th Plan 1992-97 and for 1992-93.

4. Programme of Finance (Taxation) Department

The Commercial Taxes Directorate and the Entry Tax Directorate are the two most important revenue earning Directorates of the State Government. The Commercial Taxes Directorate itself collects about 60% of the tax revenue of the State Government. The revenue earnings by these two Directorates have shown a very satisfactory growth over the years. In 1987-88 the collection of Sales Tax, Raw Jute Tax, Profession Tax & Coal Cess stood at Rs. 1016.89 crores and this figure rose to Rs.1509.61 crores in 1990-91. The collection of Entry Tax in 1987-88 was Rs. 87.77 crores which rose to Rs. 123.60 crores in 1990-91. Entry Tax is collected at the check posts. The Commercial Taxes Directorate also maintains a large number of Check posts for checking evasion of Sales Tax. There have been substantial expansion in the organisational structure in order to achieve fast growth in tax revenue. This has necessitated construction of Check post Buildings, Office buildings and residential quarters. As a matter of fact, Plan schemes under the Finance (Taxation) Department relate only to such construction works in the interest of State revenue.

The Finance Department proposes to acquire land at Tangra, Calcutta of office and residential buildings.

The VIIIth Plan (1992-97) and Annual Plan (1992-93) outlays have been suggested as per the barest minimum requirement.

6. Programme of the Excise Department

Construction of office-cum-residence of the D.E.C. and S.I. of Excise and extension of barrack at Diamond Harbour.

8th Plan outlay is Rs. 17 lakhs and 1992-93 outlay is Rs.2 lakh for the scheme having an estimated cost of Rs.9,54,300/- (made by the PWD in 1988-89). The schemes has been carried over from the 7th Plan. The scheme deserves priority.

Construction of excise barrack and boundary wall in the land at Dalkhola in West Dinajpur.

8th Plan outlay is Rs.15.95 lakhs and for the annual Plan is Rs.2 lakhs only. The scheme deserves priority. The scheme has been carried over from the 7th Plan.

Construction of garage, installation of Deep Tubewell etc. at Kakdwip.

The scheme has been carried over from the 7th Plan and deserve priority. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been proposed for this scheme for 1992-93 Annual Plan.

Construction of staff-quarters, liquor warehouse and office etc. at Kolaghat, Midnapore (East)

8th Plan suggested outlay is Rs.18.00 lakhs and for the annual plan 92-93 is Rs.2.50 lakhs. The scheme has been carried over from the 7th plan and deserves priority.

Construction of residential quarter of excise officers at 46, Christopher Road, Calcutta.

Outlay proposed for 8th plan is Rs.2.50 lakhs and for 92-93 is Rs.2.50 lakhs. Chemical Examiner's laboratory is being raised in one of the three blocks of the complex. Deserves priority.

Construction of quarters of officers on the excise land at Puranchatkhola, Siliquri, Darjeeling

Proposed outlay for the 8th Plan is Rs.18.00 lakhs and for 92-93 plan is Rs.2.50 lakhs. This scheme which has been carried over from the 7th Plan deserves priority.

Construction of Excise Barrack and Circle office at Raniganj, Burdwan.

The Barrack and Circle office are necessary for better excise Administration at Raniganj Circle, Burdwan. The proposed outlay for the 8th plan is Rs. 12 lakhs and the outlay for 1992-93 is Rs. 1 lakh.

Construction of Barrack and Circle Office at Mejia, Bankura.

The Barrack and Circle office are necessary for better excise administration at Mejia, Bankura. The proposed outlay for the 8th plan is Rs. 11.75 lakhs and the annual plan outlay for 1992-93 is Rs.1 lakh.

Construction of Barrack and Circle office at Purulia.

The Barrack and Circle Office at Purulia are necessary for better Excise Administration at Purulia. The proposed outlay for the 8th plan is Rs. 11.75 lakhs and the annual plan outlay for 1992-93 is Rs. 1 lakh.

Construction of Excise Barrack and Circle Office at Dinhat, Cooch Behar

The Barrack and Circle Office are necessary for better Excise Administration at Dinhat. The proposed outlay for the 8th plan is Rs. 11.75 lakhs and the annual plan outlay for 1992-93 is Rs. 1 lakh.

7. Programme of the Public Works Department

Demand of accommodation in the State Guest House at Kyd Street has been increased considerably. Hence it has been suggested for its extension with a provision of Rs.28.00 lakhs for the Annual Plan 1992-93

8. Programme of the Home (Personnel & Administrative Reforms) Department

The Department of Home (Personnel and Administrative Reforms) has to look after the matter relating to provision residential quarters for the officers and staff of the Collectorate and Sub Divisional Offices in the State. For construction of such quarters provision of a sum of Rs.342.50 cash for the 8th Five Year Plan and Rs.64.08 lakhs for the Annual Plan (1992-93) has been suggested to take up certain inescapable projects during the said plan period.

9. Programme of the Public Works Department

Provision has been suggested for both 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) and Annual Plan (1992-93) to take up construction of residential quarters for the officers and staff of the P.W. Department posted mostly in the districts during the said plan period which are considered essential.

RURAL HOUSING

10. Programme of the Rural Development Department (C.B. Branch)

1. Rural Housing Scheme :-

Provision of House sites for landless labourers et including the members of S.C. & S.T. and construction of huts.

(a) House sites : Out of the families identified, about 81500 families are yet to be provided with housesites. These may be done on the basis of availability of land. The proposed outlay for 8th plan period is Rs.6.15 lakhs and that for 1992-93 is Rs.0.99 lakhs.

(b) Construction of huts : Near about 2,50,000 huts are yet to be constructed to cover the families identified for providing such huts. The proposed outlay for 8th

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plan (1992-97) is Rs.501.03 lakhs and for 1992-93 is Rs.80.42 lakhs. The unit cost of such construction is too inadequate. Revision of unit cost is urgently necessary. In the State, the Rural Housing is the only scheme which provides housing for the landless labourers. The unit cost varies from Rs.1600/- to Rs.2500/-. But Rs.6000/- + Rs.3000/- for construction, infrastructural and environmental development has been fixed under other Indira Awas Yojna.

2. Demonstration cluster Housing Complex under NBO :

A number of hut clusters in two villages in Raina Block and Taldanga Block are under process. Proposed outlay in 8th plan (1992-97) is Rs.6.87 lakhs and for 1992-93 is Rs.1.10 lakhs.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT
State Capital Development

1. Programme of the Municipal Affairs Department

At present there are 115 urban local bodies in West Bengal, of which 37 are within the Calcutta Metropolitan Area (CMA) and nearly 20 urban local bodies are likely to be constituted within the Eighth Five Year Plan period. Since the urban local bodies within CMA have been brought under the massive investment of CUDP-III and the State Government have decided to reduce the regional imbalance between the urban local bodies within CMA and those outside it in accordance with the recommendations of the West Bengal. Development Strategy Committee in 1981, higher allocation of fund under the plan budget for the urban local bodies outside CMA have been accepted in principle.

In the urban local bodies outside CMA, the development schemes are implemented by the urban local bodies themselves with the technical assistance from the Directorate of Municipal Engineering, West Bengal, if and when needed. For general development the urban local bodies now accord priority to the projects for improvement of bustees, conversion of service privies into sanitary latrines

construction of commercial estates, improvement of working conditions of the scavengers. The urban local bodies are now free to choose the most suitable projects in relation to the local needs and resources. The schemes which cover the most backward areas and the lot of the poorest section of the people are now receiving highest priority.

In addition to the general development of the urban local bodies, this Department have also taken up Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns' in 31 urban local bodies. It is expected that this scheme will continue during the Eighth Five-Year Plan period and more new towns will be covered under this programme. On this assumption higher allocation of fund on this count has been proposed for this period.

The State Government has also taken up another Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes Programme for Liberation of Scavengers by conversion of service privies into latrines'. So far 20 urban Local Bodies have been brought under this scheme with the approval of the Government of India, 16 projects are now under scrutiny of HUDCO as per instruction from the Government of India.

Together with this scheme, State Government have also taken up the lowest sanitation programme in some of the remaining urban local bodies.

At present there are more than 2.5 lac service privies and this number may increase with the constitution of new urban local bodies. This Department may be in a position to convert 1,06,000 service privies during the Eighth Plan period, following the prescribed norms for preparation of plan papers.

If the State is to eradicate scavenging by head load completely by the end of the 8th Plan period, allocation under this sector has to be suitably increased by more than double the amount shown in these papers.

This Department have another scheme 'Bustee Improvement Scheme'. Only about 4,64,000 slum dwellers could be covered upto 1990-91. During the Eighth Plan period a total number of 3,70,000 slum dwellers is expected to be covered @ Rs. 350 per capita on average. Hence a substantial

provision during the Eighth Five Year Plan is necessary. Despite the proposed coverage 3,03,000 slum dwellers will still remain to be covered under the programme.

With the conversion of service privies, into sanitary latrines, there will be gradual decrease in the requirement of certain implements. Still other implements for garbage clearance and the like will be required and for this some provision is needed.

This Department have two Directorate viz (i) Directorate of Local Bodies, West Bengal and (ii) Central Valuation Board. These two Directorates are being catered from the Non-Plan budget provision. Still some fund is required for their expansion and hence a small provision has been earmarked for each of these two Directorates.

This Department have another Directorate, viz. 'Institute of Local Government and Urban Studies'. This Institute is being increasingly involved in imparting training to the elected and the appointed functionaries of the urban local bodies. It is now recognised that training is a part and parcel of the development process. The Institute has also acquired land at Salt Lake City for construction of a building of its own. For this purpose provision has been kept during the Eighth Plan Period.

This Department have another small scheme 'Urban Basic Services'. The resources for urban development are extremely limited and may continue to be so in the foreseeable future in view of the existence of the wide-spread poverty and lack of basic service. Under this Scheme with assistance of the Government of India at the rate of 50:50, basic services to the selected towns of Darjeeling are provided.

It may further be added here that every year the urban local bodies face the difficulties regarding the problem of supply of drinking water to their people during the summer. Commissioning of a water supply project is a time taking job. So far immediate relief provision is required for sinking and repairing of tubewells within the urban local bodies. A substantial provision has been, therefore, kept during the Eighth Plan period.

It may here be mentioned here that the provision

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as shown below will not be sufficient in case new urban local bodies local bodies are constituted in the coming years.

With a view to giving more stress on development works within the urban local bodies and thereby increasing the urban facilities to people in general more fund is to be provided under all the major items during the Eighth Plan period.

This year a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Nehru Rozgar Yojana' has been introduced. Necessary provision has been shown in the plan papers.

No State provision has however been shown in these papers in regard to Urban Basic Services for the Pocr which is at present a 100% Centrally Sponsored programme.

We are willing to take up a new scheme 'Drainage Scheme' for the urban local bodies. It is clear that without the drainage facilities the improvement of an urban local body shall remain incomplete. Implementation of this scheme will improve the environmental conditions of the urban local bodies to a great extent. We have kept Rs.100 lac for this scheme during the 8th Plan period.

2. Programme of Development & Planning (Town and Country Planning Department)

The Town & Country Planning Branch of the Development and Planning Department takes care of the Urban over growth outside the CMDA area. There are three area authorities under this department viz. Haldia Development Authority, Asansol - Durgapur Development Authority and Siliguri-Jalpaiguri Development Authority. Besides, there are few Planning Authorities in the State.

- i) Jaigaon Area in the District of Jalpaiguri
- ii) Mirrick area in the District of Darjeeling
- iii) Burdwan Town
- iv) Falta area in the District of South 24-Parganas
- v) Sriniketan Santiniketan area in the district of Birbhum
- vi) Digha Planning Authority

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3. Programme of the Development and Planning Department :

Digha Development Scheme :

With the passage of time, Digha Sea Resort has become a very important place of tourist attraction. Number of visitors to the spot increasing Phenomenally. For further development of this place of tourist attraction the following projects are suggested for being included in the 8th Five Year Plan.

In terms of recommendation of CSME and letter from Prime Minister the whole of South of Foreshore Road will have to be kept afforested. Besides, in the North also as a part of general beautification afforestation is to be done and maintained wherever the land use will suggest vacant space. Forestry should also be undertaken on both sides of all the roads. In 8th Plan emphasis has to be given on this work.

Besides, a big sector nearer to Orissa border, is likely to be kept reserved for afforestation only. As a result this area may pose to be a security hazard. To add to the attraction to the area and to remove security hazards, a zoo/deer park has been proposed.

In terms of report of the Centre of studies for men and environment, Foreshore road has to be kept closed for heavy vehicles. For this purpose, Northern By-pass Road, now planned for entry of vehicles only, will be used for their exit also. For this purpose, the road will have to be widened upto the status of State high way.

A Sector has already been allotted to a large number of individuals but the sector is yet to be developed and made fit for construction of houses. In 8th Five Year Plan this sector will have to be developed. The Planning Authority may earmark some of the undeveloped sector for construction of residences and Holiday Homes. The development of such sectors require considerable expenditure.

Digha beach town is already facing the problem of disposal of reguges. Large number of Holes have already come up, and residential and other buildings are being rapidly constructed. The attraction of beach town is being rapidly constructed. The attraction of beach is being on the increase.

The sewerage problem will gradually assume a serious proportion. The Public Health Engineering Directorate was already asked to prepare and submit a comprehensive sewerage programme. This Project will be implemented over the five year period of 8th Plan and a cost of Rs.100 lakhs has been estimated.

Old Digha is now extremely vulnerable to erosion and the erosion has its tendency towards the coast. The Sea Wall has therefore, to be extended further 41500 mts. The existing boulder-dykes will need constant replenishment.

4. Programme of the Urban Development Department.

Urban Renewal Schemes in the C.M.D.A. Area.

To ease the internal traffic circulation problems in Calcutta, rationalisation of the existing land use with a view to release some lands for the road system is considered necessary. Relocation of the jetties and godowns of the C.I.T. along the Strand Road would give land for substantial widening of it and providing relief to traffic congestion and for diversion of route during the works of Metro Railway along C.R. Avenue. Besides preparatory steps for planned development of the area east of the Calcutta Metropolitan District has become essential to cope with the urban growth. This requires a through survey and preparation of detailed land use map of the area before taking up development schemes. Some urgent works like beautification, gardening, lightening etc. of roads for which no regular budget allotment is available, may also be undertaken from fund provided under this scheme. A provision of Rs.75.00 lakhs has been suggested under this scheme for 8th Plan period and Rs.12.10 lakhs for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

Reclamation and Development of New Salt Lake Area :

A scheme has been formulated for the reclamation and development of low lying areas comprising of Chintasingh Bhery and some adjoining land of Irrigation & Waterways Department. The area of the proposed reclamation is about 237.44 acres. The possession of land in Chintasingh Bhery has already been taken over by the Government after acquisition. It has been decided that the entire area after development would be handed over to the West Bengal Electronics Development Corporation for setting up Electronics Industry and also for Group Housing for industrial labour. A sum of Rs.30 crore has been sought for the scheme during the 8th Plan period. There is a budget provision for Rs.6 crore for 1991-92. The same amount of Rs.6 crore has been suggested for allocation in the Annual Plan 1992-93.

Surface water supply for Salt Lake, Dum Dum, South Dum Dum Municipalities :

C.M.D.A. took up the project of construction of Baranagar Water Treatment Plant to supply surfact water to Titagarh, Khardah, Panihati, Kamarhati, Baranagar, North Dum Dum Municipalities and a few other non-municipal urban areas. But due to shortage of space at the intake and treatment plant site of Baranagar Treatment Plant, it was not possible to bring Salt Lake, South Dum Dum and Dum Dum under the supply of Baranagar Treatment Plant. So it has been decided that these three areas will be supplied with surface water from Palta Tala Complex of C.M.C. by installing additional capacity.

The project cost at the first phase of the scheme, is estimated to be Rs.51 crore. The implementation period is five years (1991-96). HUDCO has already sanctioned Rs.30 crore for the project as loan. Rs.21 crore will have to be provided by the State Government for the project. State Government has already released a sum of Rs.5.55 crore to C.M.D.A. for initial ground work of the project. The residual sum of Rs.15.45 crore has been suggested for inclusion in the Plan outlay for the 8th Plan period. An amount of Rs.3.35 crore has been suggested as annual outlay for 1992-93.

Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority.

Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority is currently implementing the Calcutta Urban Development Project - III. The likely completion date of C.U.D.P. - III is March, 1992. It has been estimated that even after completion of C.U.D.P. - III approximately Rs.118 crores will be necessary for completing the ongoing project of C.U.D.P. - III. As the World Bank credit 1369- IN may continue upto 31st March, 1992, we have to use the term C.U.D.P. - III upto 31st March, 1992. Such schemes or part of schemes as will be executed after 31st March, 1992 can be called C.U.D.P.-IV. The total outlay of the new projects is estimated at about Rs.427 crores of which Rs.229.65 crore is proposed to be spent during the 8th Plan period. If no world bank assistance is received for the C.U.D.P.-IV, the resources for the project will have to be provided for by State Government loan, market loan and some grant from the State Government.

A sum of Rs.33,650 lakhs has been proposed for the 8th Plan period for loans to C.M.D.A. under Calcutta Metropolitan District Development Scheme including market borrowing. Grants of Rs.1028.12 lakhs has been proposed for Municipal Development Programme (M.D.P.) and Rs.3427 lakhs for Minimum Needs Programme during the 8th Plan period. The proposed annual outlay for 1992-93 for C.M.D.D.S. is Rs.5335 lakhs, for M.D.P. Rs.165 lakhs, for M.N.P. Rs.550 lakhs. During 1990-91, there was an expenditure of Rs.46.47 crore as against the budgeted outlay of Rs.50.00 crore in the budget for 1991-92.

United Kingdom has sanctioned Rs.45 crore for Calcutta Slum Improvement Project under O.D.A. scheme to be implemented over a period of 5 years from 1991-95. Out of this, a sum of Rs.8 crore has been proposed for Annual Plan 1992-93. This amount of Rs.8 crore is outside the overall plan ceiling of this Department as per guidelines issued by the Development & Planning Department.

Calcutta Improvement Trust :

A sum of Rs.445.00 lakhs has been proposed for the C.I.T's schemes during the 8th Five Year Plan period. During 1990-91, the expenditure of C.I.T. was Rs.56.00 lakhs against the budget outlay of Rs.110.00 lakhs. In 1991-92 there is a provision for Rs.55 lakhs which is expected to be spent during the financial year. The suggested outlay for 1992-93, is Rs.126 lakhs.

C.I.T. executes two types of schemes : remunerative and non-remunerative. The remunerative schemes include four civic centre projects : one in Maniktala and the other in Gariahat which are nearly completed. The works of two other projects at Golf Club area and Cosba area will be undertaken very soon. The execution of these schemes will create huge amount of shopping, commercial and cultural activities in these areas. There would be a good amount of employment generation due to the execution of the projects. As regards non-remunerative schemes main concentration is on road-widening project. These non-remunerative schemes include widening of Bantinck Street, extension of Amharst Street beyond S.N. Banerjee Road, widening of Baishnab Seth Street and Ultadanga Railway Station under-pass, extension of Maniktala Main Road to Salt Lake, extension of Beliaghata Main Road to Salt Lake, Improvement of Deshapran Sashmal Road and development of Dhakuria Station Road and also the construction of open air Theatre at Rabindra Sarobar.

Howrah Improvement Trust :

A sum of Rs.377 lakhs has been proposed for the H.I.T.'s schemes during the 8th Five Year Plan period. In 1990-91, the expenditure of H.I.T. was Rs.50 lakhs as against the budgetted amount of Rs.50 lakhs. There is a budget provision of Rs.55.00 lakhs in 1991-92, the whole of which is expected to be expended during this year. The proposed outlay for 1992-93 is Rs.60.50 lakhs.

H.I.T. is an old organisation which is concerned with the development of Howrah District town. The Bally Municipal Area has also been annexed within the zone of H.I.T. As a result the sphere of activities of H.I.T. has been extended. The schemes included in the 8th Five Year Plan are mainly of the following nature :-

- a) General Development Schemes.
- b) Park schemes.

a) General Development schemes envisage planned water supply, development of sewerage, drainage, roads and other civic amenities to be extended to the under-developed and fringe areas where land is available.

b) Park schemes are so located that the open space could accrue benefits to the residents of the adjoining areas of the town. Development works will be taken up at Salkia Salt Gola, Fadamtala, Doomrajala, Bally Municipal area and the area to north of Central Park. Park schemes will be taken up at Salkia, Makardah Road, Gadadhar Mistry Lane, Kasundia Road, Kankrapara Lane etc.

Kalyani Township :

A sum of Rs.226.17 lakhs has been proposed for Kalyani Township during the 8th Five Year Plan period. In the year 1990-91, a sum of Rs.8.31 lakhs was expended against the budgetted outlay of Rs.30.00 lakhs. There is a budget provision for Rs.30.00 lakhs in the year 1991-92. The proposed outlay for 1992-93 is Rs.36.30 lakhs. Kalyani is now the Sub-Divisional Headquarter of Nadia district. To improve the basic infrastructural facilities to the already covered areas and to extend such facilities to the uncovered areas of this Sub-Division, the programme of the 8th Five Year Plan has been drawn. It envisages installation of sewer disposal Plant, construction of water lines, surface drain sinking of deep tubewells and pumping stations, electrifications, construction of Community Hall-cum-Auditorium, construction of Bus terminus, markets etc. at Kalyani.

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INFORMATION AND PUBLICITYProgramme of the Information & Cultural Affairs Department

The Information & Cultural Affairs Department is a Common Service Department of the Government serving all Departments of Government in dissemination of information and in educating public opinion through different media. The cultural activities of the Government are also looked into by this Department. For better functioning the Department have been reorganised into three distinct wings so far as implementation of plan programmes is concerned viz. Information Wing, Film Wing and Culture Wing. Schemes proposed for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan are discussed in the following notes under three broad heads :-

Information : The Prime task of the Information Branch is to maintain link between the people and the Government. Its main function is to disseminate information on the various activities, plans, programmes and policies of the State Government at all levels and also to mobilise public opinion and to involve people in different efforts of the Government. At the same time another important objective of this Department is to get timely and proper feed back from the people and the press of the State of West Bengal as well as from other States in order to keep the Government posted.

The area of activities of this Branch has been widened. The publicity/public relations arrangements have been centralised in the Department and all information and public relations work of the State Government are being carried out in this wing in a centralised manner. To cope with the growing demand the activities of this Department have been extended upto Block level and now it is being further extended upto Panchayat Samity level. For efficient management and functioning of the information network in rural, industrial, urban, tribal and plantation areas as well as those in/outside the State it is only imperative that the existing arrangements and infrastructure should be adequately augmented modernised. With the sophistication of modern public relations system and publicity devices and channels we too have to keep pace and adopt techniques of effective communication and equip our arrangements accordingly.

In view of the facts presented above schemewise proposals are given below :

Direction and Administration1. Construction of Information and Cultural Complex :

At present the offices of the Information & Cultural Affairs Department are located in different places spread over the city mostly on hired accommodation. The Department have been facing acute problem for finding adequate suitable accommodation for the offices at the Head Quarter.

The plot of land at 85, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Road which is owned by this Department. The location of the plot is suitable for office cum commercial complex. It is proposed to build a multistoried building there with about 10,000 Sq. ft. floor space. The building after construction may accommodate all offices of this Department.

2. Information Centres :

(a) Setting up of State Level Information Centre at Siliguri

Construction of Information Centre at Siliguri was taken up during the 7th Plan period. To complete the work and to run the establishment cost provision has been made for the Eight Plan period.

(b) Setting up of Information Bureau in different States :-

We have set up 4 Information Centres under the Schemes at (1) New Delhi (2) Bhubaneswar (3) Madras (4) Agartala.

Two other centres are proposed to be set up at Bombay and Tribandram during the Eighth Plan.

(c) Setting up of a State Information Centre at Durgapur :-

A plot of land has been acquired at Durgapur during the 7th plan period. Construction of the Information Centre with an auditorium is proposed to be taken up during the 8th Plan period.

(d) Setting up of an Institute for Mass Media Research and Training :-

A nucleus Mass Media Centre has been functioning at the Calcutta Information Centre at present. During the Eighth Five Year Plan an Institute for mass media research and training is proposed to be set up with arrangement for training of journalists of small newspapers and inservice training of the officers of I & C A Department.

(e) Panchayat Information Centres :-

The Rural Information Organisation is at present functioning in the districts at two levels - District and sub-division. District and Sub-divisional level Information centres have been set up in the previous plans. But no centre at Block level has yet been set up though 90 Field Workers have been appointed during the previous plan for working in Block areas in co-ordination with Panchayats. In the absence of any office at Block Level they have to function in the respective Blocks covering Panchayat Samity area from the Sub-divisional head quarters. In order to improve mass contact at the grass-root level the proposal for setting up of one Information Centres at the Hqrs. of Panchayat Samity may be included in the 8th Plan Period.

(f) **Setting up of Special Tribal Information Units :-**

In order to undertake effective publicity and public relations work amongst the tribal population of the State through their languages and culture, special Tribal Information Units are proposed to be set up in the eight districts of the State having large number of tribal population. These units will be set up in the districts of Midnapore, Bankura, Purulia, Burdwan, Birbham, Malda, West Dinajpur and Jalpaiguri.

2. **Field Publicity :-**

(a) **Appointment of field workers at Block Levels and Block Information Centres :-**

The field Information organisation is at present functioning in the districts at two levels - Districts and Sub-divisions. Block Level Information Centres could not be opened as yet though 90 Field Workers have been appointed in the previous plan. In order to improve mass contact at grass-root level the proposal for setting up of one Information Centre at the Panchayat Samity may be included in the 8th Plan.

(b) **Strengthening of A.V. Units :-**

The scheme was taken up in earlier plans and will be continued in the 8th Plan.

(c) **Strengthening of Exhibition set up and setting up of per Mt. Pavilion at E.M. Bye-Pass :**

This scheme was taken up during the 7th plan and the work of construction of a permanent pavilion at Pragati Maidan New Delhi is in progress. There will be completed during 8th Plan.

(d) **Conversion of Fixed point A.V. Units into mobile Units :**

This scheme was taken up in the previous plan and may be continued during 8th Plan. At present there are 15 Fixed Point A.V. Units which require to be converted into Mobile Unit. Some vehicles may be purchased during the 8th Plan period for which a provision of Rs.20.55 lakhs may be made.

(e) **Setting up of Rural Video Screening Units :-**

It has been decided to introduce in our rural information system the technology of video with the existing staff and infrastructure. During the 8th Plan period 16 units are proposed to be set up in West Bengal. Estimated cost for this project would be Rs.128.25 lakhs.

(f) Strengthening of Advertising Wing :

The existing Advertisement Wing of this Department is proposed to be strengthened by adding a new hand Media Executive with installation of some equipments and furnishing source materials.

(g) Modernisation of Distribution Section :-

In view of growing publication and journals of Govt. the Distribution Section is proposed to be modernised providing one Electronic Machine for accounting and one three wheeler for delivery of publicity materials. The total cost on this scheme is estimated at Rs.4.34 lakhs during 8th plan period.

(h) Modernisation and strengthening of Issue and Despatch Section :-

To ensure quick service in the Issue and Despatch Section it is proposed to be modernised by organising a Despatch Section with two three-wheelers purchased at a cost of 1 lakh.

(i) Special Publicity Units for Sunderban Areas :-

With the help of the existing infrastructure the Sunderban Area of North 24-Parganas and South 24-Parganas cannot be properly covered. In order to cover the entire area effectively it is proposed to divide the total area into 4 zones viz. Kakdwip Zone, Canning Zone, Bardipur Zone and Hasnabad Zone. Each of the above 4 Zones will be one fullfledged Information Unit under a sub-divisional Information and Cultural Officer. For setting up of these units a total expenditure of Rs.45 lakhs will be incurred during the 8th plan period.

3. Song and Drama Services :-

(a) Setting up of a F.E. Unit at Siliguri :

(b) Setting up of a Song Unit and Jatra Unit :-

4. Photo Services :-

(a) Setting up of a Colour Photo Laboratory :

At present this Department has no colour photo processing Laboratory. It, therefore, proposed to set up a Colour Photo Laboratory at a total cost of Rs.6.55 lakhs during the 8th Plan period.

(b) Modernisation of Photo Section :-

The Photo Section of this Department has been proposed to be modernised with new equipments.

5. Press Information Service :-

(a) Teleprinter Service Linking Calcutta with districts :-

The scheme was taken up in earlier plans and it may be continued during the 8th Plan period. It is proposed to link up at least 5 districts with teleprinter service during the 8th plan period.

(b) Modernisation of News Bureau :-

The News Bureau of this Department is proposed to be modernised by installing electronic typewriters News Scanner, etc.

(c) Modernisation of Teleprinter Service :-

Plan for installation of FAX machine between New Delhi Office and Head Quarter with provision for quick delivery of T.P. messages, is proposed to be taken up during the 8th Plan period.

6. Publications :- Development of Basumati Corporation Ltd.

Management of Basumati Corporation Ltd. has been taken by Government. It is now being run as a corporation under the administrative control of the Government. The economic condition of this corporation is very critical. So to make it economically viable it is proposed to install some modern printing machinery and equipments at the Basumati Press. For this purpose a sum of 70 lakhs may be provided during the Eighth Plan period.

F i l m

There has been a radical change in the approach of people towards film over the years. Film is no longer considered the means of public entertainment only. Film-making these days is no longer confined to mere story telling. It has surpassed the conventional frontiers and found new pastures in Documentary Films, Tele Films, Scientific Films, Children's Films, Sports Films, Class-room Films etc. Besides, already it is a source of livelihood for a large number of people. It has, however, the potentiality to absorb far more people.

The State Government's primary role in the area of film is to set up adequate infrastructural facilities for the making and exhibition of films as also for creating conditions conducive to the making of good films. With these ends in view the main thrusts of our proposals for the 8th Five Year Plan are on expanding infrastructural facilities and making arrangements for importing training in film studies and film making. The salient features of the proposals of the Film Wing of the I & C A Department for inclusion in the 8th plan are indicated below :-

1. Modernisation of Film Studios and Laboratories

During the heyday of Bengali film industry, there were as many as 14 film studios in Calcutta. The number has since come down to 4. One of them, namely, the Technician Studio Pvt. Ltd. was acquired by the State Government in 1983. The floors and equipments of the studio are dismal and outdated

and there is need for immediate modernisation.

In 1986, a large portion of the studio was acquired by the Ministry of Railway, Govt. of India in connection with the introduction of rapid transit system under Metro Railway. It has since been decided that in addition to modernising the existing facilities at the Technician Studio, a new studio complex should be set up in the land adjacent to the Colour Film Laboratory Complex of the West Bengal Film Development Corporation at Salt Lake. The idea is to establish a film complex where all the facilities for production of film will be made available to the film maker. Metro Railway has paid the cost of construction of a studio floor in the aforesaid area. For economic viability, there is need for at least 3 floors in a studio. It is, therefore, proposed that in the 8th plan period two additional floors be constructed in the proposed complex. For this as also for upgrading the facilities at the Technicians Studio, a provision of Rs.313.04 lakhs has been made in the plan proposals.

2. Development of film production unit and film vault

Under the 6th plan, a film production unit was set up for the purpose of providing infrastructural facilities to the film industry as also for production of news reels and documentaries by the State Govt. The film vault of the Deptt. which stores and preserves films made by the Govt., has since been amalgamated with the film production unit. The facilities available at the film vault are at present not suitable for preservation of films for a long time. For improvement of the film production unit including film vault cum-archive, a sum of Rs.34.25 lakhs is proposed to be allocated under the 8th plan.

3. Loans for West Bengal Film Development Corporation

A composite sound theatre and Colour Film Laboratory Complex was set up in Calcutta under the West Bengal Film Development Corporation to cater to the needs of the film makers of the entire Eastern region of the country. The total cost of the project was Rs.627.37 lakhs, out of which 263 lakhs was provided as term loan by the I.D.B.I. and the balance was paid by the State Govt. by way of purchase of equity shares.

For reasons beyond control, it has not yet been possible for the W.B.F.D.C. to generate sufficient income for repayment of the loan provided by the I.D.B.I. As a result a huge amount has accrued as interest payable to the I.D.B.I. along with the principal. It was, therefore, proposed in the annual plan for 1989-90 to convert the entire loan into equity and repay the same in instalments from 1989-90.

It was further, proposed that additional funds be provided under a new head, "subsidy" to enable W.B.F.D.C. to repay the interest. Planning Commission had in principle agreed to both the proposals. Accordingly a total sum of Rs.294 lakhs has already been repaid to the I.D.B.I. in three instalments.

In the 8th plan a provision of Rs.475.21 lakhs may be made for payment of loans to the W.B.F.D.C. to enable the Corporation to repay the remaining dues to the I.D.B.I. as also for enabling them to increase their business capability by procuring some further equipments for the complex (editing machine and an additional rock-n-roll sound system).

4. Construction of Cinema Houses

The number of cinema halls in West Bengal is awfully inadequate considering the size of the population. The following table shows the dismal position :

Name of the State	Total number of cinema halls as in 1987 (permanent and temporary)
West Bengal	680
Kerala	1389
Tamil Nadu	2213
Karnataka	1319
Andhra Pradesh	2438
Maharashtra	1103

Lack of adequate release outlets for films continues to be the bane of the film industry in West Bengal. Incentive schemes to encourage construction of new cinema houses have not been very successful.

There is another aspect which may not be lost sight of Owners of private cinema houses are primarily interested in commercial films only. Young promising film makers, therefore, find it extremely difficult to release their films. In this situation the State Govt. has a role to play. It has, therefore, been proposed that Rs.171.25 lakhs be provided for construction of 2 cinema houses by the State Govt. during the 8th plan.

5. Film Festivals :- Financial assistance will be provided for festivals in Calcutta.

6. Setting up of film archive and improvement of facilities at West Bengal Film Centre, Nandan :-

The West Bengal Film Centre, Nandan, is an amalgam of many items related to cinema. An archive of film is one of the components. It is a place for collection and preservation of films of all categories - Short Films, Children's Films, Animated Films, Scientific Films, News reels, Oral records etc. They are preserved as documents for academic and historical research and for public education. It is proposed to set up an archive on a stable footing under the 8th five year plan.

There are certain other areas which are required to be strengthened at Nandan during the 8th plan. These are library and documentation services, training facilities, research and publications, procurement of equipments and airconditioning the top floor of the centre which has been earmarked for preserving non-film materials of the archive. The total requirement of fund under the 8th plan for Nandan will be to the tune of Rs. 41 lakhs.

7. Video Complex in Calcutta :-

With the introduction of television in the State, video came to selected homes only. In the course of last few years it has almost reached the remotest areas of the land. Today, Doordarshan is not the only maker or user of video programmes. In fact, the volume of programmes produced outside Doordarshan is much larger than what is made within.

It is felt that the infrastructure for video production available in Calcutta, for that matter in Eastern India, is not enough compared to the demand profile. All the video programme-makers or film-makers of this region have to rush to Delhi or Bombay, or Madras at a huge cost, for special digital effects, computer graphics and telecine conversion. Further, not a single proper studio is there for video shooting, recording in this region. Only some very old films studios with heat and dust have to be used for this purpose.

A Project Report for the establishment of a Video Complex for the production of video films with emphasis on education, scientific and informative films as also for imparting training in different aspects of video film making was taken up with the Italian Govt. through the Govt. of India for approval under the Indo-Italian Co-operation programme.

The Italian Government's response is positive and a team of technical experts from Italy has already visited Calcutta in this connection. It is likely that the scheme would be formally approved by the Italian Govt. soon.

In terms of the Project Report all equipments for the Project and technical expertise for imparting training in the making of educational video films would be provided by the Italian Govt. The State Govt. would provide land, make civil construction, electrical installations etc. It is likely that the total financial liability of the State Govt. for the Project would be around Rs.450 lakhs. Accordingly a provision of Rs.450 lakhs has been sought for this Project.

8. Training in film making :-

The State of West Bengal is a strong centre of film industry and a repository of talents, who have earned international fame. But, as in the case of video-films, it lacks the facility of institutional study and training in different fields of conventional film production and technology. If arrangement can be made to impart instructions in various disciplines of film making and film appreciation we may have trained personnel who can have better opportunities for employment and the cinema industry as a whole will be in a position to identify real talents and utilize their services for production of really good films.

With this end in view the State Govt. wants to involve itself by extending financial assistance to Universities and other organisations, if the courses of study and training in diverse branches of film production and film technology are taken up by them. Jadavpur University has requested the State Govt. for financial assistance for conducting courses on film-study, already introduced by them. Nandan, the West Bengal Film Centre, have conducted several courses on film-appreciation and film making.

Besides, the facilities available at the Colour Film Laboratory Complex would be expanded to impart training in conventional film-making simultaneously with the training in video-film making under the Indo-Italian Scheme, explained earlier. A provision of Rs.50 lakhs is proposed under this head during the 8th plan.

WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES AND
OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

Programme of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Welfare Department

The Department of Scheduled Castes & Tribes Welfare has a two-fold function. It has its own departmental Plan where schemes benefit Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the State. Along with this, this Department is responsible for ensuring that all other sectoral developmental departments spend a stipulated portion of their Plan outlay for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. As is well-known, the State Plan, to ensure this flow of funds, has two components, viz., Tribal Sub-Plan and Special Component Plan.

The S.C. and S.T. Population of West Bengal, numbering 121.00 lakhs and 30.7 lakhs respectively as per 1981 census, constitute 27.62% (S.C. - 21.99%, S.T. - 5.63%) of the State's total population. Major emphasis has been given to cater to their welfare needs in consideration of their backwardness in educational and economic fronts and the handicaps suffered in enjoying social services and infrastructural facilities.

While the total flow under S.C.P. and T.S.P. is determined by the contributions of the Plan components under substantive sectors, the S.C., S.T. and other Backward Classes Sector Plan is designed to supplement these efforts in the critical areas requiring additional weightage. The beneficiary-linked schemes, contained in the S.C., S.T. and other Backward Classes Sector Plan are thus meant to accelerate the pace of development of these population in the respective spheres initiated in the substantive sectors. Almost all these schemes are continuing from earlier plans. It is to be mentioned that certain changes in the rates of stipends etc. have been made in the year 1990-91 in consideration of rise in prices of foodstuff and other materials.

In consideration of the growth rate and investment trend the S.C., S.T. and other Backward Classes Sector Plan received priority attention both at the State Planning Board and Planning Commission levels. The outlay approved for the 7th Plan under this Sector was Rs. 5800.00 lakhs. But actually the total amount of Rs. 6244 lakhs was allocated in different years during Seventh Five Year Plan period. As per instruction of Development and Planning Department, proposals for 1992-93 and Eighth Five Year Plan have been prepared. Sums of Rs. 2067.00 lakhs have been shown under Annual Plan for 1992-93 and Rs. 12896.98 lakhs as Eighth Plan outlay.

The Department of S.C. & T.W. of this Government is responsible for the implementation of the schemes under the S.C., S.T. and other Backward Classes Sector Plan. As a nodal Department the S.C. & T.W. Department has also to coordinate, monitor and supervise

implementation of S.C.P. and T.S.P. and the Spl. Central Assistance Programmes related to these Plans. The committed level of expenditure has also increased manifold during the successive plan period. The machineries responsible for implementation of the provisions of the protective laws, namely, the West Bengal Land Reforms Act., the W.B. Reservation of vacancy (in Govt. Services & Posts) Act., The Protection of Civil Rights Act., Prevention of Atrocities Act. etc.; are also required to be geared up for their proper functioning. The administrative apparatus has, however, remained static and inadequate. In order to cope with the increased volume of work the existing Staff positions at all levels i.e. - District, Directorate and Secretariat should have to be strengthened for implementation of programmes.

Brief description of the schemes contained in the programmes implemented by the department are given below :-

2. Educational Development

The State Education Policy for free universal education upto class XII, free supply of text books at the primary level, establishment and construction of primary schools as per minimum needs and also covers the S.C. and S.T. student population. The supplemental programmes implemented under this plan are to support these students with Ashram Hostel facilities at the primary level, providing book grants, hostel charges, examination fees, maintenance grants etc. at the secondary level and creating suitable educational infrastructure through construction of various hostels, coaching centres, residential schools etc. The schematic pattern of these programmes are as follows :-

(1) Ashram Hostels attached to Primary Schools :

As the cost has enormously increased in recent years the ceiling cost per building is therefore proposed to be enhanced to Rs. 1,25,000/- from provision Rs. 50,000/-. Primary school children residing in these hostels would be provided with boarding, lodging, clothes, medicines, books, etc. as usual, free of cost.

The amounts proposed for 1991-92 & 1992-93 are both for completion of hostel under construction and for new hostels. All the Ashram hostels at primary level are run under Government management.

(2) Book Grants and Examination fees :

Book grants are paid to Sch.-Castes & Sch. Tribes students reading in secondary stages. The rates have since been revised w.u.f. 1.5.90 as follows :

			Old Rate	Revised enhanced rates
Class	-	V ..	Rs. 10.00	Rs. 20.00
Class	-	VI ..	Rs. 30.00	Rs. 50.00
Class	-	VII ..	Rs. 70.00	Rs. 150.00
Class	-	VIII ..	Rs. 70.00	Rs. 150.00
Class	-	IX ..	Rs. 90.00	Rs. 200.00
Class	-	X ..	Rs. 50.00	Rs. 100.00

(* for help books only)

Grants are also given for payment of Examination fees at the rate prescribed by the Board of Secondary Education, West Bengal. It may be noted that the same beneficiary may be awarded stipends for more than one year.

(3) Hostel charges at the Secondary Stage :

The object of the scheme is to provide Sch. Caste and Sch. Tribe students at Secondary Stages with hostel charges. At present the rate of hostel charge has since been revised w.e.f. 1.5.90 from Rs. 100/- to Rs. 150/- per month for 10 months in a year.

Similar enhancement has been made in the rate of meal charges to ashramites of ashram hostels run by this Deptt. and residential students of Belpahari Girls' High School.

(4) Grant of maintenance charges to the Day Scholars at the Secondary Stage :

The object of the scheme is to grant maintenance charges to Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribe day-scholars per month for 12 months in a year reading in Classes V to X and belonging to the families having annual income upto Rs. 6,000/-. In case of Sch. Tribe all the eligible day-scholars are given the stipends and in case of Sch. Caste awards are given to a limited no. of day scholars on the basis of mean test.

The rate of maintenance charges has since been enhanced from Rs. 20/- p.m. to Rs. 25/- per month.

(5) Extension of Hostel Facilities :

Location of schools, both primary and secondary, are not always contiguous to S.C. or S.T. habitations. Accordingly extension of hostel facilities to S.C. and S.T. students has been accepted as a basis prerequisite for propagation of formal education among these population. It has been noticed that extension of such facilities has contributed largely in attracting S.C. and S.T. students within the fold of formal education. In consideration of the need and resources a number of variation have been introduced in this scheme from time to time.

These are :-

- a) Ashram Hostel for Primary students;
- b) Ashram Hostel for Jr. basic / Jr. High students;
- c) Construction of Hostel buildings for boys attached to High Schools ;
- d) Construction of Hostel buildings for S.T. college students;
- e) Construction of Girls' Hostels under Centrally Sponsored Schemes;
- f) Construction of Govt. Hostels for boys and girls.

Necessary provisions have been proposed for taking up construction of hostel buildings during 1991-92 and 1992-93.

(6) Coaching arrangement for Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribes students reading in school :

25,000 SC/ST students are likely to be benefited under this scheme.

(7) Improvement and expansion of the Residential School for the Tribal Girls' at Bolpahari in the District of Midnapore :

The residential school for tribal girls at Bolpahari is now a full-fledged Higher Secondary Institution. The number of students has been enhanced from 240 to 360. The provision proposed in the Plan is for improvement of working condition of the Residential school.

(8) Improvement of working condition of the Boys' Hostels and Girls' Hostels started previously out of the fund sanctioned by this Department including provision for repair and completion of incomplete building :

The aim of the scheme is to provide additional amenities to the Boys' and Girls' Hostels and to complete the incomplete hostel buildings by giving supplementary grants as necessary.

(9) Additional stipendiary benefits to Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes meritorious students reading in Classes IX to XII :

Additional financial benefits will be given to Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes meritorious students with aim to train up them by providing special Coaching and better amenities so that they will be in a position to compete with general students for admission in Medical, Engineering and other Competitive Examination for Higher studies. 600 students will be benefited per year. The no. of beneficiaries will go up from the year 1993-94.

(10) Grants for purchase of Books and other articles etc. for the hostellers of Post-matric stage residing in Govt. managed hostels :

Govt. in the S.C. & T.W. Department now run certain hostels for S.C. & S.T. boys and girls reading in Post-matric stages. These students normally hail from such families where provision for purchase of Text Books even can hardly be imagined. In view of the above it has been decided to provide these hostellers with some sets of Text Books to be utilised by them jointly. Moreover classical literature and story books of reputed writer and Plan materials will also be provided to the hostellers at Govt. cost.

Economic Betterment :

The main thrust under these programmes are given through Land Reforms and poverty alleviation programmes. Improvement of the traditional skills of the S.C., S.T. artisans and involvement of the SC/ST entrepreneurs in the new technology has also been aimed at under the Plan. The functioning of W.B.S.C. & S.T. Dev. & Financial Corporation and the West Bengal Tribal Dev. Co-operative Corporation Ltd. have been defined precisely to live upto this expectation.

Under the Land Reforms Programme of the State Govt. there has been considerable increase in the number of landed peasantry among SC and ST. Assignees of vested land share-croppers, small and marginal farmers among SC/ST have been brought under various economic development programmes under S.C.P. and T.S.P. Employment oriented programmes propose to diversify the occupation of the SC & ST, who are predominantly agricultural labourers, through different types of income generating schemes.

The West Bengal Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes Dev. & Finance Corporation is assisted under the Plan with matching share capital assistance in 51:49 ratio. The margin money loan scheme of the Corporation has gradually assumed a key role in alleviating poverty. 63800 S.C. and S.T. families are expected to be benefited during 1992-93 under the programme. The figure for the eighth plan as a whole would come to 3,89,506 families.

The West Bengal Tribal Development Co-operative Corporation Ltd. and its affiliated LAMPS numbering 110 have also undertaken a number of activities for the Sch. Tribes through Cooperative structures in conformity with the State Govt. policy. LAMPS continues to enjoy monopoly rights relating to collection of HFP and Tree-felling operation.

Training-cum-Production Centres (T.C.P.C.) :

There are TCPC Centres which are run departmentally. These centres provide training both in traditional trades of the SC and ST as well as in some new trades. Each centre provides training @ 20 SC/ST trainees at a time in trades like (1) textile, (2) leather, (3) carpentry, (4) sericulture, (5) tailoring & knitting, (6) other handicrafts, (7) Lac and (8) misc. trades. Each trainee is paid Rs.75/- p.m. during the training period which is usually for one year. Ex-trainees are provided with one-time grant, which is often linked with bank-loan, to establish them in such trades. The products of these centres are marketed through a number of outlets and are supplied to different State/Central Govt. offices on made-to-order basis. The working condition of the Centres will be improved. The rate of stipend would be enhanced during the eighth five year plan.

Health, Housing and Other Amenity Programmes :

The entire provision proposed in the Backward Classes Sector Plan under this broad programme, in fact, are meant only to supplement the sectoral programmes. Thus the maintenance of T.C., Leprosy and V.D. mobile clinics and beds for S.T. people are borne under Backward Classes Sector Budget in the non-plan to make the health facilities provided under State Plan Programme available at their reach. The dugwell/water-supply schemes will similarly be used in emergent cases to meet drought and other situation. These will,

no doubt, supplement the sectoral programmes implemented for the purpose. The roads, bridges and culverts scheme are similarly of supplemental nature, to link S.C./S.T. hamlets. The scheme has accordingly been proposed to be implemented in the existing pattern with higher ceiling cost.

- a) Promotion of cultural activities of Sch. Castes;
- b) Promotion of literary and cultural activities of Sch. Tribes, both the schemes introduced in the year 1989-90 will continue in the year 1991-92 and 1992-93.

Information & Cultural Affairs Department of this Government implement schemes for promotion of cultural activities of people in general of this State. But it is felt that special effort for S.C. & S.T. people are necessary as these two communities are far behind the general stream. Moreover, Tribal culture is different from that of General people of this State and as such Govt. should have to take up special schemes suitable for the development of these people. In view of the above the aforesaid schemes have been proposed to be continued in the Annual Plan for 1991-92.

- c) Rehabilitation Schemes for scavengers rendered unemployed due to conversion of dry latrines.

The scheme has been included as per instruction of Govt. of India. The provision proposed for the scheme represents matching share of State Govt. for the C.S. Schemes of same nomenclature. Already scavengers in 12 Municipalities have been liberated and Training Programmes for rehabilitation in other trades are under progress.

- d) Payment of stipends to S.C. & S.T. Type and Shorthand learners attached with recognised commercial colleges.

With the unemployment problem growing acute day by day it is necessary to ensure that S.C. & S.T. unemployed youth are fit to compete in all disciplines. In order to enable them to compete with general candidates and filling the reserved quotas for posts involving knowledge of shorthand and typewriting. Govt. desire that they should be given incentives for taking training in shorthand and typewriting. But it is very difficult for S.C. and S.T. candidates in general to pay the fees payable to the commercial colleges. In view of this Govt. want to provide with necessary stipend to these S.C. & S.T. candidates for learning typewriting and shorthand in approved commercial colleges.

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e) Improvement of working conditions of school buildings located in areas having S.C. concentration :

The provision is in the nature of an additive intended to cover special expenditure for improving the working condition of schools in Scheduled Caste concentrated areas for the benefit of S.C. students.

f) Construction of Ambedkar Chaupal (Community halls) in areas predominantly inhabited by S.C. people :

This year i.e. 1991-92 is the centenary year of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. To commemorate the Birth Centenary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, 10 Ambedkar Chaupal (community halls) will be taken up during the Eighth Five Year Plan. In order to attract central assistance the scheme would be implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 50:50 funding basis between the State and Central Government. All the Ambedkar Chaupals will be established in rural areas the S.C. population is above 50% of the total population of that area.

g) Improvement of living conditions of those engaged in unclean occupations :

State Government intend to introduce a scheme for the betterment of the living conditions of sweepers, scavengers tanners, flayers engaged in different occupations in urban areas. The persons belonging to these communities generally resides in the areas where municipal and minimum hygienic conditions are hardly available. The entire population is indebted to these communities as they keep the general habitats clean.

It is under active consideration of the State Government to sanction grant-in-aid to different Municipalities for providing better living condition to them by improving sanitation, drinking water facilities, roads, swarage etc. of these localities inhabited by the State Government intends to provide 20% of the total cost only if the Government of India agree to own to bear 80% of the total cost.

Flow of Benefit for S.C. & S.T. Women Community :

In the State of West Bengal Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes Women get due share of benefit out of the schemes being implomented in the State.

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Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Girls students are being benefited out of Stipendiary schemes like Book Grants and examination fees, Hostel charges, maintenance charges, Payment of compulsory charges (Sch. Tribes). Their nos. are increasing day after day.

1) This Department runs 25 training centres for imparting Training to Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribe women in Tailoring, Knitting and Embroidary schemes in order to enable them to earn their livelihood. At present 275 Sch. Caste and 225 Sch. Tribe women are being trained up in these training centres every year.

2) The passed out trainees are being provided with margin money loan from the Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribe Dev. and Finance Corporation to set up trades of their own with the help of institutional finance.

3) Moreover, Government in the Sch. Caste & Tribe Welfare Department runs hostels, Ashram hostels etc. for Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribe girl students. At presents 5 central hostels are being run entirely at Government cost for the benefit of Sch. Caste & Sch. Tribe Girls students reading in post secondary stages.

4) West Bengal Tribal Development and Co-operation Corporation, the apex body of LAMPS under the Department has been organising Tribal Women Wing attached to various LAMPS in order to trainup the tribal women members with the activities of LAMPS as well as different types of vocational training since 1990. So far about 700 tribal women members have been trained.

5) LAMPS are purchasing the Kendu leaves and Sal seeds at fair price from tribal collectors (80% representing women). Moreover, the persons being engaged in processing of Kendu leaves and Sal seeds are mostly tribal women (90% of total persons engaged).

6) Now this Department propose to set up one working womens' hostel in and around Calcutta inconsideration of the fact that working women belonging to these communities face much trouble to have an accommodation in the city.

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Labour : Programme of the Labour Department.

The Labour Department is concerned with two Heads of Development (1) Labour and Labour Welfare including Employment and (II) Employee's State Insurance (Medical Benefit) Scheme.

Detailed schematic descriptions with financial implications are recorded hereunder :-

LABOUR AND LABOUR WELFARE INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT.

LABOUR DIRECTORATE.

1. Strengthening of Enforcement Machinery.

With the increased emphasis given by the Government on the improvement of working condition of workers engaged in the un-organised sector, the State Enforcement Machinery has already undergone some expansion over the last few years. The set up is now being headed by a whole time Additional Labour Commissioner who works under the general supervision of the Labour Commissioner. However some complementary and residual staff is necessary to make the Enforcement Wing a complete totality.

2. Strengthening of the State Labour Institute.

The State Labour Institute perennially runs a training course for serving or prospective Labour Welfare Officers. The course has however been upgraded from the former certificate level to the present Diploma level and the course contents, selection of experts, mode of examination have already been upgraded to keep pace with the new requirement. It is proposed that an Ambassador car should be purchased for the Institute so that the Institute Officials may establish contact with other Institutes and expert, academic and professional bodies on a more efficient basis. In addition, more books etc. will be required to be purchased from the S.L.I.

3. Grants to the Indian Institute of Social Welfare & Business Management.

The Institute is run with the direct involvement, both financial and administrative, of three agencies, i.e. the Union Government, the University of Calcutta and the State Government. The Government of West Bengal has been releasing substantial monetary grants to the IISW & BM every year. It is proposed that in the first year (1992-97) of the 8th Plan, a sum of Rs.1.75 lakhs may be allocated against Rs.10.00 lakhs required for the entire 8th plan period.

4. Improvement of Labour Statistics.

This Directorate handles a large volume of industrial statistics touching upon several aspects of industrial relations & Labour Welfare.

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This statistics and other related matters are brought out in two publications namely West Bengal Labour Gazette (published quarterly) & Spectra which is brought out once a year. For proper and effective implementation of the scheme a sum of Rs.16.00 is required for the entire 8th plan period while Rs.2.70 is proposed for 1992-93.

5. Strengthening of Industrial Relations Machinery.

State Government has already approved upgradation of the Regional Labour Office of Barrackpore now headed by an Assistant Labour Commissioner to the status of a Zonal Office headed by a Deputy Labour Commissioner. A post of a Deputy Labour Commissioner has also been created and steps have been taken for manning the same. Some complementary staff support is being proposed. Since this office shall supervise and coordinate the functions of 13 Assistant Labour Commissioner's office, mostly engaged in connection with enforcement and industrial relations amongst a large number of unorganised workers, it has been proposed that a Zeeep should be made available to this office for the purpose of establishing liason in a better and more effective way amongst the different agencies.

In the District of Bankura a new Sub-division has been created with its Head Quarters at Khatra. In Bankura District there are two Regional Offices for each of the two Sub-divisions i.e. Bankura and Bishnupur. Khatra is far away about 40 k.n. from both Bankura and Bishnupur. There are a number of small and medium sized industries employing about 50,000 workmen in the area covered by the new Sub-division. It is necessary that a Regional Office to be headed by an Assistant Labour Commissioner should be set up in this Sub-division.

6. Bidi Workers Welfare.

Government has already decided to improve the working conditions of the thousand of Bidi Workers employed as home workers, most of which are female workers. This requires regular inspection at the domestic level and accordingly Government desires to recruit five lady Inspectors and appoint them as such under the Bidi Cigar Act.

It is proposed that the same post be created under the Plan.

7. Welfare of women and child labour.

Under a centrally sponsored scheme there is a proposal for appointment of an inspector with Headquarters at Calcutta to cover districts of 24-Parganas (North), 24-Parganas (South), Hooghly and Burdwan. There is a large concentration of women and children in plantation Industry. It is, therefore, proposed that a post of an inspector with Headquarters at Jalpaiguri may be created to cover the Plantation areas in the Districts of Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, West Dinajpur and Cooch Behar. Similarly, another post of an inspector may be created with Headquarters at Bidhnupur to cover the Districts of Purulia, Bankura, Midnapur and Howrah.

DIRECTORATE OF BOILERS

The basic functions of the Boiler Directorate relate to ensuring safety in the use of boilers by invoking the provisions of the Indian Boilers Regulations, 1950 and the Rules framed by the State Government under the Indian Boilers Act, 1923.

To add to the efficiency of the Directorate and to ensure more safety measures in the operation of boilers the following plan schemes/proposals have been proposed to be taken up for implementation during the Eighth Plan period (1992-97) in phases :-

- A. Testing Laboratory for examination of Boilers.
- B. Welders' Training Centre.
- C. Branch Office at Malda & Mecheda/Haldia.

DIRECTORATE OF FACTORIES

The Directorate of Factories is responsible for administering the following Acts and the respective Rules framed thereunder :-

- i) The Factories Act, 1948 and the West Bengal Factories Rules, 1958;
- ii) The Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and the West Bengal Payment of Wages Rules, 1958;
- iii) The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and the West Bengal Maternity Benefit Rules, 1965.

For better and efficient working of the Directorate and to cater better services to the workers of the Factories of West Bengal the following Schemes have been taken up for implementation during the Eighth Five-year Plan in phases as detailed in Annexure - I :-

- Scheme-I. Opening of a new branch office of the Factories Directorate at Howrah for taking care of three factories identified as major accident hazards factories.
- Scheme-II. Strengthening of the Research and Development Wing.
- Scheme-III. Grant-in-aid to the Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management for Training of Safety Officers.

INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL AND LABOUR COURT

1. Scheme : Setting up of Industrial Tribunal and Labour Court.

There are at present 9 Industrial Tribunals and 2 Labour Courts in West Bengal. Out of these, 7 Industrial Tribunals and 2 Labour Courts are at Calcutta while Jalpaiguri and Lurgapur have one Tribunal each. For speedy disposal of the industrial dispute cases, the necessity of setting up of more Industrial Tribunals/Labour-Courts are strongly felt. In addition the 1982 Amendment of Industrial Disputes Act has

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made the adjudication of industrial dispute cases time-bound. It is proposed to set up 2 (two) more Industrial Tribunals one each at Howrah and Barrackpore where the concentration of industrial writs is very large.

2. Scheme : Strengthening of the Planning Cell of the Labour Deptt. (Sectt.)

At present a small cell operates. The work of this cell has increased manifold. To cope with the increased work-load, strengthening of the cell by creation of additional posts is strongly felt. Accordingly a plan-proposal has been chalked out.

LABOUR WELFARE BOARD

The West Bengal Labour Welfare Board constituted under the West Bengal Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1974 looks for promotion of Welfare activities amongst the workers employed in factories, Tea Plantations, Commercial Establishments, Tramways and in motor's transport undertakings of this State. To cater more welfare measures and recreational facilities to the workers and their families several plan schemes/programmes have been suggested for inclusion in the Eighth Five-Year Plan in phases.

1. Scheme : Construction of Holiday Homes.

It is proposed that four new Holiday Homes may be constructed during the 8th Five Year Plan period (1992-97) at the following places :- for the workers and their families.

- a) Ayodhyay Hill in Purulia District;
- b) Mukutmanipur in Bankura District;
- c) Farakka in Murshidabad District;
- d) Bagdogra in Darjeeling District;
- e) Dagapur in Darjeeling District.

A sum of Rs.190 lakhs is required for the entire 8th Plan period (1992-97) of which Rs.31.00 lakhs is proposed for 1992-93.

2. Scheme : Construction of Model Labour Welfare Centres.

It has been suggested that the following new Model Labour Welfare Centres may be constructed a new on new sites in place of the existing ordinary Labour Welfare Centres because the rented buildings housing these centres have been badly damaged and the landlords are reluctant to undertake repair work hampering smooth functioning of the Centres :-

- i) Rishra in Hooghly District,
- ii) Bauria in Howrah District,
- iii) Ranaghat in Nadia District,
- iv) Nawabgunj in 24-Parganas (North) District,
- v) Kankinara in 24-Parganas (North) District,
- vi) Budge Budge in 24-Parganas (South) District.

3. Scheme : Construction of 4 (four) Cottages at Dicha Holiday Home.
4. Scheme : Denolition and Renovation of Darjeeling Holiday Home.
5. Scheme : Subsidised Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers.

This is a centrally sponsored scheme.

An amount of Rs.5.00 lakhs (State share) is proposed for the year 1992-93 against Rs.24.00 lakhs for 1992-97.

EMPLOYMENT

DIRECTORATE OF EMPLOYMENT

EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

The Employment Service in the State operates through the following network

1. 66 (sixty-six) Employment Exchange of varying sizes.
2. 2 (two) Special Exchanges-1 for professional & executive personnel and the other for Physically Handicapped Persons, both located in Calcutta.
3. 5 (five) University Employment Information & Guidance Bureaux (U.E.I. & G.B.) in the Universities of Calcutta, Jadavpur, Burdwan, Rabindra Bharati & North Bengal.
4. 1 (one) Special Cell for SC/ST applicants.
5. 1 (one) Special Cell for Exempted Category of applicants at the Directorate Headquarter.
6. 1 (one) Coaching-cum-Guidance Centre for SC & ST applicants at Darjeeling Employment Exchange.
7. 57 (fifty-seven) Employment Information & Assistance Bureaux (E.I. & A.B.) located at CD Blocks.
8. 7 (seven) Special Cells for Physically Handicapped Persons in selected Exchanges.
9. 4 (four) Women's Cells at 4 (four) Employment Exchanges.

31 (thirty-one) Employment Market Information (E.M.I.) Units function in as many Exchanges while 35 (thirty-five) Employment Exchanges have vocational Guidance (V.G.) Units attached to them.

In order to analyse characteristics of manpower demand and supply as also for identification of areas where manpower development process through training system has to be initiated, the network has reasons to be extended further down for all the CD Blocks to be fully covered gradually.

EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICE :-

1. The Employment Exchange services have already reached Sub-divisional level. In some cases it has already touched certain projects
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sites and identified growth centres. While proposals have also been made for extending services up to the block level, there is a need for 1 (one) more employment exchange at Hingalganj in Basirhat Sub-division of North 24-Parganas district which we propose to open during the 1st year of the 8th Five-Year Plan with standard staff support.

2. Opening of U.E.I. & G.B. and strengthening of the existing U.E.I. & G.B.

(a) We propose to open 2 (two) UEI&GEX at (i) Kalyani Agricultural University & (ii) Biswa Bharati University on DGE&T staffing pattern during the first year of the Plan period.

(b) Strengthening of the 4 (four) existing UEI&GEX with Calcutta, Jadavpur, Rabindra Bharati & Burdwan Universities is also proposed following DGE&T pattern during the 2nd year of the plan period i.e. in 1993-94.

3. Opening of 40(forty) Employment Information and Assistance Bureau (EI&AEx) Units.

During the plan period it is proposed to open another 40 EI & AEx to cover CD Blocks with concentration of SC & ST population in a phased manner as under :-

1992-93	...	9
1993-94	...	8
1994-95	...	8
1995-96	...	8
1996-97	...	7

4. Computerisation of Employment Exchange :

In view of the rapidly growing work load of the Employment Exchanges computerised operations are becoming imperative. No staff support is required for the purpose as the existing staff are to be trained for operational requirement. We propose therefore, to introduce computerised operation in 15 (fifteen) Employment Exchanges in a phased manner i.e. 1992-93-3, 1993-94-3, 1994-95-3, 1995-96-3 and 1996-97-3.

5. Setting up of Women Cell :

The problem of development of woman affairs as part of the development of human resources need to be accorded special emphasis. Following the recommendation of the working group separate cells are being proposed for opening at each Employment Exchange under the supervision of a lady officer. 13 (thirteen) such cells are to be opened in a phased manner over the plan period, e.g. 1992-93-4, 1993-94-4, 1994-95-3 and 1995-96-2.

6. Opening of Physically Handicapped Cells at District Headquarters :

With increasing emphasis on programmes aimed at benefitting the physically handicapped applicants, special cells for them may be set up at the Employment Exchanges. 9 (nine) Exchanges during the plan tp/-

period are intended to be covered in phased manner: i.e. 1992-93-4, 1993-94-3, 1994-95-2.

7. Strengthening of staff Training Unit at the Directorate Headquarters.

EMPLOYMENT MARKET INFORMATION :

1. Opening of E.M.I. Units.

At present 31 (thirty-one) EMI Units cover 66 Employment Exchanges in the State. To build up an effective system of information collection and interpretation on employment market, it is necessary to have an independent unit for each exchange. During the plan period opening of 23 (twenty-three) such units is proposed in a phased manner with the staff support of 1 (one) Statistical Assistant and 1 (one) Lower Division Clerk, for each unit, proposed schedule for year-wise inauguration being 1992-93-8, 1993-94-7 and 1994-95-8.

2. Strengthening of Statistical Cell at the Directorate Headquarter.

SELF-EMPLOYMENT FOR THE REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED IN WEST BENGAL :

1. SESRU Administration.

(i) The urgency of the proposal to set up 4 (four) Deputy Director Offices in the districts of Howrah, Bankura, West Dinajpur and Cooch Behar, overrides all consideration. During the 7th Five Year Plan only 12 (twelve) posts of Deputy Directors have been created under SESRU scheme with coverage for all the districts. But for effective monitoring, supervision and maintenance of liaison with the banks and other related agencies particularly in the back drop of rising complications, let alone evaluation and recovery view points, the imperatives of creation of the Deputy Director Offices in the proposed 4 (four) districts can no more be overlooked and sidelined. For, this area of Self-Employment holds immense possibilities for future improvement and scope for rapid enlargement. Therefore, during the 8th Plan period, some posts of officers and staff may be created to cope with the volume of the work.

- (ii) Sanction of Staff for 12 (twelve) offices of Deputy Directors already opened.

While the posts of 12 (twelve) Deputy Directors have already been sanctioned during the 7th Five Year Plan, for effective functioning of these offices the following posts are required to be created during the 1st year of the plan period i.e. Investigating Inspector-1, U.D.C. - 1, Typist - 1, Peon - 2 and Chowkider - 1.

2. Opening of SESRU Unit at Hingalgank Employment Exchange in the Basirhat Sub-division of North 24-Parganas District proposed for opening under Scheme No.1.

SESRU Unit is simultaneously proposed to be opened along with exchange proper for which the following posts are required to be

sanctioned. 1 (one) Employment Officer, 1 (one) Investigating Inspector, 1 (one) UEC, 1 (one) LDC, 1 (one) Typist and 1 (one) Peon in the lines already sanctioned for Khatra Employment Exchange in Bankura District.

3. Self-employment Scheme (25% Margin Money requirement).

The State Government provides 25% of the project cost as margin money. The requirement of margin money for the propose and quota of SESRU projects are given below yearwise :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Yearwise SESRU Projects quota</u>	<u>Yearwise SESRU Margin money requirement</u>
1992-93	60,000	15,00,00,000/-
1993-94	60,000	15,00,00,000/-
1994-95	60,000	15,00,00,000/-
1995-96	60,000	15,00,00,000/-
1996-97	60,000	15,00,00,000/-

For implementation of the scheme a sum of Rs.7625.00 lakhs will be required for the entire 8th Plan period (1992-97). For the Annual Plan 1992-93 a sum of Rs.1259.91 lakhs is proposed.

This is a State Sector Scheme.

DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

(1) REPLACEMENT OF OLD AND OBSOLETE MACHINERY :

Most of the I.T.I.s of the State were established more than 2 decades ago and majority of the machinery and equipment have become old and obsolete. Further due to induction of new technology, some of the machinery and equipment have become obsolete which are to be replaced in a phased manner. A project for upgradation of I.T.Is improving the quality of training at I.T.Is under the Skill Development Project aided by World Bank has been drawn up at a cost of Rs.1376.82 crores out of which State Government contribution is of Rs.688.41 crores.

(2) SETTING UP OF I.T.I. EXCLUSIVELY FOR WOMEN :

It is a matter of regret that there is no I.T.I. exclusively for women in the State of West Bengal. Due to socio economic changes large number of girls of this State are in search of suitable jobs. A certificate in suitable I.T.I. trade will help them to get a job or to be self-employed. It has been planned to set up four women I.T.Is, one at Calcutta and others at districts during the plan period.

(3) CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS/WORKSHOPS :

There is acute shortage of class-room accommodation at different I.T.Is. Further, most of the buildings, Workshop sheds were constructed more than two decades ago and are now in a dilapidated condition. Due to change of technology some new trade/occupation are in high demand having better job opportunities of self-employment.

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Such trades, particularly computer-based trades and electronic trades are to be introduced on a wide scale in the State of West Bengal. We are lagging far behind in comparison to other States in this field. New class-rooms and workshops are to be constructed to accommodate these trades. Sufficient fund may be provided for such civil works during the 8th Plan period. It is estimated that about Rs.2.12 lakhs would be needed per year for the coming 5 years for the civil works.

(4) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WING FOR IMPROVEMENT OF TRAINING SCHEME :

For development of craftsman Training Scheme a research Cell may be constituted. The function of the Cell is to maintain constant contact with various industries for ascertaining the effectiveness of the training and to obtain suitable feed back for formulating training programmes.

(5) SETTING UP OF NEW SMALL/I.T.I.s :

Considering the demand of young unemployed youth particularly residing in districts, more number of I.T.I.s are to be set up. At the present more than Rs.1.50 crores would be needed for starting a full-fledged I.T.I. It is as such proposed that instead of investing such huge money in constructing buildings, workshop sheds, small I.T.I.s with 4/5 modern high-tech. trades may be started in rented buildings with minimum essential staff.

(6) SETTING UP OF PLASTIC PROCESSING OPERATOR TRADE :

The P.O.O.T. have already been started at 3 I.T.I.s at Haldia, Hooghly & Durgapur.

(7) IMPROVEMENT OF BASIC TRAINING CENTRE (CHEMICAL) AT ITI, HOOGHLY :

We have set up Basic Training Centre for Chemical Group of trades at I.T.I., Hooghly which is only one of its kind in the whole Eastern Region. This Institute is being set up for overall development of training of apprentices in different Chemical Group of trades. Costly machinery are necessary for proper functioning of the Institute as well as to satisfy the needs of the Chemical Group of Industries located in the Region. This Institute is to be provided with all sorts of equipment prescribed by the Government of India and Rs.90.00 lakhs would be necessary for this purpose which may be provided in the next 8th Plan period.

(8) FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED TO I.T.I. BOYS :

I.T.I.s trainees should be provided with certain basic facilities which they are not getting now. Full-fledged library with librarian may be provided for which 19 posts of librarian may be created for libraries situated in I.T.I.s/Centre and B.T.C. Hooghly.

In I.T.I.s located particularly in districts, students come from distant places for which most of them want to reside in the hostel
tp/-

But due to paucity of fund it has not been possible to provide proper hostel accommodation at different I.T.I.s.

It is proposed to construct four modern hostel buildings with all necessary facilities.

DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

(The Annual Plan 1992-93)

1. UPGRADATION OF I.T.I.s UNDER WORLD BANK AIDED SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME)

D.G.E. & T., Government of India has taken up a prestigious project for overall development and modernisation of training facilities at I.T.I.s located throughout India under the Skill Development Project aided by the World Bank. 50% of the cost would be borne by Government of India.

There are ten schemes under this project. The project has started in the year 1990-91 and will continue upto the end of the 8th Five Year Plan i.e. 1995-96 D.G.E.& T., Government of India has approved a total outlay of Rs.1376.82 lakhs for the project under different schemes for the state of West Bengal which have been accepted by the Government.

(i) REPLACEMENT OF OLD & OBSOLETE MACHINER AT I.T.I.s.

(ii) EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE SYSTEM :

It has been observed that a large number of machinery installed in different ITIs are not being utilised due to various defects un-attended for long period, resulting loss of training time as well as lowering quality of training. Lack of qualified maintenance staff and space required for the maintenance of machinery are the major contributing factors leading to the present situation. To overcome the difficulties and to bring the machinery in a running condition the scheme namely - Equipment Maintenance System has been introduced by the Government of India. Rs.15.98 lakhs may be provided during the financial year 1992-93 for construction of proper accommodation and purchase of equipment to introduce the scheme.

(iii) PROVISION OF AUDIO VISUAL AIDS :

In the present age of automation and technological advancements it is imperative to use instructional technology and multi media in the field of Vocational Training in order to make learning more purposeful and effective. For this purpose, audio-visual aids are required to be intently used and integrated while imparting day to day instruction in ITIs. It has been assessed that the use of Audio Visual aids is very essential and goes a long way in improving the quality of training in the ITIs. Considering these aspects as

recommended by D.G.S. & T. all the 18 IT is located in this State have been covered under this scheme. A list of equipment to be purchased for each ITI has been prepared by the D.G.S. & T. Govt. of India, the cost of which is Rs.2.40 lakhs. The following 5 ITIs may be covered under this scheme during the year 1992-93 (1) Tallygunge (2) Howrah Homes (3) Kalyani (4) Durgapur & (5) Hooghly.

It is proposed that a total fund of Rs.2.40 lakhs may be provided during the year 1992-93 for this scheme.

(iv) EXPANSION OF EXISTING IT IS BY INTRODUCTION OF NEW TRADE COURSES :

Due to advancement of Schemes & Technology there is tremendous demand of qualified persons in the new field created. To cope with this demand, a scheme has been taken up to introduce suitable modern trades in existing IT is on the basis of realistic requirement of this state so that manpower with specific skill can be developed to meet with the need of the modern industries. With the increased demand in the field of Electronics & Computer, it has been proposed that such trades are to be introduced under this scheme. During the financial year 1992-93 a fund of Rs.16.72 lakhs may be provided for this purpose. During the first phase, the fund would be utilised for the purpose of civil construction of Class Rooms and purchase of equipment. The break up of the fund to be utilised are given below :-

- (1) Civil Construction
- (2) Purchase of equipment

(v) INTRODUCTION OF COURSES FOR SELF EMPLOYMENT

It is not possible to provide wage employment to all the passed out Craftsman trainees and apprentices as the potential of such employment is very much limited. As such it has become necessary to divert the ex-ITI trainees towards Self-employment avenues. The main objective of this scheme is to introduce skill Development Courses for passed out ITI trainees based on the local needs for employment/Self Employment activities i.e.

- (a) Repair of Refrigerators
- (b) Winging of Electric Motors
- (c) Auto Electrician
- (d) Repair of Domestic Electric Appliances.

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This scheme is very useful in West Bengal as it would help in solving partly the acute unemployment problem of this State. A fund of Rs.9.40 lakhs need to be provided during the financial year 1992-93 for this purpose.

(vi) ESTABLISHMENT OF BASIC TRAINING CENTRE :

The main objective of this scheme is to establish Basic Training Centre under the control of this Directorate to provide basic training facilities to the apprentices who are being engaged in different industries under the Apprentices Act, 1961, Govt. of India has proposed to set up one Basic Training Centre in each State depending on the number of apprentices. Under this scheme one B.T.C. would be located in this State for which a fund of Rs.13.00 lakhs to us provided during the financial year 1992-93. This fund to be utilised for the purposes of civil works and purchase of equipment. Break up of the fund is given below :-

- (1) Civil Works
- (2) Purchase of equipment.

(vii) ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED INSTRUCTION CENTRE :

The main objective of this scheme is to provide one Related Instruction Centre in this State which would be set up at I.T.I., Howrah Homes, that would be possible to create. Adequate facilities would be provided for theoretical instruction which are very much necessary for imparting training under the Apprenticeship Training Scheme. This would help the apprentices in acquiring better knowledge about the trades in which they are being trained and would help them to make a better skilled worker. Practical training would be provided in the industry. During the financial year 1992-93 a fund of Rs.3.50 lakhs need to be provided for this purpose. The fund would be utilised for construction of Class Rooms under the Civil Works.

(viii) NEW WOMEN ITIs/WINGS :

Due to paucity of fund, no ITI exclusively for women would be started in the State of West Bengal. In this regard, we are lagging far behind in comparison to other States who have already started a number of Woman ITIs. The main objective of this scheme is thus to create Vocational Training facilities for women to meet the growing need of

skilled and semi-skilled manpower requirements for industries, service sectors, domestic income general industries, Self-employment etc., Government of India has already approved for setting up for such Woman ITI in the State of West Bengal in the following places :

- (1) Calcutta (Gariahat)
- (2) Siliguri
- (3) Burdwan &
- (4) 24-Parganas (North,

It has also been decided that 6 modern trades such as Radio & TV Electronic, Computer etc. would be started at each of the above mentioned ITIs. Rs.64.00 lakhs need to be provided during the financial year 1992-93 for this purpose. The fund would be utilised for construction of buildings and purchase of equipment. Break up of the fund is given below :-

- (1) Civil Works (for construction of buildings/ Workshop sheds)
- (2) Purchase of equipment.

(ix) INTRODUCTION OF NEW TRADES IN WOMEN ITIs :

We have not yet been able to provide sufficient training facilities for the Woman under the Craftsman Training Scheme in this State. Practically, for the first time we are going to start only 4 Woman ITIs and stated earlier. For the girls in the other districts to be given some scope for having Craftsman Training Scheme, D.G.E. & T., Government of India have decided to set up Women's Wings in the existing ITIs. Rs.37.00 lakhs needs to be provided during the year 1992-93.

The whole scheme is a Centrally Sponsored one, of which 50% of the cost would be borne by State Govt. and balance 50% would be borne by D.G.E. & T., Govt. of India.

The total cost of the different schemes to be implemented in the year 1991-92 is Rs.444.98 lakhs of which 50% i.e. Rs.222.49 lakhs need to be borne by State Government during the year 1991-92.

(x) PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNITS :

As stated earlier the total amount of Rs.13.76 crores would be incurred for implementing the World Bank aided Skill Development Project during the 8th Plan Period. D.G.E. & T., Govt. of India emphasised that a cell named SFTU need to be created at the Head quarters of each States. This cell will monitor the progress of project component scheme related to

this State. This unit would be broadly responsible for the budgets and accounts, procurement of equipment, recruitment of staff and their training, construction of buildings, with liaison functioning with D.G.E. & T., Govt. of India and other supporting services to facilities implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Project activities. A fund of Rs.4.25 lakhs may be provided during the year 1992-93. Fund to be utilised for purchase of office equipment as well as for incurring expenditure under Salary Head for the officers and staff who will function in this unit.

2. Construction of Building/Workshop Sheds (STATE PLAN) :

New Class Rooms and Workshop sheds are to be constructed for accommodating new popular trades and to fulfill the existing shortage of class rooms. As in the districts where most of the ITIs are located many students come from very distant villages, hostel facilities need to be provided. Civil works may be started at the following ITIs for constructing hostels/ class rooms. The total fund to be provided during the year 1992-93 is Rs.178.00 Lakhs. The break up of the civil works given below :-

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1) ITI H/Homes | Class Room |
| 2) ITI Tollygunge | Class Room |
| 3) ITI Durgapur | Composite Building |
| 4) ITI Hooghly | Class Room |
| 5) ITI Kalyani | Class Room |
| 6) ITI Gariahat | Class Room |
| 7) ITI BTC(Chem).Hooghly | Class Room |
| 8) ITI Cooch Behar | Class Room |
| 9) ITI Staff Quarters
at ITIs | |
| 10) Water Supply | |
| 11) Tollygunge | Hostel |
| 12) I.T.I. Bankura Chattra | |
| 13) I.T.Is Suri | |
| 14) Boundary Wall of I.T.I's | |

3. SETTING UP OF NEW ITI FOR BOYS

There are total 17 ITIs and one ITI located in different districts of West Bengal. Due to acute shortage of fund we could not start ITIs in the districts of Bankura, Jalpaiguri, 24-Parganas(South, North) where no ITI or ITI exists. Due to rapid industrialisation, demand for skilled workers have

been increased sharply in recent days. It is imperative that at least one ITI is to be set up in each district to provide employment facilities to the youth and inspiring youths. It has been proposed that during 8th plan period 2 ITIs may be started. A sum of Rs.40.50 lakhs may be provided for 1992-93. The particulars of the ITIs and their cost, are given below :

Sl.No.	Location of ITI	Cost of land and building	Cost of machinery	Salary	Total
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
			Lakhs	Lakhs	Lakhs
1.	Chatna Bankura	Rs.20.00 Lakhs	Rs.50.00	Rs.10.00	Rs.30.00

4. SETTING UP OF PLASTIC PROCESSING OPERATOR TRADE

Plastic Processing Operator trade has already been started at I.T.I. Haldia during this year 1990-91 and 2 Units started during the year 1991-92 at I.T.I. Hooghly & Durgapur. This is a very modern and having a vast potentiality for employment as well as self employment due to setting up of a giant Petro-Chemical Complex at Haldia. It is as such decided that this trade may also be started in other ITIs in phased manner to cope with the demand of skilled manpower that would be required in various plastic industries in coming years. It is proposed that this trade may be started in the following 4 ITIs during the year 1992-93, the fund is to be required also mentioned against each ITI.

- Rs.5.00 lakhs
- Rs.5.00 lakhs
- Rs.5.00 lakhs
- Rs.5.00 lakhs

The total cost of Rs.20 lakhs may be provided in the year 1992-93.

5. IMPROVEMENT OF BASIC TRAINING CENTRE (CHEMICAL)

Basic Training Centre (Chem.) was started at Hooghly to provide basic training facilities to the apprentices in the Chemical Group of trades. There is only one of such centre in this State where about 375 Apprenticeship seats have been identified and necessary fund is to be provided for purchase of equipment and also for expansion of class rooms. The total fund of Rs.16.50 lakhs need to be provided during the

year 1992-93. The break up of the fund is given below :-

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| 1) Civil Works | - | Rs.10.00 lakhs |
| 2) Purchase of Machinery | - | Rs. 6.50 lakhs |

6) REVENUE HEAD :

For strengthening of Head Quarters and for different Apprenticeship Training Scheme funds are to be Allotted under existing revenue head for providing salary of the posts created for the B.T.C. (Chem) and other existing schemes. The total fund to the required Rs.12.00 lakhs during the year 1992-93. The break up of the fund is given below :

1) NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME

Basic Training Centre (Chemical)	-	Rs.7.00 lakhs
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2) CRAFTSMAN TRAINING SCHEME :

Basic Training Centre, C.T.S.	-	Rs.2.00 lakhs
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3) Strengthening of Head Quarters	-	Rs.3.00 Lakhs
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7. PURCHASE OF MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT FOR UPGADATION OF ITIs UNDER NORMAL PLAN SCHEME

As most of the machinery and equipment at different ITIs have become absolute or in a State un-suitable for impart the proper practical training, new machinery/equipment need to be purchased under normal Plan Scheme for the existing trades not covered under World Bank aided skill Development Project.

During the last financial year a fund of Rs.50.00 Lakhs was provided for the purpose. During the year 1992-93 a fund of Rs.50.00 Lakhs may be provided.

8. GRANT-IN AID TO DARJEELING GORKHA HILL COUNCIL :

For the Annual Plan, 1991-92 a sum of Rs.25.00 Lakhs has been provided for some development work at ITI, Tung. It appears that some more money will be required to complete the work.

Rs.20.00 Lakhs is proposed for 1992-93. All the schemes are State Sector Schemes.

2. Programme of the Development & Planning Department.ADDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMECONCEPT

Additional Employment Programme was introduced in the State in the year 1973-74 as a Central Sector scheme with 100% central assistance. Initially the objective of the programme was to provide employment to the educated unemployed persons particularly in the urban areas. The programme had at the time three components, viz. Training, subsidised Employment and Self-employment. In the year 1974-75, however, emphasis was laid under the programme mainly on self employment scheme among the educated unemployed persons. Since 1978-79 the scope of the programme has been further widened to include all categories of unemployed persons educated or uneducated for promoting self-generating employment schemes in the field of industries, commerce and service and also providing assistance to employed persons for the purpose of creating additional employment according to the prescribed yardstick which lays down that there should be employment of at least one person for every Rs.5,000/- of margin money. Unemployed persons from families having no source of income, however, get priority over others. Social attention is also paid to the members of the S/C & S/T, other backward classes, War-widows and ex-servicemen.

MARGIN MONEY ASSISTANCE-TERMS & CONDITIONS

Under the programme margin money assistance is provided to proprietary concerns/partnership firms, public/private limited companies and co-operative societies for the purpose of setting up of new units in the Cottage & Small Scale Industries Sector, establishment of ancillary units, promotion of agro based industries, transport etc. Such assistance is also extended to schemes for expansion of existing small scale units provided other conditions are fulfilled. Out of the fund provided for margin money to any unit, there should be, on an average, one employment in that unit for every Rs.5,000/- of margin money. The extent of margin money assistance is normally 10% of the total project cost as approved by the bank or other financial institutions provided that 20% margin money assistance is extendable to entrepreneurs belonging to S/C & S/T, physically handicapped entrepreneurs, ex-servicemen and Industrial Co-operatives. The margin money advance carries interest @ 6½% per annum, reducible to 4% in case of regular repayment. The loan together with interest thereon is repayable in four equal annual instalments. Repayment of margin money against Block Capital starts after the term loan from bank/financial institution with interest has been fully repaid or eight years whichever is earlier. Repayment of margin money against working capital commences from the 3rd year of the date of advance.

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ACHIEVEMENT

Under the programme total expenditure of margin money upto the end of the Seventh -Five Year Plan(1989-90) was Rs.1,566.39 lakhs. Last year's (1990-91) expenditure of margin money was Rs.98.21 lakhs. During the current financial year (1991-92) the full plan allocation of Rs.86.62 lakhs has so far been agreed for allotment to different Implementing Agencies of Additional Employment Programme. In terms of the stipulations in the guidelines, expected employment generation during the 1st year of Eighth Five Year Plan period (1992-93) is 1906 approximately.

SUGGESTED PROVISION FOR THE 8TH FIVE YEAR PLAN AND ANNUAL PLAN 1992-93

In continue the programme in the Eighth Five Year Plan it is proposed to make a provision of Rs.593.90 lakhs for the programme the break-up of which is as below commencing from 1992-93 :-

<u>Y E A R</u>	<u>Plan Proposal</u> (Rs. lakh)	<u>Increase %</u>
1992-93	95.30	10%
1993-94	105.30	10.5%
1994-95	116.90	11%
1995-96	130.35	11.5%
1996-97	146.00	12%
Total :		
	<u>593.85</u>	

(i.e. Rs.593.90 lakhs)

SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE1. Social Welfare

Programme of the Relief & Welfare (Welfare) Deptt.

Old Age Pension and Widow Pension :

1. - It has been felt that there should be at least hundred new beneficiaries under the Pension Scheme for each of the district of West Bengal (i.e. at least Seventeen hundred per year).

2(a). Juvenile Justice Act :-

It is proposed that in the Eight Five Year Plan two Juveniles Homes will be set up.

2(b). Most of our Homes under JJ Act are not equipped with adequate number of staff quarters. Needless to say absence of whole time staff in the Home leads to many administrative difficulties. Hence provision has been sought for 8th Five Year Plan for the construction of requisite number of staff quarters.

2(c). Four Welfare Boards are already functioning in the State. There may be an increase of two Welfare Boards and One Welfare Court during the Eighth Five Year Plan. For meeting various expenditure on this account provision has been suggested for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

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3. Specific programme for Welfare Activities of Children and Woman.

(a) 1991 - 2000 A.D. has been declared as SAARC decade of the girl child in which specific programmes will have to be taken keeping the girl child in mind. Govt. of India is laying a great stress on this fact. Suitable amount may be provided for the Eighth Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 1992-93 for taking specific programmes for the girl child.

(b) For taking up specific self-employment programme for women both for the women inmates of our Existing Homes and also for women to be brought under the Women Development Corpn. provision may be made for the Eighth Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 1992-93.

4. Old Age Home :

Scheme for the setting up of one Old Age Home in the Eighth Five Year Plan has been suggested for which provision may be made for both the 8th Plan and Annual Plan.

5. For the Welfare of Handicapped, one special school for handicapped may be set up with the Technical Education Department either in or around Calcutta. This will be a residential school with capacity of fifty.

6. Drugs :

There is not a single rehabilitation centre for drug addicts in the State of West Bengal. Since Calcutta is developing as centre for the spread of drug addition because of proximity of North East India States, presence of Calcutta Port and other factors it is felt that a rehabilitation centre of drug addicts having 50 beds may be set up during Eighth Five Year Plan. Suitable provision for this purpose both for the 8th Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 1992-93 has been suggested.

2. Programme of the School Education Department

State Welfare Homes.

School Education Department of the State Govt. is maintaining a number of Welfare Homes to look after the boy and girls of age group 6-18 who are economically very poor, parentless and destitute. Provision has been suggested in the 8th Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 1992-93 for maintenance of these Homes.

Other Social Security and Welfare Programme

Other Schemes -

Programme of the Home (Political) Department.

1. Pursuant to the Prime Minister's 15-Point Programme, the Minority Cell of the Home (political) Deptt. have undertaken a scheme for construction of Muslim Girls' Hostels in the minority concentrated districts. The scheme will meet the needs of the Muslim Girls in those districts and is expected to solve to some extent the problem faced by the Muslim Girl-students in prosecuting studies.

2. The scheme involves construction of 11 Muslim Girls' Hostels in 11 minority concentrated districts.

3. Construction works in the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum and Murshidabad have already been completed for which Rs.8.25 lakhs for Burdwan, Rs.15 lakhs for Birbhum and Rs.15 lakhs for Murshidabad have already been spent.

For allied works, the respective Zilla Parishad has asked for further fund as detailed below :-

<u>Districts</u>		<u>Rs. (in lakhs)</u>
Burdwan	-	5.31
Birbhum	-	7.10
Murshidabad	-	2.25

TOTAL : 14.66 lakhs

4. Construction works in the districts of Malda and Midnapore are continuing and Rs.5 lakhs and Rs.8.25 lakhs have been allotted respectively for the purpose.

5. During 1991-92 construction of Muslim Girls' Hostels in the districts of Nadia and West Dinajpore will be undertaken. Initially for this construction work it is expected that Rs.5 lakhs for each of the two hostels would be released.

6. During the remaining years of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) construction works in the districts of Howrah, North 24-Parganas, South 24-Parganas and Cooch-Bihar are expected to be taken up.

2. Programme of the Relief and Welfare (Relief) Deptt.

Economic Rehabilitation Grant :

Under this scheme, small grants are sanctioned to Ex-T.B. patients and other persons who are socio-economically backward to enable them to earn their livelihood. With the increase of population, the coverage of the scheme is required to be expanded. It has been proposed that during the plan period an amount of Rs.175.00 lakhs will be spent for this purpose with annual phasing of Rs.35.00 lakhs. In the format, however, the requirement for 1992-93, has been shown as Rs.5.00 lakhs only in keeping with the advice of the Development & Planning Department.

Acquisition of Land for Rehabilitation of Flood/Erosion Victims:

Erosion of river-banks in the wake of flood and even in normal times causing loss of residence to the people has assumed large proportions in many districts, particularly, Murshidabad, Malda, Jalpaiguri, Hooghly and Howrah districts. Giving H.B. Grants to these people is not helpful as many of them do not own any house sites. In order to look after

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their rehabilitation, a long term view has to be taken. For this purpose, suitable lands had been acquired in the past and 5 more proposals involving a total area of 88.85 acres in the districts of Murshidabad and Malda are ready in hand. More proposals are being processed. A sum of Rs.100.00 lakhs is estimated to be required during the plan period of which Rs.40.00 lakhs will be necessary in '92-93 and Rs.15.00 lakhs each of the successive years. In the format, however, the requirement for '92-93 has been shown as .80 lakh as per advice of the Development & Planning Department.

Installation of Disaster Warning Sets (D.W.S.)

In order to facilitate dissemination of information regarding any impending disaster, 12 D.W. sets are proposed to be installed in 12 police stations of the coastal districts at a total cost of 2.50 lakhs. The entire work is proposed to be completed during the next two years. So, the requirement of fund for '92-93 is Rs.1.00 lakh and for '93-94 is Rs.1.50 lakhs. In the format, however, the requirement for '92-93 has been shown as Rs..20 lakh only in keeping with the advice of the Development & Planning Department.

Training in Disaster Mitigation and Awareness Building Programme

The need for training of persons directly concerned with relief operation can hardly be over emphasised. Govt. employees apart, members of the voluntary organisations who extend co-operation in disaster need training in order to be more effective. The general awareness of the people regarding use of facilities in the wake of any disaster as also how they should conduct themselves in such period need also to be built up through periodic training. For this purpose, we require a sum of Rs.1.00 lakh during the plan period with annual phasing .20 lakh.

NUTRITION

1. Programme of the Relief and Welfare Department Integrated Child Development Service Scheme (ICDS).

For the year 1991-92 the budget provision under 2235 Social Security and Welfare and 2251 Hill Areas is Rs.342.56 lakhs and under Head 226 Nutrition the budget provision is Rs.440.60 lakhs.

The Plan provision for 1992-93 for Social Welfare and Hill Areas is kept at Rs.376.80 lakhs and that for nutrition has been provisionally budgeted at Rs.484.00 lakhs, the Welfare Department need extra plan provision for Nutrition to fulfil its targets.

This is because for the year 1988-89 14 ICDS projects were sanctioned by the Government of India and in the year 1989-90 36 Projects were sanctioned by the Govt. of India and also in the year 1991, 10 Projects have been sanctioned by the Govt. of India and one project has been sanctioned by the State Government.

Eventually 14 projects in 1988-89 and 36 projects for 1989-90 were sanctioned by the State Government also. 10 new projects for the year 1990-91 have not been sanctioned by the State Government till now. In effect this means that 14 + 36 + 1 (State Sector Project) making a total of 7310 Anganwadi Centres in 51 Projects have already become a committed liability for the State Government as far as nutrition is concerned.

For these projects CARE has declined to provide supplementary nutrition with the result that local food has to be provided for these projects. Till now we have been providing local food @ 55 paise per beneficiary per day, but in the plan proposals this has been raised to 75 paise per beneficiary per day. This is because Govt. of India vide their letter No.D-1/91 -NT dated 21. 2. 91 has raised the average expenditure incurred in all ICDS projects as not exceeding Rs.1/- per beneficiary per day. Also it is submitted that because of the increase of cost of food it becomes very difficult to provide for local food @ 55 paise per day. By making a plan projection that the Department will receive 20 projects (150 Centres per each project) per year from the year 1991-92 till the end of Eighth Five Year Plan i.e. 1996-97, and calculating food price @ 75 paise per beneficiary per day the budget provision for 1992-93 shall be Rs.1475 lakhs and Rs.12335 lakhs for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

On the basis of calculation at the rate of 55 paise per beneficiary per day (i.e. existing rate) the budget provision for 1992-93 for Nutrition should be Rs.1082 lakhs and for the Eighth Five Year Plan it is Rs.9046 lakhs.

It is seen that the committed liability for the 51 projects is about Rs.13.6 Crore per year which has to be provided from 1992-93 onwards since it is expected that all the 51 projects will be operational by March, 1992. However, the Welfare Department will open projects depending upon the Plan size as will be approved from time to time.

2. Programme of the School Education Department Midday-Meal Programme of Primary School Children

The Problem of drop-outs and sustaining the growth rate explain the proposed provisions under the different incentive schemes particularly in the primary sector. In so far as the Mid-day Meal Programme is concerned, Calcutta School Meal City Board Programme, State Plan Nutrition Programme and Care Assisted Child Nutrition Programme have been very useful in minimising drop-outs and increasing attendance. Care has been withdrawing from the field in a tapering manner already. These explain the provision of Rs.11,000 lakhs over the five year plan period and Rs.2200 lakh in 1992-93 so that no vacuum is created in consequence.

As a matter of fact the Deptt. proposes to spend 75 paise per head per day for 100 days during each financial year and the proposed provision will increase the total number of beneficiaries from 26.00 lakhs to 29 lakhs.

XII. GENERAL SERVICESJ A I L SProgramme of the Home (Jails) Department.

The Home (Jails) Department is administering different plan schemes keeping in view the needs of the prisoners and the guarding staff in line with the concept of modern prison management.

The department is basically depending upon the funds under the Centre and the State's Upgradation Programme, Modernisation of Prison Administration Schemes and the Schemes under State Plan.

Under the Upgradation Programme, new sub-jails have been created in those sub-divisions where they did not exist. These include the ongoing schemes at Balurghat, Durgapur, Polepur and Raghunathpur. We have also kept in view the needs of other sub-divisions like Kalyani, Haldia etc. for which site selection is being taken up.

Under the Modernisation Programme, this department takes up activities like fencing around the jails and different security measures including creation of high security jails.

We have given a modest proposal of an expenditure of 6 crores covering the entire 8th plan period of five years from the State Plan for taking certain essential repairs for which the funds are not forthcoming under the Upgradation or Modernisation Schemes.

Highlights

While preparing the plan, the department has kept in view the needs of the most deserving categories of persons it deals with. Accordingly, our priorities have been given to the following categories :-

- (a) Women prisoners - Special emphasis has been made for the creation of separate wards for the women prisoners segregating them from the others. Efforts have been made to make separate arrangements for the female guarding staff to have special enclosures to guard the female inmates. For the first time an exclusive women's jail has been taken up at Purulia. This will be the first women jail in the State.
- (b) Adolescents and children - As per the latest laws children below 16 years are not being kept in jails. Those prisoners who come under the categories of 16 to 21 are accommodated in specially created young offenders' annexe. These annexe are totally segregated from the wards of the other prisoners. The inmates here are given special training including primary education to mould them to become honest citizens. We also provide library facilities to these young offenders in their annexe. An exclusive jail for the young offenders has been taken up at Midnapore. This will be the first such jail in West Bengal.

- (c) Non-criminal Lunatics - Our jails are over burdened with the influx of a huge number of non-criminal lunatics both male and female. In the absence of proper medical facilities for these unfortunate ones in any other worthwhile institution, the courts have been regularly sending a huge number of them to lodge in the jails. Every effort is being made to provide them best possible medical treatment inside the jails. We have appointed, from the plan funds, psychiatrist to look after them for the treatment. It is a matter of satisfaction that a large number of these mentally retarded persons have recovered and a substantial number of them have been taken by different social organisation for their rehabilitation. Mention may be made here that Mother Teresa has taken about 50 of such recovered female inmates and they are leading almost normal lives in Shanti Dan. We normally try to handover the recovered NCLs to their relatives and only when we find that the relatives are not forthcoming them we approach voluntary organisation to take up these recovered cases.
- (d) Vocational Training - Vocational training is being imparted to all categories of prisoners including female.
- (e) Drug addicts - The jails get a number of drug addicts as prisoners. Constant endeavour is being made to bring them out from their addiction. The percentage of drug addicts recovering inside the jails is quite high. The jail authorities are in constant touch with different voluntary organisation like All Bengal Womens Home, Sroptimist Society of India for the rehabilitation of these prisoners when they are released. The jail officials are also connected with the functioning of the Probation and After-care Association.
- (f) Modern Prison Management - Efforts have been made to create an atmosphere of healthy and free living inside the jails. As far as the diet is concerned, the entire kitchen and the cooking thereof is managed by the prisoners themselves through their panchayats. Provision is being made from the plan funds for the modernisation of the kitchens by installing smokeless diesel ovens.
- Sanitary and water supply arrangements have been made in all jails out of the plan funds. Electric fans have been provided in all cells. Generators have been provided in all the jails.
- (g) Employees welfare - In an uniform service like warders and officers of jails, discipline can not be maintained unless basic facilities are provided. These include proper housing. Therefore, a substantial portion of the plan fund has been earmarked under the Upgradation Programme for providing houses for the officers and warders. This will help us to enforce their proper attendance.

- (h) Recreational amenities to the prisoners - We have been providing facilities for indoor and outdoor games in different jails. Certain jails have also been provided with the facilities of watching televisions at selected hours. Newspapers, periodicals and library facilities are also being provided to the inmates.
- (i) Security measures. - Keeping in view the modernisation that has taken place in the jails in other States, we have proposed to instal a close circuit T.V. in Presidency Jail this year. This system will facilitate to keep a watch on all the barracks and cells of the jails from one Central Control Room. We propose to introduce the similar system in other Central Jails in the future years.

STATIONERY AND PRINTING

Programme of the Commerce & Industries Department.

Modernisation of Government Presses.

1.0 There are five different units of the State Government Presses situated at Alipur, Kadapara, Raj Bhavan, Cooch Behar and Darjeeling. Most of the machines in these presses are old and have not been renovated or replaced for long. Consequently, these presses have been experiencing difficulties to cope with the ever increasing load of urgent and immediate nature of work.

1.1 The Eighth Plan proposals for modernisation of the Government Presses envisage phase-wise renovation and replacement of the old and worn-out machinery in these Government Presses. A Technical Committee has been constituted with a view to improving the working condition of the West Bengal Government Press at Alipore and for augmenting the printing capacity of that Press. The Committee will inter alia recommend the necessity of replacement of existing machinery and/or purchase of additional machinery.

1.2 In addition to the Scheme for modernisation of the existing Govt. Presses, the State Government has initiated steps for setting up a D.T.P. Press at Calcutta for coping with smaller but very urgent printing jobs. Steps have also been initiated for arrangements and facilities in each district with a view to decentralising printing and publishing of Gazettes and carrying out other official printing jobs.

1.3 Outlay has been proposed for the Eighth Plan (1992-97) and Annual Plan (1992-93) for implementation of the phased programme of replacement and renovation of old machinery in the Government Presses as well as the setting up of DTP Press and decentralisation of official printing jobs.

Office Buildings1. Programme of the Home (Police) Department.(1) Construction of Thana Buildings:

We have 80 Thana Buildings in rental premises, 75 of W.B. Police and 5 of Calcutta Police. The necessity of shifting thanas to departmental buildings requires no elaboration. We have proposals for setting up new Police Stations during the Eighth Plan (1992-97). Therefore, the requirement of departmental buildings for our P.S. by the end of 8th plan is expected to go upto 100. It is proposed that during the 8th plan period, we should construct at least 20 buildings for our P.S., 15 for W.B. Police and 5 for Calcutta Police. Our P.S. building in Calcutta will cost about Rs.60.00 lakh (approx.) each and the corresponding cost in the districts will be Rs.30.00 lakh (approx.) each. (The main reason being that the strength of one P.S. in Calcutta is much bigger than that of one P.S. in Muffasil areas.)

(2) Water Supply Arrangement:

One of the standing problems in the police Buildings is inadequacy of water supply. Every year we have to spend some amount for maintaining and making arrangement, such as sinking of deep tubewells, construction of dug wells, installation of pump lines and pump sets, etc. so as to alleviate the problems of water supply.

(3) Upgradation, Additional and Alterations to the existing Police Buildings :

The Police Establishment has a vast network of buildings spread over the State. Some of them are quite old and require major repairs. Provisions have been made for their upgradation.

(4) Establishment of Training Centres and Sports Facilities:

There are more than 72,000 Policemen in the sub-ordinate ranks in the State. The number will go up further when all the recruits of the recently-sanctioned battalions join the posts. The existing training facilities are inadequate to meet the requirement. Extension and expansion of the existing training arrangement is an imperative necessity. Similarly, the existing sports facilities for the Policemen are not at all satisfactory. For the sake of body and mind of the Policemen, proper facilities for sports and games should be created. The State Government submitted detailed proposals in this regard for consideration of the Ninth Finance Commission. The Commission did not allocate any funds for the purpose. However, in recognition of the importance of the matter, a token provision of Rs.10.00 lakh has been suggested for the Eighth Plan (1992-97) and out of that an amount of Rs.2.00 lakh earmarked for the Annual plan, 1992-93.

(5) Forensic Science Laboratory Buildings:

The State is now depending on the single laboratory in Calcutta for Forensic examination of the exhibits, etc. in connection with the criminal cases and otherwise. The existing laboratory is not fully equipped. For example, it has no serological examination of blood, a very important thing for criminal examination. Its Chemistry, Biology and Toxicology sections are too small to meet the demands placed on it. To meet the demands of the present day, a two-fold programme is necessary - one for the extension of the existing laboratory in Calcutta and the other for setting up research laboratories in the remote areas of the State. With that purpose, a research laboratory has been set up at Jalpaiguri. It is yet to be fully equipped.

(6) Explosive Laboratory Buildings:

This is a very important item. The Dy. Chief Controller of Explosives, Calcutta, who used to examine and report on bombs and materials seized by the Police, has stepped such examination for the last four years. In consequence, the Police has been handicapped in presenting offenders. We are required to make our own arrangement for examination of bombs, etc. We have since acquired land in Calcutta for construction of Explosive Laboratory Buildings and necessary Plan and Estimate for the scheme are being prepared by the P.W.D.

An amount of Rs.50.00 lakhs has been suggested for the Eighth Plan (1992-97) and including an amount of Rs.5.00 lakh for the Annual Plan, (1992-93).

(7) Base Hospital:

A Base Hospital for the State police has been a crying need for many years. Action has been initiated to acquire suitable land at Salt Lake, E.M. Bye Pass for the purpose. It is proposed to set up a 300-bed hospital with modern arrangements there. pending final decision, as to the site and size of the hospital, a taken provision has been suggested in the 8th Plan and 1992-93 Annual Plan.

(8) Other Schemes:

In a big establishment like that of police, numerous contingencies arise from time to time. Having regard to such contingencies, an amount of Rs.73.62 lakh is suggested for the Eighth Plan (1992-97) including an amount of Rs.13.95 lakh for the Annual Plan, 1992-93.

Land Acquisition :

The police Administration requires land on a large scale for thana buildings, administrative buildings, barracks, battalions, residential quarters, training centres, etc. Therefore, acquisition of land is a matter of priority in the police plan. Besides, with the passage of time,

getting suitable land is becoming more and more difficult. Therefore, land should be acquired not merely for immediate purpose but also keeping in view the future requirements as far as possible. Already, Home(Police) Deptt. has been spending every year about Rs.20.00 lakh for acquisition of land. A lump provision of Rs.171.22 lakh has been suggested for the purpose in the Eighth plan (1992-97) and out of that an amount of Rs.27.50 lakh may be earmarked in the Annual plan, 1992-93.

Minor Schemes :

Schemes involving expenditure not exceeding Rs.1.00 lakh are booked under this head. The expenditure on this account is expected to be Rs.14.00 lakh during the next five years.

(i) There is a small cell in the Home (Police) Deptt. especially created to look after the planning matters of police Establishment. It has been estimated that an amount of Rs.3.40 lakh will be necessary for the cell during the Eighth plan and an amount of Rs.0.55 lakh for the Annual Plan, 1992-93 as against the provision of Rs.0.50 lakh for 1991-92.

(ii) Improvement in Traffic Management.

There is a new scheme introduced from the Annual plan, 1990-91 to alleviate the traffic problems in the city of Calcutta and in the districts. An amount of Rs.5.00 lakh has been earmarked in the budget for 1991-92 for the purpose. A provision of Rs.34.30 lakh, has been suggested for the scheme during the Eighth plan period (1992-97) including an amount of Rs.5.50 lakh for Annual Plan, 1992-93.

2. Programme of the Land & Land Reforms Department.

Construction of Office Buildings and Circuit Houses :

330 Block level, 51 sub-divisional level and 17 District level offices were opened in March, 1989 in the Integrated Set up of Land Reforms Administration. Most of these offices are functioning in rented premises imposing a huge burden of rent liability on the exchequer. The accommodation available is often inadequate as there is no possibility of better and more spacious accommodation being available. The inspecting officers, from the State, Divisional and District levels have no other place to stay except the Circuit Houses under the control of the Board of Revenue. Hotel accommodation is simply non-existent in the district and sub-divisional quarters in the State.

Hence, it is proposed that the following construction activities can be taken up during the 8th Plan period -

(i) Construction of 105 Block level Land Reforms Offices @ Rs.8 lakh	...	Rs. 840 lakh
(ii) Construction of 20 Sub-Divisional Land Reforms Offices @ Rs.10 lakh	...	Rs. 200 lakh
(iii) Construction of 10 District level Offices @ Rs.15 lakh	...	Rs. 150 lakh
(iv) Construction of 12 Circuit Houses @ Rs.25 lakh		Rs. 300 lakh
		<u>Total : Rs.1490 lakh</u>

Contd.....

3. Programme of the Judicial Department.

Approved outlay for the 7th Five Year plan concerning the Judicial Department was for Rs.300.00 lakh for the period of 1984-90. Out of which Rs.197.80 lakh was approved for general office buildings.

During the Annual plan periods 1990-91 and 1991-92 Rs.60.00 lakh and Rs.66.00 lakhs respectively were approved of out of which Rs.40.00 lakh for 1990-91 and Rs.45.00 lakh for 1991-92 were allocated for General Office Building.

As the schemes concerning up-gradation programmes recommended by the 8th Finance Commission were included on the 7th plan allocation and for financing the said schemes specific norms were fixed by the Govt. of India, no big budgeted scheme concerning the Judicial Administration and Registration offices could be financed during the 7th plan period.

During the last two annual plan periods only few low budgeted schemes were taken up due to meagre plan allocation.

The dearth of accommodation in different Judgeships and Registration offices are still posing serious administrative problem inspite of construction of 23 Court buildings and 90 schemes for catering amenities for staff and public in different Judgeships.

Recently the High Court Extension Building has posed serious problem because of falling of heavy chunks from several floor. The P.W.D. has declared the building condemned. It has been decided to construct a multi storied building in its place at an estimated cost of Rs.5.57 crores. As an emergent measure the construction of temporary alternative accommodation is being taken up during this year and for this purpose the planning Board has approved an augmentation of allocation of Rs.10.00 lakhs during the current financial year (1991-92). The scheme has been included in the 8th Plan and a sum of Rs.178.65 lakh has been suggested to be spent.

The construction of court complex at Asansol has also been included in the 8th Plan with a suggested provision of Rs.32.55 lakhs.

Due to inadequate plan allocation during the 7th plan period and subsequent annual plan periods, schemes concerning Registration Offices could not be financed. In the 8th Plan a few schemes concerning construction of Registration Offices at Kaliachak, Deganga, Nalhati, Sonamukhi, Jalpaiguri, Burdwan, Durgapur, Bhangur, Domkal and Balurghat have been included in the proposals. A sum of Rs.53.85 lakhs has been sought for the 8th Plan period.

For financing schemes as referred to in Annexure I and Annexure II 'D' this Department has sought for the barest minimum fund.

4. Programme of the Finance (Taxation) Department.

The Commercial Taxes Dte. and the Entry Tax Directorate are the two most important revenue earning Directorates of the State Government. The Commercial Taxes Dte. itself collects about 60% of the tax revenue of the State Government. The revenue earnings by these two Dtes. have shown a very satisfactory growth over the years. In 1987-88 the collection of Sales Tax, Raw Jute Tax, Profession Tax & Coal Cess stood at Rs.1016.89 crores and this figure rose to Rs.1509.61 crores in 1990-91. The collection of Entry Tax in 1987-88 was Rs.87.77 crores which rose to Rs.123.60 crores in 1990-91. Entry tax is collected at the check posts. The Commercial Taxes Dte. also maintains a large number of Check posts for checking evasion of Sales Tax. There have been substantial expansion in the organisational structure in order to achieve fast growth in tax revenue. This has necessitated construction of Check post Buildings, Office Buildings and residential quarters. As a matter of fact, Plan schemes under the Finance (Taxation) Deptt. relate only to such construction works in the interest of State Revenue.

In 1990-91 construction of a number of check-posts could not progress for want of approval of the Ministry of Surface Transport, Govt. of India and litigation. The matter is being pursued with the M.O.S.T. for obtaining their approval. The litigation relating to the acquisition of land for Banitable Entry Tax Check-post has since been resolved.

Annual Plan approved outlay for 1991-92 is Rs.232.55 lakhs. Anticipated Expenditure is expected at least to match the approved outlay. In Tangra the Deptt. is now required to place Rs.90.00 lakhs at the disposal of the 1st Land Acquisition Collector, Calcutta for acquisition of the land at Tangra where office buildings and residential quarters will be constructed. For implementation of the proposal for purchase of an office accommodation at Behala for C.T.Dte. on a long terms lease the expenditure during the current year is likely to be Rs.30.00 lakhs. For the purchase/hiring of office accommodation at 34A, Nirmal Chunder Street the expenditure for current financial year is likely to be Rs.79.00 lakhs. There will be appreciable expenditure during the current year in connection with some other very important on going schemes such as Entry Tax Check Post at Hansgarh, E.T. Check post at Banitabla, Composite check post for the C.T.Dte. and Excise Dte. at Jaigaon, office building for C.T.Dte. at Durgapur, Check post buildings at Berma. In the Draft VIIIth Plan proposals this Deptt. has proposed for inclusion of 107 schemes of which 88 schemes are included in the current year's plan budget.

5. Programme of the Finance (Audit) Department.

During the coming years within the span of 8th plan, the Government proposes to construct new buildings at as many places as possible out of the 38 Treasuries, where new buildings are absolutely necessary. Construction cost of a new treasury buildings as per standard span require a sum of Rs.20 lakhs or around. Provision has been sought for accordingly in the Eighth Five Year plan (1992-97) and Annual Plan (1992-93).

6. Programme of the Home (Parliamentary-Affairs) Department.

Parliamentary Affairs Department have following two plan schemes :-

- 1) Construction of a multistoried building at High Court Tram Terminus for accommodation of MLAs and Group 'D' staff of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly.

The estimated cost of the scheme comes to around Rs.3.00 crores for various resources, the implementation has not yet started. The scheme is proposed to be implemented during the 8th plan period.

- 2) Regarding the second scheme i.e. construction of a Library Building the existing budget provision is Rs.12 lakhs for 1991-92. Against the estimated cost of Rs.46.34 lakhs, a total sum of Rs.22 lakhs has been sanctioned. The required balance amount may be allocated during the Eighth Five Year Plan on pro-rata basis with annual allocation of Rs.10 lakhs during 1992-93.

7. Programme of the Relief and Welfare (Relief) Department.

Schemes are furnished as follows :

(1) Construction of Relief Complex:

This six storied Building is intended to provide accommodation under a single roof for the different units of the Relief Department and the Directorate. The Relief Directorate and the Central Relief Godown in Calcutta are housed in rented building. Shortage of accommodation at both the places accounts for serious inconvenience to office-staff and materials handling. Accommodation available at Writers Buildings for the Relief Deptt. is also extremely inadequate. Moreover, the fleet of vehicles belonging to the Deptt. and the Directorate are garaged at rented premises which are scattered in different areas, resulting in higher fuel cost and rental charges. The Relief Complex when completed will accommodate not only the Secretariat and Directorate Offices but also the Relief Godown and the vehicles. At present, the Deptt. is spending about Rs.80,000/- per annum on account of rental charges for office premises and garages. Needless to say, on completion of the building, net savings accruing to the Govt. will not be less than Rs.80,000/-per annum.

(2) Flood/Cyclone Shelters:

10 Flood/Cyclone shelters are proposed to be constructed during Annual Plan 1992-93, One each in the following 10 Districts :-

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| i) Jalpaiguri | ii) Coochbehar |
| iii) West Dinajpur | iv) Malda |
| v) Murshidabad | vi) Burdwan |
| vii) Hooghly | viii) Midnapur |
| ix) North 24-Parganas | x) South 24-Parganas |

The unit cost of each centre will approximately be Rs.5.00 lakhs.

(3) Relief Go-downs:

During the Annual plan 1992-93, 10 Relief Godowns are proposed to be constructed at District/Sub-Division levels at the following places :-

- (i) Jalpaiguri (ii) Coochbehar (iii) Malda (iv) West Dinajpur
 (v) Raigunge (vi) Murshidabad (vii) Hooghly (viii) Burdwan
 (ix) North 24-Parganas (x) South 24-Parganas.

For proper storage of relief materials more Godowns are needed at different levels which are proposed to be taken care of during the remaining plan-period.

8. Programme of the Food & Supplies Department.**1. Acquisition of land in Calcutta and Districts :**

The Govt. of the then province of Bengal constructed large number of food storage godowns all over the province during and after the World War II. These lands measuring approximately 73 acres on which godowns were built up, were requisitioned under the then D.I. Rules. The possession of these lands continued in terms of Act VIII/1951. The State Govt. has decided to acquire all these requisitioned lands permanently for construction of godowns which are absolutely necessary to keep the public distribution system smooth throughout the State. Programmes have already been taken by the State Govt. to construct a greater space at and other strategic points for strengthening the infrastructure of procurement and distribution system. About 34 acres of these land have already been acquired and acquisition compensation have been paid to the owners by the Government. It is expected that a large quantum of the remaining lands would be acquired during the 8th plan period (1992-97).

A provision of Rs.73 lakhs as cost of requisition and acquisition compensation of the lands has been suggested for the 8th plan 1992-97. The amount will be spent for those cases where award on acquisition compensation is received in the coming five years starting from 1992-93.

For the similar purpose a sum of Rs.12 lakhs is proposed for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

2. Construction/Upgradation/Repair of food storage godowns :

In the scheme of take-over approved by the Cabinet, it was contemplated that 40% of the stock would be taken from the base godowns of the F.C.I. and stored in the State Government godowns to be distributed therefrom whereas 60% would be distributed direct to the wholesalers/distributors from the base-godowns of the F.C.I. Since allotment is given by the Govt. of India on monthly basis, we shall have to keep at least one month's required stock in our own godowns. Thus we shall have

have to build up storage capacity of 65,200 M.T. being 40% of total allotment. We have at present storage capacity on the line of 36,812 M.T. (approx.) Thus we shall have to build up additional storage capacity of (65,200 - 36,812 M.T.) = 28,388 M.T. say, 28,000 M.T.

Besides construction of new storage space we are also required to undertake special repair works/renovations of about 20% of the existing godowns. This department has decided to create approximately 10,000 M.T. of more storage space by new construction during the 8th plan period (1992-97) at a cost of about Rs.128 lakhs in addition to undertaking repair works of some of the existing godowns at a cost of Rs.113 lakhs. This Department, therefore, envisages an outlay of about Rs.241 lakhs in the 8th five Year Plan on the above scheme.

For Annual Plan 1992-93, this department proposes an outlay of Rs.40 lakhs of which Rs.22 lakhs would be required for creating storage space by new construction of 2000 M.T. capacity and remaining Rs.18 lakhs for special repairs to some of the existing godowns according to the need.

3. Construction of Workshop sheds and allied works at Lake Garage and a mini workshop at North Garage, Cossipore:

A scheme for construction of four workshop sheds at Lake Garage, Tollygunge and one mini workshop shed at North Garage, Cossipore was taken up by this department since the 6th plan period (1980-85). The workshop shed has already been completed at Lake Garage. It has been decided to construct one workshop with bigger floor space-cum-office building complex instead of three workshops. For implementation of the scheme this deptt. requires a sum of Rs.36 lakhs for the 8th plan 1992-97 of which Rs.6 lakhs may be provided for the Annual Plan 1992-93.

4. Creation of office accommodation at the District and Sub-divisional Headquarters:

Now most of the offices under this department in the districts and sub-divisions are accommodated in hired/requisitioned premises. There is dearth of adequate space in these buildings. The sanitary system of most of the buildings are unhygienic. The department proposed to take-up construction of new office buildings at these districts and sub-divisions since the 6th plan period 1980-85. Such office accommodation for offices of S.C.F. & S., Siliguri and D.O.F. & S., Darjeeling at Siliguri has been made in the 7th plan (1985-90). This department now propose to construct office buildings at Midnapore, Coochbehar, Purulia, Barasat and a few other places during the 8th plan 1992-97 in a phased manner. An outlay of Rs.76 lakhs is proposed for the 8th plan (1992-97) of which Rs.11 lakhs may be provided for the Annual plan 1992-93.

9. Programme of the Excise Department.

1. Construction of a multi-storied buildings at 33, B.B.Ganguly Street, Calcutta.

Revised estimate for the scheme is Rs.1,41,19,618/-. Suggested outlay in the 8th plan is Rs.83.01 lakhs. This ongoing schemes which have been carried over from 7th plan observe priority. As such the estimated outlay for 1992-93 has been Rs.13.20 lakhs.

2. Construction of a building for accommodation of excise office in Jalpaiguri and quarter of excise staff; and

Construction of the compound wall around the residential quarter of Superintendent of Excise, Jalpaiguri.

Rs.14.75 lakhs and Rs.2.00 lakhs respectively are the suggested outlays for each scheme during 8th plan. 1992-93 plan outlay for these schemes are Rs.1 lakh and Rs.2 lakhs respectively.

3. Construction of two storied building within Siliguri Warehouse Compound.

Estimated cost of the scheme is Rs.4.82 lakhs and the scheme is at completion stage. Proposed outlay for 8th plan is Rs.1 lakh and for 92-93 is Rs.1 lakh. This ongoing scheme had been started during 7th plan.

4. Extension of excise warehouse at Malda bottling plant district at Malda.

8th plan outlay is Rs.1 lakh. Annual plan outlay for 92-93 is suggested at Rs.1 lakh.

The scheme has been carried over from 7th plan and deserves priority.

5. Construction of check post at Dubaidhi, Burdwan (West).

This is a new scheme in the 8th plan with an outlay for Rs.7 lakhs. Plan outlay suggested for this scheme for 1992-93 is Rs.1 lakh.

10. Programme of the Home (Personnel and Administrative Reform) Department.

The Home (P & AR) Department is concerned with various construction work relating to the Administrative Training Institute at Bidhannagar, Salt-Lake City, Calcutta and other administrative buildings including accommodation for the offices of the Collectorates, Sub-Divisional Office. Provision of Rs.108.37 lakhs for the 8th Five Year plan (1992-97) and Rs.202.48 lakhs for the Annual Plan (1992-93) has been proposed to take up the inescapable projects during the said plan period.

11. Programme of the Public Works Department.

Outlay proposed for the Eighth Five Year (1992-97) and Annual Plan (1992-93) is meant for construction of Office Buildings for the P.W. Deptt. mostly in the districts which is considered urgent for execution during the said plan period.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICESProgramme of the Home (personnel and Administrative Reforms) Deptt.

The Administrative Training Institute at Bidhannagar, Salt Lake City, the only Training Institute of the State Government (besides State Institute of Rural Development at Kalyani) which conducts induction and refresher the training courses for officials of all levels under the State Government. The Institute also conducts Training/Seminar for the members of all services and posts from time to time throughout the year. Provision has been suggested for both the 8th Five Year Plan and Annual Plan (1992-93) to meet various expenditure on account maintenance and other charges relating to the said Institute including purchase of equipments etc. in order to upgrade the standard of efficiency of the administrators and other staff members of the Government. Provision of a sum of Rs.430.87 lakh for the 8th Five Year Plan and Rs.80.61lakh for the Annual Plan 1992-93 has been proposed for the above purpose during the said plan period.

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DOC. No. D... 6763
Date... 30/3/92

NIEPA DC



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