



**ECONOMIC
SURVEY
ASSAM
1983-84**

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DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS & STATISTICS
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

FOREWORD

“Economic Survey, Assam 1983-84” attempts to present an account of the State's economy during 1983-84 along with a review of the developments and trends in different sectors of the economy in the recent years with the aid of latest available data collected from diverse sources. A number of Statistical tables on important economic sectors are also appended with this publication.

This Directorate is grateful to the various Government Departments/Organisations for making available statistical data and other relevant information for incorporation in the present study. Comments and suggestions for improvement of the future issues of the publication will be gratefully acknowledged.

Guwahati
July 1985

D. BORA,
Director of Economics & Statistics,
Assam, Guwahati—3

NIEPA DC



D02989

Sub. National Systems Unit,
National Institute of Educational
Planning and Administration
17-B, Saikhanda Marg, New Delhi-110016
DOC. No. 2989.....
Date 19/3/86.....

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330.0723
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CHAPTER-I

ECONOMIC SITUATION

National Economy :

1.1.0. During 1983-84 the Indian economy had made significant growth largely as a result of sharp increase in agricultural output. The growth in the agricultural output during the year was about 12 p.c. over 1982-83. The industrial output too showed higher growth than in the previous year. The rate of growth in National Income was thus expected to be around 8.5 p.c. in 1983-84 compared with only 2 p.c. growth observed in 1982-83. In spite of a widening of the trade gap, external payments position also displayed improvement. Notwithstanding these favourable developments, the price situation however continued to be a source of concern.

1.1.1. Agricultural production during 1983-84, was very impressive. The production of food-grains reached a new height of 151.5 million tonnes in 1983-84 from 128.3 million tonnes in 1982-83 thereby surpassing the previous peak of 133.3 million tonnes achieved in 1981-82. Most of the commercial crops, except cotton and sugarcane, also registered improvement over the previous year's output. There was an expansion in the irrigated area too.

1.1.2. The performance of industrial sector during the year was by and large satisfactory. During 1983-84, the rise in index of industrial production was 5.4 p.c. as against 3.9 p.c. in the preceding year. "Capital goods industries" recorded a significant growth of 10.8 p.c. during the year 1983-84 in contrast to a fall of 2.7 p.c. in 1982-83. "Basic industries" also showed rise of the order of 6.9 p.c. though it was lower than the rise of 8.1 p.c. in 1982-83. There was however a fall in the "consumer goods industries" by 0.4 p.c. compared with a rise of 3.7 p.c. in the previous year. The infrastructure sector showed good performance during the year. Total power generation increased by 7.6 p.c. in 1983-84 as against a rise of 5.7 p.c. in

1982-83. Production of crude petroleum, refinery products and cement also displayed substantial step-up during the year.

1.1.3. The price situation, however, caused anxiety during 1983-84. The index number of wholesale prices for "all commodities" rose, on a point to point basis, by 9.3 p.c. in 1983-84 as against 6.4 p.c. rise in 1982-83. The average increase in the index during the year also worked out higher at 9.3 p.c. as against the rise of 2.6 p.c. in 1982-83. The rise in the consumer price index during 1983-84 was 11.2 p.c. as compared with rise of 9.8 p.c. in the previous year. The index rose steadily from 502 in March 1983 to 561 in November 1983 and then to 558 in March 1984.

Assam's Economy :

2.1.0. The year 1983-84 in retrospect presents a mixed picture of the economy of the State. Despite being over-shadowed by constraints like recurrence of floods during the year and prevalence of high social tensions in the early part of the year, both the important productive sectors, agriculture and industry were found to have maintained the tempo of 1982-83. The power position was satisfactory during the year. In the circumstances the SDP (State Domestic Product) in real term was expected to register a growth of around 5 p.c. during the year. Nevertheless, the problems of rising prices and increasing dimensions of unemployment, which are but twin national phenomena, continued to loom large in the economy of the State.

2.1.2. The quick estimates of SDP for the year 1983-84 indicated a rise of 5.1 p.c. in real term over the previous year. The per capita SDP at current prices had risen by 10.4 p.c. in 1983-84 over 1982-83 while at constant prices it rose by 1.7 p.c. during the same period.

2.1.3. Though overall performance in agriculture during 1983-84 had maintained a production level almost equal to the bumper achievement in 1982-83 the disaggregated picture showed that production of several items had gone down compared with that in 1982-83. Production of rice and jute which had been affected by flood and bad weather showed some decline. The index of agricultural production which reached the peak of 143 in 1982-83 maintained almost the same level (142.9) in 1983-84.

2.1.4. The production performance in industrial sector during 1983 presented a mixed picture. While the total output of the sector showed improvement over that in the previous year due mainly to better performance of the two most dominant industries viz, the tea and petroleum, production in some other industries like Cement, paper and sugar recorded decline. Commissioning of a vanaspati manufacturing factory near Guwahati in the co-operative sector was an important feature in the industrial scene during 1983. The index of industrial production (base 1970=100) in Assam which rose by 3.5 pc. in 1982 over 1981, has further increased by 3.3. p.c. in 1983 over 1982.

2.1.5. The mining sector had revealed a mixed outlook in 1983. Though production of coal rose substantially that of petroleum and natural gas had fallen. The production of limestone also recorded some decline over the previous year's level.

2.1.6. Since the last few years particularly from the beginning of the eighties, Assam is maintaining a good momentum in power development. The installed capacity of power increased by about 6 p.c. in 1983-84 over that in 1982-83. The generation of electricity in 1983-84 also recorded a significant improvement. Except in the month of February, 1984 the overall power supply position in the State during the year was by and large satisfactory. The programme of rural electrification also made considerable headway in Assam during the recent past. As a result, the proportion of electrified villages to total inhabited villages went up from a meagre 14 p.c. in 1978-79 to 43 p.c. at the end of 1983-84.

2.1.7. The price behaviour in 1983-84 continued to cause concern although it displayed some sign of relief as the year rang out. The rising trend was more prominent especially during August, 1983 to November, 1983. In terms of wholesale price index, the inflation was around 11 p.c. in 1983 over 1982 compared to about 6 p.c. in 1982 over 1981. Some fall in the prices of essential commodities like rice, mugdal, potato, onion and gur towards the fag end of the year, however brought some relief to the consumers.

2.1.8. The problem of growing unemployment continued to be alarming in the State as evident from Employment Exchange data. The problem of educated job seekers had further been accentuated with the joining of large number of new faces in the list.

CHAPTER-II

POPULATION

2.1.0. Assam has an area of 78,523 sq. kms. which account for 2.4 percent of the total land masses of India. It has two distinct plains viz., the plains area of the Brahmaputra valley and the plains areas of Barak valley separated one from the other by two hills districts. Consequent upon carving out of new districts and subdivisions in 1983 the total number of districts and sub-divisions in the State now stands at 17 and 35 respectively. The Brahmaputra valley, lying east-west consists of thirteen districts while the Barak valley at the southern tip of the State consists of two districts. As per 1981 census estimates the State accommodates about 2.9 per cent of the total population of the country.

2.1.1. Population statistics are recognised to be of fundamental importance in planning and for pursuing socio-economic development policies. As the 1981 population census could not be conducted in Assam the actual size of the population and other demographic parameters are not available for the year 1981 for the State. However, while releasing the provisional 1981 census data for India, the Registrar

General has adopted the projected population of 19.9 millions for the State as determined by the Expert Committee on population projection set up by the Planning Commission for arriving at all India total. As per 1971 census about 91 p.c. of the population of the State lived in the rural areas compared with 80 p.c. in the country as a whole.

2.1.2 Population in Assam has been growing at a phenomenal rate since the beginning of this century compared with all India. While in 1981 the population of the country rose by about three times over 1901 in Assam the population rose by about six times during this period. The density of population in Assam as per 1981 estimates works out at 254 persons per sq. Km. compared with 221 for India. The same was 186 persons per sq. km in Assam against 177 persons per sq. km. for the country as a whole in 1971 census. The table 2.1 below shows the population trend in Assam vis-a-vis the country since 1901.

TABLE—2.1
Trends in Population : Assam and India

Year	Population (in lakhs)		P.C. Decade variation		Average density per sq.km. (persons).	
	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India (b)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1901	33	2,388	—	—	42	77
1911	38	2,520	+17.0	+5.8	49	82
1921	46	2,512	+20.5	-0.3	59	81
1931	56	2,789	+19.9	+11.0	71	90
1941	67	3,185	+20.4	+14.2	85	103
1951	80	3,610	+19.9	+13.3	102	117
1961	108	4,319	+35.0	+21.6	138	142
1971	146	5,471	+35.0	+24.8	186	177
1981	199 (a)	6,852	+36.1 (a)	+25.0	254 (a)	221

(a)—Estimated

(b)—While working out the density of India, Jammu and Kashmir has been excluded as comparable figures of area and Population are not available for that State.

Source.—Census of India, 1981 (Series -1)

2.1.3. The State has a sizeable Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Population. The size and demographic characteristics of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population of the State, however, is not available for the year 1981 as for obvious reasons. The 1971 census placed the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population above nine and sixteen lakhs respectively which accounted for 6.2 percent and 10.9 p.c. respectively of the total population of the state. The corresponding figures for the country as a whole were 14.8 p.c. and 6.9 p.c. respectively in 1971 which in 1981 rose to 15.7 p.c. and 7.8 p.c. respectively.

2.1.4. Over the last few years there have been a steady decline of birth and death rates in Assam compared with All-India rates as evident from the Sample Registration Bulletin published by the Registrar General of India. Improvement in medical and public health facilities coupled with spread of education and family planning services have resulted in this development. The table 2.2 shows the estimated live birth and death rates in Assam and India as made available by the Registrar General of India over the past few years.

TABLE-2.2

Birth rate and death rate in Assam and India

(based on a three year moving average.)

State/Country	Birth rate					Death rate (per mille)				
	1971-73	1975-77	1978-80	1979-81	1980-82	1971-73	1975-77	1978-80	1979-81	1980-82
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1. ASSAM										
1. Rural	36.8	31.9	33.0	33.7	33.7	18.1	15.6	12.1	11.9	12.2
2. Urban	28.7	23.5	23.2	23.2	23.0	9.7	8.6	7.2	7.2	7.6
3. Combined	36.0	31.1	32.2	32.9	32.9	17.3	14.9	11.7	11.5	11.8
2. INDIA										
1. Rural	37.7	35.6	34.5	35.3	35.3	17.4	16.6	14.2	13.9	13.5
2. Urban	30.0	28.5	28.1	27.5	27.5	9.9	9.7	8.6	7.9	7.7
3. Combined	36.3	34.2	33.3	33.8	33.7	15.9	15.2	13.1	12.7	12.3

Source — Sample Registration Bulletin, December, 1983 by Registrar General of India.

CHAPTER -III

STATE INCOME

3.1.0. The quick estimates of State Domestic product (SDP) for the year 1983-84 alongwith the provisional estimates for the year 1982-83 reveal that at constant (1970-71) prices total Net Domestic Product in 1983-84 stood at Rs. 1253.3 crores as against Rs. 1192.2 crores in 1982-83 showing a rise of 5.1 per cent over 1982-83. It may be noted that national income of India at constant (1970-71) prices recorded a rise of 5.2 per cent during the same period. The 5.1 per cent rise is due to substantial improvement in the agricultural front and higher output in the field of industry and mining in the State. At current prices the SDP stands at Rs. 3813.8 crores in 1983-84 as against Rs. 3342.0 crores in 1982-83 showing a rise of 14.1 per cent which takes into account an

implicit price effect of 9.0 per cent during the year.

3.1.1. The per capita SDP in real terms is estimated at Rs. 579.0 for 1983-84 as against Rs. 569.4 in 1982-83 thereby recording a rise of 1.7 per cent. The difference in growth of total SDP (5.1 per cent) and per capita SDP (1.7 per cent), is attributable to higher rate of population growth. The per capita SDP at current prices works out at Rs. 1762.0 in 1983-84 as against Rs. 1596.1 in 1982-83.

3.1.2. The table below shows the movement of SDP of Assam at factor cost and per capita income for Assam and India at current and constant (1970-71) prices over the past few years.

TABLE-3.1

Net Domestic Product at factor cost of Assam and per capita income of Assam and India

Year	Net SDP of Assam (Rs. crores)		Per capita income (Rs.)			
	At current prices	At constant (1970-71) prices	At current Prices		At constant (1970-71) prices	
			Assam	India	Assam	India
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1970-71	771.4	771.4	534.7	632.8	534.7	632.8
1971-72	813.9	807.1	548.1	660.2	543.5	626.6
1972-73	882.6	844.4	576.6	710.2	551.6	603.0
1973-74	1023.1	865.9	648.4	869.4	548.7	620.1
1974-75	1337.0	861.8	821.7	1002.5	529.7	615.5
1975-76	1314.4	938.6	783.3	1022.6	559.4	660.0
1976-77	1514.2	932.1	874.9	1076.7	538.5	649.5
1977-78 (P)	1666.2	1009.7	933.0	1190.5	565.4	692.7
1978-79 (P)	1856.1	1004.1	1007.2	1251.1	544.9	714.9
1979-80 (P)	2022.8	982.3	1063.4	1332.9	516.4	660.1
1980-81 (P)	2397.8	1095.1	1220.8	1558.7	557.6	696.8
1981-82 (P)	2640.4	1081.9	1302.0	1757.8	533.5	715.3
1982-83 (P)	3342.0	1192.2	1596.1	1868.4	569.4	711.4
1983-84 (Q)	3813.8	1253.3	1762.0	2201.4	579.0	748.6

P-Provisional estimates applicable for Assam only.

Q-Quick estimates.

3.1.3. The movement of per capita income in Assam and India indicates that the gap in per capita income between the State and the Country is widening. In 1970-71, the per capita income at constant prices in Assam was lower by Rs. 98.1 than the All India average but this gap has widened in course of time to Rs. 181.8 in 1981-82. The gap however reduced to Rs. 169.0 in 1983-84. At current prices the per capita income in Assam was lower by Rs. 455.8 in 1981-82 than the per capita national income. As per 1983-84 quick estimates the national per capita income was higher by Rs. 439.4 in comparison to per capita SDP of Assam.

3.1.4. The table at Appendix IV shows the net SDP at factor cost by industry of origin at current and constant (1970-71) prices in Assam for the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 and that at Appendix V gives the trend of SDP at constant prices for the period 1970-71 to 1983-84.

3.1.5. It may be seen that in real terms, the contribution of agriculture to total SDP has declined from 57.6 per cent in 1970-71 to 53.0 per cent in 1981-82 and further to 51.9 in 1982-83. The contribution of mining and quarrying sector though increased during 1970-71 to 1981-82 in absolute term, its percentage share to the total SDP in real term remained almost stationary. The dependance of

State economy on the primary sector as a whole declined by about 6.5 p.c. during the period 1970-71 to 1982-83. On the other hand the percentage contribution of the secondary sector as a whole during the same period increased marginally from 14.1 per cent in 1970-71 to 14.2 per cent in 1981-82. In contrast, at national level the dependance on primary sector in real terms had been reduced by 9.8 per cent during the period from 1970-71 to 1982-83 while the percentage contribution of the secondary sector increased from 19.7 per cent in 1970-71 to 21.0 per cent in 1982-83 showing a rise of 1.3 per cent. In fact, the percentage contribution of Commodity Producing sector to the total SDP during the above period in real term decreased by 6.3 per cent in Assam as against the decrease of 8.5 per cent in India as a whole. In 1970-71 contribution of primary and secondary sector to total SDP was 63.8 per cent and 14.0 per cent respectively which stood at 57.3 and 14.2 per cent respectively in 1982-83. While corresponding figures for India in 1970-71 were 50.1 and 19.7 which stood at 40.3 and 21.0 in 1982-83. The contribution of service sector in Assam increased from 22.2 per cent in 1970-71 to 28.5 per cent in 1982-83. Thus the contribution of services sector increased by 6.3 p.c. over the period 1970-71 to 1982-83 in Assam. In contrast, in the case of the country as a whole percentage share of the service sector declined by 1.5 per cent during the same period.

CHAPTER -IV

AGRICULTURE

4.1.0. The economy of Assam is basically agrarian since a vast majority of the State's population depends directly or indirectly on agriculture. As per the latest available 1971 census report nearly 77 p.c. of the State's working force are engaged in agriculture and allied activities. The importance of this sector is also borne out from the fact that it alone accounts for more than half of the State Domestic Product (SDP) of Assam. Tea plantation, which is a highly organised farm sector, contribute about 15 p.c. to the S.D.P. of the State. Therefore, the socio-economic development of the State as well as the standard of living of its people, particularly of rural areas, depends greatly on the development of this sector. However, the pace of agricultural development in the State has been found to be rather slow. This is due to the fact that the agriculture in the State still continued to be characterised by certain structural weaknesses such as poor irrigation and power facilities, inadequate availability of credit, low productivity of land and labour, low crop intensity, increasing number of small and uneconomic farm units, lack of innovation, traditional system of cultivation etc. The frequent occurrences of floods and at times drought also very badly affect this sector. The following paragraphs discuss in brief the past and present state of affairs of agriculture in the State.

Agricultural Production :

4.2.0. Flood and uneven rainfall frequented the year 1983-84. The State experienced four successive waves of floods during the year. Besides uneasy situation with enormous social tension, at the beginning of the year also affected agricultural operations in the State. As a result, production of rice came down marginally to 25.32 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 as against the record production of 25.83 lakh tonnes in 1982-83.

During 1983-84 weather conditions in the later part of the year were congenial to wheat cultivation and as a result its production increased to 127.9 thousand tonnes in 1983-84 from 121.2 thousand tonnes in 1982-83. Production of cash crops like potato rose significantly while that of Jute registered a fall. The production of potato was higher by 13.1 p.c. over the record production achieved in 1981-82. While the production of other crops and pulses increased that of maize declined substantially. Overall effect of this mixed performance resulted in marginal fall in production of food-grains in 1983-84 over 1982-83. Production of fibre crops excluding jute exhibited some rise in 1983-84 over 1982-83. Production of tobacco also showed some rise but that of sweet potato registered a fall. Appendix VI shows the production of some important crops in the State over the past few years.

Index of Agricultural Production :

4.3.0. The index of agricultural production (base triennium ending 1969-70 = 100) for Assam showed a marked increase in 1982-83 over the previous year. The trend of the index of agricultural production, which generally indicates a rising trend over the decade, however, shows vigorous fluctuations suggesting that agriculture in Assam has remained largely dependent on the vagaries of nature. While non-food groups displayed a consistently rising trend that of food group showed vigorous flip flap tendency. During 1983-84 the index (142.9) remained almost at the previous year's level. The index which was 138 in 1980-81 declined to 131 in the next year and rose to 143 in 1982-83 thereby displaying a rise of 3.7 per cent over 1980-81 and 9.2 per cent over 1981-82. An idea about the trend in agricultural production in the State as well as in the country for the last few years may be had from the following table.

TABLE—4.1

Index of Agricultural Production in Assam and India
(Base/Triennium ending 1969-70=100)

Year	Assam			India			P. C. change over the previous year for all crops.	
	Food	Non-food	All crops	Food	Non-food	All crops	Assam	India
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1970-71	107	101	105	113	109	112	-	-
1975-76	123	113	119	127	120	125	+5.7	+14.7
1977-78	127	117	123	134	131	133	+5.1	+14.0
1978-79 (P)	119	126	122	139	135	138	-0.8	+3.8
1979-80 (P)	105	129	114	115	122	117	-6.6	-15.0
1980-81 (P)	140	135	138	138	130	135	+21.0	+15.2
1981-82 (P)	125	141	131	141	147	143	-5.1	+5.7
1982-83 (P)	143	143	143	135	142	137	+9.2	-4.2
1983-84 (P)	142	144	143	159	141	153	+0	+11.7

P—Provisional ; +Increase

—Decrease

Source :- (i) Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

(ii) Economic Survey, Government of India.

(iii) Bulletin on Food Statistics, 1982-84 by Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

Area under crops :

4.4.0. The percentage of area placed under different crops constitute roughly 42 p.c. of the total geographical area of the State compared to all India coverage of about 50 p.c. It is to be noted that large chunks of the geographical area in the State is covered by hills, rivers, beels and other low lying

areas, etc., thereby making the extension of area under agriculture extremely difficult. Nevertheless cropped area has been steadily increasing in the State. The following table shows the increase in "net area sown" and "gross cropped area" in the State during the last few years.

TABLE--4.2

Net area sown and gross cropped area of Assam

(Area in thousand hectares)

Year	Net area sown	Gross cropped area
1	2	
1974-75	2,542	3,103
1975-76	2,600	3,176
1976-77	2,633	3,243
1977-78	2,651	3,269
1978-79	2,655	3,288
1979-80	2,665	3,308
1980-81	2,696	3,373

Source :—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

4.4.1. The total area under food-crops account for about 70 p.c. of the total cropped area of the State. Rice and wheat are the two major food crops and account for 94 p.c. of the total area under food-grains in 1983-84. The area under rice which was 22.75 lakh hectares in 1980-81 increased to 23.22 lakh hectares in 1983-84, displaying a rise of about 2 p.c. over the period. However, area under wheat registered a fall during 1983-84 as compared with those in the previous three years. Area under maize and other cereals also revealed a fluctuating trend during the same period. Among the commercial crops, area under jute has been fluctuating between 100.8 thousand hectares and 112.3 thousand hectares during this period. Appendix-VII shows the area under some important crops in Assam for each of the years from 1977-78 to 1983-84.

Yield Rate :

4.5.0. A large majority of crops in 1983-84 have showed a better rate of return per

hectre. However, compared with all-India figures the performance continues to be poor. Though H.Y.V. varieties are claimed to have gradually taking over the place of traditional varieties in a significant way, the impact in productivity is yet to be appreciated. The yield rate of rice which was 1038 kg per hectare in 1975-76 stood at 1145 kg. per hectare in 1983-84. Variety-wise in 1983-84 it was 1230 kg/ hectare for winter rice and 1231kg./hectre for summer rice. Yield rate of wheat had exhibited encouraging trends since 1979-80 though the rate is far below the all-India average. The yield rate of maize had registered a fluctuating trend while that of sugarcane had revealed some improvement in 1983-84 over that of 1982-83. Though upto 1980-81 yield rate of jute showed a undulating tendency it had picked up since then. Appendix VIII shows the yield rate of certain crops in Assam along with all-India average over a past few years.

Agricultural Census :

4.6.0. Assam had altogether 22.5 lakh operational holdings, of which 22.0 lakh were in the plains districts and 0.5 lakhs in the hills districts as per Agricultural Census, 1976-77. As against this the number of operational holdings in the State was 19.6 lakhs (19.2 lakhs in the plains and 0.4 lakhs in the hills) in 1970-71 displaying an increase of 15 p.c. over six years. Although operated area increased from 28.8 lakh hectares in 1970-71 to 30.8 lakh hectares in 1976-77, the average size of holding declined to 1.37 hectares in 1976-77 from 1.47 hectares in 1970-71. Appendix IX shows the districtwise number of holdings etc. in the State as revealed by the Agricultural Census, 1970-71 and 1976-77.

Developmental Efforts and Reforms :

4.7.0. High Yielding Varieties :- Since the past few years the use of High Yielding Varieties is increasing in the State. It is reported that upto 1983-84 more than 40 percent of the total area under paddy in the State have been brought under the coverage of HYV cultivation. The coverage of area under HYV Paddy in the State is reported to have gone up from only 3.5 lakh hectares in 1979-80 to 9.2 lakh hectares in 1982-83 and then to 10.5 lakh hectares in 1983-84. It is also reported that the entire area under wheat is covered by HYV seeds partly supplied by the Government. The table at Appendix-X shows districtwise area under HYV paddy in Assam for the year 1982-83 as made available by the State Agriculture Department.

Irrigation :

4.8.0. Assured water is one of the essential ingredients for higher rate of return in agriculture. The rainfall in the State has been erratic and the cultivators of the State can no longer depend on rainfall alone. The extent of the irrigation in the State has remained

very low. Realising the gravity of the problem, the State Government has duly emphasised the need for proper development of irrigation in the State and accordingly various schemes have been taken up for creation of additional irrigation potential in the State.

4.8.1. Irrigation Programmes in the State mostly comprise of minor and medium irrigation schemes. During 1983-84, the total irrigation potential created under minor irrigation was 34.98 thousand hectares as against the target of 20.50 thousand hectares for the year. In the previous year the achievement was 13.37 thousand hectares. Under major/ medium irrigation schemes the additional potential created during 1983-84 was 11.63 thousand hectares as against 10.00 thousand hectares of potential created in 1982-83. So far as subdivisionwise achievements are concerned, Tezpur and Sibsagar Sub-divisions topped the list in minor irrigation during 1983-84 followed by Barpeta and Guwahati Sub-divisions. In respect of medium irrigation the achievement during 1983-84 had been found to be highest in Nowgong followed by Barpeta, Tezpur and Diphu sub-divisions. Appendix XI shows civil subdivisionwise target and achievement under minor and medium irrigation schemes in the State for the year 1983-84 as available from the State Irrigation Department.

Land Reform :

4.9.0. Various legislations effecting land reform have been enacted by the State legislature from time to time. These measures basically aim at (i) providing security of tenancy rights, (ii) protecting tenants from possible exploitation, (iii) establishment of a direct nexus between the tenants and the Government and (iv) distribution of ceiling surplus land etc. In the table below, the position regarding acquisition and distribution of ceiling surplus land in the State for the year 1983-84 may be seen.

TABLE—4.3

Acquisition and Distribution of ceiling surplus Land
in Assam, 1983-84

Head	Position during 1983-84
1	2
1. Total land acquisitioned (in acres)	5,49,228
2. Land distributed to :-	
(i) S.C. families :	
(a) No. of beneficiary families	24,986
(b) Area distributed (in acres)	24,844
(ii) S.T. families :	
(a) No. of beneficiary families	21,297
(b) Area distributed (in acres)	33,391
(iii) Other families :	
(a) No. of beneficiary families	2,39,863
(b) Area distributed (in acres)	2,68,809
(IV) Institutions :	
(a) No. of beneficiary institutions	250
(b) Area distributed (in acres)	14,515
3. Total number of beneficiary families and institutions	2,86,396
4. Total land area distributed (in acres)	3,41,559

Source :- Directorate of Land Requisition, Acquisition & Reforms, Assam.

Agricultural Finance :

4.10.0. Credit facilities is one of the essential ingredients which hold the key to the development of agriculture. In the State, there are various institutions like State co-operative Banks, Land Development Banks, Agricultural Refinance and Development corporation, NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) etc. which provide fund for agricultural development. Besides the above the scheduled commercial banks also advance agricultural finance to the farmers. During 1982-83 NABARD has sanctioned 19 schemes in the State involving financial assistance of Rs. 715 lakhs and NABARD financial commitments during 1982-83 was

of the order of Rs. 654 lakhs and disbursement of fund in the same period amounted to Rs. 594 lakhs thus bringing the total cumulative disbursement to Rs. 2733 lakhs upto the end of 30th June, 1983.

Soil Conservation :

4.11.0. Top soil and gully erosion are the twin problems which Assam has been facing. To counter the same scientific soil conservation measures like protective afforestation, protection of riverine land, gully control, land development, etc are being undertaken in the State by the Directorate of Soil Conservation, Assam. The table below shows the progress in the field of soil conservation in the State for the years 1982-83 and 1983-84

TABLE—4.4
Soil Conservation Activities in 1982-83 and 1983-84 in Assam

Item of works	Unit	1982-83		1983-84	
		General areas	Hills areas	General areas	Hills areas
	2	3	4	5	6
1. Protective Afforestation :					
(i) Creation	Hectares	1400	782	1215	1567
(ii) Maintenance	Hectares	6764	5124	6863	4725
2. Protection of Riverine land :					
(i) Creation ...	(a) Cum	7249	-	8342	-
	(b) Hectares	1600	-	-	-
	(c) Running metre	..	12	-	-
(ii) Maintenance	(a) Cum	2359	-	1699	-
	(b) Running metre	..	-	..	..
	(c) No.	42	-	66	-
3. Gully control :					
(i) Creation ...	(a) Hectares	5241	115	5968	...
	(b) No.	...	...	...	...
(ii) Maintenance ..	(a) Hectares	2340	-	2120	-
	(b) No.	104	2	114	4
4. Land Development :					
(i) Creation	Hectares	2805	-	3335	281
(ii) Maintenance	No.	73	-	80	-
5. Cash crop Development :					
(i) Creation	Hectares	15	5	-	63
(ii) Maintenance	Hectares	100	229	52	94

Source :- Directorate of Soil Conservation, Assam, Guwahati.

CHAPTER -V

Livestock, Agricultural Implements and Fisheries

5.1.0. Assam has a fairly large stock of livestock population. According to the latest quinquennial "Livestock Census, 1979" the State had a total livestock population of 95.8 lakhs during 1979 which was nearly 20 per cent higher than the livestock population of the previous census (80.0 lakhs in 1972). The cattle population constituted the biggest group amongst

the livestock population of the State which alone accounted for nearly 69 per cent of the total, followed by goats (17 per cent), buffaloes (8 per cent) and Pigs (5 per cent). The table below reveals that almost all livestock species of the State recorded substantial increase in 1979 over that in 1972.

TABLE---5.1

Livestock Population in Assam

(in thousand head)

Livestock species	1972	1979	Percentage variation in 1979 over 1972
1	2	3	4
1. Cattle	5796	6604	+13.9
2. Buffaloes	489	732	+49.8
3. Goats	1258	1657	+31.7
4. Pigs	397	514	+29.4
5. Horse and ponies	10	18	+78.4
6. Sheep	51	59	+16.4
TOTAL	8001	9584	+19.8

Source : : Livestock Census, Assam, 1972 and 1979

5.1.1. Out of the total cattle population of 66 lakhs in 1979 about 21 lakhs were female cattle of over 3 years, of which 11.9 lakhs or 57 per cent were in milk. In respect of buffaloes, nearly 56 per cent of the total female buffaloes of over 3 years were in milk during the same year. While 97.6 per cent of the total male cattle of over 3 years were used for work during

1979, the proportion of male buffaloes used for work during the same year stood at 93.8 per cent of the total male buffaloes of over 3 years. Some important findings of the cattle and buffalo population of the State as provided by the Livestock Census, 1979 are furnished in the following table.

TABLE--5.2

Some important statistics on cattle and buffalo population of Assam (1979).

Item	Unit	Position in 1979
1	2	3
(1) Total cattle	Lakh No.	66.0
(a) Male cattle of over 3 years used for work	" "	24.6
(b) Female Cattle of over 3 years in milk	" "	6.4
(c) Working cattle per 1000 ploughs	Number	11.2
(d) Cows in milk per 1000 human population	"	81(*)
(1) Total buffaloes	Lakh No.	7.3
(a) Male buffaloes of over 3 years used for work.	"	2.8
(b) Female buffaloes of over 3 years in milk	" "	1.4
(c) working buffaloes per 1000 ploughs	Number	109
(d) Buffaloes in milk per 1000 human population	"	9(*)

(*) Based on population of 1971 census.

Source : : Livestock census, 1979

5.1.2. Data available from Livestock census, 1979 also reveal that during the year 1979 the State had a total poultry population of 104.5 lakhs as against 88.8 lakh in 1972. The increase in its population was 18 per cent over the five year period. The poultry population of the State mainly comprises of two species viz., fowls and ducks which totalled 73.4 lakhs and 28.7 lakhs respectively in 1979 as against 61.5 lakhs and 24.0 lakhs respectively in 1972. However, poultry population other than fowls and ducks displayed a fall from 3.2 lakhs in 1972 to 2.3 lakhs in 1979.

Livestock products : : :

5.2.0 Since a big proportion of the State's livestock population belongs to the indigenous non-descript type, its productivity is generally poor. It is however, encouraging to observe that of late, the popularity of improved breeds of cattle, duck etc. are on increase in the State. According to an estimate prepared by the State Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, while the average productivity of milk per day of a crossbred cow stands at about 5 litres, that of a local cow stands at :

very low level of 1.1 litre only. The productivity of milk per day of local buffalo has been estimated at 2 Litres on an average.

5.2.1. Data available from the Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Assam reveal a slow but steady increase in the production of milk, egg and meat in the State. The milk production increased from 497 million litre in 1982-83 to 512

million litres in 1983-84 and that of egg from 315 million numbers to 329 million numbers over the same period. In respect of meat production the figure stood at 160 M.T. in 1983-84 as against 158 M.T. in 1982-83. The production of milk, egg and meat in the State for each of the years from 1980-81 to 1983-84 are shown in the table below.

TABLE- 5.3

Production of milk, egg and meat in Assam

Item	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
1	2	3	4	5
1. Milk production (in million litres)	480	491	497	512
2. Egg production (in million number)	284	298	315	329
3. Meat production (in M.T.).	145	152	158	160

Source :- Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Assam, Guwahati.

Livestock development and veterinary facilities :-

5.3.0. The main objectives for development of the State's livestock sector, as envisaged in the Sixth Plan, are the following

- (i) To increase production of milk, egg, meat etc.,
- (ii) To provide gainful-employment through adoption of Dairy, Poultry, and Piggery and development and improvement of technology.
- (iii) To improve the development of indigeneous livestock through improved breeding of cattle, piggery, poultry etc.,

5.3.1. In order to achieve these objectives various livestock development programmes are under implementation in the State which include establishment of I.C.D. Ps, (Intensive Cattle Development project) Frozen Semen Bank, Stockman centres, Key village centres, livestock farms, fodder farms, veterinary dispensaries, first aid centres etc. Under special Animal Husbandry Programme, Tribal sub-plan and scheduled caste component plan improved breed of cattle, duck, pigs, etc. are distributed for upliftment of economic condition of the poor people. During 1980-81 there were 19 R.A.I centres and 254 stockman centres under the ICDP scheme besides 21 key village centres under the key-village scheme. Besides the above, 7 livestock farms, 12 poultry and duck farms, 4 pig farms 13 Gosadans and one each of sheep breeding, bull rearing cattle

demonstration and goat farm were also there in the State during the same year. The Indo-Australian Cattle Breeding Project continued to be implemented and strengthened further. For generating self employment programme, vocational training centres have been set up at Rari, Sālchapara and Dholchēra. During 1981-82 altogether 75 persons were trained in these centres. The artificial insemination programme has further been strengthened. Till the end of 1981-82, a total of 1.40 lakh cows were reported to have been inseminated in the State.

5.3.2. A wide network of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries are functioning in the State for providing care to various livestock species. The total number of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries in the State increased from 341 in 1979-80 to 359 in 1980-81. A total of 22.8 lakh livestock and 5.4 lakh poultry were treated in 1980-81 as against treatment of 14.7 lakhs and 4.3 lakhs respectively in 1979-80. The number of livestock castrated stood at 2.2 lakhs in 1980-81 compared with 2.8 lakhs in 1979-80. During 1980-81, 14.4 lakh livestock and 13.9 lakh poultry were also vaccinated as against 16.6 lakhs and 20.6 lakhs respectively a year before.

Agricultural implements :-

5.4.0. Agricultural implements used in the State mainly comprise of ploughs, carts, sugarcane crushers, power tillers, tractors etc. According to Livestock census, 1979 there were a total of 20.8 lakh ploughs in the State as against 14.0 lakhs in 1972. Of the total of 20.8 lakh ploughs in 1979, only 15.7 thousand were of iron while the rest, numbering 20.6 lakhs, were wooden. The number of animal drawn carts in the State stood at 1.04 lakh in 1979 which was, however, lower than the total of 1.10 lakh in 1972. The number of sugarcane crushers totalled 10 thousand (including 106 power operated crushers) in 1979 compared with 6 thousand in 1972. During 1979 the State had a total of 907 tractors (comprising prowler tractors, power tillers and four wheeled tractors) as against 684 trac-

tors and 54 power tillers in 1972. The number of other agricultural implements were as follows : Blade harrows 5.5 lakh, wet land paddlers 32 thousand, Earth levellers 2.7 lakh, Seed drillers : 820, Maize shellers 337 Sprayers and dusters 3668 and Pumps for irrigation: 1086.

Fishery : :

5.5.0. With a large number of beels, ponds and rivers Assam provides sufficient scope for development of pisciculture. The State is, however, still not self-sufficient in fish production. The total annual fish production in the State from all available resources is estimated at roughly 42 thousand tonnes which account for about half of the State's total anticipated annual requirement. A substantial part of the internal consumption demand for fish is, thus, met through supplies from sources outside the State.

5.5.1. At present there are 395 registered beel fisheries and 173 registered river fisheries in the State. The number of fish seed farms stands at 75 in 1980-81. The production of fry and fingerlings has been estimated at 21.3 million numbers in 1983-84 as against 16.6 million number in 1982-83 and 13.9 million number in 1981-82.

5.5.2. With a view to meet the growing demand of fish various piscicultural development programmes are being implemented in the State under the State plan as well as under the Tribal sub-plan and Scheduled caste plan. Some of the important schemes under implementation are : fish seed farming, development of beel, reservoir and riverine fisheries, assistance to fishermen / Private Pisciculturists/ fishermen co-operatives, development of community fishing tanks, fisheries extension service, training in fisheries etc. For implementing these piscicultural development programmes the State's Sixth Five Year plan has provided a total outlay of Rs. 540 lakhs under general areas and Rs 60 lakhs under hills areas.

CHAPTER -VI

FLOOD AND FLOOD CONTROL MEASURES

6.1.0. Almost every year Assam suffers from the fury of floods. The extent of damages caused by this calamity has been very heavy particularly since the great earthquakes of 1950. Besides the menace of floods, the State is also subjected to the fury of some other natural calamities such as erosion of soil, occurrence of hailstorm, cyclone, drought etc. The frequent occurrence of these calamities, thus, exert considerable strain on the State's economy.

6.1.1. During 1983 the State experienced four successive waves of high floods which resulted in staggering loss in terms of lives, property, standing crops, Communication etc. The estimated total value of damages caused by the floods of 1983 was as high as Rs. 56.2 crores as against Rs. 21.9 crores in 1982 and Rs. 7.4 crores in 1981. The first wave of floods in 1983 occurred from end of April to the first week of May and affected one Sub-division of Brahmaputra Valley and 3 Sub-divisions of Barak Valley. The second wave of floods started from the middle of June and continued till the first week of July which also affected as many as 10 Sub-divisions of the Brahmaputra Valley. The intensity of this wave was found to be particularly severe

in the Dhemaji Sub-division of Lakhimpur district. The third wave of floods occurred from the later part of July and lasted for 5 to 7 days at different places. The affect of this wave was felt in 15 Sub-divisions of both Brahmaputra and Barak valley including Diphu and Hamren Sub-divisions of Karbi-Anglong district. The fourth and last wave of flood, which was also of severe intensity, started from the middle of August in the Barak valley and from the beginning of September in the Brahmaputra Valley and continued till the middle of September. The worst affected areas were Kokrajhar Sub-division, North Salmara Sub-division and Dhubri Sub-division.

6.1.2. The intensity of havoc caused by the floods of 1983 can be judged from the fact that it affected as much as 7.2 lakh hectares of area, more than 22 lakhs of population, about 5 thousand villages and about 1.4 lakh hectares of cropped area. It also took a toll of 23 human lives and 2735 number of cattle. The damages caused to public utilities was staggering valued at Rs. 40 crores. An idea about the magnitude of flood damages in Assam over the past few years may be had from the table furnished below.

Table -6:1

Damages caused by floods in Assam

Head	1976	1980	1981	1982	1983
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Area affected (Lakh hect.)	14.19	11.60	4.57	68.85	7.26
2. Population affected (lakh)	14.63	33.59	13.58	14.24	22.57
3. Human lives lost (No.)	..	57	22	16	23
4. Cattle lost (No.)	...	9,155	991	227	2735
5. Value of crops damaged (Rs. crores)	8.65	32.37	7.01	8.90	14.74
6. Total value of damages to crops/ houses/public utilities (Rs. crores)	11.98	39.80	7.40	21.89	56.18

Source :- Revenue Department, Government of Assam.

6.1.3. As indicated earlier, in addition to the menace of the floods the State had to face the wrath of storm/hailstorm/cyclone also during the year, particularly during the months from March to early June. These calamities amongst others affected 173 villages in Dhubri district and 172 villages in Cachar district of the State besides resulting in loss of three human lives.

Flood control works :

6.2.0. Recognising the gravity of this problem, the State Government has accorded high priority to the plans and programmes for flood control. Since the creation of the Brahmaputra flood Control Commission (BFCC) in the year 1970, a large

number of flood control and anti-erosion works such as construction of new embankments, channelisation of rivers, bank protection works etc. have been undertaken in the flood-prone areas of the State.

6.2.1. As a result of the implementation of various flood control and anti-erosion schemes in the State an area of about 13.1 lakh hectares in the Brahmaputra valley and about 1.9 lakh hectares in the Barak Valley have been benefitted upto the year 1983-84. The achievement under different schemes during 1983-84 as well as cumulative achievement upto 1983-84 in the Brahmaputra and Barak Valley of the State are furnished in the table below.

TABLE - 6.2

Achievement under various flood control programmes in Assam.

Category	Brahmaputra	Valley	Barak	Valley
	During 1983-84	Upto 1983-84	During 1983-84	Upto 1983-84
1	2	3	4	5
1. Construction of embankment (in Km)	17.44	3249.59	17.00	698.00
2. Raising and strengthening of embankment (in Km)	124.65	1035.40	7.00	213.50
3. Retirement bund (in Km)	26.16	76.42	—	—
4. Drainage improvement (in Km)	19.69	520.93	2.00	243.00
5. Bank protection (in Km)	75.17	209.04	—	—
6. Other protection works (in number)	—	96	16	57
7. Construction of sluices (in nos)	3	374	4	19
8. Benefitted area (in lakh hectares)	0.48	13.08	0.08	1.86

Source :- Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission, Assam, Guwahati

CHAPTER---VII

FORESTRY

7.1.0. Forestry plays an important role in the economy of Assam. Since long past the State is known for her rich forest wealth. There are evergreen and deciduous forests in the State which are abounded with valuable timber species likekolong, nahar, bonsom, sal, simul, gamari, bogipoma etc. Extensive bamboo forests also occur in different parts of the State. Natural habitation of rich and captivating varied wildlife in her forests is another important source of tourist attraction to the State.

7.1.1. Assam's forest areas account for nearly one third of the total geographical area of the State bulk of which are concentrated in the two hills districts viz., Karbi Anglong and N. C. Hills. During 1982-83 the area under the category of reserved forests stood at 17,273 sq.km. as against 16, 197 sq.km. a decade before and this accounted for approximately 22per cent of the State's total land area. Another 3.4 thousand sq.km of forest area is proposed to be brought under the coverage of

reserved forests in a phased manner in the State which is likely to bring the total to more than 20 thousand sq.km. in near future. The forestry sector also contributes substantially to the State exchequer in the shape of revenue earnings. The total revenue earned by the State Government from this sector totalled Rs. 17.9 crores (provisional) in 1982-83 compared with Rs. 15.1 crores in 1981-82. During 1983-84 it is expected to be around Rs. 22 crores.

7.1.2. Because of abundance of forest resources, a good number of forest-based industries (particularly Papermills, saw mills and plywood factories) have come up in different parts of the State providing employment to nearly 10 thousand persons. During the year 1983 the State had 59 plywood factories, 485 saw mills, 4 match/match splint factories and 3 paper mills.

In the table below number, employment and production of a few forest based factories of the State are furnished for the year 1983.

TABLE---7.1

Number, production and employment in forest - based factories in Assam in 1983 (p)

Factory	No.	Employment (Average worker)	Production
1	2	3	4
1. Saw mill	485	3602	222 Thousand Cu.m.
2. Plywood factory	59	5808	311 lakh Sq. m.
3. Match factory	4	1041	51 (a) lakh gross boxes
4. Paper mill.	3	2694	537 M. T.

(P) - Provisional

(a) Relate to production of only one factory viz. The Wimco Ltd., Dhubri.

7.1.3. The protection and preservation of forests is essential not only for its productivity but also for providing cover for prevention of soil erosion and for maintaining ecological balance. In Assam the State Government continued to give due emphasis for the development of this sector. Various programmes being undertaken for the development of the State's forests comprises, stepping up of afforestation and social forestry, to bring more areas under economic and commercial plantation, wild

life management and improvement of infrastructural facilities like construction/improvement of roads in the forest areas etc. Upto 1983-84 a total of 139.9 thousand hectares of area had been brought under the different plantation schemes in the State as against 124.6 thousand hectares covered upto 1982-83. Achievement in respect of some important plantation schemes up-to 1983-84 as well as during the year of 1983-84 are shown in the table below :-

TABLE---7.2

Area brought under different plantation schemes in Assam

(Area in hectares)

Plantation scheme	During 1983-84	Upto the end of 1983-84.
1	2	3
1. Fast growing species	2,290	25,031
2. Teak wood plantation	1,409	19,037
3. Regeneration	2,035	32,332
4. Re-forestation/Rehabilitation of degraded forests	310	12,666
5. Plywood	1,600	14,955
6. Matchwood	815	15,134
7. Social forestry	2,222	10,386
8. Fuelwood	4,600	7,872
9. Minor forest product	50	283
10. Khoir	--	2,191
Total	15,331	1,39,887

Source :- Chief Conservator of Forests, Assam

7.1.4. In respect of improvement of infrastructural facilities, during 1983-84 379.3 kms. of existing forest roads were improved and 45 kms. of new forest roads were constructed.

7.1.5. So far as wildlife is concerned the State rightly occupies a place of pride in the country. Her wildlife consists of various animals, reptiles, birds and fishes some of which are famous the world over. The biggest concentration of great one-horned rhinos can be found in this State. for Protection and preservation of rare

wild life species there is one national park (viz., the Kaziranga National Park which is about 430 sq. km. in area) and seven wildlife sanctuaries (viz., Manas, Laokhowa, Orang, Sora-Rupai, Garampani and Favitara) in the State. The Kaziranga National Park alone shelters nearly 1000 rhinos in addition to various other rare animals and birds. Due to increasing incidence of poaching of rare animals (particularly of rhinos) in recent times, the State Government continued to undertake various measures to counter this menace.

CHAPTER-VIII

Panchayati Raj Institution and Rural Development

8.1.0. In Assam a two-tier Panchayati Raj system viz., the Mahkuma Parishad at the top and the Gaon Panchayats at the bottom is presently functioning as local self Government bodies in the rural areas of the plains districts of the State. This system, however, does not extend to the hills areas of the State. As provided in the constitution a District Council in each of the two hills districts function as local self-government bodies in these areas.

8.1.1. During 1983-84 the set-up of Panchayati Raj system in the plains districts of the State comprised of 20 Mahkuma Parishads and 714 Gaon Panchayats.

District-wise number of Mahkuma Parishads and Gaon Panchayats in the State for the year 1983-84 are furnished in Table-8-1 below.

8.1.2. The rural areas of the state is covered by a net-work of 135 C. D. Blocks—121 in the Plains districts and 14 (including 5 ITDP) in the hills district. The 135 Blocks of the State also included 22 Tribal Development Blocks (i.e. all the 14 Blocks of the hills districts and 8 Blocks of the plains districts). The table below shows the districtwise number of Community Development Blocks in the State in 1983-84 alongwith the number of Mahkuma Parishads and Gaon Panchayats.

TABLE - 8.1

Districtwise distribution of Mahkuma Parishads,
C.D.Blocks and Gaon Panchayats in Assam, 1983-84.

District	No. of Mahkuma Parishads	No. of Blocks	No. of Gaon Panchayats.
1	2	3	4
1 Goalpara	3	20	115
2 Kamrup	3	25	129
3 Darrang	2	13	84
4 Nowgaon	2	13	88
5 Dibrugarh	2	10	68
6 Sibsagar	3	17	100
7 Lakhimpur	2	8	42
8 Cachar	3	15	88
9 Karbi-Anglong	-	10*	-
10 N.C.Hills	-	4*	-
Total	20	135	714

*Including 3 ITDPs in Karbi-Anglong and 2 ITDPs in N.C. Hills

Source : Directorate of Panchayat and Community Development, Assam.

Developmental programmes and achievements :-

8.2.0. The principal functions entrusted to the community development programmes at Block level are in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, health and rural sanitation, education and provision of other basic amenities such as communication and rural water supply etc. The tasks accomplished in the State in some of the important fields are mentioned briefly in the paragraph that follows.

8.2.1. In the field of agriculture a total of 41.3 lakh quintals of improved seeds, 4.8 thousand tonnes of chemical fertilizers and 27.5 thousand litres of liquid chemical pesticides were distributed in the State during 1981-82. In the field of animal husbandry the achievements during the same year were : supply of 2.1 thousand improved animals and 18.6 thousand improved birds through the Blocks. So far as achievements under health and rural sanitation are concerned mention may be made of construction of 431 rural latrines and installation of 80 smokeless chullahs during the year. Under the programme of social education a total of 5483 adult literacy centres were started and the number of adult persons made literate through these centres stood at 89 thousand during the year. In the field of communication, 11564 kilometres of new katcha roads and 317 number of culverts were constructed in the State besides improving 2161 kilometres of existing katcha roads and repairing 143 number of culverts. In respect of programme for provision of drinking water facilities, 676 wells were constructed during 1981-82 in addition to installation of 673 hand pumps. The table at Appendix XII shows achievements under various community development programmes in Assam (Plains Blocks and Hills Blocks separately) during year 1981-82.

Nutrition Programme : : :

8.3.0. In Assam nutrition programmes are being implemented with the association of both the Social Welfare Department and the Panchayat and Community Development Department of the State Government. Under this programme nutritive foods are distributed

amongst the under-nourished children and pregnant and lactating mothers through the feeding centres. During 1981-82 there were 511 such centres in the State under the Special Nutrition Programme and 333 centres under the World Food Programme. The number of beneficiaries under the former programme totalled 102.2 thousand (25.6 thousand mother and 76.6 thousand children) in 1981-82 while for the latter programme the same stood at 66.6 thousand (16.7 thousand mother and 49.9 thousand children).

Rural Development Programmes :

8.4.0. With a view to improve the conditions of the rural poor a number of special programmes of rural development are being implemented in the State. The programmes are : (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (ii) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), (iii) Special Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for increasing Agricultural Production (Pasmafap), (iv) Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), (v) National Programme of Bio-gas Development (NPBD), and (vi) Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). Targets and achievements under these programmes are briefly discussed in the following paragraphs.

8.4.1. The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) started functioning in Assam from the later part of 1978-79. The main objective of the programme is to assist the target group families (80,400 families per year) among the rural poor with a view to ensuring them a threshold income through a package of viable economic schemes. Under the above programme a total of 46,380 families including 13,258 scheduled tribe and 3,919 scheduled caste families were assisted during 1983-84 (up to January) which accounted for about 58 per cent of the target (80,400 families). Credit mobilised under IRDP through different financial institutions amounted to Rs. 8.55 crores during 1983-84 (up to January) while subsidy released amounted to Rs. 5.50 crores during the same period. In the following table achievements made under IRDP in Assam for each of the years from 1980-81 to 83-84 are furnished.

TABLE -8.2

Progress under IRDP in Assam

Year	Target (No. of families)	Achievement (No. of families)	P. C. of achievement	Credit mobilised (Rs. crores)
1	2	3	4	5
1980-81	80,400	20,285	25.2	1.44
1981-82	80,400	22,171	27.6	3.07
1982-83	80,400	49,183	61.2	8.30
1983-84 (up to January)	80,400	46,380	57.7	8.55

Note: ---Target and Percentage of achievement upto January 1984 of 1983-84 stands at 67,000 families and 69.2 p.c. respectively.

Source :---Directorate of Rural Development, Assam.

8.4.2. The National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) which aims at providing employment avenues to the rural people by creating community assets at the same time started functioning in Assam from the later part of 1980-81. During 1983-84 (upto December) the schemes under NREP generated 21.9 lakh mandays of employment in the State as against the target of creation of 65.7 lakh mandays. The achievement during the previous year i.e. in 1982-83 was 49.0 lakh mandays of employment.

8.4.3. A special programme christened as Project for Assisting Small and Marginal Farmers for Increased Agricultural Production (PASMAFAP) was introduced in the State during the year 1983-84. The scheme has three main components, viz., minor irrigation, free supply of minikits and plantation of fuel and fruit trees. During 1983-84 (upto December) 14,472 minikits during Kharif Season and 12,864 minikits during Rabi Season were distributed. In addition 439 shallow, tube wells were installed by the State Minor Irrigation Development Corporation for purposes of irrigation.

8.4.4. Under the National Programme of Bio-gas Development, so far 40 bio-gas plants (20 each by the Rural Development Department and the Khadi and Village Industries Commission) have been installed. The Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme was started in the State in November, 1983. The Programme envisage at ensuring employment of atleast 25 landless persons from each Gram Panchayat area for a period of 100 days in a year. Till January, 1984 about 0.98 lakh mandays were created under this programme which, however, fell much short of the target of creation of 14.44 lakh mandays for the year.

8.4.5. Under the Programme of TRY-SEM (National Scheme of Training of Rural Youth for Self employment) a total of 2136 youths were trained during 1983-84 (upto November) as against the target of training 5360 youths. The number of trained youths self-employed over the same period stood at 1167. During the previous year i.e. in 1982-83 the number of youths trained and self-employed were of the order of 4949 and 1885 respectively.

CHAPTER-IX

CO-OPERATION

9.1.0. Data so far available for the co-operative sector of the State reveal a none-too-encouraging trend in the growth of number of societies and its membership over the past few years. The State, in fact, has witnessed a gradual decline in the number of societies as well as their membership during the recent few years. The total number of co-operative societies of all types (i.e. both credit and non-credit societies) which was 8181 in 1976-77 declined to 7356 in 1980-81 and further to 7281 in 1981-82. Similarly, the membership of these societies, though recorded rise upto 1978-79, however, showed continuous fall during the three subsequent years. The total membership stood at 30.7 lakhs in 1981-82 as

against 31.4 lakhs in 1980-81 and 33.0 lakh in 1978-79. On the other hand, the total volume of share capital of the societies which shot up to Rs. 28.3 crores in 1980-81 from Rs. 16.7 crores in 1979-80, declined to Rs. 21.5 crores in 1981-82. The growth in the volume of working capital over the years was by and large satisfactory and stood at about Rs. 17 crores in 1981-82 as against Rs. 16.3 crores in 1980-81 and Rs. 12.6 crores in 1979-80. In the table below the growth of co-operative societies (credit and non-credit societies together) in the State alongwith their membership, share capital and working capital may be observed for the past few years.

TABLE—9.1

Growth of co-operative societies in Assam

Year	No. of societies	Membership (in thousand)	Share capital (in Rs. lakhs)	Working capital (in Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1975-76	7868	1907	945	8171
1976-77	8181	2822	1205	12374
1977-78	8112	2972	1422	12961
1978-79	7954	3302	1531	11469
1979-80	7520	3144	1674	12610
1980-81	7356	3140	2832	16357
1981-82	7281	3073	2149	16997

Source : : Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Assam.

9.1.1. A brief assessment of the working of different types of co-operative societies in the State is presented in the following paragraphs.

State Co-operative Apex Bank :

9.2.0. The Assam State Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd. is a premier co-operative institution in the State. The Bank had 43 branch offices during 1982-83. The total membership of the Bank was 5002 in 1982-83 as against 4756 in 1981-82 and 4718 in 1980-81. Working capital and paid-up capital of the Bank stood at Rs. 65.6 crores and Rs. 1.6 crores respectively in 1982-83 which were higher than the figures of Rs. 58.5 crores and Rs. 1.5 crores respectively in 1981-82. The volume of deposits with the Bank increased from Rs. 39.2 crores in 1980-81 to Rs. 40.7 crores in 1981-82 and then to Rs. 46.9 crores in 1982-83. During 1982-83 an amount of Rs. 58.5 crores was issued as loans and advances compared with Rs. 50.3 crores in the previous year. Loans outstanding and loans overdue amounted Rs. 37.0 crores and Rs. 19.5 crores respectively at the end of 1982-83 as against Rs. 33.6 crores and Rs. 18.4 crores respectively at the end of 1981-82. The proportion of loans overdue to demand (relating to term loan only) stood at 74.7 p.c. in 1981-82 which further went up to 81.8 p.c. in 1982-83.

Central Co-operative Bank :

9.3.0. At present only one Central Co-operative Bank is functioning in the State. The membership of the Bank which was 1673 in 1981-82 rose to 1814 in 1982-83. The working capital of the Bank also recorded increase from Rs. 2.3 crores in 1981-82 to Rs. 2.9 crores in 1982-83 while its paid-up capital remained at Rs. 19 lakhs in 1982-83 as in the previous year. The Bank advanced loans to the tune of Rs. 1.57 crores in 1982-83 as against Rs. 1.13 crores in 1981-82. Loans outstanding with the Bank amounted to Rs. 2.15 crores in 1982-83 as against Rs. 1.63 crores in the preceding year. The amount of loans overdue with the Bank also recorded increase from Rs. 45 lakhs in 1981-82 to Rs. 49 lakhs in 1982-83. The proportion of loans overdue to demand

(relating to term loans only), however, showed considerable decline from 42.2 p.c. in 1981-82 to 21.5 p.c. in 1982-83.

Primary Agricultural Credit Societies :

9.4.0 Since the past few years a gradual decline is observed in the number of primary agricultural credit societies in the State. The number of such societies in the State which was 2647 in 1980-81 declined to 2429 in 1981-82 and further to 2367 in 1982-83. Another disturbing feature is that amongst these societies only a few have been found to be viable the majority of the rest lying dormant. The number of viable and dormant societies stood at 597 and 1640 respectively in 1982-83 as against 596 and 1689 respectively in 1981-82. Thus, viable societies constituted only 25 percent of the total primary agricultural credit societies in the State during 1982-83.

9.4.1. The total membership of the primary agricultural credit societies stood at 23.18 lakhs in 1981-82 (including the membership of the gaon panchayat level samabay samitees and large sized multipurpose co-operative societies) as against 22.30 lakhs in the previous year. Working capital of these societies were of the order of Rs. 24.83 crores in 1981-82 as against Rs. 20.49 crores in 1980-81. Loans issued during 1982-83 amounted to Rs. 1.91 crores compared with Rs. 1.02 crores in the previous year. There was however, a spurt in loans overdue from Rs. 5.96 crores in 1981-82 to Rs. 7.03 crores in 1982-83.

9.4.2. The primary agricultural credit societies also include societies like Gaon panchayat Level Samabay Samitees (GPSS) and Large sized Multipurpose Co-operative societies (LAMPS) which were organised in the State in 1973-74. The area of operation of GPSS extends to all the rural areas of the plains districts of the State while in respect of LAMPS its area confined to hills districts only. A total of 688 GPSS with 20.3 lakh members and 30 LAMPS with 17 thousand members were functioning in the State during 1981-82. In the table below the working and financial positions of these societies may be seen for the years 1980-81 and 1981-82.

TABLE 9.2

Statistics relating to Gaon Panchayat Level and
Multipurpose Co-operative Societies in Assam

Head	Unit	GPSS		LAMPS	
		1980-81	1981-82	1980-81	1981-82
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. NO. of societies	Number	671	688	23	30
2. Membership	In thousand	1968	2078	13	17
3. Paid-up capital	Rs. lakhs	390	446	66	84
4. Working capital	" "	1292	1696	183	267
5. Loans advanced	" "	137	88	9	13
6. Loans outstanding	" "	364	410	8	18
7. Loans overdue	" "	238	256	6	8
8. Value of consumer goods sold	" "	2781	3681	148	168

Note : : GPSS---Gaon panchayat Level Samabay Samitees

LAMPS---Large Size Multipurpose Co-operative societies.

Source : ---Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Assam

Primary Non-agricultural Credit Societies:

9.5.0. A total of 496 number of primary non-agricultural credit societies with membership of 128 thousand were there in the State during 1981-82 as against 463 societies with 36 thousand membership during 1980-81. Working capital of these societies stood at Rs. 5.33 crores in 1981-82 as against Rs. 5.11 crores in the previous year. During 1981-82 these societies advanced

loans to the tune of Rs. 1.45 crores compared with Rs. 1.22 crores advanced during 1980-81. The amount of loans overdue with these societies was of the order of Rs. 1.31 crores in 1981-82 which was, however, lower than the previous year's amount of Rs. 1.37 crores. There was also a gradual decline in the value of consumer goods sold by these societies from Rs. 89 lakhs in 1979-80 to Rs. 81 lakhs in 1980-81 and then Rs. 64 lakhs in 1981-82.

Non-credit Societies : :

9.6.0. Non-credit societies constituted more than half of the total co-operative societies in the State in 1981-82. Non-credit societies include various categories of societies with activities in many diverse fields such as marketing, processing, farming, weaving, housing, fishery, milk supply, transport etc. Besides the privately sponsored co-operative societies, there are also a number of State Government sponsored state level societies federations viz., STATFED, HOUSEFED, FISHFED, ARTFED, etc. These state sponsored societies/federations have been formed basically for organising, nursing and developing grass root level organisations.

9.6.1. During 1981-82 the number of a few different categories of non-credit societies in the State were as follows:

Primary weavers societies (1295 number), Primary fishery societies (420), industrial societies (468), farming societies (379), Primary consumers co-operatives (365), Primary milk societies (164), Primary marketing societies (51), poultry and livestock societies (33), wholesale consumers co-operatives (23) and transport societies (15). The co-operative movement in the State is expected to get further fillip in near future with the coming up of a number of large sized processing units in the co-operative sector viz., sugar mills, spinning mills etc.

9.6.2. The working and financial position in brief of a few non-credit societies viz., STATEFD, Primary Marketing Societies, co-operative sugar processing societies, Cotton Jinning Mill etc. as available for the year 1981-82 are furnished in the following table.

TABLE - 9.3

Statistics relating to a few non-credit co-operative societies in Assam, 1981-82

Name of societies	No. of societies	Membership	working capital (Rs. lakhs)	Value of sales (Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1. STATFED	1	546	4148	(i) Agril. produce: 1079 (ii) Agril. requisites: 391
2. Primary Marketing societies	51	19506	209	(iii) Consumer goods : 1106 (i) Agril. Produce: 112 (ii) Consumer goods: 46
3. Sugar processing societies	3	22134	572	(i) Sugar: 100 (ii) By-products: 4 (iii) Product of ancillary units: 17
4. Farming societies:				
(a) Joint	118	3914	12	10
(b) Collective	261	10458	23	18
5. Cotton Jinning Mill	1	178	11	3
6. North Assam Agro-Industries co-operative	1	30	43	6

Source:- Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Assam.

CHAPTER--X

TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATION AND TOURISM

10.1.0. Inadequate transport and communication facilities is one of the major impediments to the economic development of Assam. Although considerable efforts have been made over the successive five year plans for improvement of this vital sector, much more still remains to be done to bring the position to a satisfactory level. On account of her backwardness on the one hand and strategic location on the other, Assam deserves topmost attention for the development of her transport and communication network. The position is however, expected to record some improvement in near future as a result of the efforts being made by the State Government as well as by the North Eastern Council, which is also lending support to this cause through its own projects.

Railways :

10.2.0. During 1982-83 Assam had a total railway route length of 2178.55 kilometres comprising 105.22 kilometres under broadgauge and 2073.33 kilometres under metregauge. Thus, broadgauge and metregauge railway route length of the State constituted only 0.3 percent and 4 per cent respectively of the country's total broadgauge and metregauge route length. A long-felt need of the people of the State, however, was fulfilled during the latter part of April, 1984 with the opening of the 164 k.M. long B.G. line from New Bengaigaon to Guwahati. As a result of this the total broadgauge route length in the state went up to 269.22 K.M. at the end of April, 1984. Some other important measures proposed be taken up for improvement of railway facilities in the State are-conversion of existing Guwahati-Dibrugarh (via-Tinsukia) metregauge line into broadgauge line, construction of a rail-cum-road bridge across the river Brahmaputra, connecting Joghopa and Pancharatna in the Goal-

para district and construction of a rail link on the south bank from Joghopa-Pancharatna to Guwahati. These proposals, if get materialised, will substantially ease travel problems and also facilitate increase in the quantum and speed of goods traffic to and from the State.

10.2.1. Certain statistics like gross/net earnings, passengers carried, freight carried, number of stations etc. of the N.F. Railway (major length of which runs through Assam) during 1981-82 and 1982-83 are furnished in the table at Appendix XIII. The movement of principal commodities by railways as booked from different stations of N.F. Railway section during the years from 1980-81 to 1982-83 may also be seen at the table at Appendix XIV.

Roads:

10.3.0. At the end of 1982-83 Assam had 24,232 km. of roads under P.W.D. (including 2002 km. under National High ways) as against 23,674 km at the end of 1980-81 and 20,149 km. at the end of 1975-76. Of the 24,232 km. of P.W.D. road length at the end of 1982-83, 5409 km. (or about 22 p.c.) were surfaced roads and the rest 18,823 km. were unsurfaced roads. Although road net-work of Assam is fairly extensive, the condition of most of the roads in the State is, however, not much satisfactory. The occurrence of frequent floods also cause extensive damage to roads, bridges and culverts thereby disrupting road communication at times. The upgradation of existing roads and prompt repair of damaged roads, bridges etc. therefore deserve special attention for the development of this vital communication net work of the State.

10.3.1. The trend in the growth of PWD road lengths in Assam over the past few years may be observed from the table given below:

TABLE- 10.1

Length of roads under PWD (including National Highways) in Assam.

(In kilometers)

Year	Surfaced	Unsurfaced	Total
1	2	3	4
1970-71	3,683	13,347	17,030
1975-76	4,212	15,937	20,149
1979-80	4,776	15,917	20,693
1980-81	5,369	18,305	23,674
1981-82	5,142	19,026	24,168
1982-83	5,409	18,823	24,232

Source :- Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam

10.3.2. In addition of the PWD roads there are also roads maintained by the State Forest Department. At the end of 1983-84 the total length of forest roads in the State stood at 3988 km. of which 983 km. were gravelled.

10.3.3. The availability of road facilities in the rural areas of the State are far from satisfactory as evident from data available from Economic Census 1977. According to it the number of villages connected by metalled road constituted only 14 p.c. of the State's total villages while more than 15 p.c. of the villages of the State were situated beyond 15 kms. from the metalled road. Nearly 54 p.c. of the total villages of the State were, however, situated within a distance of 0-5 kms. from metalled road.

ROAD TRANSPORT :

10.4.0. In Assam passenger transport operations through roads are carried out both by the private sector road transport operators and the public sector State Road Transport Corporation. However, in respect of movement of goods traffic through roads, private sector road transport operators play the dominant role.

10.4.1. During 1981-82 the Assam State Road Transport Corporation (ASRTC), which is the only public sector road transport organisation in the State, covered a total route length of 5889 kms. for its operations. The corporation with a fleet strength 776 vehicles (comprising 712 buses, 27 trucks, 24 cars and 12 jeeps) carried on an average nearly 82 thousand pass-

engers and 21 tonnes of goods daily during 1981-82 as against 72 thousand passengers and 34 tonnes of goods carried during 1980-81. The services rendered by private operators for movement of passengers and goods traffic also extends to almost every nook and corner of the State. But due to non-availability of data the volume of passengers and goods traffic of this sector is not precisely known. However, a rough idea about the average quantum of goods carried by road transport in the State may be had from the data thrown up by the survey on goods traffic by road as carried out annually by the Transport Survey and planning cell of the Transport Department which has been discussed in a subsequent paragraph (see para 10.5.0).

10.4.2. There has been a sharp increase in the number of motor vehicles on road in the State in recent time. The number of such vehicles nearly doubled between the period 1975 and 1983. During 1983 a total of 1,00,459 vehicles were on road in the State as against 95,566 in 1982 and 53,921 in 1975. Of the total vehicles of 1,00,459 in 1983, motor cycles/scooters numbered about 30 thousand while public carrier and motor cars numbered about 18 thousand and 15 thousand respectively (for details please see Appendix XV). It is pertinent to note that as many as 10,343 vehicles were registered in 1983 alone as against the registration of 8900 vehicles in 1982 and 4,752 vehicles in 1980. The fast expansion of motor vehicles on road in the State over the past few years may be seen in the table below.

TABLE - 10.2

Number of motor vehicles on road in Assam

Year	Number of vehicles
1	2
1970	41,303
1975	53,921
1980	82,370
1981	87,644
1982	95,566
1983	1,00,459

Source -: Commissioner of Transport, Assam.

Movement of goods traffic by road :

10.5.0. Road transport plays an important role in Assam in respect of both intra-state and inter-state movement of goods traffic. An idea about the quantum of goods carried by road transport in the State may be had from the survey on goods traffic by road conducted annually in two rounds by the Transport Survey and Planning Cell (TSP Cell) of the Transport Department, Government of Assam.

10.5.1. The surveys revealed that during 1981-82 the average quantum of various goods carried daily by motor vehicles in the State stood at 15824 tonnes

in the 1st round and 17045 tonnes in the 2nd round as against 17897 and 19787 tonnes respectively during 1980-81. The biggest share of total traffic in both the years was accounted for by goods of general merchandise (20.7 p.c. and 23.5 p.c. respectively in the 1st and 2nd round of 1980-81 and 19.1 p.c. and 17.2 p.c. respectively in 1981-82) followed by forest product (around 10 p.c.) and tea (around 8 p.c.). The Survey also has brought to light vital information in respect of inter-state movement of goods traffic (i.e. quantum of goods despatched from Assam to places outside the State and the quantum of goods received in Assam from places outside the State) which may be observed from the table shown below.

TABLE 10.3

Inter-state movement of goods traffic by road transport.

Head	Unit	1980-81		1981-82	
		1st round	2nd round	1st round	2nd round
1	2	3	4	5	6
(1) Average quantum of goods despatched daily from Assam to places outside the State.	Tonnes	4348	5104	3264	4444
Of which :-					
(i) Forest Product	"	677	710	496	782
(ii) Tea	"	589	627	600	316
(iii) Rice and Paddy	"	397	537	330	252
(2) Average quantum of goods received daily in Assam from places outside the State.	"	4282	5253	4288	4248
Of which :-					
(i) General merchandise	"	1248	2266	1527	847
(ii) Coal and Coke	"	443	267	442	989
(iii) Cement	"	467	384	383	325

Source :- "Report on movement of goods traffic by road in Assam 1980-81 and 1981-82" by Transport Survey and Planning cell, Transport Department, Assam.

10.5.2. In respect of intra-state movement of goods (i.e. goods carried by road transport within the State) it was found that on an average 8185 tonnes of goods were carried by motor vehicles per day in 1981-82 as against 9036 tonnes per day in 1980-81. Commodity-wise, miscellaneous items accounted for 15.3 p.c. of the total intra-state traffic in 1981-82 followed by rice and paddy (9.2 p.c.), building materials (9.1 p.c.), forest product and tea (9.0 p. c. each). During 1980-81 the share of miscellaneous items to the total intra-state traffic was of the order of 20.3 p.c. followed by building materials (12.1 p.c.), forest product (11.6 p.c.) and rice and paddy (8.8 p.c.).

10.5.3. The Survey further revealed that during 1981-82 the highest traffic intensity on road was observed at Amingaon point with 2859 vehicles per day during the 1st round and 3236 vehicles per day during the 2nd round of the Survey. During 1980-81 also Amingaon point occupied the top position in traffic intensity with 3306 and 2837 vehicles per day respectively.

Inland Water Transport :

1.06.0. Assam inherits an extensive navigational waterways along the mighty Brahmaputra and its tributaries on the one side and the river Barak on the other. The State possesses approximately 5 thousand kilometres of navigable waterways including the waterways navigable by small and large country boats. The river Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya has a navigable length of about 1 thousand kilometres and is navigable throughout the year. At present two public sector organisations viz. the State Directorate of Inland Water Transport (IWT) and the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation (CIWTC) are providing navigational facilities in the State on commercial basis. While the State Directorate of Inland Water Transport has been operating river services mainly within the water of Assam, the CIWTC, a Government of India undertaking are running cargo services between Calcutta and Pandu and between Calcutta and Karimganj.

10.6.1. The State Directorate of Inland Water Transport is presently managing ferry ghats on commercial basis in 19 places of the State. These ferry crossings are mainly engaged in transportation of passengers and local goods between each bank of the river Brahmaputra besides engaging in transporting cargo from Joghora to Dibrugarh and then to Oriyaghat. During 1983-84 the IWT vessels carried on an average 6862 number of passengers and 176 M.T. of goods per day as against the average of 6468 passengers and 168 M. T. of goods per day in the previous year. The total volume of cargo and passengers handled by ferries at different points on the bank of Brahmaputra were of the order of 4.18 lakh quintals of Cargo and 24.71 lakh passengers in 1983-84 compared with 1.55 lakh quintals and 22.98 lakh passengers in 1982-83. In addition to the above, the IWT services also handled 15.7 thousand vehicles, 72.7 thousand motor cycles/ bicycles and 22.4 thousand animals during the year 1983-84. The fleet strength of the State Directorate of IWT in 1983-84 comprised of 45 modern steel vessels, 8 ramp powered lighter vessels, 12 panch, 11 marboats and 12 relief boats.

Air Transport :

10.7.0. Air transport services in Assam are being operated from six civil airports of the State. The airports are (i) Guwahati (Borjhar), (ii) Tezpur (Salonibari), (iii) Jorhat (Rowrah), (iv) Dibrugarh (Mohanbari), (v) Lakhimpur (Lilabari) and (vi) Silchar (Kumbhirgram). The Airlines operates regular air services between Assam and Calcutta and between Guwahati and Delhi. Besides the regular Boeing service, Guwahati city has also been connected with an Airbus service with effect from June, 1982. Since January 1981, 'Vayudoot's third level air transport service of the country, also continues to operate connecting several places of the N.E region including Assam.

Postal and Telecommunication Services:

10.8.0. Since the past few years Assam has been recording a steady growth in the

sphere of postal and telecommunication facilities. The total number of Post Offices in the State increased to 3205 in 1983-84, from 3178 in 1982-83 and 2461 in 1975-76. Of the total Post Offices of 3205 in 1983-84, 14 were Head Post offices, 606 were sub Post Offices and the rest 2585 were branch

offices. The number of Letter boxes and Post boxes in the State stood at 14323 and 442 respectively in 1983-84 as against 14304 and 438 respectively in 1982-83. The table below shows the growth of Postal facilities in the State over the last few years

TABLE 10.4

Postal facilities in Assam

Year	No. of Post Offices.	No. of letter boxes.	No. of Post boxes.
1	2	3	4
1975-76	2461	N. A.	N. A.
1978-79	2904	9687	481
1979-80	3056	11607	507
1980-81	3115	13442	507
1981-82	3178	13527	507
1982-83	3178	14304	438
1983-84	3205	14323	442

N. A. - Not available

Source:—Post Master General, N.E. Circle, Shillong

10.8.1. During 1983-84 a total of 27 new Post Offices were opened in the State as against 26 Offices opened during 1982-83. The Nalbari sub Post Office was upgraded to a head Post Office in 1983-84. Upgradation of another four such Offices into head Post Offices viz., Kokrajhar, Goalpara, Chariali and Golaghat are reported to be in process.

10.8.2. In the sphere of telecommunication facilities a slow but steady growth

has been observed in the State since the recent past. During 1982-83 the State had 159 telephone exchanges as against 156 in 1981-82 and 148 in 1980-81. The number of telex exchanges in the State, however, remained at 4 in 1982-83 ie. at the previous year's level. The trend in the growth of telephone and telex exchanges in the State over the past few years may be seen at the table presented below.

TABLE 10.5.

Telecommunication facilities in Assam.

Year	No. of telephone exchanges	No. of telex exchanges
1	2	3
1976	132	1
1979-80	147	3
1980-81	148	3
1981-82	156	4
1982-83	159	4
1983-84	NA	NA

Source :- General Manager, N.E. Telecom. Circle, Shillong

Tourism : :

10.9.0. Assam offers tremendous scope for development of her tourism sector. The State, in fact, is abounded with numerous historical monuments, pilgrim centres and wild life sanctuaries. A proper development of this sector can really turn the State into a tourist paradise. Keeping this end in view concerted efforts continued to be made, particularly since the recent few years, for building up basic infrastructural facilities for development of this sector in the State, which was not given its due attention in the

past. The steps being taken for development of this sector in the State are mainly concerned with provision of necessary tourism facilities in the form of accommodation, transportation, information etc. As a step towards this, a few more tourist lodges, rest houses and picnic cottages are being constructed at various places of tourist interest of the State. An idea about the volume of tourist traffic and magnitude of revenue earnings therefrom in the State over the past few years may be had from the table given below.

TABLE - 10.6

Tourist Traffic and Earnings in Assam

Year	Number of tourists		Earnings (in Rs. lakhs)
	Foreign	Indian	
1	2	3	4
1971-72	929	8,668	1.25
1975-76	4,500	14,000	3.04
1976-77	2,880	10,794	3.55
1977-78	2,717	13,012	3.26
1978-79	1,202	13,534	3.72
1979	2,320	9,782	3.11
1980	1,689	5,379	2.46
1981	290	9,108	4.81
1982	132	10,177	5.32
1983	31	7,028	6.74

Note :- (i) The figure on earnings for each of the years 1979 to 1983 relate to the financial year 1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 respectively

(ii) The data given in the above table pertain to the Departement of Tourism, Assam only. There may be other tourists coming to the State without contacting the State Tourism Department.

Source:- Directorate of Tourism, Assam.

Sub. National Systems Unit,
National Institute of Educational
Planning and Administration
 17-B, SriAurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110016
 DOC. No... 2989
 Date... (17/3/86)

CHAPTER - XI

POWER

11.1.0. Till the end of last decade Assam's progress in the sphere of power development was none-too-encouraging. It was only from the beginning of the eighties that the position continued to show gradual improvement. This is discernible from the encouraging progress achieved since then in respect of installed capacity, generation of power and electrification of villages. Nevertheless, much more still remains to be done since only a small fraction of the State's immense power potential has so far been harnessed. Although Assam accounts for nearly half of the entire N.E. Region's installed power capacity its share in the all India installed capacity is found to be even less than 1 per cent. During 1982-83, the average per capita consumption of power in the State was only 38 KWH as against 146 KWH for the country as a whole. In respect of rural electrification, nearly 43 per cent of the State's total inhabited villages had been electrified upto the end of 1983-84 compared with about 60 per cent at all India level upto the end of May, 1984.

Installed capacity and generation of power :

11.2.0. At the end of 1979-80 the total installed capacity of power in the State stood at 151.5 M.W. only comprising the installed capacity of 111.5 M.W. from the Namrup Thermal Power Project, 30 M.W. from the Chandrapur Thermal Power Project and 10 M.W. from Stand-by diesel generating Sets. The position, however,

improved considerably during the subsequent few years due to efforts made by the State Government in that respect. As a result, the total installed capacity went up to 327.7 M.W. at the end of 1982-83 and further to 326.84 M.W. at the end of 1983-84. With the completion of a number of on-going power schemes, such as, extension of Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (2x60 MW), extension of Chandrapur Thermal Power Station (30 MW), Namrup Waste Heat Power Project (22 MW), Karbi-Longpi Hydro-electric Project (2 x 50 M.W) etc., a breakthrough in the State's power sector is expected in near future. Since the State is also endowed with massive hydro power potential, the Assam State Electricity Board is reported to have undertaken a number of surveys and investigation for future exploitation of these potentials.

11.2.1. (Alongwith increase in the installed power capacity the generation of electricity in the State is also recording upward growth) Total units generated during 1982-83 stood at 896 million KWh as against the generation of 728 million Kwh during 1981-82 and only 465 million Kwh during 1980-81. During 1983-84 the total power units generated reached a new peak level of 968 million Kwh thereby recording a rise of nearly 8 per cent over the previous year. The trend in the growth of installed capacity and generation of power in the State over the past few years may be observed from the table given below:

Table - 11.1

Installed capacity and Generation of Electricity in Assam

Year	Installed capacity* (in MW.)	Total units generated (in million Kwh.)
1	2	3
1975-76	121.5	449.4
1976-77	151.5	586.0
1977-78	151.5	588.7
1978-79	151.5	658.5
1979-80	151.5	513.0
1980-81	211.5	464.7
1981-82	320.4	728.1
1982-83	327.7	896.2
1983-84	351.8 326.4 (XX)	967.7

* Including the capacity of stand-by diesel generating sets.

Source :- (i) Assam State Electricity Board. *XX Excluding the capacity of stand-by sets.*

(ii) Central Electricity Authority, Government of India.

12.2.2. In order to transmit power to the load centres, the Assam State Electricity Board has taken up construction of a network of transmission and distribution lines in the State. In this regard mention may be made of construction work of 132 K.V. Tezpur-Gohpur line, 132 K.V. Namrup-Tinsukia line, 220 K.V. Chandrapur Samaguri line, 220 K.V. Chandrapur-Juwahati line, 132 K.V. Chandrapur-Jagir road line and 132 K.V. Samaguri Lanka line. While the first two projects are expected to be completed during 1983-84, the remaining projects are expected to be completed during 1984-85.

Power supply position in 1983-84 :-

11.3.0. Except in the month of February, 1984 the overall power supply position in the State during 1983-84 was by

and large comfortable. Although peak period restrictions continued to remain in force there was no severe load shedding as experienced during 1981-82.)

Pattern of power consumption :-

11.4.0. Since the past few years the consumption of electricity in the State is showing steady increase due to improvement in the availability of power. The increase in consumption during 1982-83 was nearly 23 per cent over 1981-82 and 45 per cent over 1980-81. Nearly 2/3rd of the State's total power consumption is accounted for by the industry sector (including tea garden) alone. An idea about the trend in the consumption of power in Assam by type may be had from the table below for the past few years.

Table - 11.2.

Consumption of electricity by type in Assam
(In million kwh)

Type of consumption	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83
	2	3	4
1. Domestic : (i) Light & fan (ii) Heat & small power	65.00	69.00	75.00
2. Commercial : (i) Light & fan (ii) Heat & small power	30.00	36.00	55.00
3. Industrial power at low and medium voltage	61.00	67.00	77.00
4. Industrial power at high voltage	245.00	322.29	326.00
5. Public lighting	8.00	12.00	16.00
6. Irrigation and agricultural watering	4.00	8.00	12.00
7. Public water works and sewage pumping	15.00	20.00	
8. Tea garden etc.	99.71	120.00	366.00
9. Bulk supply including defence licences and free supply to Board's employees	110.79	98.00	
Total	638.00	752.29	927.00

Source : : Assam State Electricity Board.

Rural electrification programme : :

11.5.0. Of late, Assam has made satisfactory progress in the sphere of rural electrification programme. From a total of 5,626 electrified villages at the end of 1980-81, the same increased to 6,673 at the end of 1981-82 and then to 7541 at the end of 1982-83. During the year 1983-84 another 2,014 villages were brought under the coverage of rural electrification thereby bringing the total to 9,555 at the end of the year. It may be noted that the achievement made in respect of rural electrification in the State during 1983-84 was the highest ever record so far achieved in any single year. The achievement made in this

respect during the previous two years i.e. in 1982-83 and 1981-82 were of the order of 868 and 1047 villages respectively. The proportion of electrified villages to total inhabited villages of the State stood at little over 43 per cent at the end of 1983-84 compared with only 14 per cent at the end of 1978-79. It is understood that the State Government proposes to electrify all the villages of the State within the next five years. As a part of this programme a target of electrification of 3000 villages has been proposed for the year 1984-85. Appendix XVI shows district wise number of electrified villages in the State upto end of 1983-84.

CHAPTER -- XII

INDUSTRY AND MINING

12.1.0 Although Assam's entry into the modern industrial age took place many decades ago with the starting of tea, oil and coal industries, yet the level of industrial development so far achieved in the State is still none-too-encouraging. The State is known for her immense natural resources with vast potentialities for developing various resourcebased and demand-based industries, but the pace of development in that respect has not taken place on a scale commensurate with the possibilities. As a result, even after three decades of planning Assam continues to remain one of the most industrially backward states of the country. It is under the above background that the Government of India at the persistent pressure from the State Government, declared the entire State of Assam as backward and classified in the category 'A' of Backward Areas with effect from 1st April, 1983. Moreover two districts of Assam viz. Lakhimpur and North Cachar Hills have also been declared "No Industry" district during 1983.

12.1.1. The slow pace of industrialisation of the State is believed to have been caused by a variety of inhibitory factors such as inadequate economic and basic infrastructural facilities, absence of local entrepreneurial base, shyness in the flow of outside private investment, low level of central sector investment, limited market etc. Recognising these constraints the State Government continues to make

efforts for overcoming these bottlenecks specially through provision of growth inducing factors like creation and augmentation of basic infrastructural facilities, provision of subsidy and other incentives etc. As a result of these efforts a favourable industrial climate is gradually being created in the State. Already a number of diversified range of industries have been registered in the State under public, private and Co-operative sectors and a few others are expected to be commissioned in near future. These are expected to give further fillip to the process of industrial development of the State in the coming years.

Registered Factories :

12.2.0 The total number of registered factories (i.e. factories registered under the Factories Act. 1948) in the State during 1983 was 2284 as against 2261 in 1982 and 2090 in 1981. Tea factories account for nearly one-fourth of the total registered factories of the State. The average number of workers employed in the registered factories totalled about 94.1 thousand in 1983 as against 89.4 thousand in 1982 and about 87.7 thousand in 1980. During 1983 the State had only four large scale employment oriented industries with an employment of 1000 or more workers. In the table below the growth of registered factories in the State over the past few years alongwith their employment have been shown.

TABLE 12.1

NUMBER OF REGISTERED FACTORIES AND THEIR EMPLOYMENT
IN ASSAM

Year	Number of factories	Average number of workers employed daily.
1	2	3
1971	1604	75,462
1975	1715	79,780
1976	1742	80,646
1977	1783	82,996
1978	1823	84,566
1979	1864	85,455
1980	1897	87,695
1981	2090	90,977
1982	2261	89,368
1983 (P)	2284	94,097

(P)—Provisional

Source—Chief Inspector of Factories, Assam.

Industrial Production :

12.3.0. There was a mixed production performance in the State's manufacturing sector during 1983. While performance was impressive in respect of certain industrial items, it was found to be unsatisfactory in respect of some other items. Tea and petroleum products, the two dominant industries of the State, recorded substantial improvement in output during 1983. The output of these two industrial sectors recorded about 6 per cent and 5 per cent rise respectively over the output of the previous

year. Production of jute textile which suffered serious set back in 1982, failed to show any improvement during the current year also. In respect of plywood the output remained at the previous year's level. However, performance of a number of industrial items such as fertilizer, cement, paper and match were found to be disappointing as their production fell much below the level of the preceding year. In the following table the production trend of some important industries of the State over the past few years may be seen.

TABLE—12.2

PRODUCTION OF SOME IMPORTANT INDUSTRIES IN ASSAM

Item	Unit	1975	1980	1981	1982	1983(P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Tea	Million KG	263	301	305	303	321
2. Sugar	'000' M.T.	7	7	6	12	8
3. Jute textile	" "	4	5	6	3	3
4. Fertilizer	" "	141	55	204	274	186
5. Refinery Product.	" "	1295	943	1566	1764	1845
6. Plywood *	Million sq.m.	23	16	31	31	31
7. Match	Million gross boxes.	4	5	5	6	5
8. Cement	'000' M.T.	..	129	197	175	147
9. Paper	" "	..	11	14	5	0.5

(P)—Provisional

* Includes commercial, decorative and tea chest plywood, flush door, black boards.

12.3.1. The index of industrial production (base 1970—100) in Assam rose to 149 in 1982 from 144 in 1981 thereby displaying a rise of 3.5 per cent. The rate of rise in the index in 1981 was 17.1 per cent over 1980 as against a fall of 7.5 per cent in 1980 over the previous year. During 1983 the index further rose to 154, thus registering an increase of 3.3 per cent over 1982 due mainly to impressive performance in the production of tea and petroleum products. The trend in the index for different industry groups for the period from 1971 to 1983 may be observed at the table at Appendix VII.

Annual Survey of Industries :

12.4.0. The latest available results of the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) 1979-80 covering the factory sector reveal a none/too/encouraging position of Assam in the industrial scene of the country. The State accounted for only 2 per cent of the factories and 1 per cent of the invested capital of the country as a whole during 1979-80. The value added per person engaged amounted to Rs.12 thousand in the State as against Rs.14 thousand for the country. An idea about the relative position of the State vis-a-vis the country as a whole as available from summary results of ASI, 1978-79 and 1979-80 may be had from the table 12.3.

TABLE—12.3

ANNUAL SURVEY OF INDUSTRIES (SUMMARY RESULTS), ASSAM AND INDIA.

Item	Unit	Assam		India.	
		1978-79	1979-80	1978-79	1979-80
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. No. of factories	Number	1564	1713	88077	95126
2. No. of persons employed.	In "000"	127	131	7248	7678
3. Invested capital	Rs. crores	593	582	35154	41588
4. Value added	" "	158	155	9554	10864
5. Capital employed per person engaged	Rs. thousand	47	45	49	54
6. Wages & salaries per person engaged	" "	3	4	6	7
7. Value added per person engaged.	" "	12	12	13	14

Source :— (i) ASI, Summary Results for Factory Sector, (CSO),

(ii) Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Assam.

Tea Industry :

12.5.0. Tea industry is the most dominant industrial sector of the State. The State also occupies a special place in the country in this sector since Assam alone accounts for more than 50 per cent of the country's total tea production. Besides, meeting a large part of the domestic demand Assam tea also contributes substantially to the national exchequer every year in the shape of foreign exchange earnings. The total number of tea gardens in the State was 777 during 1981 which covered an area of about 2 lakh hectares. Nearly 4.5 lakh persons are provided with employment by these tea gardens.

12.5.1. Between 1951 and 1983 the output of tea in the State recorded a more than two fold increase. The total output stood at 321 million kilograms in 1983 as against 224 million kilograms in 1971 and only 1 million kilograms in 1951. The increase in production is more due to increase in productivity than extension of area. In fact the yield rate of tea recorded significant improvement from only 966 kilogram per hectare in 1951 to 1393 kilogram per hectare in 1971 and then to 1521 kilogram per hectare in 1981. The growth of tea industry in Assam since 1951 vis-a-vis its position in the country as a whole may be observed from the table shown below.

TABLE—12.4

SOME STATISTICS ON TEA INDUSTRY IN ASSAM AND INDIA.

Head	State/ Country	1951	1961	1971	1980	1981	1982 (P)	1983 (P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
(1) No. of tea estates.	Assam	785	744	750	777	777	793	N.A.
	India	6214	9499	12015	13390	13410	13428	N.A.
(2) Area under tea (in '000' hectares)	Assam	156	162	182	201	203	211	N.A.
	India	317	331	356	382	384	395	N.A.
(3) Production of tea (in million kg.)	Assam	150	182	224	301	305	303	321
	India	285	354	435	569	560	565	586
(4) Average yield per kg. per hectare.	Assam	966	1123	1227	1499	1503	1415	N.A.
	India	901	1070	1221	1492	1458	1420	N.A.

(P)—Provisional; N.A.—Not available.

Source—(i) Tea Statistics, 1982-83, 1981-82 and 1979-80 by the Tea Board of India.

(ii) The Monthly Tea Reviews by J. Thomas & Co.

12.5.2. Sale of tea at the Guwahati Tea Auction Centre, the only tea auction centre in the State, totalled 74.61 million Kg. during the year 1983 which was, however somewhat lower than the previous year's total sale of 75.34 million Kg. During 1981 and 1980 the volume of sales through the centre stood at 64.97 million Kg. and 62.56 million kg. respectively. The average price fetched per kilogram of tea at the centre during 1983, was much higher being Rs. 23.49 per kg. compared with Rs.15.00 per kg. in 1982, Rs.13.21 per kg. in 1981 and Rs. 12.69 per kg. in 1980.

Small Industries/Khadi and Village Industries :

12.6.0. The total number of small scale industrial units registered with the Directorate of Industries, Assam stood at 14,128 at the end of March, 1982 as against 12,052 at the end of March, 1981. Altogether

2076 units were registered with the Directorate during 1981-82 as against 1283 units registered during 1980-81. As a step towards provision of infrastructural facilities to the local entrepreneurs nine industrial estates, one each at Guwahati, Nalbari, New Bongaigaon, Dhekiajuli, Nagaon, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Tinsukia and Badarpur have been set up. These industrial estates have provided a total of 239 sheds for starting small scale units out of which 229 sheds were in occupation till March, 1981. However, only 94 sheds were actually functioning upto that date. In addition to the above, a number of industrial areas like Malinee beel in Cachar, Satgaon, Kalapahar and Changsari in Kamrup, Bongaon in Kokrajhar, Gotlong and Dekargaon in Sonitpur district, Mangaldoi in Darrang district and Golaghat in Jorhat district have also been identified for providing basic industrial infrastructures.

12.6.1 Over the years a large number of Khadi and Village industries have also been promoted in the State. As per information made available by the Khadi and Village Industries Board, Assam the State had a total of 53 bee keeping centres, 213 oil extraction centres, 818 pottery centres, 191 handpounding (rice production) centres, 18 gur and Khandsari centres, 33 khadi (cotton and silk) production centres, 202 carpentry and blacksmithy centres, 10 soap making centres, 62 cane and bamboo centres, 21 gobar gas plants, 3 cottage match factories, 1 footwear unit and 1 hand made paper unit during 1981-82. A little over 62 thousand persons were in employment in these centres. The value of production by a few of these centres during 1981-82 were as follows: Gur and Khandsari centres (Rs.240 lakhs), oil extraction centres (Rs. 63 lakhs) Khadi production centres (Rs.46 lakhs), pottery centres (Rs.34 lakhs), bee keeping centres (Rs.33 lakhs), carpentry and blacksmithy centres (Rs.16 lakhs) and soap making centres (Rs.13 lakhs).

Sericulture and Weaving :

12.7.0. Sericulture and Weaving constitute the most notable cottage industry sector of the State. The state is traditionally famous in this sector. Next to agriculture sericulture and weaving play a key role in the economic life of a large section of the State's rural population.

12.7.1. Sericulture comprises the culture of four varieties namely eri, muga, tassar and mulberry silk. It is worth mentioning that eri and muga culture are indigenous to Assam only. Bulk of the country's eri and muga silk are produced in Assam. However, for tassar and mulberry silk the State is heavily dependant on sources outside the State. Of the 21,995 villages of the State, Sericulture is practised in more than 6863 villages. The employment provided by the sericulture industry totalled about 2.70 lakh persons during 1982-83. Some important statistics pertaining to the sericultural sector of the State as well as for the country are furnished in the table below.

TABLE—12.5

SOME IMPORTANT STATISTICS ON SERICULTURE IN ASSAM AND INDIA (1982-83)

Head	Unit	Assam	India
1	2	3	4
(1) Number of sericultural villages	Number	6,863	42,435
(2) Employment in sericulture industry	Lakh persons	2.70	44.38
(3) Number of handlooms working on pure silk	Number	4,000*	4,50,506
(4) Production of mulberry raw silk	Tons	10	5,214
(5) Production of non-mulberry raw silk	"		
(i) Eri	"	142	213
(ii) Muga	"	37	37

* Relate to the year 1979.

Source—"Silk in India, Statistical Biennial, 1984" by the Central Silk Board, Bangalore.

12.7.2. In Assam sericultural development programmes are looked after by the State Directorate of Sericulture and Weaving. Besides supervising the sericultural villages, the Directorate maintain a number of sericultural farms, eriseed grainages, basic mugaseed farms, eri-concentration centres, reeling units etc. in the State. A regional development Office of the Central Silk Board is functioning at Guwahati. In addition to this, two regional research stations are also located in the State-one at Titabar for mulberry sericulture and the other at Mirza for muga culture. The Assam Spun Silk Mills Ltd., Jagiroad is the only public sector enterprise in the State for processing of silk waste on a large scale. The Mill has a total of 3000 spindles for spun silk yarn and 420 spindles for noil yarn.

12.7.3 So far as handloom Weaving is concerned, Assam is known for her variety of handloom products such as eri, muga and silk fabrics. A vast majority of the State's indigenous households, particularly of the rural areas, are connected with the handloom weaving industry. The total number of looms in the State has been estimated at about 6.94 lakhs in 1975-76. However only a fraction of these looms are operated on commercial lines. A vast majority of them are operated mostly for meeting domestic/personal need by the womenfolk. In order to revitalise the handloom sector various efforts aiming at orientation of these industries to a commercial footing, provision of avenues for increased production of quality fabrics, extension of training facilities to artisans etc, are being taken up in the State. The need for revamping this vital cottage industry sector of the State is justified on the ground that it will not only create employment potential for a substantial chunk of the population but will also help in improving the economic conditions of the weavers and rearers of the State. During 1983-84 there were 241 Weaving Demonstration Circles in the State under the supervision of the State Directorate of Sericulture and Weaving which engaged nearly 2.1 lakh part time weavers and about 19 thousand whole time weavers. As a part of the handloom development programmes a

total of 921 looms were distributed in general areas and another 1637 looms were distributed in SC/ST areas of the State in 1983-84 as against 1133 and 2013 looms respectively in 1982-83.

Developmental Efforts :

12.8.0. Despite existence of various constraints (as already mentioned at the beginning of this chapter), efforts continued to be made over the successive plan periods for augmentation of industrial development of this backward State. The emphasis laid in this regard mainly comprises (i) setting up of industries based on local raw materials and demand, (ii) revitalisation of existing unique native/traditional industries, (iii) promotion of new viable small scale industries particularly where value addition is more, and (iv) development of khadi and village industries in view of their potential employment generation. For this purpose the State Government offered a package of incentives with effect from October 1982 in the shape of (i) contribution towards preparation of feasibility reports, (ii) subsidy on industrial housing (iii) concessional power tariff, (iv) sales tax exemption on purchase of raw materials and sale of finished goods for the first five years of commercial production, (v) capital investment subsidy (vi) allotment of developed lands in industrial areas etc.)

12.8.1. During 1983 an amount of Rs. 94.50 lakhs as capital investment subsidy and Rs. 109.97 lakhs as transport subsidy had been sanctioned to industrial units of the State in addition to the disbursement of Rs.57.44 lakhs under central investment subsidy and Rs.56.26 lakhs under transport subsidy. Under the 20 point programme 656 small scale industrial units have been set up upto December 1983 as against the target of establishment of 900 units during 1983-84. These comprise units manufacturing PVC pipes, HDPE film, plastic container, drug and chemicals, steel fabrication, grinding mill etc. A total of 3760 additional employment have been generated by these units. During the latter part of 1983 a big industry for manufacturing vanaspati was commissioned near Guwahati under the co-operative sector.

12.8.2. Assam is expected to get a further boost in the sphere of industrial development in near future with the coming up of a number of spinning mills both under public and co-operative sector. Permission has already been obtained for establishment of six spinning mills and the work in that respect is reported to be progressing satisfactorily. A few of them are expected to be commissioned (first phase) by the end of 1985. The Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC), a State Government undertaking has also taken up in hand setting up of various industrial projects in the State such as spinning mill at Tihu, methanol expansion project at Namrup, cigarette project at Guwahati, leather project near Guwahati etc. In addition to the above, the AIDC also extended term loan assistance to the following medium scale industries under IDBI's Refinance Scheme during 1983-84 : (i) edible oil manufacturing unit at Panikhati (Rs. 60.00 lakhs), (ii) cigarette project (Rs. 36.58 lakhs), (iii) hotel near Guwahati airport (Rs. 47.40 lakhs) and (iv) hotel at Guwahati (Rs. 60.00 lakhs).

12.8.3. With a view to develop and promote small, cottage and decentralised sectors of industries specially in the backward and rural areas, ten District Industries Centres (DIC) are presently functioning in the State. During the period 1979-83 these centres provided financial assistance to the entrepreneurs to the tune of Rs. 3.70 crores through various financial institutions besides generating additional employment to 32,495 persons. In order to facilitate export of tea and other finished products from the State, one Inland Container Depot (ICD) is being set up at Amingaon near Guwahati. Efforts are also on for revival of sick and closed industries like Ashok Paper Mill, Cachar Sugar Mill and Chemical unit of Associated Industries. For this purpose the State Government

promulgated an ordinance viz. "Assam Relief Undertaking (Special Provision) Ordinance" during the year.

Institutional Assistance :

12.9.0. Inadequate availability of much needed finance is one of the basic reasons for industrial backwardness of the State. Despite an increasing net-work of various financial institutions over the past few years, the flow of institutional finance in the State is still at a very low ebb when compared with its flow in many other states of the country. For instance, average per capita assistance sanctioned and disbursed by various all-India financial institutions (comprising IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, LIC, UTI, GIC, IRCI, SFCS and SIDC'S) upto end of March 1983 amounted to only Rs. 76.14 and Rs. 59.12 respectively in Assam compared with Rs. 641.81 and Rs. 456.44 respectively in Gujarat, Rs. 531.60 and Rs. 385.65 in Maharashtra, Rs. 348.66 and Rs. 251.97 in Karnataka, Rs. 342.82 and Rs. 240.00 in Tamilnadu, Rs. 341.33 and Rs. 253.45 in Haryana and Rs. 327.24 and Rs. 247.58 respectively in Punjab..

12.9.1 Between July 1964 and June 1983 the total volume of direct assistance sanctioned by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) in favour of Assam was of the order of Rs. 89.3 crores which formed only 1 percent of the total assistance sanctioned (Rs. 9988.3 crores) for the country as a whole over the same period. Similarly the role of other financial institutions in the State have also been found to be none too-encouraging. The relative position of Assam vis-a-vis some other states of the country in respect of amount sanctioned and disbursed by various all-India financial institutions upto end March 1983 as well as during 1982-83 may be observed from the table furnished below :

Table—12.6

ASSISTANCE SANCTIONED AND DISBURSED BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS *

(Amount in Rs. crores)

States	Sanctioned		Disbursed	
	During 1982-83	Cumulative upto end-March 1983	During 1982-83	Cumulative upto end-March—1983
1	2	3	4	5
Maharashtra	523.26	3224.60	412.98	2421.24
Gujarat	446.89	2187.69	281.44	1555.82
Tamil Nadu	299.15	1659.54	218.22	1161.80
Karnataka	241.50	1294.76	166.83	935.73
Uttar Pradesh	228.58	1210.05	153.93	894.46
West Bengal	218.91	1199.51	136.09	895.79
Andhra Pradesh	222.13	1187.68	216.50	862.23
Rajasthan	173.32	761.61	140.01	534.66
ASSAM	32.15	151.50	11.79	117.64
ALL INDIA	3240.26	16837.52	2364.44	12195.63

*Institutions covered are : IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, LIC, UTI, GIC, IRCI, SFCs and SIDCs.

Source—"Operational Statistics, 1982-83" by Industrial Development Bank of India.

12.9.2. A sizeable portion of institutional assistance flows from the commercial banking sector also. In Assam, the total outstanding credit of scheduled commercial bank to the industry sector of the State stood at Rs.104.7 crores (including Rs.21.3 crores

to the small scale industry sector) at the end of December, 1980 as against Rs.75.4 crores at the end of December, 1979. Thus, industry sector accounted for nearly 46 per cent of the total outstanding bank credit at the end of December, 1980.

Mining :

12.10.0. Assam is rich in mineral resources. The important minerals so far exploited in the State comprises petroleum, natural gas, coal and limestone. Although the State possesses sufficient potentialities for developing various mineral-based industries, only a few have come up so far.

12.10.1. During 1983 the State's mineral sector exhibited a none-too-encouraging performance in production. Except in respect of coal, production of other minerals such as petroleum (crude), natural gas and limestone remained at a level lower

than the previous year. The production of petroleum (crude) declined from 51.1 lakh tonnes in 1982 to 50.2 lakh tonnes in 1983. Similarly the volume of natural gas (utilised) also went down from 875 million cubic metre to 733 million cubic metres over the same period. So far as limestone is concerned, the production was 201 thousand tonnes during 1983 as against a higher production level of 232 thousand tonnes in 1982. The production of coal however displayed impressive step-up from 6.9 lakh tonnes in 1982 to 7.5 lakh tonnes in 1983. In the following table production trend of these minerals in the State over the past few years may be seen.

Table—12.7**MINERAL PRODUCTION IN ASSAM**

Year	Petroleum crude (in lakh tonnes)	Natural gas (utilised) (in million cu. m.)	Coal (in thousand tonnes)	Limestone (in thousand tonnes)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1971	35.4	375	578	..
1975	41.9	621	582	..
1978	40.8	889	649	143
1979	45.7	942	584	289
1980	10.6	455	575	196
1981	43.9	869	651	269
1982	51.1	875	688	232
1983(P)	50.2	733	751	201

(P)—Provisional

Source —(i) Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur

(ii) Coal India Ltd, Margherita and Deputy Assistant Controller of coal, Guwahati.

12.10.2. The production performance of the three refineries of the State (viz. Digboi, Noonmati and Bongaigaon refineries) was encouraging during 1983. The total volume of output of these refineries which was only 10.74 lakh tonnes in 1971 increased to 17.64 lakh tonnes in 1982 and then to 18.45 lakh tonnes in 1983.

12.10.3. Royalties on minerals is an important source of income to the State exchequer. An idea about the magnitude of royalties on minerals as accrued to the State Exchequer during each of the years from 1979 to 1983 may be had from the table shown below.

Table—12.8

ROYALTIES ON MINERALS ACCRUED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

Minerals	Royalty accrued (Rs. crores)				
	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(1) Crude oil	19.14	4.39	24.98	31.03	29.69
(2) Natural Gas	0.64	0.34	0.67	1.03	0.89
(3) Coal	0.25	0.23	0.39	0.45	0.49
(4) Limestone	0.07	0.05	0.09	0.10	0.08

Source—Directorate of Geology and Mining, Assam.

CHAPTER—XIII

Labour, Employment Situation and wages

Working Population

13.1.0. Since 1981 census was not conducted in Assam, the latest available data on working force of the State relate to year 1971 as provided by the population census of that year. As per 1971 census the State had a total working population of 40.88 lakhs which accounted for nearly 28 per cent of the total population of the State. Of them, about 37 lakhs were in rural areas and the rest 4 lakhs were in urban areas. Sexwise, male and female workers numbered 37.66 lakhs and 3.22 lakhs respectively representing 92 per cent and 8 per cent respectively of the total working force. Amongst the total workers of the State, 76.6 per cent were engaged in agriculture and allied activities. The percentage of workers engaged in other sectors of the economy in that year were as follows: mining and quarrying (0.4.p.c.), manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairing (4.1. p.c.) construction (1.0.p.c.), trade and commerce (5.7 p.c.), communication (2.5. p.c.) and other services (9.7. p.c.).

Employment in public and private sectors—

13.2.0. Employment in both public and private sectors are recording a steady growth in the State. As per information available from the Employment Market Information Programme of the Directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, Assam, the total employment in the organised sector (i.e. under public and private sectors together stood at 9.41 lakhs during the quarter ending September, 1983 as against 8.62 lakhs during the quarter ending March, 1983 and 9.38 lakhs during the quarter ending September, 1982. Thus, employment in September 1983 was higher by nearly 9.1. per cent over March, 1983 and about 0.3. per cent over September 1982. Sector wise, employment in private sector recorded a much higher growth i.e. about 16.3 per cent over March, 1983 compared with only 0.7 per cent growth in public sector employment over the same period. The trend of growth in employment in the State (both under public and private sectors) over the past few years may be observed from the table furnished below

TABLE—13.1

Employment in public and private sectors in Assam.

(Figure in Thousand)

Quarter ending/Year	Public sector	Private Sector	Total
1	2	3	4
March, 1975	265.9	477.6	743.5
March, 1980	347.1	487.6	834.7
March, 1981	357.6	498.5	856.1
March, 1982	385.0	474.5	859.5
March, 1983	397.3	464.6	861.9
September, 1983	400.3	540.3	940.6

Note :—The above employment data does not cover : (a) employment in agriculture proper, (b) all self-employed persons including those employed in household industries; (c) defence forces and (d) small establishments in the private sector employing less than ten workers.

Source :—Directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, Assam.

13.2.1. It will be observed from table 13.1 that over the years increase in employment in the State is more impressive under public sector than under private sector. For instance, between March, 1975 and September 1983 a total of 134.4 thousand additional employments have been provided by the public sector compared with only 62.7 thousand by the private sector. As a result, the share of public sector in total employment increased from 35.8 per cent during the quarter ending March, 1975 to 42.5 per cent during the quarter ending September 1983 while the share of private sector on the other hand, declined from 64.2 per cent to 57.4 per cent over the same period.

13.2.2. Women employees accounted for about 31.3 per cent of the total employ-

ment during quarter ending September 1983. The total number of women employees in the State stood at 2.95 lakhs at the end of September, 1983 as against 2.91 lakhs at the end of the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The private sector with an employment of 2.59 lakh women shared as much as 87.7 per cent of the total women employees during the quarter ending September 1983 compared with only 36.1 thousand (or 12.3 per cent) under the public sector. The very high rate of women employees under private sector is mainly attributable to large scale employment of women in the tea gardens. In the table below the trend of women employees in the State under public and private sectors may be seen for the last few years.

TABLE—13.2

Employment of women in public and private sectors in Assam.

(In Thousand)

Quarter ending/year	Public Sector	Private sector	Total
1	2	3	4
March, 1981	31.8	220.6	252.4
March, 1982	34.6	211.2	245.8
March, 1983	35.9	208.5	244.4
September, 1983	36.1	258.8	294.9

Source :— Directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, Assam.

Industry wise employment:—

13.3.0. So far as industrywise employment is concerned, the industry division "community, social and personal services" accounted for about 50 per cent of the employment under public sector at the end of September, 1983 followed by "transport and communication" (16 per cent) and "construction" (8 per cent). In the case of private

sector, "agriculture, forestry and plantation" claimed as much as 92 per cent followed by "manufacturing" (4 per cent) and "community, social and personal services" (3 per cent). The distribution of employment in the State according to major industry division are furnished in the table below for quarter ending September, 1982 and September, 1983.

TABLE—13.3

Employment according to major industry divisions in Assam.

(Figure in thousand)

Division	September 1982			September 1983		
	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Agriculture, forestry, Plantation etc.	31.4	501.7	533.1	31.7	498.6	530.3
2. Mining and quarrying	19.3	0.01	19.3	20.6	0.01	20.6
3. Manufacturing	14.9	20.5	35.4	15.3	20.7	36.0
4. Electricity, Gas and water Supply.	15.4	0.1	15.5	16.6	0.1	16.7
5. Construction	32.6	1.0	33.6	33.8	1.4	35.2
6. Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels	3.4	2.9	6.3	3.5	2.8	6.3
7. Transport, storage and Communication,	65.3	0.8	66.1	65.0	0.8	65.8
8. Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	12.0	1.1	13.1	13.0	1.2	14.2
9. Community, Social and personal Services.	200.6	14.5	215.1	200.7	14.8	215.5
Total	394.9	542.6	937.5	400.2	540.4	940.6

Source :—Directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, Assam.

Survey on employment and unemployment :—

13.4.0 The National Sample Survey Organisation during its 32nd round survey operation (July 1977 to June 1978) carried out the second countrywide quinquennial survey on Employment and Unemployment. Some idea about the extent of employment and unemployment in the State can be had

from data available from that survey. The survey revealed that in the rural areas of the State about 58.5 per cent of the male population and only 7.5 per cent of the female population of age 5 and above were "employed" for major time of the reference year (i.e 1977-78) as against 62.2 per cent and 28.8 per cent respectively for the country as a whole. In respect of urban areas 53.6 per cent male and 5.2 p.c. female had been found to be

'employed' in the State compared with 56.2 per cent and 14.0 per cent respectively at all India level. So far as 'unemployed' persons are concerned, it was found that in Assam 0.94 per cent male and 0.47 per cent female of rural areas and 2.69 per cent male and 1.09 per cent female of urban areas were chronically unemployed during 1977-1978. At all India level the rate of 'Unemployed' persons stood at 1.41 per cent for male and

1.68 per cent female in rural areas and 3.90 per cent male and 3.03 per cent female in urban areas. Some important findings of the survey such as percentage of employed and unemployed persons according to usual status, current weekly status and current day status by sex and rural/urban residence status for Assam and the the country as a whole are shown in the table below.

TABLE—13.4

Percentage of 'employed' and 'unemployed' persons (age 5 years and above) in Assam and India, 1977-78.

Approach	P. C. of employed persons		P. C. of unemployed persons		
	Assam	India	Assam	India	
1	2	3	4	5	
Rural :—					
1. Usual status :	(i) Male	58.54	62.25	0.94	1.41
	(ii) Female	7.50	28.82	0.47	1.68
2. Current weekly status	(i) Male	57.53	60.20	0.89	2.23
	(ii) Female	7.74	26.90	0.08	1.16
3. Current day status	(i) Male	53.75	56.55	0.85	4.33
	(ii) Female	6.68	22.56	0.09	2.28
Urban :—					
1. Usual status :	(i) Male	53.59	56.22	2.69	3.90
	(ii) Female	5.25	14.03	1.09	3.03
2. Current weekly Status :	(i) Male	53.77	55.50	2.36	4.25
	(ii) Female	5.17	14.22	0.55	1.75
3. Current day Status :	(i) Male	52.25	53.47	2.17	5.55
	(ii) Female	4.87	12.46	0.55	2.12

Source:—Report on the second Quinquennial Survey on Employment and Unemployment (NSS, 32nd Round, July 1977-June 1978).

13.4.1 The Survey also provides information on percentage of persons "seeking or available for additional work" to total persons classified as "working" according to usual status. In Assam 4.40 p.c. employed male and 4.64 p.c. employed female of rural areas reported as seeking or available for additional work during

1977-78. In urban areas the proportion of such persons stood at 4.68 p.c. and 1.86 p.c. respectively. However, the proportion of such underutilised persons found to be much lower in Assam when compared with the position of the country as a whole. This is evident from the table below.

TABLE—13.5

Percentage of persons classified as working (or employed) according to usual status but seeking or available for additional work (1977-78)

Head	Assam	All-India
(1)	(2)	(3)
(1) Rural : Male	4.40	27.34
Female	4.64	26.58
(2) Urban : Male	4.68	17.52
Female	1.86	20.73

Source :—Report on the second Quinquennial Survey on Employment and Unemployment (NSS, 32nd Round, July 1977-June 1978)

Employment in Registered Factories :

13.5.0 With the increase in registered factories in the State the employment provided by these factories are also showing steady rise from year to year. The average number of workers employed daily in the factory sector (i.e. factories registered under the Factories Act.) was 79.8 thousand in 1975 which increased to 87.7 thousand in 1980 and then to 90.9 thousand in 1981. However, in 1982 there was a little decline in employment to 89.4 thousand. In 1983 the average daily employment displayed substantial step up and was placed at 94.1 thousand (Provisional) which meant a growth of 5 per cent over 1982 and 18 percent over 1975. Tea factories which accounts for about 1/3 rd of registered factories of the State accommodate nearly half of the total factory employment.

Census of Assam Government Employees :

13.6.0. The total number of Assam Government employees as on 31st March, 1977 was 1.57 lakhs as against 1.01 lakhs in March, 1975. The sharp increase in the number of State Government Employees in 1977 was due to inclusion of about 45 thousand teachers of provincialised M. V. and L. P. Schools who were excluded in the 1975 census since these schools were not provincialised at that time. Out of the total of 1.57 lakh employees in March, 1977 about 6.4 thousands belonged to the gazetted rank while the rest (about 1.5 lakhs) belonged to the non-gazetted rank (including class-IV staff). In the table below the number of State Government employees according to status as stood on 31st March 1977 are furnished.

TABLE —13.6

Number of Assam Government Employees according to Status (As on 31st March 1977).

Status	Number of employees
(1)	(2)
1. Gazetted :	
Class—I	1,574
Class—II	4,795
2. Non-Gazetted :	
Class—III	1,21,180
Class—IV	29,360
Total	1,56,909

Source : Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

13.6.1 The number of scheduled castes and scheduled tribe employees (hills and plains) constituted 6.3 per cent and 8.0 per cent respectively of the total State Government employees as on March, 1977

while employees belonging to other backward classess shared 29.6 per cent of the total. The break-up of State Government employees according to caste/tribe etc. are shown in the table 13.7.

TABLE 13.7

Number of Assam Government employees according to caste and tribe etc. (As on 31st March, 1977)

Caste/Tribe etc.	In Govt. Offices	In Schools	Total	P.C. share to State total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Scheduled castes	7,429	2,453	9,882	6.3
2. Scheduled Tribe (Hills)	2,053	289	2,342	1.5
3. Scheduled Tribe (Plains)	6,337	3,925	10,262	6.5
4. Other backward Castes	31,847	14,530	46,377	29.6
5. Others	64,597	23,449	88,046	56.1
Total	1,12,263	44,646	1,56,909	100.0

Source :—Directorate of Economics and Statistics Assam

Employment Exchange Statistics :

13.7.0 An idea about the trend and dimension of growing unemployment problem of the State can be had from data available from employment exchanges of the State. The number of job seekers on the live register of employment exchanges of the State which was only 1.9 lakhs in 1975 increased to 4.0 lakhs in 1982 and then to 4.8 lakhs in 1983. Thus, the increase

in the number of job seekers in 1983 was nearly 18 per cent over 1982 and about 152 per cent over 1975. A total of 8977 vacancies were notified by the employment exchanges during 1983 against which 4260 were placed in employment during the year. The increasing trend of job seekers over the past few years alongwith vacancies notified and their placement in the State as available from employment exchange data may be seen in the table that follow.

TABLE—13.8

No. of applicants on the live Register, No. of vacancies notified and their placement in Assam.

Year	No. of applicants on the Live Register	No. of vacancies notified	No. of placement
(1)	2	3	4
1975	1,89,045	15,169	7,383
1976	2,14,270	11,760	7,087
1977	2,43,441	12,134	6,537
1978	2,87,249	11,570	5,696
1979	3,19,925	13,003	7,103
1980	3,47,567	9,384	6,297
1981	3,73,035	12,021	6,722
1982	4,03,113	11,175	6,606
1983	4,76,760	8,977	4,260

Source :- Directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, Assam

13.7.1 The increasing number of educated job seekers is one of the most disturbing features of the State's growing unemployment problem. During 1983 as many as 2.1 lakh educated job seekers were there on the Live Register of employment exchange of the State which alone accounted for nearly 44 per cent of the total job seekers. The percentage of educated job seekers to total

job seekers was 40 per cent during 1981 and 42 per cent during 1980. Of the total educated job seekers of 2.1 lakh in 1983, nearly 61 per cent were matriculates/HSLC passed, about 21 per cent were HSSLC/PU passed and 14 per cent were graduates. The number of educated job seekers according to educational qualifications in the State are furnished for the recent few years in the following table.

TABLE—13.9

Number of job seekers on Live Register according to educational qualifications in Assam.

Educational qualifications	1980	1981	1982	1983
(1)	2	3	4	5
1. Engineering graduates	35	25	161	220
2. Medical graduates	238	142	188	150
3. Agricultural graduates	14	46	33	17
4. ITI Passed	4,039	4,270	4,192	5,217
5. Graduates	20,337	22,632	25,612	30,466
6. Post graduates	685	514	747	834
7. HSSLC/PU/IA	30,508	24,853	33,830	43,851
8. Matriculates/HSLC	88,368	96,585	110,742	1,26,814
9. Diploma holders (Engg.)	603	732	649	602
Total	1,44,800	1,49,799	1,76,163	2,08,171

Source :—Directorate of Employment and Craftsmen Training, Assam.

13.7.2 The total number of women job seekers on the live register was 64.4 thousand during 1983 as against 51.2 thousand in 1982 and 44.6 thousand in 1981. Scheduled caste and Scheduled Tribe job seekers totalled 24.2 thousand and 31.3 thousand respectively during 1983 as against 20.1 thousand and 26.3 thousand respectively in the preceding year. The number of job seekers belonging to different categories, who were placed in employment through employment exchanges of the State during 1983, were as follows: women (494), scheduled caste (386), scheduled tribe (406), O. B. C. (717), ex-servicemen (45) and physically handicapped persons (8).

Craftsmen and Apprenticeship Training :

13.8.0 At present there are 10 Industrial Training Institutes (I. T. I.) located in different parts of the State which are engaged in imparting training in various trades and crafts. In these institutes a total of 2900 trainees were on roll at the end of December 1983 as against the seating capacity of 3408. The number of trainees who came out successful from these institutes, was 1004 on July 1983 as against 1006 on July, 1982.

13.8.1 Since 1976 apprenticeship training are also being provided in the State as per provision of the Apprenticeship Act 1961. So far 225 establishments of the State have been brought under the purview of the Act, of which only 184 establishments do possess training facilities. Since the introduction of the programme a total of 2211 apprentices were engaged in the State till the end of December, 1983. The number of apprentices currently undergoing training under this Act, stands at 236 at the end of December, 1983.

Employment Programme through TRYSEM/NREP etc. :

13.9.0 The National Scheme of Training of Rural Youth for self-employment (TRYSEM) has been in operation in Assam since 1979-80. The scheme aims at generating self employment opportunities by imparting training to the rural youths in various trades and skills. Under this programme a total of 3369 youths were trained in different vocations during 1983-84 as against 4949 in 1982-83 and 4253 in 1981-82. The number of trained youths self employed stood at 1830 only in 1983-84 as against 1885 in 1982-83 and 1049 in 1981-82.

13.9.1. The National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) is another rural development Programme launched throughout the country with the objective of providing employment avenues to the rural people by creating durable community assets at the same time. The programme is in operation in Assam since the latter part of 1980-81. During 1983-84 a total of 56.4 lakh mandays of employment was generated under this scheme in the State as against the target of generation of 65.7 lakhs mandays during the year. In the previous year i.e. in 1982-83 altogether 49.0 lakh mandays were generated against a target of 80.0 lakh mandays.

13.9.2. During the latter part of 1983 a new programme under the name of Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) has also been laun-

ched in the State. The programme envisages at ensuring employment of atleast 25 landless persons of each gaon Panchayat for a period of 100 days during the year. Accordingly a target of creation of 14.4 lakh mandays and to ensure employment of 19,950 persons from the landless families of the State was laid for the year 1983-84 against which the achievement during the year was creation of 9.8 lakhs mandays.

Unemployment assistance scheme :

13.10.0. In order to provide assistance to the unemployed graduates of the State the state Government introduced during 1983-84 a new scheme name by the Assam Unemployment Assistance Scheme 1983. Under this scheme an allowance of Rs. 50.00 per mensem is given to each eligible unemployed graduate. Upto December 1983 a total of 5573 unemployed graduates have been benefited through this scheme.

Old age pension scheme :

13.11.0. Old age pension scheme has been introduced in the State by the State Government with effect from 15th August 1983. In this scheme provision has been made for granting pension at the rate of Rs.60/- per mensem to each man and woman attaining the age of 65 and 60 years respectively. During 1983-84 altogether 12,950 men and women have been provided with pensions under this scheme.

Minimum Wages :

13.12.0. As per provision of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 minimum wages for various category of workers of the State are being fixed and re-fixed from time to time. The provision of the Act has so far been extended to cover workers engaged in various trades and vocations such as workers engaged in tea plantation, motor transport, rice and flour mills, bidi industry, engineering and ply-

wood industries, cinema houses, eating houses and restaurants, shops and commercial establishments, agricultural labourer, stone breaker/crusher, PWD workers etc. Recent revision of minimum wages of a few category of workers of the State are detailed in the paragraphs that follow.

13.12.1. During the latter part of 1983-84 the State Government revised the minimum rates of wages in respect of employees employed in flour mills of the State. The proposed revised rates are shown below.

Category of employees	Class—I Mill	Class—II Mill
1	2	4
1. Skilled workers	Rs.348.00 p.m.	Rs.323.00 p.m.
2. Unskilled workers	Rs.288.00 "	Rs.258.00 "
3. Clerical staff	Rs.348.00 "	Rs.323.00 "

13.12.2. The employees of the above categories are also entitled to variable dearness allowance at the rate of Rs.0.70 per point per month for the wages upto Rs.200.00 per month, Rs.0.80p. per month for wages upto Rs.201.00 to Rs.400.00 per month and Rs. 0.90p. per point per

month for wages above Rs.400.00 per month.

13.12.3. The revision of minimum wage rates of employees engaged in stone breaking/crushing operations carried on in any mine or quarry in the State have also been proposed at the following rates.

Category of employees	Monthly rated workers	Daily rated workers
1	2	3
1. Unskilled workers	Rs.255.00 p.m.	Rs. 8.50 per day
2. Skilled workers	Rs.315.00 "	Rs.10.50 per day

13.12.4. In respect of workers engaged in employment on (i) construction or maintenance of roads or in building operations

and (ii) stone breaking or stone crushing in the State the revision of minimum wages have been proposed as shown below.

Category of workers	For monthly rated	For daily rated
1	2	3
1. Unskilled workers	Rs.360.00 p.m.	Rs.12.00 per day
2. Skilled workers	Rs.420.00 p.m.	Rs.14.00 per day

13.12.5 They are also entitled to variable dearness allowance at the rates similar to that applicable to workers employed in flour mills (see para 13.12.2)).

13.12.6. The minimum rates of wages in respect of employment in agriculture in Assam which was earlier revised in the latter part of 1981 has further been revised at the following rates:

Category of Employees	Daily rated	Monthly rated	Yearly rated
1	2	3	4
1. For all operations connected with paddy cultivation (except transplantation, harvesting and for carrying and threshing) cultivation of other crops except jute and sugarcane, horticulture, poultry and dairy farming.	Rs. 9.23 per day or Rs.8.07 per day if one meal is provided.	Rs.197.00 per month plus food, shelter and clothing if employed for more than 3 months or Rs. 272.00 per month.	Rs.2136.00 per year if paid in advance plus food, shelter and clothing or Rs.2336.00 per year if not paid in advance plus food, shelter and clothing.
2. For transplantation, harvesting and threshing operations connected with paddy cultivation and all operations connected with jute and sugarcane cultivation.	Rs.10.23 per day	Rs.242.00 p.m. plus food, shelter and clothing if employed for more than 3 months or Rs.272.00 per month.	Rs.2666.00 per year if paid in advance plus food, shelter and clothing or Rs. 2884.00 per year if not paid in advance plus food, shelter and clothing.

13.12.7. The Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam collect data on most commonly paid daily wage rate of a few category of workers in the rural areas of the State from selected centres. The ave-

rage daily wage rate of these workers which are recording steady increase over the past few years are furnished in the following table.

TABLE.—13.10

AVERAGE DAILY WAGE RATE IN RURAL AREAS OF ASSAM. In (Rupees).

Year	Carpenter	Blacksmith.	Field Labour	Herdsmen	Other agricultural Labour (man)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1970	6.8	6.3	3.7	3.3	4.2
1975	9.2	7.9	5.4	4.0	4.9
1980	13.8	11.9	6.4	4.6	6.5
1981	15.1	12.9	7.1	4.9	7.1
1982	17.5	14.0	8.6	6.2	8.7
1983	20.4	15.1	10.1	7.4	10.2

Source :—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

Industrial dispute :

Industrial relations in the State during 1983 was more or less satisfactory as evident from data on number of industrial disputes. A total of 6 industrial units were involved in the industrial disputes that occurred in the State during 1983 as against similar number of units involved in 1982 and 25 units involved in 1981. The number of mandays

lost as a result of these disputes was 9967 in 1983 as against 4,343 in 1982 and 49,724 in 1981. The value of production loss during 1983 was estimated at Rs.17.2 lakhs compared with Rs.2.2 lakhs in 1982 and Rs.53.1 lakhs in 1981. The loss of wages resulting from these disputes amounts to Rs.67.2 thousand in 1983 as against Rs.37.3 thousand in 1982 and Rs.4.7 lakhs in 1981.

CHAPTER—XIV

Prices and Cost of Living.

14.0.1. Against the sober back-ground of economic activities in the State from 1980 onwards, there is, on the economic front, a disturbing rise in prices. There are no doubt periods of decelerations but a generally rising trend has continued throughout. As evident from the wholesale price index, the prices displayed a continuous rising tendency during 1983. So far the retail rice behaviour is concerned the picture was one of dismay as most of the essential items have registered a rise ranging from single to double digits in course of the year.

Prices of essentials :

4.2.0. A study of commodity wise retail

price movement reveal that prices of essential commodities like pulses of all varieties, mustard oil, milk and meat have recorded substantial rise ranging between 13 to 34 p. c. in March, 1984 over that in March, 1983. Prices of rice had gone up by 7.5 per cent. Prices of fish had gone down during the period by 2 per cent which is an exception while that of potato remained stationary. Table below provides data on retail prices of some of the selected commodities prevailing in March, 1983 and March 1984 alongwith percentage variation in prices over the period.

TABLE—1.41

Average Retail Prices of some selected commodities.

Commodity	Unit	Price, during		Percentage variation in March, 1984 over March, 83
		March, 1983 (Rs.)	March, 1984 (Rs.)	
1	2	3	4	5
1. Rice (coarse)	K. G.	3.06	3.71	+7.5
2. Atta	"	2.82	2.91	+3.2
3. Masur Dal	"	4.18	5.61	+34.2
4. Moong Dal,	"	5.13	6.30	+22.8
5. Arahardal,	"	6.31	7.19	+13.9
6. Gram dal,	"	4.31	5.06	+17.4
7. Salt	"	0.83	0.84	+1.2
8. Potato	"	1.89	1.89	0
9. Onion	"	2.54	2.71	+6.7
10. M. Oil	Litre	13.71	16.94	+23.6
11. K. Oil	"	1.93	2.02	+4.9
12. Vanaspati (100 sc)	K. G.	17.32	17.70	+2.2
13. Sugar	K. G.	5.28	5.46	+3.4
14. Milk	Litre	3.49	3.96	+13.5
15. Fish (small)	K. G.	13.20	12.94	-2.0
16. Meat (Goat)	"	19.50	21.93	+12.5
17. Egg (Duck)	Pair	1.86	2.04	+9.7
18. Writing Paper	24 sheets	2.18	2.31	+6.0

Source :—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

Whole sale price Index :

14.3.0. The annual average inflation rate measured in terms of wholesale Price index showed an increase of 11.6 per cent in 1983 over 1982 which was only 5.7 in 1982 over 1981. The contribution to inflationary pressure in 1983 seemed to have been made by both the food and non-food items almost equally.

14.3.1. Appendix XIX shows the movement of wholesale Price Index in Assam for a few years. The General Wholesale Index stood at 592 in the month of January 1983 while index of food and non-food groups were 604 and 567 respectively in January, 1983. The corresponding figures rose to 726, 766 and 656 respectively in December, 1983 as the year rang out, displaying a rise of 22.6 p.c. in General Index, 15.7 p.c. in food group and 25.6 p.c. in non-food group throughout the year. Thus the main contribution to the increase in general index in 1983 resulted from 25.6 per cent increase in the index for non-food items. The scenario was almost identical in the previous year also though rise was higher in 1983.

Consumer Price Index for Working Class in Assam :

14.4.0. An idea about the cost of living in the State may be had from the consumer Price Index Numbers for working class in Assam (base 1949=100), compiled for the state as a whole as a weighted average of the indices of three centres namely Guwahati, Silchar and Tinsukia. The annual average index for the State rose by 11.2 per cent in 1983 over 1982 while the rise was 7.4 p.c. in 1982 over 1981. Centrewise rise was more prominent in Silchar than at Guwahati and Tinsukia. Monthwise starting with January the index in general rose at a fast rate for all the months in 1983 except in Silchar. In Silchar, it exhibited a violent rise upto November then came down substantially in December, 1983. A statement of Consumer Price Index Number for working class in Assam (base 1949=100) for the past few years as well as during the different months of 1983 is given in Appendix—XX

Consumer price Index for Industrial workers :

14.5.0. The Labour Bureau of the Government of India compiles this series for the country

as a whole. Of the centres selected for data collection five are located in Assam namely Digboi, Moriani, Doom-dooma, Labac and Rangapara. The index registered varying degrees of rise at different centres during 1983. As for example it rose by 9.2 p.c. at Digboi, 16.2 p.c. at Mariani, 15.2 at Doom-dooma, 10.7 p.c. at Labac and 11.9 p.c. at Rangapara in 1983 over 1982 while corresponding rises were 7.1 p.c., 7.5 p.c., 13.8 p.c., 5.3 p.c. and 5.5 p.c. respectively in the aforesaid centres during 1982 over 1981. Appendix XXI shows the Consumer Price Index Number for Industrial workers pertaining to five selected centres in Assam alongwith the all India average for the past few years and monthwise during 1983 only.

Consumer Price Index Number for Urban Non-Manual Employees in Assam.

14.6.0. This series is compiled on the basis of data collected from centres distributed throughout India by the Central Statistical Organisation, Government of India. In Assam, Guwahati is the lone urban centre covered under this series. The index (base 1960=100) stood at 452 at Guwahati while the all India annual average was 455 in 1983. It rose by 9.4 p.c. at Guwahati in 1983 over 1982 as against the rise of 8.7 p.c. in 1982 over 1981. Corresponding all India increase was 9.8 p.c. in 1983 over 1982 against 8.4 p.c. increase in 1982 over 1981. The index number for the Guwahati and all India are given in Appendix—XXII

Consumer Price Index Number for Rural Population in Assam (Plains Districts):

14.7.0. The Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam compiles this series pertaining to the rural areas of the plains district of the State. The index (base 1944=100) increased to an annual average of 790 in 1983 from an annual average of 709 in 1982, displaying a rise of 11.4 p.c. during the year. The rise was 2.2 p.c. in 1982 over 1981. Monthwise, starting from January it maintained a creeping increasing rate of around 2 p.c. upto the end of the year 1983. The indices for the last few years alongwith monthly indices for 1983 are shown in the Appendix—XXIII

CHAPTER - XV

BANKING AND COMMERCE

Growth of bank Offices :

15.1.0. The availability of banking facilities in the State is expanding quickly following opening of more and more bank branches in the State in recent time. The new Branch Licensing Policy announced by the Reserve Bank of India for the three year period from April 1982 to March 1985 has helped in further improvement of the position. The total number of offices of scheduled commercial banks in the State which was only 214 in June 1975 increased to 466 in June 1980 and then to 653 in June 1983. It further went up to 707 in March 1984. As a result, the average population covered per bank office in the State declined from 68 thousand in June 1975 to 28 thousand in March 1984. Nevertheless, compared with the position in the country

as a whole (one bank office for every 15 thousand persons in March 1984) Assam is still lagging much behind in this respect.

15.1.1. Between July 1983 and March 1984 a total of 54 new bank Offices were opened in the State, of which 48 Offices were opened at hitherto unbanked centres. In the previous year i.e. 1982-83 (July-June) the number of new Offices opened in the State was 91. It may be noted that nearly 62 per cent of the bank Offices are located in rural areas, the number of such offices being 431 out of the total of 696 in December 1983. The progress made in the sphere of bank branch expansion in the State as well as in the country as a whole over the period from June 1975 to March 1984 may be observed at the table furnished below.

TABLE 15.1

Growth of bank offices and population covered per bank office in Assam and India :

Year (As on June) :	Number of bank offices		Population per bank office	
	Assam	India	Assam	India (in thousand)
1	2	3	4	5
1975	214	18730	68	29
1976	263	21220	56	26
1977	354	24802	41	22
1978	414	28016	35	20
1979	446	30202	33	18
1980	466	32419	31	17
1981	507	35707	39	19
1982	562	39180	35	17
1983	653	42079	30	16
1984 (March)	707	44583	28	15

Note :--The average population per bank office is based on 1971 census for the years from June 1975 to June 1980 and 1981 census from June 1981 to March 1984.

Source :--Various issues of " Report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India, (R.B.I.)

Growth of deposits and credit :

15.2.0. It has been observed that along with expansion of bank branches the volume of deposits with and deployment of credit by scheduled commercial banks of the State have also recorded encouraging growth. The total volume of deposits with these banks which was only Rs. 124 crores in December 1975 rose sharply to Rs. 591 crores in December 1982 and then to Rs. 690 crores in December 1983 thereby displaying a more than five-fold increase over a period of just 8 years. Similarly, the deployment of credit also went up from a mere

Rs. 56 crores in December 1975 to Rs. 243 crores in December 1982 and further to Rs. 292 crores in December 1983. It has, however, been noticed that although both deposits and credit showed considerable step up over the period, the addition accrued to the former (i.e. deposits) had been found to be more impressive (by about Rs. 340 crores) than that to the latter (by about Rs. 105 crores only). An idea about the trend in deposits and credit of scheduled commercial banks of the State, over the past few years may be had from the table shown below.

TABLE 15.2

Deposits and Advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks in Assam.

Year (As on Decen.ber)	NO. of Offices	Deposits (Rs. crores)	Advances (Rs. crores)
1	2	3	4
1975	241	123.78	55.91
1976	339	165.39	82.01
1977	386	212.92	92.48
1978	437	256.56	115.77
1979	465	312.37	130.33
1980	491	350.29	186.67
1982	625	590.85	243.05
1983	696	689.63	291.84

Source :- Various publications of Reserve Bank of India.

15.2.1. So far as credit deposit ratios of scheduled commercial banks are concerned, Assam compares very unfavourably with many other States of the country as well as the country as a whole. For instance, in June, 1983 it stood at only 45.6 p.c. in Assam compared with 68.1 p.c. at all-India level. The relative position of Assam vis-a-vis different States and Union Territories of the country in respect of a number of banking variables such as number of bank offices, average population per bank office, credit-deposit ratios etc. as available upto June 1983 may be observed at the table at Appendix XXIV. The table at Appendix XXV also shows district-wise number of bank offices, the volume of deposits and credit of scheduled commercial banks in Assam as on December 1983.

Regional Rural Banks :

15.3.0. An increasing network of regional rural banks also continued to cater the banking need of the rural areas of the State. It may be mentioned here that all of the five proposed regional rural banks have started functioning in the State covering all the districts. At the end of March 1984 these banks had a total of 166 branches in the State as against 137 in June 1983 and 95 in June 1982. The volume of deposits with and advances by these banks totalled Rs. 17.2 crores and Rs. 8.7 crores respectively in December 1983 as against

Rs. 10.2 crores and Rs. 6.2 crores respectively in December 1982.

Procurement of Paddy :

15.4.0. During the kharif year 1983-84 both the Assam State Co-operative Marketing and Consumers Federation (STATFED) and the Food Corporation of India (FCI) were entrusted, under different jurisdictions, with the task of procurement of paddy/rice in the State under price support scheme as well as under levy scheme on millers and dealers. The procurement price of paddy was fixed at Rs. 132 per quintal for common variety, Rs. 136 for fine variety and Rs. 140 for super fine varieties besides allowing a commission of Rs. 4.00 per quintal to the sub-agents. For the purpose of procurement of rice/paddy under levy scheme, the State Government also promulgated an ordinance viz the Assam Paddy and Rice Procurement (Levy and Licensing) Order, 1983 indicating therein the quantity of rice/paddy to be delivered by the millers and dealers towards the levy. During the kharif year 1983-84 (upto July 1984) the Statfed procured 4410.49 M.T. of paddy and 4710.69 M.T. of rice in the State while the F.C.I. procured 3110.00 M.T. rice during the same period. Table below shows the the volume of paddy and rice procured by Statfed and FCI in the State over the last three years.

TABLE 15.3
Procurement of Paddy / Rice in Assam

Kharif Year	Name of Agency	Quantity Procured (in Metric ton)
1	2	3
1981-82	STATFED	Paddy- 63,880.8
		Rice 10.5
1982-83	F.C.I	Rice- 1661.8
	STATFED	Paddy- 32711.5
1983-84 (upto 25.7.84)		Rice- 1002.8
	F.C.I	.. .. .
	STATFED	paddy- 4410.5
		Rice- 4710.7
	FCI	Rice- 3110.0

Source : Directorate of Food and Civil Supplies, Assam

Public distribution system and supply position of essential Commodities :

15.5.0. Under the public distribution system essential commodities like rice, wheat, levy sugar, salt, controlled cloth etc. continued to be supplied to the public through a wide network of distribution centres spread all over the State. The network of public distribution centres comprises of 665 Gaon panchayat Level Samabay Samitees (GPSS) with 17,690 retail outlets in rural areas and 21 wholesale Consumers'

Co-operatives with 1902 fair price shops in urban areas of the plains districts of the State. In the hills districts it comprises of 21 Large Area Multipurpose Co-operative Societies with 559 fair price shops. Besides the above, the STATFED is also engaged in supply of many essential commodities through its own network of 17 branches and 135 retail outlets located in different parts of the State. The release of rice and wheat for public distribution system in Assam over the past few years may be seen at the table below.

TABLE—15.4

Release of rice and wheat for public distribution system in Assam.
(in thousand tonnes)

year	Rice	Wheat
1	2	3
1976	91.5	28.4
1977	94.1	56.0
1978	132.9	55.8
1979	191.0	134.2
1980	232.4	226.4
1981	248.7	227.7
1982	247.0	219.8
1983	227.9	289.6

Source :- Directorate of Food and Civil Supplies, Assam.

15.5.1. For supply of a large number of essential commodities Assam have to depend on sources outside the State. A substantial part of the requirement of such commodities viz. rice, wheat, levy sugar, edible oil, cement etc. are, however, met from the monthly allocations made in favour of the State by the Government of India from its central pool. The delivery position of rice and wheat from the central pool during

1983 was comparatively better than that of the previous year and actual delivery by FCI on an average was approximately 91 p.c. and 81 p.c. respectively of the monthly allocations. However, as against the State's monthly requirement of about 50 thousand tonnes of rice and 39 thousand tonnes of wheat, the allocations made from the central pool during the year were not adequate being only 20 thousand and 25.5 thousand tonnes

respectively per month. The allocation of levy sugar from the central pool during 1983 was 103.7 thousand tonnes but the FCI could deliver only about 76 p.c. of the total allocation during the year. Nevertheless, the availability position of levy-free sugar in the State was satisfactory. Except edible oil, the overall supply position of salt, pulses and kerosine also remained more or less satisfactory during the year.

15.5.2. The efforts of the State Government towards maintenance of uninterrupted supply of essential commodities in the State continued with emphasis on effective implementation of public distribution system. In order to check the activities of unscrupulous traders two new control orders viz. the Assam Trade Articles (L & C) Order, 1982 and the Assam Public Distribution of Articles Order 1982 have also been promulgated by the State Government.

Small Savings : :

15.6.0 Since the recent few years Assam has been doing fairly well in the sphere of mobilisation of small savings. The gross collection of savings in the State totalled Rs. 110.30 crores in 1983-84 as against Rs. 95.48 crores in 1982-83 and Rs. 87.39 crores in 1981-82. However, the growth in the net collection of savings during the last two years (i.e. in 1983-84 and 1982-83) were not upto expectations and also fell short of the target laid for the respective years. The total net collection which rose to Rs. 38.61 crores in 1981-82 from Rs. 34.40 crores in 1980-81, declined to Rs. 31.94 crores in 1982-83 and further to Rs. 25.70 crores in 1983-84. In the following table the trend in the growth of small savings (both gross and net) in Assam alongwith their net target may be observed for the years from 1970-71 to 1983-84.

TABLE-15.5

Collection of Small savings in Assam

(Amount in Rs. crores.)

Year	Gross	Net	Net target
1	2	3	4
1970-71	22.64	6.55	..
1975-76	33.16	10.55	..
1980-81	68.29	34.40	30.00
1981-82	87.39	38.61	35.00
1982-83 (P)	95.48	31.94	43.00
1983-84 (P)	110.30	25.70	50.00

(P) - Provisional.

Source:—Regional Director, National Savings, Government of India, Assam Region, Guwahati.

15.6.1. It has been observed that amongst the different modes of savings in the State the Post Office Time Deposit (POTD) continued to occupy the top position in almost every year. The total net collection under this mode of savings amounted to Rs. 30.09 crores in 1983-84 as against Rs. 31.57 crores in 1981-82 and Rs. 28.20 crores in 1980-81. NSC VI issue is another important mode of savings which, of late, has emerged very popular amongst the investors of the State. The net collection under this mode of savings rose substantially to Rs. 18.71 crores in 1983-84 from only Rs. 7.85 crores in 1981-82. Next in importance was the collection under Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) which totalled Rs. 2.30 crores (net) in 1983-84 but it was lower than the collection of Rs. 4.00 crores

(net) attained in 1981-82. The table at Appendix-XXVI shows the gross and net collection of small savings in Assam by type during 1983-84 as well as during the month of March 1984.

Life Insurance :

15.7.0. In Assam Life Insurance business is growing steadily. The operational area of the Guwahati Divisional Office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) extends to Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland besides Assam. The performance of the Corporation relating to business introduced and business completed during the past few years in the aforesaid areas may be seen at the table furnished below.

TABLE - 15.6

Business Performance of the Guwahati Division of Life Insurance Corporation of India.

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

year	Business introduced		Business completed	
	No. of proposals	Sums proposed	No. of policies	Sums assured
1	2	3	4	5
1975-76	56,532	44.83	55417	43.50
1978-79	54,996	55.89	54360	54.72
1979-80	51,754	58.38	50822	57.01
1980-81	38,168	49.58	37353	47.70
1981-82	39,910	59.85	39186	58.37
1982-83	37,400	62.67	36858	60.81
1983-84	N.A.	N.A.	43511	82.50

N.A. - Not available

Source : Divisional Manager, LIC, Guwahati Divisional Office.

15.7.1. So far as investment of the LIC is concerned, it continued to play an increasing role in the State. The total investment of the Corporation in Assam stood at Rs. 162.03 crores at the end of 1983-84 as against Rs. 159.07 crores at the

end of 1982-83. The break-up of cumulative investment of LIC fund in various schemes, Departments, bonds etc. of the State upto the end of 1983-84 may be seen at the table that follows.

TABLE -15.7

Investment of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Assam (upto 1983-84).

Head	Amount in Rs. lakhs.
	2
1. Stock Exchange investments	4455.79
2. A.S.E.B Loan	3095.13
3. State Government Housing Schemes	645.33
4. Co-operative Housing finance	100.00
5. Municipalities /Urban Water supply scheme.	228.00
6. State Road Transport Corporation	450.00
7. Companies and Industrial Co-operatives	286.00
8. Short term loan to companies	25.00
9. Land Development Bank Debentures	18.22
10. A.S.E.B. Bonds	2313.77
11. State Financial Corporation	9.50
12. S.F.C. Bond	120.40
13. State Government Securities	1903.81
14. Other approved securities	2461.89
15. Debentures and shares of companies	90.09
T O T A L	16202.93

Source : Divisional Manager, LIC, Guwahati Divisional Office.

Assam Government Participation in the shares of Corporations, Co-operatives etc.:

15.8.0. In addition to the general developmental activities, the State Government also invest every year a sizeable amount in the shares of Statutory Corporations, Co-operative Institutions, Joint Stock companies etc. The total amount of such investment by the Government of Assam

stood at Rs. 68.29 crores at the end of 1982-83 as against Rs. 60.45 crores at the end of 1981-82 and Rs. 56.41 crores at the end of 1980-81. From the following table an idea can be had about the distribution of investment of the State Government in various corporations, co-operative institutions, joint stock companies etc. as available upto the end of 1982-83.

TABLE - 15.8
Investment by the Government of Assam (at the end of 1982-83)

Name of corporations/Institutions/companies	Amount invested (in Rs. lakhs)
1	2
1. State Transport Corporation	941.75
2. Assam Industrial Development Corporation	559.00
3. Assam Plantation Crop. Development Corporation	358.76
4. Ashok Paper Mills Ltd.	381.29
5. Assam Gas Company Ltd.	330.77
6. Assam Hills Small Industries Development Corporation	250.71
7. Assam Tea Corporation Ltd.	162.63
8. Assam Government Textile Corporation	108.50
9. Assam Spun Silk Mills Ltd.	137.67
10. Assam Government Marketing Corporation Ltd.	141.68
11. Credit Co-operatives	1608.41
12. Co-operative Sugar/Spinning Mills	241.75
13. Industrial Co-operatives	214.86
14. Consumer Co-operatives	305.90
15. Other Corporations/Institutions/Companies	1085.53
Grand Total	6829.21

Source : : Finance Department, Government of Assam (Quoted from "Assam Gazette, Extraordinary " 23rd August , 1984)

CHAPTER---XVI

Public Finance (A)

16.1.0. Due to increasing involvement of Government machinery in the task of discharging its administrative, social and economic responsibilities the size of the Government budgets have been showing considerable step-up from year to year. The budgets of the Government of Assam also display similar trend as discernible from the manifold growth recorded by it over time. Between 1950-51 and 1983-84 the size of the Assam Government budget has gone up from less than Rs. 10 crores to a much higher level of around Rs. 1300 crores. However, over the years the growth in domestic revenues has not been commensurate with the increased expenditure forcing the State Government to resort to deficit financing almost every year. In the following paragraphs a brief account of the receipt and expenditure of the Government of Assam for the budgetted year 1983-84 as well as for the earlier few years is presented.

16.1.1. The Budget Estimates presented by the Government of Assam for the years 1983-84 have placed the total receipts under consolidated fund at Rs. 1280.72 crores and the total expenditure at Rs. 1317.09 crores, thereby disclosing an overall deficit of Rs. 36.37 crores for the year. When compared with the revised estimates for 1982-83, the total receipts during 1983-84 is higher by Rs. 173.70 crores, while in respect of total expenditure it is higher by Rs. 198.36 crores. It is pertinent to note that the revised estimates for 1982-83 has also shown a deficit to the tune of Rs. 11.71 crores.

16.1.2. An analysis of the State Government budgets for the past several years reveal that the receipts under capital account continues to grow consistently from year to year. It has risen from Rs. 113.22 crores in 1978-79 to Rs. 650.04 crores in 1982-83 (RE) and then to Rs. 719.63 crores in 1983-84 (BE). In respect of receipts under revenue account the trend

of growth has been found to be fluctuating. The total revenue receipts have been placed at Rs. 561.09 crores in 1983-84 (BE) as against Rs. 456.93 crores in 1982-83 (RE), Rs. 269.29 crores in 1979-80 and Rs. 306.05 crores in 1978-79. Over the said period the expenditure under both revenue and capital accounts have also shown steady upward trend except for the year 1981-82 under capital account. The expenditure under revenue account stands at Rs. 668.88 crores in 1983-84 (BE) as against Rs. 502.67 crores in 1982-83 (RE) and Rs. 271.94 crores in 1978-79. Similarly, the expenditure on capital account is estimated at Rs. 648.21 crores in 1983-84 (BE) as against Rs. 616.06 crores in revised estimates for 1982-83 and Rs. 140.37 crores in 1978-79 (actual). The table at Appendix XXVII shows the total receipts and expenditure under revenue and capital accounts together with resultant surpluses and deficits under the consolidated fund for each of the years from 1978-79 to 1983-84 (BE).

16.1.3. The sources of revenue of the State Government broadly comprise the following: the share of central taxes, State taxes, non-tax revenue and grants-in-aid from the central Government. Of the total estimated revenue receipts of Rs. 561.09 crores in 1983-84 (BE), the highest share has been accounted for by grants-in-aid with Rs. 239.58 crores or 42.7 p.c. of the total followed by share of central taxes (Rs. 133.24 crores or 23.8 p.c.), state taxes (Rs. 115.72 crores or 20.6 p.c.) and State non-tax revenue (Rs. 72.55 crores or 12.9 p.c.). The revised estimates for 1982-83 also reflect similar position so far as share of different sources of revenue receipts are concerned. An idea about the trend in the growth of revenue receipts of the Government of Assam under different heads for the period from 1978-79 to 1983-84 (BE) may be had from the table furnished at Appendix- XXVIII.

Economic and functional classification of Assam Government budget :

16.2.0. The impact of Government budgetary operations on generation of savings and capital formation and the purpose for which Government activities are carried on are not directly discernible from the budget documents placed in the Legislative Assembly. The budgetary transactions are, therefore, to be re-classified and re-grouped under economically significant categories as well as functions. Some of the major findings of Economic and Functional Classification of Assam Government Budget, 1983-84 as prepared by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam are presented in the following paragraphs.

Economic Classification :-

16.3.0. The total expenditure of the State Government excluding operating expenses of departmental commercial undertakings and repayment of public debts and loans has shown steady rise from Rs. 523.01 crores in 1981-82 to Rs. 660.35 crores in 1982-83 (R.E.) and further to Rs. 858.47 crores in 1983-84 (BE). Out of the total expenditure of Rs. 858.47 crores budgeted for the year 1983-84, Rs. 597.29 crores or 69.6 per cent constitute final outlays of Assam Government which represents the State Government's direct demand for goods and services for consumption and capital formation. The rest of the expenditure amounting to Rs. 261.18 crores or 30.4 per cent constitutes disbursements by way of transfer payments, financial investments and loans to the rest of the economy that are intended to supplement current and capital receipts of other sectors. Appendix-XXIX provides data on distribution of total expenditure of the Government of Assam by major types for the years 1981-82 (Actual), 1982-83 (RE) and 1983-84 (BE.).

16.3.1 The State Government provides financial assistance to the rest of the economy for capital formation through grants, loans and investments in shares. Such

assistance have shown marked step-up from Rs. 50.09 crores in 1981-82 to Rs. 74.37 crores in 1982-83 (RE) and then to Rs. 103.21 crores in 1983-84 (BE) i.e. almost doubled over a period of just three years. Thus, the gross capital formation out of the budgetary resources of the Government of Assam has been estimated at Rs. 230.51 crores in 1983-84 (BE) as against Rs. 167.33 crores in 1982-83 (RE) and Rs. 147.87 crores in 1981-82. For details Appendix XXX and XXXI may be seen.

16.3.2. The Economic Classification of Assam Government budget also provide estimates on savings of the State Government as well as contribution of State Government towards State Domestic Product (SDP). The net savings of the Government of Assam has been estimated at (-) Rs. 135.62 crores in 1983-84 (BE) as against (-) Rs. 90.19 crores in 1982-83 (R.E) and (-) Rs. 56.14 crores in 1981-82. Thus, over the years net savings have shown a rather negative growth. So far as contribution to SDP is concerned, the State Government during 1983-84 (BE) is expected to general income to the tune of Rs. 351.71 crores as against Rs. 196.13 crores in 1982-83 (RE) and Rs. 208.69 crores in 1981-82. The breakup of estimates on savings and on income generation for each of the years from 1981-82 to 1983-84 (BE) are shown at the tables at Appendix- XXXII and XXXIII.

Functional Classification :-

16.4.0. The functional Classification is designed to group the expenditure of State Government budget according to the purpose for which it is spent. For functional classification the activities of the Government have been divided into nine major categories with a number of sub-groups under each major category. It is seen that the biggest share of the State Government's expenditure during 1983-84 (BE) is accounted for by the group other

purposes" with a share of 34.6 per cent of the total followed by "economic services" (24.1 per cent), "general Government services" (13.5 per cent), "education" (13.0 per cent), and "social security and welfare services" (6.6 per cent). It has further been noticed that the share of expenditure under "economic services" has gone down from 27.1 per cent in 1981-82 to 24.1 per cent in 1983-84 (BE). Its share during 1982-83 (RE) stands at 23.4 per cent. Similar

declining trend is also observed in respect of expenditure under "general government services" (from 16.5 per cent to 13.5 per cent) as well as under "education" services (from 14.5 per cent to 13.0 per cent) over the same period. The magnitude of State Government's expenditure under different categories alongwith their percentage share to the total for each of the years from 1981-82 to 1983-84 (BE) may be seen at the table at Appendix-XXXIV.

CHAPTER -XVI (B)

Mahkuma Parishad and Gaon Panchayat Budgets

16.6.0. The existing system of Assam Panchayati Raj Institution is a two-tier, one consisting of Mahkuma Parishad at the sub-divisional level and the other Gaon Panchayats at the village level. There are 20 Mahkuma Parishads and 714 Gaon Panchayats covering all the plains districts of Assam. In accordance with Assam Panchayati Raj Act, 1972, these institutions are with certain financial and executive powers as a step towards democratic decentralisation of administration and development functions. As per provisions of the Act, both Mahkuma Parishads and Gaon Panchayats can levy certain taxes, cess, fees etc. within their respective jurisdictions. Further, they also get annual allotment of funds and grants from the State Government and local authority (in the case of Gaon panchayats). As per the Act all the Mahkuma Parishads and Gaon Panchayats are required to prepare annual budget estimates.

16.6.1. The Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam has undertaken annual studies of the budgets of Mahkuma Parishads and Gaon Panchayats for an overall assessment of their financial position and functioning. Appendix XXXV to XXXVII shows summary pictures respectively of 20 Mahkuma Parishads and 444 reporting Gaon Panchayats for the years 1978-79 (actual), 1979-80 (revised) and 1980-81 (budget estimates).

16.6.2. The total receipts (including opening balance) of the Mahkuma Parishads (MPs) from all sources has gone up from Rs. 694.2 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs. 876.2 lakhs in 1979-80 and to Rs 913.9 lakhs in 1980-81. The receipts from sub-divisional rural development fund and other Government grant together amounted to Rs 331.9 lakhs in 1980-81 as against Rs 273.8 lakhs in 1979-80 and Rs 210.2 lakhs

in 1978-79. It has been seen that, about one third of total receipts of the MPs are derived from external sources such as government grants, rural funds etc. Another external source is the fund received in respect of transferred scheme which has gone up from Rs 135.7 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs 138.8 lakhs in 1979-80 and further to Rs 176.8 lakhs in 1980-81. The total receipts of the MPs from their own sources such as taxes, sale proceeds and other receipts were only Rs 330.0 lakhs in 1980-81, Rs 335.5 lakhs in 1979-80 and Rs 216.2 lakhs in 1978-79. The opening balance of the MPs stood at Rs 129.9 lakhs in 1978-79, Rs 125.9 lakhs in 1979-80 and Rs 70.5 lakhs in 1980-81.

16.6.3. The total expenditure (excluding closing balances) of MPs has risen from Rs 568.3 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs 805.7 lakhs in 1979-80 and then to Rs 878 lakhs in 1980-81. The expenditure under salary, wages, pension, gratuity and travelling allowances together amounted to Rs 231.4 lakhs in 1980-81 as against 213.0 lakhs in 1979-80 and Rs 177.9 lakhs in 1978-79. Expenditure under these items thus remained less than one-third of the total expenditure during all these years. The expenditure under major and minor works has gone up from Rs 101.6 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs 192.2 lakhs in 1979-80 and to Rs 269.9 lakhs in 1980-81. Expenditure in respect of transferred scheme, office expenses, machinery, equipments etc. which increased from Rs 273.0 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs. 385.2 lakhs in 1979-80 declined to Rs 358.9 lakhs in 1980-81. The payments made for interest, dividend, rent, rates and taxes are however, negligible. The study in respect of budgets of 444 reporting Gaon Panchayats (GPs) reveal that the total receipts of GPs from different sources increased from Rs 146.8 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs 201.7 lakhs in 1979-80 and to Rs.

263.1 lakhs in 1980-81. During the budgeted year 1980-81 the receipts from sub-divisional rural development fund, sums, assigned by MP, local authority and private individual together amounted to Rs 154.7 lakhs as compared with Rs 1108.4 lakhs in 1979-80 and Rs 83.3 lakhs in 1980-81. The receipts from their own sources of the GP comprising taxes, sale proceeds and other receipts has gone up gradually from Rs 40.1 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs 70.2 lakhs in 1979-80 and further to Rs 87.3 lakhs in 1980-81.

16.6.5. On the expenditure side, the total expenditure (excluding closing balance of GPS) stood at Rs 244.6 lakhs in 1980-81 as against Rs 183.0 lakhs in 1979-80 and Rs. 125.5 lakhs in 1978-79. The expenditure

made towards salary, wages, pension, gratuity and travelling allowances together has risen from Rs. 75.6 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs 121.1 lakhs in 1979-80 and further to Rs 161.2 lakhs in 1980-81. Expenditure under these items remained more than one-third of the total expenditure during all the three years. The expenditure under major and minor works has gone up from Rs 31.6 lakhs in 1978-79 to Rs 37.1 lakhs in 1979-80 and further to Rs 52.4 lakhs in 1980-81. The expenditure incurred by Panchayats for office expenses, machinery/equipments, tools, plants, vehicles and other charges taken together amounted to Rs. 30.2 lakhs in 1980-81 as against Rs. 24.0 lakhs in 1979-80 and Rs 17.3 lakhs in 1978-79.

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX-I

Districtwise Population, Sex-ratio and Literacy Rate in Assam, 1971

District	Population in '000"			Sex-Ratio Female per 1000 males	Literacy rate (in percentage)
	Rural	Urban	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Dhubri	758	93	851	930	20.0
2. Kokrajhar	685	25	710	921	21.3
3. Goalpara	610	54	664	931	25.3
4. Barpeta	930	99	972	912	23.3
5. Kamrup	1605	267	1872	879	31.6
6. Pragjyotishpur	16	..	16	807	25.2
7. Darrang	802	32	834	906	20.0
8. Sonitpur	830	72	902	871	25.3
9. Lakhimpur	686	26	712	888	28.9
10. Dibrugarh	1184	227	1411	859	30.5
11. Sibsagar	614	40	654	887	39.1
12. Jorhat	1069	114	1183	885	37.8
13. Nagaon	1556	119	1675	899	28.9
14. Cachar	1054	77	1131	919	30.6
15. Karimganj	524	58	582	930	29.8
16. Karbi Anglong	369	10	379	874	19.2
17. N. C. Hills	71	5	76	841	27.2
ASSAM	13536	1289	14625	896	28.1

Source.—Census of India, 1971.

APPENDIX—II

Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population in Assam by District, 1971

District	Scheduled Caste population in '000'	Scheduled Tribe populat- ion in '000,	Percentage to district's total population	
			S. C.	S. T.
1	2	3	4	5
1. Dhubri	36	21	4.23	2.46
2. Kokrajhar	35	203	4.92	28.59
3. Goalpara	49	84	7.37	12.65
4. Darpeta	51	77	5.24	7.92
5. Kamrup	112	220	5.98	11.75
6. Pragjyotishpur	3	2	18.75	12.50
7. Darrang	35	128	4.19	15.34
8. Sonitpur	42	57	4.65	6.31
9. Lakhimpur	41	205	5.75	28.79
10. Dibrugarh	37	81	2.62	5.74
11. Sibsagar	19	23	2.90	3.51
12. Jorhat	67	102	5.66	8.62
13. Nagaon	165	124	9.85	7.40
14. Cachar	128	14	11.31	1.23
15. Karimganj	81	1	13.91	0.17
16. Karbi Anglong	10	210	2.59	55.37
17. N. C. Hills	1	53	1.09	69.15
ASSAM	912	1607	6.24*	10.98(*)

(*) P. C. to State's total population.

Source.—Census of India, 1971.

APPENDIX—III

Estimated mid-year population and density by districts in Assam, 1983-84

Districts	Estimated population (in thousand)	Density per sq. km.
1	2	3
1. Dhubri	1250	455
2. Kokrajhar	1043	221
3. Goalpara	975	343
4. Barpeta	1428	482
5. Kamrup	2767	422
6. Darrang	1226	353
7. Sonitpur	1325	252
8. Lakhimpur	1047	185
9. Dibrugarh	2074	295
10. Sibsagar	961	369
11. Jorhat	1738	272
12. Nagaon	2469	443
13. Cachar	1663	326
14. Karimganj	856	465
15. Karbi Anglong	557	54
16. N. C. Hills	112	23
ASSAM	21491	274

Note:—Figures for Pragjyotishpur District included in Kamrup and Nagaon.

APPENDIX—IV

Net Domestic Product at factor cost by industry of origin at current and constant prices of Assam during 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84

(Rs. Crores)

Industry	At current prices			At constant (70-71) prices		
	1981-82 (P)	1982-83 (P)	1983-84 (Q)	1981-82 (P)	1982-83 (P)	1983-84 (Q)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Agriculture	1247.3	1554.0	1697.9	573.6	619.0	619.9
2. Forestry and logging	50.5	56.3	59.1	10.0	10.7	10.7
3. Fishing	81.8	94.3	98.4	26.2	26.9	27.5
4. Mining and quarrying	297.0	387.3	443.1	25.8	26.6	26.7
Sub-total :—Primary	1676.6	2091.9	2298.5	635.6	683.2	684.8
5. Manufacturing	274.9	277.6	323.5	116.0	122.5	131.2
(i) Registered	178.4	169.0	182.3	60.8	62.0	63.8
(ii) Un-registered	96.5	108.6	141.2	55.2	60.5	67.4
6. Construction	76.5	104.5	156.1	27.9	32.6	45.9
7. Electricity, Gas, and water supply.	11.4	21.3	21.1	4.9	14.0	13.9
Sub-total :—Secondary	362.8	403.4	500.7	148.8	169.1	191.0
8. Transport, storage and communication.	82.4	93.0	104.2	40.6	42.0	46.7
(i) Railways	24.2	28.2	31.3	14.9	15.1	16.9
(ii) Transport by other means and storage,	47.0	50.9	57.1	20.7	21.4	23.6
(iii) Communication	11.2	13.9	15.6	4.4	5.5	6.2
9. Trade, Hotel and Restaurant	222.5	377.1	444.3	114.3	153.6	162.6
Sub-total :—Transport Communication and trade	304.9	470.1	548.5	154.3	195.6	209.3
10. Banking and Insurance	30.8	38.1	42.6	13.1	14.6	16.3
11. Real estate, ownership of dwelling and business Services	23.5	27.0	13.1	17.7	11.0	11.8
Sub-total :—Finance and Real estate.	54.3	65.1	73.7	30.8	25.6	28.1
12. Public Administration	87.3	109.1	143.4	55.7	65.0	85.4
13. Other services	154.5	202.4	249.0	56.7	53.7	54.7
Sub-total :—Community and Personal Services.	241.8	311.5	392.4	112.4	118.7	140.1
14. Total Net Domestic Product at factor cost.	2640.4	3342.0	3813.8	1081.9	1192.2	1253.3

(P) Provisional, (Q) Quick-estimates.

Source.—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam,

APPENDIX-V

NET DOMESTIC PRODUCT AT FACTOR COST BY INDUSTRY OF ORIGIN AT
CONSTANT (1970-71) PRICES OF ASSAM

(Rs, Crores).

Industry Group	1970-71	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78 (P)	1978-79 (P)	1979-80 (P)	1980-81 (P)	1981-82 (P)	1982-83 (P)	1983-84 (Q)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1. Agriculture, Forestry and Logging, Fishing, Mining and Quarring.	492.2 (63.8)	612.2 (65.2)	585.1 (62.8)	629.4 (62.3)	615.3 (61.3)	587.8 (59.8)	690.5 (63.0)	635.6 (58.7)	683.2 (57.3)	684.8 (54.6)
2. Manufacturing, construction, Electricity, gas and water supply.	108.6 (14.0)	116.7 (12.4)	122.0 (13.1)	132.2 (13.1)	137.5 (13.7)	128.5 (13.1)	122.3 (11.2)	148.8 (13.8)	169.1 (14.2)	191.0 (15.2)
3. Transport, Storage and Communication, Trade, Hotel and Restaurant.	101.7 (13.2)	121.5 (12.9)	127.1 (13.6)	132.4 (13.1)	135.2 (13.5)	136.3 (13.9)	144.2 (13.2)	154.3 (14.3)	195.6 (16.4)	209.3 (16.7)
4. Banking and Insurance, real estate and ownership of dwelling and business services.	15.2 (2.0)	19.2 (2.1)	23.2 (2.5)	26.2 (2.6)	28.3 (2.8)	28.2 (2.9)	30.9 (2.8)	30.8 (2.8)	25.6 (2.1)	28.1 (2.3)
5. Public administration and other services	53.7 (7.0)	69.0 (7.4)	74.7 (8.0)	89.5 (8.9)	87.8 (8.7)	101.0 (10.3)	107.2 (9.8)	112.4 (10.4)	118.7 (10.0)	140.1 (11.2)
6. Net domestic product at factor cost.	771.4 (100.0)	938.6 (100.0)	932.1 (100.0)	1009.7 (100.0)	1004.1 (100.0)	982.3 (100.0)	1095.1 (100.0)	1081.9 (100.0)	1192.2 (100.0)	1253.3 (100.0)
7. Per capita (Rs.)	534.7	559.4	538.5	563.4	544.9	516.4	557.6	533.5	569.4	579.0

P=Provisional estimates (Q)=Quick estimates.

Note :—Figures within bracket indicate percentages to total SDP.

Source:—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

APPENDIX—VI

PRODUCTION OF SOME IMPORTANT CROPS IN ASSAM

Crop	Unit	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81 (P)	1981-82 (P)	1982-83 (P)	1983-84 (P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Rice	Thousand Tonnes.	2248.7	2152.8	1975.4	2522.8	2235.6	2583.2	2532.3
2. Wheat	„	75.4	70.2	86.7	118.3	115.6	121.0	127.9
3. Maize	„	12.6	13.1	13.6	13.4	11.6	12.2	10.9
4. Other cereals	„	8.6	9.1	9.3	4.1	4.1	4.0	5.0
5. All Cereals	„	2344.8	2245.2	2048.9	2658.6	2366.8	2720.5	2676.1
6. Total Pulses	„	38.0	40.7	41.2	47.1	52.1	52.8	54.5
7. Total Food grains	„	2382.8	2285.9	2126.1	2705.7	2418.9	2773.2	2730.6
8. Oil seeds (excluding coconut).	„	69.9	81.7	97.3	111.8	112.0	135.3	159.1
FIBERS :								
9. Jute	Thousand Bales	554.7	815.3	813.5	912.6	951.1	955.2	853.9
10. Mesta	„	43.7	49.6	51.7	48.8	51.7	51.0	51.5
11. Cotton	„	1.5	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.9
MISCELLANEOUS:								
12. Sugarcane (Gur)	Thousand Tonnes.	147.7	158.9	159.8	173.7	200.0	215.1	208.4
13. Potato	„	129.0	160.1	185.5	223.8	282.9	265.0	319.9
14. Sweet Potato	„	30.5	30.1	29.1	33.2	31.9	31.5	28.4
15. Tobacco	„	4.2	4.5	4.1	4.1	5.7	3.3	5.6

(P) Provisional,

Source :—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

APPENDIX—VII

AREA UNDER IMPORTANT CROPS IN ASSAM

(Area in thousand hectares)

Crops	1977-78	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81 (P)	1981-82 (P)	1982-83 (P)	1983-84 (P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Rice	2215.4	2232.5	2202.9	2275.0	2258.5	2301.7	2322.2
2. Wheat	65.8	68.2	82.3	102.2	102.3	105.3	99.23
3. Maize	21.4	22.0	23.0	22.6	19.1	20.2	18.1
4. Other cereals & Millets	18.4	19.2	19.6	8.4	8.1	8.1	9.7
5. Total cereals & Millets.	2321.0	2341.9	2322.3	2408.2	2388.0	2435.3	2449.3
6. Total pulses	99.7	99.5	102.6	113.1	117.2	126.4	130.6
7. Total foodgrains	2420.7	2441.4	2425.0	2521.3	2505.1	2561.8	2579.9
8. Sugarcane	46.0	47.5	47.4	48.1	49.4	49.4	49.2
9. Potato	31.4	32.0	35.1	38.2	40.8	43.3	44.1
10. Tea	190.6	192.4	195.5	200.6	203.0	197.5	N.A.
11. Jute	101.8	103.7	105.9	112.3	110.3	116.5	100.6
12. Rape and Mustard.	161.3	167.7	197.6	213.0	224.0	267.8	286.1

N. A.—Not available, P—Provisional

Source.—(i) Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam

(ii) For tea "Tea Board of India."

APPENDIX—VIII

YIELD RATE OF CERTAIN CROPS IN ASSAM AND INDIA

(In Kg. Per hectare)

CROPS	1978-79		1979-80		1980-81 (P)		1981-82 (P)		1982-83 (P)		1983-84 (P)	
	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1. Rice	979	1328	892	1074	1126	1336	1005	1308	1138	1230	1145	1464
2. Maize	594	1076	589	929	593	1159	607	1162	601	1097	603	1346
3. Wheat	1029	1568	1130	1435	1158	1630	1130	1691	1149	1836	1289	1851
4. Gram	470	745	423	481	476	657	472	590	474	705	463	649
5. Tea	1544	1527	1452	1437	1499	1491	1503	1481	1515	1526	N.A.	N.A.
6. Total Pulses	409	575	401	388	418	473	445	483	417	517	418	540
7. All food grains	936	1020	952	876	1088	1023	952	1032	1095	1041	1109	1164
8. Jute	1415	1317	1383	1310	1463	1245	1552	1484	1476	1458	1525	1471
9. Sugarcane (cane)	34654	50160	35751	49861	35833	57836	43564	58365	42697	56434	43873	55895
10. Rape and Mustard	437	525	443	411	481	560	458	541	495	577	490	639
11. Potato	5086	12555	5283	12152	5853	13113	6926	12866	6120	N.A.	7259	N.A.

P.—Provisional ; N.A.—Not available

Source:—1. Directorate of economics and Statistics, Assam.

2. Economic Survey, Government of India.

3. For tea "Tea Board of India"

4. Bulletin on Food Statistics, 1982-84 by Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

5. Report on Currency and Finance, 1983-84 (RBI).

APPENDIX-IX

DISTRICTWISE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS AND AREA IN ASSAM
(1970-71 And 1976-77)

Districts	No. of Holdings		Total operated Area (Thousand hectares)		Average size (Hectres)	
	1970-71	1976-77	1970-71	1976-77	1970-71	1976-77
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Dhubri	283,535	335,311	416.0	422.8	1.44	1.26
2. Goalpara						
3. Kokrajhar						
4. Kamrup	387,413	455,335	528.7	547.2	1.36	1.20
6. Barpeta						
6. Darrang	350,559	383,195	416.3	427.4	1.19	1.12
7. Sonitpur						
8. Nagaon	237,060	283,866	309.8	344.0	1.30	1.21
9. Sibsagar	221,665	290,402	404.7	445.4	1.83	1.53
10. Jorhat						
11. Dibrugarh	140,088	161,694	272.9	324.3	1.95	2.01
12. Lakhimpur	112,792	115,942	190.3	169.3	1.69	1.46
13. Cachar	181,435	177,900	266.7	299.1	1.47	1.63
14. Karimganj						
Total Plains	1920,477	2203,645	2805.4	2979.5	1.46	1.35
15. Karbi Anglong	35,366	39,727	69.4	80.5	1.81	2.04
16. N. C. Hills	8,633	10,318	13.5	18.9	1.56	1.85
Total Hills	43,899	50,045	77.1	99.7	1.76	2.00
Total Assam	1964,376	2253,690	2882.5	3079.2	1.47	1.37

Note:—Figures for Pragjyotishpur District included in Kamrup and Nagaon.

Source:—Agriculture Census, 1970-71 and 1976-77

APPENDIX—X

Districtwise Area under HYV Paddy in Assam During
1982-83

(In hectares)

Districts	Autumn Pady	Winter paddy	Total Paddy
1	2	3	4
1. Dhubri			
2. Goalpara	31027	78112	109139
3. Korajhar			
4. Kamrup	32339	122715	155054
5. Barpeta			
6. Darrang	38700	97680	136380
7. Sonitpur			
8. Nagaon	39677	95460	135137
9. Sibsagar			
10. Jorhat	16445	99750	116195
11. Lakhimpur	6700	55445	62145
12. Dibrugarh	13814	61030	74844
13. Cachar	33428	68240	101668
14. Karimganj			
15. Darbi Anglong	2100	19750	21850
16. N. C. Hills	650	2000	2650
Total State	214830	700182	915062

Note—Figures for Pragjyotishpur District included in Kamrup and Nagaon.

Source—Directorate of Agriculture, Assam.

APPENDIX XI

Civil SubdivisionWise Irrigation Potential: Target and Achievement during the year 1983-84
(Potential/Area in hectare)

Civil Subdivision	Target for 1983-84		Achievement in 1983-84	
	Minor	Medium	Minor	Medium
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)
1. Kokrajhar	1200	...	1680	...
2. Dhubri	1200	..	1437	..
3. Hatsinghari		...	1480	...
4. Goalpara	1700	...	1614	...
5. Barpeta	900	4300	2235	4300
6. Nalbari	200	..	785	...
7. Guwahati	1100	...	1868	...
8. Nagaon	3000	3100	2047	4375
9. Morigaon	1000	..	1659	..
10. Mongaldoi	1000	..	2630	...
11. Biswanath chariali	1200	..	600	...
12. Tezpur		1600	2326	1750
13. Dhemaji	800	..	1537	...
14. North Lohimpur	1550	...	1043	..
15. Jonai		..	56	..
16. Jorhat	600	...	1741	...
17. Sibsagar	1400	..	2326	...
18. Golaghat	400	..	1489	...
19. Dibrugarh	550	...	1487	...
20. Tinsukia	500	...	1272	...
21. Silchar	900	...	1590	..
22. Haiakandi	200	...	400	...
23. Karimganj	400	...	752	..
24. Diphu	150	...	568	700
25. Hamren	250	500	238	500
26. Hafiong	300	...	120	...
Total	20,500	9,500	34,980	11,625

Source—Chief Engineer, Irrigation Department, Assam.

APPENDIX—XII

PRINCIPAL PHYSICAL ACHIEVEMENT UNDER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME DURING THE YEAR 1981-82

Sl. No.	Item	Unit	1981-82		Total Blocks
			Plains Block	Hills Blocks	
1	2	3	4	5	6
AGRICULTURE					
1.	Improved seeds distributed (wheat & paddy)	Thousand kg	4,027	106	4,133
2.	Oil seeds distributd	"	278	13	291
3.	Vegetable seeds distributed	"	13	2	15
4.	Chemical Fertilizers distributed	Tons	4,769	9	4,778
5.	Green manure seeds distributed	Thousand KG.	23	...	23
6.	Chemical Pesticides distributed				
(a)	Solid pesticides	"	191	3	194
(b)	Liquid Pesticides.	Litre	27,251	236	27,487
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY					
1.	Improved animals supplied	No.	2,063	52	2,115
2.	Improved birds supplied	"	16,854	1,702	18,558
3.	Animal castrated	"	1,60,371	6,267	1,66,638
4.	Animal artificially inseminated	"	51,668	111	51,799
RECLAMATION					
1.	Land reclaimed	Hect	93	344	437
EDUCATION (SOCIAL)					
1.	Literacy Centres started	No.	5,402	81	5,483
2.	Adult made literate	"	88,526	964	89,490
HEALTH & RURAL SANITATION					
1.	Rural latrine constructed	No.	394	37	431
2.	Smokeless chullah installed	"	80	—	80
DRINKING WATER FACILITIES PROVIDED					
1.	Wells constructed	No.	656	20	676
2.	Wells renovated	"	321	35	356
3.	Hand pump installed	"	670	3	673
COMMUNICATION					
1.	New Katcha road constructed	Kms.	1,528	36	1,564
2.	Existing Katcha road improved	"	2,108	53	2,161
3.	Culverts constructed	No	281	36	317
4.	Culverts repaired	"	142	1	143

APPENDIX—XIII

Statistical Profile of N. F. Railway, 1981-82 and 1982-83

Particulars	Unit	1981-82	1982-83
1	2	3	4
(A) FINANCIAL :			
(i) Gross earnings	Rs. crores	90.45	116.76
(ii) Working expenses	"	160.13	188.97
(iii) Net earnings	"	(-)69.68	(-)72.21
(B) PASSENGER :			
(i) Passenger originating	Millions	59.0	53.9
(ii) Passengers carried	"	60.6	55.3
(iii) Passenger kilometres	"	5009.0	4496.7
(iv) Earning from Passengers	Rs. Crores	25.80	29.20
(v) Average earning per passenger kms	Paise	5.1	6.5
(vi) Average length of passenger journey	K. Ms.	82.7	81.3
(C) FREIGHT :			
(i) Freight originating	Million tonnes	3.5	4.1
(ii) Freight carried	"	7.4	8.2
(iii) Freight tonne kilometres	Million K. Ms.	4138.0	4649.2
(iv) Earning from goods carried	Rs. crores	54.30	75.74
(v) Average earning per freight tonne Kilometres.	Paise	13.1	16.3
(D) TRAIN :			
(i) Train Kilometres	Thousand K. Ms.	17405	17667
(ii) Gross earning per train k. m.	Rs.	51.97	66.09
(iii) Working expenses per train k. m.	"	92.00	106.97
(iv) Net earnings per train k. m.	"	(-)40.03	(-)40.87
(E) STAFF AND STATIONS :			
(i) No. of staff as on 31st March	Number	85259	85237
(ii) No. of Stations as on 31st March	"	467	467
(iii) Route Kms. as on 31st March	K. M. S.	3613.03	3580.37

Source.—Annual Report 1982-83, N. F. Railway, Maligaon.

APPENDIX—XIV

Movement of Principal Commodities by Rly as Booked from Different Station of N. F. Railway
(No. of wagons)

Commodities	1980-81		1981-82		1982-83	
	B. G.	M. G.	B. G.	M. G.	B. G.	M. G.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Rice and Paddy	506	8116	287	27113	354	38840
2. Oil seeds	4	436	5	283	2	469
3. Cotton raw	..	..	..	190	..	167
4. Jute raw	72251	15766	2113	12791	2209	9944
5. Fodder	363	1510	65	1104	182	1081
6. Coal and coke	1957	17999	5421	12786	7889	19006
7. Mineral oil	9010	37877	25326	47275	35112	46817
8. Bamboo	4857	2311	6981	6047	6960	7970
9. Timber (others)	4447	10332	5223	13388	5388	15435
10. Tea	88	6572	24	4286	532	2615
11. Chemical Manure	4	2758	5	8463	2	9256
12. Marble and other stone	991	2253	696	2951	705	2639

Source.—General Manager (Stat), N. F. Railway, Maligaon.

APPENDIX - XV

Number of Motor Vehicles on Road in Assam

Sl. No.	Type of vehicles	1980	1981	1982	1983
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Bus	2712	2718	2595	2917
2	Private Carrier	7723	6189	6158	5830
3	Public Carrier	13684	15872	16873	18262
4	Motor Car	14389	16825	15437	14914
5	Jeep	3906	6279	7026	7048
6	Taxi, Car	1598	1086	1460	1684
7	Motor Cycle and Scooter	13423	22048	26290	30356
8	Tractor	3943	4587	5387	5015
9	Tractor	3613	4423	5296	5004
10	Auto Rickshaw	923	904	919	968
11	Government Vehicle	4849	5313	6276	6340
12	Others	11610	1420	1847	2121
TOTAL		82370	87644	95566	100459

Source. — Commissioner of Transport, Assam.

APPENDIX—XVI

District-wise number of villages electrified in Assam
(upto March 31, 1984)

District	Number of villages (1971 census)	Number of villages electrified upto March, 1984	Percentage of electrified vill- ages to total census villages
1	2	3	4
1. Goalpara	1,147	339	29.55
2. Kokrajhar	1,413	476	33.68
3. Dhubri	1,259	338	26.84
4. Kamrup	2,114	994	47.01
5. Barpeta	1,030	444	43.10
6. Darrang	1,231	544	44.19
7. Sonitpur	1,307	763	58.37
8. Nagaon	1,961	1,363	69.76
9. Sibsagar	853	550	64.47
10. Jorhat	1,492	810	54.28
11. Lakhimpur	1,677	225	13.41
12. Dibrugarh	2,167	1,170	53.99
13. Cachar	1,337	672	50.26
14. Karimganj ✓	1,076	317	29.46
15. Karbi-Anglong	1,451	433	29.84
16. North Cachar Hills	480	112	23.33
TOTAL	21,995	9,555	43.44

Note —Data for newly created Pragjyotishpur District included in Kamrup and Nagaon.

APPENDIX—XVII

Index of Industrial production in Assam

(Base—1970=100)

Industry group	1971	1975	1980	1981	1982(p)	1983(p)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Grain mill products ...	92	75	65	64	56	82
2. Manufacture and refining of Sugar ...	73	67	67	54	112	77
3. Manufacture of other edible oil and fats	102	88	86	76	102	116
4. Tea processing	105	124	144	143	143	151
5. Manufacture of cotton textiles ...	62	90	87	119	136	138
6. Manufacture of jute textile ..	105	273	237	275	157	147
7. Manufacture of veneer Plywood and their products.	120	163	141	315	325	321
8. Sawing and planing of wood (other than Plywood).	148	132	112	152	157	137
9. Petroleum refineries	93	109	82	136	153	157
10. Manufacture of products of petroleum not else-where classified.	109	45	42	36	38	23
11. Manufacture of fertilizers and pesticides	117	175	65	382	548	350
12. Manufacture of matches ..	97	76	93	100	102	94
13. Aluminium manufacturing ...	96	79	125	198	181	182
All Industries	104	118	123	144	149	154

P—Provisional

Source—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

APPENDIX — XVIII

PERCENTAGE VARIATION (ANNUAL) OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN ASSAM

Item	1975	1980	1981	1982	1983
1	2	3	4	5	6
All Commodities	(+) 1.7	(+) 17.2	(+) 6.7	(+) 5.7	(+) 11.7
A. Food articles	(+) 2.7	(+) 21.3	(+) 6.6	(+) 2.8	(+) 11.6
(1) Cereals	(+) 1.8	(+) 11.7	(-) 1.1	(+) 15.8	(+) 16.3
(2) Pulses	(+) 4.6	(+) 9.8	(+) 14.5	(-) 5.4	(+) 5.3
(3) Edible Oil	(-) 18.0	(+) 28.0	(+) 15.9	(-) 2.2	(+) 8.2
(4) Sugar and gur	(+) 10.2	(+) 105.4	(+) 4.2	(-) 26.2	(-) 1.8
B. Non-Food articles	(-) 1.1	(+) 8.6	(+) 6.4	(+) 13.0	(+) 11.9
(1) Liquor and tobacco	(+) 6.9	(-) 10.4	(-) 6.8	(+) 31.4	(-) 2.0
C. Industrial					
(1) Raw materials	(+) 0.5	(+) 9.8	(+) 12.6	(+) 8.8	(+) 23.2
(2) Finished products	(+) 0.8	(+) 13.4	(+) 2.0	(+) 15.2	(+) 5.0

Note : (+)=Increase

(-)=Decrease

Source :—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

APPENDIX—XIX

MOVEMENT OF WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX IN ASSAM

(Base 1953=100)

Year / Month	Food	Non-Food	General
1	2	3	4
1960 (Annual Average)	129	136	131
1965 "	177	176	175
1970 "	266	229	250
1975 "	429	291	383
1976 "	384	296	355
1977 "	439	350	409
1978 "	430	391	423
1979 "	460	420	447
1980 "	558	456	524
1981 "	595	485	559
1982 "	612	548	591
1983 "	683	613	660
1983 January	604	567	592
February	622	569	604
March	637	582	619
April	645	593	628
May	666	604	645
June	670	625	655
July	687	624	663
August	698	630	675
September	715	630	687
October	736	635	703
November	754	646	718
December	760	656	726

Source :—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

APPENDIX- XX

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBER FOR WORKING CLASS IN ASSAM

(Base 1949=100)

Year/Month	Guwahati	Silchar	Tinsukia	Assam
1	2	3	4	5
1960 (Annual Average)	102	109	118	111
1970	216	231	240	230
1975	349	387	415	386
1976	309	325	348	330
1977	343	375	385	367
1978	359	399	396	380
1979	389	446	446	422
1980	450	491	528	494
1981	488	537	536	516
1982	530	567	573	554
1983	584	654	639	616
1983				
January	544	558	581	564
February	548	585	613	584
March	549	591	569	561
April	549	640	602	580
May	573	663	615	598
June	592	676	632	616
July	595	674	659	632
August	602	675	678	645
September	617	696	660	642
October	631	700	682	661
November	612	706	692	658
December	593	682	685	646

Source—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

APPENDIX—XXI

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBER FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN ASSAM
(Base 1960=100)

Year/Month	Digboi	Mariani	Doomdooma	Labac	Rangapara	All India
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1975 (Annual Average)	320	272	278	276	266	321
1976	307	243	246	246	241	296
1977	331	272	282	226	286	321
1978	338	286	284	278	293	329
1979	357	312	305	314	319	350
1980	404	338	339	348	354	390
1981	437	358	356	348	367	441
1982	467	383	382	389	392	475
1983	510	445	440	430	438	532
1983						
January	480	388	403	383	384	495
February	480	412	414	393	410	500
March	492	412	417	394	410	502
April	491	407	401	417	415	508
May	494	418	401	436	432	521
June	503	440	439	459	440	533
July	521	454	442	443	448	541
August	521	456	460	437	454	549
September	525	468	477	446	473	554
October	535	504	483	470	471	558
November	547	495	479	446	457	561
December	537	484	467	431	454	559

Source—Labour Barreau, Government of India.

APPENDIX—XXII

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBER FOR URBAN NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES:
ASSAM AND INDIA (Base 1960=100)**

Year	/Month	Guwahati	All India
1		2	3
1970	(Annual Average)	167	173
1975	„	267	279
1976	„	260	273
1977	„	279	292
1978	„	281	304
1979	„	300	321
1980	„	337	359
1981	„	380	403
1982	„	413	437
1983	„	452	480
1983	January	422	455
	February	436	458
	March	427	462
	April	433	467
	May	437	472
	June	444	479
	July	447	487
	August	456	492
	September	475	495
	October	480	498
	November	483	500
	December	479	500

Source:—Central Statistical Organisation, Government of India, New Delhi.

APPENDIX—XXIII

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBER FOR RURAL POPULATION IN ASSAM
(Plain districts)

(Base—1944=100)

Period	Consumer Price Index Number
1	2
1970 (Annual Average)	288
1975 ”	469
1976 ”	454
1977 ”	520
1978 ”	551
1979 ”	584
1980 ”	665
1981 ”	694
1982 ”	709
1983 ”	790
1983 January	716
February	727
March	738
April	754
May	766
June	786
July	798
August	813
September	828
October	839
November	852
December	861

Source—Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam.

APPENDIX—XXIV

STATEWISE BANK FACILITIES IN INDIA (as on June, 1983).

State/Union Territory	No. of Offices	Population per bank Office (in thousand)	Credit/Deposit Ratio (%)
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	3277	16	70.8
2. Assam	653	30	45.6
3. Bihar	3,050	23	44.5
4. Gujarat	2,606	13	53.7
5. Hariyana	949	14	70.4
6. Himachal Pradesh	461	9	44.2
7. Jammu & Kashmir	585	10	47.1
8. Karnataka	3,150	12	81.5
9. Kerala	2,501	10	66.9
10. Madhya Pradesh	2,774	19	60.7
11. Maharashtra	4,116	15	89.9
12. Manipur	44	32	43.1
13. Meghalaya	79	17	19.4
14. Nagaland	50	15	36.6
15. Orissa	1,306	20	85.0
16. Punjab	1,778	9	41.4
17. Rajasthan	1,914	18	71.3
18. Sikkim	11	29	8.1
19. Tamil Nadu	3,394	14	95.5
20. Tripura	88	23	74.1
21. Uttar Pradesh	5,286	21	48.2
22. West Bengal	2,599	21	57.8
23. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	12	16	32.0
24. Arunachal Pradesh	31	20	18.1
25. Chandigarh	93	5	218.6
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	17	97.0
27. Delhi	940	7	69.4
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	250	4	34.5
29. Lakshadweep	5	8	12.9
30. Mizoram	15	33	14.5
33. Pondicherry	57	11	59.6
All India	42,079	16	68.1

Source:— Report on Trend and progress of Banking in India, 1983-84 (RBI)

APPENDIX—XXV

Districtwise number of Bank Offices and the volume of deposits and credit of scheduled commercial banks in Assam (as on December, 1983).

Disricts	No. of offices	Deposits (Rs. lakhs)	Credit Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1. Dhubri			
2. Goalpara	83	42,02	21,90
3. Kokrajhar			
4. Kamrup	162	235,87	124,38
5. Barpeta			
6. Darrang	71	43,03	11,71
7. Sonitpur			
8. Nowgong	64	39,29	13,48
9. Sibsagar	94	70,83	32,74
10. Jorat			
11. Dibrugarh	84	182,42	62,74
12. Lakhimpur	24	13,10	4,66
13. Cachar	72	50,72	17,56
14. Karimganj			
15. Karbi Anglong	29	6,91	2,01
16. N. C. Hills	13	5,44	66
ASSAM	696	689,63	291,84

Note—Figures for Pragiyotishpur district included in Kamrup and Nowgong.

Source—Banking Statistics, Handout December, 1983 (RBI)

APPENDIX—XXVI

Collection of Small Savings Scheme Accounts and Securities in Assam

(1983-84)

(Rs. in thousand)

Accounts/Securities	Units	During March 1984		Progressive total from April/83 to March/84	
		Gross collection	Net collection	Gross collection	Net collection
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. P. O. S. B.	Rs. in thousand	30205	(-)2906	324222	22982
2. C. T. D.	"	3706	(-)1115	33303	5051
3. P. O. R. D.	"	5009	1462	53324	13596
4. P. O. T. D.	"	25067	4732	488587	300902
5. N. S. C.—II	"	393	354	3938	(-)4294
6. N. S. C.—VI	"	30460	30453	187293	187086
7. N. S. C.—VII	"	1316	1244	11686	11254
8. Old certificate encashment	"	--	(-)150	...	(-)14516
9. P. P. F. (P. O.)	"	168	168	982	982

Source—Regional Director, National Savings, Government of India, Assam Region, Guwahati.

APPENDIX—XXVII

RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF ASSAM
GOVERNMENT BUDGET

(Rs. Lakhs)

Year	Receipts			Expenditure			Surplus (+) Deficit (-)
	Revenue	Capital	Total	Revenue	Capital	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1978—79	30605	11322	41927	27194	14037	41231	(+) 696
1979—80	26929	12281	39210	30993	15940	46933	(-) 7723
1980—81	43616	34450	78066	34400	56070	90470	(-) 12404
1981—82	36218	48594	84812	40599	38839	79438	(+) 5374
1982—83 (RE)	45698	65004	110702	50267	61606	111873	(-) 1171
1983—84 (BE)	56109	71963	128072	66888	64821	131709	(-) 3637

RE : Revised Estimate

BE : Budget Estimate

APPENDIX—XXVIII

REVENUE RECEIPT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM UNDER DIFFERENT HEADS

(Rs, Lakhs)

Year	State taxes	Share of central tax	Non-tax Revenue (State)	Grants-in-aid	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1978-79.....	8862 (28.9)	5108 (16.7)	4305 (14.1)	12330 (40.3)	30605 (100.00)
1979-80.....	7205 (26.8)	8808 (32.7)	4373 (16.3)	6542 (24.2)	26929 (100.00)
1980-81.....	6449 (14.7)	6770 (15.5)	26244 (60.2)	4182 (9.6)	43615 (100.00)
1981-82.....	10119 (27.9)	11160 (30.8)	5867 (16.2)	9072 (25.1)	3628 (100.00)
1982-83....(RE)....	10575 (23.1)	12195 (26.7)	6472 (14.2)	16456 (36.0)	45698 (100.00)
1983-84...(BE).....	11572 (20.6)	13324 (23.8)	7255 (12.9)	23958 (42.7)	56109 (100.00)

RE :—Revised Estimate

BE :—Budget Estimate

Note :—Figures Within Brackets indicate Percentage of total Revenue receipts

Source :—Assam Budget in Brief 1983-84.

APPENDIX—XXIX

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF THE GOVERNMENT ASSAM BY MAJOR TYPES.

(Rs. Lakhs)

Item	1981-82 (Actual)	1982-83 (Revised)	1983-84 (Budget)
1	2	3	4
1. Final outlays.....	37094	45350	59729
(a) Government consumption Expenditure.....	27316	36054	46099
(b) Cross Capital Formation	9778	9296	12730
(i) Gross Fixed Capital Formation	9026	9301	12260
(ii) Increase in Inventories	752	(—)5	470
2. Transfer Payments to the rest of the economy			
(a) Current Transfers	9250	12171	14862
(b) Capital Transfers	—	—	—
3. Financial Investments and Loans to the rest of the economy	5957	8514	11256
Total Expenditure (1+2+3)	52301	66035	85847

APPENDIX XXX

Financial Assistance Provided by Assam Government for Capital Formation

(Rs Lakhs)

Item	1981-82 Actual	1982-83 Revised	1983-84 Budget
	2	3	4
1. Grants for Capital Formation to :—	...	...	..
(a) Local Bodies	..	...	....
(b) Educational Institutions	...	...	....
(c) Others	...	...	..
2. Investment in shares (Net)	417	591	1358
(a) Government concerns (Non Departmental)	252	25	138
(b) Co - operatives	157	565	1002
(c) Others	8	1	218
3. Loans and Advances for capital Formation	4592	6846	8963
4. Total Financial Assistance for capital formation (1+2+3)	5009	7437	10321

APPENDIX XXXI

Gross capital formation out of Budgetary Resources of the Government of Assam

(Rs in Lakhs)

Item	1981-82 (Actual)	1982-83 (Revised)	1983-84 (Budget)
1	2	3	4
1. Gross capital formation by Government of Assam	9778	9296	12730
2. Financial Assistance for capital formation to the rest of the economy	5009	7437	10321
3. Gross capital formation out of the Budgetary Resources of Assam Government (1+2)	14787	16733	23051

APPENDIX XXXII

SAVINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

(Rs. Lakhs)

Item	1981—82 (Actual)	1982—83 (Revised)	1983—84 (Budget)
1	2	3	4
1. Saving of Government Administration	(—)5614	(—)9021	(—)13565
2. Depreciation Provision of Government Administration and Departmental Commercial undertakings	—	2	3
3. Gross savings by the Government of Assam	(—)5614	(—)9019	(—)13562
4. Expenditure on Renewal and Replacement of Administration and Departmental commercial undertakings	—	—	—
5. Net savings by the Government of Assam (3—4)	(—)5614	(—)9019	(—)13562

APPENDIX XXXIII

Contribution of the Government of Assam towards SDP

(Rs. Lakhs)

Item	1981—82 (Actual)	1982—83 (Revised)	1983—84 (Budget)
1	2	3	4
1. Compensation of Employees including pensions of Administration	17428	15477	26866
2. Net output of Departmental Commercial undertakings	929	1373	1088
(a) Salaries and Wages	1027	1297	1536
(b) Operating Surplus	(—)98	76	(—)448
3. Salaries and wages component of construction outlay (a)	2512	2763	3617
4. Total (1+2+3)	20869	19613	31571

(a) 33.3 Per cent of the total expenditure on construction.

APPENDIX- XXXIV

Functional classification of Assam Government Expenditure

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Services	1981-82 (Actual)	1982-83 (Revised)	1983-84 (Budget)
1	2	3	4
1. General Government Services	12749 (16.5)	14401 (13.2)	17315 (13.5)
1.1 General Administration, External Affairs, Public order and Safety.	12749 (16.5)	14401 (13.2)	17315 (13.5)
1.2 General Research	..	...	..
2. Civil Defence	159 (0.2)	255 (0.2)	277 (0.2)
3. Education	11155 (14.5)	13091 (12.0)	16662 (13.0)
3.1 Administration, Regulation and Research	63 (0.1)	175 (0.2)	149 (0.1)
3.2 Schools, Universities, Institutions including Services.	11092 (14.4)	12916 (11.8)	16513 (12.9)
4. Health	3685 (4.8)	4834 (4.4)	6241 (4.9)
4.1 Administration, Regulation and Research	146 (0.2)	260 (0.2)	360 (0.3)
4.2 Hospitals, Clinics and individual Health Services.	3539 (4.6)	4574 (4.2)	5881 (4.6)
5. Social Security and Welfare Services	1107 (1.4)	2788 (2.6)	8398 (6.6)
6. Housing and other community Amenities	1512 (2.0)	3414 (3.1)	3738 (2.9)
7. Cultural, Recreational and other Religious Services.	138 (0.2)	105 (0.1)	214 (0.2)
8. Economic Services	20943 (27.1)	25451 (23.4)	30910 (24.1)
8.1 General Administration, Regulation and Research.	916 (1.2)	833 (0.8)	1529 (1.2)
8.2 Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	6295 (8.1)	7274 (6.7)	8016 (6.2)
8.3 Mining, Manufacturing and construction	1404 (1.8)	1823 (1.7)	2829 (6.9)
8.4 Electricity, Gas, Steam and Water	7538 (9.8)	8392 (7.7)	3816 (3.0)
8.5 Transport and Communications	3451 (4.5)	4496 (4.1)	5117 (4.8)
8.6 Other Economic Services	1339 (1.7)	2633 (2.4)	2603 (2.0)
9. Other purposes	25701 (33.3)	44650 (41.0)	44286 (34.5)
9.1 Relief on calamities	289 (0.4)	947 (0.9)	346 (0.3)
9.2 Other Miscellaneous purposes	25412 (32.9)	43703 (40.1)	43940 (34.3)
10. TOTAL (1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9)	77149 (100.0)	108989 (100.0)	128042 (100.0)

APPENDIX—XXXV

Receipts of Mahkuma Parishads

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Sources of Receipts	1978-79 (actual)		1979-80 (revised)		1980-81 (budget)	
		3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2						
1	Opening balance	129.9		125.9		70.5	
2	Grants from Subdivisional Rural Development Fund.	74.0		76.8		106.3	
3.	Other Government grants including matching grants under Section 69(i)(a) and (b).	136.2		197.0		225.6	
4.	Proceeds of Taxes cesses and other assessments	23.4		23.4		41.8	
5.	Loans and advances including Loans raised by Mahkuma Parishad.	2.2		2.2		4.7	
6.	Sale proceeds	83.6		91.9		108.2	
7.	Other receipts	109.2		220.2		180.0	
8.	Fund received in respect of transferred schemes etc.	135.7		138.8		176.8	
TOTAL		694.2		876.2		913.9	

APPENDIX-XXXVI

Expenditure of Mahkuma Parishads

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Heads of Expenditure	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81
1	2	3	4	5
1	Salary and wage, Pension/gratiuty	167.4	195.5	210.8
2.	Travel expenses	10.5	17.5	20.6
3.	Office expenses including publication etc.	12.8	11.1	10.2
4,	Rent, rates and taxes	3.0	4.1	7.9
5.	Major and minor works	101.6	192.2	269.9
6.	Machinary, equipment tools and Plants, Motor vehicles and maintenace.	7.4	13.1	23.3
7.	Interest/dividend	..	0.1	0.2
8	Other charges including write off and losses	111.4	207.7	143.7
9.	Expenditure in respect of transferred scheme etc.	154.2	164.4	191.9
10.	Closing balance	125.9	70.5	35.4
TOTAL		694.2	876.2	913.9

AG. Pcess, (Gua.) 1039/85 (E&S)-1,200-4-1-86.

Sub. National Systems Unit,
National Institute of Educational
Planning and Aministratien
17-B, SriAurbindo Marg, New Delhi-110016
DOC. No... 2489
Date... 17/3/86

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