ANNEXURE - IV

The activities of the Department of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development which is responsible for implementing the Assam Panchayat Act 1994

The programmes implemented in 2006-07 are given below:-

(A) SGSY
(B) SGRY
(C) IAY
(D) NREGA
(E) NSAP
(F) IWDP/HARIYALI
(G) Schemes under 11th and 12th Finance Commission Award.
(H) Backward Region Grant Fund, a newly launched scheme has been introduced in the last part of the year 2006-07 to be implemented from 2007-08.

I. Brief description and objectives of the schemes:

(A) SGSY: Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana is the mother programme of all poverty alleviation programmes. Its objectives are upliftment of economic status of rural people through providing sustainable income generating activities to the people living below poverty line with bank loan and Govt. subsidy. Up to the year 2006-07, 131948 nos. of SHGs have been formed out of which bank loan was provided to 24250 nos. of SHGs. The Other SHGs were under process of development in different stages. During the year 2006-07 itself, 5837 nos. of SHGs and 1399 nos. of individual beneficiaries were assisted under the programme. Out of the total 5837 no. of SHGs a total of 66188 no. of families were assisted of which 8574 SC, 16040 ST and 16629 Minority families were assisted.

(B) SGRY: Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana is regarded as the biggest rural development programme for providing wage employment to the rural poor creating durable community assets. Food grains are also provided by the Govt.
of India as a component of wage. This programme was implemented in 16 districts during 2006-07 and in 7 districts the programme was merged with NREGA. Under this programme 632.34 lakh mandays were created during the year 2006-07.

(C) IAY : Indira Awaas Yojana is the old group housing programme modified as IAY and implemented for providing dwelling houses to the houseless and shelterless people living below poverty line in the rural area. During the year 2006-07, 125441 nos. of dwelling houses were constructed in the State. The Govt. of India has taken a new initiative for providing dwelling house under IAY under the banner of BHARAT NIRMAL PROGRAMME. For this purpose, a permanent waitlist has been prepared for the State covering all the Blocks/GPs/Village Councils of the State. The provision for 60% of target has already been provided for SC/ST in the guideline and a new initiative has been taken for fixing target for the religious Minorities under IAY from the year 2006-07.

NREGA : National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has been implemented from 02-02-2006 in seven districts viz., Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Goalpara, Karbi-Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur and N.C. Hills of the State with the objective of providing guarantee to the rural unskilled labourers for 100 days work on demand in a financial year. During the year 2006-07, 553.74 lakh mandays were created. Total No. of Job Card issued to 9.17 lakh households during the year of which employment provided to 7.92 lakh households. This programme has been expanded to another 6 districts from the year 2007-08 where SGRY has been merged with NREGA.

(D) NSAP : National Social Assistance Programme has three components as follows:

(i) NOAPS, (ii) NFBS and (iii) Annapurna.

(i) NOAPS : The objective of this programme is to provide economic assistance to the rural people living below poverty line who have attained the age of 65 and above. During the year 2006-07, an amount of Rs.81.35 crore was released for old age pension in the Plain District and Rs.6.16 crore was released to Hill District against the target of 628949 no. of pensioners from Addl. Central Assistance and Rs.9.41 crore was released as State share for minimum mandatory provision @ Rs.50/- per beneficiary per month. The old rate of pension of Rs.75/- per pensioner has been revised to Rs.250/- p.m. per pensioner including State mandatory provision.
(ii) **NFBS**: National Family Benefit Scheme is implemented with the objective of providing one time economic assistance at the death of the head earner of a family living below poverty line @ Rs.10,000/- to each family. During the year 2006-07, Rs.8.11 crore was released under the scheme. This includes Hill Districts also.

(iii) **ANNAPURNA**: The objective of this programme is to provide at least 10 kg. rice to a family per month whose head of the family has attained 65 years of age and not covered under NOAPS and live below poverty line. During the year 2006-07, an amount of Rs.1.02 crore including Hill Districts was released against the target of 26640 nos. of families.

(E) **IWDP/HARIYALI**: The objective of this programme is to develop the top soil of the degraded and wasteland for making feasible for agricultural production. Till the year 2005-06, 112 nos. of projects were in implemented through out the State. During the year 2006-07, another 36 no. of projects have been sanctioned under this programme.

(F) **Schemes under 11th/12th Finance Commission Award**: The fund under 11th and 12th Finance Commission Award was utilized for Primary Health Care, Primary Education, Safe Drinking Water, Street light, Rural Sanitation and drainage, maintenance of burial ground and creation of Community assets in rural areas. Data base infrastructure has been created for A/C of the PRIs. During the year 2006-07, an amount of Rs.5004.275 lakh was released under 12th Finance Commission Award.

(G) **Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF)**: The scheme has been introduced as a Pilot Project under 100% Govt. of India's grant in 11 districts of the State viz., Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Cachar, Dhemaji, Goalpara, Hailakandi, Kokrajhar, Karbi-Anglong, Lakhimpur, Morigaon and N.C. Hills. It was launched on 19th February '2007 by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India. The fund will be utilized both in urban and rural area. The State High Power Committee reviews the programme and approves the District Plan. Upto the end of March '2007 no fund was released under the programme. Action Plans for Hailakandi, Cachar, Morigaon and Barpeta have been approved by the High Power Committee and submitted to the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Govt. of India for their necessary action.
II. Implementation mechanism:

All the above schemes are implemented through Panchayati Raj Institutions in all Plain Districts of the State except BTAD and two Sixth Scheduled Districts of the State. In Sixth Scheduled Areas including BTAD, PRIs are not in existence and so the schemes are implemented directly by the DRDA and Block officials. In all the districts, there are 23 DRDAs, 20 Zilla Parishads, 190 Anchalik Panchayats, 219 Blocks and 2203 nos. of Gaon Panchayat in operation in the year 2006-07.

Source Annual Administrative Report, 2006-2007, Department of Panchayati Raj And Rural Development Assam.