

III SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR AREA DEVELOPMENT

The special area programmes are proposed for the integrated development of Western Ghats, coastal area and backward districts of the State. Integrated Watershed Projects will be implemented as part of WGDP and integrated coastal area project will be implemented for the development of the coastal region in collaboration with local governments. In continuation of Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana, projects will be implemented for the development of backward districts under the Backward Region Grant Fund.

Schemes for the Annual Plan 2008-09

1. Accelerated Development of Western Ghats

(Outlay Rs.2000.00 lakh)

The WGDP has got two key components viz., improved natural resources management and improved access to tribal hamlets through footbridges. The management of natural resources will be carried out in a participatory mode with the involvement of Village Panchayats and NGOs with appropriate support from R&D institutions of the state. The main focus of WGDP in the State has been integrated development of watersheds keeping in view the over-riding priorities of eco-restoration and ecopreservation. In addition to the projects on natural resource management the schemes for livelihood support system and productive system management are also included. An amount of Rs.2000.00 lakhs is provided for the Annual Plan 2008-09

2. Special Area Development

(Outlay Rs.1000 .00 lakh)

The objective of the scheme is to develop the coastal region of the State in an integrated manner. In order to prepare an action plan for coastal area it is necessary to converge resources and services of departments like Fisheries, Harbour Engineering, Ports, Health, Education, and agencies like Matsyafed, Kudumbashree as well as local governments.

The outlay of Rs. 1000 lakh is provided for implementing the comprehensive Integrated Coastal area Development Project including Coastal Pura Projects. The projects will be implemented with the support of local governments, Government of India, NCDC, Financial institutions and state government. The amount will be released on project mode based on approval from the Government. The support for infrastructure alone excluding roads will be included in the project. The outlay of Rs. 500 lakh is proposed for meeting the state share of the project. The development of roads and other infrastructure included in the priority list of NABARD will be taken up under RIDF for which a separate provision of Rs. 500 lakhs is set apart.

3. Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF)

(OutlayRs.3427 .00 lakh)

The Backward Region Grant Fund is a new initiative of the Government of India, launched in 2005-06 by merging the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana which was initiated in 2002-03 by the Planning Commission. The project reports prepared for Palakkad and Wayanad districts were approved under the project. The scheme is monitored by the state level steering committee chaired by the Vice Chairman, State Planning Board and at the district level District Collectors are coordinating the project. The project approved for Palakkad has been completed under RSVY and project under BRGF has been initiated in 2007-08. The outlay will be utilized for meeting the spill over cost of RSVY project in Wayanad and to initiate implementation of new projects approved under BRGF in Palakkad and Wayanad districts. The implementation of spill over part of RSVY in Wayanad will be coordinated by State Planning Board and BRGF will be coordinated by Local Self Government Department.