

## **Brief Highlight on Proposed Annual Plan 2010-2011 under Agriculture Department Government of Mizoram**

1. Agriculture occupied a very important place in the economy of Mizoram. As per Economic Classification of workers 2001 census. About 60% per cent of the total workers are engaged in Agricultural activities mostly by practising jhum (Shifting cultivation)
2. The WRC potential areas of the state have been studied using Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System (GIS) techniques with the help of both Survey of India topographic sheets and imaginaries of Indian Remote Sensing Satellite by the Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC), 2008. The land having is slope percent of 0% to 25% slope are classed as WRC Potential Area which is 74,644 ha. and that accounted 3.54 per cent of the total geographical area of the state.

Out of these WRC Potential Areas, only 11,198 ha. are under cultivation and the remaining areas of 63,446 ha. needs for further development and improvement.

3. Regional backwardness is the main issue of concern. Lack of adequate rural infrastructures and sectoral investment is the main bottle neck of the sustainable and accelerates growth of Agricultural sector in Mizoram.
4. Major items proposed in the Annual Plan 2010-2011
  - 4.1. Under food grain development scheme, assistance for land improvement, adoption of improved technologies in WRC such as System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and improvement of traditional jhumming are also proposed with special focus on increased production of rice.
  - 4.2. A provision on subsidy for fertilizer is proposed to increase the production and productivity with special focus on increased productivity of rice.
  - 4.3. To popularize the use of improved farm implements, machineries suitable for small holding and hilly terrain and increase the efficiency of farm operations, subsidy on farm power and machineries are proposed.
  - 4.4. Oil Palm development programme will be continued with an aim to reduce the areas under jhum cultivation. The target area of the development will be of 2500 Ha.
  - 4.5. Crop Insurance Scheme will also be continued to provide insurance coverage to the farmers in the event of failure of crops due to natural calamities, pest and diseases etc.
  - 4.6. Under Rashtrya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) thrust will be given on reducing yield gaps in important crop through focused attention and maximizing returns to farmers.
  - 4.7. Watershed Development Programme in shifting cultivation will be continued in 61(sixty one) projects with aim on natural resource management, economic enhancement leading to poverty alleviation with target area of 6500 Ha.

5. The Proposed Annual Plan 2010-2011.
- 5.1. The proposed amount is Rs. 15,164.50 lakhs. In which the non-work component such as Direction and Administration which account for Rs. 927.00 lakhs, approximately 6.1 per cent of the total proposed amount. The Salary and Wages component is Rs.276.00 lakhs approximately 1.8 per cent of the total proposed amount.
  - 5.2. The remaining balance amount of Rs. 14,237.50 lakhs is meant for various developmental activities, agricultural inputs etc. which account for 93.9 per cent of the total proposed amount.
  - 5.3. Under Food Grain Development, Rs. 6457 lakhs is proposed and Rs. 4770 lakhs is allocated for land development activities such as, reshaping, leveling, bunding and drainage to facilitate the adoption of SRI method, improved package of practices for maize, improvement of traditional jhum such as vegetative barrier, contour trenches/terraces and application of fertilizers. Creation of irrigation potential by constructing water harvesting structures (ponds), boring wells for winter crops to generate additional income to the farmer. Rs. 1500.00 lakhs is proposed for construction of Potential Area Connectivity.
  - 5.4. Under Manures and Fertilizers Rs. 547.50 lakhs is proposed and Rs. 500.00 lakh is allocated for distribution of fertilizer (viz. Urea, DAP, MOP etc.) at subsidy to the farmers with a focused on increased production and productivity of rice from 1.5 tonnes/ha. to 3.00 tonnes/ha.
  - 5.5. Rs. 470.00 lakhs under Commercial Crop Development is proposed and Rs. 375.00 lakhs is allocated for oil palm development as State Matching Share and supply of drip irrigation. The remaining Rs. 95.00 lakhs is proposed for multiplication of planting materials and adoptions of improved method of sugarcane cultivation such as pit method.
  - 5.6. Rs. 52.00 lakhs each are proposed for oilseeds and pulses development schemes for organization of seed villages, assistance for production and distribution of certified seeds, production enhancement such as Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) are proposed.
  - 5.7. Under Crop Insurance Schemes, Paddy, Maize, Oilseeds, Horticultural Crops etc. will be covered and Rs. 105.00 lakhs is allocated for premium subsidy and indemnity charges.
  - 5.8. Rs. 695.00 lakhs under Agriculture Machineries and Implement is proposed and Rs. 390.00 lakhs is allocated for subsidy of Power Tiller, Implement etc. with attempt to raise the Farm Power availability from 0.5 Kw/ha to 1.00 Kw/ha. The remaining Rs. 305.00 lakhs is allocated for HDPE Pipes for carrying water from the sources to the field etc.
  - 5.9. Rs. 750.00 lakhs is allocated for implementation of WDPSCA in 61 projects as per the New Operational Guideline with target area of 6500 ha.
  - 5.10. Under RKVY (if eligible), state specific needs such as land development for area expansion of WRC, reducing yield gaps in important crops and maximizing returns to farmers will be prioritized.