**Mewat Regional Development Project**

12.1 The Meo community is concentrated in the 8 blocks of Alwar District and 3 blocks of Bharatpur District. The Meo inhabited area is known as the Mewat area. This area is socially and economically backward. In order to develop this area, Government of Rajasthan initiated a program known as Mewat Area Development Programme in February 1987-88.

12.2 The Mei community is concentrated. Mewat Area Development Program is being implemented in 8 blocks (Laxmangarh, Ramgarh, Tijara, Mandawar, Kishangarhbas, Kathumar, Umren and Kotkasim) of Alwar District and 3 blocks (Nagar, Kama, Deeg) of Bharatpur District. At District level, the implementing agency is Zila Parishad. Works are executed by Panchayat Raj Institutions and line Departments. At the state level, Secretary, Rural Dev. Department is in-charge for administration, supervision & monitoring of the programme. The main thrust of the programme is to fill the critical gaps in the area.

12.3 At the district level, a committee consisting of public representatives and local officers prepare the plan and submit it to the Executive Committee headed by Chief Secretary at the state level.

12.4 A provision of Rs. 1850.00 lacs has been kept for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period for this scheme and for the financial year 2007-08, Rs. 325.00 lacs has been proposed. During the Tenth Five Year Plan period expenditure of Rs. 1362.00 lacs is likely to be incurred.

**Border Area Development Programme**

12.5 With an objective of balanced development of the Border Districts the Government of India initiated a programme known as Modified Border Area Development Programme during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1993-94 to 1996-97). For execution of the programme at National level, an empowered committed of BADP had been constituted under the chairmanship of Member- Secretary of Planning Commission, New Delhi, and at the State level Screening Committees were constituted under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, in each State.

12.6 The Western part of Rajasthan lies on the western international border and covers four districts namely Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and part of Ganganagar district consisting 112 sq. km. accounting for 53% of the total area of the desert.

12.7 In the State of Rajasthan the programme was launched in the year 1993-94 as a 100 percent Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 13 blocks of 4
of the above mentioned border districts. Following blocks have been covered under Border Area Development Programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Block/Panchayat Samiti</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barmer</td>
<td>- Sheo, Barmer, Chohtan and Dhorimanna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaisalmer</td>
<td>- Jaisalmer and Sam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bikaner</td>
<td>- Bikaner and Kolayat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Ganganagar</td>
<td>- Karanpur, Ganganagar, Padampur, Raisingh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nagar and Anoop Garh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12.8 For implementation of the scheme the Government of India has issued detailed guidelines. The State Level Screening Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary of Rajasthan approves the works to be undertaken under the scheme. The Rural Development Department is the nodal agency for execution of the programme. The proposals under the programme are initially prepared by the District Collectors in consultation with all the concerned departments. The proposals are scrutinized by Rural Development Department and placed before the State Level Screening Committee for approval. After approval of the Screening Committee the project profile is prepared and sent to the respective DRDAs for implementation of the approved works.

12.9 Under BADP majority of the funds are invested for security activities through departments like Police, CID, CIO, BSF, Special Bureau of Homeguard etc. Border districts have a poor social and economic infrastructure, therefore, developmental activities are also provided due importance in preparing proposals for approval of the Screening Committee. These activities are mainly related to PWD, RSEB, PHED, Medical & Health, Sheep & Wool, Education, Revenue, Animal Husbandry and Human resource development. It will be appropriate to mention here that as far as police activities are concerned the whole district is treated as one unit under BADP but for the developmental activities and infrastructure works, only the selected blocks are treated as a unit.

12.10 The programme is continuously gaining momentum and has strengthened not only security activities but also the development of infrastructure activities, in all the border districts.

12.11 A provision of Rs. 18342.50 lakhs was made in the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07). Against this provision an expenditure of 17478.29 lakhs is likely to be incurred. A provision of Rs. 15160.00 lakhs has been proposed for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) and Rs. 3032.00 lacs has been kept for the year 2007-08.
**Special Employment Programme for Sahariya Families**

12.12 To enhance the livelihood security of the households of Sahariya families residing in Panchayat Samiti Kishanganj and Shahabad of Baran district by providing at least 100 days of wage employment to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work, "A Special Employment Programme for Sahariya Families" was initiated in the year 2004-05. Under the scheme about 500 labour intensive works such as anicut, watershed, forest enclosure, desilting of ponds, construction of school building, angan-wadi centre, sub centre etc. were sanctioned and being implemented by dovetailing with relief works.

12.13 For the Eleventh Five Year Plan 2007-12, Rs. 250.04 lacs has been proposed out of which Rs 250.00 lacs has been proposed for the year 2007-08. During Tenth Five Year Plan period an expenditure of Rs. 1180.00 lacs is likely to be incurred.

**Magra Area Development Programme**

12.14 The central hilly zone of the Aravali has traditionally been known as MAGRA. This area lay at the confluence of three administrative units in the past - the princely states of Mewar, Marwar and the British administered territory of Ajmer-Marawara. It’s remote location and difficult terrain ensured that area suffered not only from administrative neglect but also faced socio-economic isolation.

12.15 Backward areas like Tribal areas, Desert areas, Mewat areas and Dang areas have received special attention and special development plans, but Magra Area has not received any focused attention. Keeping in view a new scheme Magra Area Development Programme was initiated during 2005-06.

12.16 During Tenth Five Year Plan period, an amount of Rs. 900.01 lacs is likely to be incurred.

12.17 For the Eleventh Five Year Plan period Rs. 3300.00 lacs has been proposed out of which Rs 400.00 lacs has been proposed for the year 2007-08.

**Innovative Scheme for Decentralized Development**

12.18 Schemes for which, there was no existing programme support and can not be included in any Central or State scheme, with the main thrust on innovations, experimentation and adoption of effective unconventional solution to peoples problem, are included under the programme. Proposals are invited from Head of the Departments and Collectors who are responsible for implementation and monitoring of the scheme, as in the case of other plan schemes/programmes. For Eleventh Plan period, a token provision of Rs. 0.05 Lakh has been proposed for this purpose. The State Govt. will give priority to innovative development schemes.