

CHAPTER 12

SPECIAL AREA PROGRAMMES

Mewat Regional Development Project

12.1 The Meos are a small but special community in the Districts of Alwar and Bharatpur. The Meos are still traditionally backward. this community is concentrated in the 8 blocks of Alwar District and 3 blocks of Bharatpur District. The Meos inhabited above said area is known as Mewat area. This area is very socially and economically backward. In order to develop this area, Government of Rajasthan sponsored a program known as Mewat Area Development Programme in 1987-88.

12.2 Mewat Area Development Program is being implemented in 8 blocks (Laxmangarh, Ramgarh, Tijara, Mandawar, Kishangarh, Bas Kathumar, Umren and Kotkasim) of Alwar District and 3 blocks (Nagar, Kama, Deeg) of Bharatpur District. At District level implementing agency is Zila Parishad Alwar/Bharatpur District. Works are executed by Panchayat Raj Institution and line Departments. At the state level, the Secretary, Rural Dev. Department is incharge for administrative, Supervision & Monitoring of the program.

12.3 For the Xth Five Year Plan, a provision of Rs. 1375.00 lacs has been kept for this scheme, and for the financial year 2002-03 Rs. 250.00 lacs has been proposed for taking up committed liabilities & new works.

12.4 The works taken up under the program are mainly construction of approach roads, CD works in approach ways of villages, construction of kharanja/nali in abadi of the villages, construction of additional rooms in school building, building for health center, building for veterinary hospitals, drinking water facilities etc.

12.5 In order to expedite the social & economical development of Mewat area, the Rajasthan Government constituted a Mewat Area Development Board under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble CM in 1987 & then in 1995, the Board was reconstituted under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development Department. For effective monitoring of the program, an executive committee has also been constituted under Chairmanship of Chief Secretary of Rajasthan.

12.6 The district level Mewat representatives committee consisted of local public representatives of Mewat area & local officers prepare the Plan & submit to State level Executive Committee headed by Chief Secretary. The Executive Committee approves the plan in anticipation of approval of Mewat Area Development Board. This committee Mewat Area Development Board reviews the progress of program & prepare the policy to execute the program.

Innovative Scheme

12.7 The programme of innovative scheme was started in 94-95 with the objective to strengthen the Revenue Administration, Panchayat Raj Institutions, Local bodies etc. Subsequently, such scheme for which, there was no existing programme support and were not included in any Central or State scheme, with the main thrust on innovations, experimentation and adoption of effective

unconventional solution to peoples problem, were also 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. During Tenth Plan a provision of Rs. 0.01 Lakh has been kept for this purpose.

Border Area Development Programme

12.8 With a view to ensure a 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). It has continued during Ninth Plan and shall continue during Xth plan. For execution of the programme at National level, an empowered committee 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.

12.9 The programme covers 9 States of the Country namely Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura.

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

12.11 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 :

Districts	Block/Panchayat Samiti
Barmer	a. Sheo
	b. Barmer
	c. Chohtan
	d. Dhorimanna
Jaisalmer	a. Jaisalmer
	b. Sam
Bikaner	a. Bikaner
	b. Kolayat
Sri Ganganagar	a. Karanpur
	b. Ganganagar
	c. Padampur
	d. Raisingh Nagar
	e. Anoop Garh

12.12 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 IRD 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 and sent to RD Department. The proposals are scrutinised 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.

12.13 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 not be out of place 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.

12.14 The yearwise releases of Government of India under the programme from 1993-94 and onwards is as under:- :

Year	Release by GOI
1993-94	1905.74
1994-95	2044.00
1995-96	2563.00
1996-97	2563.00
1997-98	2563.00
1998-99	2652.00
1999-2000	2917.00
2000-2001	3032.00
2001-2002	3032.00
2001-2003	3335.00 (Proposed)

12.15 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.

12.16 Although BADP programme is a 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented in the State; from 1996-97 it has been considered as a part of the State Plan. During Tenth Plan a provision of Rs. 18342.50 lakhs has been made for this programme.