

Progress of Bundelkhand Package up to 01.6.2010.

A: Progress

- i. The package was approved on 19th November 2009 and during four months of the financial year 2009-10 the focus was mainly on sensitization of the states, development of sector-wise proposals, technical scrutiny and approval for release of funds
- ii. 59 proposals amounting to Rs. 1223 crore submitted by M.P and 16 proposals amounting to Rs.1224.7 crore submitted by U.P. were approved for release of funds from ACA.
- iii. Against the allocation of Rs.760.00 crore under ACA during FY 2009-10, an amount of Rs 693.802 crore (**91.28%**) has been released to the states (Rs.361.52 crore to M.P. and Rs.332.282 crore to U.P.) up to 31.3.2010.
- iv. The Department of Land Resources, GOI has approved proposals of Rs.480.00 crore for M.P. and Rs.840.00 crore for U.P. under IWMP programme. Funds have already been released as per norms of the scheme.
- v. After March 2010 onwards the proposals submitted by the states are in different stages of processing. Proposals amounting to 173.26 crore in Animal husbandry sector has been concurred by the Nodal Ministry and are being processed for release of funds. 39 proposals submitted by U.P. have been sent to the Nodal Ministry for concurrence. Two proposals amounting to Rs. 450.00 crore are being examined by NRAA.
- vi. Overall review meeting under the chairmanship of Member Secretary, Planning Commission was held at Sagar, M.P. on 26.4.2010 and Jhansi, U.P. on 14.5.2010. District level review meetings were held by NRAA Officials from 27th to 30th April in Madhya Pradesh and 19th to 22nd May in Uttar Pradesh
- vii. Both U.P. and M.P. states have already allocated budget district-wise and mobilised the funds released from the Centre to respective line departments
- viii. The required institutional mechanism for implementation has been put in place by both the states. Commissioner, Sagar Division has been declared as the Nodal Officer of all six districts for the purpose of implementing the package by M.P. Similarly, Commissioners of Jhansi and Chitrakoot Divisions have been declared as Nodal Officers by U.P.
- ix. The states have assured that sector-wise time lines would be drawn out and works related to irrigation, restoration of canals, farm ponds etc. initiated before onset of monsoon for realising the benefits in kharif season of 2010 itself
- x. With regard to consolidation of manpower, the states informed that action has already been taken by few of the departments in relocating of units / personnel to Bundelkhand

districts and action for filling up the vacant posts and relocating additional unit in the region would also be taken by other departments on priority

xi. Necessary monitoring mechanism for ensuring transparency in implementation of the package is being put in place at the state; district and department level and all relevant information would be put on the web

B: Issues common to both the states

1. In Agriculture sector the states have so far not received approval from the Central Nodal Ministry for any of the proposals submitted. Further, the states have expressed difficulty to spare funds from the total state allocation under NHM, NFSM and MMS schemes of GOI to Bundelkhand package as suggested by the Nodal Ministry

2. Both U.P. and M.P. have expressed the view that the beneficiary share in activities to be implemented through NHM, NFSM and MMS schemes may not be realisable in Bundelkhand region and have sought approval for following state norms and also requested for higher fund allocation for these activities.

3. The states have raised the issue that fund allocated at the district level under MGNREGA may not be sufficient to meet out the requirement of different line departments for undertaking approved activities which are to be essentially carried out from MGNREGA funds. A higher allocation at the district level may be needed

4. The states have been advised to have a critical appraisal of developing integrated marketing infrastructure and warehousing activity which is a big ticket activity in the package and to explore the possibility of developing partnership with private sector for this activity and explore the models of ITC, Haryali, Mahindra & Mahindra etc. for adoption in the region. Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh proposed to organise a workshop with private sector and other stake holders

5. Inadequacies in the drinking water supply in the region was mentioned by Commissioners and some of the DMs. However, CEO, NRAA has already solicited official views of the states for further necessary action, if any

C: Issues specific to Uttar Pradesh

a. The need of public deep bore wells for irrigation purpose has been put forth especially in the districts of Jalaun and Hamirpur. The state has been advised for submission of a consolidated proposal along with detailed survey and technical feasibility report by state/central government agency identifying the specific locations where deep tube wells are being proposed and also indicate the diversion of funds from other activities within the overall budgetary allocation. The state scheme of 'sprinkler sets' may be effectively dovetailed with deep tube wells

b. A budgetary allocation of Rs.200 crore has been approved for Rajghat canal system in U.P. with Rs.100.00 crore as ACA and Rs.100.00 from GOI scheme. The state has indicated

that the total project cost of Lower Rajghat Canal system is Rs.146.00 crore and has proposed to utilize the balance amount of Rs.54.00 crore for developing Betwa-Gursarai canal system covering Jhansi, Jalaun and Hamirpur. No additional funds have been sought for this activity

c. At the district level it was informed that providing lining / parapet wall for open blast / dug wells with the prevailing norms of MGNREGA is difficult and beneficiaries are not in a position to invest their own money for this purpose. As such, a request was made for allowing diversion of funds from the component of 'Farm Ponds' the acceptability of which by the farmers is considerably low in the region. The need for providing freedom and flexibility at the district level needs to be looked into

d. In the Minor Irrigation sector request has been made for considering approval for construction of check dams; energization of tube wells and construction of tube wells in the package.

e. The Department of Land Development and Water Resources has been entrusted with the activities of Watershed development and Command Area development with a total budgetary allocation of Rs.1040.00 crore. Even though the department has mobilized 7 units (each unit of 18 persons) to Bundelkhand region, it is felt that comparative manpower for handling the watershed activity in fast track mode is not available. It is therefore suggested that Agriculture Department who have the requisite capacity and manpower may be given the responsibility of PIA for watershed programme in the region.

f. In the Forest sector the state has proposed treatment of ridge portion of hillocks in a holistic manner with moisture conservation and planting activities for harnessing the advantages of such measures. The state is considering internal diversion of funds from other activities. The state has been suggested to put up any proposal for diversion to the Coordination Committee for approval

g. During the district level meeting at Banda the need for inclusion of repair of lift irrigation scheme in Kalinjar area has been emphasised. The state may examine this issue and take appropriate action for inclusion.

D: Issues specific to Madhya Pradesh

i. The state had requested for inclusion of all the districts under NHM for harnessing the full benefits of the scheme. During the meeting held at Sagar on 26.4.2010 it was informed that DAC has approved inclusion of four districts under NHM in addition to the two districts already approved. Subsequent communication by DAC to the state is in contradiction to this

ii. The state has made a request for allowing utilization of the ACA funds for activities viz. a) providing water lifting devices for beneficiaries of Kapildhara scheme b) construction of stop dams and c) integrated village development scheme (IVDS) in place of approved activities of farm ponds and construction of new dug wells. The first two activities of water lifting devices and construction of stop dams amounts to gap filling by convergence under ACA and could be considered for approval by the Coordination Committee. The concept of IVDS was not very clear and state may like to initiate separate scheme and not as a part of the

package. Further, the package has already emphasised the need for convergence of various ongoing developmental schemes for holistic development on area based approach