

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Work Departments, Assam Legislative Assembly, having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on its behalf, do hereby present the TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT of the Committee on Demands for Grants (Grant No.63 & 44) relating to the Water Resources Department for the year 2022-2023.

1. In pursuance of Rule 260H(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, Hon'ble Speaker has been pleased to constitute the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Work Departments on 3rd July, 2021 for a period of one year and the Notification was published on 6th July, 2021 which is appended at **Annexure-I.**

2. The Committee scrutinized the various documents and relevant papers including the status paper received from the Water Resources Department and also took the personal evidence of the Departmental representatives of the Department on the said Demands for Grants in its meeting held on 23rd March, 2022.

3. The Committee considered the draft Report and adopted it on 25th March, 2022.

4. The Committee places on record its appreciation to the representatives of the Water Resources Department for extending their co-operation to the Committee and the Officials of Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat attached to the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Work Departments for their full co-operation and unstinted assistance.

5. The Committee also places on record its thanks to the representatives of Finance Department and also the Transformation & Development Department for assisting the Committee in its deliberation.

(BHUBON PEGU)
CHAIRMAN,
DRSC(W) DEPTTS.,
ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.



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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

1. Shri Bhubon Pegu, MLA

MEMBERS

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Shri Prasanta Phukan, MLA | |
| 2. | Shri Atul Bora, MLA | Member |
| 3. | Shri Ranjit Dutta, MLA | Member |
| 4. | Shri Binod Hazarika, MLA | Member |
| 5. | Shri Chakradhar Gogoi, MLA | Member |
| 6. | Shri Suren Phukan, MLA | Member |
| 7. | Shri Bhaskar Sharma, MLA | Member |
| 8. | Smti Suman Haripriya, MLA | Member |
| 9. | Smti Nandita Gorlosa, MLA | Member |
| 10. | Shri Ajoy Kumar Ray, MLA | Member |
| 11. | Shri Abdur Rashid Mandal, MLA | Member |
| 12. | Shri Aftab Uddin Mollah, MLA | Member |
| 13. | Shri Jadab Swargiary, MLA | Member |
| 14. | Shri Bhaskar Jyoti Baruah, MLA | Member |
| 15. | Shri Asif Mohammad Nazar, MLA | Member |
| 16. | Shri Khalil Uddin Mazumder, MLA | Member |
| 17. | Shri Abdus Sobahan Ali Sarkar, MLA | Member |
| 18. | Shri Dipayan Chakraborty, MLA | Member |
| 19. | Shri Bhabendra Nath Bharali, MLA | Member |
| 20. | Shri Nizam Uddin Choudhury, MLA | Member |
| 21. | Shri Nazrul Haque, MLA | Member |
| 22. | Shri Samsul Huda, MLA | Member |
| 23. | Shri Karim Uddin Barbhuya, MLA | Member |
| 24. | Shri Bhupen Boro, MLA | Member |

SECRETARIAT:

1. Shri Hemen Das, Principal Secretary,
2. Shri Indrajit Mozumder, Joint Secretary,
3. Smti Pankaj Baishya, Under Secretary,
4. Shri Parag Kr. Medhi, Under Secretary,
5. Shri Ranjit Kumar Sarmah, Under Secretary,
6. Shri Samit Choudhury, Asstt. Research Officer,
7. Smti Nilakhi Dutta Goswami, Committee Officer,
8. Shri Mahendra Bania, Superintendent.



CHAPTER-I

Report

- 1.1 The Water Resources Department is one of the most important Departments of the Government of Assam. The problems of flood, erosion and drainage ecosystem are chronic problem of the state which has crippled the entire economic besides entraining enormous flood damage and causing measures to the people at large. Sometimes life line to the Northeast is disrupted because of devastating floods.
- 1.2 Flood control activities in Assam started after announcement of National Policy for Flood in 1954 by the Govt. of India, though there was short term and long term measures in National Flood Policy 1954, to get the immediate relief to the flood ravaged State, construction of embankment as short quickly with local resources and abundant man-power to protect large area with comparatively smaller outlays.
- 1.3 The Department performed works under the name Public Works Department (PWD) till 1970 when the Department along with Irrigation Department bifurcated from the parent Department i.e. P.W.D. vide Notification No. ABP/135/70/10 dated 18/09/1970. Again in the year 1974, the Irrigation Department was separated out from the Flood Control Department vide notification No. ABP.74/73/Pt/7 dated 22/01/1974. Lastly the Department was renamed as Water Resources Department in the year 2002 vide notification No. AR/21/2002/4 dated 01/11/2002.
- 1.4 The Govt. of Assam had constituted a Technical Advisory Committee in June, 1970 to advise the Department on the technical viability of various schemes proposed and formulated at different field levels. On recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), detail project report is prepared for the consideration of the Assam State Brahmaputra Valley Flood Control Board (ASBVFC Board) the scheme is sent to the Department Finance Committee/Standing Finance Committee/Special Standing Finance Committee for according Administrative Approval. On accordance of the Administrative approval, the scheme is ready for execution after observing other formalities like N.I.T. etc.

1.5 One of the main problems faced by the Department is maintenance of flood Management structures particularly during the flood time. The department has 4486.44 Km of embankment and 939 Nos. of minor sluices and erosion work along with 101 Nos. of major and 545 Nos. of minor sluices and 892.216 Km of drainage channel. Most of the embankment are construction during 1954 to 1970 as short term measures after the great Earthquake of 1950. The life span of most of these embankments is already over. Accordingly, proposal for fortification of embankments of Brahmaputra river at a cost of Rs. 4454.09 crore has been submitted to Central Water Commission (CWC) for Techno- Economic appraisal.

This Department has given special emphasis on the flood and erosion problem of Majuli, the largest populated River Island in the World and has already started construction of a large fully fledged Water Resource Complex at Majuli which has already been completed.

1.6 The Department has taken up a Signature Project to rejuvenate the now defunct and dead Kollong river and accordingly, the WAPCOS was instructed with preparation of the DPR which has now been received. The departments has already taken up works components under this DPR in phases and works are in progress.

1.7 Earlier the State Government has already decided to procure dredger for Corrective Dredging . Accordingly, work order has been awarded against global tender for purchase of one dredger with other ancillary machineries. The Dredger has been already supplied by the supplier and the Dredging work has been taken up in Jiabharali river and dredging work is in progress.

1.8 For holistic management of river basis, the State Government earlier obtain the concurrence of DEA for Assam Integrated River Bank Management Project (AIRBMP) to be fund by World Bank Subsequently, scope of the project is scaled up and accordingly, the project cost is revised from 250M USD to 625 USD.

The revised PPR has been approved by the DEA . In principle, subject to concurrence of the line departments. The concurrence of line departments has been completed. The preparation of bid documents for civil work and other ancillary work components are in progress. The bid document for 2 (two) packages for Buridehing river and 1 (one) package for Beki river has already been floated. The phase- I of the AIRBMP has a loan provision of 125M USD.

1.9 The river Brahmaputra and Barak are the lifelines of Assam. This Government is making all efforts to convert these river sources into resources. Accordingly, Hon'ble Cabinet in its meeting held on 09/10/2018 instructed the WR Department to take up a pilot project on dredging. Accordingly, Department has initiated step of taking up feasibility study for a pilot project.

1.10 To accommodate resources required for maintaining the already executed flood management structure and to take up further work provision for fund is made under "Grant No. 63 in the State Budget to defray the expenditure of Water Resources Department of both Revenue and Capital Head.

1.11 After presentation the Budget Estimate to the House on 28th March 2022 the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Work Department has scrutinized the demand for Grants for the financial year 2022-2023.

1.12 Budget Estimates under Grant No.63 Relating to Water Resources Department for the financial year 2022-2023 is as follows :

Rupees in Lakhs

	Revenue	Capital	Total	Remarks
				Revised Budget Estimates 2021-2022
Voted	39335.44	88925.57	128261.01	104761.42
Charged				

Out of the total Budget provision of Rs. 128261.01 lakhs, out of which Rs. 39335.44 lakhs and Rs. 88925.57 lakhs have been earmarked under Revenue and Capital head respectively. It seem from the Budget provision for the year 2022-2023 has been increased by an amount of Rs. 23,499.59 lakhs that of the revised budget estimates for the year 2022-23.

The Action Taken Report on the Recommendations made in the 23rd Report submitted by the Department is appended at Annexure-II.

CHAPTER – II OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee has discussed thoroughly, the Budget provision reflected in Grant No. 63 & 44 related to Water Resources Department for the financial year 2022-2023. During the course of discussion the Committee feels that in some Heads the Budget provision is not sufficient to fulfill the execution of the works. After threadbare discussion, the Committee recommended the following :

1. The Committee recommended to merge the Barak Valley Flood Control Project Project and Brahmaputra Flood Control Project with separate Salary Head.
2. The Committee recommended for budget allocation of Rs. 60 cr. And Rs. 40 cr. in connection with the Embankment of Brahmaputra Valley and Embankment of Barak Valley respectively in the financial year 2022-23.

However, there will be a requirement of revision of the Administrative Approvals in all the schemes as the budget head code mentioned in AA should match with the head under which fund is released. The Committee therefore directs Finance Department to keep the AA revision process easy and if possible, enable auto-revise process in the Fin. Assam portal. There need not be any requirement of concurrence of Finance Department or T&D Department, as the revisions will be due change of budget head code only.

3. During discussion, the Committee observed that in the Financial Year 2022-23, no budget provision is provided under the Head of Accounts No. 4711-01-800-4539-184-13-01 (SOPD-ODS) New Embankment at Brahmaputra Valley and 4711-01-800-4539-184-13-01 (SOPD-ODS) New Embankment at Barak Valley for Water Resource Department where liabilities were created in the Financial Year 2021-22.

Hence, the Committee recommends for a minimum budget provision in the aforesaid Head of Accounts, so that the department can move for SD proposal in due time for clearance of liabilities.

With these observations, the Committee recommends the total budget amount of Rs. 128261.01 lakhs as sought for under Grant No. 63 & 44 Water Resources Department for the Financial Year, 2022-23 be approved by the August House.

The Action Taken Report on the recommendation made in the report may be submitted to the Committee within 90 (ninety) days from the date of its presentation of the House.

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
NOTIFICATION

The 6th July, 2021

No.LA-DRSC(W).1/2021/11, In pursuance of Rule 260H (1) of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Speaker Assam Legislative Assembly has been pleased to nominate the following Members to constitute the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Work Departments, Assam Legislative Assembly.

1. Shri Bhubon Pegu, MLA	Chairman
2. Shri Prasanta Phukan, MLA	Member
3. Shri Atul Bora, MLA	Member
4. Shri Ranjit Dutta, MLA	Member
5. Shri Binod Hazarika, MLA	Member
6. Shri Chakradhar Gogoi, MLA	Member
7. Shri Suren Phukan, MLA	Member
8. Shri Bhaskar Sarma, MLA	Member
9. Smti.Suman Haripriya, MLA	Member
10.Smti.Nandita Gorlosa, MLA	Member
11.Shri Ajoy Kumar Ray, MLA	Member
12.Shri Abdur Rashid Mandal, MLA	Member
13.Shri Aftab Uddin Mollah, MLA	Member
14.Shri Jadab Swargiary, MLA	Member
15.Shri Bhaskar Jyoti Baruah, MLA	Member
16.Shri Asif Mohammad Nazar, MLA	Member
17.Shri Khalil Uddin Mazumder, MLA	Member
18.Shri Abdus Sobahan Ali Sarkar, MLA	Member
19.Shri Dipayan Chakraborty, MLA	Member
20.Shri Bhabendra Nath Bharali, MLA	Member
21.Shri Nizam Uddin Choudhury, MLA	Member.
22.Shri Nazrul Haque, MLA	Member
23.Shri Samsul Huda, MLA	Member
24.Shri Karim Uddin Barbhuya, MLA	Member
25.Shri Bhupen Boro, MLA	Member

And in pursuance of the Rule 260 I (3) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, in Assam Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Speaker has been pleased to appoint **Shri Bhubon Pegu, MLA and Member** of the Committee as the Chairman of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Work Departments, Assam Legislative Assembly.

The term of the Committee shall be for a period of one year with effect from the date of its constitution.

Sd/-S.K. Sarma,
Secretary,
Assam Legislative Assembly.

**UPDATED ACTION TAKEN ON OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF DRSC, 2021-22;
DEMAND FOR GRANT NO.63 (23RD REPORT)**

Para	Observations and Recommendation of DRSC	Action Taken Report
1	The Committee pays great concern on maintenance of embankment. Hence, the Committee recommends an additional budget of Rs. 3500.00 lakhs for proper maintaining of erosion.	There is a budget provision of Rs. 65.208 Crore against maintenance Head for the financial year 2021-22. Again, a proposal for Rs. 75.00 Crore has been made for the next financial year, 2022-23.
2	The Committee was appraised that there is no Budget provision made for the Motor Launch at Majuli and for inspection of different sites including Transportation of different materials under Head No. 981. After discussion on the matter, the Committee recommends to provide 50.00 lakhs.	Although, no budget was allotted to Motor Launch at Majuli during the year 2021-22, subsequently, Rs. 81.10 Lakh and Rs. 0.01 Lakh has been sanctioned as SD and CF Advance respectively, totaling Rs. 81.11 Lakh. Moreover, an amount of Rs. 60.97 Lakh has been proposed for the financial year 2022-23.
3	The Committee felt that the reconstruction and renovation of Chief Engineer's Office Building is essentially required. So, the Committee recommends additional Rs. 50.00 lakhs to provide on budget to meet the expense for this purpose.	No budget was approved for Renovation of Chief Engineer's Office Building for the year 2021-22. However, an amount of Rs. 0.01 Lakh has been sanctioned as CF Advance. Further, an amount of Rs. 1.11 Crore has been proposed for the financial year 2022-23 for the same for clearing outstanding liability.
4	The Committee discusses thoroughly in regard to Ananta Nallah and recommends to provide sanction an amount of Rs. 1 Lakh as additional budget at Head No. 534 of Grant No. 44 for rebuilding and development of Bank of River Brahmaputra (Ananta Nallah).	There was a budget provision of Rs. 14.58 Crore against the scheme at Ananta Nallah (estimated cost of Rs. 18.00 Crores) executed under funding of NEC for the financial year 2021-22 in Grant No. 44. The physical progress of the scheme is 63% and financial progress is Rs. 435.2 Lakhs (24%) as on 15.03.2022.
5	The Committee expresses resentment for giving wrong information in regard to the information of Recommendation No. 11.2 of the 22 nd Report "Erosion protection of Bhogamur Block Gaon by Burhidihing River and Thekera pukhuri at Madhupur by Brahmaputra River under the Moran LAC". Hence, the committee reiterates the recommendation for submitting the correct information.	Regarding the protection of Bhogamur Block gaon area from the erosion of river Buridehing one Memo of work with the nomenclature "Protection of Bhogamur Block gaon area from the erosion of river Buridehing" for an estimated amount of Rs. 796.62 Lakhs has already been prepared and will be placed in the next General TAC meeting. Also, for the protection of Thekeraguri of Modhupur area from the erosion of river Brahmaputra 2 (Two) Nos. of estimate namely "1. Immediate measures to restore flood damages at Chaulkhowa area by river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2020-21 (Ph-I) for Rs. 1186.49 Lakhs" and "2. Immediate measures to restore flood damages at Chaulkhowa area by river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2020-21 (Ph-II) for Rs. 2347.05 Lakhs" has been recommended by DDMA, Dibrugarh. However, the schemes have not been sanctioned for funding under any Head.

Para	Observations and Recommendation of DRSC	Action Taken Report
6	<p>The Committee recommends the Department to look into the matter for protection of eroded area at buraburi than at Jaleswar LAC and as well as whole area of embankment of Jaleswar LAC by Brahmaputra river.</p>	<p>For the protection of eroded area at Bura-buri than, 1 (one) no. of scheme namely "Immediate measures for restoration of Bura-buri than and its adjoining areas from the flood damage of river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2021-22 for Rs. 497.58 Lakhs" has been recommended by DDMA, Dhubri.</p> <p>Subsequently, 2 (Two) SDRF proposals namely (i) "Immediate measures for closing of breach gap of road cum bund at Fakirganj area including bank restoration measures on L/B of river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2021-22" amounting Rs. 500.00 Lakhs and (ii) "Immediate measures for restoration of Buraburi than and its adjoining areas from flooding of river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2021-22" amounting Rs. 350.00 Lakhs have been submitted to the C.E.O., ASDMA for necessary approval vide letter No. WR(C)110/2019/Pt-I/211 dtd. 15.03.2022 (copy enclosed).</p> <p>Further, the Executive Engineer, Goalpara WR Division has been asked to look into the matter and take appropriate measures for protection of embankment system of Jaleswar LAC vide letter no. WR (ED) Tech/7309/2019/Pt-II/50 dtd. 11.08.2021 (copy enclosed).</p>



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Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT::CONSTRUCTION BRANCH
DISPUR::GUWAHATI-06

No.WR(C)110/2019/Pt-I/211

Dated Dispur, the 15th March, 2022

From : Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Water Resources Department,
Dispur, Guwahati-06.

To : The Chief Executive Officer,
ASDMA, Dispur, Guwahati-06.

Sub : Submission of 2 (two) no. SDRF estimates for 2021-22 pertaining to Dhubri Water Resources
Division.

Ref : WR(C)110/2019/pt-I/202 dtd 15th February, 2022.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to inform you that a scheme, "Immediate measures for closing of breach gap of road cum bund at Fakirganj area including bank restoration measures on L/B of river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2021-22," amounting to Rs.850.00 Lakh was forwarded vide letter under reference.

Now in place of the above mentioned scheme, two schemes are requested to consider for further approval.

1. Immediate measures for closing of breach gap of road cum bund at Fakirganj area including bank restoration measures on L/B of river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2021-22," amounting to Rs.500.00 Lakh.
2. Immediate measures for restoration of Bura buri than and its adjoining areas from the flooding of river Brahmaputra under SDRF for 2021-22 amounting Rs.350.00 Lakh.

Due to bank migration problem and to protect the locality from further devastation, the scheme at Sl. no 2 was taken which was approved in DDMA meeting held on 15/09/2021 in Dhuburi.

Encl: Two no. of SDRF estimate.

Yours faithfully,

Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Water Resources Department,
Dispur, Guwahati-06.

Dated Dispur, the 15th March, 2022

Memo No.WR(C)110/2019/Pt-I/211 -A

Copy to: -

1. Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Revenue & Disaster Management (General) Department, Dispur, Guwahati-06 for information and necessary action.
2. Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Basistha, Guwahati-29 for information.

By order etc.,

Deputy Secretary (II) to the Govt. of Assam,
Water Resources Department,
Dispur, Guwahati-06.

ok

GOVT. OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER::WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-3

NO: WR(ED)Tech/7309/2019/Pl-II/50

Date: 11.08.2021

To,

The Executive Engineer
Goalpara W.R. Division

Sub: FORWARDING OF REPORT OF THE DRSC ON WORK DEPARTMENTS, ASSAM
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.


Ref: Letter No. LADRSC(W).2/2021/54 Dated 05.08.2021.

In inviting a reference to the above, please find enclosed herewith a copy of the Twenty-Third Report of the DRSC on Work Departments, Assam Legislative Assembly under Grant No. 63 relating to the Water Resources Department which has been presented to the House on 4th August, 2021.

In this regard, you are requested to look into the matter and furnish a detailed status report on Recommendation.No. 6 in the report within 18.08.2021 to this end for onward submission to the Committee.

The matter may be treated as MOST URGENT.

Encls: As above.



Director Design
Water Resources Department
Chandmari, Guwahati-3

MEMO NO: WR(ED)Tech/7309/2019/Pl-II/50-A

Date: 11.08.2021

Copy to:

1. The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Water Resources Department, Dispur, Guwahati-06 for favour of kind information.
2. The Additional Chief Engineer, Lower Assam W.R. Zone, Chandmari for favour of kind information.
3. The Superintending Engineer, Northern Assam W.R. Circle, Chandmari for information & necessary action.


Director Design
Water Resources Department
Chandmari, Guwahati-3