



**DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEE
ON DEVELOPMENT (A) DEPARTMENTS**

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

(FIFTEENTH ASSEMBLY)

DEMAND FOR GRANT NO.63 FOR THE YEAR 2025-26

DEPARTMENT: WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

TWENTY SEVENTH REPORT

Presented to the House on 21st March, 2025

**ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
DISPUR : : GUWAHATI- 781006**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
DEVELOPMENT (A) DEPARTMENTS,
2025-26**

CHAIRPERSON

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Shri Gobinda Chandra Basumatari, | MLA |
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MEMBERS

- | | |
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| 2. Shri Padma Hazarika, | MLA |
| 3. Shri Sibumisra, | MLA |
| 4. Shri Dipayan Chakraborty, | MLA |
| 5. Shri Ajoy Kumar Ray, | MLA |
| 6. Shri Krishna Kamal Tanti, | MLA |
| 7. Shri Ponakan Baruah, | MLA |
| 8. Shri Misbahul Islam Laskar, | MLA |
| 9. Shri Jakir Hussain Sikdar, | MLA |
| 10. Shri Diganta Barman, | MLA |
| 11. Shri Suzam Uddin Laskar, | MLA |
| 12. Shri Nijamur Rahman, | MLA |
| 13. Shri Charan Boro, | MLA |

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Dulal Pegu, Secretary.
2. Shri Rajib Bhattacharyya, Additional Secretary.
3. Shri Parag Kumar Medhi, Deputy Secretary.
4. Smti Sewali Devi, Under Secretary.
5. Shri Mahen Ch. Doley, Under Secretary.
6. Shri Baidurjya Bharali, Superintendent.
7. Smti Aporna Devi Sarmah, Asstt. Language Officer.

INTRODUCTION

1. I, as Chairperson of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (A) Departments having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf present this **Twenty Seventh Report** on Demand for **Grant No.63** relating to **Water Resources Department** for the financial year 2025-26.
2. The Committee has considered the Demand for **Grant No.63** on the Budget Estimates for the year 2025-26 in its meeting held on **13th March, 2025**.
3. The Committee has been befitted with the assistance rendered by the Government representatives during the course of examination of the Budget Estimates under the aforementioned Grants for the year 2025-26. The Committee has formulated its observations taking into consideration the valuable submission rendered by official witnesses, during the course of consideration of the Budget Estimates.
4. The Committee would also like to place on record their deep sense of appreciation for the invaluable assistance rendered to them by the officials of Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat attached to the Committee.
5. The Committee has considered the Draft Reports on 16th March, 2025 and approved it on the same day.

Place : Dispur
The 16th March, 2025.

GOBINDA CHANDRA BASUMATARI
Chairperson,
Departmentally Related Standing Committee
on Development (A) Departments,
Assam Legislative Assembly.

CHAPTER 1
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
GRANT NO. 63

The Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (A) Departments in its meeting held on 13th March, 2025 examined the papers and documents received from the concerned department and took evidence of the Departmental representative. Besides, the Committee considered the Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the **26th Report** in addition to the scrutiny of the Budget provision. The Budget under Grant No. 63 relating to Water Resources Department for the Financial Year 2025-26 as follows.

	REVENUE	CAPITAL	TOTAL (Rs. In lakhs)
VOTED	49044.97	110860.44	159905.41
CHARGED	0.00	0.00	0.00

The detailed Budget Estimates under the **Grant No.63** for the Financial year 2025-26 are as below :-

(Rupees in Lakhs)		
Revenue/Capital Accounts		
Head of Account	Major Head	Budget Estimates
2711	Flood Control and Drainage	49044.97
4711	Capital Outlay on Flood Control Projects	110860.44
	Grand Total Rs.	159905.41

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CHAPTER 2
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 term measures had been widely adopted because this could be constructed 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 ie. 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/17 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 *Flood and Erosion Management Works:*

- Continuing a Legacy: Since 1954, Assam has constructed a vast network of embankments, totalling around 4,532 km. These embankments, along with flood walls, remain a crucial part of the flood control strategy, aiming to contain the flow of rivers and protect vulnerable areas.
- Modernization and Strengthening: Recognizing the need to enhance the resilience of existing infrastructure, Assam is prioritizing the raising and strengthening of embankments. Over 1,047 km of dykes have been reinforced to withstand the increasing intensity of floods.
- Innovative Construction Techniques: In areas where conventional embankment construction is challenging, Assam is employing innovative methods like Ready-Made Embankments (RME) and Geo-tubes.

River Training and Bank Protection:

- Erosion Control: Riverbank erosion is a major concern in Assam. To address this, the state has implemented 1,280 anti-erosion and town protection works. These projects involve the use of various materials and techniques to stabilize riverbanks and prevent erosion.
- Shifting to Sustainable Materials: Assam is transitioning from traditional boulder-based erosion protection to more sustainable and environmentally friendly alternatives like polypropylene geo-textile materials. This shift not only strengthens embankments but also minimizes the impact on river ecosystems.

Drainage Improvement

- **Sluice Gates:** The construction and maintenance of 667 nos. of sluice gates (122 major and 545 minor) are vital for regulating water flow and improving drainage in flood-prone areas. These structures help to manage water levels and reduce the risk of inundation.

1.5 Schemes taken up by W. R. Department during 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25:

Year 2022-23.

- 38 nos. of schemes amounting to Rs.499.98 Crores under RIDF-XXVIII for construction of embankment, 21.15 Km, R/S of existing embankment for 32.83 Km, Anti-erosion works for 31.70 Km, Construction of 5 nos. of new sluice gates and repairing of 7 sluice gates.
- 22 schemes for Rs. 519.28 Cr under SOPD-G for closing 44 breaches along with R/S for 240.43Km, protection of 48.02km. Further, 44 schemes for Rs.75.83 Crores were also taken up under SOPD-G with the provision of 9.70 Km of protection work, 1.90 KM of R/S of existing embankment, construction of 1 no. single shutter sluice and 1 culvert.

Year 2023-24:

- 58 nos. of schemes amounting to Rs.526.51 Crore under RIDF-XXIX. The schemes were taken up for construction of new embankment for 57.245 Km, R/S of existing embankment for 43.416Km, Anti-erosion works for 19.482 Km, construction of 15 nos. of new sluice gates.
- 44 nos. of schemes amounting to Rs.500.00 Crore were taken up under NIDA with the provision of 19.48 Km of new embankment, R/S of existing embankment for 30.99 Km. Anti-erosion works with Revetment & Apron for 29.719 Km, construction of major sluice 9 nos. & minor sluice gates 2 nos. sluice gates.
- Under SOPD-G, 29 nos. of schemes amounting to Rs.43.22 Crore with provision of 0.95 Km of R/S of existing embankment, Anti-erosion works with Revetment & Apron for 2.20 Km were taken up during 2023-24.

Year 2024-25:

- The W. R. Department has formulated 35 schemes at a cost of Rs.319.98 Crores for construction of 211.83 km new embankment under SOPD-G during the year 2024-25.

1.6 Externally Aided Projects:

World Bank's AIRBMP: Under the World Bank funded AIRBMP with a loan of \$ 500 Million, the Department is executing pioneering projects to mitigate flood and erosion management in three phases.

In first phase, with an amount of \$135M, following projects have been taken up -

- Two comprehensive flood management schemes for the Buridehing and Beki rivers.
- Piloting an Integrated Flood Forecasting System and Flood Risk Management Plans for critical sub-basins like Beki, Buridehing, Jiadhal.

Again, in addition to the existing three basins of Phase-1, four new clusters of basins namely Dikhow-Desang; Kollong-Kopilli-Killing; Puthimari and Aie-Manas has been chosen in the second phase for Investment at a cost of \$240M.

These projects embody our vision for a data driven, proactive approach to water resource management, scalable across the Brahmaputra basin.

ADB's CRBIFRERMP: The Department is implementing the Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project with an Asian Development Bank loan of \$255 Million. This initiative targets flood and erosion management in main stem Brahmaputra River in five districts viz. Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Morigaon, Kamrup, Goalpara and the work is now in progress. After completion of these projects, long-term resilience of affected regions is expected to be achieved.

Non-Structural Measures:

- **Flood Forecasting and Warning:** Assam is investing in modernizing its flood forecasting and warning systems. Under the National Hydrology Project, 91 telemetry stations have been installed (out of a planned 103) to provide real-time data on rainfall and river levels, enabling more accurate and timely flood forecasts.
- **Hydro-Informatics Unit:** The establishment of a Hydro-Informatics Unit (HIU) is further strengthening flood forecasting and data-driven decision-making process of Water Resources Department. The HIU is installing Real-Time Data Acquisition Systems (RTDAS) in critical sub-basins to provide crucial hydrological data for improved flood management. The HIU is also working on developing a Water Resources Asset Management System (WRAMS) for the WRD structures in the State which will provide valuable inputs in the planning processes for flood and erosion management in the State.

1.7 New Initiative

- **Wetland Utilization:** Assam is exploring the innovative use of wetlands for floodwater storage during peak flood seasons. This approach has the potential to reduce flood intensity while also contributing to wetland rejuvenation. Accordingly, the Water Resources Department has identified 15 nos, of wetland in 9 districts and has formulated the DPR under the initiative Restoration and rejuvenation of wetlands of Assam to enhance water retention capacity and mitigate risk of flooding and erosion at a total cost of Rs. 692.05 Cr including structural as well as non-structural activities. The DPRs have been submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs for necessary approval of fund under National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF).

- 1.8** 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.

**ACTION TAKEN ON OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF
26TH REPORT OF DRSC, ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

Para	Observations and Recommendation of DRSC	Action Taken Report
1.	The Committee recommends the Department for construction of heavy guard wall for protecting both sides of Singirkhal of Silchar town.	<p>The Cachar W.R. Division, Water Resources Department has formulated one estimate under nomenclature “Construction of RCC Drain cum foot bridge including plying of 2/3 wheelers beside Radhamadav Akhra Bilpar at Singirkhal” for an estimated cost of Rs. 480.85 Lakh. The estimate has been prepared with the provision of RCC Covered drain and foot bridge including provision of cycling zone for an approximate length of 500 m starting from near Hotel Indrapastra at Bilpar to near Shyamananda Ashram. The estimate is also aimed for protection of both sides of Singirkhal in Silchar town.</p> <p>The Estimate submitted by Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department is under process in this office. The Scheme may be taken up for execution subject to allotment of necessary fund.</p>

OBSERVATION & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2025-26

The Committee has discussed thoroughly on the Budget Provision reflected in Grant No.63 related to Water Resources Department for the financial year 2025-26. After threadbare discussion, the Committee recommends the following:

1. The Committee recommends the Department to erect porcupine on the left bank of Golondi river to protect the road cum embankment.
2. The Committee recommends the Department for erection of porcupine on both the banks of Bharla river from Ghagra bridge to Deulguri bridge.
3. The Committee recommends the Department to take measures for protection of right bank of Bharla river at Shantipur with boulder pitching.
4. The Committee recommends the Department to take measures for recoupment of protection work of Dhansiri river on both banks.
5. The Committee recommends the Department to take anti-erosion measures at Sungabodi on left bank of Pasnoi river.
6. The Committee recommends the Department to construct embankment at Gabharu river starting from Dhendai to Phuloguri.
7. The Committee recommends the Department to take measures to protect the left bank embankment at Hablakha, Pub Hanapara and Borluitpar from the erosion of Pagladia river.
8. The Committee recommends the Department to take measures to protect the road cum embankment from Karia to Adabari.
9. The Committee recommends the Department to take measures for raising and strengthening the Pagladia embankment on right bank from Karia to Adabari including anti-erosion works at Karia, Hanapara and Bihdia of Nalbari district.
10. The Committee recommends that fund may be sanctioned for Teteliguri, Santak, Dhubighat, Gokhaidhol schemes etc in Nazira LAC as per proposal received from Government.
11. The Committee recommends to sanction fund under Flood Deal for every division under BTC.
12. The Committee recommends the Department to reconstruct the road cum embankment on the upper part of Aai river; and also recommends to take effective measures to prevent the erosion caused by this river as it has become a serious threat to the villagers of No. 1 Khujrabguri.
13. The Committee recommends the Department to take anti-erosion measures to protect Sahabad to Mahammedpur Dyke at Mahammedpur Part ii Village from the erosion of river Katakhal on its Left Bank.
14. The Committee recommends the Department to take anti-erosion measures to protect the Killarbak Triganga area from the erosion of river Dhaleshwari on its Right Bank.
15. The Committee recommends the Department to take anti-erosion measures to protect Bharatpur area from the erosion of river Katakhal on its Right Bank.(SC)
16. The Committee recommends the Department to take effective measures to prevent erosion of Jaleswar river at Katlicherra.
17. The Committee recommends the Department to take immediate measures for construction of boulder protection to prevent severe erosion by Dhola, Chika and Dulani affecting certain regions of Bijni Constituency.
18. The Committee recommends the Department to undertake construction of Guard Walls and Bridges over Rangirkhal.
19. The Committee recommends the Department to take measures for erosion protection on both sides of Kaldia river, Pahumara river, Tihu river and Palla river.

The Committee recommends that the Budget allocation provided under Grant No. 63 for the Financial Year 2025-26 for Water Resources Department be approved by the August House.
