

3. RURAL DEVELOPMENT

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 170302.78 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 21787.78 lac

3.1 Rural Development is the parameter of growth-oriented change in the rural areas. Traditionally rural areas have had limited access to infrastructural development, as a result of which the vicious cycle of poverty continues to haunt the countryside. Illiteracy and unemployment block avenues for social mobility. In order to remove rural backwardness, to bring the rural poor to a higher level of economic activity and to control migration to the towns/cities, suitable infrastructure needs to be developed in an integrated manner, along with employment opportunities in the villages. There are 12447 Gram Panchayats, 141 Panchayat Samitis and 20 Zila Parishads in the State. The population living in the rural areas constitutes 66.08% of the total population of the State. The focus of the 11th Five Year Plan will be transformation of the rural economy by way of reduction of rural/urban disparities in term of economic development, employment and infrastructure.

3.2 An outlay of Rs. 170302.78 lac has been provided in the 11th Five Year Plan for the Rural Development Sector against the approved outlay of Rs. 57000.00 lac provided in the 10th Five Year Plan. An expenditure of Rs. 66510.74 lac has been incurred for this sector during 10th plan. An outlay of Rs. 21787.78 lac has been provided for the Annual Plan 2007-08 against the approved outlay of Rs. 17506.00 lac for this sector during 2006-07. The main emphasis will be on the integrated development of villages in Punjab, improvement of village sanitation through construction of toilets, pavement of streets, construction of drains, disposal of sullage water, improvement/cleaning of village ponds, shelter to the poor and ensuring wage/self-employment etc.

Special Programme for Rural Development On Going Schemes Centrally Sponsored Schemes

RDS(S)-1/CD1.1(c) Strengthening/ Administration of DRDA's / Zila Parishads (75:25)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 2525.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 500.00 lac

3.3 District Rural Development Agencies have been established as Nodal Agencies for the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes especially anti poverty programmes as per guidelines of Government of India and a separate provision is being made for paying salaries to the staff of DRDAs and ADC (Development) working for DRDAs as plan expenditure. This scheme was admitted in the year 1999-2000 and is being funded on 75:25 basis between the

Centre and the State Government. Government of India's share is released directly to the DRDA's in the form of grant-in aid. An outlay of Rs. 1000.00 lac has been provided for the 10th Five Year Plan (2002-07) against which an expenditure of Rs. 545.37 lac has been incurred. An outlay of Rs. 2525.00 lac for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 500.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 has been provided as State share for this scheme.

RDS(D)-1/CD 1.11 Swaran Jayanti Gram Swa-Rozgar Yojana (75:25)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 2800.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 400.00 lac

3.4 'Swaran Jayanti Gram Swa-Rozgar Yojana' scheme is being shared between the Centre and the State on 75:25 basis. The objective of SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swa-Rozgaris) above the poverty line in three years by providing them income-generating assets through a mix of bank credit and subsidy. It is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self-employment such as organization of the rural poor into self help groups, training, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build up, technology, credit and marketing. In establishing the micro enterprises, the emphasis under SGSY is on the cluster approach. For this 4-5 key activities will be identified for each block based on resources, occupational skills of the people and availability of markets. The major key activities are bee keeping, handloom, dairy, poultry, sewing, knitting and embroidery etc.

3.5 SGSY is a credit-cum-subsidy programme, subsidy under the programme will be uniform at 30% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 7500/-. In respect of SCs, however this will be 50% and Rs. 10,000/- respectively. For a group of Swa-rozgaris (SHGs), the subsidy would be 50% of the cost of the scheme subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1.25 lac. Loans will be arranged by the DRDAs from the banks. Under this scheme, 50% assistance is required to be provided to the SCs, 40% to women and 3% to the handicapped. This scheme was admitted in the year 1999-2000. An outlay of Rs. 5250.00 lac as State share was provided for the 10th Five Year Plan against which an expenditure of Rs. 930.74 lac has been incurred. 34963 Swa-rozgaris were covered under this scheme during 10th plan period. An outlay of Rs. 2800.00 lac for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 400.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 has been provided as State share. About 38,500 Swa-rozgaris will be covered under this scheme during 11th Five Year Plan and 7684 during Annual Plan 2007-08.

RDS(D)-2/ CD 1.12 Integrated Waste Land Development Project (11:1)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 400.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 40.00 lac

3.6 This scheme was earlier implemented as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme but from 10th Five Year Plan the funding pattern of this scheme has been changed to 11:1 (Centre-State). Under this scheme assistance @ Rs. 6000/- per hectare is provided for the development of waste land out of which Rs. 5500/- per hectare is provided by Government of India and Rs. 500/- by the State Government. An outlay of Rs. 300.00 lac has been provided as State share for the scheme during 10th Five Year Plan against which an expenditure of Rs. 76.09 lac has been incurred. 8092 hectare of waste land was developed during 10th Five Year Plan. An outlay of Rs. 400.00 lac has been provided as State share for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 40.00 lac for the Annual Plan 2007-08 under this plan scheme. The State share for this scheme has been earmarked under district plan. There is a target to cover 15,000 hectares of waste land under this scheme during 11th Five Year Plan and 5000 hectares during the Annual Plan 2007-08.

Rural Employment

On Going Schemes

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

RDE(S)-1/CD2.43 National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme (90:10)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 60000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 3000.00 lac

3.7 The main objective of the 'National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme' is to enhance the livelihood security of the households in rural areas by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Under this scheme a rural household can demand at least 100 days guaranteed employment in a financial year. The Household has to get itself registered with the Gram Panchayat. Names of all the adult members can be registered. Gram Panchayat will issue a job card to the household. The funding pattern of this scheme is as under:-

Central Government Share

- (1) 100% unskilled wage component of the cost of the scheme.
- (2) Seventy five percent of the material component including the wages of skilled and semi skilled workers.
- (3) Administrative expenses such as salary and allowance of programme officer and their supporting staff and capacity building of Gram Panchayats etc.

State Government Liability

- (1) Twenty five percent of the material component including the wages of skilled and semi-skilled workers of the scheme.
- (2) Unemployment allowance payable under the provisions of the Act.
- (3) Administrative expenses of the State Council.

3.8 The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) was passed by Parliament in September 2005. The scheme was launched in Punjab on 2nd February 2006 and initially only district Hoshiarpur was selected. Vide notification dated 26-3-2007 Government of India has decided to cover three more districts namely Amritsar, Nawanshehar and Jalandhar under NREGA during 2007-08. Since it is a demand driven scheme, the targets under this scheme are not specified. All the districts of the State are to be covered within five years as per national policy. State Share of Rs. 500.00 lac was approved for this scheme for the Annual Plan 2006-07 against which an expenditure of Rs. 323.39 lac has been incurred. An outlay of Rs. 60000.00 lac has been provided for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 3000.00 lac for the Annual Plan 2007-08 as State share under this scheme.

RDE(S)-2/CD 2.39

Rural Shelter (Gramin Awaas) under PMGY

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 387.78 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 387.78 lac

3.9 All citizens need shelter, they also require such facilities as drinking water and proper sanitation in their houses. The aim of this scheme is to extend such benefits to the rural poor and will be implemented on the pattern of Indira Awaas Yojana. The target group for houses under the scheme will be the people who are living below the poverty line (BPL) in the rural areas belonging to scheduled castes and non SC category. Not more than 40% of the total allocation during a financial year can be utilized for construction of dwelling units for non SC BPL families while funds to the tune of 3% will be earmarked for the benefit of BPL disabled persons.

3.10 A grant of Rs. 25000/- per unit is provided in the plain areas and Rs. 27000/- in the hilly/difficult areas for construction of houses. For conversion of unserviceable kutcha houses into pucca/ semi pucca houses, the maximum assistance will be limited to Rs. 12,500/- per unit. All the dwelling units will be provided with smokeless Chullas and Sanitary latrines. Under this scheme, 100% assistance was provided by Government of India. An outlay of Rs. 2750.00 lac was provided in the 10th Five Year Plan for this scheme. However, the scheme was discontinued by Government of India from the year 2005-06 onwards. An expenditure of Rs. 833.08 lac has been incurred during 10th Five Year Plan i.e. 2002-07. An outlay of Rs. 387.78 lac has been provided for this scheme for 11th

Five Year Plan to as well as for Annual Plan 2007-08 to clear the backlog of financial assistance provided by Government of India.

RDE(D)-1/CD2.29

Indira Awaas Yojana (75:25)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 7000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 1300.00 lac

3.11 This is a 75:25 sharing basis centrally sponsored scheme being executed between Centre and State. Previously it was a sub-scheme of JRY but from 1996-97 onwards, it has been made an independent scheme which aims at providing houses to the members of SCs and Non-SCs free of cost in the rural areas. The houses under this scheme should normally be built on individual plots in the main habitation of the village, but can also be built on micro-habitat approach or in cluster within a habitation, so as to facilitate the development of infrastructure such as internal roads, drains, drinking water supply and other common facilities. A grant of Rs. 25000/- per unit is provided in the plain areas and Rs. 27,000/- in the hilly/difficult areas for construction of houses. For conversion of unserviceable kutchha houses into pucca/ semi pucca houses, the maximum assistance will be limited to Rs. 12,500/- per unit. All the dwelling units will be provided with smokeless chullas and sanitary latrines.

3.12 An outlay of Rs. 1800.00 lac was provided as State share during the 10th Five Year Plan against which an expenditure of Rs. 1446.05 lac has been incurred. 32279 houses were built/upgraded under this scheme during 10th five year plan (2002-07). An outlay of Rs. 7000.00 lac has been provided as State share during the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 1300.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 under this district level Plan scheme to meet State share. The State share for 2006-07 has been earmarked under district plan. There is a target to construct 82,000 houses during 11th Five Year Plan and 16,362 houses during the Annual Plan 2007-08.

RDE(D)-2/CD 2.41

Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (75:25)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 10000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 3300.00 lac

3.13 The two schemes namely "Employment Assurance Scheme" and "Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana" have been merged into one scheme namely "Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana". The objectives of the SGRY are to provide additional wage employment in the rural areas and also food security, along-side the creation of durable community, social and economic assets and infrastructure developments in these areas such as soil and moisture conservation works, watershed development, promoting of traditional water resources, afforestation and construction of village infrastructure and link roads, primary school buildings, civil dispensaries, veterinary hospitals, marketing infrastructure and Panchayat Ghars etc.

3.14 From the year 2004-05, this programme is being implemented as one integrated scheme by all the three Panchayati Raj Institutions. The resources are distributed in 20:30:40 ratio among the Zila Parishads, Panchayat Samities and Gram Panchayats. The programme is self-targeting in nature and is available for all the rural poor (BPL/APL) who are in need of wage employment and are willing to take up manual/unskilled work. Under the scheme, 5 Kg of food-grains (in kind) will be distributed as part of wages per manday. The remaining part of the wages will be paid in cash to ensure notified minimum wage.

3.15 An outlay of Rs. 15625.00 lac was provided as State share in the 10th Five Year Plan against which an expenditure of Rs. 6814.89 lac has been incurred. 196.09 lac mandays of employment was generated under this scheme during 10th Five Year Plan period. The State share for this scheme was earmarked under district plan during 2006-07. An outlay of Rs. 10000.00 lac has been provided for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 3300.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 under this scheme to meet State share. The districts covered under National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme (NREGA) are automatically taken out of the purview of this scheme. There is a target to generate 1300 lac mandays of employment during 11th Five Year Plan and 86 lac mandays during Annual Plan 2007-08 under SGRY and NREGA collectively.

RDE(D)-2(i) Payment of Vat on wheat provided by Government of India under Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (New Component)

*11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 2500.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 500.00 lac*

3.16 Government of India is providing foodgrains(wheat) under 'Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana' which is further given to the rural poor as part of wages @ of Rs.5 Kg per manday and balance wages are paid in kind. The wheat is being provided free of cost by the Govt. of India, however State Government is required to pay Vat on the wheat being released by Government of India every year. A provision of Rs. 2500.00 lac for the 11th Fiver Year Plan and Rs. 500.00 lac for the Annual Plan 2007-08 has been provided for making payment of Vat on wheat provided by Government of India under Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana.

Other Rural Development Programme

On Going Schemes

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

RDO-1/CD 2.23(ii) Training to Panches and Sarpanches in the State (75:25)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 150.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 10.00 lac

3.17 The aim of the scheme is to provide training to the elected representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. Initially this scheme was implemented on 50:50 basis between Government of India and Government of Punjab. From the year 2003-04 onwards Government of India has changed the funding pattern of this scheme to 75:25(Centre: State). A project costing Rs.506.88 lac has been approved by Government of India during the year 2003-04 out of which Rs.207.77 lac (Central Share) has been released to the State Institute of Rural Development(SIRD), Nabha for imparting training to the elected representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and other Rural Development functionaries. An outlay of Rs. 500.00 lac was provided for this scheme during 10th Plan period against which an expenditure of Rs. 20.53 lac has been incurred. About an outlay of Rs. 150.00 lac has been provided as State share for this scheme during 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 10.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08.

RDO-2/ RWS-12 Total Rural Sanitation Programme/Campaign (TSC) (GOI:State:Beneficiary)(60:20:20)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 1000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 100.00 lac

3.18 This scheme was transferred to the Department of Water Supply and Sanitation at the end of year 2002, at that time projects amounting to Rs.23.86 Cr were under implementation in five districts of Punjab namely: Bathinda, Muktsar, Moga, Sangrur and Patiala, for which Rs.289.09 lacs were released by the Government of India. Department of Water Supply & Sanitation has got approved TSC projects for another 11 districts also with which total cost of approved 16 projects becomes Rs.77.80 Cr under which there is provision of providing 413498 Individual Household Latrines, 12411 School Toilets, 995 toilets for Auganwadis, 334 Sanitary Complexes and 49 Rural Sanitary Marts. Govt. of India has also released a sum of Rs. 10.00 lacs to start up activities in the remaining one District (Ludhiana). The matching state share for Muktsar and Sangrur districts had been released while state share for the remaining project districts has not been released by the State Government. 25130 Individual Household Latrines, 609 School Toilets and 53 Sanitary Complexes have been constructed with an expenditure of Rs.3.59 Cr under this programme.

3.19 The TSC was not popular among the people of State as a similar State funded Sanitation project 'Rajiv Gandhi Pendu Jan Sehat Kalyan Yojna (RGPJSKY) was under implementation, which is highly subsidized than Total Sanitation Campaign. There is a provision of twin pit latrine with superstructure

under RGPJSKY, while under TSC there is no provision of superstructure. Initially the cost of Individual Household Latrines under TSC was fixed to Rs.625/- & Rs.1000/- which has recently been enhanced to Rs.1500/-& Rs.2000/- on the basis of requests made by the States. The Department of Rural Development & Panchayats was implementing RGPJSKY, while Department of Water Supply & Sanitation was implementing TSC. As per decision taken in the meeting held under Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Punjab on 20.2.2006 this programmes will be implemented by the Department of Rural Development & Panchayats. A provision of Rs.1000.00 lac for the 11th Five Year Plan & Rs.100.00 lac for the Annual Plan 2007-08 has been provided as State share for this scheme.

State Funded Schemes

RDO(S)-2/CD 2.12 Issue of Yellow Cards for identification of Weaker Sections

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 100.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 70.00 lac

3.20 To implement the Special Rural Development Programmes in the State, beneficiaries are identified and Yellow cards are issued for getting the benefit under various welfare schemes for the poor people. The State Government has got a survey conducted of the B.P.L. families. Another survey was conducted in August 2002 on the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India according to which the total number of such families is 3,87,600. An outlay of Rs. 40.00 lac has been provided for the 10th Five Year Plan. An outlay of Rs. 100.00 lac has been provided for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 70.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 for printing of Yellow Cards for the BPL in rural areas.

RDO(S)-3/CD 2.32 Grant for Strengthening of Infrastructural and Institutional Works

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 20000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 1000.00 lac

3.21 The State Government is committed to provide a responsive administration to the people. Towards this end, greater emphasis is being laid on the mass contact programme. In the course of such interactions the needs of the rural and urban areas are projected which require special attention. With this objective in hand this scheme was started during the year 1997-98. Under this scheme, funds are provided as discretionary grants of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Punjab and are released for the creation/development of specific projects as per the announcements of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Punjab. An outlay of Rs. 4000.00 lac was provided under this scheme for the 10th Five Year Plan against which an expenditure of Rs. 5170.37 lac has been incurred. An outlay of Rs. 20000.00 lac

has been provided for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 1000.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 for this scheme.

RDO(S)-4/CD 2.37 Grant Recommended by 12th Finance Commission for Panchayati Raj Institutions

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 19440.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 6480.00 lac

3.22 The 12th Finance Commission has recommended grants of Rs. 32400.00 lac for the period 2005-06 to 2009-10 to supplement the resources of PRIs. 100 % funds under the scheme are being provided by the Government of India. The criteria of providing grants are same as recommended by the State Finance Commission. The funds will be mainly spent on water supply and sanitation works in villages on the basis of population of the Gram Panchayats. An expenditure of Rs. 9720.00 lac has been incurred under this scheme during 10th plan (2002-07). An outlay of Rs. 19440.00 lac has been provided for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 6480.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 for this scheme.

RDO(S)-5/CD 2.48 Contribution to Village Development Fund out of Grant-in-aid recommended by the State Finance Commission for Panchayati Raj Institutions

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 1000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 500.00 lac

3.23 State Government is providing low cost sewerage systems in villages under Village Development Fund. During 2006-07, an amount of Rs. 1000.00 lac was diverted for this purpose from the grant-in aid recommended by the State Finance Commission for Panchayati Raj Institutions against which an expenditure of Rs. 8.50 Cr has been incurred. An outlay of Rs. 1000.00 lac has been provided for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 500.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 for this scheme.

RDO(S)-6/CD 2.44 For Incomplete Sewerage Systems in Villages

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 1000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 200.00 lac

3.24 In most of the villages, there is no sewerage system and where the system has been installed the same is not in working condition and this results in un-hygienic conditions in the villages. To redress this grievance, the State Government launched a new scheme for completion of sewerage system in villages for which an outlay of Rs. 400.00 lac was provided during the year 2006-07. An outlay of Rs. 1000.00 lac has been provided for this purpose during the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 200.00 lac in the Annual Plan 2007-08.

RDO(S)-7/CD2.42

**Environmental Improvement of SC Basties/Villages
with Stress on Sanitation (One Time ACA 2003-04)**

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 2000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 2000.00 lac

3.25 People living in the villages especially belonging to poor and weaker sections of the society have to go for toilet in an open space. This activity is not good for health and environment, but it is also against the honour of the women and children. Generally the people of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are facing this problem due to the fact that there is no land of their own. The Government of Punjab has decided to provide latrine unit free of cost to the needy persons. For this purpose Government of India had sanctioned one time ACA of Rs. 20.00 Cr for the 'Environmental improvement of SC basties/villages with stress as sanitation' during 2003-04, but this ACA could not be utilized during 2003-04 and no expenditure has been incurred upto March 2007 due to non release of funds. An outlay of Rs. 2000.00 lac has been provided for the 11th Five Year Plan as well as for the Annual Plan 2007-08 to utilize the one time ACA released by Government of India during 2003-04.

RDO(D)-1/CD 2.45

Construction of Toilets in the Rural Areas

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 25000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 1000.00 lac

3.26 For the welfare of the people living in the villages especially for the scheduled castes and backward classes, Govt. of Punjab has started this scheme in 2005-06 to construct latrines for individual families. These latrines are being constructed for the individual families in the rural areas as per following guidelines:-

- (1) The beneficiary families in all the cases except BPL families would contribute Rs.1000/- in cash or kind towards the construction of one unit, in case the beneficiary is not in a position to contribute in cash, he may do so by arranging labour or the mason for the const. of latrines either on his own or by borrowing the services of others.
- (2) The cost of one unit would be Rs.6300/-
- (3) The Engineering wing of the Rural Development and Panchayats would be the executing agency for the construction of Latrines. In case 5 or more eligible beneficiaries want the latrines to be constructed by Gram Panchayat, they may do so by making written request to Gram Panchayat who will have the units constructed at its own level.

- (4) Gram Panchayat would also contribute Rs. 1000/- per latrine/unit where the income of the Gram Panchayat is Rs.1.00 lac or more.
- (5) Apart from all the scheduled caste families of the villages, another 5% of the total non-scheduled caste economically backward families residing in the village would also be covered under the scheme. However, all such families would contribute Rs. 1000/- towards the construction of latrines.
- (6) Repair, maintenance and cleanliness of the latrine would be the responsibility of the concerned beneficiary family.
- (7) If the latrine block is to be constructed on Panchayat land, latrines in the latrine block would be allotted to each beneficiary permanently. In such type of latrines, the beneficiary would contribute Rs. 1000/- or labour component of like amount.

3.27 An expenditure of Rs. 17456.98 lac has been incurred and 175255 toilets have been constructed during 2005-06 and 2006-07 under this scheme. An outlay of Rs. 25000.00 lac for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 1000.00 lac for Annual Plan 2007-08 has been provided under this district level Plan scheme.

New Schemes

State Funded Schemes

RDO(D)2/ Improvement/Cleaning of Village Ponds

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 15000.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 1000.00 lac

3.28 For improving village environment especially laying emphasis on disposal of liquid and solid waste the village ponds are required to be renovated and repaired so that the sullage water/rain water could be channelised and diverted to the village ponds. This will result in clean village environment and the ponds could be utilized for irrigation purposes and also encourage the fisheries. An outlay of Rs. 15,000.00 lac for the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 1000.00 lac for the Annual Plan 2007-08 has been provided for this scheme.

100 % Centrally Sponsored Schemes

CS-8 Extension Training Centres - (100% CSS)

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 90.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 18.00 lac

3.29 Government of India provides 100% grant in aid for Extension Training Centres. There are two Extension Training Centres in Punjab, one each at Batala and Nabha where training is imparted to the Panches and Sarpanches. An outlay of Rs. 90.00 lacs for 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 18.00 lac for the Annual Plan 2007-08 has been provided for utilizing the Government of India share.

Basic indicators (Rural Development) Punjab

1	Total Population	24359000
2	Rural Population	16096488
3	% age of rural population to total population	66%
4.	No. of Villages	12673
5.	No. of inhabited Villages	12278
6.	No. of Rural Households	254600
7.	Rural Area (in sq.km.)	48354
8.	No. of Districts	20
9.	No. of District Rural Development Agencies	20
10.	No. of Development Blocks	141
11.	No. of Gram Panchayats	12447
12.	Rural Literacy rate	65%

3.1 RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

11th Plan Outlay - Rs. 80600.00 lac
Annual Plan 2007-08 Outlay - Rs. 13200.00 lac

3.1.1 As contained in section 7 of Punjab Rural Development Act,1987, the Rural Development Fund can be used for the following purposes-

- (1) To promote better agriculture for higher production
- (2) To grant relief for loss and damage to agricultural produce due to natural calamities
- (3) For augmenting storage facilities for storing agriculture produce
- (4) For providing well equipped rest houses for dealers and purchasers of agricultural produce
- (5) To promote and accelerate comprehensive rural development including the construction of rural roads
- (6) Establishment of medical and veterinary dispensaries in rural areas
- (7) For making arrangements for supply of drinking water and for improving sanitation in rural areas
- (8) For promoting welfare of agricultural labourers and rural artisans
- (9) For carrying out such other purposes as may be considered necessary by the Board in the interest of and for the benefit of the persons paying the fee including the dealers.

3.1.2 An outlay of Rs 66050.00 lac was provided in the 10th Five Year Plan against which an expenditure of Rs.98619.00 lac was incurred . A sum of Rs. 80600.00 lac and Rs.13200.00 lac has been provided in the 11th Five Year Plan and Annual Plan 2007-08 respectively.

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