

2023  
2024

# ANNUAL REPORT



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**SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION  
DEPARTMENT**

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA**

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## **MESSAGE**



**(Shri. Z. D. Shira)**  
*Director Soil & Water Conservation  
Meghalaya, Shillong*

Soil erosion is a critical environmental challenge impacting both natural ecosystems and human-managed landscapes. Among its various forms, water-induced soil erosion stands out as the most predominant, directly affecting soil health, agricultural productivity, reservoir siltation, and the socio-economic well-being of communities. Addressing these issues is central to our mission, and I am deeply moved by how our department plays an integral role in the lives of countless individuals. Our efforts in fostering better futures for farmers, beneficiaries, their families, and communities continue to be a source of pride and purpose.

It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Soil & Water Conservation Department for the year 2023-24. This report highlights the achievements of the Department under various thematic areas and programmes implemented across the state.

The Department's dedicated workforce is committed to designing and executing well-structured, clearly defined, and time-bound projects that target specific challenges. Significant progress has been made under various schemes, as detailed in the contents of this report.

In line with the Department's mandate for outreach and technology dissemination, several training programmes, exposure visits, awareness campaigns, and exhibitions were organized, engaging a wide spectrum of stakeholders. Over the years, the Department has significantly diversified its activities, expanding its scope to address evolving challenges effectively.

The Soil & Water Conservation Department continues to advance with renewed vigor and enthusiasm, dedicated to serving the state and the nation. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all my colleagues and support staff for their unwavering commitment and contributions to the success of our programmes. Their efforts are both acknowledged and deeply appreciated.

## MESSAGE



**(Dr. Joram Beda)**

*Secretary Government of Meghalaya  
Soil & Water Conservation Department*

It is indeed commendable to witness the publication of the Soil & Water Conservation Department's Annual Report for the year 2023-24.

The department's unwavering commitment to sustainable development is evident in the successful implementation of various water and soil conservation projects. From constructing dams and water harvesting structures to promoting sustainable land management practices, we have worked tirelessly to improve agricultural productivity and mitigate the impacts of climate change and our department remains steadfast in its commitment to improving rural livelihoods and protecting our natural resources.

By sharing detailed information about our initiatives and achievements, we empower decision-makers, foster collaboration, and ultimately enhance our ability to address critical environmental challenges.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the dedicated team whose tireless efforts have made this report possible. May the department continue to thrive and make a lasting impact on our communities.

**MARCUISE N. MARAK**

**Minister**

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### MESSAGE



It is with great pleasure to learn of the Soil & Water Conservation Department's upcoming Annual Report for the year 2023-24.

This report will provide a comprehensive overview of the Department's diverse activities, encompassing field operations, administrative functions, and the development and implementation of policies aimed at preserving natural resources and fostering integrated rural development.

Such a detailed account of the Department's work will undoubtedly be a valuable

resource for policymakers, researchers, and the general public alike. It will shed light on the challenges faced by the Department and the innovative solutions it has implemented to address them.

I commend the officers and staff for their diligent efforts in compiling this report and wish the Department continued success in its future endeavours.

## **CHAPTER I**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Agriculture remains a vital sector in the economy, contributing significantly to GDP and employment. As a critical sector, agriculture's productivity and sustainability rely heavily on soil and water. However, soil and water, the foundation of life, are facing rapid degradation. Efficient soil management is crucial not only for agriculture but also for development, as it can help address environmental degradation, poverty and food security issues. Environmental rehabilitation, such as reducing soil erosion, is essential for survival and development. Soil erosion affects agricultural productivity by deteriorating soil quality, leading to loss of organic matter, minerals, and plant nutrients.

To address these challenges, the adoption of improved technologies, judicious use of natural resources, and effective management practices are necessary. The Soil & Water Conservation Department has been working to develop strategies for controlling land degradation through a watershed approach, target area-specific problems, training, demonstrate and popularize technologies for conserving our natural resources.

The Department is tackling land degradation through a watershed approach, targeting local issues, and promoting sustainable practices through training and technology demonstration, to conserve natural resources for a resilient future.

By prioritizing soil and water conservation, we can ensure a resilient and food-secure future, support sustainable development, and protect the environment for generations to come.

#### **1.1.1. Mandate**

Natural resource management, particularly soil, water and vegetation resources in the context of perpetual utilization and sustainable development of the said resources to improve and sustain livelihood system and to aid in income earning activities of the user communities

#### **1.1.2. Aims**

- To promote sustainable utilization of soil, water and vegetation resources
- Sustainable food support and water needs
- To promote social, economic and ecological development

#### **1.1.3. Objectives**

- Dissipating accelerated soil erosion, surface runoff and erosion of topsoil
- Enhancing water holding capacity of the soil
- Improving soil moisture regime within the soil profile/monolith

- Promoting soil health and tilth
- Providing soil cover with forest trees/fruit trees/plantation crops etc.
- Protecting stream/river bank erosion and denudation of cultivable/cultivated land
- Protecting drainage area of water sources
- Harvesting rainwater for multipurpose utilities
- Enhancing agricultural crop productivity
- Promoting integrated farming system
- Promoting livelihood and gainful employment opportunities

#### **1.1.4. Prerequisites**

In the endeavor for natural resources management, it is important for the local partners in development, the local institutions, community, stakeholders and users to unreservedly, voluntarily and actively participate in the different phases *viz.* exploratory, planning phases and upward. Secondly, it is also equally required for other development Departments to willingly participate for ensuring convergence to bring about holistic and realistic development of the people. Lastly, the importance of Public-Private Partnership in up-scaling the natural resources management programmes require no emphasis.

#### **1.1.5. Agenda of Action**

To ensure that the service-deliveries promote and meet the afore-cited aims and objectives, a mechanism to take forward the system is required. They are underlined as follows:

- Formulation of Land Use and Action Plan on a participatory mode; adoption of appropriate soil and water conservation techniques and measures preferably on a Watershed basis, which is increasingly recognized as an ideal approach for Integrated Natural Resources Management Programme.
- Strengthening the information, Education, Communication Systems, and Capacity Building & Demonstration.
- Application of science and technology and research & development inputs.
- Awareness campaign, mobilization and organization of the community, empowerment, building their capacity, up gradation of local skills.
- Promotion and encouragement of Self-Help Institutions and other promoting institutions. Designing mechanism to monitor and evaluate socio-techno-economic impacts and results.

## 1.2. Administrative Setup of the Department

1.	<b>DIRECTORATE OF SOIL &amp; WATER CONSERVATION</b>	
2.	<b>BRANCH DIRECTORATE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research &amp; Training, Conservation Training Institute, Byrnihat.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jhum Control, Tura</li> </ul>
3.	<b>FUNCTIONAL DIVISIONS</b>	
4.	<b>DISTRICT/FIELD DIVISIONS</b>	
	In the field, the works of the Department are executed by the Territorial and the Plantation Crop Divisions supported by the Soil & Water Conservation Ranges and Soil & Water Conservation Beat offices.	

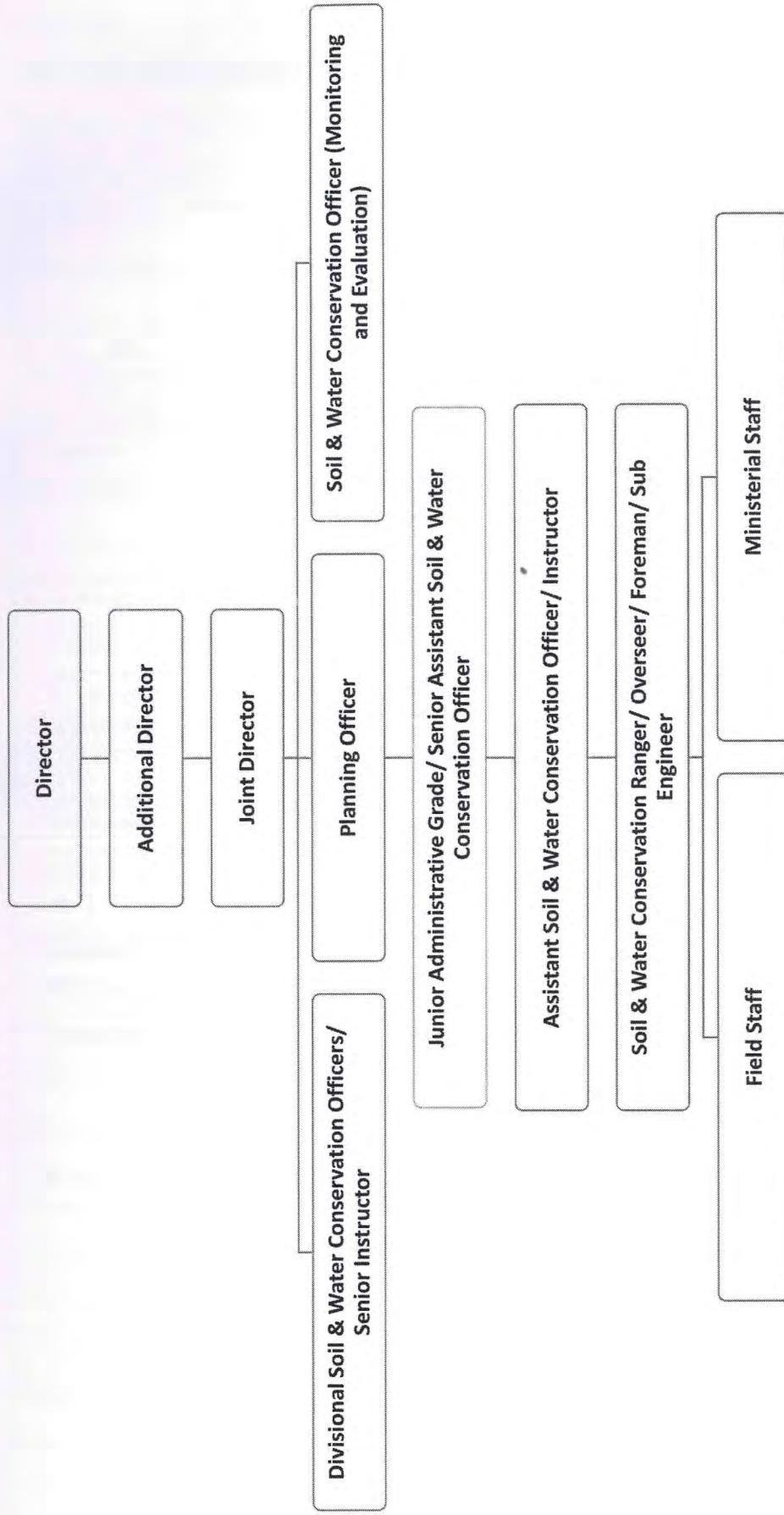
SI No	District	Division	Range/Beat Office
1.	East Khasi Hills District	Shillong Soil and Water Conservation (Territorial Division)	1. Southern Soil & Water Conservation Range, Mawphlang. 2. Shillong Soil & Water Conservation Range, Shillong. 3. Laityngkot Soil & Water Conservation Range, Laitlyngkot. 4. Watershed Management Soil & Water Conservation Range, Shillong. 5. Sohra Soil & Water Conservation Range, Sohra
		Shillong Soil and Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Division, Shillong	1. Mawshynrut Plantation Crop Beat Office
		Range office Beat Office	2. Shillong Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Range, Shillong
		Beat office	3. Weiloi Soil & Water Conservation Beat Office, Weiloi. 4. Margnar Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Range, Margnar.

2.	West Jaintia Hills District	Jowai Soil & Water Conservation (Territorial) Division, Shillong	1. Jowai Soil & Water Conservation Range, Thadlaskein.
			2. Amalarem Soil & Water Conservation Range, Amlarem.
		Jowai Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Division, Shillong	3. Watershed Management Soil & Water Conservation Range, Jowai.
			4. Shangpung Soil & Water Conservation Range, Shangpung
3.	East Jaintia Hills District	East Jaintia Hills Soil and Water Conservation Division, Khliehriat	1. Amalarem Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Range, Amalarem
			2. Namdong Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Range, Namdong.
4.	Ri-Bhoi District	Ri-Bhoi Soil and Water Conservation Division, Nongpoh	3. Lumshnong Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Range, Lumshnong
			1. Khliehriat Soil and Water Conservation Range, Khliehriat
			2. Lumshnong Soil and Water Conservation Division, Lumshnong
5.	West Khasi Hills District	Nongstoin Soil and Water Conservation Division, Nongstoin	1. Nongpoh Soil & Water Conservation Range, Nongpoh
			2. Patharkhmah Soil & Water Conservation Range, Patharkhmah.
		Beat Office	3. Sonidan Soil & Water Conservation Range, Sonidan
			4. Umroi Soil & Water Conservation Beat office, Umroi.
			1. Riangdo Soil & Water Conservation Range, Riangdo
			2. Mairang Soil & Water Conservation Range, Mairang.
			3. Nongstoin Soil & Water Conservation Range, Nongstoin.
			4. Watershed Management Soil & Water Conservation Range, Nongstoin.

6.	South West Khasi Hills District	South West Khasi Hills Soil & Water Conservation Division, Mawkyr wat	1. Mawkyr wat Soil & Water Conservation Range, Mawkyr wat. 2. Border Areas Soil & Water Conservation Range, Ranikor.
7.	West Garo Hills District	Tura Soil & Water Conservation (Territorial) Division, Tura	1. Central Soil & Water Conservation Range, Tebronggre, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya 2. Western Soil & Water Conservation Range, Damjonggre, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya 3. Southern Soil & Water Conservation Range, Machangpani, 4. Anogre Soil & Water Conservation Range, Anogre, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya 5. Jongchipara Soil & Water Conservation Range, Jongchipara, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya 6. Watershed Management Soil & Water Conservation Range, Tura, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya
		Tura Soil and Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Division, Tura	7. Danakgre Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop), Danakgre.
		Beat Office	8. Dadengre Plantation Crop Soil & Water Conservation Beat Office, Dadengre.
8.	South Garo Hills District	South Garo Hills District Soil and Water Conservation Division, Baghmara	1. Baghmara Soil & Water Conservation Range, Bahmara. 2. Chockpot Soil & Water Conservation Range, Chockpot. 3. Rongara, Soil & Water Conservation (Plantation Crop) Beat Office, Rongara.
9.	South West Garo Hills District	South West Garo Hills District Soil and Water Conservation Division, Ampati	1. Damalgre, Soil & Water Conservation Range, Damalgre. 2. Zikzak Soil & Water Conservation Range, Zikzak 3. Ampati Plantation Crop, Beat Office, Ampati.

10.	East Garo Hills District	Simsanggre, Soil & Water Conservation Division, Williamnagar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eastern Soil &amp; Water Conservation Range, Songsak Bonegre.</li> <li>2. Watershed Management, Soil &amp; Water Conservation Range, Williamnagar.</li> <li>3. Williamnagar Soil &amp; Water Conservation Range, Williamnagar.</li> <li>4. Rongjeng Plantation Crop Beat Office, Rongjeng.</li> </ol>
11.	North Garo Hills District		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. North Garo Hills, Soil and Water Conservation Range, Mendipathar.</li> <li>2. North Garo Hills Soil and Water Conservation, Resubelpara <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>3. North Garo Hills, Soil and Water Conservation Beat Office, Adokgre. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>4. Wageasi, Soil &amp; Water Conservation (Plantation Crop), Wageasi. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></li> <li>5. Bajengdoba, Plantation Crop Beat Office, Bajengdoba.</li> <li>6. Kharkutta Plantation Crop Beat Office, Kharkutta.</li> </ol>

### 1.3. Organizational Set-Up of the Soil & Water Conservation



**CHAPTER II**  
**STATEMENT INDICATING THE BUDGET AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR  
 2023-24**

(Rs. in Lakh)

<i>Major/Minor Head of Deptt./Scheme</i>	<i>Budget Outlay</i>	<i>Revised Budget</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
	<i>2023-24</i>	<i>2023-24</i>	<i>2023-24</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<b>REVENUE HEAD</b>				
<b>SOIL &amp; WATER CONSERVATION SECTOR</b>				
<b>2216. HOUSING - STATE SCHEMES</b>				
<b>07. HOUSING</b>				
<b>053 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS</b>				
(02). Other maintenance expenditure	90.53	97.56	97.56	
(03) Maintenance of Departmental Non-Residential Building	12.62	12.62	12.62	
<b>Total 2216</b>	<b>103.15</b>	<b>110.18</b>	<b>110.18</b>	
<b>2402. SOIL &amp; WATER CONSERVATION</b>				
<b>STATE SCHEMES</b>				
<b>001. DIRECTION &amp; ADMINISTRATION</b>				
(01) Directorate of Soil Conservation	494.30	529.75	468.72	
(02) Divisional Soil Conservation Offices	2307.38	2328.32	2118.78	
(03) Soil Conservation Range Offices	2009.83	2012.51	1790.72	
(05) Project Formulation Cell	325.14	325.14	279.27	
(06) Soil Conservation Engineering Division	134.06	138.78	129.89	
(07) Establishment of Evaluation Unit	42.82	42.92	36.52	
(08) Cash Crop Division	1146.76	1146.76	984.64	
(09) Watershed Management Division	707.90	713.18	573.77	
(10) Soil Conservation Survey Division	238.02	238.46	201.70	
(12) Payment due to Me.S.E.B./Municipal Board/Telephone Bills (BSNL)	24.71	24.71	23.01	

<b>TOTAL 001</b>	<b>7430.92</b>	<b>7500.51</b>	<b>6607.01</b>	
<b>101. SOIL SURVEY &amp; TESTING</b>				
(01) Soil Conservation Survey Schemes	142.26	143.09	109.24	
(02) Soil Testing Works	21.76	22.72	22.23	
<b>TOTAL 101</b>	<b>164.02</b>	<b>165.81</b>	<b>131.47</b>	
<b>102. SOIL CONSERVATION SCHEME</b>				
(04) Erosion Control Works	70.83	169.20	166.31	
(06) Afforestation	3000.00	2192.18	1980.80	
(08) Water Conservation & Distribution Works / Irrigation	68.38	162.94	161.80	
(09) Cash Crop Development Works	383.85	378.00	278.21	
(10) Construction works in Urban Areas	50.68	64.98	56.23	
(11) Water Harvesting Works / Farm ponds, etc.	64.31	66.92	64.33	
(12) Avenue Plantation	0.00	0.00	0.00	
(14) Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) (STATE SHARE)	514.78	399.56	118.89	
(19) Jhum Control Schemes	431.93	1045.46	327.87	
(20) Watershed Management	0.00	0.00	0.00	
(21) Soil Conservation Scheme under NABARD Loan	2000.00	2050.00	2050.00	
(23) Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
(24) Maintenance of Roads to Works Areas	11.90	11.90	11.90	
(25) Cherrapunji Eco Restoration	0.00	0.00	0.00	
(26) Small Multipurpose Reservoirs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
(28) Meghalaya State Watershed & Wasteland Development Agency	714.79	714.79	163.55	
(29) Nursery	150.00	150.00	120.40	
(30) Sloping Agriculture Land Technology	625.97	476.91	311.90	
(33) PMKSY -WDC	0.00	115.22	115.22	
<b>TOTAL 102</b>	<b>8087.42</b>	<b>7998.05</b>	<b>5927.42</b>	
<b>109. EXTENSION &amp; TRAINING</b>				

(01) Conservation Training Institute	207.71	213.82	208.47	
(02) Training at Soil Conservation Centre	311.78	313.92	272.39	
(03) Extension Programme & Info. Services	11.20	11.20	8.18	
<b>TOTAL 109</b>	<b>530.69</b>	<b>538.94</b>	<b>489.03</b>	
<b>800. OTHER EXPENDITURE</b>				
(01) Construction of Roads to work areas				
(06). Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board	63.92	64.37	64.37	
<b>TOTAL 800</b>	<b>63.92</b>	<b>64.37</b>	<b>64.37</b>	
<b>TOTAL STATE SCHEMES</b>	<b>16276.97</b>	<b>16267.68</b>	<b>13219.30</b>	
<b>CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES</b>				
<b>102. SOIL CONSERVATION</b>				
(14) Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) (CENTRAL SHARE)	4624.04	3587.04	1070.00	
(23) Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) (CENTRAL SHARE)	2000.00	2000.00	0.00	
(33) PMKSY -WDC		1037.00	1037.00	
<b>TOTAL 102</b>	<b>6624.04</b>	<b>6624.04</b>	<b>2107.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES</b>	<b>6624.04</b>	<b>6624.04</b>	<b>2107.00</b>	
<b>EXTERNALLY AIDED PROGRAMME</b>				
<b>102. SOIL CONSERVATION</b>				
(28) Meghalaya State Watershed & Wasteland Development Agency	5145.68	5145.68	1000.00	
<b>TOTAL 102 EAP</b>	<b>5145.68</b>	<b>5145.68</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL 2402</b>	<b>28046.69</b>	<b>28037.40</b>	<b>16326.30</b>	
<b>2415. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH &amp; EDUCATION</b>				
01. Soil Conservation Research Centre	69.16	71.42	48.26	
<b>TOTAL 2415</b>	<b>69.16</b>	<b>71.42</b>	<b>48.26</b>	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE HEAD</b>	<b>28,219.00</b>	<b>28,219.00</b>	<b>16484.74</b>	
<b>CAPITAL HEAD</b>				
<b>4416 CAPITAL OUTLAY ON HOUSING</b>				

<b>01. GOVERNMENT RESIDENTIAL BUILDING</b>				
<b>700. OTHER HOUSING</b>				
(01) Construction and maintenance of Departmental Residential Building	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>Total (01)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL 4216</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>4402. SOIL &amp; WATER CONSERVATION</b>				
<b>102. SOIL CONSERVATION</b>				
(01) Construction of Departmental Non-Residential Building	500.00	500.00	0.00	
(02) Natural Resources Improvement Intervention	6.00	6.00	0.00	
<b>Total (02)</b>	<b>506.00</b>	<b>506.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL 4402</b>	<b>506.00</b>	<b>506.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL HEAD</b>	<b>506.00</b>	<b>506.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>28725.00</b>	<b>28725.00</b>	<b>16484.74</b>	

## **CHAPTER III**

### **3.1. Programmes of the Department**

The programmes/schemes implemented by the Department include both Centrally Sponsored Schemes as well as State Plan Schemes.

#### **3.1.1. State Plan Schemes**

This scheme covers the general areas outside those not specifically covered by other packages of schemes of the Department. Its main objective is to reduce soil erosion hazards and land degradation and conservation of water. Activities taken up under this Scheme includes:

- i. Erosion Control Works
- ii. Afforestation
- iii. Water Conservation and Distribution Works
- iv. Cash Crop Development Works
- v. Conservation Works in Urban Areas
- vi. Water Harvesting Works/ Farm ponds etc.
- vii. Nursery
- viii. SALT
- ix. Mixed Intercropping
- x. Cocoa & Black Pepper
- xi. Coffee

#### **3.1.2. Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

- i. New Generation Watershed Development Projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana- Watershed Development Component 2.0 (PMKSY-WDC-2.0)
- ii. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

#### **3.1.3. Other Schemes Implemented by the Department**

- i. Soil and Water Conservation Scheme under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), NABARD Loan.

The following schemes/programmes/projects are the ongoing projects implemented by the department and are discussed as follows.

### **3.2. State Plan Schemes/Programmes/Projects:**

#### **3.2.1. Erosion Control Works:**

The scheme is meant to prevent further erosion of cultivated areas along stream bank from direct impact of stream water by construction, retaining wall, spurs, check dam, gully plugs vegetative barriers etc.

**Objectives:**

- To prevent erosion and degradation of top soil along the slopes.
- To reduce surface run-off.
- To protect cultivated areas along stream bank from direct impact of stream water.

**3.2. 2. Afforestation:**

The Scheme aims at providing vegetation cover to barren hills slopes with the objectives to protect the land from further erosion and to maintain a favourable eco-system through the protective and ameliorative effect of forest cover, to improve the aesthetic beauty of the surroundings; to serve as recreational areas and for sustainable production of fuels, fodder, fruits, etc.

**Objectives:**

- providing vegetation cover to barren hills slopes
- to protect the land from further erosion
- to maintain a favourable eco-system through the protective and ameliorative effect of forest cover
- to improve the aesthetic beauty of the surroundings
- to serve as recreational areas and for sustainable production of fuels, fodders, fruits, etc.,

**3.2. 3. Water Conservation and Distribution Works:**

The Scheme is meant for construction of Dams, Canals and Aqueduct etc; which can be utilized for irrigation, drinking water and other purposes as required by the village communities.

**Objectives:**

- For providing drinking water, irrigation facilities, etc.

**3.2. 4. Cash Crop Development Works:**

The scheme is meant for development of Plantation Crops in different Districts in the State. Cash Crop Plantations are being encouraged in areas where cultivations of other field crops are not feasible due to steep slopes condition, soil fertility status etc.

**Objectives:**

- Development of plantation crops will act as a cover to protect the soil from erosion and at the same time provide supplementary income to the farmers.

### **3.2. 5. Conservation Works in Urban Areas:**

The scheme is for the construction of different soil and water conservation works in urban and semi-urban areas.

#### **Objectives:**

- to conserve water by constructing water harvesting structures, Dug out ponds, water tanks, etc.

### **3.2. 6. Water Harvesting Works / Farms ponds, etc.:**

The objective of the scheme is to conserve water by constructing water harvesting structures, dug out ponds, water tanks, etc. The scheme is also meant for prevention of downstream siltation, multi-purpose water use, water conservation dam and water harvesting dam structure will serve as footpath/footbridge. Improvement of micro-environment, ecology, recreational facilities can later be incorporated.

#### **Objectives:**

- To conserve water by constructing water harvesting structures; dug out ponds, water tanks, etc.
- Promote livelihood-based activity through the water harvesting structures.

### **3.2. 7. Nursery:**

The scheme is meant for raising and maintaining of planting materials / saplings which are required for various afforestation, etc. activities carried out by the Department.

#### **Objectives:**

- Raising of planting stocks.
- Producing quality planting materials, etc.

### **3.2. 8. Sloping Agriculture Land Technology (SALT):**

The project thus aims to introduce improved farming system in the form of **Sloping Agriculture Land Technology (SALT)** where the farmers can incorporate both the existing agriculture crops with forest trees for protection, fruit trees and agriculture crops for income generation and introduction of Nitrogen Fixing Trees & Shrubs (NFTS) for enhancement of soil fertility. The project also aims to facilitate settle farming through terrace cultivation.

#### **Objectives:**

To facilitate Hedgerow farming by introducing Forestry, Horticulture, NFTS and agriculture.

- To facilitate income generation from different crops from a single cropping area.
- To facilitate settle farming through terrace cultivation.

- To facilitate improvement of soil fertility by introducing Nitrogen Fixing Trees and Shrubs as hedgerow.

### **3.2.9. Coffee:**

Meghalaya, with its altitudes of over 1200 m above sea level across many places and a unique climate, has been producing some of the most distinctive high-quality coffee in the country. Commercial plantation of coffee is relatively new and limited in Meghalaya and dates back to 1954 when coffee gardens were first established at Umling in Ri-Bhoi district, Lumshnong in East Jaintia Hills district, and Tura in West Garo Hills district. Today, coffee accounts to around 983.81 hectares of area and it is mostly cultivated in areas where there is a mild climate in which the average temperature is around 12-26°C and an elevation ranging from 1000 – 1500 m above mean sea level. Locations with gentle to moderate slopes covered with a good canopy of evergreen trees are mostly preferred for cultivation. Southern and western aspects are avoided especially at lower elevations and under unavoidable circumstances, such areas are provided with more shade to protect coffee from afternoon sun.

The project undertaken envisages on a cluster-based area expansion approach in the existing coffee growing regions as well as formation of new clusters in which priority is to be given for clusters with fruit orchards. These clusters are to be mapped with farmer collectives like Co-operatives, Farmers Producer Organisations, FPCs, VOs etc., (both new and existing) for effectiveness of interventions in value addition and marketing. The overall target for area expansion is 900 Ha out of which the area allocated for Garo Hills Region (East & West) is 350 Ha, Khasi Hills Region (Ri-Bhoi, East West and South West Khasi Hills) is 450 Ha and Jaintia Hills Region (East Jaintia Hills) is 100 Ha. The variety selected for this project includes:

1. Robusta: 730 Ha (CxR, Selection 274)
2. Arabica: 170 Ha (Chandragiri, selection 9)

The Plantation Crop Division of the department will be the implementation agency (IA) in conducting awareness and training programs for growing and nursery management (co-ops) as well as conducting timely field level inspection in partnership with coffee board. The department will be raising 15 lakhs coffee seeds in the existing nurseries and once these seedlings are ready for transplantation, they will be distributed among the existing beneficiaries in 130+coffee growing villages and also to the beneficiaries which will be added from the area to be expanded in 650+villages with orange orchards.

An amount of Rs.2,50,84,300/- (Rupees two crore Fifty lakh eighty-four thousand three hundred) only was sanctioned during the year 2023-24 for raising of 10,00,000 coffee seedlings; Rs.1,30,43,836/- Rupees (One crore Thirty lakh forty-three thousand eight hundred and thirty-six) only from 2402-Soil & Water Conservation–102 – SOIL CONSERVATION – STATE SCHEME (28) Meghalaya State Watershed & Wasteland Development Agency General Areas (36) Grants-in-aid General (Non-Salary) and Rs.1,20,40,464/- (Rupees One crore Twenty lakh Forty thousand Four hundred and sixty-four) only from 2402. Soil and Water Conservation – STATE SCHEMES – 102 – Soil Conservation – (29) Nursery – 27. Minor Works – Sixth Schedule Part II Areas.

### **3.2. 10. Externally Aided Programme:**

#### **Background and Introduction**

Despite having high annual rainfall, the State of Meghalaya faces significant water scarcity issues especially in the lean season; the situation has worsened in last 5 years due to the adverse impact of climate change. To address this challenge, the Government of Meghalaya in close collaboration with the Asian Development Bank has proposed to implement the Climate-Adaptive Community-based Water Harvesting Project. This **100 million USD** [US\$80.00 million (ADB) & US\$20.00 million (Govt of Meghalaya)] project involves the construction of around 1000 climate resilient water harvesting structures /Small Multipurpose Reservoirs, Command & Catchment area activities, livelihood improvement programs, institutional strengthening, capacity building programs, innovative technologies across the state.

The proposed project will strengthen climate-resilient water harvesting systems by creating an approximate pondage area of 700 Ha and approximate water storage of 22 million cubic meters, through community demand driven participatory approach. The increased surface water runoff, enhanced ground water levels, and increased conservation of water will ensure availability of water for irrigated agriculture, pisciculture, eco- tourism, and livestock rearing, thus creating livelihood opportunities, and significantly contributing to the socio-economic empowerment of Meghalaya. Mass afforestation programs and grassland development interventions will be undertaken in the command & catchment areas of the project, as part of an integrated watershed management approach. The proposed duration of the project is 6 years i.e., March 2024- Dec 2030

The proposed projects are to be implemented by Soil and Water Conservation Department (SWCD), Government of Meghalaya as Executing Agency and Meghalaya State Watershed and Wasteland Development Agency (MSWWDA) as Implementing Agency.

The objectives of project are the following:

- Ensure universal access to water for enhancing sustainable and efficient water-based livelihood opportunities the rural areas of Meghalaya.
- Enhance resilience to climate change (reduced number of precipitation days and increased precipitation intensity during rainy season with acute water-shortage during non-rainy season).
- Establish institutional mechanism for community ownership and integrated management of water resources in line with Meghalaya Water Policy, 2019.
- Adopt social and environmental safeguards in all aspects of project planning and implementation in order to avoid, minimize and mitigate associated impacts and risks.

The outcomes of project are the following:

- Institutional capacity for climate resilient and sustainable management of water harvesting systems developed:
- Climate resilient water harvesting systems developed
- Enhanced livelihood for communities piloted

### The current proposal (Phase 1- 382 Sub- projects)

The proposed 382 sub projects will help for creating a total pondage area of 323.17 Ha and the type of water harvesting structures proposed are seven. As part of the sub projects, the various catchment area treatment activities viz contour trenches, bench terracing, contour bunding, gully plug, afforestation, etc. covers an area of 12542 Ha and command area development activities viz irrigation channel, on firm development etc. which covers an area of 2444 Ha are also proposed in 12 districts across the state.

<u>ACHIEVEMENT DURING 2023-24</u>		
Name of Scheme	Physical Achievement	Financial Achievement
<b>102. SOIL CONSERVATION SCHEME</b>		
(04) Erosion Control Works	47 Nos.	1,66,30,900
(06) Afforestation	2nd Year (Afforestation) * 2261 Ha.	Planting 12,13,11,694
	3rd year (Afforestation) 672 Ha.	Planting 2,98,90,560
	1st year (Miyawaki Method) 60 Ha.	Planting 4,68,78,000
(08) Water Conservation & Distribution Works	52 Nos.	1,61,79,500
(09) Cash Crop Development Works	Cash Crop Development Works (Old Ongoing Scheme) 563 Ha.	Works Scheme) 98,30,158
	1st year (Cocoa & Black Pepper Plantation) 30 Ha.	Planting 53,60,970
	2nd year (Cocoa & Black Pepper Plantation) 70 Ha.	Planting 50,39,536
	3rd year (Cocoa & Black Pepper Plantation) 60 Ha.	Planting 35,20,314
	2nd year (Mixed Intercropping) 60 Ha.	Planting 20,73,200
	3rd year (Mixed Intercropping) 30 Ha.	Planting 9,97,000
	2nd year (Packing Leaf)	Planting

	10 Ha.	10,00,000
(10) Conservation Works in Urban Areas	27 Nos.	56,22,700
(11) Water Harvesting Works / Farm ponds, etc.	17 Nos.	64,33,000
(12) Avenue Plantation		
(19) Jhum Control Scheme		
(24) Maintenance of Roads to Works Areas		
(29) Nursery	4,80,000 Seedlings	1,20,40,464
(30) Sloping Agriculture Land Technology (SALT)	2nd Planting SALT-200 Ha.	3,11,90,000
Robusta CXR	10,00,000 Nos.	2,50,84,300

### 3.3. Centrally Sponsored Schemes

**3.3.1. New Generation Watershed Development Projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Watershed Development Component 2.0 (PMKSY-WDC-2.0). Funded by Dept. of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development; Government of India**

**Key features:**

- Focus on agro-ecology, rejuvenation of natural springs, livelihood opportunities, risk management, and institutional development.

**Objectives:**

- To treat degraded lands and develop rainfed areas through watershed management practices.
- To improve water use efficiency and enhance agricultural productivity in rainfed regions.
- To reduce dependence on groundwater and promote sustainable water resource management.
- To create sustainable livelihood opportunities for rural communities, particularly women and marginalized groups.
- To contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation by restoring ecological balance and promoting sustainable land use practices.

**Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Watershed Development Component 2.0 (PMKSY-WDC 2.0) focuses on soil and water conservation through land management in rural areas of country.**

- Natural Resource Management: Proper management of nature helps to conserve it and in turn, offer benefits such as the maintenance of soil health, restored water levels thus encouraging sustained productivity with Agriculture.

- Improved Agricultural Production: Water conservation and irrigation, soil fertility management leads to improved agricultural production.
- Training Programmes: WDC 2.0 provides training programs to skill the rural populace on topics related to sustainable agriculture, water management and micro entrepreneurship.
- Self-Help Groups (SHG): The programme facilitates the formation of Self-Help Groups (SHG) which undertake different income generating activities like vermi-composting, bee-keeping or small-scale food processing enterprises. Financial assistance is also given, which helps them start or expand their business that will further make beneficial changes into their life.
- Focus on Gender Equality: The programme emphasizes on gender equality by ensuring that women have equal access to resources, benefits in the watershed activities, providing them with income-generating livelihood opportunities and roles in decision-making within their communities.

#### **Implementation:**

- The program is implemented by the Department of Land Resources under the Ministry of Rural Development.
- Central financial assistance is provided to states and union territories for implementing watershed development projects.
- State governments play a crucial role in identifying suitable watersheds, preparing project proposals, and overseeing the implementation of activities.
- Local communities are actively involved in the planning, implementation, and management of watershed projects, ensuring their ownership and sustainability.

#### **Expected outcomes:**

- Increased agricultural productivity and income for farmers in rainfed regions.
- Improved water security and reduced dependence on groundwater.
- Enhanced ecological resilience and biodiversity conservation.
- Improved livelihoods and quality of life for rural communities.
- Contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to poverty, hunger, water, and climate action.

A total of 28 projects has been sanctioned all throughout the state during the year 2021-22 for a period of five (5) years amounting total project cost of Rs.15324.4 Lakh. Additionally, 4 Nos. of project sanctioned in the year 2022-23 with a total cost of Rs.2240 Lakh.

**List of Project under New Generation Watershed Development Project (WDC-PMKSY 2.0)**

Sl. No.	Name of District	Name of Project	Total Project Cost (Rs. in crores)	Expenditure up to 2022-23	Expenditure during the Year 2023-24	Cumulative Expenditure as on 31.03.2024	Balance
a	b	c	d	e	f	g=(e+f)	h
1	West Hills	West Khasi Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	3.50	0.8798992	1.0493967	1.9292959	1.5707041
		West Khasi Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	3.50	0.9156746	0.9857347	1.9014093	1.5985907
2	Eastern West Khasi Hills	West Khasi Hills-WDC-3/2021-22	3.50	1.1507585	0.7867573	1.9375158	1.5624842
		West Khasi Hills-WDC-4/2021-22	3.50	1.0890504	0.8563049	1.9453553	1.5546447
		<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4.0353827</b>	<b>3.6781936</b>	<b>7.7135763</b>	<b>6.2864237</b>
3	East Jaintia Hills	East Jaintia Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	9.66	0.8095113	4.5129285	5.3224398	4.3375602
		East Jaintia Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	4.20	0.5428324	1.812826	2.3556584	1.8443416
		<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>13.86</b>	<b>1.3523437</b>	<b>6.3257545</b>	<b>7.6780982</b>	<b>6.1819018</b>
4	East Garo Hills	East Garo Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	5.04	1.292161	1.5189601	2.8111211	2.2288789
		East Garo Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	4.20	1.0665727	1.2805469	2.3471196	1.8528804
		<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3.5751699</b>	<b>4.2476316</b>	<b>7.82228015</b>	<b>6.1771985</b>
5	West Jaintia Hills	West Jaintia Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	6.72	1.2131652	2.5507046	3.7638698	2.9561302
		West Jaintia Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	7.28	1.194898	2.8510194	4.0710251	3.2089749
		West Jaintia Hills-WDC-3/2022-23	5.60	0	0.7251077	0.7251077	4.8748923
		<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>2.4080632</b>	<b>6.1268317</b>	<b>8.5600026</b>	<b>11.0399974</b>

6	North Hills	Garo	North Garo Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	4.48	1.3723929	1.1155611	2.487954	1.9920460
		Garo	North Garo Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	4.76	1.46211	1.1990092	2.6611192	2.0988808
		Garo	North Garo Hills-WDC-3/2021-22	4.76	0.9470779	1.7124292	2.6595071	2.1004929
		<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>3.7815808</b>	<b>4.026995</b>	<b>7.8085803</b>	<b>6.1914197</b>
7	South Khasi Hills	West	Khasi	Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	6.58	1.9856864	1.6241192	3.6098056
		South	West	Khasi	Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	6.86	1.4967661	2.2650743
		South	West	Khasi	Hills-WDC-3/2022-23	5.60	0	0.6261626
		<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>19.04</b>	<b>3.4824525</b>	<b>4.5153561</b>	<b>7.9978086</b>	<b>11.0421914</b>
8	West Hills	Garo	West Garo Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	8.12	2.9159587	1.5389309	4.4548896	3.6651104
		Garo	West Garo Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	5.88	2.1406833	* 1.1249988	3.2656821	2.6143179
		Garo	West Garo Hills-WDC-3/2022-23	5.60	0	0.6306923	0.6306923	4.9693077
		<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>19.6</b>	<b>5.056642</b>	<b>3.294622</b>	<b>8.351264</b>	<b>11.2487360</b>
9	East Khasi Hills		East Khasi Hills-WDC-1/2021-2022	4.76	0.6382416	2.0237336	2.6619752	2.0980248
			East Khasi Hills-WDC-2/2021-2022	4.70	0.8742132	1.7553106	2.6295238	2.0744762
			East Khasi Hills-WDC-3/2021-2022	4.48	0.6748282	1.8458744	2.5207026	1.9592974
		<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>13.944</b>	<b>2.187283</b>	<b>5.6249186</b>	<b>7.8122016</b>	<b>6.1317984</b>
10	South Hills	Garo	South Garo Hills-WDC-1/2021-22	7.28	3.0400429	1.332867	4.3729099	2.9070901
		Garo	South Garo Hills-WDC-2/2021-22	6.72	2.2622613	1.2241978	3.4864591	3.2335409
		Garo	South Garo Hills-WDC-3/2022-23	5.60	0	0.2650048	0.2650048	5.3349952
		<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>19.6</b>	<b>5.3023042</b>	<b>2.8220696</b>	<b>8.1243738</b>	<b>11.4756262</b>

		Ri Bhoi	Ri Bhoi-WDC-1/2021-22	8.40	0.6792631	4.013089	4.6923521	3.7076479
11	Ri Bhoi	Ri Bhoi-WDC-2/2021-22		5.60	0.5322811	2.5652356	3.0975167	2.5024833
		<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>1.2115442</b>	<b>6.5783246</b>	<b>7.7898688</b>	<b>6.2101312</b>
		South West Garo Hills-WDC-1/2021-22		5.60	1.7950915	1.3363585	3.13145	2.4685500
12	South Garo Hills	South West Garo Hills-WDC-2/2021-22		3.92	1.320085	0.8597448	2.1798298	1.7401702
		South West Garo Hills-WDC-3/2021-22		4.48	1.3969737	1.1788886	2.5758623	1.9041377
		<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>4.5121502</b>	<b>3.3749919</b>	<b>7.8871421</b>	<b>6.1128579</b>
		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>32 Nos</b>	<b>175.644</b>	<b>36.9049164</b>	<b>50.6156937</b>	<b>87.5457178</b>	<b>88.0982822</b>

## **Meghalaya State Watershed and Wasteland Development Agency (MSWWDA)**

For the state of Meghalaya and the implementation of Watershed Development project, the SLNA was constituted on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009, called the Meghalaya State Watershed & Wasteland Development Agency (MSWWDA) which has been registered under the Meghalaya Societies Registration Act, XII of 1983.

The main functions of the MSWWDA are:

- Prepare the State Perspective and Strategic Plan of watershed development of the state
- Establish and maintain a State Level Data Cell from funds sanctioned by the Government of India
- Provide technical support to the Watershed Cell cum Data Centre
- Approve independent institutions for capacity building and work out the overall capacity building strategy
- Approve Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) identified/selected by District Level Committee by adopting appropriate objective selection criteria and transparent system
- Establish monitoring, evaluation and learning systems at various levels
- Ensure regular and quality online monitoring of watershed projects in the state
- Prepare State Specific Process Guidelines, Technology Manuals, etc. in coordination with the Nodal Ministry/NRAA and operationalize the same.

### **3.3.2 Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)**

The Soil and Water Conservation Department is implementing Natural Resource Management Sector for Soil and Water Conservation Activities (i.e. Terracing, Gully Control Measures, Spill Ways, Check Dams, Spurs, Diversion Drains, Protection Walls etc).

These works under the Natural Resources Management Sector will provide infrastructure/assets that enable farmers to improve crop production for sustaining their livelihood and to help them in income earning activities.

These works under the Natural Resources Management Sector will provide infrastructure/assets that enable farmers to improve crop production for sustaining their livelihood and to help them in income earning activities. Thrust has been made to expand the areas in the lower slope and valley bottom through land development. Besides these, emphasis has also been made for inclusion of farmers with marginal and small land holdings for improving their overall income through farming activities.

For the Financial Year 2023-24, the total no of 10 projects have been approved from 10 districts amounting to Rs.6,23,52,258 (Rupees Six crore twenty-three lakh fifty -two thousand two hundred and fifty-eight) only of which an amount of Rs.1,71,80,220 (Rupees One crore seventy-one lakh eighty thousand two hundred and twenty) only was received for the year 2023-24.

Rs 1,04,36,228 (Rupees One crore four lakhs thirty-six thousand two hundred and twenty-eight) only has been utilised during the financial year 2023-24 and an amount of Rs. 67,43,992 (Rupees Sixty-seven lakh forty-three thousand nine hundred and ninety-two) was left unutilized and carried over to the next financial year.

**PROGRESS OF PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SECTOR UNDER RKVY DURING THE YEAR 2023-2024**

SI No	District	Name of Project/Scheme	Name of the Block	Name of C&RD	Target for the Year 2023-24		Achievement during the year 2023-24	
					Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial
1	South West Khasi Hills	Panchiriring RKVY	Ranikor Hills	Ranikor	RCC Dam & Protection Wall	1319958	Nil	Nil
2	North Garo Hills	Nelwa RKVY	Kharkutta	RCC Dam	2066100		1 No. RCC Dam	2066100
3	South Garo Hills	RKVY 2023-24	Gasuapara	Irrigation Channel	10006400		1 No. Irrigation Channel	10006400
4	Ri-Bhoi	Wah RKVY	Umieng Jirang	RCC Dam	1213000		Nil	Nil
5	East Jaintia Hills	Wah RKVY Project	Umshlen Khlehriet	CC Channel	1175774		Nil	Nil
6	Eastern West Khasi Hills	Massar RKVY	Mawthadraishan Hills	1 No. Water Harvesting Structure	1583420		1 No. Water Harvesting Structure	1583420

7	East Khasi Hills	Wah RKVV	Umda Mawryngkneng	RCC Dam	899900	1 No RCC Dam	504640
8	East Garo Hills	Doktil RKVV	Samanda	1 No. Water Harvesting Structure	2191668	1 No. Water Harvesting Structure	2191668
9	South West Garo Hills	Ghilajuri RKVV	Zikzak	No. RCC Dam	2624000	1 No. RCC Dam	2624000
10	West Garo Hills	Extension of Boro Rice Cultivation RKVV	Selsella	25 Ha Boro Rice	3100000	3.8 Ha Boro Rice	460000
<b>Total= Rs. 1,71,80,220</b>						<b>Total= Rs 104,36,228</b>	

### **3.4. Other Schemes Implemented by the Department**

#### **3.4.1. Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), NABARD Loan**

The main objective of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) projects is for promoting sustainable and equitable agriculture and rural development through effective credit support, related services, institution building and other innovative initiatives.

##### **Aims and Objectives**

- To reduce land degradation through soil and moisture conservation works.
- To provide assured water availability to the agriculture lands.
- To protect agriculture lands from stream bank erosion.
- To enhance the overall productivity of arable land

##### **Project Intervention**

To achieve the above aims and objectives, construction of the following Soil & Water Conservation Structures are taken up: -

- Small Multipurpose Reservoirs / Water Harvesting Structures / Farm Ponds.
- Head Water Dam / Diversion Dam, etc.
- Irrigation Channel
- Protection Wall / Retaining Wall / Gabion Structure.
- Bench Terraces / Contour Bund.
- Improvement of existing paddy fields, etc.

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE 39 NOS. PROJECTS UNDER RIDF-XXVII**

Year of Commencement: 2022-23

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Name of District	Name of C&RD Block	Total (` in Lakh)	Project Cost	Total Area to be treated (Hectare )	Expenditure incurred during 2023-24 (` in Lakh)		Area treated during 2022-23 (Hectare)	Cumulative Incurred (` in Lakh)	Expenditure UPTO 2023-24	Area treated UPTO 2023-24 (Hectare)
							NABARD Loan	State Share				
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
1	Rangkol RVP	East Garo Hills	Rongjeng	47.50	2.50	50.00	23.50	1.75	35.00	7.00	47.50	2.50
2	Nengmandalgre RVP	East Garo Hills	Samanda	95.00	5.00	100.00	43.00	66.50	3.50	70.00	13.00	95.00
3	Umthning RVP	East Jaintia Hills	Khiehriat	19.00	1.00	20.00	9.00	13.30	0.70	14.00	3.00	19.00
4	Wahsakbur RVP	East Jaintia Hills	Khiehriat	76.00	4.00	80.00	45.00	53.20	2.80	56.00	14.00	76.00
5	Hali Kseh RVP	East Jaintia Hills	Saipung	9.50	0.50	10.00	5.00	6.65	0.35	7.00	2.00	9.50
6	Thiu Kiang RVP	East Jaintia Hills	Saipung	38.00	2.00	40.00	20.00	26.60	1.40	28.00	6.00	38.00
7	Umlhung RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mawkyntew	9.50	0.50	10.00	5.80	6.65	0.35	7.00	2.00	9.50
8	Wah Rynkon RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mawkyntew	47.50	2.50	50.00	22.40	33.25	1.75	35.00	7.00	47.50
9	Umkynrem RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mawsynram	47.50	2.50	50.00	23.00	33.25	1.75	35.00	7.00	47.50
10	Wah Dholai RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mawsynram	47.50	2.50	50.00	31.00	33.25	1.75	35.00	9.00	47.50
11	Umpfrup RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mylliem	38.00	2.00	40.00	16.80	26.60	1.40	28.00	5.00	38.00
12	Wah Mawpun RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mylliem	95.00	5.00	100.00	46.50	66.50	3.50	70.00	14.00	95.00
13	Wah Nongbet RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mylliem	85.50	4.50	90.00	41.00	59.85	3.15	63.00	12.00	85.50
14	Wah Nonngumleng RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mylliem	95.00	5.00	100.00	42.60	66.50	3.50	70.00	13.00	95.00
15	Wah Pdengbri RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mylliem	57.00	3.00	60.00	28.50	39.90	2.10	42.00	9.00	57.00
16	Wah Umieng RVP	East Khasi Hills	Mylliem	47.50	2.50	50.00	21.80	33.25	1.75	35.00	7.00	47.50
17	Chilchora Phase-II RVP	North Garo Hills	Resubelpara	23.75	1.25	25.00	20.00	16.62	0.88	17.50	6.00	23.75
18	Dumisi Phase-II RVP	North Garo Hills	Resubelpara	23.75	1.25	25.00	25.00	16.62	0.88	17.50	8.00	23.75
19	Rongkamini RVP	North Garo Hills	Resubelpara	38.00	2.00	40.00	38.00	26.60	1.40	28.00	11.00	38.00
20	Sambrak RVP	North Garo Hills	Kharkuitta	57.00	3.00	60.00	35.00	39.91	2.09	42.00	11.00	57.00
21	Shakoikuna RVP	Ri-Bhoi	Umling	95.00	5.00	100.00	41.00	66.50	3.50	70.00	12.00	95.00

22	Umtliang-Umle RVP	Ri-Bhoi	Umling	142.50	7.50	150.00	61.00	99.75	5.25	105.00	18.00	142.50	7.50	150.00	61.00
23	Chiganggrot RVP	South Garo Hills	Chokpot	138.85	7.31	146.16	58.46	97.20	5.11	102.31	18.00	138.85	7.31	146.16	58.46
24	Dangsila RVP	South Garo Hills	Gasupara	146.15	7.69	153.84	61.53	102.30	5.39	107.69	18.00	146.15	7.69	153.84	61.53
25	Bokman RVP	South West Garo Hills	Betasing	133.00	7.00	140.00	56.00	93.10	4.90	98.00	17.00	133.00	7.00	140.00	56.00
26	Naogati RVP	South West Garo Hills	Betasing	57.00	3.00	60.00	24.00	39.90	2.10	42.00	7.00	57.00	3.00	60.00	24.00
27	Kakubari RVP	South West Garo Hills	Zikzak	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00	33.25	1.75	35.00	6.00	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00
28	Photkylla RVP	South Khasi Hills	West Ranikor	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00	33.25	1.75	35.00	6.00	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00
29	Upper Umjairain RVP	South Khasi Hills	West Mawkyrwat	95.00	5.00	100.00	62.43	66.50	3.50	70.00	19.00	95.00	5.00	100.00	62.43
30	Basulpura RVP	West Garo Hills	Dalu	28.50	1.50	30.00	12.00	28.50	1.50	30.00	0.00	28.50	1.50	30.00	12.00
31	Marapara RVP	West Garo Hills	Dalu	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00	12.71	0.67	13.38	6.00	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00
32	Mibonpara RVP	West Garo Hills	Dalu	38.00	2.00	40.00	16.00	38.00	2.00	40.00	0.00	38.00	2.00	40.00	16.00
33	Badupara RVP	West Garo Hills	Gambegre	38.00	2.00	40.00	16.00	38.00	2.00	40.00	0.00	38.00	2.00	40.00	16.00
34	Dilnigre RVP	West Garo Hills	Gambegre	38.00	2.00	40.00	16.00	38.00	2.00	40.00	0.00	38.00	2.00	40.00	16.00
35	Shekapara RVP	West Garo Hills	Selsella	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00	11.04	0.58	11.62	6.00	47.50	2.50	50.00	20.00
36	Umlabar RVP	West Jaintia Hills	Thadasklein	95.00	5.00	100.00	42.00	66.50	3.50	70.00	13.00	95.00	5.00	100.00	42.00
37	Wah Lumschhipi RVP	West Khasi Hills	Mairang	47.50	2.50	50.00	33.70	33.25	1.75	35.00	10.00	47.50	2.50	50.00	33.70
38	Diengiri RVP	West Khasi Hills	Nongstoin	11.48	0.60	12.08	4.20	8.04	0.41	8.45	1.00	11.48	0.60	12.08	4.20
39	Nongspung-Kyrsai RVP	West Khasi Hills	Nongstoin	83.52	4.40	87.92	67.00	58.46	3.09	61.55	20.00	83.52	4.40	87.92	67.00
<b>Grand Total: {39 nos.}</b>		<b>2375.00</b>	<b>125.00</b>	<b>2500.00</b>	<b>1194.22</b>	<b>1662.50</b>	<b>87.50</b>	<b>1750.00</b>	<b>343.00</b>	<b>2375.00</b>	<b>125.00</b>	<b>2500.00</b>	<b>1194.22</b>		

Remark: All the above 39 nos. projects have been completed during the FY 2023-24.

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE 14 NOS. PROJECTS UNDER RIDF-XXIX**

Sl. No.	Name Project	of District	Name of C&RD Block	Total Project Cost			Area to be treated	Expenditure during 2023-24	Incurred during 2023-24	BALANCE FUND			Area Yet to be Treated (Hectare )		
				NABAR D Loan	State Share	Total				NABAR D Loan	State Share	Total			
				(Rs. in Lakh)	(Rs. in Lakh)	(Rs. in Lakh)				(Hectare )	(Hectare )	(Hectare )			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Nengsang RVP	East Garo Hills	Samanda	95	5	100	40	28.5	1.5	30	12	66.5	3.5	70	28
2	Upper Umpyoid Phase-II RVP	East Jaintia Hills	Saibung	66.5	3.5	70	40	19.94	1.06	21	12	46.56	2.44	49	28
3	Wah SMR	East Khasi Hills	Mawkyneaw	66.5	3.5	70	9	19.94	1.06	21	3	46.56	2.44	49	6
4	Rongmagre RVP	North Garo Hills	Resubelpara	80.75	4.25	85	28.5	24.23	1.27	25.5	9	56.52	2.98	59.5	19.5
5	Umlingkdait (New Tasku) RVP	Ri-Bhoi	Jirang	95	5	100	12.5	28.5	1.5	30	4	66.5	3.5	70	8.5
6	Dopangkal SMR	South Garo Hills	Rongara	80.75	4.25	85	34	24.23	1.27	25.5	10	56.52	2.98	59.5	24
7	Naragre RVP	South West Garo Hills	Rerapara	85.5	4.5	90	36	25.65	1.35	27	11	59.85	3.15	63	25
8	Phodumpheung RVP	South West Khasi Hills	Mawkyrwat	80.75	4.25	85	34	24.23	1.27	25.5	10	56.52	2.98	59.5	24
9	Deldik MIP	West Garo Hills	Rongram	80.75	4.25	85	12.34	24.23	1.27	25.5	4	56.52	2.98	59.5	8.34

10	Mukhia RVP	West Jaintia Hills	Thadlaiknein	47.5	2.5	50	12.5	14.25	0.75	15	4	33.25	1.75	35	8.5	
11	Wah SMR	Kyntein	West Jaintia Hills	Laskein	19	1	20	5	5.7	0.3	6	2	13.3	0.7	14	3
12	Wahsohhylla m RVP	Eastern West Khasi Hills	Mairang	63.65	3.35	67	46.6	19.1	1	20.1	14	44.55	2.35	46.9	32.6	
13	Wahumlyngdo h Phase-I RVP	Eastern West Khasi Hills	Mairang	21.85	1.15	23	10	6.56	0.34	6.9	3	15.29	0.81	16.1	7	
14	Umtyrkhang Phase-I RVP	West Khasi Hills	Nongstoin	66.5	3.5	70	53	19.94	1.06	21	16	46.56	2.44	49	37	
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>950</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>373.44</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>259.44</b>	

### **3.5. CONSERVATION TRAINING INSTITUTE (CTI), BYRNihat**

The Conservation Training Institute (CTI) is one of the oldest Institutes in the North Eastern Region of India. It has immensely and consistently contributed to soil and water conservation in the region since its establishment in 15th October, 1973, by meeting the training requirements of the Department and allied organizations of the state as well as the region as a whole both at the Soil and Water Conservation Demonstrator/ Forester Level and Range Officer Level.

The Conservation Training Institute mainly conducts two long term training programmes, namely:

- **Field Assistant Training Programme**: - The Field Assistant Training Programme is designed for Field Executives in the Rank of Soil & Water Conservation Demonstrator Junior-I and equivalent. During the year 2023-2024, the 50<sup>th</sup> Batch (2023-2024) of the field Assistant Training Programme commenced from 02.06.2023, having 12 (twelve) nos. of trainees.
- **Middle Level Technician Training Programme**: - The Middle Level Technician Training Programme (5 ½ months) conducted 2 batches in the year 2023. The 35<sup>th</sup> & 36<sup>th</sup> Batch, commencing w.e.f. 5.05.2023 and 16.11.24 respectively has a total of 14 (fourteen) trainees.

### **3.6. Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board (MCCDB)**

The Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board (MCCDB) came into being vide an Act called the Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board Act, 1996 effected from 1st June, 1997. However, the MCCDB actually formally inaugurated its office at Dhankheti, Shillong on the 3rd August, 2001 and its nucleus Branch at Tura was inaugurated on the 21st May, 2002. The activities of the Board include the promotion of commercial crops cultivation, processing and marketing in the State.

## **CHAPTER-IV**

### **4.1. E-GOVERNANCE**

**Initiatives taken under e-governance by the Department:**

**1. Departmental website – [www. megsoil.gov.in](http://www.megsoil.gov.in)**

- **Main Content**
- Why Soil and Water Conservation
- Basic Information
- Major Programmes
- Guidelines for Central Schemes
- Training Institute
- Achievements
- Annual Report
- Citizens' Charter
- Right to Information - Suo Moto Disclosure under RTI Act.
- IWMP (Integrated Watershed Management Programme)- Detailed Project Report
- MCCDB (Meghalaya Commercial Crops Development Board)
- Others
- Notice Board
- Picture Gallery

**2. Management Information System (MIS) IWMP.**

**3. Management Information System (MIS) NBM**

**3. Public Financial Management System (PFMS).**

**4. BHUVAN - Drishti-Srishti.**

#### **4.2. Education and Training 2023 – 2024 (April 2023 up to March 2024)**

##### **A. Various Training of Gazetted Officers and Staff for the year ending 2023-24:**

- 1.** The Department deputed (i) Shri. C. Ch. Marak – Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Office Tura (Territorial) Division & (ii) Shri. E. Kharkrang- Divisional Soil & Water Conservation Office South West Khasi Hills Mawkyrwat Division, to attend the training at the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Summit 2023 from 25-26 August 2023 at New Delhi- India.
  
- 2.** The Department deputed Shri. Shongdorlang Chyne – Senior Soil & Water Conservation Demonstrator (Draughtsman) to attend the training at NESAC on the 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023.
  
- 3.** The Department deputed (i) Shri. Juneshaibor Lyngdoh Soil & Water Conservation Demonstrator (Junior), (ii) Shri. Frankie Nongsiej, (iii) Shri. Banshanlang Syiem, (iv) Shri. Shiningstar Kharkong (Surveyor), (v) Shri. Khrawpyrkhat Thangkhiew (Draughtsman), and (vi) Shri. Peningstar Nongrung Soil & Water Conservation Demonstrator (Junior), to attend the training on “Geo-Spatial Technologies & Applications” at NESAC on the 18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2023.

## **CHAPTER V**

### **5.1. Success Stories**

#### **WATER CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE (ECOLOGICAL & LIVE LIHOOD) OF MAWRAH MULTIPURPOSE RESERVOIR**

##### ***SCENARIO OF THE PROJECT***

###### **MAWRAH VILLAGE**

The village is located at a distance of about 40 km south of Shillong under Khatarshnong – Laitkroh C&RD Block in East Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya. There are 252 households in the village at present with a population of over 1000 individuals. Geographically, the area is a plateau region with elevations reaching up to 1830 m above MSL. The climatic zone of the place falls under the eco-tone region overlapped by temperate and subtropical climates.

###### **PROJECT AREA**

The Mawrah Multipurpose Reservoir Project is situated towards the South East of Mawrah village with GPS readings 25.379153° N and 91.779780° E. The project area comprises a micro catchment (27.30 Ha), out of which 7.70 Ha is submerged under the water body of the reservoir. Various interventions have been taken up in the project which include catchment area protection initiatives, infrastructure development and others.

###### **PROBLEMS IN THE AREA**

Economic hardship is one of the major problems for the people in the area where livelihood opportunities are very minimal. The geography and climate of the place do not favour agro-based livelihood activities, thereby making people depending on other alternative income sources such as stone quarrying, collection of forest products and engaging in daily wage labour.

Slate and sand mining are the common activities found in the project area which render irreparable destruction to the environment and the ecology. Regular collection of firewood for selling to local markets causes huge depletion of forest cover in the area leading to land degradation. The denuded land is highly vulnerable to soil erosion owing to long spell of heavy monsoon over the place. These activities lead to the overall drying up of spring water, rivulets, streams and other water sources.



*Participation of the Village Governing Body in Planning and Decision Making*

## **PROBLEM ANALYSIS**

During formulation of the project, it is thought that mere creation of awareness about nature and conservation of water bodies will not bring much impact to the local populace. However, new eco-friendly employment opportunities are to be generated in order to drive people from engaging themselves on conventional and destructive activities into more viable and sustainable livelihoods.

It is assumed that the creation of a huge water reservoir will be an asset creation which can generate several water-based livelihood initiatives. As a result, the availability of water for irrigation will enhance the scope for agriculture and cultivation. In addition, fishery activities and eco-tourism will provide substantial employment opportunity to local community and also boost the revenue of the state.



*Collective Discussion at Community Level*

#### **PROJECT APPROACH & IMPLEMENTATION**

The Shillong Territorial Division under Soil & Water Conservation Department, Govt. of Meghalaya has implemented the project through the active involvement of the village community. The Village Dorbar has actively participated since planning & formulation stage and also carried out significant task in decision making and facilitation of works on the field. This participatory approach has not only speed up the works, it also brings a sense of belongingness and has contributed a lot in the overall success of the project.

#### **PROJECT FORMULATION**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Year</b>
Construction of Main RCC Arch Dam	NABARD RIDF XXVI (Addl.)	Rs 150 lakh	2021-2022
Springs Rejuvenation, Catchment Area protection Construction of footbridge over head dam, Drinking water WHS, Afforestation	State Scheme	Rs 99.88 lakh	2022-2023
Infrastructure & Eco-tourism Development	In collaboration with Meghalayan Age Ltd.	Rs 123.139 lakh	2023-2024
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>Rs 313.017 lakh</b>	<b>As of September 2024</b>



## OUTPUTS

*a. Tangible:*

- Employment: Almost all households of Mawrah village have benefitted directly or indirectly through involvement in various activities throughout the implementation of the project.
- All season & sufficient supply of drinking water for Mawrah & Rangtmah villages is ensured.
- Quantity of water harvested & stored at present:
  - i. Main Reservoir – 528000 m<sup>3</sup> (528 million litres)
  - ii. Drinking Water Reservoir – 310 m<sup>3</sup> (0.31 million litres)
- The water body is expected to boost the livelihood opportunities for the local populace in the coming years through eco-tourism, fishery, irrigation and other activities.

*b. Intangible:*

- The aesthetic beauty of the place is greatly improved through the presence of the water body. Undoubtedly it is a potential for tourist attraction and other recreational purposes.

- The presence of the reservoir, recharge trenches, afforestation etc. offers a conducive environment for ground water recharge as well as the sustenance of underlying aquifers.
- Besides these, the water body is associated with other ecological importance, as becoming a home of few native fish species and also has attracted few migratory avian species such as migratory ducks (Baer's Pochard), swallows, etc.



*Women taking active role in maintaining cleanliness in and around the water body*

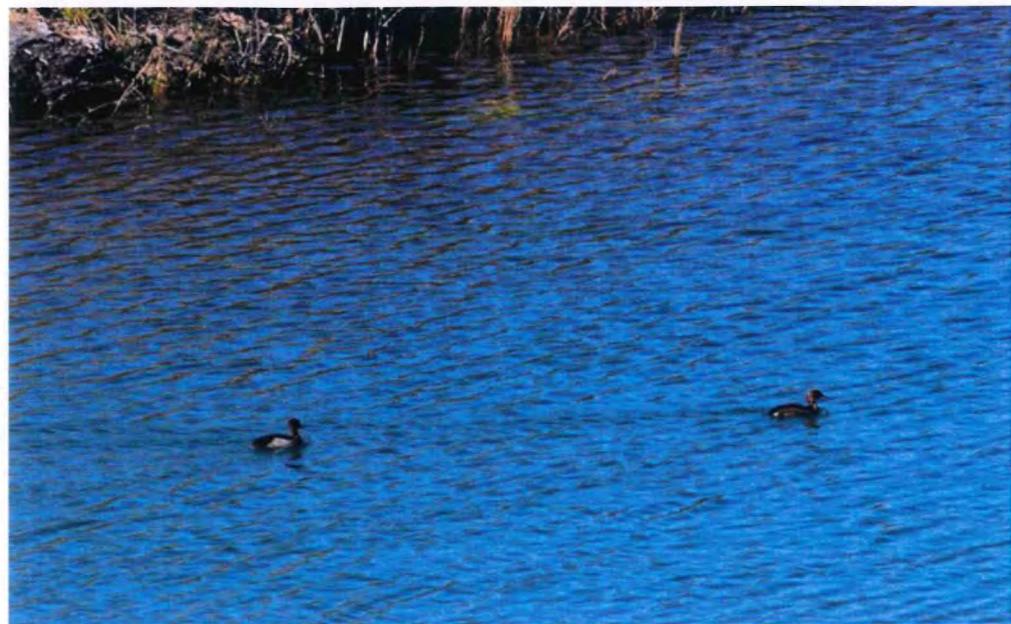
## OUTCOMES

After two years of implementation, the project has thrown a new light to the local community in which various initiatives have been taken up at village level for the protection and conservation of the water body and its catchment. A few examples are:

- a) The Village Governing Body has stopped giving permission for settlements in areas falling under the catchment or near the water body as a step to protect and preserve serenity and cleanliness of the place.
- b) New plots of land for relocation of existing settlements were allocated by the Village Dorbar for those which are in close proximity with the reservoir. Eventually, in 2023 alone, two households were relocated successfully.

In addition, the community has prohibited all mining activities and other works which

## IMPACTS



Sl. No.	Pre Project	Post Project
1	The land/catchment area is primarily degraded due to anthropogenic activities such as mining, deforestation, grazing, etc.	Land use pattern is greatly improved considering the ongoing catchment area protection activities such as afforestation, loose boulder check dams, etc.
2	About two-thirds of the total project area was a mine spoilt area which was left degraded, marshy and unusable.	The area is converted into an attractive water body which offers huge potential for ecotourism and other recreational activities.
3	The degraded area has minimal contribution towards ecology and biodiversity conservation.	In the past few months, it is observed that the existing water body is turning a home of native fish species and few migratory birds
4	There was no water conservation practices adopted earlier.	An approximated volume of 528000 m <sup>3</sup> of water is stored in the reservoir at present.
5	The whole catchment including the source feeding potable water to Mawrah & Rangtmah villages are threatened.	Several spring sources within the catchment area are treated and protected. As a result, the problem of water scarcity in the coming years is being addressed.
6	No awareness and public sensitization Regarding water conservation and its utilization in the area.	Several awareness programs were conducted from time to time in the village.
7	As local people could not utilize the spoilt & degraded area in any form, hence there was no socio-economic contribution to rural livelihoods.	The huge water body is expected to improve the socio-economic condition of the local communities (Mawrah & Rangtmah village) through Eco-tourism, fisheries and other water related activities.

*Migratory Ducks (Baer's Pochard) arriving at the Reservoir. (Pic: December 2023)*

## **PHOTO OF DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES**



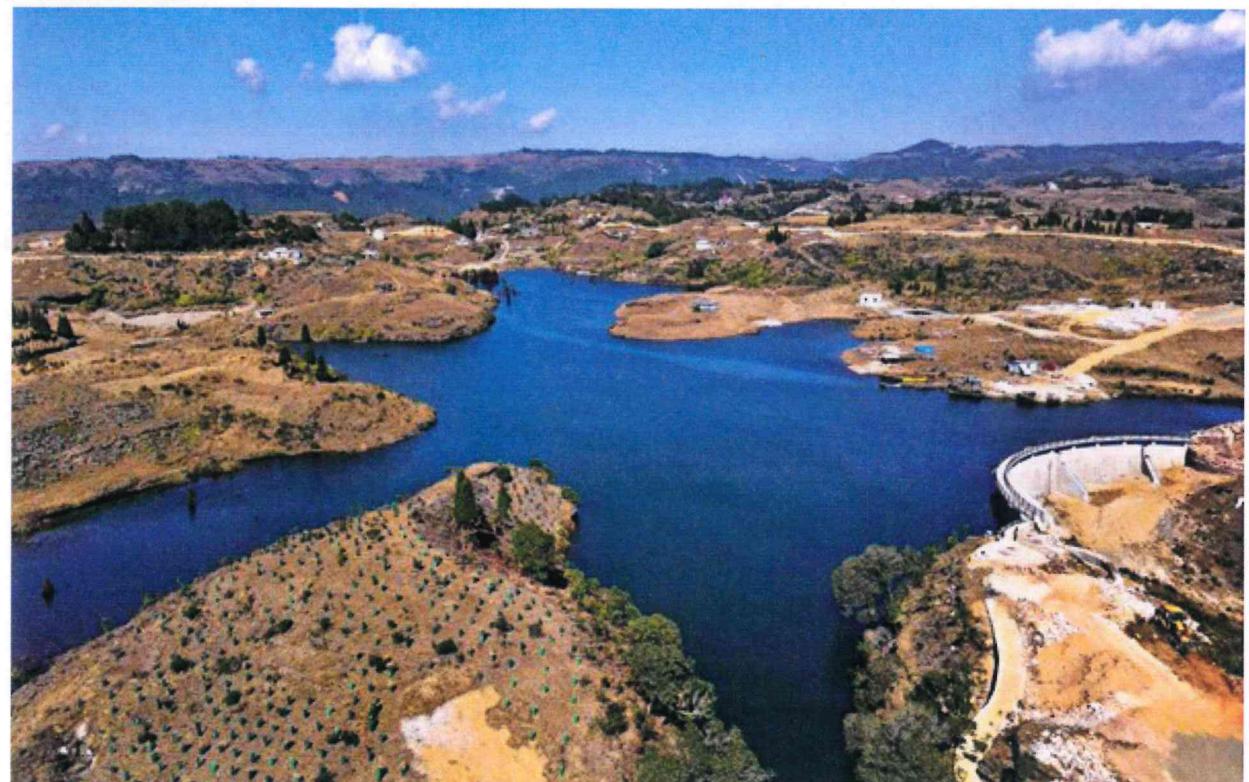
**Unproductive land (Pre-project)**



**Degraded condition of the site due to past mining activities.**



**Arch dam & Reservoir (Post Project)**



**Aerial view of the Reservoir (Post Project)**



**Public sensitization by the Soil & Water Conservation Department 27.02.2021**



**Representatives from Mawrah attended the celebration of Water Heritage Forthnight at Ward's Lake, Shillong, organised by the office of the Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2023.**



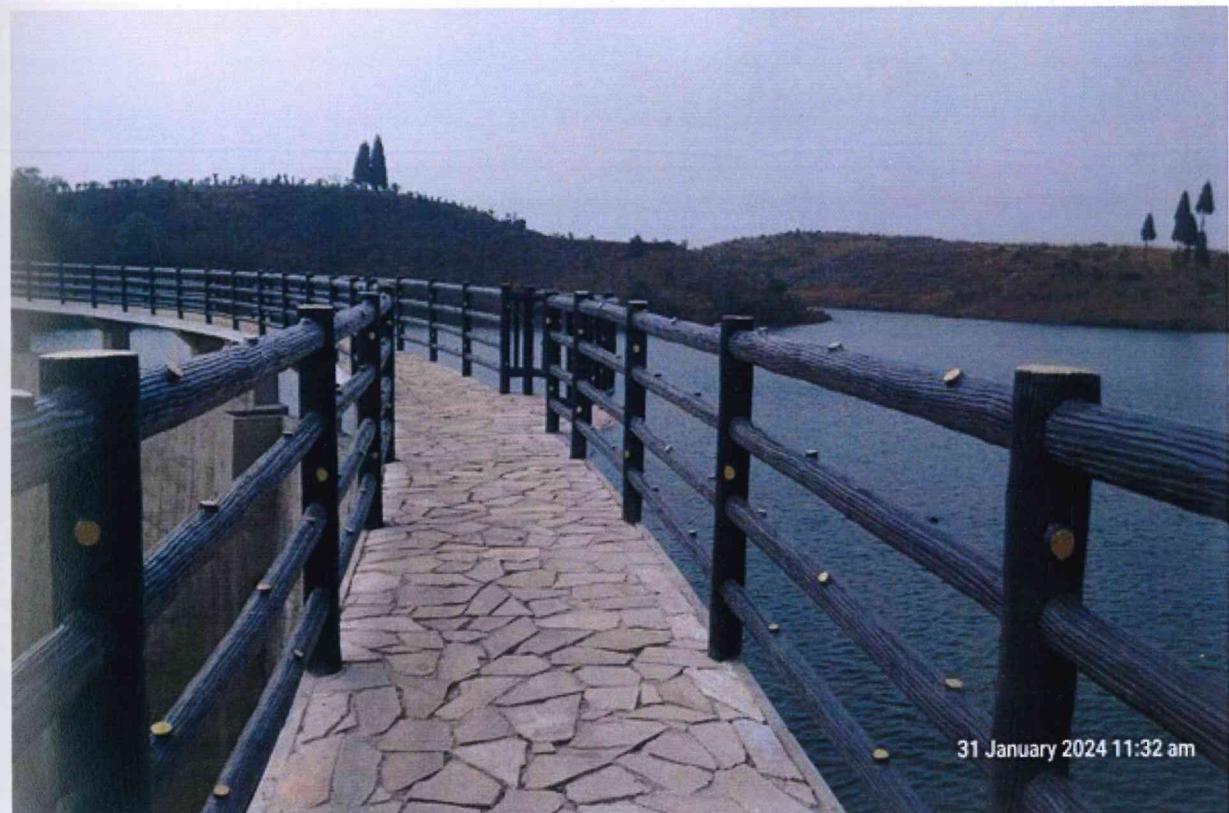
**Recharge trenches and afforestation.**



**Water Reservoir, ensuring sufficient Drinking Water Supply to the village.**



**Boating Platform built from local chiselled stone**



**Footbridge built over Head Dam (90m long)**



31 January 2024 11:26 am

Footpath around the lake for commuters & visitors



Inauguration of the Reservoir by the Honourable Chief Minister of Meghalaya,  
Shri. Conrad K. Sangma, on 30.01.2024.

### **5.1.1. SOAP MAKING – TREIMINOT VILLAGE ORGANISATION UNDER UMTHAWA – UMBI WATERSHED WDC – 1 PMKSY 2.0 (YEAR: 2023-24)**

The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (Watershed Development Component), formerly known as the Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) implemented by the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) under the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) aims to undertake ‘Land-based Development’ by restoring ecological balance through harnessing, conserving and developing natural resources such as soil, vegetative cover and water, while at the same time, providing sustainable livelihood options to the people residing in the watershed area. The expected outcomes are prevention of soil run off, regeneration of natural vegetation, rainwater harvesting, recharging of the ground water table, multi-cropping and introduction of diverse agro-based activities which help to provide sustainable livelihoods to the people residing in the watershed area.

The Meghalaya State Watershed and Wasteland Development Agency under the Department of Soil & Water Conservation is the implementing agency for this scheme or the Project Implementing Agency (PIA), which has vastly covered the entire state of Meghalaya since the inception. There are four main components under this scheme, i.e. EPA, Soil & Moisture Conservation, Natural Resources Management, Production Systems and Livelihood components. One of the primary objectives of PMKSY is to strengthen local community-based organizations. Strengthening local community-based organizations is a vital endeavor that can have a profound impact on the well-being and resilience of communities. Therefore, under the Livelihood component from this scheme 60 % is given as a Revolving Fund to SHGs and 40 % for supporting grant-in-aid to SHGs/SHG federation (*Guidelines for Livelihood Component & Watershed Development Projects (WDC-PMKSY-WDC 2.0)*).

Under the Grant-in-aid, the Watershed Cell Cum Data Centre Ri-Bhoi District has identified three SHG federation in the Umthawa-Umbi Watershed where one of the federations is the Treiminot Village Organisation which is an association of only women SHGs from Lamalong village, one of the villages under the Umthawa-Umbi Watershed – WDC – 1. This organization of SHGs comprises of 10 Nos of SHGs and three women from each SHG are representative to this organization. This organization has been formed in the year 2018 by Meghalaya State Rural Livelihoods Society (MSRLS) Umsning Block, and their main activity as an organization is providing financial assistance in the form of loan to the SHGs with low interest rate.

In the year 2023, the Treiminot VO has received grant-in-aid assistance, a livelihood component, from the WCDC with an aim for a startup enterprise targeting the soap making industries. Two days training were imparted to the VO members on "Soap Making" by Shri Steve Jana, an entrepreneur from Umran Niangbyrnai on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 at the Sonidan Soil and Water Conservation Range Office, Ri Bhoi, one of the Project Implementing Agency. Grant-in-aid assistance of Rs. 7,20,000 (Seven Lakhs Twenty Thousand Only) has been provided to the VO group for setting up of the soap making facilities and for acquiring the raw materials required in the soap making production. This facility was inaugurated on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 by Shri Laren Pangkam D. Areng, Project Manager, WCDC in the presence of the Cluster Coordinator of MSRLS, Umsning Block, other officers and staff of the Division, the Watershed Committee, Members of the SHGs under the VO, Executive Committee of the Village Dorbar, and the community of the Lamalong Village. The Treiminot Village Organization has been able to produce on average about 5600 Nos of laundry soap per month, and these soaps have been extensively sold in the local market and nearby villages. Today, the market has extended to the Assam-Meghalaya border, and they are able to generate a profit of Rs 38,000 per month from this activity.



*Inauguration of the Treiminot Soap Making Facility at Lamalong on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 by the Divisional Soil and Water Conservation Officer and other officers and Staff of Ri Bhoi Soil and Water Conservation Division, Nongpoh*

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*Inauguration of the Treiminot Soap Making Facility at Lamalong on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023 by the Divisional Soil and Water Conservation Officer and other officers and Staff of Ri Bhoi Soil and Water Conservation Division, Nongpoh*

### 5.1.2. Rongkaminchi RIDF XXVII Irrigation Dam

**Project Overview:** The Rongkaminchi RIDF XXVII Irrigation Dam, constructed between 2022 and 2024, stands as a significant milestone in sustainable agricultural development. With a total project cost of Rs. 40 lakhs, the dam has been instrumental in transforming the agricultural landscape of the Rongkaminchi region.

#### **Key Components and Activities:**

- Irrigation Dam:** The centerpiece of the project, the irrigation dam was built to capture and store water, ensuring a reliable supply for agricultural activities throughout the year.
- Protection Walls:** Two robust protection walls were constructed to safeguard the dam structure from potential erosion and other environmental factors, enhancing the durability and safety of the project.
- Irrigation Canal:** A well-designed irrigation canal was developed to efficiently distribute water to the command area, ensuring even and adequate water supply to the crops.
- Command Area:** Spanning 38 hectares, the command area has been strategically irrigated to maximize agricultural productivity.
- Benefitted Households:** A total of 31 households have directly benefitted from the project, experiencing improved agricultural yields and enhanced livelihoods.
- Impounded Area and Storage Volume:** The dam has an impounded area of 0.1 hectares and a storage volume of 800 cubic meters, providing sufficient water to meet the agricultural demands of the region.

**Impact and Benefits:** The successful completion of the Rongkaminchi RIDF XXVII Irrigation Dam has brought about several positive changes in the community:

- Enhanced Agricultural Productivity:** With a reliable water supply, farmers in the command area have been able to cultivate crops more efficiently, leading to higher yields and better quality produce.
- Improved Livelihoods:** The project has directly benefitted 31 households, providing them with the means to sustain and improve their agricultural practices. This has resulted in increased income and better living standards for these families.
- Sustainable Water Management:** The construction of the irrigation dam and related infrastructure has ensured a sustainable approach to water management in the region, promoting conservation and responsible use of water resources.
- Community Empowerment:** The project has fostered a sense of ownership and empowerment among the local community, as they have been actively involved in the planning and implementation of the dam. This has strengthened community bonds and encouraged collective responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the infrastructure.

**Conclusion:** The Rongkaminchi RIDF XXVII Irrigation Dam project is a shining example of how strategic investment in irrigation infrastructure can lead to sustainable agricultural development. By providing a reliable water source and enhancing agricultural productivity, the project has not only improved the

livelihoods of the local community but also contributed to the overall economic growth of the region. The success of this project serves as an inspiration for future initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable development in rural areas.





### **5.1.3 RIDF-XXVII (Bokman River Valley Project)**

RIDF XXVII- Bokman RVP funded by NABARD, Govt. of India was initiated in the year 2022-23 under Betasing C&RD Block of South West Garo Hills, Ampati and implemented by Soil and Water Conservation Division, South West Garo Hills, Ampati. The total project cost is Rs. 140 Lakhs covering 56 Ha of treatable area. This project benefits 5 nos. of villages (Ampati, Chekompara, Gara Bokmangre, Kebolpara and Simsang Bokmangre) having 69 nos. of household/beneficiaries. This project has been handed over to the community in the year 2023 and is now being managed by Bokman Water User Group.

Under this project 2 Nos. of RCC Irrigation Dam, 3 Nos. of RCC Water Harvesting Structure, 3 Nos. of RCC Check Dam, 2 Nos of CC Protection Wall and under infrastructure development spring chamber and approach road to the project site was constructed.

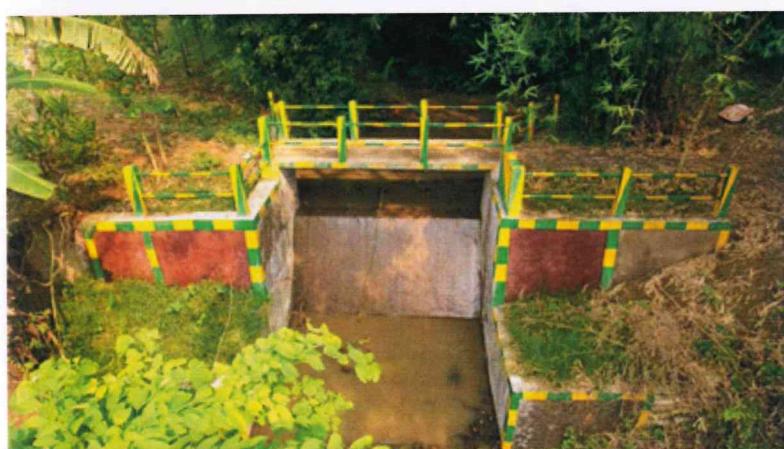
The structures that have been created under this project has helped the beneficiaries to avail water for irrigation purpose, domestic purpose, check soil erosion, income generation (pisciculture), ground water recharge, etc.

The beneficiaries are very elated and contented as their agricultural production has been increased due to assured irrigation. Their source of income has also been increased due livelihood activities such as pisciculture. Women folks are also happy as ease in collection of water for drinking and other household uses has been achieved through construction of spring chambers and most importantly the involvement of the beneficiaries/water user association as a participatory approach has instilled in them the sense of ownership and responsibility towards the assets created.

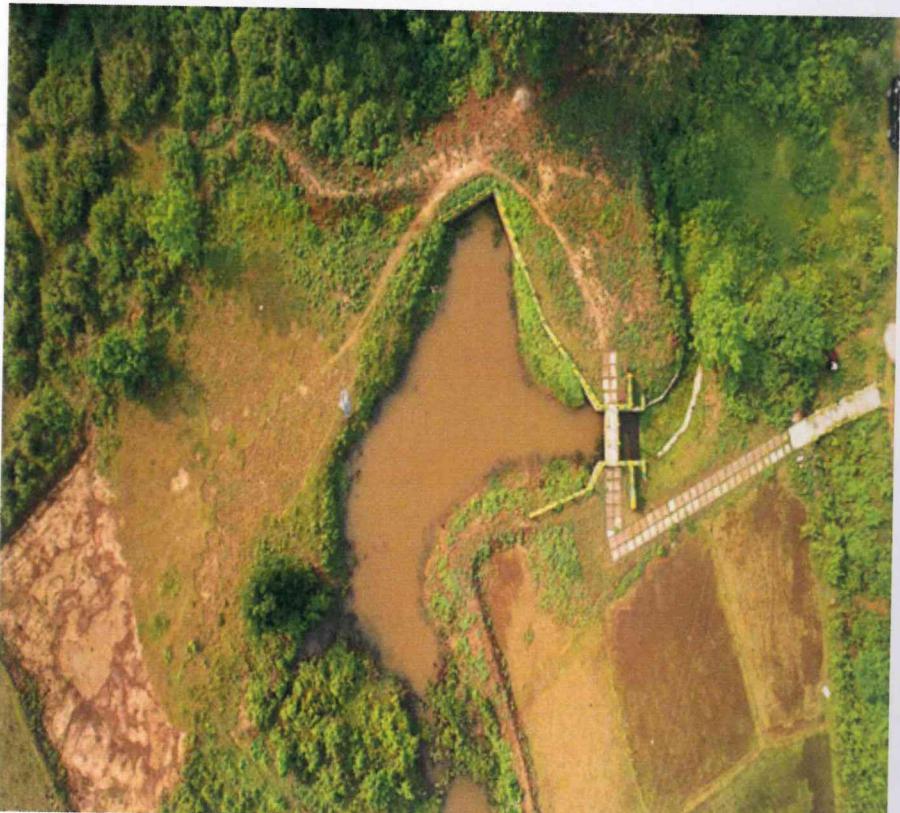
#### **RCC WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURE UNDER RIDF-XXVII (BOKMAN RVP) GARA BOKMANGRE**



## RCC WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURE UNDER RIDF-XXVII (BOKMAN RVP) AT AMPATI



**RCC WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURE UNDER RIDF-XXVII (BOKMAN RVP) AT AMPATI**



## PHOTO GALLERY



*Spring Tapped Chamber at Ampati*



*Approach Road to Water Harvesting Structure site at Ampati*

## **INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT UNDER RIDF-XXVII (BOKMAN RVP)**



**RCC Irrigation Dam at Kalaipara**



## Spring Tapped Chamber at Kalaipara



## RCC Irrigation Dam under Dangsila RVP



*CC Irrigation Channel under Dangsila RVP*



*Command Area under Dangsila RVP*



*RCC Irrigation Dam under Chiganggrot RVP*



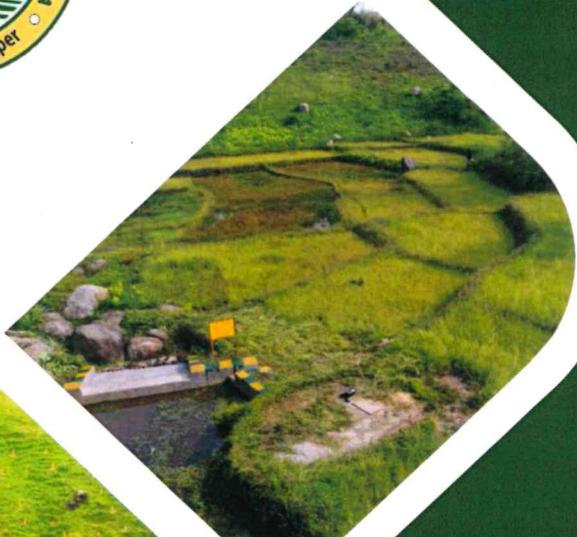
*Small dug-out pond at Badri Rongdong South Garo Hills*



*RCC Check Dam Cum Foot Bridge at Darang Dura South Garo Hills District*



*Water Impounding Structure at Wajapakgre*



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