

## **ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICT PROGRAMME**

The Aspirational District Programme (ADP) was launched in January, 2018 with an aim to quickly and effectively transform the identified Aspirational Districts. There are 7(seven) Aspirational districts in Assam viz. Darrang, Barpeta, Dhubri, Goalpara, Baksa, Udalguri and Hailakandi. The Deputy Commissioner of the 7 Aspirational districts have formulated the District Action Plan (DAP) keeping in view the 49 development indicators (KPIs) and 81 data points on the identified key sectors, thrust areas viz. (i) Health and Nutrition, (ii) Education, (iii) Agriculture and Water Resources, (iv) Financial Inclusions and Skill Development, (v) Basic Infrastructure to give priority for inclusive development so as to fulfill and achieve the targets set by them within 2022.

With States as the main drivers, this program shall focus on the strength of each district, identify low-hanging fruits for immediate improvement, measure progress and rank districts. The District Authorities, in this context, will have to play an important role in the implementation of the Aspirational District Programme in the line of approved District Action Plan (DAP).

### **Identification of schemes/ activities**

The Deputy Commissioners/ Principal Secretary, BTC in consultation with district heads of the line department and the State Prabhari Officer of concerned districts will prepare and maintain shelf of schemes/activities within the purview of the approved District Action Plan (DAP) to meet the needs and gap in the districts with specific reference to the 49 KPIs and 81 data points, endorsed by the NITI Aayog under the thematic areas to be implemented on priority basis for the inclusive growth of the districts. Due emphasis should be given in selecting the schemes/activities in the districts to achieve the targets in the line of Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) also. The shelf of schemes/activities is to describe its objectives, scope of work, implementing agency, implementation schedule, project cost, contribution towards improving the different KPIs.

The district authorities may also seek the help of agencies like UNDP, UNICEF, Central Prabhari Officers and the NGO partners/consultants entrusted by NITI Aayog in developing the shelf of schemes/activities on the basis of identified needs and gap in the districts as per the approved DAP.

## **Financial arrangement**

A major concerted approach is required to ensure taking up the self of schemes/ activities in the Aspirational Districts in convergence with the different Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), Central Sector Schemes and State's Schemes under different line departments. The district authorities are also required to develop roadmap for rational utilization of Compensatory Afforestation Management Fund (CAMPA), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Fund, District Mineral Fund (DMF), other Local Fund, the financial assistance from NEC and the different ministries of Govt. of India in the form of awards and special assistance package etc. NEC has already provided Rs.1 crore to each Aspirational District in the mode of SPV to the PMFS account of the district concerned

## **Aspirational District Fund**

The State Government has also decided to provide financial assistance for gap filling in requirement of fund for implementation of the identified self of schemes/ activities within the purview of the approved DAP of the Aspirational District after aligning the requirement of funds for different schemes/activities. Accordingly, an amount of Rs.28.00 crore is kept in the Budget 2019-20 under Transformation and Development Department for the seven Aspirational Districts of the State.

The Deputy Commissioner of the Aspirational District concerned *in case of Udalguri and Baksa, Nodal Officer entrusted by BTC Authority (line inserted in italic fonts as suggested by BTC Authority)* is required to furnish the details of the schemes/ activities to Transformation and Development Department. The required fund shall be directly made available to the Aspirational Districts by Transformation and Development Department based on the proposals received from the Districts. However, the views / comments from the concerned line departments may also be sought for based on the nature of the schemes/activities received from the Districts

## **Type of schemes/activities eligible under these funds**

- i. The scheme/activities should be strictly within the purview of the approved DAP covering five themes namely (i) Health and Nutrition, (ii) Education, (iii) Agriculture and Water Resources, (iv) Financial Inclusions and Skill Development, and (v) Basic Infrastructure.

***(BASED ON GROUND LEVEL EXECUTION OF THE SCHEMES/WORKS & GROUND REALITIES MID-TERM COURSE CORRECTION/ CHANGES MAY BE ALLOWED TO DISTRICT ACTION PLAN (DAP) SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT APPROVAL- Suggested by DC, Goalpara)***

- ii. The schemes should primarily focus on meeting gaps not covered by existing schemes, both Central and State.
- iii. The schemes/ activities should be such that can be completed within the same financial year. However, phasing of expenditure up-to maximum 1 ½ years (eighteen months), for taking up highly prioritized scheme may be worked out, as a special case only.
- iv. Each scheme/ activities should be conceived and completed within the one time fund allocated/sanctioned for the purpose. There should not be any revision / escalation beyond the allocated / sanctioned amount.
- v. The schemes/ activities should lead/ contribute to improve the identified KPIs with reference to the data points.
- vi. The scheme should be productive /remunerative//revenue earnings and economically viable
- vii. The achievement under the schemes should be in quantifiable/ monitorable terms.
- viii. Special focus should be given to identify schemes/activities with result/output orientated programme of various fields/areas under present competitive scenario for Skill Formation of the youth as well as women in the districts.

**Type of works ineligible under the funds**

- i. Works which do not fall within the scope of the District Action Plan (DAP).
- ii. Works belonging to commercial organization, trusts, registered societies, private institutions etc.
- iii. Memorials and memorial building
- iv. Acquisition of land or any compensation for acquiring of land.

- v. Assets for individual benefit.
- vi. Place of religious worship.
- vii. Organizing seminar, workshop, meeting etc.
- viii. Scholarship, Award to Students or Person etc.
- ix. Purchase of vehicles.
- x. Any Schemes/Activities not deriving benefits to the common people and no link with improvement of identified KPIs.

## **Process of Implementation**

- i. The Deputy Commissioner of the District (except BTAD) would be responsible for overall coordination and supervision of works at the district level.
- ii. An Executive Committee may be constituted under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner for smooth execution of the schemes/ projects. The composition of the Executive Committee (except Baksa and Udalguri districts) may be as follows:
 

1.	Deputy Commissioner ---	Chairman
2.	District Development Commissioner (DDC) ---	Vice-chairman
	(Nodal Officer)	
3.	Sub-Divisional Officer(C) ---	Member
4.	District Head of the concerned Departments/Agencies -	Member
5.	Finance and Accounts Officer ---	Member
6.	Lead District Manager (LDM) - --	Member
7.	ADC (D)/ SPO ---	Member- Secretary
8.	Any other member may be co-opted by the Deputy Commissioner as and when required.	

iii. In case of Baksa and Udalguri districts, Executive Committee may be constituted for each of the district, as follows.

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|--|-------------------|
| 1. Principal Secretary, BTC, Kokrajhar ---                                     | Chairman          |
| 2. Deputy Commissioner of the district ---<br>(Baksa and Udalguri)             | Co-chairman       |
| 3. Nodal Officer entrusted by the BTC Authority for the Districts-             | Member            |
| 4. District Head of the concerned Departments/Agencies -                       | Member            |
| 5. Finance and Accounts Officer ---  | Member            |
| 6. Lead District Manager (LDM) -   | Member            |
| 7. DC (D)/ SPO ---   | Member- Secretary |
| 8. The Chairman may co-opt officials or experts as required from time to time. |                   |

iv. Transformation and Development Branch of the respective Deputy Commissioner's Office, **in case of Udalguri and Baksa, Principal Secretary, BTC** will act as Secretariat for all matters relating to Aspirational District Programme.

v. Approved Schemes/ Projects will be executed by the respective Government Department/Agency/ Construction Committee constituted by D.C, **in case of Udalguri and Baksa, by Principal Secretary, BTC.**

vi. The scope of work and estimate for the scheme/works should be restricted between Rs. 1.00 lakh (One lakh) as minimum level and Rs 1.00 crore / **(RS. 2.00 CRORE)** (One crore/ **TWO CRORE**) as maximum level including plant and machinery, required if any, for functioning of the scheme.

vii. The plan & estimate of schemes should be prepared by the line departments.

viii. The work of the scheme should be suitably phased with targets to complete within the Financial year not beyond 1 ½ years (eighteen months) in any case of sanction of the scheme.

## **Utilization Certificate and Completion Report**

- i. The Deputy Commissioner would submit Utilization Certificate. The Utilization Certificate shall be signed first by the implementing agency then by the user agency and thereafter countersigned by the Deputy Commissioners, **in case of Udalguri and Baksa the Nodal Officer ‘Aspirational District Programme’ would submit Utilization Certificate (UC). The UC shall be signed first by the implementing agency then by the user agency and thereafter by the Principal Secretary, BTC, Kokrajhar.**
- ii. Photographs of the location at the initiation of the project, mid-way during implementation and at the completion of the project should be kept for record by the line department.

## **Accounting procedure**

- i. The Deputy Commissioner, **in case of Udalguri and Baksa by Nodal Officer** shall keep the funds in any Nationalized Bank/Apex Bank/RRB Savings.
- ii. A Cash book and other books of accounts shall be maintained as per established financial rules and procedures of the Government of Assam.
- iii. The Bank account shall be operated jointly by the DDO i.e. Deputy Commissioner and the Finance and Accounts Officer of the districts **in case of Udalguri and Baksa the bank account shall be operated jointly by the DDO i.e Nodal Officer, Aspirational District Programme and Finance and Accounts Officer of the District.** There should not be any overdraft on these accounts. Interest accrued if any for the financial assistance will be used for the development activities as per approved DAP with the approval from the Government