



TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

NEER NIRMAL PARIYOJANA, ASSAM

ABBREVIATIONS

| | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| RWSSP-LIS | : | Rural Water Supply and Sanitation project-Low Income States |
| GPWSC | : | Gram Panchayat Water Supply Committee |
| MVWSC | : | Multi Village Water Supply Committee |
| TDP | : | Tribal Development Plan |
| O&M | : | Operation & Maintenance |
| NNP | : | Neer Nirmal Pariyojana |
| MoDWS | : | Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation |
| SPMU | : | State Project Management Unit |
| DPMU | : | District Project Management Unit |
| UN | : | United Nations |
| SA | : | Social Assessment |
| GP | : | Gram Panchayat |
| M&E | : | Monitoring & Evaluation |
| SC | : | Scheduled Caste |
| ST | : | Scheduled Tribe |
| SLWM | : | Solid and Liquid Waste Management |
| NSDP | : | Net State Domestic Product |

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

1. The status of water supply & sanitation service delivery in the state of Assam is encompassed with lower level of coverage in terms of house service connection and lower level of operation and maintenance. Assam has around 6.8% of house service connection in the rural areas.

2. Sustainability of service delivery is an area of concern with large numbers of rural habitations slipping to a 'partially covered' status mainly due to sources going dry, or systems working below capacity due to poor operations and maintenance (O&M). Depleting groundwater table and deteriorating ground water quality are further threats to sustainability. Together these pose large coping costs to consumers. Weak cost recovery from users implies that most schemes require large operating subsidies provided by GoI and the States. On the sanitation front, while expenditure on toilet construction has been increasing, there are significant 'slippages' in coverage, coupled with low usage, mainly due to lack of understanding at the communities level of the linkages between sanitation, hygiene practices and related diseases. Although the 73rd Constitutional Amendment promotes service provision to be decentralized to local governments (Panchayati Raj Institutions – PRIs), most of the work of designing, implementing and operating RWSS schemes continues to be with the state engineering agencies through top-down, engineering-based, 'supply-driven' approaches, which also adversely impacts governance and accountability. Monitoring and Evaluation systems focus mostly on 'infrastructure creation' (number of schemes and expenditures) but less information is provided on the quantity, quality and availability of services.

3. To overcome these issues and to move away from the supply driven approach to demand driven approach The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS- GoI) and the World Bank have jointly developed the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project for Low Income States (RWSS-LIS) with an objective to 'improve piped water supply and sanitation services for selected rural communities in the target States through decentralized delivery systems'. The Project will be implemented in identified Districts of the four Project States namely Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh through a District wide approach.

4. The term 'Tribal' means original inhabitant of a land. They are also described by other terms such as, 'indigenous community', 'adivasi', 'vanavasi' and 'girijans'. "Culturally distinct communities that have occupied a region longer than other immigrant or colonist groups are generally called 'indigenous people'. Four principal elements constitute the legal definition of an indigenous community; these are i) pre-existence, ii) non-dominance, iii) cultural difference and iv) self-identification as indigenous" The UN bases its reference to the issue of indigenous people on a working definition: 'Indigenous people' are composed of the existing descendants of the peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country, wholly or partially, at the time of when persons of a different culture from other parts of the world overcame them and by conquest, settlement, or other means, reduced them to a non-dominant or colonial situation; who today live more in conformity with their particular social, economic and cultural customs and traditions than with the institutions of the country of which they now form part, under a state structure which incorporates mainly the national, social and cultural characteristics of other segments of the population which are predominant" Key problems faced by Tribal populations in the world include i)Economic globalization, ii) Insufficient coping mechanisms against climate change, iii)Conflicts with seats of political power and economic interests, iv)Loss of land and/or privatisation of land, v) Deforestation, vi) environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity, vii)Poverty, Discrimination and assimilation and viii) Loss of bio-cultural diversity and traditional knowledge.

5. India has 533 tribes as per notified schedule under Article 342 of the constitution of India. The areas inhabited by the tribal communities constitute a significant part of the under-developed areas of the country. The tribals live mostly in isolated villages or hamlets. Scheduled Tribes, Schedules Castes and de-notified tribes constitute the weakest section of India's society. Article 366 (25) of Constitution of India defines scheduled tribes as "such tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purpose of this constitution"

6. Tribal people have different levels of socio economic status and needs separate attention to address their issues pertaining to provision of basic services. The project areas of RWSSP-LIS have substantial tribal population. It is therefore required to address the issues of tribal population within the project intervention area so that there is no adverse impact on the tribal people and tribal people are also equally get benefitted from the project intervention. Hence a separate tribal development plan is required to address special issues of the tribal population.

7. The objective of this report is to prepare a Tribal Development Plan under the RWSSP-LIS project for Assam

1.2 NEER NIRMAL PARIYOJANA IN ASSAM

8. The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDWS- GoI) and the World Bank have jointly developed the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project for Low Income States (RWSS-LIS) with an objective to 'improve piped water supply and sanitation services for selected rural communities in the target States through decentralized delivery systems'. The Project will be implemented in identified Districts of the four Project States namely Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh through a District wide approach.

9. In Assam Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Project for Low Income States is taken in seven Districts of Assam in two batches during the period 2013 – 2020. The project will cover 5041 habitations of 1275 villages in 173 GP's of 16 Development Block. Total number of population to be benefited by the project is 12, 27,341 (2011 base) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1474.03 crores. All these seven schemes are formulated primarily for quality and sustainability which is approached to address the issues and challenges of institutional, infrastructure and service delivery system in rural water supply and sanitation sector. The Project Implementation Period is 8 years – Construction Period is 3 Years, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Period is 5 Years.

10. In Batch- I, three no. of projects i.e. in Hailakandi, Jorhat and Kamrup District are to be implemented with a total project cost of Rs. 659.68 Crore. More than 6.11 Lakh of population in 63 GPs of 7 Development Blocks will be benefited from these three projects. In Batch II, four nos. of MVS project in Morigaon, Bongaigaon, Sonitpur and Sivasagar District are to be taken up with the tentative estimated cost is Rs.822.67 Crore covering 110 nos. of GP and 9 nos. of Development Block which will benefit 682183nos. of population.

Table 1: Coverage of population under Neer Nirmal Pariyojana in Batch – I Districts

| District | Block | No. of GP | Total Population |
|------------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Jorhat | Jorhat | 16 | 141947 |
| | Jorhat Central | 7 | 58021 |
| | North West Jorhat | 10 | 79797 |
| Kamrup (M) | Chandrapur | 5 | 49355 |

| District | Block | No. of GP | Total Population |
|------------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| | Dimoria | 11 | 176987 |
| Hailakandi | Hailakandi | 4 | 17504 |
| | Algapur | 10 | 65672 |
| Total | | 63 | 589283 |

11. The basic objective of the project is to provide 24X7 water supply to the rural households through house service connection @70LPCD.

1.3 SOCIAL ASSESSMENT

12. The stakeholders of the Neer Nirmal Pariyojana are the rural inhabitants of the identified Gram Panchayats within the project area. Successful implementation and operation of any project requires consent and participation of different levels of stakeholders. This makes it necessary for the project to provide a framework for participation of all key stakeholder groups and solicit their contributions towards project design and delivery mechanisms.

13. There are 3.88 million tribal people in Assam, which accounts for 12.45% of the total population as per census 2011. Tribals are living throughout the state; but in certain districts such as Dima Hasao, Karbi Anglong, Dhemaji, Baksa, Chirang, Udalguri, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur & Goalpara tribal predominance is significantly high. It has also been ascertained that the tribal people do have a collective attachment to their traditional customs and habitat; and because of this, issues related to them require special measures to ensure that tribal peoples are included in and benefit from the Neer Nirmal Pariyojana project as appropriate.

14. The key objective of this Social Assessment (SA) study is to understand and address social development issues, and ensure accomplishing the outcomes in terms of inclusion, cohesion, equity, security and accountability. The specific objectives of the study are:

- Mapping of project stakeholders and conducting detailed stakeholder consultations.
- Assessing the social impacts of the proposed project interventions
- Review and suggest, as appropriate, the legal, policy and institutional aspects to enable accomplish the principles underpinning the approach
- Developing measures to enhance positive impacts and mitigate negative impacts, if any.

15. The initial assessment have revealed that Bank's Operational Policies on Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12) is not required to follow as all the project facilities will be housed in Government lands and there is no scope envisaged for private land acquisition. However, given the enquiries revealed the presence of significant tribal population in some of the blocks Operational Policies on Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10) needs to be referred.

16. The OP 4.10 aims at providing a voice to the indigenous peoples (Scheduled Tribe or Tribals in India) in design and implementation of the project; and to ensure that intended project benefits are culturally appropriate that foster full respect for their dignity and human rights. Also the policies of both Government of India and the State Government attribute high priority to ensuring that the benefits of development get equitably distributed to the tribal people as well.

17. This in view, a Tribal Development Plan has been prepared to ensure tribal inclusion and equity

1.4 TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

18. The initial scoping and preliminary assessments made during the project preparation has established that the profiles project beneficiaries are diverse, comprising of a number of societal and ethnic sub-groups and other regional features. There are substantial tribal people in some of the project GPs and they do have a collective attachment to the project interventions and outcomes. It is evident that the project intervention will not affect the tribal people adversely but, they do require special attention from the view point of ensuring inclusion and equity. Accordingly, the Tribal Development Plan (TDP) is developed to address tribal issues up-front and provide culturally compatible resolutions that ensure focused and exclusive attention towards tribal / indigenous people. The objectives of the Tribal Development Plan are to ensure that the tribal populations are: i) adequately and fully consulted; (ii) enabled to participate in the project and derive full benefits; and (iii) that the project's institutional and implementation arrangements take due note of the existing governance in the tribal areas as specified under the Constitution of India and relevant legal provisions.

19. This document along with other assessments will inform the final design of the project and underscore the importance that needs to be given to tribal and other vulnerable social groups.

1.5 STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

20. The report is divided in following sections

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Section 1 | covers introduction, details of tribal scenario in Assam, legal and institutional framework (Chapter 1,2,3) |
| Section 2 | covers stakeholder consultations, inferences from social assessment and issues emerging from these relevant for the Tribal Development Plan (Chapter 4) |
| Section 3 | includes the Tribal Development Plan covering strategy, implementation process, TDP Budget and grievance redressal mechanism for TDP (Chapter 5) |

CHAPTER 2: TRIBAL SCENARIO IN ASSAM

2.1 ASSAM AT A GLANCE

21. The State of Assam is situated just below the eastern Himalayan foothills and lies between 89°5'- 96°1' East and 24°3'- 27°58' North. Assam is surrounded by six of the other seven north-eastern states (together called as 'seven sisters'): Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, and Meghalaya. Geographically Assam and these States are connected to the rest of India via a strip of land in West Bengal called the Siliguri Corridor or "Chicken's Neck". Assam shares international borders with Bhutan and Bangladesh.

22. Assam covers a territory of 78, 438 sq km, roughly a fourth of it comprising rugged hills and the rest verdant alluvial plains. Topographically it can be divided into three distinct zones: the Brahmaputra valley in the north; the Hills of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao; and the Barak valley in the south. The alluvial Brahmaputra valley commands the lion's share of Assam's territory.

23. A significant geographical aspect of Assam is that it contains three of six physiographic divisions of India - The Northern Himalayas (Eastern Hills), The Northern Plains (Brahmaputra plain) and Deccan Plateau (Karbi Anglong). The River Brahmaputra, the life-line of Assam becomes a braided river (at times 10-16 km wide) and with tributaries, creates a flood plain. The hills of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao (North Cachar) are now eroded and dissected are originally parts of the South Indian Plateau system. In the south, the River Barak originates in the Barail Range (Assam-Nagaland border) flows through the Cachar district with a 40-50 km wide valley and enters Bangladesh with the name Surma River. The Brahmaputra and the Barak rivers are part of the National Waterway 2 and 6 respectively and together cover almost 1000 Km across the State.

Land, Agriculture and Forests

24. Due to the influence of Brahmaputra and Barak rivers the State is bestowed with vast alluvial plains; and it continues to be predominantly agrarian state. The soil and climatic condition of the plains is quite suitable for the cultivation of the variety of crops and the climatic condition of the hill areas are quite suitable for cultivation of certain crops like coffee and rubber. Assam has an agricultural based economy and more than 70 per cent of the population depends on agriculture as their primary source of livelihood.

25. The principal food crops produced in the State is rice (paddy), maize (corn), pulses, potato, wheat, etc. In the interior hill areas, the tribal people practice shifting cultivation, and raise mixed crops along with paddy in jhum cultivation. The principal cash crops are tea, jute, oilseeds, sugarcane, cotton, and tobacco. Tea is the most important cash crop in Assam; and makes up for more than 50% of all India production. The State is known world-wide for its tea.

26. The State of Assam is enriched with extensive forest area and also rich with different species and strains of floras and faunas along with valuable forest products. The recorded forest area of Assam is 26,832 sq. km; and forest cover constitutes 35.28% of total land area of this State.

Economy

27. In comparison to the other States of India, the economic profile of Assam (with per capita NSDP around Rs. 50,000.00) is not very promising. However, among eight States of the North Eastern Region, Assam is most industrially advanced State. There are several large, medium and small scale industries based on the resources like agriculture, forest and mineral available here.

28. Assam is endowed with petroleum, natural gas, coal, limestone and many other minor minerals such as magnetic quartzite, kaolin, clay and feldspar. The Upper Assam districts are major reserves of oil and gas. It is estimated that Assam and surrounding region possess around 150 million tonnes of petroleum reserves. Presently, Assam is the 3rd largest producer of petroleum (crude) and natural gas in the country accounting for 16% and 8% respectively of the total production of this mineral in the country. A Tertiary coal belt is located in Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao districts with an estimated reserve of 370 million tonnes. Papers, cement, Petrochemical are some other industries of Assam.

2.2 DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO ECONOMIC PROFILE OF TRIBAL IN ASSAM

29. As per the 2011 census, the total population of Assam is 3,12,05,576; the decadal growth of population is 17.07% while in previous decade it was 18.85%. The population of Assam constitutes 2.58% of India's total population. The Gender Ratio in Assam is 958 women for each 1000 men; and it has improved substantially over the last decade. The gender related development indices in Assam are more-or-less favourable compared with the corresponding national figure, implying lesser instances of gender-based disparity in the State. Women enjoy better status as compared to women in India in terms of decision making power at the household level; however women's participation in political process or in the government services is low.

30. The tribal population is 38,84,371, which is 12.4% of the total population of the state. The tribal in Assam constitute 3.72% of total tribal population of the country. The State has registered 17.4% decadal growth of tribal population in 2001-2011 which is slightly higher than the overall decadal growth for the state. The overall sex ratio among tribal people is 984, which is marginally less than the national average of 990. The tribal population in Assam is predominantly rural with 94.4% residing in rural areas.

31. Assam is an ethnically diverse state with different languages, traditions and cultural practices; it is the melting pot of a large number of ethnic tribes and races, which have infused richness in the cultural tapestry of Assam. Major tribes of Assam are: Bodo (35.1%), Mishing (17.52%), Karbi (11.1%), Rabha (7.6%), Sonowal Kachari (6.5%), Lalung (5.2%), Garo (4.2%), and Dimasas tribes (3.2%). They constitute ninety per cent ST population of the state. The other tribal people in Assam are Deori, Hajong, Thengal Kachari, Khasi, Jaintia, Mech, Chakma, Mizo, Hmar, Kuki tribes, Naga tribes, Barmans (in Cachar), Man (Tai speaking), Khampti and Singpho tribes. The spatial distribution of tribal population in Assam could be broadly classified under two groups: Hill tribes and Plain tribes.

32. Seven districts of Assam have ST population of more than 25%. These districts are:

| District | Total Population | ST Population | Percentage of ST |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Dima Hasao | 214,102 | 151,843 | 70.9 |
| Karbi Anglong | 956,313 | 538,738 | 56.3 |
| Dhemaji | 686,133 | 325,560 | 47.4 |
| Baksa | 950,075 | 331,007 | 34.8 |
| Chirang | 482,162 | 178,688 | 37.1 |
| Udalguri | 831,668 | 267,372 | 32.1 |
| Kokrajhar | 887,142 | 278,665 | 31.4 |

33. These seven districts together account for 53.3% of the tribal population of the State. Inter-district variation of ST population in other districts is however quite large – as low as 0.1% in Halakandi district to as high as 23% in Goalpara and 23.9% in Lakhimpur district. Another interesting aspect of

distribution of tribal population in Assam is that most of the plain tribes are inhabitants of Brahmaputra valley and only a small proportion lives in Barak Valley.

34. The literacy rate among tribal in Assam is 72.1%, which broadly mirrors the overall literacy rate of the state; and is well above the national average. However the gap between the male and female literacy rate (79% & 65% respectively) highlights that tribal women are still lagging behind on educational attainment.

35. The overall economic condition of an average tribal household appears to be similar (or slightly better) than that of an ordinary household. In Census 2011, only 18.6% tribal household had reported absence of any durable household assets, which is 5 percentages lower than that of all social groups. However access to banking services and grid electricity are considerably lower.

2.2.1 Access to basic services for the tribal population in Assam

36. Demographic diversity, together with complex socio-economic dynamics in Assam have resulted in inequities of service access; certain groups of the society are at a disadvantage in accessing government services. Notable among these groups are the tribal people, especially those in the scheduled areas; but beyond them, communities living in riverine areas and forest villages near the border areas, and migrant tea-garden workers of Adivasi origin (commonly terms as Tea-tribe communities) also are at disadvantage.

37. As per 2011 census among the tribal households in Assam about 41.7% of the households depends on hand pumps for daily water consumption followed by 28.4% depending on uncovered well. Table below presents the various sources of water on which the tribal population of Assam depends

Table: Sources of water (In terms of % of tribal households to total households)

| Tap water from treated source | Tap water from un-treated source | Covered well | Un-covered well | Hand pump | Tube well/Bore hole | Spring | River / Canal | Tank/ Pond/ Lake | Other sources |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------------|--------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 4.5 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 28.4 | 41.7 | 8.9 | 4.4 | 5.2 | 1.5 | 2 |

38. In terms of location of drinking water source 47.3% of households are having water source within the premises followed by 28.9% near premises and 23.8 % away from their premises.

39. In terms of access to toilet facilities 43.3 % of the households have access to latrine facilities within their premises. The break up is provide the table below

Table: Access to latrine facility (In terms % of tribal households to total households)

| Flush/pour flush latrine connected to | | | Pit latrine | | Night soil disposed into open drain | Service Latrine | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Piped sewer system | Septic tank | Other system | With slab/ ventilated improved pit | Without slab/ open pit | | Night soil removed by human | Night soil serviced by animal |
| 3.8 | 8.7 | 6.9 | 6.7 | 15.8 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.6 |

40. 56% of the households do not have latrine facility within their premises out of which 2.7% goes to public latrines and 54% go for open defecation.

41. In terms of access to drainage system 87.5 % of the households does not have any access to drainage system. Only 2 % of the households have access to closed drainage system followed by 10.5% having access to some kind of open drainage system

2.3 SCHEDULED AREAS OF ASSAM

42. The tribal people normally live in contiguous areas; and their lives are closely associated with the nature – streams, trees, plants, animals etc. It is therefore recognized that maintaining their identities would invariably mean keeping their traditional environ intact with them. Given the contiguous inhabitations, it also becomes simpler to have area approach for development activities and also regulatory provisions to protect their interests. In order to protect the interests of the tribal population, provision of Sixth Schedule is enshrined in the Constitution under Articles 244(2) and 275(1) to enable autonomous administration of the tribal areas of Assam. Six tribal districts of Assam: Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao, Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa & Udalguri have been declared as the Scheduled Areas.



43. The administration of these autonomous areas is vested in the Autonomous Councils established as per the provisions laid down in the Sixth Schedule. These councils are endowed with legislative, judicial executive and financial powers. They are also expected to oversee the traditional bodies in local tribes. The Autonomous Councils have power to make laws related to land administration and inheritance of property, management of forest and water-resources, regulation of Jhum cultivation practice, establishing village or town committees and matter relating to tribal administration, marriage and social customs. The Autonomous Councils of Assam have been conferred with additional powers to make laws within its areas on delegated subjects.

2.4 TRIBAL SCENARIO IN THE PROJECT AREA

44. The project area does not have significant tribal population apart from Dimoria block in Kamrup (M) district which has around 32.85% of tribal population. Dimoria block has 11 GPs within it. Overall for the project districts in Batch –I the percentage of tribal population to the total population is around 11.03%.

Table 2: ST Population in Batch I Districts (under project Blocks)

| District | Block | No. of GP | Total Popn | ST Popn | % of ST Popn to total popn |
|----------|--------|-----------|------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Jorhat | Jorhat | 16 | 141947 | 1490 | 1.05 |

| District | Block | No. of GP | Total Popn | ST Popn | % of ST Popn to total popn |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| | Jorhat Central | 7 | 58021 | 586 | 1.01 |
| | North West Jorhat | 10 | 79797 | 103 | 0.13 |
| Kamrup (M) | Chandrapur | 5 | 49355 | 4592 | 9.30 |
| | Dimoria | 11 | 176987 | 58143 | 32.85 |
| Hailakandi | Hailakandi | 4 | 17504 | 17 | 0.10 |
| | Algapur | 10 | 65672 | 94 | 0.14 |
| Total | | 63 | 589283 | 65025 | 11.03 |

2.5 NEED FOR DEDICATED ATTENTION TO TRIBAL PEOPLE

45. The principal objectives of dedicated attention to tribal population in the project area would be to ensure that project engages in free, prior and informed consultation with indigenous people living in the project area and project benefits are equally accessible to them. Also Scheduled Tribes do fully participate in the entire process of preparation, implementation and monitoring of project.

CHAPTER 3: LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 INTRODUCTION

46. According to Article 342 of the Constitution, Scheduled Tribes (STs) are the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within these tribes and tribal communities which have been declared as such by the President through a public notification. Parliament, by enactment of law, can include in or exclude any tribe or tribal community or part of group within any tribe or tribal community, from the list of Scheduled Tribes.

47. Identification of tribes is a State subject. Thus, classification of a tribe depends on the status of that tribe in the respective State. The criterion set¹ followed for specification of a community, as ST are indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large, and backwardness. Tribal people have a history of vulnerability and prolonged marginalization due to economic and social backwardness, primitive livelihood opportunities and isolation from the mainstream society. Safeguards are therefore provided under the constitution and relevant legislations to protect the interests of tribals. This section reviews such safeguards and the associated laws and regulations governing tribal development and water and sanitation activities in the state.

3.2 CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARD

48. The constitutional safeguards related to tribals are : (i) Article 14, related to Equal rights and opportunities; (ii) Article 15, prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex, religion, race, caste etc; (iii) Article 15 (4), enjoins upon state to make special provisions for the tribal; (iv) Article 16 (3), empowers state to make special provisions for reservation in appointments or posts in favor of Scheduled Tribes; (v) Article 46, enjoins upon State to promote with special care educational and economic interests of tribal people, protection from social injustice and exploitation; (vi) Article 243D related to the reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in Panchayats & Municipalities (vii) Article 275 (1), Grand-in-aid for promoting the welfare of STs; (viii) Article 330, 332, 335, related to the reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in Lok Sabha, State Assemblies and official positions in central & state governments; and (ix) Article 339, 340, related to Control of the Union over the Welfare of tribal and powers to investigations thereof. One of the important Act which ensures Social Safeguards of the tribal is “Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

49. It can be summed up that the constitutional protective provisions safeguard tribal people from social injustices and all forms of exploitation, while the developmental provisions promote educational and economic interests. Further, administrative provisions under the Fifth Schedule and Sixth Schedule of the Constitution provide special provision for tribal autonomy and welfare in selected regions of the country. The Sixth Schedule is specifically applicable for Assam (and other North Eastern States of Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram)

¹ These criteria were not spelt out in the Constitution but has become well established; and subsumes the definitions contained in 1931 Census, the reports of first Backward Classes Commission 1955, the Advisory Committee (Kalelkar), on Revision of SC/ ST lists (Lokur Committee), 1965 and the Joint Committee of Parliament on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes orders (Amendment) Bill 1967.

3.3 PROVISION OF SCHEDULED AREAS UNDER SIXTH SCHEDULE OF THE CONSTITUTION

50. To further provide regional autonomy, protect the interests of the Scheduled tribes and improve their status, certain areas of Assam have been declared as the Scheduled Areas; these areas are usually populated by a predominant Scheduled Tribe. The Sixth Schedule under article 244 (2) of the Constitution provides for establishment of Autonomous councils to substantially administer tribal districts of Assam. These districts are Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao Districts; and the four Bodoland Territorial Autonomous Districts (BTAD) of Kokrajhar, Baksa, Chirang and Udalguri. These Autonomous Councils of Scheduled Areas are endowed with legislative, judicial executive and financial powers for the benefit tribal people. They are also expected to oversee the traditional bodies in the local tribes:

- Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC): The Karbi Anglong came into being as a full-fledged separate district. The council covers the three sub-divisions of Diphu, Bokajan and Hamren;
- Dima Hasao Autonomous Council (DHAC): The Dima Hasao Autonomous District Council is an autonomous council constituted to administer the district and to develop the Dimas people. It covers the two sub-divisions of Haflong and Maibang;
- Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC): the Bodoland Territorial Areas Districts comprising four (four) Administrative Districts viz. Udalguri, Baksa, Chirang, Kokrajhar;

51. The Autonomous Councils of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao are constituted with 30 members each, 26 are elected and 4 members are nominated from unrepresented Communities by the Governor of Assam. Bodoland Territorial Council is constituted of 46 members: 40 are elected and 6 nominated members.

52. These Autonomous Councils have been conferred with powers to make laws within its areas on subjects delegated to the Councils. No Act of the State Legislature with respect to which a District Council or a Regional Council may make laws, shall apply to any autonomous district or autonomous region in that State unless the respective Autonomous Council gives direction with respect to applicability of the Act in Scheduled Areas under its jurisdiction.

53. The Autonomous Councils are empowered to constitute traditional Village Councils or Courts for the trial of suits and cases between the parties all of whom belong to Scheduled Tribes, and appoint suitable persons to be members of such village councils or presiding officers of such courts for administration of justice. The Autonomous Councils also exercise the powers of a court of appeal in respect of all suits and cases triable by a traditional Village Council.

54. In the areas under the Sixth Schedule districts of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao, traditional system of land tenure is practiced under village level authority; communal ownership of land is the norm in these areas and on most instances the ownership-titles of land are not available with the customary land owners. Many villages do not have a fixed boundary as the village locations keep shifting; or even the village name since it gets derived from the name of the traditional Village Headman. Land records are maintained by traditional means by the Autonomous Councils. However the revenue administration in BTC is similar to the one being practiced in non Sixth Schedule plains areas of Assam.

3.4 AUTONOMOUS TRIBAL COUNCILS ESTABLISHED BY STATE LEGISLATIONS

55. In addition, the Government of Assam has constituted six other Autonomous Councils through enactment of law in the State Legislature for social, economic, educational, ethnic and cultural advancement of tribal communities in these autonomous council areas. These Autonomous Councils are entrusted with the responsibilities of formulating integrated development plans for the Council Area, and implement development schemes and programs in adherence to the general policy of the Government. The Council is also authorized to guide customs and traditions of the Scheduled Tribe communities according to the traditional laws. The Autonomous Councils established through State Legislation are:

- Mishing Autonomous Council (MAC): The council covers as 'Core Area' as well as 'Satellite Areas' in eight districts namely, Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Golaghat, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia;
- Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council (RHAC): The jurisdiction of this council extends upto Rani area of Kamrup district and except some parts of Matia, Balijana and Lakhimpur revenue Circles, it embraces almost the entire district of Goalpara;
- Tiwa Autonomous Council (TAC): The council covers western areas of Karbi-Anglong district and in the southern banks of Brahmaputra valley, mostly in Morigaon and Nagaon district where the Tiwa is residing;
- Deori Autonomous Council (DAC): The council area is scattered in medium/small villages/parts of villages/settlements in seven upper Assam Districts namely Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia where the Deori community is situated;
- Thengal Kachari Autonomous Council (TKAC): The council area is scattered in in Jorhat, Golaghat, Dibrugarh, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji and Karbi Anglong districts of Assam;
- Sonowal Kachari Autonomous Council (SKAC): The council covers 450 villages within the jurisdiction in seven districts of Upper Assam, viz. Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Sivsagar, Jorhat and Golaghat;

56. The administrative jurisdictions of these Autonomous Councils covers the Village Councils formed out of blocks of contiguous revenue villages, each having 50% and above the dominant Scheduled Tribes population and other Scheduled Tribes communities residing there. The General Council is constituted with twenty elected members and two members nominated by the Government of Assam. The Members of Parliament and the members of the legislative Assembly, Assam belonging to Scheduled Tribes Reserved Constituencies of the Council Area are ex-officio members of the General Council. The elected members of the General Council elect the Executive Council, comprising of Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Chief Executive Councilor, Deputy Chief Executive Councilor and Executive Councilors. The executive responsibilities of the Autonomous Council are vested with the Executive Council, which is headed by the Chief Executive Councilor.

3.5 RELEVANT LEGAL PROVISIONS TO SAFEGUARD TRIBAL INTERESTS

57. There are acts, rules and policies which provide the legal framework for ensuring dedicated attention to Scheduled Tribes. The Statutes relevant in the context of the project are: presented below:

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989

58. The act provides for specific provisions to prevent atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and suggests State Government to frame rules for the same. These include identification of areas where atrocity may take place or there is an apprehension of reoccurrence of an offence under the Act. The State Government is required to set up a Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell at the State headquarters under the charge of Director General of Police or Inspector-General of Police. This Cell is responsible for conducting survey of the identified area; maintaining public order and tranquility in the identified area; recommending to the State Government for deployment of special police force or establishment of special police post in the identified area; and restoring the feeling of security amongst the members of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006

59. FRA is an important watershed in the history of tribal empowerment in India especially relating to tenurial security on forests and forest land; and vest ownership and usage rights to those dependent on forests for their sustenance. The act recognizes and vests the forest rights and occupation in forest land to forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. The definitions of forest dwelling Schedule Tribes, forestland, forest rights, forest villages, etc. have been included in Section 2 of the Act.

60. The Act recognizes individual rights of tribal to land being cultivated in forest areas; and community rights/ other traditional customary rights, rights to use minor forest produce, rights to collect products from water bodies, grazing rights (both settled or transhumant), rights to biodiversity, cultural diversity, rights to habitation, and right to protect, conserve or manage community forest resource which they have been traditionally protecting and conserving. The Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal agency for implementation of the Act while field implementation is the responsibility of the government agencies.

Assam land and Revenue Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1947

61. This Act of 1947 was to amend Assam Land and Revenue Regulation 1886, and insert Chapter X, which is aimed at protecting land-ownership rights of indigenous tribal people of Assam. The protective measures include constitution of compact areas, i.e. tribal belts or blocks in regions predominantly inhabited by indigenous tribal people. Land-holders in tribal belts and blocks are barred from transferring their land to any person who is a not permanent resident in that belt or block; or does not belong to a class of people notified under relevant section of the Act. Any ineligible person to whom land is transferred in the belts or blocks in contravention of the provision of the Chapter X, will not have right or title of that land.

World Bank (Operational Policy) OP 4.10

62. The World Bank's Operational Policy on Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10) aims at ensuring that the development process fosters full respect for the dignity, human rights and cultures of indigenous peoples, thereby contributing to the Bank's mission of poverty reduction and

sustainable development. To achieve this objective, Bank-assisted projects which affect indigenous peoples provide them a voice in design and implementation, avoid adverse impacts where feasible, or minimize and mitigate them, and ensure that benefits intended for them are culturally appropriate. The Bank recognizes that indigenous peoples are commonly among the poorest and most vulnerable segments of society and in many countries they have not fully benefited from the development process. It also recognizes that the identities, cultures, lands and resources of indigenous peoples are uniquely intertwined and especially vulnerable to changes caused by development programs. Because of this, issues related to indigenous peoples and development are complex and require special measures to ensure that indigenous peoples are not disadvantaged and that they are included in and benefit from these programs as appropriate.

3.6 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT IN ASSAM

63. Key government machinery shouldering responsibility for tribal development in the state are

- Department of Welfare of Plain Tribes and Backward Classes (WPT&BC)
- Office of the Development Commissioner for Hill Areas of Assam

Department of Welfare of Plain Tribes and Backward Classes (WPT&BC)

64. The Department of WPT&BC is responsible for the overall socio-economic development of Schedule Caste, Schedule Tribe (Plains) and Other Backward Class population in the state of Assam; and caters to the welfare needs of approximately 46% of the state population. The department functions as the nodal department for the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes governing the welfare and development of the Schedule Tribes in the State. This includes channeling funds to BTC and Autonomous Councils (constituted by State Legislature) for the implementation of schemes and programmes.

65. WPT&BC department is mandated to implement the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP), which provides for non-divertible flow of outlays within the provisions of Annual Plan; and is the primary mechanism for channelizing the benefits for the development of Schedules Tribes in districts, which are not under Sixth Schedule but have concentration of tribals in a contiguous area.

66. There are 19 Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) for implementation of the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). The work of ITDP is multi-disciplinary in nature and it functions as a nodal agency for planning, formulation, implementation and monitoring of tribal development programmes. For each ITDP there is a Project Director who is a Senior State Civil Service Officer. The Project Director is empowered with adequate administrative and financial powers so that they function as watch dog to schemes and programmes implemented by ITDP. There is a Project Implementation Committee (PIC), with a non-official chairperson, to approve beneficiaries and to review implementation of the TSP Schemes; the Project Director of ITDP is the Secretary of Project Implementation Committee. In addition to these ITDPs, the Government of Assam had established Assam Plains Tribal Development Corporation to look

after socio-economic development of tribal population under Below Poverty Line. Advisory Council for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes is headed by the Minister, Welfare of Plain Tribes and backward Classes. All M.Ps. and M.L.As of the State (Plain Districts) of the respective communities are the member of this State Level Advisory Council. It provides recommendation for proper implementation of programmes and to review the progress of the various sectoral schemes under Tribal Sub-Plan.

Office of the Development Commissioner for Hill Areas of Assam

67. Development Commissioner for Hill Areas of Assam (DCHA) is the Plan preparation, co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation agency for the Plan Schemes of the two hill districts. DCHA is responsible for allocating fund among the development sectors of the two Autonomous Councils of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao districts on the basis of plans prepared by these Councils. This office compiles the physical and financial progress of the Entrusted and Non-entrusted schemes of all sectors and furnishes the same to Government of India.

CHAPTER 4: STAKEHOLDER MAPPING AND CONSULTATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

68. As part of the social assessment, consultations were held undertaken at community, district and state level with different stakeholders. Summary of the stakeholder consultations outcomes are presented below. These consultations have brought out issues of significance for preparation of Tribal Development Plan.

4.2 PROFILE OF THE STAKEHOLDERS AND BENEFICIARIES

69. The stakeholders of Neer Nirmal Pariyojana (RWSSP-LIS) are

- Project beneficiaries in the project GPs
- Gram Panchayat Water and Sanitation Committee (GPWSC) an Multi Village Water & Sanitation Committee (MVWSC)
- State water & sanitation Mission (SWSM) and District water & Sanitation Mission (DWSM)
- Public Health Engineering Department (PHED)
- Multi village scheme contractors
- Project Management Unit (SPMU) and District project Management Units (DPMU)

70. The primary beneficiaries from the project are the inhabitants of the project GPs. They are the primary stakeholders of the project. GPWSC and MVWSCs are also important stakeholders of the project as the project infrastructure will finally be transferred to MVWSC and GPWSC. Government department (PHED), the project management units, SWSM, DWSM are the secondary stakeholders of the project

4.3 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

71. A series of consultation, workshops were held with the primary stakeholders, GPWSCs and MVWSCs in the project districts of Kamrup (M), Hailakandi and Jorhat. The citizens were made aware of the project benefits and outcomes. The GPWSCs and MVWSCs were consulted and oriented about their roles and responsibilities. Public consultation held in all the 33 GPs in Jorhat, 16 GPs in Kamrup and 14 GPs in Hailakandi district. Consultation held with the citizen reveals the following issues

- Most of the people were unaware of the project activities before the consultation
- Reliable water supply system is a need of the time
- Most of the people were unaware of the issues related with solid and liquid waste management
- Sanitation should be considered as one of the top priority issues

4.3.1 Consultation with Tribal People

72. Public consultations were also conducted with the tribal population in the project GPs in the Batch – I districts, where there are significant tribal population exist. Dimoria and Chandapur Block in Kamrup(M) district have substantial tribal population. They consist of Karbis, Bodos, Sonowal-Kocharis, Nepalis, Tea-tribe, etc. The purpose of these citizen consultation was to

- Increase the awareness level of the people about the NNP(RWSSP-LIS)

- Share the expected benefit out of the NNP(RWSSP-LIS)
- Enhance the level of participation of the tribal population in the Project implementation stage
- Ensure project benefit to all tribal inhabitants
- Understand roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders during various stages of the project implementation, O&M phase

73. The consultation process started with briefing the participants about the project scope, intended benefit from the project etc. The participants were encouraged to raise questions during the consultation process about the project activities and outcomes. The interactive session also strived to gather citizens' views, expectations and suggestions on the project. The proceedings of the consultation were conducted in local languages. The concept of community contribution for the capital expenditure part of the project was also explained to the stakeholders. Focus group discussions were also held with the tribal groups of the project GPs

4.4 KEY RESULTS AND ISSUES

74. Key issues emerged out of social assessment studies are

- The project GPs in the identified districts for Batch – I project does not fall under the scheduled area. The concentration of tribal people in the project GPs is less apart from 16 GPs in 2 Blocks in the Kamrup District.
- Very few people have access to treated water source. Most of the people depend on either open well or hand pump for their daily water need. Hence incidence of water borne disease is prevalent in these areas. In terms of hygiene practice, presence of open defecation is still practised in these areas. People need to be educated on this behavioural change along with provision of toilet infrastructure in their houses.
- In terms of the water and hygiene infrastructure there is not much difference between the tribal and non tribal population in the project GPs. However economic condition affects the infrastructure situation access to service in the tribal households.
- More than half of the State's tribal population is concentrated in seven districts: Dima Hasao, Karbi Anglong, Dhemaji, Baksa, Chirang, Udalguri and Kokrajhar. Six of these districts are Sixth Schedule districts administered by Autonomous Councils. There are six Autonomous Councils constituted under State Legislation for social, economic, educational, ethnic and cultural advancement of Scheduled Tribes communities. These are not in Scheduled Area, but have contiguous settlements substantial tribal populations. However none of the project areas fall under any Autonomous council area or any of the scheduled area.

4.5 RECOMMENDATION FROM STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

75. The primary stakeholders have welcomed the initiatives under Neer Nirmal Pariyojana, RWSSP-LIS, Assam. The project will largely benefit the population in terms of provision of potable water supply system and improvement in hygiene practise including solid and liquid waste management in the project GPs.

76. The stakeholders felt, need of more awareness generation meeting, IEC activities at the GP level, ward level and habitation level to enhance participation during implementation and operation

maintenance phase of the project. The tribal households need more awareness generation as expressed during the consultation process.

77. The GPWSCs and MVWSCs need more strengthening and training to take over the schemes for the operation and maintenance phase. The GPWSCs and MVWSCs are also need to be training on their roles and responsibilities during the scheme cycle.

78. The stakeholders are willing to pay the community contribution and monthly user charge for a better water supply service. However the community felt requirement of more awareness generation regarding the project benefit.

79. For the hygiene and sanitation part , people need more training and IEC activities on technology options for SLWM.

CHAPTER 5: TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

5.1 INTRODUCTION

80. The social assessment study brought out that no negative impacts are envisaged on any section of the society, including 'tribals' from the project activity. However, some of the issues related to tribal community have come out during the consultation process for ex.(i) better IEC activities among tribal inhabitants about the project(ii) awareness generation for sanitation, hygiene and SLWM among the tribal population (iii) representation of tribal population in the GPWSC and MVWSC and active involvement during O&M phase. In this context and in compliance with the World Bank's Operational Policy for Indigenous People (OP4.10), the Tribal Development Plan (TDP) has been prepared, to specifically address the issues of significant for tribal people; within the project framework; and to ensure their participation in the project processes.

81. Under the Disclosure Policy, this Tribal Development Plan has been discussed with and disclosed to the key stakeholders mentioned above. This Plan is thus informed by all the suggestions and recommendations received during its preparation. Further, this Tribal Development Plan shall be disclosed to the public on the project web-site of Government of Assam; and printed copies of the plan will be placed in government offices and other public locations for easy access by the tribal population.

5.2 OBJECTIVE OF THE TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

82. The objectives of the Tribal Development Plan are to ensure that (i) the tribal populations are by the project are adequately and fully consulted; (ii) participation of tribals in the entire process of preparation, implementation and O&M of the project;(iii) project benefits are equally accessible to the tribals living in the project area; (iv) developing an institutional and implementation arrangements as well as capacity building measures for the implementation of the TDP, associated disclosure mechanisms and addressing any grievances; and (v) ensure representation of tribals in the GPWSC and MVWSC.

5.3 STRATEGIES FOR TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

5.3.1 Methodology of Implementation

83. For the purpose of implementing the project, Water and Sanitation Committees will be constituted. At the district level, Multi Village Water and Sanitation Committee (MVWSC) will be involved in implementing, monitoring and overseeing project interventions/activities. The members of the MVWSC also include members from Anchalik Panchayat and Gaon Panchayat from the project blocks and GPs. The members will thus ensure inclusion and participation of STs from their respective project blocks and GPs.

84. The GPWSC formed as sub-committees of GP, will be responsible for design and implementation of the project, environmental sanitation schemes, implementation of household sanitation components, IEC/ BCC activities for spreading awareness on sanitation and hygiene and ensuring participation of beneficiaries with support of SO.

5.3.2 Institutional Development and tribal representation

85. In constituting the Multi Village Water and Sanitation Committee (MVWSC) at district level, 10% of the total members and selected members from Gaon Panchayat, Anchalik Panchayat and Zilla Parishad as well as representatives from NGO/SHG/youth groups shall belong to SC/ST community.

Also, 1/3rd of members in Gaon Panchayat Water and Sanitation Committee (GPWSC) shall belong to SC/ST community.

5.3.3 Payment Linked Key Deliverables (PLKD)

86. The TDP assumes the availability of a support system in the form of Community Mobilizers at the GP level in implementing the project. It is proposed that PLKD may be followed to ensure result based project management. Coverage of Tribals should be a condition of the engagement of the Community Mobilizers. All tribal households must be included in the project. The activities and deliverables under NNP must be converted into a system of PLKDs- Payment Linked Key Deliverables. This will ensure that the community mobilizers do not get paid for outputs not delivered – including coverage of all tribal households in the project areas. The SPMUs/DPMUs would regularly monitor the Community Mobilizers' work.

5.3.4 Beneficiary contributions

87. To demonstrate support for the schemes, an amount of Rs 450 per household will be collected as an upfront, one-time, contribution from the beneficiary household. For SC/ST households, the amount has been subsidized to be Rs 225 as one time collection. Efforts must be made to collect this amount voluntarily rather than forcibly.

5.3.5 Information, Education and Communication Campaigns

88. In order to create demand for improved water and sanitation services and to facilitate trust building amongst tribals, an IEC campaign may be implemented. Project communication strategy should include tribal populations as its key target audience. Also images/pictures/events portrayed in the IEC materials should include representation of tribal communities/folk arts. Messages need to be delivered in an understandable manner through channels that are more accessible and effective. It is proposed that Inter-personal communication (IPC) with assistance from Community Mobilizers, may be made the key IEC method.

89. Cultural practices of tribals in respect of sanitation, hygiene and drinking water must be researched and included in the IEC campaigns. Lead Training Agency (LTA) must also make an IEC plan specially for tribals.

5.3.6 Capacity Building

90. Primary and secondary stakeholders will be targeted through multi stage and multi Level training programmes/workshops that will inform on behavioural, technical, financial and managerial dimensions of the projects and the changes from the current status. Special emphasis will be given to include ST members from GPWSC and CBOs.

91. The CB plan will include special CB strategies for Tribals considering their unique cultural and social practices and institutions. LTA must take a lead role in this.

92. While implementing the project, capacity building programmes, trainings and exposure visits will also be taken up to sensitize department officials, MVWSC, GPWSC, AWW, ASHA and other stakeholders on TDP. Training of ASHA and AWW on source based and home based care of drinking water sources, personal hygiene and sanitation would be undertaken in all the habitations selected under the project. Additional attention will be given to include the tribal households in all capacity building programmes under the project. Also, good practices and models from the State involving development of tribal communities will be documented.

93. Training will be provided to GPWSC members and community based organizations in the areas of community accounting and financial management, management of GPWSC/ CBOs, auditing and setting up systems for CBOs including empowerment issues, inclusion and tribal development.

5.3.7 Monitoring & Evaluation

94. An M&E strategy may be developed so that formal feedback can be received from tribal populations. This information can be used to take corrective measures for successful implementation of the project. The GPWSC may develop a participatory monitoring framework with the help of the Community Mobilizers and use this framework to monitor the project at the village/ community level. In addition to the project indicators, the GPWSC may develop other indicators, which they will also monitor. This data can be shared with the project management units at the District and State level.

5.3.8 Convergence with other departments and agencies

95. Project recognizes that convergence with on-going programs will be a key development strategy of tribal development for mobilizing resources. NNP in Assam will initiate convergence with national Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), National Health Mission (NHM), Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), Social Welfare Department and Tribal Development Board. Modalities for this will be developed during implementation.

5.3.9 Community Contracting and Management

96. Assam has taken up 3 (seven) large Multi Village Schemes (MVS) in a DBOT (Design, Build, Operate, Transfer) mode. As mentioned earlier, an amount of Rs 450 per household will be collected as an upfront, one-time, contribution from the beneficiary household. For SC/ST households, the amount has been subsidized to be Rs 225 as one time collection. Payment for O&M will be linked to usage. GPWSC will be responsible to collect, manage and maintain accounts pertaining to community contribution and monthly user charge.

5.3.10 Social Audit

97. The proceedings of the Social Audit will be held in an open public space, with ample provision for proactive disclosure of information and thoughts. There may be various reasons for deviations from achievements of objectives under the project. An indicative list of reasons categorising positive and negative factors along with the possible means of preventing or addressing them will also be worked out in the consultations during the Social Audit.

5.4 BUDGET FOR TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

98. Based on the devised strategy a budget has been prepared for execution of the Tribal development Plan.

| Sl no | Particulars | Proposed Budget (INR Lacs) |
|-------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | IEC activities specific for tribal population | 7.00 |
| 2 | Engagement of community mobilizers | 4.00 |
| 3 | GP sensitization | 6.00 |
| 4 | M&E activities | 3.00 |
| 5 | Awareness programme for Community contribution | 4.00 |
| 6 | GPWSC/MVWSC strengthening and capacity building | 5.00 |
| 7 | Workshop on SLWM/Sanitation/Hygiene /water supply | 8.00 |

| Sl no | Particulars | Proposed Budget (INR Lacs) |
|-------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 8 | Social Audit | 3.00 |
| 9 | Exposure visit for tribal population | 9.00 |
| | Total | 49.00 |

5.5 GRIEVANCE REDRESSEL MECHANISM

99. The grievance redress mechanisms could be activated through physical paper based complaints at the SPMU/DPMU level. Online feedback system is already provided in the NNP website at the state level. During O&M phase a toll free no will be operated at the district level to redress the grievances. A service level benchmark to redress he grievance will be put in place. Periodic monitoring and evaluation will be done on the performance of the grievance redressel system.