

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

(1986-88)

THIRTY EIGHTH REPORT

(EIGHTH ASSEMBLY)



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Report of the Committee on Public Accounts on the
Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General
of India for the years from 1974-75 to
1981-82 (Civil) pertaining to the
Departments of Welfare of
Plains Tribes and Back-
ward Classes and Soil
Conservation, Gov-
ernment of
Assam.

1.5 OCT 1987

Presented to the House on 14th October, 1987

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
DISPUR : GUWAHATI-781006

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

(1986-88)

CHAIRMAN :

Shri Abdul Muqtadir Choudhury.

MEMBERS :

1. Shri Joy Prakash Tewari
2. Shri Sirajul Haque Choudhury
3. Shri Amrit Lal Basumatari
4. Shri Rashidul Haque
5. Shri Binai Khungur Basumatari
6. Shri Durga Das Boro
7. Shri Gunin Hazarika
8. Shri Ganesh Kutum
9. Shri Padma Nath Koiri
10. Shri Abul Hussain Sarkar

SECRETARIAT :

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Dr. P. N. Hazarika. | Secretary. |
| 2. Shri D. Talukdar ... | Special Officer. |
| 3. Dr. K. N. Baisya ... | Under Secretary. |
| 4. Shri J. D. Neog ... | Committee Officer. |

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INTRODUCTION :

1. I, Shri Abdul Muqtadir Choudhury, Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts, having been authorised to submit the report on their behalf present this Thirty-Eighth Report of the Committee on Public Accounts on (i) Welfare of Plains Tribes and Backward Classes and (ii) Soil Conservation Departments.

2. The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the years 1974-75 (Civil), 1975-76 (Civil), 1976-77 (Civil), 1977-78 (Civil), 1978-79 (Civil), 1979-80 (Civil), 1980-81 (Civil) and 1981-82 (Civil) were laid on Table of the House on 7th December, 1976, 31st October, 1977, 21st February, 1979; 29th March, 1981; 22nd March, 1983, 22nd March, 1983; 27th February, 1984 and 12th March, 1984, respectively.

3. The Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the years under Report were considered by the outgoing *** Committee on Public Accounts of the Seventh Assembly in its sittings held on 19th and 20th October, 1984 and 4th January, 1985. The Committee while examining the Reports of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, had scrutinised the written parawise replies submitted by the Department and also examined the Departmental witness for further clarifications. The present Committee perused all the relevant records and evidence and prepared the Report with a view to clear up all the backlogs. Simultaneously, the present Committee has taken up consideration of remaining Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India both Civil and Revenue Receipts in order to clear the accumulation of backlog and made them up-to-date.

4. The Committee has considered the draft report and finalised the same in its sitting held on 23rd September, 1987.

5. The Committee places on records their appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered to the Committee by Accountant General (Audit), Assam and other officers and staff of the office of the Accountant General, Assam. The Committee also expresses its thanks to the Departmental representatives of Government for their kind co-operation in furnishing the information.

Dispur :
The 23rd September, 1987.

Abdul Muqtadir Choudhury,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Accounts.

P A R T—I

Department of Welfare
of Plains Tribes
and Backward Classes.
(1974-75 to 1981-82)

NON-UTILISATION OF GRANTS :

(Audit para 6.13 at page 210 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1974-75).

1.1 The Government sanctioned Rs.16.34 lakhs during 1970-71 to 1973-74 for housing, rural water supply, improvement of working and living conditions of sweepers and self-help etc. schemes for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. Out of it, Rs.9.76 lakhs which were allotted to all the D.Cs. and S.D.Os. for sanctioning loans and disbursement of the same to the deserving grantees remained unutilised at the end of 1974-75. In May 1975, the Government directed the D.S.s and S.D.O.s to remit the undisbursed grants to the Assam Plains Tribal Department Corporation Ltd. and Assam State Development Corporation for Scheduled Castes Ltd. to which Rs. 0.79 lakh and Rs. 1.46 lakhs were remitted respectively between August and November 1975. But the Audit has brought that no information about remittance of the balance amounts to the Corporations and the utilisation of the unspent amount was furnished to the Government or the Accountant General.

1.1.2 During the course of examination the Committee enquired the position about the utilisation of the fund paid to the Corporations.

1.1.3 In reply to the above query the Government witness informed the Committee that the Government requested the D.Cs. and S.D.Os. in 1975 to refund the unutilised amount of Rs.9.76 lakhs to the Government. Out of it Rs.2.25 lakhs were refunded and Rs.2.25 lakhs were given to the Corporation as grant for their initial expenses.

1.1.4 The Committee was not satisfied with the explanation given by the departmental witness and observed that while the money was not meant for utilising in other purposes the diversion of the same was highly irregular. As regards the administrative control, the Government should have given proper guidelines to D.Cs. and S.D.Os. as to how the sanctioned money could be utilised and if they failed to do so timely explanation from them should have been obtained as to why they failed to comply with the direction of the Government.

1.1.5 The Committee has noted with regret that the sanctioned money was not disbursed in time to the grantees, for which the progress, welfare and development to the communities belonging to backward classes was retarded. Besides, no reason was furnished to the Committee as to why the money was not disbursed in time to the beneficiaries.

RECOMMENDATION

1.1.6 The Committee therefore recommends that a thorough probe should be instituted on the matter of misutilisation of sanctioned money and a report of the same should be submitted to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this Report.

DRAWAL OF MONEY IN ADVANCE OF REQUIREMENT

(Audit para 6.10 page 83 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1975-76)

1.2.1 The Director of Social Welfare drew and remitted Rs. 94 lakhs to the Assam Plains Tribal Development Corporation in March 1976 for payment as 'Consumption loan' to deserving plains tribal in identified areas. The amount so remitted was to be deposited with the State Bank of India and the United Commercial Bank in time deposit pending finalisation of the procedure for disbursement of loans.

1.2.2 According to rules, money should not be drawn from the treasury unless needed for immediate disbursement and any amount not immediately required should be refunded into the treasury promptly.

1.2.3 The audit has brought that no disbursement had been made till March 1977.

1.2.4 During the course of examination the Committee enquired as to how the amount of Rs. 94 lakhs referred to above was distributed, the Government witness while tendering evidence before the Committee stated :—

"These related to Tribal Welfare Department. But it was shown against Social Welfare Department. In 1975-76 no Directorate was set up."

1.2.5 The record of the Director, Social Welfare showed that the amount in question was drawn from the treasury on 31st March, 1976 against the Government sanction and as per Government direction the money was disbursed to Managing Director, Assam Plains Tribe Development Corporation Ltd., Guwahati. In the absence of drawing and disbursing Officer for drawal of fund for the Plains Tribes Development Corporation the Director, Social Welfare and

Probation was requested to draw the amount and to remit the same to the Managing Director and accordingly the amount was drawn and disbursed. The amount in question was received from the Central Government.

1. 2. 6. To a query by the Committee as to how the money was drawn and disbursed the departmental witness during evidence stated :

"Initially, it was intended to be given to poor needy tribal people as consumption loan. The amount was distributed in three parts viz.

- Rs. 5,12,238.00 for publication of Bodo Text Books,
- Rs. 28,33,762.00 for construction of village roads and the balance,
- Rs. 60,54,000.00 was given to the corporaion as consumption loan,

Rs. 5,12,238.00 were given to Assam Text Book Publication Corporation for publication of Bodo Text books and an amount of Rs. 20,56,750.00 was given to P.W.D. for construction of village road as per instruction from the Government An amount of Rs. 2,91,000.00 sanctioned for construction of village road was converted to grants-in-aid vide Government order.

1. 2. 7. The amount disbursed to the Corporation was,
- Rs. 24.91 lakhs up to 1979-80
 - Rs. 55 lakhs till 4. 1. 85.

However, no clear cut explanation could be adduced by the Departmental witness when the Committee enquired about the sanctioning of consumption loan to the deserving persons. Explaining the position before the Committee the Government witness intimated the Committee that.

"... it was found that at that time the G. P. Society was not fully geared up so the Government took a decision that it should be distributed through the Co-operative societies the decision probably was taken in the year 1978-79".

1.2.8. Thereafter some time, it was evident from the proceedings of the Board that the Board took a decision that the consumption loan might be available to tribal people as industrial loan, construction of building loan, etc. and Rs. 31 lakhs were given out of

the consumption loan Rs. 64,54,000.00. On these diversion, the Government raised objection. "The Officers who were responsible for these loans were suspended and departmental proceedings were drawn against them."

1.2.9. When the Committee wanted to know as to whether the consumption loan was recoverable, the Government representatives replied that it was a rolling fund, subsequently, an amount of Rs. 33 lakhs was recovered in 1979.

1.2.10. When the Committee wanted to know whether the Government kept a watch over the Corporation's spending the sanctioned money, the Government witness intimated the Committee that the Department was obtaining report from time to time from the Corporation and the recovery of consumption loan till November, 1984 was amounted to Rs.10,25,396.27 and interest accrued thereon Rs. 1,52,601.72 and the total recovery was Rs. 11,77,997.00.

OBSERVATION

1.2.11. The Committee feels that the consumption loan should be distributed properly in time with a view to render effective help to the needy tribal and other backward classes people for their economic development and upliftment.

1.2.12. The Committee therefore recommends that an inquiry should be instituted to ascertain the irregular diversion of fund resulting failure of the scheme and responsibility should be fixed on the person/persons found guilty. The report of the enquiry should be submitted to the committee within three months from the date of presentation of this report to the House.

ALLEGED MISAPPROPRIATION

(Para 3.6 (f) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1976-77)

1.3.1. The audit has revealed that during January 1977 an amount of Rs.0.11 lakh being the sale proceeds of finished products

of the training-cum-production centre. Jalukbari realised between January 1974 and December 1976 was neither accounted for in the cash book nor deposited in the personal ledger at the Guwahati treasury.

1.3.2 Even after detection of the case no realisation of balance amount was effected except depositing Rs.0.02 lakh in December, 1977 into the treasury.

1.3.3 In a written reply to the Department stated that departmental proceedings had been drawn up against Smti. Swarnalata Pegu the then Superintendent of the State Home In-charge T.C.P.C. and Shri B. K. Barua, U.D.A. Cum-Accountant of T.C.P.C., Jalukbari and one increment was stopped without cumulative effect from the former. An amount of Rs.2,172.21 was also realised from her. It was also stated that a criminal case was registered against Sri B. K. Barua and he was finally acquitted in the trial.

1.3.4 When the Committee wanted to know the present position of the alleged misappropriated money and action taken about the person found at fault, the witness admitted that there was some delay in taking action but said that an amount of Rs.6,487.93 was recovered from Sri Barua.

OBSERVATION

1.3.5 The Committee appreciates the action taken by the department against the persons at fault.

1.3.6 The Committee also recommends that appropriate action for misappropriating the amount should be taken against the persons responsible and balance misappropriated amount should be recovered immediately with intimation to the Committee.

IDLE MACHINES

(Para 3.34 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1976-77)

1.4.1 The audit has revealed that machines and accessories (cost Rs.0.41 lakh) purchased in 1960 for use in the fancy bag section and for opening two new sections, namely, (i) Rug weaving and Calico Printing and (ii) canning and food preservation, in the training-cum-production centre attached to the State Home, Jalukbari

were not utilised till 1977 since their purchase. No new section had also been started till December, 1977.

1.4.2 When the Committee enquired about the present position of these machines, the Departmental witness informed the Committee that these machines had been lying idle. As to the reasons for the purchase of these idle machines the witness stated before the Committee during examination that :

"Initially it was decided by the Government to donate these machinery to Sri Manta Sankar Mission, Nagaon. The equipment could not be transferred to Nagaon due to non-receipt of concurrence from the finance Department. It will be transferred to Nagaon on receipt of concurrence from the Finance Department. Correspondence has been made with Industry Department and Sericulture Department".

OBSERVATION :

1.4.3 The Committee deplors that the long delayed decision of the Government resulted the machineries to remain idle defeating the purpose for which they were purchased. The Committee therefore urges upon the Government that the machineries should be put to use immediately after they are purchased to meet the objective. The Committee therefore recommends that Government should arrive at a timely correct decision to utilise the machinery at the time of purchase to fulfil the aims and objectives. The Committee also desires that the present position of purchase of machineries and their utilisation should be intimated to the Committee within three months from the presentation of this report.

DRAWAL OF MONEY IN ADVANCE OF REQUIREMENT

(Para 6.13 of the Report of the Comptrollers and Auditor General of India for 1976-77)

1.5.1 The Director of Social Welfare drew Rs.1 lakh on 31st March, 1976 and disbursed the amount to the Assam Plains Tribal Development Corporation Ltd. in April, 1976 as grant (to be utilised within a year) for implementation of the scheme "Research and training".

1.5.2 The audit had raised that an amount of Rs. 0.36 lakh was lying unutilised till September 1977 with the Corporation.

1.5.3. When the Committee enquired about the position, the departmental witness who was tendering the evidence before the Committee stated that the point in question could not be clarified due to non-receipt of the actual position from the Corporation. Then the Committee directed the departmental witness to submit a detailed report within a month from the date (4th January 1985) for consideration of the Committee. But no reply from the department explaining the position of drawal of money in advance was received by the Committee till the presentation of this report.

OBSERVATION :

1.5.4. Considering non-submission of replies on the Audit paras under examination the Committee therefore recommends that appropriate action should be taken on the person responsible for not sending reply to the Committee as assured during evidence. The Committee further recommends that effective steps should be taken to stop the drawal of money in advance of requirements which proved to be infructuous.

AVOIDABLE EXPENDITURE :

(Pura 6.8 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1978-79)

1.6.1. The Government sanctioned two amounts Rs.7,06,300.00 in March, 1977 and Rs. 1,43,750.00 in March, 1978 for providing rehabilitation assistance to 131 and 25 families respectively of the Destitute Home, Meherpur, Cachar District which was drawn in March, 1977 by the Director of Social Welfare and kept them in deposits-at-call on the maintenance of the Home.

1.6.2 The audit has pointed out that no disbursement of loan has been made till December 1979 but the department continued to incur expenditure (Rs. 4.69 lakhs from April, 1977 to September 1979) on the maintenance of the Home.

1.6.3. During the course of examination of the written replies furnished by the Department, it appeared that the loan remained undischursed for want of rules and orders regarding grant of rehabilitation loan to the families and want of fixing the rate of interest for recovery. During the course of oral evidence the Government

witness corroborated the fact that this amount could not be disbursed in time for want of rules and orders and disbursement of loan was started from 4th July 1980 although the money was drawn in March 1977.

1.6.4. The Committee expressed dis-satisfaction and felt that the cases would be guided by the Assam Displaced Persons (rehabilitation loan) Act, 1951 and the rules (1954) framed thereunder. After the finalisation of the rate of interest and other terms of loans the D.C., Cachar distributed the amount to the grantees as follows :

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| (1) payment of first instalment of House Building loan @Rs.1000.00 to 143 loanees | Rs.1,43,000.00 |
| (2) payment of second instalment of House Building loan @Rs.1000.00 to 141 families | Rs. 1,41,000.00 |
| (3) payment of first instalment of business loan @Rs. 3000.00 to 102 families | Rs. 3,06,000.00 |
| (4) payment of second instalment of business loan @ Rs. 2000.00 to 102 loanees. | Rs. 1,76,000.00 |

(Loan) Total Rs. 7,66,000.00

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| (5) Cashdole for a period of 3 months @Rs. 50.00 p.m. paid through the Superintendent C.S. Home, Meharpur, Silchar | Rs. 17,550.00 |
|--|---------------|

Grand Total Rs.7,83,550.00

1.6.5. Out of the total amount of Rs.7,06,300.00 and Re.1,43,750.00 drawn during 1976-77 and 1977-78, no account of

Rs.66,550.00 had been submitted by the Deputy Commissioner, Cachar.

1.6.6. The Committee has expressed its anxiety over the manner in which the loan money was disbursed and account for the balance amount was not submitted by the D.C. Cachar. The Committee also deploras the negligent manner in which Government money drawn in March, 1977 was disbursed in July, 1980 resulting huge loss of Government money.

1.6.7. To a query as to the period decided by the Government to rehabilitate the people, the Government witness stated :

"Most of the refugees are without any security from the point of economy. Some old persons may be there. Previously, upto 1979, Central Government was releasing the grant. After 1979 the responsibility has fallen on the State Government. Rules say that when the Minor becomes major they would be provided with job, business etc. Schemes are there. It is not possible to rehabilitate them. At Boko, they have been given some business loan. There are some difficulties in giving them loan".

1.6.8. When the Committee wanted to know as to whether there was any machinery to determine the exact number of persons to be rehabilitate and whether it had become some sort of business, the Government witness could not deny the same.

1.6.9. On another query by the Committee as regards increase of dole, the Government witness stated in evidence :

"In fact Government has given 7 lakhs of rupees for rehabilitation we made an assessment last year with the Chief Secretary as Chairman, Revenue Secretary and the Deputy Commissioner as the members. They gave a proposal to increase the amount of dole. Then the Committee was of the view that mere increase of the amount of the dole would not help. It was decided to give settlement. Seven lakhs of rupees given by the Government of India were lying idle. The Accountant General objected and the amount was refunded. We may settle the refugees at Silchar and in Meghalaya. Mere dole will not help unless rehabilitation is given to them."

OBSERVATION

1.6.10. The Committee feels that this was a wrong decision of the Government.

1.6.11. The Committee therefore recommends that a thorough enquiry should be made to ascertain the reasons for not disbursing the amount drawn in March, 1977 till July, 1980 fixing responsibility on the person/persons at fault. The report should be submitted to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this report.

FUNDS DIVERTED TO OTHERER USES OR NOT UTILISED

(Para 3.16 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1979-80).

1.7.1. With a view to uplift the traditional economy of predominantly agricultural and marked indebtedness of people belonging to Scheduled Tribes (Plains) the Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs during Fifth Plan period took a few welfare schemes aimed at changing their occupational patterns, modernising agricultural practices and removing indebtedness. With the support of the Central Government, the State Government also undertook schemes for granting consumption loan under the State plan and the Tribal Area Sub-plan, as well as centrally sponsored schemes against 19 project areas containing over 50% of the tribal population. Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) was finalised.

1.7.2. The Government of India had issued (1975) guidelines for preparation of ITDP, laying down the principle that subsidy should normally support changes and not replace existing commitments of an individual which could be covered by loan finance.

But the audit has brought out that in practice, these guidelines were not followed. Under the scheme for supply of agricultural implements (at 75% subsidy) in two Subdivisional Agricultural Offices, at Guwahati and Kokrajhar, subsidies of Rs. 92,333.00 and Rs. 3,30,999.00 were paid in April, 1978 to M/s. Assam Agro-Industries Development Corporation Ltd. for purchase and distribution of implements to selected grantees at 25% of the total cost. The audit has again brought out that the offices did not have any record of distribution of the implements.

1.7.3. In a similar case audit has further brought out that in March 1975 the Agricultural Directorate paid Rs. 7.26 lakhs to the Assam

Agro-Industries Development Corporation Ltd. as 90% advance for supply of tractors, power tillers and hand sprayers to tribal people about which nothing was in the record of the Directorate to show that the equipments were received, distributed and utilised.

1.7.4. At the time of oral examination, the Committee wanted to know as to how much money was spent on agricultural sector, the Government witness could not furnish the exact reply to the Committee.

1.7.5. On another query as regards amount spent for supplying agricultural equipment to the tribal people the witness could not give the categorical reply.

1.7.6. The Committee was ~~every~~critical about the list prepared in respect of actual beneficiaries and expressed its reservation as the same had been prepared in consultation with some influential persons of the locality. The Committee feels that needy people are very often deprived.
evidence→

1.7.7. When the Committee wanted to know as to the use of power tillers by tribal people the Government witness stated in evidence :

"Two tractors were purchased one of them was given to Nobodoi Service Unit and the other given to Aboni Unit at Gogamukh. A small number of power tillers were purchased. The number is 17, Another 41 number of pump sets were also purchased. ... In 1984-85 an amount of Rs.24 lakhs for supply of mini-kits are purchased."

OBSERVATION :

1.7.8. The Committee was not satisfied with the explanation tendered by the witness and felt that tribal people did not get any benefit out of the scheme and the grant was misutilized.

1.7.9. The Committee therefore, recommends that a thorough probe should be conducted for depriving the actual needy tribal people and for not providing the benefit of welfare scheme as envisaged and fix responsibility on the persons for whose fault the scheme was a complete failure. The report of the enquiry should be submitted to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this report.

ASSAM PLAINS TRIBES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (APTDC)

(Audit para 3.16.3 at page 61 of the Comptroller and Auditor General's Report for 1979-80)

1.8.1. In March, 1975, the Government set up a company "Assam Plains Tribes Development Corporation Ltd." with an authorised Capital of Rs. 1 crore with the object of constructing houses, promoting poultry, dairy and pig-gery, and setting up of business by tribals including arranging supply of raw materials and implementing scheme for tribal etc. taken by the Government. The audit has brought out that upto the end of March, 1979 the Government had paid Rs. 1,71.69 lakhs (Rs. 10.00 lakhs in 1976-77, Rs. 26.84 in 1977-78 and Rs. 1,34.85 lakhs in 1978-79) in excess of the authorised capital, to the Company as share capital by drawing money provided in the Budget under revenue heads for similar objectives or by diverting un-utilised funds budgeted originally for other purposes.

1.8.2. During the course of examination the Committee wanted to know the amount received by the corporation out of authorised capital the departmental witness furnished information showing the amount received as share contribution of the Government upto 1979-80.

Government sanctioning letter. 1)	Date (2)	Amount in Rupees. (3)
1. TAD/STP/71/75/114.	9th December 1976.	10,00,000.00.
2. TAD/STP/395/72/2.	31st August 1977...	1,00,000.00.
3. TAD/STP/71/75/227.	22nd February 1978.	4,82,246.88.
4. TAD/STP/71/75/227.	22nd February 1978.	49,500.00.
5. TAD/SC/546/75/217.	15th December 1978.	10,50,000.00.
6. TAD/SC/357/75/145.	14th February 1978.	2,02,442.14.
7. TAD/SC/69/78/1 ..	23rd March 1978 ...	8,00,000.00.
8. TAD/STP/486/78/2.	27th December 1978.	13,00,000.00.
Total Rs.		49,84,189.02.

1.8.3. Although the Government sanctioned an amount of Rs. 1,21,85,000.00 as share capital vide Letter No. TAD/SUB/214/78/15, dated 23rd March 1979, but in their subsequent letter (related file with Government) asked this corporation to utilise the above mentioned amount for the following purposes and released to the Minor Irrigation Corporation,

1. Minor Irrigation Development.	Rs. 65,00,000.00.
2. Consumption loan	33,85,000.00.
3. Industrial bankables loan ..	23,00,000.00.
	Total Rs. 1,21,85,000.00.

Therefore the actual amount received as share capital was Rs.49,84,189.02 against the authorised capital upto 1979-80. The utilisations of the above fund under the above schemes have been given in the next paras.

The share certificates have been issued to the Government to the extent of Rs.92,59,000 upto 1984-85 of equity shares of Rs.1000 each. The certificates have been issued in the name of the following persons.—

1. M. C. Narasinhham since transferred to Shri C. P. Misra—	1
2. U. C. Brahma	1
3. Govt. of Assam	9257
	Total 9259

1.8.4 The Committee during the course of consideration feels that since the examination of working of the APTDC falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Public Undertakings, it has not taken detailed examination of APTDC.

RECOMMENDATION

1.8.5 However, the Committee feels that a detailed study should be conducted to ascertain as to whether the money sanctioned by the Government had been properly utilized for the purpose for which these amounts were sanctioned.

FUNDS DIVERTED TO OTHER USES OR NOT UTILISED:
(Audit paras 3-16.4 at page 63 of Comptroller and Auditor General's Report for 1979-80).

1.9.1 In 1974-75 the Government sanctioned a grant of Rs.0.75 lakh for construction of a cultural institute. The amount was drawn by the Director, Tribal Area and Welfare of Backward Classes Department and paid to the A.P.T.C. The audit has brought out that the scheme was not implemented and the amount was utilised by the APTDC for constructing its office building.

1.9.2 In March, 1976 the Government paid to the Assam Plains Tribes Development Corporation Rs.12.26 lakhs for implementing irrigation, soil conservation and agricultural schemes in Kokrajhar and Dhemaji Subdivisions. Of it, Rs.1.76 lakhs were refunded to the Government since the Director of Soil Conservation had already implemented the relevant scheme. The audit has brought out that the balance of Rs. 10.50 lakhs was not utilised on the envisaged schemes but was converted in February, 1978 into share capital of Assam Plains Tribes Development Corporation.

1.9.3 when the Committee wanted to know as to whether the Cultural Institute for which the Government sanctioned Rs. 0.75 Lakh was really constructed, the Departmental witness stated before the Committee during oral evidence:

“This amount of Rs. 0.75 lakh was sanctioned by the Government for the Cultural activities. This amount was meant for Madhya Beltola Tribal Krishi Sangha for construction of a cultural institute at Guwahati and for which foundation was already laid. The Corporation had an informal agreement with the Krishi Sangha and decided to construct the building on condition that the Krishi Sangha will be given a part of the building for their official use”.

1.9.4 To another query by the Committee as regards objection pertaining to conversion of share capital into other heads, the department in a written reply stated that an amount of Rs. 12,26,000.00 was received as grants-in-aid meant for irrigation and soil conservation etc. Later on, the Government converted a sum of Rs. 10,50,000.00 to the share capital and the balance was asked to refund to

the Government and as such the amount was refunded to the Government vide letter No. PTDC. 57/77/29 dated 10th February 1977.

1.9.5. When then Committee inquired about conversion of Rs. 10.50 lakhs as Share Capital instead of utilising it as envisaged in the scheme the Government witness stated :

“We have been showing the share capital under the Capital Head. Last year Finance Department said that you put it in the revenue head and not on capital head.”

1.9.6. The Committee was not satisfied with the arguments put forward by the witness and stressed that fund sanctioned for specific purpose should not be diverted to other purpose. The Committee desires that detailed note in this regard should be submitted to the Committee within three months as to the circumstances of fund diversion.

RETENTION OF LARGE SUMS UNUTILISED

(Audit para 3.16.5 at page 63 of Comptroller and Auditor General of India's Report for 1977-80).

1.10.1. After setting up the APTDC, as a general practice, the budgeted funds were drawn and disbursed to it to avoid lapse of grants, and completion of preliminaries, drawing up of schemes, programmes, etc., were done thereafter. As a result, the Corporation was able to retain large sums unspent for long periods. Rs. 2.91 lakhs and Rs. 1.39 lakhs drawn in March 1976 for construction of village roads and payment of grants-in-aid to tribals, Rs. 1.40 lakhs drawn in November 1976 for payment of grants-in-aid to tribals and Rs. 18 lakhs drawn in September 1977 for construction of village roads, made over to APTDC, are lying unutilised to date (December 1980).

1.10.2. The Departmental witness in a written reply stated that the amounts of Rs. 2.91 lakhs, Rs. 1.36 lakhs and Rs. 1.40 lakhs were lying in the Corporation due to non-receipt of Government instruction.

1.10.3. When the Committee wanted to know as to nonutilisation of Rs. 18 lakhs for the departmental or Welfare purposes of the Plains Tribals, the Departmental witness during oral evidence submitted before the Committee that

actually the amount was meant for construction of village roads by P.W.D. Actually total sanction was Rs. 20,90,000.00 and the balance Rs. 2.91 lakhs was converted to grant-in-aid.

1.10.4. When the Committee enquired about the utilisation certificates of the amounts, the Departmental witness submitted before the Committee—"We asked the P. W. D. to submit the utilisation certificate, but it was not submitted by them".

1.10.5. The Committee is constrained to note that the Department did not pursue the matter of obtaining utilization certificate in time giving scope for misutilization of fund.

RECOMMENDATION

1.10.6. The Committee therefore recommends that the Department should take vigorous steps to pursue with the spending Departments for obtaining utilization certificates so that money sanctioned are properly utilised.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION SCHEMES

(Audit para 3.16.6 at page 63 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1979-80).

1.11.1. Monitoring and evaluation of schemes were functions entrusted to the Tribal Research Institute (set up in January 1977) on which Rs. 0.53 lakh and Rs. 2.50 lakhs had been spent in 1977-78 and 1978-79 and to the Directorate of Welfare of Plains Tribes and Backward Classes. No evaluation had so far (September 1979) been undertaken by the Department.

1.11.2. The Department in a written reply stated that one monitoring cell started functioning from 1979-80 but the cell had not been able to undertake the work of evaluation as the cell was engaged in preparing the project reports of 19- ITDP's.

1.11.3. When the Committee during oral evidence enquired about the functioning of the monitoring cell as well as evaluation report thereof the Departmental witness

could not advance any ground for not functioning of the

cell. Therefore the Committee desires that the Tribal Research Institute should be geared up so that effective evaluation on the various activities of Tribal Developmental Schemes could be brought out to light and monitor the same for the benefit of the Tribal people.

NON UTILISATION OF GRANTS

((Audit para 6.6 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for 1980-81, page 83))

1.12.1. An amount of Rs.7 lakhs was received from the Government of India during 1979-80 as Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction of Girls' Hostel for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. On the basis of the sanction accorded by the State Government for construction of Girl's Hostel for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes the Director of Plains Tribes and Backward Class drew in April 1980 an amount of Rs.12 lakhs and paid Rs.8 lakhs to APTDC and Rs.4 lakhs to ASDC for Schedule Castes. But audit has brought out that the amount remained unutilised and was lying with the Corporation till April 1982.

1.12.2. During the time of examination, the Departmental witnesses informed the Committee that a plot of land was purchased for the purpose where construction of proposed hostel would be started but could not furnish the exact amount spent on purchase of land and exact date of starting the construction of work.

1.12.3. The Committee feels that the schemes should be executed timely so that the students belonging to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes could be benefited from the Grants given by the Government and to avoid price escalation. The Government of India sanctioned on March 20, 1980 Rs.27.50 lakhs as Grant-in-aid to the APTDC for implementing the bankable scheme like consumption loan, production loan and industrial schemes including Sericulture and Weaving. The Director of Welfare of Plains Tribes and Other Backward Classes drew the amount of Rs.27.50 lakhs accordingly and disbursed to APTDC in April, 1980. In March, 1980 the Government sanctioned Rs.1,26.75 lakhs as grant-in-aid to people belonging to Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Tribes (plains) and Scheduled Castes, for welfare and upliftment of the people. The amounts were placed at the disposal of the Corporation.

1.12.4. During the course of examination of the Department, the Committee finds that there was no proof as to whether the moneys were utilized for the purposes for which these were sanctioned. The Departmental witness during the course of examination stated before the Committee that the money would be utilized and money was kept in the Bank as per instruction of the Government of India.

1.12.5. The Committee is not convinced with the grounds explained by the witness and desires that the Department should take effective measures to utilise the money sanctioned and obtain utilization certificate from the spending authorities.

1.12.6. During 1979-80, the State Government took up a scheme for pre-examination training to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates appearing for the State Civil Service Examination. The expenditure on the scheme was to be shared by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 50:50. The Government of India released Rs.0.75 lakh in March 1980 as their share for implementation of the scheme. The Director of Welfare for Plains Tribes and Backward Classes drew Rs.1.50 lakhs in March, 1980 as grants-in-aid for implementation of the scheme. But the audit has revealed that the training had not been commenced till February, 1981 and the entire amount was lying unutilised in the form of deposit at-call with the bank.

1.12.7. When the Committee wanted to know the reason the Departmental witness stated:

“Regarding providing of training to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates, the department has taken up with the Manager (North-Eastern Region) State Bank of India, Director, Staff Selection Commission and Director, Assam Administrative Staff College. Accordingly, in 1981-82 we have trained 255 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates. We have trained 146 trainees through State Bank of India and Administrative Staff College.

1.12.8. To another query by the Committee as to the duration of training, number of successful candidates of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the last APSC examination and appointment thereof, quantum of stipend to the

trainees, the departmental witness informed the Committee as follows:

- “(i) The period of training is 3 to 4 months.
- (ii) There is training for all competitive examinations.
- (iii) There is no training centre in Assam just like Allahabad where a training Centre is there with affiliation of the UPSC.
- (iv) Rs.85.00 for Guwahati candidates and Rs.125.00 for others who reside outside Guwahati are given, respectively as stipend for pre-examination training.”

OBSERVATION

1.12.9. The Committee however observes that scheme for pre-examination training to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates as meant for those deserving candidates who would be appearing for the Civil Service Examination and other competitive examinations. Therefore the Committee desires that the stipend should be sanctioned accordingly on the basis of merits and aptitude of the candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who are found suitable for the competitive examinations.

1.12.10. The Committee took up for examination the audit para 6.7 (Delay in implementation of the scheme), Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, 1980-81 in respect of incurring an expenditure not exceeding Rs.7.62 lakhs for payment of grants-in-aid to Voluntary Welfare Organisations. The Special Secretary to the Government of Assam, Department of Welfare of Plain Tribes and Backward Classes Department stated that:

“Government had sanctioned Rs.7,62,000 for (a) Children National Book Trust, (b) Observation of L. Y. C. and (c) Construction of Children Park on 29th March 1980”.

1.12.10. (a) Children National Book Trust:—Rs.3,00,000 had been sanctioned for Children National Book Trust and the amount was remitted to the District Social Welfare Officer, Kamrup for disbursement. But the Trust had not been constituted. So, the amount was kept by the District Social Welfare Officer, Kamrup in the shape of Bank Draft and subsequently deposited under challan No.13 of 26th September 1983 to the treasury.

1.12.11(C) Construction of Children Park:—Rs.4,52,000/- had been sanctioned to 17 Nos. of Municipal Boards/Town Committees/Nagaon Zila Mohila Samity and Zila Maina Parijat specifying the amount each of them vide Governmen' letter No. TAD/SW/454/77/Pt-IV/137, dated 19th March, 1980. The list of allocation to various Municipal Boards, Towns Committees are as follows:

	Rs.
1. Chairman, Municipal Board, Tezpur	50,000/-
2. Administrative Officer, Municipal Board, Nagaon.	15,780/-
3. President, Zila Mohila Samity, Morigaon	12,000/-
4. Secretary, Nagaon Zila Moina Parijat, Nagaon.	12,000/-
5. Administrative Officer, Municipal Board, Dhubri.	16,510/-
6. Chairman, Municipal Board, Goalpara	13,710/-
7. Chairman, Town Committee, Bijni	17,000/-
8. Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation	40,000/-
9. Chairmam, Municipal Board, Nalbari	10,000/-
10. Vice-Chairman, Municipal Board, Barpeta	24,000/-
11. Chairman, Municipal Board, Jorhat	40,000/-
12. Chairman, Municipal Board, Golaghat	20,000/-
13. Chairman, Town Committee, Moran	10,000/-
14. Chairman, Municipal Board, Silchar	56,000/-
15. Chairman, Municipal Board, Dibrugarh	44,000/-
16. Chairman, Doomdoma Town Committee, Dibrugarh	15,000/-
17. Chairman, Municipal Board, North Lakhimpur	56,000/-
	Rs. 4,52,000/-

1. 12. 12. The Committee observes that the amounts had been sanctioned by the Government to 17 numbers of Institutions far back in 19th March, 1980 wherefrom no utilisation certificate had so far been produced till 1985. The Committee therefore feels that mere sanctioning of money does not mean utilisation objectively. Unless the sanctioned money so utilised in time the purpose of providing Public Fund is defeated.

RECOMMENDATION

1. 12. 13. The Committee recommends that the sanctioned money should be properly utilised and utilisation certificate thereof should be obtained by the sanctioning authority well in time so that there should not be any scope for mis-utilisation or diversion of fund.

PART II

**DEPARTMENT (OF
SOIL CONSERVATION**

(1974—75 to 1981—82)

SOIL CONSERVATION SCHEMES IN THE HILL DISTRICTS

(Audit Para 3 18, Report, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, 1974-75 P 101).

2. 1. 1 With a view to tackle the problem of soil loss from Jhum cultivation on the hill slopes, a separate Directorate of Government of Assam was formed in 1959 with two soil Conservation Divisions for the Karbi Anglong (Mikir Hills) and North Cachar Hill Districts. The Directorate spent Rs. 91.12 lakhs by 1968-69 on the following schemes including loan and subsidy to induce the cultivators to take up cultivation of cash crops and to motivate settled cultivation. By the end of that financial year the Directorate had the following physical achievements :

	Area in acres
Reclamation and tarracing	9,945
Afforestation	3,436
Pasture development	1,903
Departmental cash crop plantation	
Coffee	420
Black pepper	122
Cashewnuts	928
Rubber	307
Cash Crop Cultivation by Cultivators	
Coffee	853
Black pepper	211
Cashewnuts	2,417
Land developed for Cultivation of lac	80

2.1.2 An additional amount of Rs. 147.77 lakhs was spent till the first year of fifth plan (1974-75) on a number of direct soil conservation, ancillary supporting schemes or incentive oriented schemes of indirect nature as shown below:--

(a) Direct Schemes	Expenditure (Rs. in lakh)		
	Fourth plan	1974-75	Total
1. Land development	6.66 (94.74)	0.37(5.26)	7.03
2. Irrigation	3.23 (79.95)	0.81(20.05)	4.04
3. Protection afforestation	13.71 (59.76)	9.23(40.24)	22.94
4. Cash Crop development	11.79 (73.14)	4.33(26.86)	16.12
5. Grass land development		0.31	0.31
(b) Indirect or supporting schemes—			
6. Training	1.08 (91.53)	0.10 (8.47)	1.18
7. Soil Conservation Survey.	1.11 (88.8)	0.14 (11.2)	1.25
8. Soil Conservation Research	15.07 (89.76)	1.72 (10.24)	16.79
9. Extension (Publicity)	0.63 (90.0)	0.07 (10.0)	0.70
10. Pilot Project for shifting cultivation	5.70 (85.07)	1.00 (14.93)	6.70
11. Follow up agronomical programme and experiment	0.75 (94.94)	0.04 (5.06)	0.79
12. Establishment	19.14 (99.64)	0.07(0.36)	19.21
13. Contingency	1.31 (72.78)	0.49 (27.22)	1.80
14. Building & Approach Road	6.74 (60.67)	4.37 (39.33)	11.11
15. Tools & Plants etc.	9.81 (47.35)	10.91 (52.65)	20.72
16. Share capital investment in Assam plantation crops Development corporation	9.40 (8.69)	98.80 (91.31)	108.20
Total—	106.13 (44.43)	132.76 (55.57)	238.89

(Figures in the bracket indicate the percentage of total)

2.1.3 The schemes were executed through erstwhile Mikir Hills and North Cachar Hills Division. The Survey and Research Schemes were undertaken through the Zonal Soil Conservation Research Station under the charge of a Joint Director of Soil Conservation Department. Audit however pointed out certain loopholes on carrying out the schemes.

SOIL CONSERVATION SURVEY

2.2.1 Soil survey which was necessitated to determine important characteristics of soil, to classify soil into definite types to predictate the adaptability of soils to various crops, grass and trees their behaviour and productivity under different management systems, etc. was done in 1962-63 and 1963-64. But no further survey organisation started functioning from 1974 in the Department. The audit has revealed that the organisation surveyed 5,920 hectares during 1973-74 and 1974-75 against an estimated capacity of 43,100 hectares only against the norm of 20,800 hectares per annum fixed subsequently in 1975-76.

2.2.2 The Departmental written memorandum stated that the main reason for delay in executing the survey works was due to non-sanctioning of the posts and non-manning of the same by qualified personnels.

2.2.3 When the Committee wanted to know about to the reasons for poor performance of the survey operation, the Departmental witness informed the Committee that the Department was a new department and was started in 1959. In adducing the ground for less survey of land, the Director of Soil Conservation stated:

“Previously the Department was under administrative department of Agriculture, then it came under the T. A. and W. B. C. Then it came under the administrative department of Forest, although the department was declared as an independent department from the inception i. e. 1959... We have formulated our schemes on water-shed basis. The world Bank people was consulted about the water-shed management scheme drawn by the department and they had agreed to assist... We are doing it from the year 1982-83. We have identified 112 micro water-shed from smaller rivers.”

2. 2. 4. To a query of the Committee as to whether the department had any detailed survey map and delineation materials the Director of Soil Conservation replied in negative.

2. 2. 5. During the Fourth Plan period a few schemes were envisaged for conducting field experiments regarding soil and water losses, weaning away the cultivators from jhumming through publicity and motivation, scientific method of land use, substantial assistance to the cultivator, land development scheme, etc.

2. 2. 6. (a) Soil Conservation Research : A Soil conservation station was set up in Burnihat by the commencement of the fourth plan at a cost of Rs. 9.34 lakhs upto 1967-68 for conducting experiments on soil and water losses and data processing for utilization in the conservation techniques to be employed in the field. Though the experiments were made no report was submitted.

2. 2. 7. (b) Extension Wing (Publicity) : The extension scheme during the Fourth Plan aimed at weaning away the cultivators from Jhumming through poster, pamphlets, publicity, cinema and exhibition. Rs. 0.63 lakh was spent on the purchase of cinema projects and cinema films without any much publicity.

2. 2. 8. (c) Pilot project in Shifting Cultivation : A pilot project on 2581 acres of land was taken up in February 1970 at Barjan in erstwhile Mikir Hills district at cost of Rs. 6.70 lakhs upto 1974-75. But records relating to Rs. 1.00 lakh under the first phase of the scheme was not available on the date of audit as revealed.

2. 2. 9. When the Committee wanted to know about the non-implementation of schemes and non-furnishing of accounts with records, the Departmental witness could not furnish any convincing reasons.

2. 2. 10. To a query by the Committee the impact on Jhumming in the Hill districts, the Directorate of Soil

Conservation intimated the Committee thus —

“It is still continuing and it is afraid that it may continue for another few years. It is a process of cultivation of the tribes. But we are trying to motivate the people against these Jhum cultivation and encourage for cultivation of Coffee, Rubber Cashewnut. But it has been noticed that the people have already avoiding these process by themselves. Previously, these people cultivate in place and left the place unused for more than 20 years. But now-a-days as the land problems became acute and finding no alternative land they have to cultivate in the same place within a shorter span of time.”

2.2.11. The Committee is not satisfied with the reply of the departmental witness.

2.2.12 The Committee also wanted to know about the conservation of soil in riverine areas. The Director informed the Committee during the course of evidence that it was done by purchasing treated log from the contractor. The Committee has felt it would be costlier if fencings were erected by the treated posts and observes that to be more economic, cheaper and durable the natural plantation of certain trees could be grown in these areas.

WASTEFUL AND UNREMUNERATIVE EXPENDITURE

2.3.1 Audit had revealed that between 1955-56 and 1960-61, 469.18 acres of cashewnut plantation were created (expenditure—Rs. 2.69 lakhs) and Rs. 1.22 lakhs were spent on their maintenance from 1961-62 to 1968-69 in Karbi Anglong (Mikir Hills), and again an area of 317 acres, however, continued to be maintained thereby spent Rs. 0.31 lakh till 1968-69 without taking any decision regarding continuation of maintenance. The Committee, during its examination, enquired from the departmental witnesses about the feasibility of the scheme and its implementation.

2.3.2 The Departmental witness intimated the Committee that :

“Cashewnut plantation was initiated by the Forest Department in the year 1955 in Karbi Anglong. (Mikir Hills).

But as the Cashewnut cultivation is not suitable for Assam's climate the scheme was later abandoned by the Department. We are now taking plans for rubber cultivation in Assam. The Government of India is also very keen on taking rubber cultivation in North-Eastern region. We have taken rubber cultivation around Guwahati such as Boko, Choigaon, etc. on first phase. We have already taken up the scheme. In Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh rubber cultivation has been taken up by the Government in a large scale”. He also stated that the Plantation Development Corporation had taken 11 hectares of land for rubber cultivation.

OBSERVATION

2.3.3. The Committee was not satisfied at all about the working of the Soil Conservation Department and expressed its serious doubts for misutilising or non-utilising the fund allocated during the Fourth Five-Year Plan.

2.3.4. The Committee therefore recommends that a high power enquiry Committee should be instituted to investigate into the irregularities in the Soil Conservation Department since its inception.

The Committee further recommends that responsibility should be fixed on the person/persons responsible for misutilisation of fund which had retarded the welfare and progress of the people particularly the two Hills Districts of Assam.

APPENDIX—I

COMPOSITION OF THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

(1983-85)

CHAIRMAN :

Shri Hemen Das.

MEMBERS :

Shri Joy Chandra Bora.

Shri Binoey Kumar Basumatari.

Dr. Tarini Mohan Barooah.

Shri Narad Komar.

Shri Dileswar Tanti.

Shri Sisir Ranjan Das.

Shri Danes Ali.

Shri Siraj Uddin.

APPENDIX II

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Sl. Reference to No. para No.	Observations/Recommendations
1 1.1.6	The Committee therefore recommends that a thorough probe should be instituted on the matter of misutilisation of sanctioned money and a report of the same should be submitted to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this report.
2 1.2.11	The Committee feels that the consumption loan should be distributed properly in time with a view to render effective help to the needy tribal and other backward classes people for their economic development and upliftment.
3 1.2.12	The Committee therefore recommends that an inquiry should be instituted to ascertain the irregular diversion of fund resulting failure of the scheme and responsibility should be fixed on the person/persons found guilty. The report of the enquiry should be submitted to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this report to the House.
4 1.3.5	The Committee appreciates the action taken by the department against the persons at fault.
5 1.3.6	The Committee also recommends that appropriate action for misappropriating the amount should be taken against the persons responsible and balance misappropriated amount should be recovered immediately with intimation to the Committee.
6 1.4.3	The Committee deplores that the long delayed decision of the Government resulted machineries to remain idle defeating the purpose for which they were purchased. The Committee therefore urges upon the Government that the machineries should be put to use immediately

- | Sl. Reference
No. to para No. | Observations/Recommendations. |
|----------------------------------|--|
| | after they are purchased to meet the objective. The Committee therefore recommends that Government should arrive at a timely correct decision to utilise the machinery at the time of purchase to fulfil the aims and objectives. The Committee also desires that the present position of purchase of machineries and their utilisation should be intimated to the Committee within three months from the presentation of this report. |
| 7. 1.5.4 | Considering non-submission of replies on the Audit paras under examination, the Committee therefore recommends that appropriate action should be taken on the person responsible for not sending to the Committee as assured, during evidence. The Committee further recommends that effective steps should be taken to stop the drawal of money in advance of requirement which proved to be infructuous. |
| 8. 1.6.10 | The Committee feels that this was a wrong decision of the Government. |
| 9. 1.6.11 | The Committee therefore recommends that a thorough enquiry should be made to ascertain the reasons for not disbursing the amount drawn in March, 1977 till July, 1980 fixing responsibility on the person/persons at fault. The report should be submitted to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this report. |
| 10. 1.7.8 | The Committee was not satisfied with the explanation tendered by the witness and felt that Tribal people did not get any benefit out of the scheme and the grant was misutilized. |
| 11. 1.7.9 | The Committee therefore recommends that a thorough probe should be conducted for depriving the actual needy tribal people and for not providing the benefit of welfare scheme as envisaged and fix responsibility on the |

- | Sl. No. | Reference to para No. | Observations/Recommendations. |
|---------|-----------------------|---|
| | | persons for whose fault the scheme was a complete failure. The report of the enquiry should be submitted to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this report. |
| 12. | 1.8.5 | However, the Committee feels that a detailed study should be conducted to ascertain as to whether the money sanctioned by the Government had been properly utilized for the purpose for which these amounts were sanctioned. |
| 13. | 1.9.6 | The Committee was not satisfied with the arguments put forward by the witness and stressed that fund sanctioned for specific purpose should not be diverted to other purpose. The Committee desires that detailed note in this regards should be submitted to the Committee within three months as to the circumstances of fund diversion. |
| 14. | 1.10.6 | The Committee therefore recommends that the department should take vigorous steps to pursue with the spending Departments for obtaining utilization certificates so that money sanctioned are properly utilised. |
| 15 | 1.11.3 | Therefore the Committee desires that the Tribal Research Institute should be geared up so that effective evaluation on the various activities of Tribal Developmental Schemes could be brought out to light and monitor the same for the benefit of the Tribal people. |
| 16 | 1.12.12 | The Committee observes that the amounts had been sanctioned by the Government to 17 numbers of Institutions far back in 19th March, 1980 wherefrom no utilisation certificate had so far been produced till 1985. The Committee therefore feels that mere sanctioning of money does not mean utilisation objectively. Unless the sanctioned money so utilised in time the purpose of providing public Fund is defeated. |

- | Sl. Reference to
No. para No. | Observations/Recommendations |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 17 1.12.13 | The Committee recommends that the sanctioned money should be properly utilised and utilisation certificate thereof should be obtained by the sanctioning authority well in time so that there should not be any scope for misutilisation or diversion of the fund. |
| 18 2.3.3 | The Committee was not satisfied at all about the working of the Soil Conservation Department and expressed its serious doubts for mis-utilising or non-utilising the fund allocated during the Fourth Five year plan. |
| 19 2.3.4 | The Committee therefore recommends that a high power enquiry Committee should be instituted to investigate into the irregularities in the soil Conservation Department since its inception. The Committee further recommends that responsibility should be fixed on the person/persons responsible for misutilisation of funds which had retarded the welfare and progress of the people, particularly the two Hills Districts of Assam. |