



**DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEE
ON DEVELOPMENT (G) DEPARTMENTS
2026-2027**

**SIXTEENTH
ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Report on Demands for the Grant No. 70
for the year 2026-2027**

DEPARTMENT: HILL AREAS

THIRD REPORT

Presented to the House on 22nd July, 2026.

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

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(i)

**COMPOSITION OF THE DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
DEVELOPMENT (G) DEPARTMENTS,
2026-27**

CHAIRPERSON:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Shri Naba Kumar Doley, | MLA |
|---------------------------|-----|

MEMBERS:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 2. Shri Prasanta Phukan, | MLA |
| 3. Shri Dhormeswar Konwar, | MLA |
| 4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das, | MLA |
| 5. Dr. Rajdeep Roy, | MLA |
| 6. Shri Tankeswar Rabha, | MLA |
| 7. Shri Raju Mesh, | MLA |
| 8. Shri Arup Kumar Dey, | MLA |
| 9. Shri Aminul Haque Laskar, | MLA |
| 10. Shri Mohibur Rohman, | MLA |
| 11. Shri Prakash Chandra Das, | MLA |
| 12. Shri Maneswar Brahma, | MLA |
| 13. Shri Mehboob Muktar. | MLA |

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Rajib Bhattacharyya, Secretary, AAS,
2. Smti. Bhashwatie Borah Rajguru, Deputy Secretary,
3. Smti. Susmita Das , OSD (Under Secretary),
4. Dr. Kanun Basumatary, Under Secretary,
5. Shri Biren Mazumdar, Committee Officer,
6. Shri Achyut Sarma, Committee Officer.

(ii)

INTRODUCTION

1. I, the Chairman of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments having been authorized by the Committee to present the **Third Report** on their behalf on the demands for **Grant no. 70** relating to **Hill Areas Department** for the financial year 2026-2027.
2. The committee took evidence of the Government representatives on **16th July, 2026**.
3. The Committee wishes to place its thanks to the representatives of concerned Department who appeared before the Committee and placed their considered views and notes. The Committee also like to thanks the Department for furnishing the replies on the points raised by the Committee.
4. The report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on **17th July, 2026**.
5. The Committee also expresses its thanks to the officers and staff of the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat, who devoted their time and energy in processing and compilation of the report within a very short span of time for their Secretarial assistance & co-operation.

Dispur :

The 17th July, 2026

NABA KUMAR DOLEY

Chairperson,
Departmentally Related Standing
Committee on Development (G) Departments,
Assam Legislative Assembly.

CHAPTER -1

Grant No.70

Hill Areas

After presentation of the Budget in the House for the Financial Year,2026-27, the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments in its meeting held on 16th July,2026 discussed on **Grant No. 70 (Hill Areas)**.

1.1 The Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments in its meeting held on **16th July, 2026** examined the papers and documents received from the concerned department and took evidence of the Departmental representative.

	REVENUE	CAPITAL	TOTAL (Rs. In lakhs)
VOTED	568.87	130.70	699.57
CHARGED	0.00	0.00	0.00

1.2 The detailed Budget Estimates under the Grant No.70 for the Financial Year 2026-27 are as below :-

		(Rupees in Lakhs)
Head of Accounts	Major Head	
3451	Secretariat Economic Services	568.87
5475	Capital outlay of other General Economic services	31.00
6851	Loans for village and small scale Industries	99.70

Grand Total Rs. 699.57

1.3 Budget Provision Under Grant No.70 in relating to the Hill Areas. The amount so allocated before the House and in proposed to be spent in revenue and capital expenditure respectively.

Background behind creation of office of the Development Commissioner for Hill Areas, Assam (DCHA) :

The office of the Development Commissioner for Hill Areas, Assam (DCHA), was established in 1966 under the administrative control of the Hill Areas Department, Government of Assam, to coordinate developmental activities in the hill areas of the State, broadly on the lines of the Transformation and Development Department responsible for the plain areas of Assam.

Assam Hills Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (AHSIDC Ltd.):

Assam Hills Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd. (AHSIDC Ltd.) is a Government of Assam undertaking under the administrative control of the Hill Areas Department, Government of Assam. The Corporation has its headquarters at Manja, Karbi Anglong, Assam.

The Corporation became financially sick and defunct during the financial year 2000–01. However, with the support of the Government of Assam and the initiatives of its management, it is now in the process of revival and has started generating operational profits through the implementation of various diversified projects and schemes. These include a packaged drinking water bottling plant, establishment of agro-based industries such as food processing units and mustard oil mills, and the cultivation of citronella and rubber plantations.

Since 2012–13, the Corporation has also been facilitating market linkages for farmers and growers to promote the marketing of their produce. In addition, it has been undertaking modernization and upgradation works within the annual budgetary provisions.

Since its inception, budgetary allocations for the Assam Hills Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd. (AHSIDC Ltd.) have been made under **Grant No.70 (General Area)**, administered by the Development Commissioner for Hill Areas, Assam. The Hill Areas Department releases the sanctioned funds to the Development Commissioner for Hill Areas, Assam, who functions as the Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) under Grant No. 70, for the implementation of various schemes and projects undertaken by the Corporation.

Significant Activities and Achievements :

An amount of **Rs.459.00 lakh** was released during the financial year **2023–24** for the implementation of various diversified schemes and projects under **Assam Hills Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd. (AHSIDC Ltd.)**. Out of this amount, **Rs.100.00 lakh** was earmarked as the **State Share/Promoter's Contribution (10%)** for the project **“Infrastructure Development facility & Upgradation of existing Manja Industrial Complex”** under the **Scheme of Promotion of MSME in the NER & Sikkim**, Government of India, which has been completed the project successfully within the stipulated time and now ready for inauguration by the MSME authority etc.

The AHSIDC Ltd. have been engaging in the production and marketing of various agricultural and agro-based products, including pineapple, mango, orange, citronella grass, turmeric, ginger, fruit juices, spices, and other value-added products under its brand name "KANCH." Through these initiatives, the Corporation has been generating employment opportunities and providing market linkages for local farmers, growers, and entrepreneurs.

The Corporation has also undertaken modernization and upgradation of its existing production units by installing additional plants and machinery from the funds received under various schemes.

Further, the **Government of Assam**, through the approval of the **Hon'ble Cabinet on 07 December 2023**, converted the Corporation's outstanding **loan along with accrued interest amounting to Rs.6,022.48 lakh into equity** by way of book adjustment. This measure has significantly reduced the Corporation's financial burden by relieving it of the liability of loan repayment and strengthening its financial position.

Priority schemes proposed to be taken during 2025 :

It may be mentioned that the authority of MSME released the 1st and 2nd instalments amounting to Rs. 8.10 crore for the project, "Infrastructure Development Facility and Upgradation of the Existing Manja Industrial Complex." This marks the establishment of the first-ever Industrial Estate in Karbi Anglong district under the scheme "Promotion of MSMEs in the North Eastern Region (NER) and Sikkim."

Further, it may also be mentioned that, under the Budget Provision for 2025-26, the following works have been successfully completed viz. long-term Pump Oil Bamboo plantation covering approximately 500 bighas at Gandhipur (Bokajan); conversion of the Office-cum-Guest House into the KANCH Tourist Lodge at Boro Haflong; modernization and upgradation of the Mustard Oil Mill; and expansion of the Rubber and Citronella plantations at Manja, Karbi Anglong.

There is considerable potential for establishing agro-based industries in the hill areas. However, due to the limited budgetary provision for the revival of the Corporation, it has been unable to undertake the establishment of such industries in these areas. Furthermore, the Corporation requires additional funds to upgrade the Packaged Drinking Water plant at Deithor with a fully automated, State-of-art online production system comparable to those used by multinational companies.

Budget provision under Grant No.70 for last three years are shownbelow :

(Rs. In lakh)

Financial year	Description	Revenue	Capital	Expenditure
2023-24	DCHA Estt.	323.85	17.78	190.90
	GIA(Non-salary) to AHSIDC Ltd.	297.00	--	297.00
	Loan to AHSIDC Ltd.	--	162.00	162.00
	Total :	620.85	179.78	649.90

Financial year	Description	Revenue	Capital	Expenditure
2024-25	DCHA Estt.	335.71	17.80	188.22
	GIA(Non-salary) to AHSIDC Ltd.	297.00	--	130.00
	Loan to AHSIDC Ltd.	--	136.00	100.00
	Total :	632.71	153.80	418.22

Financial year	Description	Revenue	Capital	Expenditure
2025-26	DCHA Estt.	297.12	23.43	246.81
	GIA(Non-salary) to AHSIDC Ltd.	297.00	--	248.40
	Loan to AHSIDC Ltd.	--	136.00	136.00
	Total :	594.12	159.43	631.21

Action Taken Report on the Observations and Recommendations of the Assembly Committee of DRSC Grant No.70 – Hill Areas Department for the FY 2025-26.

Sl No.	Observations and Recommendations of the Committee	Action taken /to be taken by the Department
1	The Committee strongly recommends the Department should give utmost importance in setting up of Agro-based Industries in the Hill areas.	Recommendation of the Assembly Committee is considered as top priority. The revival Corporation has set up some small scale Agro-based industries in the Manja Industrial Complex such as Pickle processing unit, Turmeric Pulverization unit, Food & Beverage unit and M. Oil and Fruit Preservation Unit at Deithor complex (seasonal) with limited production due to insufficient working capital. Required Modernization & up-gradation with latest machineries & equipment for capital investment including sufficient working capital.

2	The Committee observed that there is a lot of necessity for the local youth for Training like Mushroom cultivation, rubber plantation and also the training for making ginger powder, bamboo shoot pickle and King chilli pickle as well., which will ultimately benefit the local youths at large. Therefore the Committee recommends the department to work closely with the Agriculture and Industry Department forupliftment of the local youths of Hill Areas in this regard.	ON 10th June,2025, the revival Corporation has conducted one day Training-cum-awareness programme on Mushroom cultivation, Ginger powder , Bamboo shoot, King chilli with the support of the District Agriculture Department, Diphu at Manja Industrial complex and programme was inaugurated by the D C ,Karbi Anglong. More than 75 persons have attended in the training programme. Photo enclosed for ready reference vide Annexure-A ON 13th June,2025 ,One day Training on Rubber Plantation with the support of Central Rubber Board, Diphu Office and Soil Conservation Department and the programme was inaugurated by the Chairman of the Corporation. More than 50 persons have attended in the training programme. Photo enclosed for ready reference vide Annexure-B
3	The Committee observed that there is more opportunities for Ginger production specially in the district of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao. Therefore, the Committee recommends that the Department should established the Ginger based industries or factories in the above mentioned districts.	The Corporation has been trying effortlessly to set up Ginger based Industries in the Districts. However, still not materialized due to lack of Capital investment which is required by more than Rs.5.00 Cr only for the purpose etc.
4	The Committee reiterated its earlier recommendation that the Department should provide necessary training to unemployed youth so that they may engage themselves in various activities which may lead to self employment for the local youths.	ON 17th June,2025, the revival Corporation has conducted one day Training-cum-awareness programme for self-employment and awareness On “STARTUP” Policy. with the support of the DICC and MSME,GoI,Diphu at Manja Industrial complex and the programme was inaugurated by the vice Chairman of

		the Corporation. More than 60 persons have been attended in the training programme. Photo enclosed for ready reference. Annexure-C
5	The Committee reiterated its earlier recommendations that the Department should works in closed connectivity with the Tourism department for upliftment of the Tourism sector in the Hill areas.	ON 21st June, 2025, the revival Corporation has conducted One day Training on Tourism for upliftment of the Tourism sector in the Hill Areas. with the support of the Tourism Deptt. ,KAAC, Diphu at Manja Industrial complex and the programme was inaugurated by the Vice Chairman, AHSIDC Ltd. More than 60 persons have attended in the training programme. Photo enclosed for ready reference vide Annexure-D
6	The Committee observed that there is a huge possibility for village industry in the Hill areas. Therefore, the Committee reiterates its earlier recommendations that the Department should work on it with the industries and commerce Department for upliftment and betterment of Hills areas people.	ON 25th June,2025, the revival Corporation has conducted One day Training on Village Industry with the support of the DICC and MSME,Gol, Diphu at Manja Industrial complex and the programme was inaugurated by Sjt. Prabhat Taro, Hon'ble EM, KAAC,I/c Industries etc. More than 65 persons have attended in the training programme. Photo enclosed for ready reference vide Annexure-E
7	The Committee observed that there is a lot of scopes to develop the Bettel nut cultivation and fruits plantation like Orange, pineapple etc. Therefore, the Committee reiterates its recommendations that the department should take necessary steps in this regard for the welfare of the people resides in the Hill Areas.	ON 30th June,2025, the revival Corporation has conducted One day Training-cum-awareness on Scientific cultivation of Betel nut, fruits plantation like Orange, Pineapple for welfare of the people reside in Hill Areas with the support of the Agriculture Deptt., KAAC, Diphu at Manja Industrial complex and the programme was inaugurated

		by the Dr. K. Dayamoi Singha, AAU-Zonal Research Station- AAU ,Diphu. More than 60 persons have attended in the training programme. Photo enclosed for ready reference vide Annexure-F.
		ON 5th July,2025, the revival Corporation has conducted One day Training -cum-Awareness on Aromatics Crops for essential Oil products for self employment& its market with the help of M/s Ajmal Aromatise Pvt. Ltd., Hojai, Assam . More than 80 persons have attended in the training programme. Photo enclosed for ready reference vide Annexure-G.
8	The Committee observed that there are lot of scopes/possibilities in the Hill Areas. Therefore, the Committee suggested to increase the budget allocation for the FY 2025-26.	During 2025-26, proposal for enhancement of Budget provision from Rs.433.00 lakh to Rs.10.00 crore was submitted to the Govt. However, Finance Department has allocated Rs.433.00 lakh only in respect of AHSIDC Ltd. under Grant No.70. for the FY 2025-26.

As per the Direction, Observation and Recommendation of the DRSC, the revival Corporation is trying its level best to conduct the above several Training Programmes with the help of Govt. Departments /Resource Persons through publicity in local news papers , Hoardings and other media for joining the said training programme which was attended by more than 50 to 80 persons in each programme. We do hope that it will be benefited by the local youth/people in some extent who were participate in the programme.

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
NOTIFICATION

No. LADRSC.(G) 1/2026/9

Dated Dispur the 10th July, 2026.

In pursuance of the Rule 260-I (1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly has been pleased to nominate the following Members to constitute the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments.

1. Shri Naba Kumar Doley	MLA & Chairperson
2. Shri Prasanta Phukan	MLA & Member
3. Shri Dhormeswar Konwar	MLA & Member
4. Shri Pallab Lochan Das	MLA & Member
5. Dr. Rajdeep Roy	MLA & Member
6. Shri Tankeswar Rabha	MLA & Member
7. Shri Raju Mesh	MLA & Member
8. Shri Arup Kumar Dey	MLA & Member
9. Shri Aminul Haque Laskar	MLA & Member
10. Shri Mohibur Rohman	MLA & Member
11. Shri Prakash Chandra Das	MLA & Member
12. Shri Maneswar Brahma	MLA & Member
13. Shri Mehboob Muktar	MLA & Member

And in pursuance of Sub-Rule (3) of the Rule 260-I(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Assam Legislative Assembly the Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly has been pleased to appoint **Shri Naba Kumar Doley, MLA as the Chairperson** of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments.

The term of office of the Members of the Committee shall not exceed 1(one) year from the date constitution.

Sd/-Rajib Bhattacharyya
Secretary,
Assam Legislative Assembly.

Memo No. LADRSC. (G).1/2026/10-22

Dated Dispur the 10th July, 2026.

Copy forwarded to:-

1. Shri Naba Kumar Doley, MLA & Chairperson, Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments for favour of his kind information.
2. All Members of Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Development (G) Departments, Assam Legislative Assembly for kind information.
3. The Private Secretary to the Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly for placing the same before the Hon'ble Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly for favour of his kind information.
4. The Private Secretary to Deputy Speaker, Assam Legislative Assembly for placing the same before the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker for his kind information.
5. The Private Secretary to Leader of the Opposition, Assam Legislative Assembly for placing the same before the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition, Assam Legislative Assembly for favour of kind information.
6. The Private Secretary to Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly for his kind information.

7. The Director, Assam Govt. Press, Bamunimaidan, Guwahati-21 for favour of publication of the above notification in the next issue of the Assam Gazette in Part-I. Five Spare copies of the same may be pleased supplied to this Secretariat for records.
8. The Principal Accountant General, Assam, Maidamgaon, Beltola, Guwahati-29.
9. The Chief Reporter Cum Editor of Debates & Ex-Officio-Joint Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly for information and necessary action.
10. The Additional Secretary, In -charge Nazarat Branch, Assam Legislative Assembly for information.
11. The Accounts Branch, Assam Legislative Assembly, Dispur for information.
12. All Officer In-charge of different Legislature Committees, Assam Legislative Assembly for information.
13. The Officer-in Charge Website branch, Assam Legislative Assembly, Dispur for information.



Deputy Secretary
Assam Legislative Assembly.

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OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Hill Areas

GRANT No. 70

After presentation of the Budget in the House for the Financial Year 2026-27 and after having a comprehensive discussion on Preliminary status paper, Action Taken Report, the Committee made the following observations and Recommendations.

1. The Committee reiterates its earlier recommendation that the Department should give utmost importance in setting up of Agro-based Industry in the Hill areas.
2. The Committee reiterates its earlier observation that there is a lot of necessity for the local youth for special training like mushroom cultivation, rubber plantation and also the training for making ginger powder, bamboo shoot pickle and kingchili pickle as well, which will ultimately benefit the local youths at large. Therefore, the Committee recommends the Department to work closely with the Agriculture and Industry Department for upliftment of the local youths of Hill areas in this regard.
3. The Committee reiterates its earlier observation that there is more opportunities for ginger production specially in the districts of Karbi-Anglong and Dima-Hasao.

Therefore, the Committee recommends that the Department should establish ginger based industries or factories in the above mentioned districts.

4. The Committee reiterates its earlier recommendations that the Department should provide necessary training to unemployed youth so that they may engage themselves in various activities which may lead to self employment for the local youths.
5. The Committee reiterates its earlier recommendations that the Department should work in close connectivity with the Tourism Department for upliftment of the Tourism sector in the Hill areas.
6. The Committee reiterates its earlier observation that there is a huge possibility for village industry in the Hill areas.

Therefore, the Committee reiterates its earlier recommendations that the Department should work on it with the Industries and Commerce Department for upliftment and betterment of Hills areas people.

7. The Committee reiterates its earlier observation that there is a huge scope to develop the betel nut cultivation and fruits plantation like orange, pineapple etc.

Therefore, the Committee reiterates its earlier recommendations that the Department should take necessary steps in this regard for the welfare of the people resides in Hill Areas.

8. The Committee has observed that the existing budget provision under Grant No. 70 for the Hill Areas Department is inadequate to address the developmental requirements.

Therefore, the Committee recommends to increase the Budget allocation to Rs. 10 Crore to the Department.

The Committee recommends that the Budget allocation under Grant No. 70 for the Financial Year 2026-27 be for the Hill Areas Department be approved by the August House.

The Action taken Report on the recommendations may be submitted to the Committee within 90(ninety) days from the date of presentation of the Report in the House.
