

CHAPTER-6

PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY THE BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

The present Chapter-6, deals with the problems and difficulties encountered by the Block Develop officer in carrying out the development activities of the block in the particular district under administration. After surveying it was really found out there were many problems and difficulties that the block officers faced during the implementation of various activities which the Block Development Officers themselves narrated during the field survey. At first, it is to be noted, the area coverage of the various blocks in Garo Hills is huge and it becomes a difficult task to reach out to every village regularly. The various problems can be discussed under the following head as given in the following pages:

6.1 Problems in identifying the beneficiaries in Developmental Block

Due to huge population in the various blocks, it is quite hard find identify the various beneficiaries of the block. Infact, there is no good and proper mechanism in order to identify the beneficiaries of the block. This aspect is very crucial as many of the targeted beneficiaries are left out of the scene and do not enjoy the benefit of the various schemes of development. And it becomes a constant factor of complaint on the part of the civilian regarding the beneficiaries need and demand. In this area sometimes, there remains a big misunderstanding which needs to be rectified.

6.2 Problems due to the Lack of Follow-up

Due to many issues, the Block Development Officers face problems because of lack of proper follow-up mechanism in the various developmental activities that have been undertaken in well manner. Activities are so tight and vast that it becomes a hard thing to be followed-up in the due course of time. Many implemented schemes need

proper follow-up after certain period of time with due care and assessment which is imperative but lack of sufficient time and manpower, proper follow-up is not possible as per demand of the schemes.

6.3 Problems related to Financial Constrains

Financial constraints are the biggest problem the BDOs encounter before and after the implementation of the various developmental schemes in the block. The processes and procedure to obtain financial aid itself is lengthy process. Though Budget is prepared and submitted annually and yet in certain aspect or more this becomes the whole mark of the issue in the implementation any scheme in the village/Block. The developmental schemes must be financed well in advance so that every activity will be smoothly covered up in order to meet the desired targets.

6.4 Problems related to Manpower in the Blocks

Lack of manpower in the block is also another problem which Block Development Officers face. As the blocks are huge in areas, and the schemes need to be implemented with the targeted beneficiaries, sufficient personnel become the need of the hour. Many schemes are un attended with proper follow-up because of the lack of manpower in the block to assist the Block Development Officers.

6.5 Problems related to Lack of Trained Persons

Lacked of Trained persons in the developmental schemes is another set back for the Block development officers. Though there are training undertaken before any new schemes in the Block that are implemented, yet sufficient numbers of trained persons are few to cater to the huge crowd in the various blocks. Time span of the particular schemes sometimes almost over but not reached out to the targeted population.

6.6 Problems related to various Developmental Schemes

The various developmental schemes need to be undertaken well in advance with due preparation, planning, monitoring, and with budgeting. At times, it becomes hard for the Block Development Officers to carry out the plan when other plans are being implemented in the process.

6.7 Problems related Non availability of proper documents by the beneficiaries

When any scheme is introduced in the block the beneficiaries full information is collected and documented for ongoing process and it becomes hard sometimes that there is lack of proper documents of the beneficiaries for which they might not availed the schemes. If the document exists even then, there is lack of full information about the family and relations and it becomes a blame to the Block Development officers in many cases, where misunderstanding and misconceptions create lots of havoc and bring to a standstill in the developmental activities.

6.8 Problems related Faulty census report

Many at times, the beneficiaries try to avail the various schemes because of faulty census report which have been created and boosted by other agencies which are not inline with the other documents and reports that leaves behind impressions of distrust, unethical and unseen situations which arise due to temperament among the village people towards the BDOs. There are many documents rejected which have faulty report regarding the beneficiaries and therefore, constant checking and rechecking becomes a difficult task.

6.9 Problems of Communication and Road/transportations

Problems of Communication and road/transportation are another great issue in the various blocks. The villages are in rural areas with poor road facilities and transportation that it becomes hard for the Block Development Officer to go for regular visit and constantly be in the office for monitoring and assessment purpose. This creates big gap in the delivery of information about the schemes and implementation of the schemes in the specific time period. As mentioned earlier,

though village council assist the BDOs yet it is not manageable in all cases to reach out to every family to enlighten about a particular scheme.

6.10 Problems of Electricity and Networks

Problems of Electricity and networks find another set of severe gap in the Block. Many at times again, there is shortage of power, and networks in the village/Blocks, and it becomes difficult for BDOs as well as other officials to remain in the offices and work in sound manner. The equipment would not function properly, lack of internet facilities in order to receive and send information to the higher authorities, which do not cater to the needs of the BDOs in relation to the various schemes.

6.11 Problems related to Safety, Security

Due to so many above issues and problems the BDOs encounter, which counts them for safety and security in the Block/village and thus it may reduce the regularity of BDOs towards their responsibilities in the developmental task for the welfare of the respective blocks. Safety and security in the task allotted can be the sole factor for responsibilities and its undertakings. Thus, the above issues and problems regulate the BDOs for which there is less manifestation of welfare in the respective block/village.