

## CHAPTER IX: MONITORING MECHANISM AND IMPACT EVALUATION

### 9.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

Effective monitoring system is a pre-requisite for successful implementation of any scheme/programme. Most of the Central and State plan schemes, therefore, specify the monitoring requirements.

In Meghalaya, the Panchayati Raj System does not exist and hence major developmental projects were being sanctioned by the line departments. Accordingly, heads of departments through whom funds were released were responsible for monitoring the progress of implementation of various developmental programmes in the District and ensuring that these are executed within the specified time frame and approved budget. The DPDC, being the apex body at district level, was to monitor and review the progress of implementation of various schemes/programmes.

Scrutiny revealed that monitoring and evaluation of the progress of implementation of various schemes in the District was perfunctory. During 2006-11, the DPDC conducted only four meetings to deliberate and approve the plans prepared by different departments, but never met to monitor and review the progress of the schemes. Further, delays in implementation/completion of the schemes, non-submission of utilisation certificates, non-commissioning of completed schemes, *etc.* indicated inadequate monitoring by the implementing authorities. Besides, no evaluation studies of the schemes/programmes implemented during the period covered under review had been conducted by the Department to correlate the works with the expenditure incurred and to ensure that the desired objectives were achieved.

**In sum, monitoring of the progress of implementation of various schemes/programmes at all tiers of local administration in the District was perfunctory which impacted the progress of developmental works/projects undertaken by various departments/implementing agencies. Consequently, there were number of works in the social and economic sectors which were plagued by cost and time overruns thereby depriving the people of the District of the benefits envisaged under these developmental schemes.**

#### *Recommendations*

- **Monitoring mechanism needs to be strengthened at all the tiers of local administration to ensure that the schemes/programmes are executed on time and within cost and timely corrective action is taken in cases of slippage.**
- **A system of evaluation of the completed schemes/programmes should be evolved to assess the impact of implementation of the same.**