



Priority to city flood control, agri, water, rural uplift and education

Tk 5,803 crore ADP approved

A Taka 5,803 crore Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the financial year 1989-90 was approved yesterday at a meeting of the National Economic Council (NEC) with President H. M. Ershad in the chair, reports BSS.

Of the total outlay, Taka 2,553 crore will be available in local currency and the rest Taka 3,250 was sanctioned as project aid.

A total number of 61 new projects have been incorporated in the ADP for fiscal 1989-90. It also incorporated 169 crore projects and 160 projects for implementation under technical assistance programme. The total number of projects adopted under the ADP for the fiscal 1989-90 stands at 903.

The meeting also approved the Taka 4,596 crore revised ADP for the fiscal 1988-89 in

place of estimated Taka 5,315 crore. Of the total amount, Taka 1,960 crore was sanctioned in local currency and the rest Taka 2,636 crore as project aid.

Held at the NEC building here at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, the meeting was also attended by Vice President Justice A. K. M. Nurul Islam, Prime Minister Moudud Ahmed, ministers, members of the Planning Commission, secretaries to the government, heads of the sector corporations and autonomous bodies and senior officials.

Planning Minister A. K. Khandker made the introductory remarks while the Secretary of the Ministry of Planning Dr. Ekram Hussain presented the ADP for fiscal 1989-90 before the meeting.

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Tk 5,803 cr ADP

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Taka 342.82 crore including a component of Taka 150 crore in local currency has also been earmarked for implementation of a few projects from the own funds of some autonomous bodies under the ADP for fiscal 1989-90.

Beside it was estimated that Taka 130 crore would be utilised for implementation of some projects outside the ADP by some corporate bodies during the year. It was further estimated that foodgrains worth Taka 470.8 crore would be distributed under the Food for Work Programme during 1989-90.

For the fiscal 1989-90 the growth rate in agriculture has been estimated at 5.62 per cent in industry at 8.20 per cent, power and gas at 14.16 per cent, transport and communications at 6.88 per cent, commerce and other service sectors at 5.25 per cent and the overall economic growth at 5.91 per cent.

Some important aspects of the ADP for fiscal 1989-90 are: a) Allocation of Taka 150 crore for Greater Dhaka Flood Protection Scheme considering the importance of the project, b) allocation of 32.5 per cent of the total development spending in agriculture

and water and rural development with the objective of attaining self-sufficiency in food by 1992 and significant rise in the allocations for education, health, family planning and social welfare sectors.

Under the revised ADP for 1981-89, 62 new/revived projects had been incorporated. With the 47 projects under technical assistance programme and 15 projects to be funded from organisations' own fund, the total number of new/revived projects in the revised ADP for 1988-89 stood at 124 which are 32 more than the original number of projects. The total number of projects under the revised ADP for fiscal 1988-89 stood at 929 in place of 832 projects.

Speaking on the occasion, President Ershad urged the country's planners to shun the traditional path of preparing development plans as well as their implementation and said while preparing plans they should take up projects which would ensure benefits to the greater segment of the population.

He said we should take up as much projects as we are financially and administratively capable of implementing them. In this context, he pointed out that we must fix up the priority while preparing the plans and said only then we shall be able to achieve the target.

The President emphasised the need for enforcing strict supervision on the implementation of projects and said there must be a system of accountability and feed back procedure in this regard. The persons who are given the task of implementing the projects should work with utmost responsibility, he said.

He said there should be a clear-cut objective while incorporating projects. If we could fix what we really wanted, we would be able to achieve the target, he said.

President Ershad said the target of average growth rate was fixed for the Third Five Year Plan period at 5.4 per cent. But he pointed out that during the last four years of the TFYP, the target of growth rate could not be achieved due to recurrent floods and other natural calamities.

He said in the light of the experience of the past years, the projects in unproductive sectors had not been included in the ADP for the 1989-90 fiscal year. He hoped that the target of growth rate fixed for the year would be achieved with proper implementation of the projects.

Underlining the importance of mobilisation of resources internally by expansion of base for resource generation through exploring various avenues, the President said a strong government and the stability needed for this purpose had already been established in the country.

He put emphasis on taking into account the socio-economic and political aspects prevailing in the country in preparing development plans and noted with happiness that despite snags due to natural calamities, progress in economic sector was good.