MAJOR PROGRAMMES OF THE UPA GOVERNMENT

TWO YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

(MAHARASHTRA)

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INTRODUCTION

The UPA Government in the last two years has tried to initiate programmes to translate its promises to the people for socially just and inclusive growth. Certain ongoing programmes were consolidated or altered to increase their efficiency and certain new programmes were initiated in important areas like employment, health, education, rural infrastructure, urban renewal and providing people a legal framework for the Right to Information.

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan which is an ongoing programme for universalisation of elementary education was consolidated by providing additional financial allocations and a creation of a dedicated Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh through a 2% cess introduced for the first time. The provision of cooked mid-day meal was universalized to provide an incentive-structure to the students and is proving very successful by raising both enrolment and retention rates. 1.88 lakh ICDS centres have been opened in the last two years to provide nutritional care to young children.

In the area of health care, a major architectural correction was made to move from vertical disease management programmes to comprehensive health-care through an inter-sectoral district health plan which provides for a community health activist in each village, untied funds to all sub-health centres, improvement of public health infrastructure of rural hospitals and making them accountable through Indian Public Health Standards An inter-sectoral health plan that combines action on health and determinants of health would be prepared at the district level from this year onwards. This programme is most relevant to 18 backward states from the point of health indicators and commenced on 12th April, 2005.

The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission represents the first effort of its kind where Government of India is intervening in a major way to improving the quality of living in the cities. It focuses on improving urban infrastructure, improving governance and improvement in services to the urban poor. It covers 63 cities. Comprehensive city development plans are prepared and funded under this mission. This programme commenced on the 3rd December, 2005 and has completed only six months.

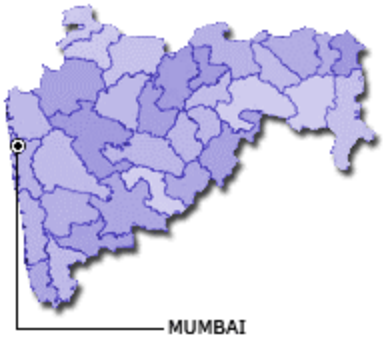
Bharat Nirman has been a major initiative conceived as a time-bound plan for rural infrastructure. It seeks to provide electricity to all remaining villages, drinking water supply to all uncovered and slipped-back habitations, connect all habitations with a population of 1000 (500 in hilly and tribal areas) with an all-weather road, create additional irrigation capacity of 1 crore hectares, build 60 lakh houses for the rural poor and cover every village with a telephone. Progress under Bharat Nirman is being monitored on a regular basis and the performance in the first year shows that in few of the above goals targets have been exceeded. This programme has only completed one year as it commenced in the financial year 2005-06.

The NREGA provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of work to rural households and has been notified initially in 200 districts. The scheme commenced on 2nd February, 2006. In the first three months of operation it has been able to provide jobs to 53 lakh rural people, despite the fact that in several states the programme could not start for a variety of reasons. It is the first such effort in the world to provide legal guarantee for a Right to Work and the programme is being keenly watched by development observers all over the world.

To consolidate democracy and ensure the rights of citizens, a Right to Information Act was passed in 2005. It is expected that this Act will lead to transparency and accountability in public life.

The role of these flagship programmes vary considerably from state to state. Some states have already achieved the targets being addressed by these programmes, while certain other states have a larger share of the backlog. As they consolidate over the next few years, a new era of equalizing and socially inclusive growth would become a reality, a key commitment of the UPA government.

Maharashtra



Area	:	3,07,713 sq km
Population	:	96,878,627
Capital	:	Mumbai
Principal Languages	:	Marathi

2. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) is the national flagship programme to achieve universal elementary education in a mission mode. The goals of SSA are: all 6-14 age children in school/EGS (Education Guarantee Scheme) centre/bridge course by 2005; bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010; universal retention 2010; and focus on elementary education of satisfactory quality with emphasis on education for life. SSA has a funding pattern of 75:25 between the centre and the states, during the Xth Plan period. In the Union Budget 2006-07, Outlay for SSA has been increased from Rs.7,156 crores for 2005-06 to Rs.10,041 crores for 2006-07.

Progress against key input targets of SSA (all-India)

Sl. No.	Item	Targets including 2005-06	Achievement upto 31.12 2005		% Cumulative achievement	
1	Opening of New Schools	157967	129893		82%	
2	Teachers appointed	772345	587388*		76%	
3	Construction of :-		Comp	IP	Comp	Comp. & IP
	a. School Buildings b. Additional classrooms	120629* 329690*	71143* 155814*	31587* 170225*	58% 47%	85% 99%
4	Enrolment in EGS/AIE Centres	87 lakh children	63 lakh		71%	
5	% children receiving free textbooks	6.14 cr.	5.02 cr.		82%	
6	Functional Academic Resource Centres • Block level • Cluster level	7422 70735	7201 66140		97% 93.5%	

** Position updated as of 31.3.2006.*

Progress under SSA upto 31st March 2006 in Maharashtra

			(In lakhs)
Year	GOI Releases	Expenditure incurred (Central share, State share and opening balances)	
2004-05	35489.79	38955.71	
2005-06	50235.31	60458.50	
	Targets	**Achievements**	
No. of teachers recruited	1236		1236
No. of children in Education Guarantee Scheme centres			98940
No. of children in Alternative & Innovative Education centres			174575
Civil Works			
Primary school buildings	6128	Completed	1915
		In progress	689
Upper Primary school buildings	4183	Completed	1120
		In progress	15
Additional classrooms	20992	Completed	16311
		In progress	4341
Drinking water	5315	Completed	2363
		In progress	646
Toilets	5868	Completed	1921
		In progress	1436

3. Mid-Day Meal Scheme

National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (commonly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme) today is the largest school nutritional programme in the world covering nearly 12 crore children in more than 9.5 lakhs primary schools/Education Guarantee Scheme(EGS)/Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE) centres. The Scheme provides a hot cooked meal of a minimum 300 calories and 8-12 gms of protein.

This scheme was revised with effect from September, 2004**.** Dry rations were replaced with a cooked nourishing school meal, funded mainly by the Central Government. Central assistance is provided to States/UTs for the following components: -

i) Free food grains of 100 gms. (Rice/wheat) per child per school day
ii) Cooking Assistance @ Re. 1/- per child, per school day
iii) Reimbursement of transportation cost @ Rs. 75 per Quintal,

iv) Assistance for Management, Monitoring and Evaluation @ 1.8% of (i) to (iii).

In the Union Budget 2006-07, Outlay for Mid-Day Meal Scheme has been increased by 60% i.e. from Rs.3345 crores for 2005-06 to Rs.5348 crores for 2006-07.

The Scheme, in its first year of implementation, has led to the following positive outcomes: -

- Elimination of classroom hunger.
- Increase in enrollment, more significantly of girls.
- Surge in daily attendance, particularly of girls and children from poorer sections.
- Improvement in retention, learning ability and achievement.
- Curbing of teacher absenteeism.
- Narrowing of social distance.
- A rallying point for parents' involvement in governance of schools.

In a new path-breaking initiative, it has been decided to empower mothers of 12 crore school children covered under the scheme to supervise the preparation and serving of the meal. Mothers are being encouraged to come forward and take turn to supervise the feeding of the children, thus ensuring regularity and quality of the meal. This initiative is aimed at giving mothers a voice and a role and greater ownership of the programme. States have been requested to launch a concerted campaign for mass mobilization of mothers.

Maharashtra

(i)	Coverage:		*(During 2005-06)*	
	(a)	No. of Institutions	=	83,377
	(b)	No. of children	=	97,79,283
(ii)	Food grains allocated		=	2,07,809.77 MTs
(iii)	Central Assistance disbursed		=	Rs. 8,130.13 lakh

Special Features:

- *NGO partnership established. Mumbai ISKCON is serving MDM to 11,000 children.*
- *Women Groups, namely, Mahila Mandals have entrusted the task of cooking and serving MDM.*

4. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme today is the World's largest Programme aimed at enhancing the health, nutrition and learning opportunities of infants, young children (0-6 years) and their mothers. It is the foremost symbol of India's commitment to its children – India's response to the challenge of providing pre school education on one hand and breaking the vicious cycle of mal-nutrition, mortality, and morbidity, on the other.

The Scheme provides an integrated approach for converging basic services through community-based honorary workers viz. Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. The services are

provided at a centre called the 'Anganwadi' which literally means a courtyard play centre, a childcare centre located within the village itself. The package of services provided are

- supplementary nutrition,
- immunization,
- health check-up,
- referral services,
- pre-school non-formal education and
- nutrition & health education

It is a Centrally sponsored scheme implemented through the State Governments with 100 per cent financial assistance from the Central Government for all inputs other than supplementary nutrition which the States were to provide from their own resources. **However, from the year 2005-06, the Government of India has decided to provide Central assistance to States for supplementary nutrition also** to the extent of 50% of the actual expenditure incurred by States or 50% of the cost norms, whichever is less.

The Government's emphasis has been on integrated & holistic development of children, as far as the two basic elements of human resource development, i.e. health and education, are concerned. As development has several inter-related dimensions – physical, cognitive, social, emotional and psychological, therefore, a synergistic approach to the implementation of the Scheme becomes inevitable.

Needless to say, learning occurs in all these areas and influences others, all of which develops simultaneously. The Scheme, therefore envisages inter-sectoral convergence of various services viz. nutrition, health and education through the Anganwadi Centres. The services are delivered through different Departments converging at the Anganwadi Centre. The Departments include Health, Rural Development, Drinking Water Supply, Panchayati Raj Institutions etc. These work in synchronization with each other.

Significant Achievements during the last two years

- **Expansion of ICDS Scheme**: Implementation of ICDS Scheme in X Plan was limited to 5652 Projects which were sanctioned in IX plan. However, to fulfill its **commitments contained in the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) to universalize the Scheme**, the Government, in 2005-06, has approved expansion of the ICDS Scheme to 467 additional projects and 1.88 lakh additional Anganwadi Centres. The expansion of the Scheme is estimated to cost an additional sum of Rs. 476.00 crore per annum.

- **Kishori Shakti Yojana** which was in operation only in 2000 Blocks has been expanded in the last fiscal year 2004-05, to cover all 6113 ICDS Blocks with additional financial implication of about Rs. 45.30 crore per annum.

- Alongside expansion of the Scheme, the budget allocation of the Scheme has also increased from Rs. 2167.44 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 3685.30 crore in 2005-06 and Rs. 4543.00 crore in the current year, 2006-07.

- Financial norm of Re. 1/- per beneficiary per day for supplementary nutrition under the ICDS Scheme, fixed in 1991, has been almost doubled in October 2004.

- Till 2004-05, States were responsible for providing supplementary nutrition out of their own resources. With a view to improving the nutritional and health status of children and women, grant-in-aid pattern has, however, from the year 2005-06, been modified and the Government of India now provides Central assistance to States for supplementary nutrition also to the extent of 50% of the financial norms or 50% of the actual expenditure incurred by States, whichever is less. Rs. 974.59 crore was released to States in 2005-06 under the scheme.

- Government of India has decided to undertake construction of Anganwadi Centres in North East States with increase in cost of construction from Rs. 1.25 lakh to Rs. 1.75 lakh per AWC. During 2005-06 funds for construction in the North Eastern States have been released @ Rs.1.75 lakhs per AWC.

- Below Poverty Line (BPL) is no longer the criteria for selection of beneficiaries of supplementary nutrition under the ICDS Scheme.

- There has been significant progress in the implementation of ICDS Scheme during the last two years both, in terms of increase in number of operational projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and coverage of beneficiaries as indicated below:-

	No. of operational projects	No. of operational AWCs	No. of beneficiaries of Supplementary nutrition	No. of pre-school education beneficiaries
31.03.2004	5267	649307	415.08 lakh	204.38 lakh
31.03.2005	5422	706872	484.42 lakh	218.41 lakh
31.10.2005	5645	745120	514.71 lakh	231.38 lakh

Implementation of ICDS Scheme in Maharashtra:

In **Maharashtra** 372 ICDS Projects and 63994 Anganwadi centres (AWCs) were in operation as on 31st October, 2005. Beside this, 44 new projects and 12864 AWCs sanctioned in 2005-06. Under the scheme, 2548152 Children (6 months to 6 years) and 738625 pregnant & Lactating Mothers were getting benefits. The State also got Rs. 9869.23 lakhs from the Centre for Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) in 2005-06.

5. Bharat Nirman

Bharat Nirman is a time-bound plan for action in rural infrastructure. The six areas covered under this plan are rural electrification, rural water supply, rural housing, roads, rural telephone connectivity and irrigation. Bharat Nirman commenced only in fiscal year 2005-06. In what follows, progress of each component in the past year has been given.

5.1 Rural Electrification

Introduction:

Electricity has become one of the basic human needs. Rural Electrification is, therefore, a vital programme for socio-economic development of rural areas. The Ministry of Power has introduced the scheme **Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidhyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY)** in April 2005, which aims at providing electricity in all villages and habitations in five years and access to electricity to all rural households. This programme has been brought under the ambit of Bharat Nirman.

Goal:

The goal is to provide electricity to remaining 1,25,000 un-electrified villages by 2009 through the programme instrument of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidhyutikaran Yojana. In addition it will also provide 23 million households with electricity. As per the Census of 2001, 1,25,000 villages remained uncovered.

Components of infrastructure:

To be able to achieve this objective, Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone with at least a 33/11 KV sub-station would be set up in each block, at least one Distribution Transformer in each habitation of every village or hamlet as Village Electrification Infrastructure, Stand-alone grid with generation where grid supply is not feasible.

Finances:

- 90% capital subsidy will be provided for overall cost of the projects under the scheme. The capital subsidy for eligible projects will be through the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, which will be the nodal agency.
- Electrification of un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households is being financed with 100% capital subsidy @ Rs.1500/- per connection in all rural habitations.
- Others will be paying for the connections at prescribed connection charges and no subsidy will be made available.

Prioritization:

For creation of village electrification infrastructure, first priority will be given to un-electrified villages. Preference for electrification will be given to Dalit Bastis, Tribal settlements and habitations of weaker sections.

Status of Rural Electrification [All India]

Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidhyutikaran Yojana, the budget allocation during 2005-06 was Rs. 1100 crore while Central releases upto March 2006 was Rs. 1561.052 crore. 9819 villages were covered in the year 2005-06 as against physical target of 10, 366 villages. In all 33, 179 households were covered upto March 20006 under the programme, of which 16815 were from Below Poverty Line [BPL] households.

Status of Rural Electrification in Maharashtra

The total no. of inhabited villages as per 1991 census in Maharashtra is 40412 while the total no. of villages electrified so far is 40,351. The balance 61 villages are not feasible for electrification, as a result of which the % of electrified villages in Maharashtra is 100%.

5.2 Rural Water Supply

Goal: Under Bharat Nirman Project, every habitation to have a safe drinking water: 55,067 uncovered habitations to be covered by 2009. In addition, all habitations which have slipped back from full coverage to partial coverage due to failure of source and habitations which have water quality problems to be addressed. The Ministry of Rural Development is responsible for meeting this goal in partnership with State Governments.

The Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Drinking Water Supply is responsible for meeting this goal in partnership with State Governments. The programme instrument of the Government of India is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under implementation since 1972-73 which is funded on a 50% matching share basis between the Government of India and the State Governments. Since 1972, over 37 lakh handpumps and 1.5 lakh pipe water supply systems have been set up to provide safe water to over 15 lakh habitations in the country at a cost of over Rs.50,000 crore.

Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme

The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State by providing assistance under this programme for providing drinking water to all. Powers have been delegated to the States to plan, sanction and implement the schemes, while the Central Government has increased its budget allocation from Rs.2900 crore in 2004-05 to Rs.4050 crore in 2005-06. Apart from the 55,067 villages, 2.8 lakh villages which have been estimated by the Planning Commission as slipped-back villages would also be covered under this programme. Factors like lowering of underground water table and sources of water becoming quality affected are cited as reasons for the slipping back of villages. Special initiatives are also under way for coverage of rural schools with drinking water supply. During 2004-05, 69,639 habitations and during 2005-06, 68,254 habitations have been covered.

Implementation of the Scheme in Maharashtra:

Maharashtra : Under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, a total of 2245 habitations and 1889 schools were covered in the year 2004-05. In the year 2005-06, a total of 587 habitations and 2000 schools were covered.

5.3 Rural Housing

The Indira Awas Yojana (IAY): Addresses housing shortage as an important component of poverty alleviation in rural India. The Bharat Nirman Programme has recognised and accorded

due priority to the need to end shelterlessness and it is envisaged to construct 60 lakh houses over the next four years across the country, starting from 14.41 lakh houses in 2005-06. The 2001 census places rural housing shortage figures at 148 lakhs. The Ministry of Rural Development through IAY undertakes housing to rural poor as a centrally sponsored scheme where the cost is shared between the Centre and States on a 75:25 basis. Greater emphasis is laid to the states with higher incidence of shelterlessness. 75% weightage is given to housing shortage and 25% weightage to the poverty ratios prescribed by the Planning Commission for State-level allocations. For district-level allocations, 75 % weightage is given again to housing shortage and 25 % to SC/ST component of the population. Grant assistance is provided to the extent of Rs. 25,000 per house for normal areas and Rs. 27,500 for hilly areas. Funds are released in two installments.

The implementation guidelines of the scheme specifically target the rural below poverty line (BPL) households. The selection of beneficiaries is done by the respective Gram Sabha from the BPL list. The house allotment would be in the name of the female members of the family. While seeking to empower the rural women, the scheme also provides a quota for physically and mentally challenged persons, ex-servicemen, widows and freed bonded labourers. The lot of the rural underprivileged is sought to be alleviated by the provision that at least 60% of the beneficiaries should belong to the SC/ST communities. The IAY scheme also lays emphasis on individual sanitation and health by incorporating the cost of a sanitary latrine and smokeless chulha into the grant.

An outlay of Rs.2750 crore has been provided during the current year 2005-06 as compared to last year's allocation of Rs.2500 crore. During 2005-06, with the present outlay, 14.41 lakh houses are targeted to be constructed under IAY. Against this target, 11.83 lakh houses have been constructed with expenditure of Rs.2839.54 crore as on April 21, 2006.

Though Panchayati Raj Institutions are implementing the scheme freedom is given to the individuals on the choice of the design. Rural housing is a business plan designed to substantially augment the rural infrastructure base of the country. I

In order to facilitate immediate relief to the victims oaf calamities, the District Collectors/District Magistrates/Deputy Commissioners at the district level have been authorized to utilize from the district allocation of IAY (including State share) or from their own resources and render assistance to the victims in the construction of houses damaged due to fire, riots and arson, as per IAY norms. The amount spent by the DRDA will be reimbursed (Central share) by the Ministry after submission of requisite documents, from the funds kept under 5% IAY meant for natural calamities.

Initiatives have been taken for the preparation of a **Permanent IAY Waitlist** of beneficiaries which will be displayed at a prominent place in every Gram Panchayat. Hence, the selection process will now be more transparent. This **Permanent Waitlist** will be displayed at every Gram Panchayat. It is expected that this measure will end any arbitrariness or malpractices in the selection process of beneficiaries.

Implementation of IAY in Maharashtra : Out of the total target of 78478 dwelling units, 65608 were constructed during the year 2005-06. The centre has allocated Rs.147.15 crore for 2005-06 and an amount of Rs. 149.61 crore has been released upto March 2006.

5.4 Rural Roads

Under Bharat Nirman, in order to ensure farm to market connectivity, major thrust has been given for construction of rural roads.

So far since inception, 91900 Kms. of road have been built which provide all-weather connectivity to 25,697 habitations out of which, 15,543 Kms. has been built in 2004-05 and 22,752 kms. has been built in 2005-06. 3915 habitations have been provided with connectivity in 2005-06.

The Budgetary allocation under PMGSY has been substantially enhanced. The average Budgetary allocation for the period 2000-04 was Rs. 2400 crore, which has been enhanced to Rs. 4200 crore in 2005-06.

With a view to accelerate the pace of work, the process of project clearance has been fast tracked. As a result, project of Rs. 8300 crore has been cleared in 2005-06. In order to improve the pace of implementation of the programme in certain lagging behind states, special measures such as induction of Central Executive Agencies have been taken.

In order to ensure proper quality of construction, three-tier quality monitoring has been introduced. Reporting has been made on-line.

Implementation of the scheme in Maharashtra: The Government of Maharashtra has completed 829.97 km road works in 2004-05 under PMGSY covering 173 habitations. Under the same scheme, the State has completed 322.96 km roads in 2005-06 covering 93 habitations with central assistance of Rs. 141.92 crore. Under Bharat Nirman, 255.88 km road work has been completed further covering 46 habitations.

5.5 Rural Telephony

- Telecom connectivity has a crucial role to play in building the infrastructure for a modern India. To bridge the vast digital divide between rural and urban areas, the concept of Universal Service Obligation has been enunciated to provide access to basic telecommunication services to people in rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices. Under the Bharat Nirman Programme, 66,822 revenue villages in the country, which have not yet been provided with a Village Public Telephone (VPT), shall be covered by November, 2007. An estimated sum of Rs. 451 Crores would be incurred to provide subsidy support for these VPTs. The entire funding shall be met out of the Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund and no separate allocation from Government would be required.

Benefits from the programme

- Villagers in these 66,822 villages will have access to telephone facility at an affordable price enabling them to connect to the rest of the world through the telecom network.

- Provision of communication facilities shall pave the way for the economic development of the village and offer new opportunities of growth.

In the state of Maharashtra, 6441 villages which do not have a Village Public Telephone (VPT) have been identified. 5945 villages will be provided VPTs on wireline/ fixed wireless terminals while 496 villages which are remotely located and cannot be provided telephone on conventional technologies shall be provided VPTs using Digital Satellite Phone Terminals (DSPTs), equipment for which is being procured. 2830 villages have been provided VPTs as on 31.03.2006 and the remaining villages will be provided with VPTs by November, 2007.

5.6 Irrigation

Goal: 10 million hectares (100 lakhs) of additional irrigation capacity to be created by 2009.
The Ministry of Water Resources in collaboration with State Governments is responsible for creation of additional 10 million hectares of irrigation capacity by the year 2009 through major, medium and minor irrigation projects complemented by ground water development.

Current Status: The ultimate irrigation potential for the country has been estimated as 139.88 million hectare (Mha) which include potential through major & medium irrigation projects (58.46 Mha), surface water based minor irrigation schemes (17.42 Mha) and ground water development (64.00 Mha). So far, the irrigation potential of 99.36 Mha has already been created. However, the created potential has not been fully utilised and the gap between created and utilised potential has been estimated to be of the order of 14 Mha.

In view of above, strategy includes the development of irrigation potential through new projects along with restoration of potential which has gone in disuse or could not be utilised.

Major and Medium Irrigation (MMI) Projects

For the country as a whole, 66% of the ultimate irrigation potential of major & medium projects has been created. 388 Major and Medium irrigation projects which were taken up prior to or during the IX Plan are still ongoing which would result in creation of 12.1 Mha of additional irrigation potential. In addition, the States have proposed 204 Major and Medium projects during X Plan and the potential likely to be created is of the order of 4.99 Mha.

So far, 173 major & medium, 4169 minor and 21 Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) projects have been provided Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). The potential creation through projects supported under AIBP has been found to be 0.35 Mha per year with about 0.47 Mha per year in the last two years. As per existing Plan, the projected creation of irrigation potential through AIBP is 0.50 Mha per year in the remaining period of X Five year Plan.

The average rate of creation of irrigation potential through Major and Medium projects from 1951 to 1997 has been found to be of the order of 0.51 Mha per year. During the year 1997 to 2005, the rate for creation has been found to be 0.92 Mha per year. The pace of creation of new irrigation potential through Major and Medium project has increased in recent past. This is probably due to fruition of projects started much earlier, which has been hastened due to increased support through AIBP.

The projects for extension, renovation and modernization (ERM) of major and medium irrigation schemes are also being implemented with arrangement similar to that for completion of ongoing major & medium schemes. The implementation of ERM projects along with Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD & WM) help in sustaining the created facilities and in improving the utilization.

Minor Irrigation Schemes

There is considerable variation in creation of irrigation potential through minor irrigation (both surface and ground water) schemes from State to State. While full potential through minor irrigation has been tapped in some of the States, it is relatively very low in others.

Minor Irrigation through surface water covers water sources (tanks and small reservoirs) with a culturable command area (CCA) of less than 2000 ha. About 70% of the ultimate potential through surface water based minor irrigation schemes has since been created. The Report of the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development points out that the carrying capacity of tanks has decreased over time for a variety of reasons and that the restoration and renovation of tanks and other local sources is a priority task.

Since 2004-05, a scheme for "Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has been taken up as a State Sector Scheme. The Pilot Scheme is being implemented in selected 16 districts of the country through District-Level Implementation Committee with active community participation. The main objectives of the scheme are to restore and augment the storage capacities of water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential.

Ground Water Development

From the surveys conducted for estimation of availability and status of ground water, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has identified areas that are over-exploited (where exploitation is more than natural recharge of ground water) and areas that are "critical or dark" (where draft is between 70% to 100% of the natural recharge of ground water). The recent survey indicates that out of 7414 identified units (blocks/talukas /watershed), 471 are "Overexploited" and 318 are "Critical or Dark" units. Thus less than 11% of the total units fall under the category of "over-exploited" and "critical". The ultimate irrigation potential to be created is based on the assessed replenishable groundwater after duly accounting for the domestic and industrial uses (about 10%). It has been assessed that ground water is still available for utilisation in many parts of the country, particularly in the eastern parts of the country, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh and in specific pockets of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Jammu & Kashmir. In Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, the rechargeable quantum of ground water has been exceeded and mining of static reserves has commenced. This reinforces the need to take urgent steps to increase recharge and conservation.

Targets under Bharat Nirman

Sl. No.	Component		Target
I	Completion of ongoing Major & Medium Irrigation Projects		4.2 Mha
II	Minor irrigation schemes		2.8 Mha
	• Surface water	1.0 Mha	
	• Ground Water	1.8 Mha	
III	Enhancing utilization of completed projects		2.0 Mha
	• ERM of major & medium projects	1.0 Mha	
	• Repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies / ERM of minor irrigation schemes	1.0 Mha	
IV	Ground water development in area with unutilized ground water potential (for benefit of small & marginal farmers and Tribals & Dalits)		1.0 Mha

In the State of ***Maharashtra*** the overall targets under Bharat Nirman for major & medium irrigation projects is 465.31 thousand hectares and for minor irrigation projects is 356.51 thousand hectares, thus totaling to 821.81 thousand hectares.

6. National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme

It is a path-breaking initiative to provide legal guarantee to work and to transform 'the geography of poverty'. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) 2005 envisages securing the livelihood of people in rural areas by guaranteeing 100 days of employment in a financial year to a rural household. The Act provides a social safety net for the vulnerable households and an opportunity to combine growth with equity. 200 districts are to be covered in the first phase of implementation. This programme was launched on February 2, 2006. In certain States, the programme's launch is pending the completion of electoral process. The progress shown in the report pertains to the first three months of implementation. The main provisions of the Act are:

1. Employment to be given within 15 days of application for work
2. If employment is not provided within 15 days, daily unemployment allowance in cash has to be paid.
3. Employment within 5 km radius, else extra wages to be paid.
4. At least one-third beneficiaries have to be women.
5. Gram Sabha will recommend works.
6. Gram Panchayat to execute at least 50 per cent of works.

7. PRIs have a principal role in planning and implementation.
8. Transparency, accountability and social audit would be ensured through institutional mechanism at all levels.
9. Grievance redressal mechanism to be put in place for ensuring a responsive implementation.

NREGA marks a paradigm shift from all earlier and existing wage employment programmes because it is an Act and not just a scheme. It provides a legal guarantee to work.

The rural households in the 200 districts will have the right to register themselves with the local gram panchayat as persons interested in getting employment under the Act. The Gram Panchayat upon verification will register the household and issue a job card which is a legal document entitling a person to ask for work under the Act.

An amount of Rs.16,419 crore has been proposed for the implementation of NREGA in 200 districts in 2006-07. The ongoing programmes of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) and National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP) would be subsumed with NREGA in the 200 identified districts. The Act is a very bold step of the Government to efface poverty from rural India and flourish in the era of liberalization and globalisation.

Maharashtra : 12 districts have been identified under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) from the State. 2335602 households have been registered for which 288921 job cards were issued. An amount of Rs.17961.645 lakh has been earmarked in the financial year 2006-07. Employment has been provided to 44310 persons and 4735 works are in progress.

7. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission

The aim of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) is to encourage reforms and fast track planned development of identified cities. Focus is to be on efficiency in urban infrastructure and service delivery mechanisms, community participation, and accountability of Urban Local Bodies/Parastatal agencies towards citizens.

JNNURM was formally launched on 3rd December, 2005.

Objectives of the Mission

- Focused attention to integrated development of infrastructure services in cities covered under the Mission

- Establishment of linkages between asset-creation and asset-management through a slew of reforms for long-term project sustainability

- Ensuring adequate funds to meet the deficiencies in urban infrastructure services

- Planned development of identified cities including peri-urban areas, outgrowths and urban corridors leading to dispersed urbanization

- Scale-up delivery of civic amenities and provision of utilities with emphasis on universal access to the urban poor

- Special focus on urban renewal programme for the old city areas to reduce congestion

- Provision of basic services to the urban poor including security of tenure at affordable prices, improved housing, water supply and sanitation, and ensuring delivery of other existing universal services of the government for education, health and social security.

The Mission has two Sub-Missions

Sub-Mission for Urban Infrastructure and Governance mainly focuses on infrastructure projects relating to water supply and sanitation, sewerage, solid waste management, road network, urban transport and redevelopment of old city areas with a view to upgrading infrastructure therein, shifting industrial and commercial establishments to conforming areas, etc.

Sub-Mission for Basic Services to the Urban Poor mainly focuses on integrated development of slums through projects for providing shelter, basic services and other related civic amenities with a view to providing utilities to the urban poor.

The duration of the Mission would be seven years beginning from the year 2005-06.

Expected Outcomes of the JNNURM

On completion of the Mission period, it is expected that Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and parastatal agencies will have achieved

- Modern and transparent budgeting, accounting, financial management systems, designed and adopted for all urban service and governance functions
- City-wide framework for planning and governance will be established and become operational
- All urban residents will be able to obtain access to a basic level of urban services
- Financially self-sustaining agencies for urban governance and service delivery will be established, through reforms to major revenue instruments
- Local services and governance will be conducted in a manner that is transparent and accountable to citizens
- E-governance applications will be introduced in core functions of ULBs/Parastatal resulting in reduced cost and time of service delivery processes.

Progress of Sub Mission-I in **Maharashtra** during the last five months

Sl.No.	Name of City	Project Name	Sector	Total Project Cost (Rs.	Present Status

				in crore)	
1	Greater Mumbai	Storm Water Drainage	Drainage	1800.00	24.04.06
2	Greater Mumbai	Middle Vaitarna Water Supply Project for Mumbai-IV	Water supply	1352.00	24.04.06
3	Greater Mumbai	Sewerage Disposal Project	Sewerage	6684.00	
4	Greater Mumbai	Mumbai Urban Infrastructure Project	Transport	2648.00	CPWD informed that this is not DPR but a concept paper. State Govt. has been requested for individual DPRs.
5	Greater Mumbai	Mumbai Metro Railway Project	Transport	19500.00	10.03.06
6	Greater Mumbai	Action Plan for development and protection of Mithi river and its surroundings	Water supply	1298.00	10.03.06
7	Greater Mumbai	Worli-Bandra Sea Link	Transport	1200.00	10.03.06
8	Greater Mumbai	Thane Metro	Transport	851.00	10.03.06
9	Pune	Road Network & Urban Transport	Transport	1951.71	10.03.06
10	Pune	Augmentation and Upgradation	Sewerage	97.95	10.03.06

		of Sewage Treatment Plants and Pumping Station			
111	Pune	Environental Restoration/ Preservation of Mula Mutha River Ecosystem	Water supply	99.96	10.03.06
12	Pune	Augmentation of Weris, Restoration of Lakes Bio-remediation and Landscaping of Nalla and Rivers	Water supply	99.61	10.03.06
13	Nagpur	Solid Waste Management- Development and upgradation of sanitary landfill site at existing dumping yard- Bhandewadi	Solid Waste Management	25.00	10.03.06
14	Nagpur	Outer ring Roads	Transport	90.00	10.03.09
15	Nagpur	Road Widening/improv ements	Transport	19.47	10.03.06
16	Nagpur	Bridges over rivers	Transport	7.60	10.03.06
17	Nagpur	Traffic Management	Transport	10.00	10.03.06
18	Nagpur	Lifting water from Pench Reservoir and conveying upto Mahadulla by mortor lined MS pipeline in lieu of canal	Water supply	162.62	EFC note under finalisation
19	Nagpur	Water Sector Leak Detection Programme Installation of Bulk Meters in the raw water mains and Zonal	Water supply	3.30	First instalment released on 29,03,06

		Reservoirs			
20	Nagpur	Water Audit Project	Water supply	25.00	First instalment released on 29,03,06
21	Nagpur	Energy Audit Projects for Water supply	Water supply	25.04	First instalment released on 29,03,06
22	Nagpur	Expansion and upgradation of water supply distribution network in Nagpur city	Water supply	37.93	First instalment released on 29,03,06
23	Nagpur	Road Over Bridges (ROBs)	Transport	86.28	First instalment released on 29,03,06
Total for Maharashtra				38074.47	

Progress of Sub Mission-II in **Maharashtra** during the last five months

Name of the City & Submitted Projects	**Projects Cost (In Lakhs)**	**Name of Appraisal Agency**	**Approval Status**		**Remarks**
			Out -come	**Date of Central Sanctioning Committee Meeting**	
PUNE	66000.00	HUDCO			
NAGPUR	9230.00	HUDCO			

8. National Rural Health Mission

The National Rural Health Mission, NRHM seeks to provide effective healthcare to rural population throughout the country with special focus on 18 states, which have weak public health indicators and weak infrastructure. These 18 States are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh.

The Mission was launched on 12 April 2005.

- The National Rural Health Mission aims at undertaking architectural correction of the health system to enable it to effectively handle increased allocations as promised under the National Common Minimum Programme and promote policies that strengthen public health management and service delivery in the country.

- It has a provision of a female health activist in each village, giving untied funds to Sub Health Centres; a village health plan prepared through a local team headed by the Health & Sanitation Committee of the Panchayat; strengthening of the rural hospital for effective curative care and made measurable and accountable to the community through Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS); and integration of vertical Health & Family Welfare Programmes and Funds and determinants of heads like safe water, sanitation, nutrition etc, through an effective District Health Plan.

- The NRHM further aims to provide overarching umbrella to the existing programmes of Health and Family Welfare including RCH-II, Malaria, Blindness, Iodine deficiency, Filaria, Kala Azar, T.B., Leprosy and Integrated Disease Surveillance.

Mission Goals

- Reduction in Infant Mortality Rate and Maternal Mortality Ratio

- Universal access to public health services such as Women's health, child health, water, sanitation & hygiene, immunization and Nutrition

- Prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, including locally endemic diseases

- Access to integrated comprehensive primary healthcare

- Population stabilization, gender and demographic balance

- Revitalize local health traditions and mainstream AYUSH

- Promotion of healthy life styles

NRHM progress during last one year

ASHA

Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) will be the first port of call for any health-related demands of deprived sections of the population, especially women and children, who find it difficult to access health services. She will be a health activist in the community who will create awareness on health and its social determinants and mobilize the community towards local health planning and increased utilization and accountability of the existing health services.

Number of ASHAs for which funds given and proposed by the Government of India is 1,00,000 and the number of ASHAs proposed to be selected by States is 1,72,076. Number of ASHAs selected as on 16th March 2006 is 1,21,444 and the number of ASHAs trained during the period is 15,798.

Community Health Centres

The Community Health Centre is required to act primarily as a referral centre (for neighboring primary health centres) for the patients required specialized health care services.
Number of Community Health Centres selected at the rate of 2 per district for Indian Public Health Standards is 720 and out of these 383 Community Health Centres have been made functional during the last one-year as First Referral Units (FRU).

District Action Plan

109 District Action Plans prepared in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat and others in process.
Micro plans were prepared in 255 districts.

Janani Suraksha Yojana

JSY launched all over the country to promote safe delivery and the number of beneficiaries is 2,216 during the last one-year. Incentive for Below Poverty Line families of Rs. 1300 for safe delivery in EAG states, Assam and J & K and Rs. 1000 in all other states.

Progress of NRHM in Maharashtra during last one year

S.No.	Action Point	Number
1.	Total No. of CHCs selected @ 2 per district for IPHS	66
	No. of CHCs made functional as FRU	43
2.	Status of preparation of district Action Plan	Not accomplished
3.	Status of action plan for mainstreaming AYUSH	Not accomplished

9. Right to Information Act (RTI)

(A.) INTRODUCTION:

With the objective of bringing Transparency and Accountability in the working of every public authority, UPA government enacted this 'Right to Information Act (RTI)-2005'. This acts aims at setting up a practical regime for citizens to secure access to information from Public Authorities, in order to promote openness, transparency and accountability.

This Act says: "Democracy requires an informed citizenry and transparency of information which are vital to its functioning and also to contain corruption and to hold Government and their instrumentalities accountable to the governed.

In his speech on 11th May 2005 in the Parliament, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh has clearly articulated the spirit behind this Act: "I believe that the passage of this Bill will see the dawn of a new era in our processes of governance, an era of performance and efficiency, an era which will ensure that benefits of growth flow to all sections of our people, an era which will eliminate the scourge of corruption, an era which will bring the common man's concern to the heart of all processes of governance, an era which will truly fulfill the hopes of the founding fathers of our Republic."

(B.) IMPLEMENTATION POSITION OF RTI AT CENTRE AND STATES' LEVEL:

❖ All the Ministries & Department of the Central Government have designated their Central Public Information Officers.

Composition of the Central Information Commission:

❖ As per the Right to Information Act, 2005, the Gazette Notification constituting the Central Information Commission (CIC) was issued on 11th October, 2005. The CIC has been constituted for second appeal, inquiry into a complaint etc. and it will exercise its powers autonomously without being subject to directions by any other authority.

❖ The website of the Central Information Commissioner is http://cic.gov.in/
Union Territories come under the ambit of Central Information Commission.

❖ Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have also appointed their Public Information Officer under the RTI Act.

❖ 'Capacity Building for Access to Information Project': The Government of India in a joint initiative with the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has started a 'Capacity Building for Access to Information Project', which aims to build capacity for effective implementation of the RTI Act 2005. It takes a comprehensive approach in pursuit of increased access to information for improved governance. This Rs. 6.86 Crore project is being simultaneously implemented in the following twelve States (24 districts @2 districts per State) over a period of three years.

Rajasthan	Madhya Pradesh	Tamil Nadu
Assam	Uttranchal	Karnataka
Kerala	Gujarat	West Bengal
Chhatisgarh	Maharashta	Andhra Pradesh

Other States/districts could be considered in due course.

(C.) SALIENT FEATURES OF RTI ACT:

❖ RTI Act came into effect from October 12, 2005

❖ Jurisdiction: The Act covers all Public Authorities, which means: Any authority or body or institution of self- government established or constituted—

- by or under the Constitution;
- by any other law made by Parliament;

- by any other law made by State Legislature;
- by notification issued or order made by the appropriate Government, and includes any—
  - body owned, controlled or substantially financed;
  - non-Government organization substantially financed, directly or indirectly

❖ Who is Excluded:

- Central Intelligence Agencies and security agencies specified in the Second schedule are exempted from the Act. Similar agencies notified by the State Governments will also be excluded from the Act's purview.
- However, information relating to corruption and human rights violation is not exempted from disclosure.

❖ Right to Information means right to -

- Inspect works, documents, and records.
- Take notes, extracts or certified copies of documents or records.
- Take certified samples of material.
- Obtain information in form of printouts, diskettes, floppies, tapes, video cassettes or in any other electronic mode or through printouts.

❖ The RTI Act- Processes:

- Application to be submitted in writing or electronically, with prescribed fee, to Public Information Officer (PIO).
- Envisages PIO in each department/agency to receive requests and provide information. Assistant PIO at sub-district levels to receive applications/appeals/ complaints. Forward to appropriate PIO. These will be existing officers.
- Information to be provided within 30 days. 48 hours where life or liberty is involved. 35 days where request is given to Asst. PIO, 40 days where third party is involved and 45 days for human rights violation information from listed security/ intelligence agencies.
- Time taken for calculation and intimation of fees excluded from the time frame.
- No action on application for 30 days is a deemed refusal.
- No fee for delayed response.

❖ Obligations of Public Authorities:

- Every public authority shall - maintain all its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and the form which facilitates the right to information under this Act and ensure that all records that are appropriate to be computerised are, within a reasonable time and subject to availability of resources, computerised and connected through a network all over the country on different systems so that access to such records is facilitated.
- Each Public Authority must designate Public Information Officers whose responsibility is to deal with requests for information and also to assist seeking information.

❖ The website for the Right to Information Act is http://rti.nic.in

(D). Maharashtra

The Govt. of Maharashtra has set up a State Information Commission, which is headed by Shri Suresh Joshi.

Other Major Projects

Summary of Central Sector Projects sanctioned during June, 2004 to February, 2006 in the State of MAHARASHTRA

(Status of Projects as on 01-03-2006)

(Units: Cost/Expenditure in Rs.Crore)

Sr. No.	Sector	No. of Projects	Original Cost	Anticipated Cost	Cumulative Expenditure
1.	CIVIL AVIATION	1	46.30	65.40	57.77
2.	COAL	4	160.15	160.15	0.04
3.	POWER	1	33.38	33.38	2.50
4.	ROAD TRANSPORT &	3	1618.00	1618.00	27.74
5.	SHIPPING & PORTS	2	1936.08	1936.08	239.24
6.	TELECOMMUNICATION	2	1537.01	1297.66	58.03
7.	URBAN DEVELOPMENT	1	61.94	86.77	34.13
	Total	**14**	**5392.86**	**5197.44**	**419.45**

(NIC-MoS&PI)

List of Central Sector projects sanctioned during June, 2004 to February, 2006 in MAHARASHTRA
(Status of Projects as on 01-03-2006)

(Units: Cost and E Expenditure *an* in Rs. Crore)

Sr. No.	Project Name [Capacity]	Date of Approval Original (Revised)	Date of Commissioning Original (Revised) [Anticipated]	Cost Original (Revised) [Anticipated]	Cumulative Expenditure
	CIVIL AVIATION				
	AIRPORT AUTHORITY OF INDIA LIMITED				
1.	EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF TER. IB AT CSI AIRPORT, MUMBAI	8/2004 (11/2004)	6/2005 (12/2005) [6/2006]	46.30 (65.40) [65.40]	57.77
	COAL				
	WESTERN COAL FIELDS LIMITED				
2.	GONDEGAON EXTN. OC, NAGPUR [0.75 MTY]	2004 (-)	3/2010 (-) [3/2010]	35.87 (-) [35.87]	0.01
3.	MAKARDOKRA -1 (OC), NAGPUR [1.0 MTY]	2005 (-)	3/2012 (-) [3/2012]	39.98 (-) [39.98]	0.01
4.	INDER UG TO OC, NAGPUR [0.60 MTY]	004 (-)	3/2012 (-) [3/2012]	38.23 (-) [38.23]	0.02
5.	YEKONA-I OC, CHANDRAPUR [0.40 MTY]	004 (-)	(-) H	46.07 (-) [46.07]	
	POWER				
	POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED				
6.	BHADRAVATI-CHANDRAPUR TRANSMISSION SYSTEM [KV 400]	6/2004 (-)	3/2007 (-) [3/2007]	33.38 (-) [33.38]	2.50
	ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS				
	NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA				
	NHDP: PHASE - III				
7.	DHULE - PIMPALGAON, NH-3 [KMS.380TO265KMS.]	3/2005	3/2009 [3/2009]	556.00 [556.00]	
8.	GONDE - VADAPE (THANE), NH-3 [KMS. 440-539.50KMS.]	3/2005	4/2009 [4/2009]	579.00 [579.00]	
9.	MAHUA-JA1PUR NH-11 [KMS.120TO228KMS]	3/2005	3/2009 [3/2009]	483.00 [483.00]	27.74
	SHIPPING & PORTS				
	PORTS				
	JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU PORT TRUST				
10.	DEEPENING & WIDENING OF MAIN HARBOUR CHANNEL	10/2005 (-)	10/2008 (-) [10/2008]	800.00 (-) [800.00]	1.98
	SHIPPING				
	SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA				
11.	ACQUISION OF 2 NOS. OF 300,000 DWT VERY LARGE CRUDE CARRIERS [2X3,00,000 DWT]	10/2005	9/2009 [9/2009]	1136.08 [1136.08]	237.26

Sr. No.	Project Name [Capacity]	Date of Approval Original (Revised)	Date of Commissioning Original (Revised) [Anticipated]	Cost Original (Revised) [Anticipated]	Cumulative Expenditure

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

12	OFFICE BUILDING FOR SEBI AT MUMBAI, MUMBAI	10/2005 (1/2005)	(3/2006) [3/2006]	61.94 (86.77) [86.77]	34.13

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

(NIC-MoS&PI)

TELECOMMUNICATION

BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED

13	GSM EXPANSION PHASE IV(B), MAHARASHTRA (BSNL) [13,50,000 LINES]	7/2005 (-)	3/2006 (-) [3/2006]	1174.75 (-) [1174.75]	8.30

MAHANAGAR TELEPHONE NIGAM LIMITED

14.	CDMA WLL EQUIPMENT-2 (MTNL, MUMBAI), MUMBAI [400 K]	7/2004 (-)	12/2004 (-) [-]	362.26 (-) [122.91]	49.73

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

14	OFFICE BUILDING FOR SEBI AT MUMBAI, MUMBAI	10/2005 (1/2005)	(3/2006) [3/2006]	61.94 (86.77) [86.77]	

(NIC-MoS&PI)