

**K.R. Lakhanpal, IAS,
Tel.No. 2702186**

**D.O.No.1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3194
Chief Secretary to Govt., Punjab,**

Dated: Chandigarh, the 13th March, 2006.

Subject:- Proposals for Special Development Package for Punjab.

Punjab has passed through difficult times in the last couple of decades. The years of militancy cast a long shadow, diverting resources meant for development. The consequent disarray in resource mobilization, development planning and spending have left Punjab with a huge developmental deficit. When the present Government took over, Punjab's economy had a growth rate of 2% per annum, a revenue deficit of 42.34% and a fiscal deficit of 7% of the GSDP. It took us four years of strenuous efforts and reforms to bring the economy to a state of reasonable health. Even so, we see a long and hard path ahead. I am writing to seek your participation in our efforts to consolidate and deepen the improvements that we have embarked upon.

2. Having taken stock of where we are right now, and with an eye on national, regional and international trends, we see the need for forging ahead to maximize gains from our traditional strengths, and also the need to reinvent ourselves so as to equip ourselves to seize newer opportunities and exploit emerging areas of enterprise. On the agricultural front, we have identified stagnation and ecological damage as detrimental weaknesses to overcome. We intend to address these through technology improvement, infrastructure development and market reforms. Clearly, we need more, and better, research facilities. We need to invest extensively and wisely into creating, and facilitating creation of infrastructure to promote public health, both in rural and urban areas. We need to improve our road infrastructure to support the needs of industry and agricultural marketing. Our irrigation facilities and systems need critically important improvements. We must augment our power supply. We need to make a quantum leap in bringing modern, employment oriented education to our children, particularly to girls. These are only some of the areas that require attention.

3. Some of the initiatives to which we have already committed ourselves, include: facilitation of agricultural diversification supported by sound research, education and training; promotion of community efforts to create better education systems for both children and adults in rural areas; ensuring clean drinking water and hygienic environments all over Punjab; improving State Highways; augmenting power supply and improving the power transmission systems; strengthening computer based education in schools. Other areas involve improving access to rail freight, decongesting National Highway 1, and providing better and increased airport facilities to service the growing needs of industry, business and NRI travel.

4. We have already awarded eleven road corridors measuring about 600 Km. on BOT basis. These roads will require an investment of about Rs.712 Crore. We expect a private sector investment of Rs.500 Crore and grants by State Government of Rs.212 Crore. Our requirement in this project is to meet 20% of the project cost, which comes to about Rs.150 Crore, which we hope Government of India will be able to give under its policy guidelines on viability gap funding.

5. We need both financial and policy support to fulfill our potential in these and other emerging areas of need. We have already taken some hard decisions to mobilize resources for these initiatives, which include introduction of VAT, setting up of computerized tax collection centres at state borders, revision of user charges for irrigation water, increase in fees in professional and technical colleges, rationalization of stamp duty rates and floor rates for property valuation. In addition we have also begun to restructure public sector undertakings, facilitate public-private partnerships to improve infrastructure, improve delivery of health, primary education and veterinary services, inter-alia by placing them within the purview of local government bodies. The recently launched Punjab Nirman programme aims specifically at improving the living conditions to match felt and expressed needs, through the aegis of local bodies.

6. Our fiscal reforms have succeeded in mustering resources up to about Rs.8500 Crore. We need almost as much more to continue meaningfully on our path of economic development.

7. To bolster our own endeavours, we are continuing to make efforts to draw what we can from schemes of Government of India. However, we are frequently hamstrung by expenditure norms or eligibility criteria that have been established for states with needs different from ours. Our own efforts also seem to come in the way of badly needed assistance from the Central Government. I request you to appreciate that we sometimes need resources to meet the objectives of various Central Government schemes, not necessarily in the same way as some other States might. For example, we have a critical need of funds to pay salaries of teachers under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to achieve the programme's objectives. This may not fit strictly into the format of the programme as envisaged by the central Government. The need, however, is real, and its non-fulfillment stands in the way of meeting the programme's objectives in Punjab. I must fervently request that wherever there are expenditure norms attached to a scheme, it is not defensible to leave Punjab out of the list of beneficiary States on the ground that it will cost more to provide the same facilities in Punjab. Instead, it would be appropriate to provide whatever is being given on a per unit basis to other States, and allow us to raise the remaining resources ourselves. We must not be disincentivized for making our own efforts.

8. To recapitulate, as we try to get Punjab's economy moving at a good pace again, we need the backing of the Central Government. Given our asset base, resources and needs, we have

already identified a path for growth. We have already taken some steps on that path, and are in a State of readiness to move ahead at a good clip.

9. In pursuance of the above, I am enclosing, with this letter, a document that briefly lists the activities undertaken by the Government of Punjab, the objectives behind our efforts, and the support, both financial and policy oriented, that we seek in order to help Punjab to fulfill its potential.

10. We have already taken the necessary steps to ready ourselves to absorb and gainfully utilize the support expected from the Central Government. Our policies, schemes, plans, financial structures and personnel are already in place and the assistance provided by the Government of India will translate into quality action almost immediately.

Yours sincerely,

(K.R. Lakhanpal)

Shri Rajeeva Ratna Shah,
Member Secretary,
Planning Commission of India,
New Delhi.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3195

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Sh. T.K.A. Nair, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister of India, New Delhi, alongwith a copy of Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3196

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Sh. Ashok Kumar Jha, Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, alongwith a copy of Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3205

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Ms. Kumud Bansal, Secretary to Govt. of India, Department of Elementary Education & Literacy, MHRD, 124 'C' Wing, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3206

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Sh. Sudeep Kumar Banerjee, Secretary to Govt., India, Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education, MHRD, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3197

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Sh. Prasanna Hota, Secretary to Govt., India, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3198

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Shri J. Harinarayan, Secretary to Govt., India, Ministry of Water Resources, Sharam Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3199

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Shri P.M.A. Hakeem, Secretary to Govt. of India, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Agriculture, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3200

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Dr. Prodipto Ghosh, Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3201

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Smt. Sarita Prasad, Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3202

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Shri R.V. Shahi, Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Power, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3203

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Sh. L.K. Joshi, Secretary to Govt. of India, Department of Road Transport & Highways, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

Endst.No. 1/9/DP-PSPB-RO(PC-II)/2006/3204

Dated: 13.3.2006.

A copy is forwarded to Smt. Sunila Basant, Secretary to Govt. of India, Department of Drinking Water Supply, New Delhi, alongwith requisite proposals of the Punjab Development Package for information and necessary action.

Chief Secretary, Punjab.

PUNJAB DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE

A. PROPOSALS FOR PROVIDING CLEAN DRINKING WATER IN RURAL AREAS OF PUNJAB

One of the critically important focus areas for the Government of Punjab in the coming years is to provide clean drinking water in the villages of Punjab. This is seen not only as a moral responsibility but also as an important public health measure, which is expected to reduce health care costs and loss of man-days due to illness.

2. Identification of needs has been done, to the extent possible, in a decentralized manner with the District Planning Boards identifying the villages where infrastructure and systems are required. The focus is both on **providing new technologies for water purification and treatment and also on repairing and upgrading the infrastructure** provided under previously implemented schemes.

3. At present, work is in progress, under the Minimum Needs Programme, on 78 rural water supply schemes covering 162 villages not previously covered and 34 villages, which are partially covered.

4. Some of the existing water supply infrastructure is old with the machinery having outlived its useful life span. In some cases, with the increase in the population of villages or increase in the number of settlements covered by an existing scheme, the availability of water has dropped below the norm of 40 LPCD. Funds are required to rejuvenate or upgrade these schemes.

5. To address the problem of clean drinking water in water-logged areas, 20 portable water filtration plants have already been set up at a cost of Rs.4 crore. A hundred more such plants are required to cover 100 villages, which are similarly affected.

6. In the southern districts, as well as parts of other districts, the underground water is not good enough for drinking. It can be brought to potable quality by Reverse Osmosis in some cases and De-fluoridation in others or both. One plant of each kind has been installed in two different villages of Punjab and each is working well. It is proposed to provide 100 Reverse Osmosis plants and 100 De-fluoridation plants alongwith shallow tubewells. It is also proposed to contract the maintenance of these plants to private agencies/semi- private agencies, which will supply water against user charges.

7. To make water potable in those areas of Punjab where the water has an excessively high iron content, 100 Iron Treatment Plants are proposed. It is also proposed to install 1000 Silver Ionization Plants, which do not involve manual operations, in order to ensure reliability of water disinfection.

8. Finally, to avoid enroute contamination in open/damaged inlet channels carrying raw water from Canals to Water Works and seepage from Kutcha channels, it is proposed to replace them with underground RCC pipe inlet channels.

9. The total fund requirements for these activities are as follows:

	Rs. Crore
MNP water supply schemes	11.03
Rejuvenation/upgradation of existing infrastructure	149.46
Portable water filtration plants	20.00
RO plants	20.00
De-fluoridation plants	8.00
Iron Treatment Plants	1.00
Silver Ionization Plants	10.00
Replacement of open channels with underground RCC pipes	10.00
TOTAL	229.49

B. PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING ALTERNATE MODEL OF HEALTHCARE DELIVERY SYSTEM THROUGH PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS UNDER NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH MISSION

With the twin objectives of decentralizing the delivery of primary health care in a manner in which the **beneficiaries themselves can get to have a say in the delivery of health services**, and reducing the financial burden on the State exchequer, Government of Punjab has decided to introduce a new model of healthcare.

2. Doctors for the 1310 Subsidiary Health Centres/Rural Dispensaries (SHCS) will henceforth be engaged by Zila Parishads on contractual basis. The doctors will be paid Rs.30,000/- per month and this amount will be provided to Zila Parishads by the State Government as 'grant-in-aid'. Out of this sum the doctors will pay for the electricity, water supply, sanitation and equipment for the SHC and also engage a qualified para-medical Assistant. The initial three-year contract will be extended on the basis of satisfactory performance. The medicines at the SHCs will be supplied in kind to the extent of Rs.7,500/- per month by the Zila Parishad, and the ZPs in turn, will be funded by the State Government on this account.

3. A number of other steps have been taken to ensure that the system works smoothly; District Rural Development Agency staff has been merged with Zila Parishad staff to ensure that adequate staff is available in the Zila Parishad to provide administrative support for SHCs; medicines will be placed at the Zila Parishad at the disposal of the Gram Panchayat concerned, which shall issue these to the doctors concerned; doctors engaged for SHCs will be provided induction training for the implementation of various national and State level health programmes and establishment of referral systems.

4. The existing buildings for SHCs are being upgraded through a NABARD supported scheme for which a certain amount of seed money is to be paid by the State Government.

5. It is proposed to implement this scheme under the National Rural Health Mission and requires the following additional year-wise funds:

(Rs. in Crore)

Years	Amount of financial support required
2006-07	*112.09
2007-08	58.95
2008-09	58.95
2009-10	58.95
2010-11	58.95

* This includes a one time immediate requirement of Rs.15.00 crore and Rs.38.14 crore as resources mobilization under the NABARD project.

C. UPGRADATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF STATE ROADS IN PUNJAB

Punjab being primarily an agricultural state, the Government has focused on the development of the rural road network in the State, which has resulted in a huge increase in pressure on the Plan Roads. The State Government will now have to give immediate attention to plan roads and bypass roads to ensure that these provide viable support to the movement of agricultural and industrial produce in this land-locked state. It is proposed to take up the work in EPC mode.

2. Upgradation of Plan Roads to 7m carriageway (2 lane)

Of the total 7430 Km Plan Road length in Punjab nearly 4500 Km road length is of 5.5m or less carriageway. The major chunk of these roads constitutes arterial roads (Other District Roads). Most of these roads carry more than the designed volume of traffic and the trend is likely to increase in coming days due to the development of major corridors of the State. To cater to the increased traffic, there is immediate need to upgrade and strengthen roads with 5.5m or less carriageway to a minimum 2-lane carriageway i.e. 7m. A total of 66 roads, with a total length 1600 Km spread across Punjab, have been selected in this package. The cost of upgrading these roads would be approximately Rs.400 crores. The funds being allocated to the State under CRF Scheme are not sufficient to upgrade the Plan Road Network in Punjab. The Government of India is therefore requested to increase the allocation under the CRF Scheme for upgrading Plan Roads. Alternatively a special package of Rs.400 crores needs to be approved for the State of Punjab for Plan Roads.

3. Construction of Bypass Roads for Major Towns

At least 30 major towns of Punjab have been identified for construction of bypass Roads to provide alternate routes to the through traffic on important highways of the State. From these, the towns of Nawanshehar, Banga, Jaito, Kotkapura, Ropar, Malerkotla, Abohar, Dhariwal, Ajnala, Kapurthala have been selected for construction of bypass roads at an approximate cost of Rs.232 Crore. These bypass Roads include the construction of bridges/ROBs.

4. Four Laning of National Highway Network in Punjab

The Government of India has approved four-laning of the Jalandhar-Amritsar Road (NH-1), Pathankot-Amritsar Road (NH-15), Chandigarh-Ropar-Kiratpur Sahib upto Himachal border (NH-21) and Ambala-Kalka Road (NH-22) under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) phase-III. The total length approved by the Government of India under NHDP-III is 274.17 Kms. With the transfer of this road length to NHAI, which is the executing agency for this project, the balance length that remains with the Punjab PWD to keep up, will be 1145.264 Kms.

5. In addition to above, there are four other major National Highways i.e. NH-64 from Zirakpur to Bahadurgarh, NH-95 from Kharar to Talwandi Chowk via Ludhiana – Moga, NH-10 from Dabwali to Malout and NH-1 from Verka Chowk to Wagha Border which need immediate four-laning keeping in view the projected volume of traffic during the next five years. The volume of traffic on Ludhiana – Moga Road is likely to be increased manifold with the construction of the recently announced international airport at Halwara. Similarly, the volume of traffic on the road from Verka Chowk to Wagha border is also likely to increase with the opening of the international border for trade. The approximate cost of four-laning these roads is Rs.1252 Crore.

D. IRRIGATION

To improve irrigation, the following four areas of focus have been identified:

1. Making deep bore-wells and lift irrigation schemes functional

While some tracts of Punjab are well served by canals, the Kandi areas of the state (falling in Ropar, Hoshiarpur and Gurdaspur districts) are devoid of irrigation facilities due to their topology. These areas are served by tubewells. Over a period of time, many tubewells have become dysfunctional due to a breakdown of the bore-wells and wearing out of the machinery. The State Government has, therefore, prepared a project for providing 119 alternative tubewells and replacement of pumping machinery of another 1100 tube-wells, to provide adequate irrigation facilities to the farmers of this tract. This critically important project is likely to cost Rs.47.90 Crore.

2. Artificial Recharge of ground water in Punjab

Ground Water Resources in the State of Punjab are fast dwindling due to agricultural practices especially overwithdrawal of ground water for irrigation of crops. Current estimates show that 103 of the 137 blocks are over-exploited, with 5 blocks being critical and 4 blocks semi critical. Measures like rainwater harvesting structures and agricultural practices requiring less irrigation are being resorted to. In addition, a project to artificially recharge groundwater through surface drainage has been prepared. The project envisages construction of 38 lateral shafts with injection wells and another 38 recharge trenches with cased injection wells. Govt. of India has been requested to provide Rs.31.82 Crore for this project under the “ Artificial Recharge of Ground Water” scheme.

3. Kandi Canal State-II Project

This project envisages construction of a canal from Hoshiarpur to Balachaur, thereby utilizing a discharge available at the tail-end of the existing canal, and bringing new areas under canal irrigation. While the total project cost is Rs.180 Crore, an amount of Rs.35.50 Crore has already been spent. The project is eligible to be included under the fast track of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme. Upon being covered by AIBP, the project shall be completed in four working seasons (two years).

4. Shahpurkandi Dam Project

Shahpurkandi dam is a hydro-electric power project. Its implementation has been delayed because of lack of funds with the Government of Punjab. Its revised cost, as per updated DPR prepared by NHPC, is Rs.2368 crore. The total AIBP component under this project is around Rs.290 crore. The matter of conceptualizing national projects having international ramification and inter-state aspects with relaxed norms for financing is under the consideration of Govt. of India. It is eminently logical to consider this project as a National Project. It is requested that an amount of Rs.50 Crore may be kept in the 2006-07 plan under the AIBP scheme for this project.

E. POWER

To augment power supply and improve delivery systems, the following steps are proposed:

1. Rural Electrification

Under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana for strengthening rural electricity infrastructure and household electrification, up to January, 2006, Punjab State Electricity Board has provided 24 hour urban pattern supply to 11,168 villages. The balance 1955 villages are to be covered by June 2006. While the capital outlay on this project is Rs.284 Crore, only Rs.164 Crore has been provided under the RGGVY. Without more funds integral components of the scheme, like augmentation of grid stations, re-conductoring and augmentation of 11 KV VCBs cannot be completed. This amount is sorely needed to ensure that the objectives of RGGVY are fully achieved.

2. APDRP

Government of India owes Punjab Government an incentive of Rs.251 Crore for the year 2003-04, which has not been released. This incentive has been withheld due to the Govt. of Punjab's announcement of providing free power for agricultural pump sets. It needs to be appreciated that although Govt. of Punjab has subsidized power for the agriculture sector, care has been taken to ensure that this does not affect the power utility in any way. Further, since the announcement of subsidy was made effective from 1.9.2005, an incentive due in 2003-04 should not be retrospectively withheld. Therefore, the incentive, which is much needed to improve other aspects of the power sector, may be released at the earliest.

3. T& D System Improvement

To reduce Transmission and Distribution losses in the power system, Rs.365 Crore are additionally required for various works to be executed during the year 2006-07. The Punjab State Electricity Board is planning to raise part of the funds for this purpose from its internal accruals and debts. However additional Central assistance/grant-in-aid is required for strengthening and upgrading the transmission and distribution system.

4. Additional Power Allocation for the Paddy Season

To meet the Irrigation requirement of Kharif and paddy crops, adequate power supply must be given to over 9.5 lakh tubewells in the State from June, 2006 upto 31st October, 2006 which causes energy requirement of the State to increase to about 1500 lakh units per day during the paddy season. Since our own generation is insufficient to meet this demand, an additional allocation of 150 MW from 15% unallocated power from Central sector station is required for the period 1st April to 31st May and 300 MW for the period 1st June to 31st October 2006. A further allocation of 400 MW to Punjab from the 1000 MW Tala Hydro Electric Project needs to be made. Additional allocations of 200 MW from stations of Nuclear Power Corporation located in Western and Southern Regions may also be considered.

5. Gas Based Thermal Plants

The proposal to set up a 1000 MW Gas Based Thermal Plant in Doraha is held up as there is no firm commitment for gas from GAIL, both in terms of quantity to be supplied and a firm date for extension of the pipe line to Doraha. The total gas requirement for this plant is 8.26 MMS, CMD. A request for GAIL to enter into equity participation for at least 26% has been made to the Petroleum Ministry, GOI, by the Chief Minister, Punjab. Prompt action is requested to finalise the installation of Gas Based Thermal Plant in negotiation with GAIL.

F. SCHEMES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

With the current imperative for diversification of rural livelihoods beyond agriculture, animal husbandry has assumed an even greater significance in Punjab. Already the biggest milk producing state in the country, Punjab is seeking to create systems for the health of its cattle, improving the genetic stock and increase the number of potential livelihoods based on animal husbandry.

2. Out of the total 2860 veterinary hospitals/dispensaries in Punjab, 682 hospitals and 200 dispensaries are **under transfer to Panchayati Raj Institutions**. These PRIs will engage the veterinary doctors. Thus, the stakeholders will exercise close supervision over the service providers. A sum of Rs.46.67 Crore is required to fund the PRIs to take veterinarians on contract and provide necessary facilities.

3. Punjab has six million buffaloes and two million cows. Under the National Project of Cattle and Buffalo Breeding, Govt. of India has been providing funds and running schemes for improving milk yield by upgrading the genetic stock. Since Punjab has a very large number of buffaloes and there is no international research on buffalo genetic stock upgradation, it is proposed to set up a **Buffalo Semen Bank** in Punjab. A request for Rs.10 crore for this purpose has already been made to the Union Agriculture Minister.

4. An area of concern in animal husbandry is the comparative lack of good diagnostic services. While some funds are available under the Assistance to State for Control of Animal Diseases programme, it is proposed, in consultation with the Government of India, to strengthen one **biological control unit** and four **disease diagnostic laboratories**. It is also proposed to upgrade the 10 Polyclinics in Punjab to provide better diagnostic services and to strengthen their service delivery through 17 ambulances with disease diagnostic facilities, one for each district of Punjab.

5. To take care of stray animals, it is proposed to set up one Gaushala (animal shelter) in each block and also to sterilize stray dogs.

6. Fish production in Punjab per hectare is the highest in the country. It is proposed to bring village ponds into **fish culture** by digging and strengthening these. An estimated 2500 hectares of land can be brought under this scheme in the first instance. The total amount required for this is Rs.35 Crore.

7. To upgrade the dairy skills of farmers and also enable others, especially women entrepreneurs, to engage in dairying, Government of Punjab has five functional **dairy training centres**, and intends to upgrade three incomplete centres in Gurdaspur, Moga and Ferozpur districts.

8. The funds required for the above are as follows:

S.No.	Name of Scheme	Requirement of funds (Rs. Crore)
1.	Genetic Upgradation of Buffaloes	10.00
2.	Strengthening of Biological Production Unit/Disease Diagnostic Laboratory	3.96
3.	Scheme for provision of Ambulance Services to animals	1.70
4.	Construction of Animal Shelter (Gaushalas)	34.50
5.	Scheme for Birth Control and immunization of stray dogs	2.89
6.	Conversion of derelict/polluted/disease prone village Panchayat ponds into employment, income generating hygienic fish farming model units	35.00
7.	Strengthening of training centres	1.25
8.	Funds required for appointment of Vety. Officers/Vety. Staff on contract basis	46.67
	Total	135.97

G. PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER SARV SHIKSHA ABHIYAN

i) Alternate model of primary education through PRIs/ULBs

ii) Computer Education Program as a strategy to improve quality and reduce drop outs at the upper primary level.

Punjab has committed itself to the implementation of a new delivery system in which 4181 primary schools, along with 10,004 newly created posts of primary teachers, have been **transferred to Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies**. Teachers for these posts are being recruited by PRIs/ULBs under a new set of rules. Most of these schools are located in the backward areas of the State where there has been a problem of teacher vacancy and absenteeism. Learning level achievements of students of these areas are also low. Active participation and ownership of PRIs/ULBs should radically improve the teaching environment and quality. These teachers would be paid salary and scales similar to those of regular Government teachers. The starting salary of a teacher would be Rs. 9500/- per month. Thus, estimated budget for salary of 10,004 primary teachers is Rs. 114.05 Crore. This new alternate model of primary education through PRIs/ULBs and Computer Education will bring radical improvements in the delivery of elementary education. It is proposed to fund these initiatives through funding under SSA for next five years in addition to the normal funding to the State under SSA.

2. The second proposal in the Punjab Development Package concerning elementary education relates to Computer Education. Punjab Government has started an ambitious ICT Project comprising of four programs - **Computer Literacy Program, IT Enabled Education, Computer Aided Learning and Computer Training to general subject teachers**. Computer Education has been made a compulsory subject in Punjab. IT Enabled Education is an important strategy to improve quality and reduce drop outs at the upper primary level. For these Computer Education Programs 7046 posts of computer teachers have been created under Punjab ICT Education Society (PICTES) headed by the Chief Secretary. The Empowered Committee on computerization as well as the Executive Committee of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has already approved convergence of PICTES & SSA. It is proposed to cover salary component of these newly created posts of 7046 computer teachers under SSA. These teachers would be on contractual appointment with salary (including CPF) of Rs. 5113/- per month. Thus, estimated budget for salary of 7046 computer teachers is Rs. 43.23 crores.

3. It has been seen that children in rural areas are unable to partake of Science education because of a lack of **laboratory facilities** in rural schools. A complete exercise to assess the needs of schools teaching Science and needing laboratories has been made for each of the seventeen districts of Punjab. The need is for Rs.61.71 Crore.

4. The fund requirements on account of the above are as follows:

Project	Expenditure in 2006-07(in Rs. crore)
Primary education through PRIs/ULBs	114.05
Computer education programme	58.38
Provision of laboratories in schools	61.71