

9. Safety Nets

The Samurdhi Programme

The Samurdhi Programme which commenced in 1995, continued in 2000 covering 2,013,685 families. The programme provided cash grants, implemented community development projects and encouraged savings and investment at the grassroot level by enhancing Samurdhi banking facilities.

▲ The total cost of the Samurdhi income supplementary programme (cash grants) in 2000 was Rs.12,355 million when compared to Rs.8,175 million in 1999 as a result of an increase in the Samurdhi allowance ranging from 40 -150 per cent with effect from August 2000.

▲ There were 150,108 displaced families who received dry rations under the Samurdhi programme. The cost of the dry ration scheme amounted to Rs.1,829 million in 2000.

▲ A sum of Rs.138 million was spent in respect of the nutritional programme.

▲ A total of 22,468 Samurdhi Development Officers were in service at end 2000.

▲ Under the Samurdhi Janatha Project, a sum of Rs.140 million was allocated in respect of 1,123 small-scale infrastructure development projects identified by the communities.

▲ A sum of Rs.171 million was paid against 85,431 claims made under the Samurdhi Social Security Fund.

▲ There were 920 Samurdhi Banking Societies in operation at end 2000.

▲ As at end 2000, a sum of Rs. 6,329 million had been saved under the Samurdhi Compulsory Savings Scheme. Voluntary savings amounted to Rs. 735 million.

Samurdhi Recipient Families



Chart 9.1

Samurdhi Welfare Expenditure

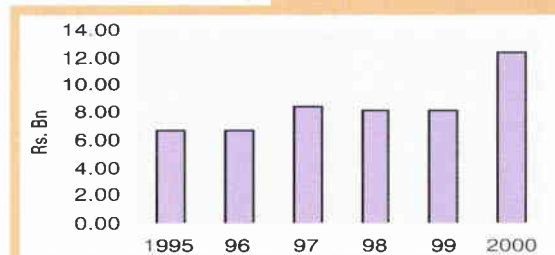


Chart 9.2